



The Rotary YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION 2026

'The joy of friendship'



The Competition is for Key Stage 2 (Junior School) children – 7 to 11 years old.

Last year over 400 local children took part from 12 schools. There are prizes for pupils in every school and the top school's prize of £100+ of art equipment will be awarded on the evening.

You are warmly invited to the

Awards Evening

to be held from 4.30pm on Wednesday May 20th

Retford Methodist Church, Grove Street.

Drinks & Canapes.

You are welcome from 4.30pm when there will be an opportunity to socialize with other representatives from schools, Rotarians, local artists and members of the business community.

In addition, all the artworks will be on display to be viewed.

The awards presentations will be held from 5.00pm:

Opening remarks from the Retford Rotary Youth Committee

Welcome from the Rev'd Julie Coates

Presentation of the Awards by Cllr Digby, The Mayor of Retford

Presentation for the winning school.

Closing remarks by the President of Retford Rotary.

The joy of friendship

Friendship makes the world a happier place! This year, we invite young artists to show what friendship means to them — the fun times, helping hands, shared smiles, and acts of kindness that brighten our days.

Rotary believes in friendship and service — people working together to make communities better. Through this theme, children can explore how caring for one another brings joy and peace to the world, just as Rotary does.

The competition will be judged by a board of local artists.

The exhibition is open to the public on May 23rd from 10am to 3pm.

Rotary encourages us all to support one another and to this end operates 'Rota-kids' in schools. Retford Rotary now has fourteen schools in our area that have Rota-kids clubs and following the awards we offer a Rotarian to attend the school assembly to present the awards in front of the whole school, to recognize achievements.