

Five things you need to know today



Monday holiday – Edinburgh Sketcher – Joppa Tennis Club open day – Giants in the trees at Holyrood – Prom on the Prom at Portobello

Today is a Monday holiday and Lothian Buses are running a Saturday service. Edinburgh schools are closed today. There is a list of school term dates [here on the council website](#). There are no Scottish exams to sit today, but presumably all of you who are sitting Geology, Information Systems and Home Economics tomorrow will be putting in the last minute cramming needed to get you through.

If you are having trouble remembering which exam is when, then there is an app for that... [here on the Scottish Qualifications Authority website](#).

We were reminded about The Edinburgh Sketcher when we saw his lovely drawings in The Haven at the weekend, but then we came across one of his sketches on the poster advertising the tennis at Joppa. He also [has a lovely sketch](#) of the Giants that we feature today which are in the trees at Holyrood. You can follow him and the progress of his lovely twins on [Facebook](#) too.



If you have time off today to be a tourist, then you could go down to Holyrood to have a look at the Giants in the trees which is our featured photograph today.

Giant faces constructed out of tree branches and leaves have taken root in Holyrood Park. The City of Edinburgh Council and [Historic Scotland](#) have partnered to bring these unique pieces of nature into the city, where they will hang, growing and changing with the seasons.

Local schoolchildren have been invited to contribute to the [Giant](#) sculptures, based near the Park Ranger's Cottage in Holyrood Park, by decorating them with greenery as well as taking part in storytelling sessions about the Giants.

As well as providing creative inspiration for local schoolchildren, The City of Edinburgh Council hopes the Giants will encourage greater footfall to the Holyrood and Canongate areas, in line with the Council's business partnership strategy for the Royal Mile.

The giants are part of a Year of Natural Scotland 2013 project, and are created by independent arts company [Vision Mechanics](#). City of Edinburgh Council's Economic Convenor Frank Ross said: "I am thrilled to welcome the Giants in the Forest to Holyrood Park. I'd urge visitors to come and spend some time with the sculptures, as well as go on to explore the attractions that the surrounding Holyrood and Canongate areas have to offer.

"The installation also provides a great opportunity for us to support the Year of Natural Scotland 2013."

Kit Reid, Interpretation Manager at Historic Scotland said:- "The Giants are both unique and inspirational. We believe they will be a wonderful educational resource for children as well as a talking point for people enjoying the natural setting of Holyrood Park."



