

# FAMILY MATTERS

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER



# Happy Easter!



**Qing Zhong (8E)  
Reports on the  
Exciting STEM  
Trip to Arsenal  
this week!**

**Cont. pg 16**

**Sponsor Mr  
Wilbraham on his  
Coast to Coast Bike  
Ride for HCPT  
Cont. pg 13**



# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

## Quotation of the week

*"Whan that Aprill, with his shoures soote,  
the drought of March hath perced to the  
roote"*

(When in April the sweet showers fall,  
that pierce March's drought to the root  
and all)

Geoffrey Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales

Language is a funny thing - English is an amalgam of many influences and, of course continues to evolve. New phrases come into use every year and old ones fall away. How many of us used the expression 'backstop' until recently and even now we inwardly groan when we hear someone say 'Brexit'. Yesterday on the radio the term 'Bredlock' - Brexit-Deadlock - was being used.

Geoffrey Chaucer wrote the Canterbury Tales in the 14th century and he wrote in the English of that time which is why the quotation above seems both familiar in some aspects, but strange in others.

Jesus spoke Aramaic, a language that is now endangered but versions of which are still in use in some parts of the Middle East. The Middle East is, of course, the place of the oldest Christian communities in the world and at Easter we remember the people in those early Christian communities and prayer for Christians living in that region.

Christianity is declining in its ancient heartland and we should be mindful of the need for prayer and material support for those Christian communities at Easter-time.

## Lent and charities

Lent is, of course, a time of prayer, reflection and good works and charitable deeds. Our Holy Family community has responded very well to Lent and with great enthusiasm to the charitable aspect in particular. Students (and staff) have been excellent in their commitment to raising funds for our various House charities and this has been wonderful to see. We are still awaiting the final totals but it is a very significant sum of money.

## Yr 8 options evening

Thank you for your attendance at our options evening for Yr 8 students. Students will be making their choices and, for some courses, they must achieve particular scores in their forthcoming assessments.

## Yr 7 places for September 2019

We have a small number of places available for Yr 7 students in September 2019. Please ask anyone you may know who is interested to contact us about this via the school office.

# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

## **Parents' surgery**

Parents' surgery is every Thursday from 4pm to 5pm on the Walthamstow site. If ever I am unavailable, a member of the senior team substitutes for me.

## **Easter Holiday**

School closes for the Easter holiday today. We re-open on Tuesday 23rd April 2019 at the usual time.

## **Thank you**

Thank you for all your support of our school and your child/ren in their education. It is a privilege to lead our school community and I, and all our staff, take great delight in all the many achievements of our young people.

Let me wish you and your families a very peaceful and happy Easter, full of the joy of the risen Christ.

*Please continue to remember us in your prayers.*

**Dr Andy Stone**  
**Headteacher**



# Headteacher Commendations

**Victoria Andrade Canaris 9I** for being resilient, and sustaining effort to participate in school life. Victoria was nominated by Ms Nordon.

**Chayan Sinclair** for superb effort, quality of work and student leadership in geography which has been sustained all term. Chayan was nominated by Ms Nordon

The following students have performed outstandingly well in Spanish this year and scored at least 95% in their recent tests.

**Daniel Giraldo Tuberquia 8I- 100%**, **Tacyana Ferguson 8PH- 99%**, **Luca Da Conceicao 8PH- 97%**, **Therese Sarte 8I- 96%**, **Precious Ofori 8I- 95%**, **Victoria Szlachta 8PH- 95%**.

They were nominated by Ms del Prada.

# Headteacher Commendations

**Lyan Whelms Sandovan 8A & Maria Shotikare 7E** - for confidently showing new Year 7 parents around the school. They were confident, articulate and truly modelled what Holy Family is about. They were nominated by Mrs Feltham.

The following students have shown sustained effort in Chemistry. They have been attending early morning Chemistry intervention classes and great commitment to their studies.

**Samantha Banya 11A**

**Liam Luz 11P**

**Mariesa Gray 11P**

**Anna Maxfield 11P**

**Luke Serieux 11P**

**Princess Gray 11R**

They were nominated by Mrs Feltham.

# Headteacher Commendations



The following students displayed excellent qualities of charity during the House Charity Events for House E. They have been nominated by Mr Wilbraham, Head of Saint Elizabeth.

**Mary Jane Viado 12E**

**Mark Ofori-Yeboah 11E**

**Phillip Adusei-Bonsu 11E**

**Baptistin Mylla-Kakesa 11E**

Well done to all our nominated students this week!

## FUTURE ASPIRATIONS

# VISIT BY JOYCE YAZBECK AND MATTHEW DIANA

**Holy Family Alumni give an inspirational talk to our students**

Two of our ex-students came in to give a talk to students from year 11 about their careers.

Joyce Yazbeck is in her seventh year of her training as an architect and has worked on many exciting projects both in England and Scotland as well as abroad. One of her main interests is building schools so she was excited to see our new facilities on the Wiseman Site, and hopefully she can help the school in the future.

Matthew Diana has finished his degree and taken a further Masters Degree and has qualified as an automotive engineer and now has an extremely interesting job working for McLaren racing cars. He has had a passion for cars since the age of 8 but never dreamed he could get a job like he has.

Both Joyce and Matthew wish to help the school and will be attending our Alumni/Careers Day for year 12 students on the 8 July.

It is wonderful to see so many of our former students so successful.



# SOCIAL MEDIA CATCHUP

You Retweeted



F&BF Schools  
@FBFSchools

Thank you Holy Family for another fantastic Link day with Norlington School!

'It was an opportunity to understand how they are similar and different, as well as what is important for their own identity.' @Linking\_Network #Linking



You and Norlington School

03/04/2019, 17:11

Tweet your reply



@hfcswaltham



@hfcswaltham



Photo



hfcswaltham



**hfcswaltham** Our debaters at the Pixl Up for Debate competition at Ibstock Place school in Richmond. Lost the first debate but won our second one against Greenwich Free School debating against the motion that modern languages should be compulsory in school until age 16 #debate #aspire

58 SECONDS AGO





# Reading Partnership Programme with Year 7

Year 12 have done a great job mentoring and reading with the year 7. They have inspired the younger students and formed a friendship bond with them.

Well done Year 12 for giving back to the younger years and completing community enrichment for this term.

Mrs Belgrave and Mrs Cameron



I loved my time with Oliwia, at reading, and getting to know her because she is the reason why my confidence has improved phenomenally. In the beginning I was never too sure on how I was presenting myself and thought I was a quiet Individual but now I see my powerful voice has been put to use by reading. I believe that because of these sessions, I have improved in my reading.

Javan Glyne Franklin 7R1

I have really enjoy spending my time helping Javan out with improving his reading skills and developing his vocabulary. It has been a great time getting to know him so that he can be more comfortable with reading to me. In the beginning, Javan was really shy and quiet around me but over the weeks we met up for the reading sessions, I have seen great development of his confidence and so our mornings consisted of us reading, talking, laughing and just being comfortable with each other. I believe that it has also helped him be comfortable around the school and so he can ask me any questions if he doesn't want to ask the teachers. It has also been a great opportunity for me since it has developed my leadership skills.

Oliwia Kilic 12P

Tahallia Miller 7I

I have enjoyed getting to know Maryann through the experience of year 7 reading. I love reading because it's fun and I have a good partner. My favourite part was getting to talk to my partner, we didn't only read stories but shared many funny stories too. I have also gained skills from this experience such as, improvements in reading and being more fluent and clear with harder words. In the beginning, I didn't think it would be that great but, learning new things about reading surprisingly turned out to be lovely. I don't have much else to say except that the experience was joyful and lots of fun.

Maryann Cooke 12A

I have enjoyed my community enrichment extremely. My Thursday mornings were well spent helping Tahallia learn new vocabulary, improve her reading skills and having a good laugh. It has been wonderful to get to know Tahallia and see how much she has developed through the months. It has also been a great opportunity for me, as my confidence has grown and I feel more encouraged to help out my community. From our weekly sessions, I noticed her range of books varied from children's books, such as the parent swap shop, to complex texts, such as Nelson Mandela's Long walk to freedom. This again emphasises how much she has strengthened her reading abilities. Last of all, I want to summarise by saying how our sessions consisted of talks about the future, funny stories and getting to know each other more as well as reading and learning and I am very grateful to have enjoyed it this experience so much



# **SPORTS UPDATE**

**Congratulations to year 8 netball who have won the borough league - medals to follow.**

**Congratulations to year 7 netball team**

**Who have reached the semi final stage!**

**1**

**And congratulations to the Under 16 Boys badminton team who are borough champs!!**

## MEET THE FAMILY

# MR WILBRAHAM

## 21/C PE & EXTRA-CURRICULAR COORDINATOR & HEAD OF ST. ELIZABETH HOUSE



### *Who or what inspired you at school?*

There were a couple of influences on me at school that have really shaped what I do professionally. The first was my PE teacher MR Woolley, an Arsenal fan but we will forgive him that. He was responsible for every school sports team and after school Sparta club at the school across all years. I still don't know how he did it. But without him, there would have been no football team, cricket team, basketball team, cross country or athletics for any student.

Secondly, my geography teacher Mr Reeves, he was in charge of the schools DofE programme and worked tirelessly to make sure that we got the opportunity to undertake the expeditions for the awards.

### *Where did you study?*

I studied first of all at the University of Northumbria on a BSc (Hons) Sports and exercise course and then a PGCE with masters at the University of Bedford in PE.

### *Have you always been a teacher?*

I have managed a small wine bar in Newcastle as well as at many race grounds across the North of England, I have worked in after sales support for British Bakery's and also worked as a summer club sports manager for a Bedfordshire based charity called fun for young people.

### *Why did you want to become a teacher?*

For me, becoming a teacher and taking up the roles I currently have have all been about providing the students of our school with as much and more opportunity and privilege that I was lucky enough to get during my school years.

### *If you hadn't become a teacher what other career would have interested you?*

Probably in the military and if not that I would probably have been a joiner/carpenter.

### *What has been your most embarrassing moment in school?*

Whilst in a placement at another school I was once locked in the toilet and had to be rescued by the students.

*What three words would your students use to describe you?*

Brutally honest, Sarcastic/ Witty

*What would be your desert island book/song/film?*

Chariots of Fire (film)

*Tell us something about yourself that most people wouldn't know?*

I knit and make pom-pom decorations. Also, this summer I will be cycling 240km coast to coast with my Dad for our HCPT charity. Please sponsor me by clicking here!

*What would you be on University Challenge or Strictly Come Dancing?*

Strictly come dancing, I'm a phenomenal dancer

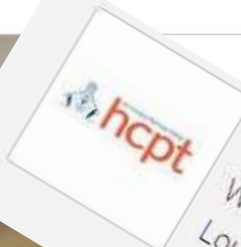
*What's the best thing about working at Holy Family?*

Being in the PE department, we are a pretty awesome bunch!

JustGiving™ Menu ▾ Start Fundraising

**"THE MAN WHO MOVES A MOUNTAIN, BEGINS BY CARRYING AWAY SMALL STONES."**

**– CONFUCIUS**



**HCPT**  
We provide pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes to change the lives of children and adults



Robert Wilbraham

## Group 161 - Coast to Coast in a day

I will be cycling coast to coast in a day. for HCPT because of the good work for children in my community.

I am raising money for Group 161. This is the local group working from my parish and in the school where I work. I regularly see the great work and impact that the work of group 161 for the young people in our community.

I will be cycling 240km from the west coast of England to the East coast with my father for company and felt like it was a good opportunity to raise some money for a good cause.

Thanks for taking the time to visit my JustGiving page.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

# HOUSE COMPETITION WEEK

Over the last two weeks students and staff have been on a charity drive. Each House were tasked with raising as much money as possible for their chosen charity. To add a little more fun to the mix we turned it into a little competition between the Houses to see who could raise the most.

This was an opportunity not just for our students to showcase their entrepreneurial and organisation skills, but more importantly an opportunity for them to grow and develop in the 'Holy Family Way' ; to exhibit and live out the characteristics and qualities of being a Christian. Form threw themselves into the task at hand and demonstrated love and compassion for other through their service and willingness to give freely of their time and money and the positivity epitomised what working in a Catholic school is all about.

Activities included a number of events such as cake, sweet and pizza sales; PlayStation FIFA tournaments, raffles, guess the teacher, Stalls, Car washes, Basketball and football shootouts as well as some sponsored events such as runs and silences; the latter being a particular favourite of the teachers of 8A.

In total over £1700 was raised in just 10 days of activities and the enthusiasm, energy, creativity and drive the students displayed was tremendous.

Congratulations to House Anne who managed to raise the most money across the 10 days the final positions are shown below with the current League Table updated with all STARS and House points combined from the competitions too.

Mr Wilbraham

## Charity Competition Result

1st St Anne

2nd St Stephen

3rd St Richard

4th St Philomena

5th St Elizabeth

6th St Ignatius

## Overall Current Standing

1st = St Anne (862pts)

2nd = St Philomena (773pts)

3rd = St Elizabeth (655pts)

4th = St Richard (605pts)

5th = St Stephen (562pts)

6th = St Ignatius (558pts)

Lord,

May we **achieve** the goals you  
have set for us,

May we be grateful for all that we  
**study,**

May we **participate** in all the  
opportunities you bless us with,

May we learn to be **independent**  
in all that we do,

May we **respect** all those around  
us,

and most of all may we **enjoy** the  
life you have granted us.

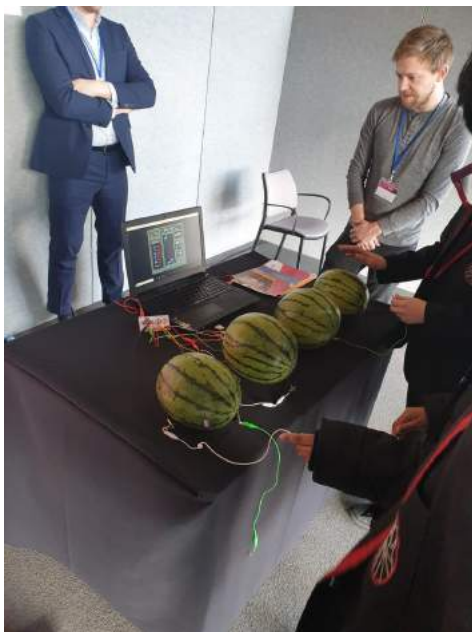
Lord hear our prayer,

Amen

# STEM TRIP TO ARSENAL

Some people say that fun and education can't be mixed together. Sometimes, even I would believe that. However, after going to the Emirates Stadium and participating in TeenTech's activities, I realised that it's very possible to have enjoyable education. Of course, it was different to the type of learning in school but the difference is what made it unique and fun.

Our day had started by meeting our guide, a person whom would accompany us throughout the day. My group went to the stalls first, there was a wide range of different companies at the Emirates Stadium. So many that we didn't have enough time to go on the fun ones like the car simulator. Then we arrived at another place where we were able to control robots and earn treats, I liked that activity the most, as well as feel like real cyber police.

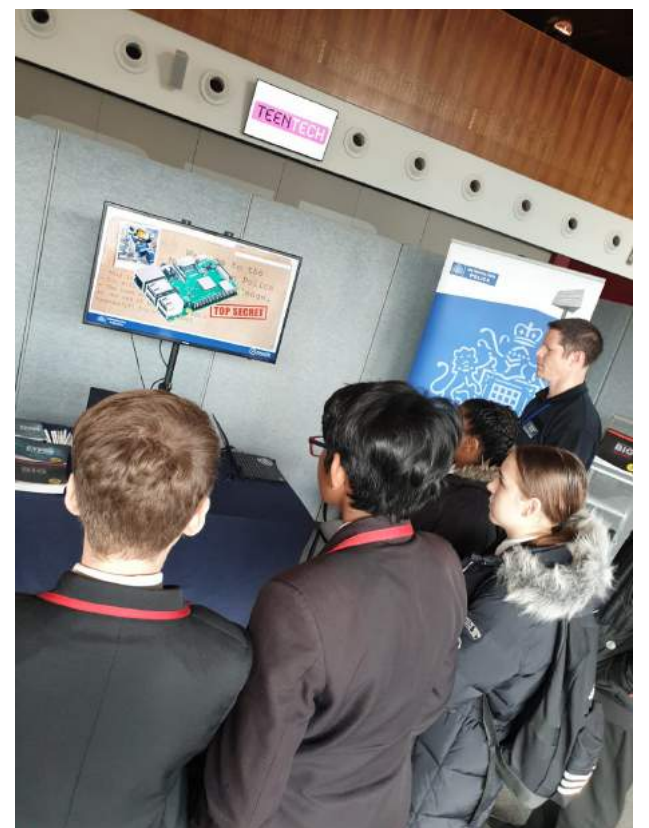
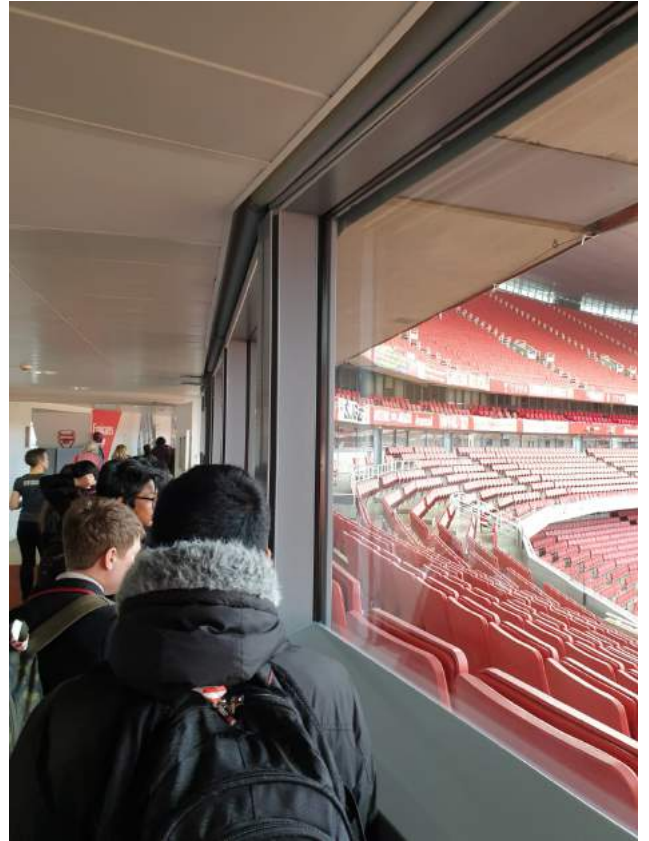




The last part of the day was quite challenging yet wonderful. It let us create things and use our imagination to make different inventions that had never been thought of. It also let us socialise with the other people in our groups since we didn't fully know everyone. The only nervous thing about it was that we had to present it to all the schools!

The day was really fun and I wish I could go again since it was different whilst still being educational.

Article by: Qing Zhong 8E



# YEAR 7 SUPER STARS!

Congratulations for being exceptional students and contributing to the Holy Family Way!



**Jack Petchey Year 7**

**Mahalia McDowell 7I JP nominee**

**Kevin Baah-Robertson 7I nominee and winner**



# Chaplaincy Corner

MRS. GRIERSON

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It is celebrated on Sunday 21 April and marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday), and is the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year.

As we know from the Gospels, Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion, which would be Sunday. His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead.

Since Easter represents the fulfilment of God's promises to mankind, it is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar.

When we return to school after the holidays, we shouldn't think Easter is over. The Easter season is the longest of the special liturgical seasons of the church. It extends all the way to Pentecost Sunday, the 50th day after Easter.



Best wishes to HCPT Group 161 AKA the Purple Pilgrims as they travel to Lourdes, accompanying children with a range of needs. Lourdes is an important pilgrimage location for Catholics from all over the world. Several teachers and students will be among those travelling to Lourdes. Have a wonderful pilgrimage!

We keep in our prayers all students who will be making their Confirmation in the coming weeks.



# Fifth SUNDAY IN LENT



Friday 5th April – last day of term  
Sunday 7th April – 5th Sunday of Lent  
Sunday 14th April – Palm Sunday  
Thursday 18th April – Holy Thursday  
Friday 19th April – Good Friday  
Saturday 20th April – Holy Saturday  
Sunday 21st April – Easter Sunday  
Monday 22nd April – Easter Monday  
Tuesday 23rd April – Feast of St George (return to school)

**Eternal Father, change my mind and heart.**

**Give me a new vision of the world.**

**Help me to see reality as you see it and to love as you love.**

**Make my heart large enough to reach out and embrace even my enemies.**

**For the sake of Christ, I pray.**

**Amen**



# **FIVE COMMON PUNCTUATION MISTAKES and how to correct them.**

## **1. Sam's burgers vs Sams burger's**

Possessive apostrophes should be simple, but with conflicting rules and the added confusion of plurals, it's no surprise that this is one of the most common punctuation mistakes students make.

Instead of teaching students that they should use an apostrophe because Sam owns the burgers, use the technical term: possessive apostrophe. Just as students are given formulas in maths, they should also be given the reasoning behind each punctuation mark. Once students understand the reasoning behind punctuation marks, they are much more likely to know how to employ them in their own writing.

## **2. It's vs its**

This is where most children (and adults!) get confused. We may know that 'it's' is a contraction of it and is, but we can often confuse the apostrophe for indicating possession. Just as we use an apostrophe to indicate that Sam owns the burger, students often personify 'it' and place the apostrophe just as they would with Sam. This is where it needs to be made clear that there is a difference: 'its' is possessive, whereas 'it's' is only a contraction.

## **3. Debunking commas**

In speech, we emulate what we hear; this is best seen in children developing different accents. However, viewing punctuation as something that can be dictated by speech patterns is impossible. Although some teachers tell students to place commas when representing a breath, this is not the best way to teach students the basis of punctuation.

Commas aren't used purely to create breaks in the middle of sentences. Each comma has a distinct use and should be taught accordingly. For a comprehensive list of rules and examples of each type of comma, see GrammarBook.

Tip: Make a game out of correcting punctuation. Write an excerpt from a popular book and omit all punctuation from it. Students can then get your students to copy the excerpt adding correct punctuation. When you go through it, each time a student suggests a punctuation point, they must explain the reason for its place, such as saying it's for a list or because of a subordinate clause.



## 4. Exclamation marks

When students are writing stories, they can often get carried away with the use of exclamation marks. Yes, they're fantastic at emphasising drama and the importance of information, but their impact is dulled when every sentence ends with one. Less is more - particularly if a student wants to use more than one at the end of a sentence.

## 5. Semicolons and colons

Similar to commas, semicolons and colons can be used to extend sentences.

However, they are not created equally. Commas are often used to join subordinate clauses with an independent clause. Semicolons, on the other hand, are used to join two independent clauses together. When using semicolons, it is important that both clauses relate closely together, otherwise a full stop is required. Colons are used to introduce new information to a sentence such as a list, definition, statement, or explanation.

Tip: A great way to teach the difference between these commonly confused marks is to get your students to take a sentence or paragraph and to change its structure to accommodate for a semicolon, and then a colon.

Set your students up for success

Punctuation may seem comparatively unimportant - an apostrophe here and a full-stop there - but proper punctuation can help set your students up for success as they continue through school and beyond.

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# eSwatini July 2021

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY 23RD APRIL**





# eSwatini July 2021

Application letter to Ms Lippa should include:

- Why you want to go on the trip
- Why you think that you will be a good addition to the team - what qualities will you bring to the team?
- How you intend to fund raise for the trip (this only needs to be a rough idea rather than a fully fledged plan as the team will work together to develop further ideas, you are encouraged to think creatively of ideas that go outside of the school and into the community)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY 23RD APRIL**





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**Leyton Orient are running completely free football sessions for girls this Easter...follow links to register**

**11-14 Session**

**<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/female-football-11-14-year-olds-tickets-58004203133?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>**

**15-19 Session**

**<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/female-football-15-19-year-olds-tickets-58004960398?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>**