

PARENTS NEWS

December 2013 No. 227 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

1993 - 2013
21st Successful Year
Thank you

FREE

What's On December/January Christmas & New Year Events Pantomimes and Shows

www.rural-life.org.uk

www.thehopfarm.co.uk

www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/london

St Lawrence College
www.slccuk.com

Published on time, every time since 1993
www.parents-news.co.uk

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020 8337 6337
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PARENTS NEWS believes that society's best asset is its young people! We shall accept no advertising in the opinion of the Publisher, is considered demeaning to children. We intend to encourage environmental, health, and non-violent issues, but not to preach or claim to always be right. Different opinions published are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of **PARENTS NEWS**. We hope mums and dads enjoy the articles, be interested by Calendar (finding it useful), and use the advertisers. Any explicit mention of **PARENTS NEWS** is expressly stated.

Diaries are from MUM's Office



www.mumsoffice.co.uk

LONDON'S FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS SHOW

Sadler's Wells presents
 The Birmingham Repertory Theatre
 production of

The Snowman

The live stage show
 based on Raymond Briggs' *The Snowman*
 Music and lyrics
 by Howard Blake

"Sheer theatrical magic. Go see *The Snowman* and melt!"
 The Times

Featuring
'Walking in the Air'

FAMILY TICKET ONLY £95
 4 tickets, must include at least 1 child
 Transaction fee applies. Max £2.50

TICKETS SELLING FASTER THAN EVER
27 Nov - 5 Jan

Peacock Theatre
 SADLER'S WELLS IN THE WEST END
 0844 412 4322
 Holborn & Temple
www.sadlerswells.com

Christmas Gifts

Anne Dean and Marion Falchi met by chance some three years ago. Anne grew up in and ran the family shoe factory learning all about design and manufacturing and Marion was head of sales and marketing for a leading New York accessory designer.

They quickly identified a huge gap in the market for outstanding, great quality products not just aimed at the young! They want amazing bags in interesting materials and colours and marvellous footwear that they can run around in all day! They love their shoes, but 4 inch heels - no way! They put their heads together & **Vancliff Dean** was born. Just fabulous, unusual, comfortable and great fun!

Kitten Court Shoe in Black Mock Croc Embossed Leather
 The kitten heel shoe with toe cap is another must have, you can wear this wonderful kitten heel any time, any place, great for day in casual clothing and equally great for evening. You may have to change your outfit but not your shoes! Black mock croc embossed leather Black leather toe cap and heel Kid leather lining and sock Heel

Vancliff Dean

measures approximately 6cm/ 2.5" Leather sole Slip on Generous fit European sizing £160.00 GBP

Clutch Bag in Black Large Mock Croc Leather

The clutches come in so many different colours and finishes they are just great! The perfect clutch for evenings out or use inside one of our large totes. This versatile bag works well with casual or evening clothes, you will find it hard to decide which colour to buy.....start your collection today!

Riding Boot in Black Large Mock Croc Leather

This boot is their version of the riding boot with three quarter internal zip. This is all about the finish, the overly large mock



The most practical bag in our collection, this cross body bag is the perfect size. Cross the body for day and make it a shoulder bag for the evening, big enough for all the essentials. Looks great with casual or tailored clothing.....you choose! Grey and Black Giraffe Print Calf Hair (Main Body) Black Leather (Gusset) Red Patent Piping and Accents Gold Coloured Metal Hardware Large Zip to close bag Internal zip up pocket Dust Bag Included £175.00

www.vcdltd.com

Skin Repair

Each product is made up of ingredients to replicate the top layer of the skin, so that it is fully absorbed. The products main function is to quite simply strengthen and repair your skin barrier, which in turn stops redness, blemishes

Poplico.com £17.99

ageing, rosacea and other skin disorders. The products start from £12.99 up to £29.99 and are available online at www.skinrepair.uk.com

Braun Classic Ladies Watches

This *Braun Classic* ladies watch is lovely to wear, it is easy read and comfortable. It manages to be both everyday and sophisticated, measuring only 33mm diameter x 8mm thick matt stainless steel case. Available in two colours (black & white) with a mesh strap. It has a quartz 3 hand movement and has a 50m water resistance with a scratch resistant mineral glass and comes with a 2 year warranty. £90.00

- Stainless steel case
- Quartz 3 hand movement
- 50m water resistance
- Mesh stainless steel strap

www.braun-clocks.com/watch/BN0031

SECOMBE THEATRE
BEAUTY BEAST
 18 - 24 December

CHARLES CRYER STUDIO THEATRE
Santa & Chimney
 7 - 24 December

WIMBORNE THEATRE
WIMBORNE THEATRE
 13/14 DECEMBER

RAT PACK
 28 DECEMBER

THE TITMICE
 6 - 24 December

Box Office 020 8770 6990
 online @ www.suttontheatres.co.uk

December 2013

Today I'm Me

Colour Me Pink Clutch

This is a quirky design that will get you noticed! A great gift for mums this Christmas. Pink on white leather look 'PU' in 2D design. Silver hardware, magnetic closer and decorative enamel button. Detachable wrist strap and adjustable shoulder strap. The pink symbolises warmth, love, grace, trust, romance and beauty. Sweet and loving you are a gentle, innocent, person but that doesn't stop you from having a tendency to flirt and play around. £115 Free P&P

www.todayimme.com/product/colour-me-pink-clutch/



Mini Bags for scooters



Poplico.com £17.99

Braun Classic Ladies Watches

This *Braun Classic* ladies watch is lovely to wear, it is easy read and comfortable. It manages to be both everyday and sophisticated, measuring only 33mm diameter x 8mm thick matt stainless steel case. Available in two colours (black & white) with a mesh strap. It has a quartz 3 hand movement and has a 50m water resistance with a scratch resistant mineral glass and comes with a 2 year warranty. £90.00

- Stainless steel case
- Quartz 3 hand movement
- 50m water resistance
- Mesh stainless steel strap

www.braun-clocks.com/watch/BN0031



December 2013

Santa and his huskies are back

WWT London Wetland Centre Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 Dec

NEW! *Polar Explorer* and his tales of adventure
 NEW! *Wetland Winter Show*
 NEW! *Craneberry Fest*
 Get into the festive mood at **WWT London Wetland Centre's** wonderful winter weekend! Children will be thrilled to hop aboard for a husky sleigh ride, visit Santa in his magical grotto and enjoy a unique Wetlands Winter Show.

Take a sleigh ride with the huggable huskies: they're lovely to look at but also working animals, so younger children can experience the excitement of a husky sleigh ride. Or perhaps you'd like a family photo taken with one of these cuddly dogs as a special seasonal souvenir? Then head over to the northern pine forest; Father Christmas will be ready to welcome families in his cosy grotto among the trees.

Meet the **Polar Explorer** at his Base Camp to hear tales of his icy adventures and make your own explorer's equipment from recycled materials. You can also join in our fun **Winter Wetland Show** to discover more about the science behind our coldest season. Under ice and mounds of snow, even in the coldest

winters there's life in the wetlands. Buried in mud or freezing solid, animals are surviving in amazing ways. Take part in exciting experiments in this show for the whole family to explore the science of winter. What do cranes – the elegant wetland bird - and craneberries have in common? Find out at **Craneberry Fest**. Make craneberry Christmas decorations (extra charge), follow the craneberry trail and enjoy treats in the restaurants.

Here at Britain's favourite nature reserve you can enjoy the Christmas celebrations among beautiful surroundings. Take a stroll among the lakes, meadows and ponds of this wonderful winter oasis. By enjoying a festive weekend there you're also contributing towards their vital conservation work in the UK and around the world.

- Normal admission prices to **WWT London Wetland Centre** apply
- In the event of rain the Father Christmas queue will be moved indoors. The *Wetland Winter Show*, *Polar Explorer* and *Father Christmas* are all indoors.
- Husky sleigh rides are free with admission (children 8 or younger, with weight restrictions)

Proudly sponsored by
WWT London Wetland Centre
Ocean Spray

Come and enjoy WWT this winter and take part in Craneberry Fest

Kindly brought to you by Ocean Spray, Craneberry Fest is your chance to discover more about the link between our favourite wetland fruit, the craneberry, and a well-loved wetland bird, the crane. Make craneberry crafts, follow the craneberry trail and taste delicious treats in our restaurant. And on December 7 and 8 visit Santa in his magical grotto, enjoy a husky sleigh ride and hear adventurous tales from our Polar explorer.

How berry exciting!

Find the full list of festive events at www.wwt.org.uk/london
 WWT London Wetland Centre, Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes, London, SW13 9WT. t 020 8409 4400 e info.london@wwt.org.uk

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Christmas Out & About

Know an aspiring Bassist, Drummer, Guitarist or Singer?

Does someone in your family love rock music and want both expert tuition and to play in a band every week?
British School of Rock combines 45 minutes serious tuition - with no more than four musicians per teacher - and 15 minutes of rocking with a band each week.

The brainchild of **Stagecoach** co-founder and drummer

Christmas Wonderland Weekends

The **Rural Life Centre's** Christmas wonderland weekends are filling up fast - make sure the children in your life don't miss out CHRISTMAS will be all present and correct when the **Rural Life Centre** unwraps its ever-popular and eagerly anticipated Santa Specials. And there, showing the boys and girls what a gift of a good time it is will be Father Christmas, the man who makes young dreams come true, and who has the power to work wonders with wish-lists. Taking place at the Tilford-based museum of country life on the weekends of **Saturday and Sunday, December 7-8, and Saturday and Sunday, December 14-15**, the *Santa Specials* have grown in quality and popularity to the point where advance booking has become essential.

David Spragg, *British School of Rock* opened its first two lessons in September, at *St Peter's Catholic School* in Guildford, and *Tiffin Girls' School* in Kingston. "I was delighted that just six weeks after launch we had waiting lists for drummers and guitarists" says David "and we are expanding in January. There is nothing to beat the buzz of playing in a band each week;

combining that with quality tuition and tiny class numbers means that our students progress quickly - and enjoy every minute of the class". **British School of Rock** welcomes students aged 8 to 18, with separate classes for beginners to advanced. Visit www.britishschoolofrock.co.uk
01483 905220
 or text ROCK to 66777.

It's a magical world where even a cold winter's day is full of warmth, and where believing matters more than anything. Santa Special tickets, at £11 for children and £7 for adults, are available.
01252 795571
 by using a booking form at www.rural-life.org.uk or in person at the museum. Visitors are allocated a time slot to reduce the queuing, but once a booking has been made, it cannot be cancelled or changed. A mince pie and a drink are included in the price, and visitors can also enjoy lunches and snacks at the on-site cafe. The museum itself will be closed during these festive weekends. The *Rural Life Centre* is midway between Farnham and Tilford on the Reeds Road, three miles south of Farnham.

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ROCK
 Tel 01483 905220 or Text ROCK to 66777

Everyone gets expert tuition
Everyone plays in a real Rock Band
Every week

JUST FOUR MUSICIANS TO EACH TUTOR
 45 MINUTES TUITION, 15 MINUTES PLAYING LIVE

Bass, Drums, Guitar, Vocals
 Classes for beginners to advanced. Ages 8 to 18
www.britishschoolofrock.co.uk **01483 905220**

Christmas Gifts

About YouView

YouView is a subscription-free television service which seamlessly combines live and catch-up television. The service offers over 70 free to air channels and radio stations via a TV aerial and also connects to any broadband service to bring catch-up and on demand programmes directly to your TV.

How to get YouView
A *YouView* box is available free as part of a broadband subscription from *BT* or *TalkTalk* (activation / installation fees may apply) It is also available to buy from all major retailers and many independent electrical stores including *John Lewis*, *Currys*, *Argos*, *Amazon*, *Richer Sounds* and *Euronics*. RRP £249
How to set up YouView
To set up a *YouView* set-top box you need to connect it to your TV via a HDMI cable or SCART lead, to your TV aerial and to your broadband router via an Ethernet cable
A minimum broadband speed of 3Mb/s and an unlimited data allowance is recommended. When ordering from *BT* or *TalkTalk*, broadband speed is checked and the data allowance for on demand programmes is unlimited
Watch Live
Offering over 70 free-to-air channels and radio stations available via your TV aerial

YouView presents viewers with a wide selection of live television and radio. Additionally, the service has pause, rewind, fast-forward and record functionality for live TV giving you more flexibility when enjoying your favourite TV programmes
YouView offers the option to record one show while watching another, gives reminders to let you know a programme is about to start and has up to 300 hours (500GB) of storage space for your programme recordings in *MyView*
YouView has free HD channels from BBC One HD, BBC Two HD, ITV1 HD (STV HD in Scotland) and Channel 4 HD (all available to watch and record in HD)
Watch On Demand
YouView offers seven day catch-up and on demand television via a seven day backwads EPG
• Catch-up and on demand content can also be found via players from *BBC iPlayer*, *ITV Player*, *4oD* and *Demand 5*.
YouView offers access to NOW TV powered by *Sky* showing the latest movies for those with a NOW TV subscription

www.bt.com/youview
www.talktalk.co.uk/youview

My Blue Nose Friends Tatty Teddy's Heart House



4+ (RRP £39.99) www.tattyteddytoys.com

Horrible Histories® Battle Arena



6+ (RRP £39.99) www.horriblehistories.com

December 2013

Makeup brushes are approved by Peta.org.

The organisation for the protection of the welfare of animals *Peta*, approve of these make-up brushes as they are 100% synthetic. Professional Makeup artists - love them!
<http://beautystore4u.co.uk/brushes/brush-sets/nanshy-luxury-makeup-brush-set-with-elegant-bag-13-brushes-for-£29.95>



Performance wear you can live in

BAM is the leading name in the world of bamboo clothing offering eco-friendly and ethically made bamboo performance wear that you can live in. It's ultra soft, comfortable and versatile.

Bamboo clothing is moisture wicking, temperature controlled, anti-bacterial, anti-static and UV protective. All these combine to produce a stunningly soft and ubiquitous garment.



BAM is all about innovation, adventure, quirkiness and spirit. It is the 'next to the skin' clothing of choice for outdoor enthusiasts, sports lovers, expeditioners, and others who just love its unique feeling.

BAM was the first brand in Europe to start offering bamboo clothing, back in 2006. Constantly innovating.

BAM leads the way in the comfort, quality and performance of bamboo clothing. For every received order the company plants a tree in the name of the purchaser. For information: www.bambooclothing.co.uk

Joe's Tea Co...

..... an independent organic tea company based in London, has just unveiled Joe's collection of Christmas gifts, including the Christmas *Chai Rooibos* tea, which was hugely successful last Christmas. The tea itself includes chai blended with organic and caffeine free rooibos and other festive flavours which is the perfect stocking filler this Christmas for all the family. All of Joe's Tea blends are available in store and online. www.joesteacompany.com



Galt Baby Walker



Suitable from 12 months, £39.99 www.galttoys.com

December 2013

Out and about

Daily Bateman's Burwash **01435 882302**

An Edwardian Christmas enjoy the sights, sounds & scents of a candlelit Edwardian Christmas.
Daily Christmas garden trail, Father Christmas has gone missing, follow the trail around the garden looking for the clues & collect a surprise when you have finished the trail & don't miss the elves workshop in the garden.
Daily Alfriston Clergy House Polegate **01323 870001** See Christmas through the ages in the seasonally decorated house.

Every Wed Heaven at Nutfield www.heaven-nutfield.com. Smiley Faces music group for babies & toddlers for up to 2yrs & 2-4yrs, there is also a playroom for under 5's, a café & a crèche.

Every Sat during term time **The River & Rowing Museum** Mills, Meadows Henley on Thames **01491 415600** Artways Art Club, 5 week sessions, 11-15yrs. **Every Wed during term time** Taylor Tug's on Thames **01491 415600** Artways Art Club, 5 week sessions, 11-15yrs. **Every Wed during term time** Taylor Tug's on Thames **01491 415600** Artways Art Club, 5 week sessions, 11-15yrs.

From 30 Nov Spinnaker Tower Portsmouth **02392 857520** Families will be challenged to explore the tower & follow the reindeer trail for a chance to win a prize.

7,8,14,15,21 & 22 Dec Standen East Grinstead **01342 332029** Father Christmas in his woodland workshop, toast a marshmallow on the fire & enjoy some warming hot chocolate & see what gift he has for you in his sack. **Every weekend until 22 Dec** Christmas at Standen explore the gardens illuminated with thousands of lights creating a magic wonderland & see the house decorated for a family Christmas 1920's style.

7,15 Dec **Sheffield Park Garden** Nr Haywards Heath East Sussex **0825 790231** Edible decorations create your own edible gingerbread tree decoration to take home with you, activity for families. **14 Dec-5 Jan** Festive trail food themed quiz, stroll around the garden & look out for boards that will provide the answers to questions about festive foods from around the world. **26,31 Dec** Guided walk.

8 Dec **Birling Gap & Seven Sisters** Eastbourne **01323 423197** Christmas craft fair join in the fun with a Santa's grotto, plus face painting, mulled wine & mince pies. **14 Dec** **Brighton Centre** Kings Road Brighton **01273 202881** The War of the Worlds www.thewaroftheworlds.com/tickets

Blowing the Whistle on GDC Scam.

Orthodontists and the General Dental Council are operating an illegal scam to withhold information from the public about new methods which can avoid almost all extractions and even major jaw surgery. This is being done partly to protect traditional methods and partly to preserve the high incomes of orthodontists and surgeons. Research suggests that this British development is being ignored in the UK while spreading rapidly abroad. As a result hundreds of children and young adults have extractions and jaw surgery, unaware they may be unnecessary.

Some Orthodontists mislead patients, saying that extractions can be avoided although the traditional methods they use leave too little room, risking severe damage to the face. It is wise to explore the internet yourself, many sites make great claims and show beautiful faces but very few show good results before and after treatment. Even the media is scared of disclosing this scandal.

There is another way.

Take a second opinion now. Nine years old may be too late.

ORTHOTROPICS

The alternative to orthodontics with extractions and surgery.

Orthodontists usually requires the extraction of 4 to 8 sound teeth although this is frequently denied. Easily was treated by natural methods. No extractions. No "Train Tracks". No retainers.

Research shows Orthotropics can get much better results than "Train Tracks".

Professor John Mew, Tunbridge Wells 01892 526406 and The London School of Facial Orthotropics, Purley. 020-8660-3695.

When experts disagree, where do you go for answers?

www.Orthotropics.com

Ask an appropriate professional to refer you for a free assessment

John.mew@vsn.net

Give the gift of great entertainment this Christmas with blinkbox movie and TV gift cards

Tesco stores, the £5, £10 and £20 *blinkbox* Movie and TV cards mean that giving family, friends or even yourself the yuletide gift of entertainment has never been easier.

Whether it's watching on a PC or brand new Christmas tablet or games console, The Movie and TV cards will allow recipients to enjoy a fantastic selection of the latest and greatest entertainment without the hassle of a subscription. From acclaimed TV series such as *Games of Thrones* and *Breaking Bad* to epic movies like *The Wolverine* and *Man of Steel*, the pocket-size gift cards mean viewers only pay for

great entertainment they want to watch. Activating a card couldn't be easier. Visit www.blinkbox.com/redeem and follow instructions.

Once redeemed, you can enjoy a world of entertainment across a range of devices, including PC, tablet, games console and Smart TV. www.blinkbox.com/redeem

Swimming Lessons

Quality classes in small group
**** COME AND TRY A CLASS FREE ****

Lessons for:

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6TH DEC 2013 - 5TH JAN 2014



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THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS TREAT!

Ongoing Dupps Hill Outdoor Gym Each item has clear instruction for its use over 12's.

Daily Rainbow Leisure Centre East Street 01372 722777 Toddlers Wed under 5's.

Daily Lower Morden Garden Centre 020 8337 7781 Soft Play, under 5's.

Daily Sutton Ecology Centre Festival Walk Carshalton 020 8770 5810 Playworld fantasy play area, under 5's.

Daily New Gardens, Kew Palace 020 8284 0946 Walking Tours of seasonal highlights. **FREE.** Every Sat Tropical Nursery Tours, need to book. Every Sat **Thurs** Orchid Nursery Tours, need to book. Every Sat Hands on Session Blowing in the wind stories of seed dispersal. **FREE**, no need to book.

Ongoing Lightwater Country Park 01276 479582 Meditation classes. **FREE**, donations welcome but not expected. Tel:01276 479744. www.meditationuk.co.uk

Recently re-opened Kidz Play Cafe 284 Lower Addiscombe Road Croydon Softplay & cafe, under 5's.

Every Sun YMCA Wimbledon 020 8542 9055 Volleyball sessions for all levels for kids in sessions in Wimbledon & Merton. **FREE** from 12.30pm, info@wimbledonvolleyballclub.com. www.wimbledonvolleyballclub.com

Every Mon Seemle Theatre Cheam Road Sutton 020 8770 6990 Zumba fitness. Every Tues Line Dancing. Every Wed Ballroom Dance, under 8's to adults.

Every Mon Hampton Library 020 8734 3347 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 3rd Thurs of the month Chatbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4pm, **FREE.**

Every Mon Morden Library 020 8545 4400 Storytime for everyone is welcome. Every Wed Welcome Mornings with stories & crafts for pre-school children. 11 Dec every month Coffee mornings for adults. Every Fri **Thurs** 4yrs. 1st Fri of each month Wellbeing drop in sessions, a Wellbeing Coordinator will be on hand to meet you face to face, talk through any issues you may have, sign you up for any upcoming workshops, tell you more about other services available in the borough. Tel: 020 3178 2549.

Every Mon Pollards Hill Library 020 8764 5877 Musical mayhem. Every Mon Employment Club improve your CV, covering letter, interview skills & more. Every Thurs Salsa Dance classes. **FREE.** Every Fri storytimes.

Every Mon Wimbledon Library 020 8946 7432 Jewellery drop in workshop for adults. **FREE.** Every Tues Coffee morning for over

50s. Every Tues IT also Basic IT Training. Every Wed Sewing Circle for adults. **FREE.** Every Wed French Conversation drop in classes, beginner & intermediate levels, for adults. Every Wed Teenage French Tutorials, 8-18yrs. Every 1st Sat of month, 8-18yrs. Every Fri Knitting Group, need to bring own needles. Every Tues **United Reformed Church** Cavendish Hall 020 8949 3402 Sparkles, under 5's, 9-11.30pm.

Every Mon Kingston Children's Library Wheatfield Way Kingston 020 8547 6438 Rhyme & storytime sessions for babies, toddlers & under 5's. Every Thurs Stories & crafts for under 5's.

Every Mon New Malden Children's Centre Burlington Road New Malden 020 8336 1561 Stay & Play 0-18mths.

Every Mon Surbiton Library Ewell Road Surbiton 020 8547 6444 Stay & Play 0-18mths. Every Tues **Old Malden Library** 020 8547 6647 Rhyme time up to 3yrs, and storytime for under 5's. **FREE.**

Every Mon Tudor Drive Library 020 8547 6456 Storytime for under 5's. **FREE.** Every Tues Rhyme time for under 5's followed by stay & play until 3.30pm. **FREE.**

Every Mon St John's Church Kingston Road 020 8288 1801 Tues in Tow fun for the under 5's, 10-11.30am.

Every Mon St James's Church Hall Bodley Road 020 8942 2093 Toddler's Group for all parents and toddlers plus siblings in the holidays.

Every MonWed & Fri during term time Little Hamsters Play Cafe Ham 07432 154274 Relaxed environment for mums & tots 0-5yrs offering coffee, cakes, lunches, soft play shapes, ball pool, ride on toys, table top activities & puzzles plus outdoor playground with musical activities. 0-5yrs. **FREE.** parking. **FREE** Wi-Fi.

Every MonWed St James's Church Hall Bodley Road New Malden 020 8942 2093. Toddlers Group, 9.30-11.30am.

Every Tues Farnham Library www.bookstart.org.uk Baby Bounce n' Rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Tues Whitton Library 020 8734 3343 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 2nd Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Tues Hampton Wick Library 020 8734 3358 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 2nd Thurs of the month Chatbooks reading group, 8-9yrs. **FREE.**

Every Tues Donald Hope Library 020 8542 1975 Storytime. Every Thurs Need help with IT? A dedicated volunteer will be available to provide assistance with a wide range of IT issues, for more info 020 8274 5799. Every

Fri Rhymetime. Every Sat Colliers Wood Chess Club for all ages.

Every Tues Mitcham Library 020 8648 4070 Under 5's Storytime & Craft, fun activity. **FREE.** Every Thurs CV & Careers Advice. Last Thurs of each month, Coffee Mornings. Every Fri Knitting Group, need to bring own needles. Every Tues **United Reformed Church** Cavendish Hall 020 8949 3402 Sparkles, under 5's, 9-11.30pm.

Every Tues Malden Centre Blagdon Road New Malden 020 83361561 Stay & Play for under 5's. Every Thurs young parents drop-in, 1-3pm. Every Fri Toy Library, under 5's, 10.30-12.00pm.

Every Tues New Malden Library Kingston Road 020 8547 6438 Baby & toddler rhyme time up to 3yrs. **FREE.** Every Thurs storytime for under 5's. **FREE.**

Every Tues Purley Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime, babies & toddlers. Wiggle & Jiggle, 18mths-yrs. Storytime 2 ½ -yrs. Fortnightly Book & Rhyme for pre-school children. **FREE.**

Every Wed & Sun East Sheen Library 020 8734 3337 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 3rd Wed of the month Chatbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.30pm. **FREE.** 1st & 3rd Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Fri Waddon Ponds & Wandale Park 020 8656 5947 Circular walk through Waddon Ponds & Wandale Park, 2-3 miles, meet outside Lidl, 11am, **FREE.**

Every Fri Mon Running Club 07936 240937. A mixed group of runners mainly, but not restricted to mothers with children in school, meet at 9.50am in the Pembroke Lodge car park for a run of between 3 & 4 miles. Social group of runners with no pressure on ability, new to running, 11.15am. **FREE.**

Every Mon Babes & Toddlers a half hour movement & music session for babies, 9-18mths, all ages. Every Mon Rhyme Time morning of rhyming, singing & laughter, 11.15am. **FREE.**

Every Thurs Cheam Leisure Centre Cheam 020 8770 4830 Street Dance lessons for boys & girls 10-15yrs

Every Thurs Twickenham Library Garfield Road 020 8734 3340 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 2nd & 4th Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Thurs Methodist Church Hall High St New Malden Parent & toddler club, 9.45-11.30am.

Every Thurs Methodist Church High Street New Malden Parent & Toddler Group

Every Thurs Tollymore Recreation Centre Falloway Way North Twickenham 020 8391 1882 Badminton Club for intermediate/advanced level, Tel: 020 8395 9175.

Every Thurs Bental Centre Kingston AirLand or Sea, 'Make & Take' workshops children can create their own costume or T-shirt. **FREE.** www.kingstonfirst.co.uk

Every Thurs Wake Magic tricks & learn to do some at home held on 3rd floor.

Every Thurs in term time Sutton Christian Centre 020 8642 8117 Special Stars a baby & toddler group for children with disabilities or additional needs, from babies to pre-schoolers, siblings welcome.

Last Thurs eve in every month Kingston Library Wheatfield Way Kingston 020 8547 6438 Adult Readers Group. Every Thurs throughout Aug Story time & simple craft for children. **FREE.**

1st Fri of every month Bergundy Black Cafe St Martins Walk Dorking Bumps & Babies is for mums with bumps & both parents or carers of non mobile babies,

under 5's. **FREE.** 1st Sat of every month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Wed Uxbridge Pre School 18 The Downs Wimbledon 020 8947 0859 Mothers & Toddler playgroup, in the nursery, play along with the toys & make use of the facilities plus a cup of tea is always available & well qualified & well trained nursery staff are on hand. **FREE.**

Every Wed Twolthor Library 37-39 The Broadway 020 8547 6470 Rhyme & storytime for under 5's with simple crafts. **FREE.**

Every Wed Sanderstead Library 020 8728 6900 Bookstart rhymetime, babies & toddlers. Wiggle & Jiggle, 18mths-yrs. Storytime 2 ½ -yrs. Fortnightly Book & Rhyme for pre-school children. **FREE.**

Every Wed & Sun East Sheen Library 020 8734 3337 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 3rd Wed of the month Chatbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.30pm. **FREE.** 1st & 3rd Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Fri Waddon Ponds & Wandale Park 020 8656 5947 Circular walk through Waddon Ponds & Wandale Park, 2-3 miles, meet outside Lidl, 11am, **FREE.**

Every Fri Mon Running Club 07936 240937. A mixed group of runners mainly, but not restricted to mothers with children in school, meet at 9.50am in the Pembroke Lodge car park for a run of between 3 & 4 miles. Social group of runners with no pressure on ability, new to running, 11.15am. **FREE.**

Every Thurs Twickenham Library Garfield Road 020 8734 3340 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** 2nd & 4th Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Thurs Methodist Church Hall High St New Malden Parent & toddler club, 9.45-11.30am.

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meet others for tea or coffee & get your baby socialising. www.nct.org.uk/branches/dorking/events/bumps-and-babies. 3rd Mon of every month Nappuccino a natter about nappies as an alternative to disposable.

Every Fri Dorking Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidsuff Rhymetime. **FREE.**

Every Fri Redhill Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidsuff Rhymetime. **FREE.**

Every Wed Twolthor Library 37-39 The Broadway 020 8547 6470 Rhyme & storytime for under 5's with simple crafts. **FREE.**

Every Fri Sutton Library 020 8644 9696 Job Club volunteer led support group for job seeker, all ages. **FREE** no need to book.

Every Fri Sutton Life Centre 020 8644 9696 Running & non contact boxing 12-13yrs. **FREE.**

Every Fri Teddington Library Walgrave Road 020 8734 3304/5 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** Every 2nd Wed of the month Chatbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.20pm. **FREE.** 1st Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.**

Every Fri King's Library Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.**

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FREE.

Every Mon Canbury Park Gardens Kingston Fitness in the gardens low impact outdoor cardio exercise for all with power walking, jogging & stretching. 10-11am. **FREE.** info@AHM-Ga.com

Every Mon Canbury Gardens Lower Ham Road Kingston 020 8547 6422 Low impact outdoor cardio exercise for all with power walking, jogging & stretching 10-11am. **FREE.**

Unit 24 Dec Birdworld Farnham 01420 22140 Farnham will be in his Winter Wonderland with his elves & reindeer on selected dates throughout Dec.

Unit 24 Dec Squire's Garden Centre Badshot Lea Farnham 01252 336666 Magical New 4D Christmas experience groto. Children may visit the groto completely **FREE** of charge & will receive a present, with any generous groto donations going to the Princess Alice Hospice.

Unit 24 Dec Booketts Farm Leatherhead 01483 445 085 Father Christmas in his magical hay barn workshop, each child will meet Santa & receive a gift, tickets can be purchased before to avoid queuing. There will also be on sale Christmas trees, wreaths, gifts, sledges & lots more. www.bookettfarm.co.uk

5 Jan Rose Theatre 08444 821556 The Snow Gorrilla, families, all ages. Every Mon Rhyme Time morning of rhyming, singing & laughter, 11.15am. **FREE.**

Every Mon Babes & Toddlers a half hour movement & music session for babies, 9-18mths, all ages. Every Mon Rhyme Time morning of rhyming, singing & laughter, 11.15am. **FREE.**

Every Thurs Cheam Leisure Centre Cheam 020 8770 4830 Street Dance lessons for boys & girls 10-15yrs

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Calendar

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all at PARENTS NEWS

6 Dec Concert Hall Fairfield 020 8688 9291. Voice in a Million. 9 Dec A Christmas Carol. 20 Dec London Mozart Players, Christmas Concert, audience participation of Christmas classics, concluding with a screening of Raymond Briggs' classic story The Snowman.

6 Dec Ewell Village Yule Ewell with late night shopping plus there will be carols, a tree & all the traditional Christmas trappings.

6-24 Dec Epsom Playhouse Ashley Avenue 01372 742555 Santa Claus & the Christmas Adventure 2yrs.

7 Dec Seasonal Sparkle Christmas concert 13 Dec-5 Jan Peter Pan.

6 Dec-12 Jan Richmond Theatre Richmond Green Richmond 0844 871 7651 Peter Pan. 7 Dec 12 Jan Pre-show Play, **FREE** to chat families. 21 Dec Put on a Panto, 7-11yrs. 22 Dec Stage Combat Workshop 11-16yrs. 6 Jan Released Performance Peter Pan. 18 Jan The Magic of Motown.

7 Dec 6 Dec-5 Jan New Victoria Theatre Woking 01483 545900 Cinderella

6 Dec-5 Jan Ashcroft Theatre Fairfield 02080 9200 8688 9291 Peter Pan. 10-11 Jan Cinderella the play. 14-15 Jan Shakespeare 4 Kidz. Macbeth.

6 Dec-4 Jan Yvonne Arnaud Theatre Millbrook Guildford 01483 44000 Cinderella starring Bonnie Langford family pantomime.

7 Dec Bagshot High Street 07890 864074 Christmas Village Day, the High Street will be closed to traffic & there will be stalls offering seasonal goods & more, fairground rides, entertainment, Santa's Grotto plus seasonal music throughout the day, 1-6pm.

7 Dec The Guildhall Guildford High Street 01483 452900 RASAC Winter Fair

7 Dec Fancourt Hall Sunlife Road Sunleigh 020 8397 3123 Christmas Extravaganza, with real Christmas trees on sale, a variety of stalls including homemade cards, decorations, toys, jewellery & cakes plus well known traders such as Pampered Chef, Phoenix cards & Body shop, 9-3pm.

7 Dec Tunbridge Wells Baptist Church Upton Greenover Rd 01732 362820 What's that Noise? - a concert for children, an interactive story which will involve all the children in the audience playing percussion instruments, under 2's **FREE.**

7 Dec Gatton Park 01737 649066 www.gattonpark.com Santa's Grotto enjoy a golf buggy ride to Santa in his grotto, explore the grounds following a trail of clues & then return to Gatton Hall to make a Christmas decoration. 14 Dec Christmas Craft a glue & glitter extravaganza making Christmas decorations, 4-7yrs.

7 Dec Oxted Community Centre 07824 770511 Christmas Gingerbread House workshops.

7 Dec Leatherhead Christmas Festival 07834 051041 Held in the town centre & Swan Shopping

centre with live music, singing, dancing & more, Santa will be walking around the centre with his elves & Frosty the snowman

7 Dec London Wetland Centre Queen Elizabeth's Walk Bexley 020 8409 4400 Festive visit to the grounds with the model trains. Father Christmas & his huskies, younger children can experience the excitement of a **FREE** husky sleigh ride under 8's. 21 Dec-5 Jan Christmas holiday family activities with crafts, seasonal trail & fun Christmas show. Until 26 Jan Cranberry Fest make beautiful cranberry decorations for the tree & into the New year make cranberry bird feeders, take part in a special Cranberry Fest Trail a walk amongst the wetland wildlife learning about cranberries, cranes & the importance of wetlands as nature's food plains. Come & find out why cranberries were named after cranes and endangered wetland bird that WWT works to protect. Daily Guided visits. Every Mon-Thurs & Sat Guide in the hide in the Peacock Tower, join one of WWT's experienced birdwatchers who will be on hand to point out unusual species & answer any questions you may have. Every Tues & Thurs Pushabouts, fitness for new mums. Every weekend children's activities discover the amazing wildlife & learn weed & wonderful facts, regular pond dips, wildlife walks & trails.

7 Dec Polka Theatre 240 The Broadway Wimbledon 020 8543 4888 Gorilla released performance 1-5yrs. 2 Jan Snow Flake Shake holiday workshop 3-5yrs. 3 Jan Down the Rabbit Hole: Play in a Day, 7-11yrs. 14 Jan-1 Feb After School Courses Pirates & Princesses 3-4-5yrs. 15 Jan-26 Mar Scene Stealers Play Makers classes, 5-7-7yrs. Until 15 Jan Alice's Adventure in Wonderland, 6-11yrs. Until 15 Feb Gorilla with puppets & music plus a tailor made version Mini Gorilla for 1-3yrs lasting just 30mins.

7.8.14.15 Dec New Mill Hall Park Mill Cottage 020 8648 1845 Festive Christmas Market & Santa's Grotto visit Santa & receive a special gift & then follow the festive family trail through the park.

7.8.14.15 Dec Polesden Lacey working 01372 453048 We Three Kings Christmas Festivities, discover the stories of the three kings who visited Polesden, plus sleigh rides, Father Christmas & more.

7.8.14.15 Dec Santa Fir Christmas Tree Farm Guildford

family (including the dog), under 5's **FREE.** All participants will receive a Santa Suit & medal to register www.sebastianstacniontrust.org.uk

8 Dec Santa Cycle 01372 841222 Fun event for all the family put on a Santa suit & cycle the 10K along Barge Walk to help OVE provide a special 'Buggy' wheelchair for a disabled child this Christmas. The ride will take you on a flat path between Hampton Court Bridge & 7.8.14.15.21 Dec Ham House & Gardens Richmond 020 8940 1950 Follow a trail to Santa's grotto, trail includes a Christmas gift. 12 Dec A Handmade Christmas create natural decorations

7.8.14-24 Dec Denbies Wine Estate 01306 876616 Santa's cellar grotto. 14 Dec A Christmas Fairy Tale presented by Hobgoblin Childrens theatre company.

7.24 Dec Charles Croyer Theatre 39 High Street Carshalton 020 8770 4950 The Snow Angel interactive children's show for babies & toddlers up to 5yrs. 7-24 Dec When Santa Got Stuck up the Chimney magical adventure based on the famous song. Every Wed Spiral Youth Theatre for 13+yrs members learn a variety of activities such as drama, dance & singing, musical theatre composition, set design & costume making culminating in wonderful facts, regular pond dips, wildlife walks & trails.

7 Dec-6 Jan Royal Botanic Gardens Kew 020 7222 1234 Christmas by Day within the Christmas exploring the trees & a range of stalls plus Santa's grotto plus seasonal refreshments on offer, entry under 15's **FREE.** 21-22 Dec How to Catch a Star show using storytelling & puppetry, 3-7yrs.

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7.8.14.15 Dec Santa Fir Christmas Tree Farm Guildford

14 Dec Elmbridge Museum 01932 843573 Victorian Christmas Craft, Arts & Craft family fun make an imaginative decoration for your Christmas tree. www.elmbridge.gov.uk/museum

14 Dec Christmas Goose Fair Guildford Street Chersey Selection of British handmade craft & community stalls, childrens rides, entertainers & more, 10-3pm. www.cherseygoosefair.com

14 Dec Swan Shopping Centre Entrance Christmas is in the Air hear & support local schools, Woodlands Church, Trinity Primary, St Peter's Catholic School & Therfield School jazz band, 10-1pm. **FREE.**

14.15 Dec Hampton Court Palace Hampton Court 0871 230 220 Floromania at Christmas with lots of activities to include arts & crafts, wreath making, brass bands & carol singing in the courtyards. 17,18,21-23 Dec Carol Singing.

14 Dec-5 Jan Claremont Landscape Gardens 01372 467806 Christmas Trail for all the family. 14-15 Dec Visit Father Christmas in his thatched cottage & receive an age appropriate gift, 6mths-10yrs

15 Dec Frimley Lodge Park Start Road Frimley Green 07774 754141 Jingle Joy festive jive dress 5K run to the tune of 1000 jingle bells, after the race all finishers will receive a memento & **FREE** festive cheer at Pasticchos on the park. www.jinglejog.co.uk

15 Dec Hatchlands Park East Clendon 01483 222482 Visit the animals in the courtyard & meet Father Christmas, 1-3pm. 15 Dec Enjoy Christmas cards & reading in the Music Room with a visit from Father Christmas, 3-4pm.

19 Dec Guildford Cathedral Stag

Hill 01483 547868 QEF Christmas Card Service with celebrity readings from Penelope Keith & soloists Natalie Coyle, Kathy Taylor Jones as well as a vocal harmony group & the Belmont Preparatory School Choir, following the service is a mulled wine & mince pie reception in the refectory with limited places to book Tel: 01372 841121.

20 Dec Fairfield Halls Fairfield 020 8688 9291 The Elvies Yrs. 17 Jan The Simon Garfunkel Story. 25 Jan Saturday Night Bee Gees.

20-23 Dec The Medicine Garden Downside Road Cobham 01932 589536 Santa's grotto.

21 Dec-5 Jan RHIS Gardens Wisley 01483 225329 Enchanted Trail festive family adventure through Wisley's enchanted winter garden as a riot of stories & songs are waiting to be found in the magical landscape, suitable 4-10yrs. 18 Jan-9 Mar Butterflies in the Glasshouse, 18,19 Jan children can help create a giant butterfly wing sculpture.

10-18 Jan BARN Theatre Oxted 01883 724852 A1a Baba & his Forty Thieves

24-25 Jan Mytchett Centre Surrey www.hope-events.co.uk The Elves & the Shoemaker

What's On
London
Calendar
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Page 10 & 11

stagecoach Theatre Arts

The original and largest network of part-time performing art schools in the world.

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chertsey@stagecoach.co.uk

Twickenham 020 8224 6905
twickenham@stagecoach.co.uk

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Stagecoach

ChristmasTouch Typing Courses New Malden Library

16th-19th; 10:00-12:15pm Jan 3rd - 4th; 10:00 - 2:30 pm

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OFSTED registered - child care vouchers accepted

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Nick Holt at 07812 632238
nickandsarahholt@hotmail.com

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If your toddler would enjoy running, catching, throwing, hitting (a ball or two), aiming, bouncing, racket/bat skills, footwork, learning, lots of games and fun, check us out...

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trained adult coaches; girls & boys; all abilities; classes are varied, educational & FUN!! our mini-sports come back again and again.

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Polka Theatre

22 Nov 2013 – 15 Feb 2014

Polka Theatre presents

Traditional children's theatre at the best prices - The Guardian

By Simon Reade
Based on the novel by Lewis Carroll
Music by Martin Ward

020 8543 4888 www.polkatheatre.com

240 The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1SB

6+ years

Sponsored by **Morrisons** **WIMBLEDON**

APRIL 2014 THEATRE AWARDS

meriton

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Christmas Gifts

ANIMAL SHAPED SLEDGES

On the lookout for affordable Christmas gift ideas? Then here is a perfect presents. For active children seeking an adventure in the snow, the *Sled Buddies* from *Groover* will keep them entertained for hours.

PENGUIN & POLAR BEAR SLED BUDDIES
Dreaming of a white Christmas? Perfect for children aged 8 and above (and big kids too), these cute and seriously cool *Sled Buddies* will provide hours of fun in the white stuff this Christmas.

Brand new for this winter, these *Sled Buddies* also boast a whole raft of features:

- **Lightweight:** Using a unique lightweight foam construction, the Sled Buddies weigh just 500g and are 90cm long meaning even little ones can carry them uphill time and time again.
- **Advertising works in PARENTS NEWS**
020 8337 6337
fergus@parents-news.co.uk
- **Ride Fast and Straight:** The patented *Arctic Groove Technology (AGT)* Grooved base allows quicker water displacement for greater straight-line speed and turning control.
- **Soft & Durable:** The soft, yet durable foam core offers a more comfortable insulated ride.
- **Sturdy Handles:** These aid steering, stability and ease of carrying.
- **3D Penguins & Polar Bears:** Fun 3D animal graphics adorn the sled, while the bright yellow (AGT) bottom also provides high visibility.



including *Craigdon Mountain Sports*
www.craigdonmountainsports.com
01467 629394
from £24.99 each (SRP).

MATEL REVEALS TOP GAMES FOR FAMILIES & KIDS THIS CHRISTMAS

To maintain those happy faces this Christmas and provide endless fun and laughter, mums, dads and grandparents are on the hunt for the hottest, must-have games to bring the family together on the most festive day of the year! Mattel offers a wide selection of games from energetic, electronic word games, to animal-themed kid's games that are sure to keep everyone on their toes whilst providing lots of quality family bonding time!

Scrabble Original

The classic battle of wits and words where every word counts, has a cool new look but still the same game! If you're a whizz at word-games then Scrabble is for you. Using just seven letter tiles at a time, it's up to you to play the highest-scoring interlocking words you can – crossword fashion – on the Scrabble board.

For 2-4 players
Ages: 10+
RRP: £19.99



Scrabble Twists & Turns

Scrabble Twists & Turns is a fast, easy and more accessible word game that eliminates the board, gets rid of the points and rounds out the tile edges for new options and innovative fun. Colour-coded "Gotcha" tiles add twists and skip turns to make game play livelier. The first to get rid of all of their tiles wins!

Ages: 8+
RRP: £14.99

Scrabble Banter

The classic battle of wits and words where every word counts now takes on a different challenge. This electronic party game is a blast with quick fire mental challenges that will liven up any gathering!

For 2-4 players
RRP: £24.99



The Rainforest Alliance's Gift Guide for a Greener Christmas

By giving a gift with the *Rainforest Alliance* Certified™ seal and the *Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)* seal you will be helping to protect the environment and wildlife, and promote sustainable livelihoods of farmers, farm workers and their families around the world, including access to potable water, proper housing, health care and education.

For the green fingered
Whether it's dad hiding out in the garden shed or mum pruning her azaleas, a set of FSC certified garden tools will make the perfect gift for any gardener. From a hand-weeding fork to a lawn rake, tools made with wooden handles sourced from FSC certified wood have come from forests that have met rigorous standards and promote responsible harvesting that uses methods that keep ecosystems in tact so that they can continue to filter water, stabilise soil, absorb carbon dioxide and provide shelter and roosts for animals.

For the foodie
Make up an eco-friendly, yet indulgent Christmas hamper

brimming with tea, coffee, chocolate and fruit that all display the little green frog seal of the *Rainforest Alliance*. Products can be found in all major supermarkets and are your assurance that they are contributing to the wellbeing of communities and fostering the long-term health of the planet. Wooden kitchen and chef's utensils carrying the FSC symbol are also ideal gifts for the food-lover.

For the book worm
Make sure the book you choose to give is printed on FSC certified paper. By using environmentally sensitive logging techniques, monitoring hunting activities, conserving nesting areas and fruit-bearing trees and adhering to laws that safeguard endangered species, FSC-certified forestry enterprises do a better job of protecting great apes and other mammals.

For the musician
Surprise them with the ultimate gift that rocks, a guitar made with FSC certified wood. Did you know that in Guatemala's Petén region, deforestation rates were 20 times lower on FSC-certified concessions than in adjacent protected reserves?

For the adventurer
Whether they dream of trekking across the Andes, white water rafting down the Sarapiquí or whale watching

December 2013

in Mexico, if you're getting the ultimate travel gift for someone, make sure you search *SustainableTrip.org* to find eco-friendly hotels, lodges and other businesses in Latin America and the Caribbean. These tourism businesses are working with the *Rainforest Alliance* to mitigate their effects on the land and local people and provide staff with proper wages, health care and more. If your gift includes travel on *American Airlines*, *British Airways*, *Asiana Airlines* or *Al Nippon Airways*, they'll also enjoy complimentary *Rainforest Alliance* Certified coffee onboard their flight!

For the gadget lover
Protect their smart phone or tablet whilst protecting the environment with a cover made out of FSC certified materials. A funky cork iPad cover or iPhone cover made with a unique paper composite are available on the market.

For the person who has everything
Donate to *Adopt-A-Rainforest* through www.rainforest-alliance.org/aar to support conservation programmes run by the Rainforest Alliance's partner organisations in Latin America.

Visit the Frog page.
www.rainforest-alliance.org



For babies first christmas gifts

Large Nutbrown Hare Plush (RRP £12.99)

December 2013

Learn Spanish 121

Beginners, Intermediate and advanced
Qualified teacher with 10+ years Experience
GCSE, 0 level and University students

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The Ursuline Preparatory School
Wimbledon
An Independent Catholic School for Girls aged 3 to 11
and Co-educational Nursery for children aged 3 to 4
Welcoming children of all faiths and denominations



7+ TASTER DAY

Friday 10th January 2014 - 9.30 to 11.30 am

OPEN DAY

Saturday 25th January - 10.00am to 12 noon

Come and visit us - you will be sure of a warm welcome
The Ursuline Preparatory School, 18 The Downs, Wimbledon, London SW20 8HR
Tel: 020 8947 8859 www.ursuline-prep.merton.sch.uk admissions@wps.co.uk

A wonderful opportunity for your child!

Do you have an academically able child currently in Year 2, 3, 4 or 5? If so, he or she would be very welcome to sit for a scholarship at *St Lawrence Junior School* on Saturday 1 February 2014. Junior School scholarships worth up to 40% off the fees are available for September 2014 entry.

With small class sizes, teachers really get to know each individual child and are thus able to tailor lessons to each child's needs. *The Junior School* also prepares pupils thoroughly for the 11+ Kent Test. As well as opening the door to grammar school, success in the Kent Test guarantees a further scholarship of at least 25% to the Senior School at *St Lawrence College*.

With its exceptional facilities and outstanding pastoral care, find out more about how *St Lawrence College* can make a difference for your child. For more information, contact **Lindsey Harris**, Junior School Registrar, on

01843 572912
lah@slcuk.com
www.slcuk.com

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Proven Success in Top UK School Entrance Exams

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- ① Year 1 ~ Year 3 : English, Maths, Essay Writing
- ② Year 4 : English with VR, NVR, Maths, Essay Writing
- ③ Year 5 ~ 6 : Independent & Grammar school preparation

• Secondary (Year 7 ~ Year 13)

- ① Year 7 ~ 9 (KS3) : English, Maths, Science, French
- ② Year 10 ~ 11 (GCSE) : Math, French, Eng(Language & literature) Total Science
- ③ Year 12 ~13 (A-level) : Core & Further Maths

Primary Centre
118 Blagdon Rd, New Malden, Surrey KT3 4AE
email info@oxbridgeuk.com

Secondary Centre
Cavendish House, Cavendish Avenue
New Malden, Surrey KT3 6QQ
email admin@oxbridgeuk.com

Sutton Branch
Scill, 3 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton SM1 2SW
email sutton@oxbridgeuk.com

Primary enquiry

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Secondary & Sutton enquiry



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For further information and an application form, please contact:
Mrs Lindsey Harris
Junior School Registrar

T: 01843 572912
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www.slcuk.com
Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7AE

Education



London Calendar

Daily Science Museum Exhibition Rd 0870 870 4868 Take control in 360 degrees flight simulator or fly with the Red Arrows in their sensational 3D motion effects theatre. **Every weekend** **Icy Cool Adventure** families, under 7's. **FREE.** **Every Weekend** Spaced Out, families, 5-yrs. **FREE.** **Every Weekend** A Cockroach Tour of the museum visitors take on the form of cockroaches dressing up in realistic costumes. **FREE.** **Every Weekend** explore hundreds of real natural history specimens. **FREE.**

Daily The Queen's Gallery Buckingham Palace 020 7766 7301 Activity bags for families. Using the bags find out which animals the adventurers shared the Antarctic with and what early explorers went to protect themselves from the cold.

Ongoing Royal Air Force Museum Grayshe Palace Way Hendon 020 8255 2266 Airfix exhibition with some of Airfix's most popular models from the 50,60s & 70's.

Ongoing Royal Mews Buckingham Palace 020 7766 7302 Family groups may explore a range of self-directed activities from the art trolley, 5-yrs. **FREE.**

Ongoing Royal Academy of Arts 020 7300 8000 www.royalacademy.org.uk New policy all children under 12yrs of age will have **FREE** entry to all exhibitions.

Ongoing National Maritime Museum Greenwich 020 8312 6565 Nelson, Navy, Nation a new permanent gallery.

Ongoing Churchill War Rooms Clive Steps King Charles Street 020 7930 6961 Undercover, Life in Churchill's bunker.

Throughout Dec Westfield Shopping Centre 020 7580 0707 Santa & his Elves in their grotto, the whole family can enjoy the all digital, 5D personalised Christmas animated story that tells the tale of Elbow the Elf & how he saves Christmas with the help of all the children in the grotto. Each child's name & picture will feature in Pixar quality film as the 5D experience bursts into life with the added dimensions of wind, lights & music to add to the 35y to the charity Save The Children.

Every Sun Hildreth Street Market Balham SW12 Street Market with fresh food traders sourced from all over London.

Every Mon & Thurs Holy Trinity Church Brook Green 07710 023743 Singing & Songwriting sessions for 6-11 & 11-14yrs.

Every 2nd Sat of month National Geographic Store 83-97 Regent Street 020 7025 0960 Animal Man Nick Spellman for all ages.

Every Sat Venn Street Market, Clapham Common 020 7622 8259 Offering fine foods & fresh produce plus a variety of handmade crafts will be available. **FREE.**

Every weekend Tate Modern Bankside 020 7887 8000 Open Studio play & create with ideas & materials from artworks in the collection displays for all ages. **Daily Family** resources with paper based activities for families all ages. **FREE.** **Daily Children's Multimedia Guide** keeps children entertained & animates art works through music, video clips & entertaining games, 5-yrs. **Daily Under 5's** Zone a new play space for families. **FREE.** **Every weekend** Sat Sessions with games, map making & clue matching, 5-yrs. **FREE.**

Until 5 Jan Hyde Park Winter Wonderland 020 7298 2100 Attractions making a welcome return include: the UK's largest outdoor ice rink, the Iconic Giant Observation Wheel, the Beautiful Angels Christmas Market & Yuletide market & Santa Land for younger visitors plus Zippo's Circus, open daily 10am-10pm.

Until 5 Jan Natural History Museum Ice Rink 020 7492 5000 Winter sports & ice skating, the rink is surrounded by beautiful lights & stalls selling food, drink & gifts.

Until 5 Jan Somerset House Strand 020 7845 4600 Ice skating for all levels with pop up mall & stalls selling a variety of goods.

Until 6 Jan Kensington Palace 0844 485 7799 A Game of Thrones Christmas at Kensington Palace.

Until 9 Feb Barbican Arts Centre Silk Street 0845 120 7550 Pop Art Design exhibition.

Until 12 Jan Phoenix Theatre Charing Cross Road 020 7492

PARENTS NEWS

This information updated ON-LINE

www.parents-news.co.uk

Other features too!



1532 Erth's Dinosaur Zoo brings the majestic pre-historic creatures to the stage as you've never seen them before, up close & personal.

Until 15 Feb National Portrait Gallery St Martin's Place 020 7312 2463 Storytelling for families a take part in an activity, 3-yrs. **FREE.** **Until 28 Feb** Drop in with Mother Christmas, under 10's. **Daily Rainforest Life Exhibit**, experience the sights sounds, smells of the rainforest & come face to face with amazing rainforest species including monkeys sloth, armadillo, tamandua plus there's a special Night Life area, where you'll discover bats, rats & other creatures that dwell in the dark.

Until 22 Dec Museum of Childhood Bedford Green 020 8983 8200 Sensory storytelling inspired by well loved animal tales, under 5's. **FREE.** **Until 22 Dec** Art Smarts, workshop with paper based arts & crafts, all ages & abilities. **FREE.** **Until 19 Feb Afro Soul** exhibition. **FREE.**

Until 5 Jan Leicester Square Theatre 08448 733433 Stick Man, Live on Stage action packed show full of puppetry, songs, live music & funny moves, families 3-yrs.

Until 5 Jan Artstap 5 Thea Street 020 8369 5454 The Tiger Who Came To Tea family show, 3-yrs.

Until 5 Jan Hackney Empire Theatre 117 Wilton Street 020 7609 1800 The Bats, drop in, 28 Dec.

Until 5 Jan London Eye 0870 500060 Eyskate open skating for all levels.

5 Dec Geoffrey Museum Kingsland Rd 020 7739 8893 An Edwardian Christmas sing along to live festive music or bring children to a decoration making workshop. **FREE** entry, 5-8pm. **7 Dec** Festive gifts galore workshop for 11-16yrs, create spicy & aromatic festive soaps & herb bags to give as gifts for Christmas, all activities are **FREE** for children & families. **7 Dec** Christmas Carols drop in sessions for all ages. **7 Dec** Squeaking & Sparkwinking Decorations workshop, create a sugar mouse or beautiful bird Edwardian inspired Christmas decoration. **FREE.**

5 Dec All Hallows by the Tower Byward Street 020 7481 2928 Christmas Carol Service in aid of the Sick Children's Trust & will include a host of celebrity speakers.

5 Dec Trafalgar Square Annual tree lighting ceremony. **9-21 Dec** Carol singing around the world famous Christmas tree with various

pearls, using their new knowledge, they can create their own Jewellery designs in the digital studio, 5-yrs. **FREE** drop in, 28 Dec.

5 Jan Pop up performance, a series of performances will take place in the Raphael gallery telling the story of a fictional merchant sailor of Qatar and his many adventures, suitable families. **FREE.**

18 Jan Create! Costume design workshop, 13-15yrs. **Daily** Back Packs families can pick up an activity back pack filled with jigsaws, stories & games to explore the collection, 4-11yrs. Activity Cart hands on art fun for children to create a Samur helmet, a silver goblet or an elephant mask to take home. **FREE**, drop in Action Zone family interactive zone. **FREE.** **Daily** Kids Zone, interactive learning & play space for under 10's, a soft play area for babies plus arts & crafts, interesting costumes, books, interactive toys & lots more.

7-8 Dec Horiman Museum London Road Forest Hill 020 8699 1872 Horiman Christmas Fair festive event for all the family with festive including mulled wine & a visit to Santa's Grotto. **FREE** entry. **Every Tues** until 17 Dec & **every Fri** until 13 Dec **Busy Bees**, sessions with stories, songs & simple arts & crafts, families, under 5's. **FREE.** **Every Sat** until 14 Dec **Fans on Family** workshops, families, 3-yrs. **FREE.** **Every Sat** until 14 Dec **Art Makers** have fun with different art techniques to create something fabulous to take home, families 3-yrs. **Every Sun** Discovery for All, 3-yrs. **FREE.** **Every Sun** until 15 Dec **A World of Stories** storytelling sessions, families 3-yrs. **FREE.** **Every Sat** until 21 Dec **Horiman Farmers' Market**, **FREE** entry. **Unit 1 Mar** 14, The Art of Harmony, exhibition showcases Western classical musical instruments on loan from the V&A.

14-21 Dec Covent Garden Piazza Live Reindeer petting providing the chance to hand feed Santa's helpers, 12-4pm.

7 Dec 5 Jan Stratford Circus Theatre Square, Stratford Circus 357 7200 Mr & Mrs Moon interactive show for 2-5yrs. **11 Dec 5 Jan** We're Going on a Bear Hunt suitable for anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed atmosphere, audience members will be FREE to make noise & come & go if they need to.

Please call before you go please mention PARENTS NEWS

7-8 Dec National Army Museum 020 7730 0717 www.national-army-museum.ac.uk - Christmas is Cancelled festive family event, a twist on Christmas past, with games, carol singing as celebrants work to keep Christmas festive against the New Model Army who is determined to stop it. **FREE.** **Every Sat afternoon** A Soldier's Life workshop learn about the life of a soldier. **FREE.** **Daily Victorian Soldier Action Zone** with quizzes, games & hands on activities to help your learn about life as a Victorian soldier. **FREE.** **Daily The World's Army**, Empire, Commonwealth & Dominion Soldiers 1914-45 Action Zone family interactive zone. **FREE.** **Daily Kids Zone**, interactive learning & play space for under 10's, a soft play area for babies plus arts & crafts, interesting costumes, books, interactive toys & lots more.

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London Calendar

9 Dec Rich Mix Bethnal Green 020 7613 7498 Wiggly Jugglers 0-2yrs. **11 Dec** Musical Rumpus, Mudlark Dances.15 Dec Numbi Family Workshop creative live photography workshops, 13-yrs. **Every weekend** Kids' Cine Time family films.

16 Dec Old Spitalfields Market Bushfield Street 0787 254 8450 5K Santa Dash starting off from Old Spitalfields Market around the 5K circular route then back to the finishing line for a celebratory Christmas drink & nibbles.

16-29 Dec The Albany Douglas Way Deppford 020 8692 4446 One Snowy Night, full of songs to sing along to, furry friends to meet & blankets to be tucked up in.

10 Dec-11 Jan Bloomsbury Theatre Gordon Street 020 7388 8822 Snow Play for families.

15-22 Dec Comedy Club 4 Kids presents The Santa Claus Science Experiment. Father Christmas has stopped believing in himself, can his elves, some scientists & comedians change his mind?

11 Dec Feb Debusch Theatre Catherine Street 0844 4124659 The Wind of the Willows with children in the 2nd World War in this fun & interactive craft activity, families all ages. **FREE.** **Daily** Who Do You Think You Really Are? narrated by Sir David Attenborough. **FREE.** **Daily** Investigate Centre explore hundreds of real natural history specimens, 7-yrs. **FREE.**

20 Jan-14 Feb The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch Schoolchildren will be counting the birds in their school grounds as part of the Big Schools' Birdwatch, the survey encourages schoolchildren of all ages & their teachers to discover which birds they share their school grounds with & learn about their behaviour. There is also a Little Schools' Birdwatch for under 5's & the Really Big Schools' Birdwatch for 11-14yrs. For more information visit www.rspb.org.uk/schoolwatch.

25 Jan London's Discover Children's Story Centre Stratford 020 8536 5555 Beauty & the Beast meet the bestselling illustrator of The Tiana Club, Sarah Gibb.

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25 Dec Festive Carol Singing The public is invited to join in the fun & sing along with famous faces from top West End shows at this unique event organised by the Society of London Theatre, which will take place outside the Leicester Square TKTS booth in the heart of London's Theatreland, 4-5pm. **FREE.** Seasonal refreshments will also be on offer.

29 Dec All Saints Church West Dulwich Back Street 020 8921 4446 One Snowy Night, full of songs to sing along to, furry friends to meet & blankets to be tucked up in.

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dinosaurs by handling real fossils & inspecting a variety of prehistoric specimens & more, drop in family activity families, 5-12yrs. **FREE.**

Until 15 Jan The 950 sq metre ice rink can be found on the museum's east lawn a setting made even more magical by the fairground carousel & 76,000 twinkling fairy lights. **Daily** Family Earth Lab explore the wonder of fossils, rocks & minerals, families, 6-yrs. **FREE.** Explore backpacks, families under 7's. Dippy Floor puzzle under 7's. **FREE.** Bookstairs, families under 5's. Jurassic Ark family activity pack includes code breaking activities. **Daily** Learning Activators encourage visitors of all ages to discover more about the natural world. **FREE.** **Daily** Focus panels handling trophies explore real specimens with the help of volunteers, using different natural history themed activities, all ages. **FREE.** **Every Sat** The Bird Table will encourage you to look closely, make comparisons, discuss ideas & develop your knowledge & understanding of Antarctica's penguins. **FREE.** **Daily** Who Do You Think You Really Are? narrated by Sir David Attenborough. **FREE.** **Daily** Investigate Centre explore hundreds of real natural history specimens, 7-yrs. **FREE.**

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all at PARENTS NEWS

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Bromley

Santa's coming to town

9 November – 24 December

Nothing says Christmas like a trip to Santa's Grotto and seeing the kids' faces light up. As long as they've made it onto the nice list, of course.

This year, the elves have gone all out to create something amazing! Come and see for yourself, in the central atrium at intu Bromley. You could even win a trip to see Santa himself in Lapland! See in centre or visit intu.co.uk/bromley for more information.
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