

PARENTS NEWS

February 2014 No.187 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

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What's On in February and Half Term

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www.slccuk.com

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Kent

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KENT

Out & About

PARENTS NEWS UK

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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 endorsement by **PARENTS NEWS** is explicitly stated.

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Can you hear the distant ROARS and shrieks of laughter that can be heard over the Surrey Hills!

New arrivals of a different kind have made their way through the valleys and over the hills, new arrivals that haven't walked the earth for over 65 million years... The Dinosaurs!!

The Dino Trail is opening at **Godstone Farm** on the 15th February 2014! Make your way through the mist and let the dinosaurs uncover themselves. See the mighty Mammoth, super Stegosaurus, look up to see the fearsome Pterodactyl and many more as you tread carefully round the trail. Follow the footprints, discover amazing facts, feel their colossal claws and dare to pose for a photo with your head inside the jaws of the terrifying T-Rex!

Launch Day: **Saturday 15th February** at 11.30 with **Dino the Dinosaur** and **Godstone Farm Explorers** PLUS the Winner of the **Young Dinosaur Expert competition**. Kids go free before 11am on Launch Day. Head to the website and facebook page for more information

Presiding among the creatures of old are their closest living relatives, unearth the wonders in the **Live Creature Cavern** teeming with lizards, snakes, spiders and many more... It's all happening this **February Half Term** AND it's included in your entry ticket!! Go on... Hear them ROAR!!

www.godstonefarm.co.uk

PARENTS NEWS
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 parents-news.co.uk

February 2014

Horrible Histories Live on Stage!

BARMY BRITAIN

Ashcroft Theatre, Fairfield Halls, Croydon
Tues 4 to Sat 8 MARCH 2014
HORRIBLE HISTORIES LIVE ON STAGE!

returns with a brand new show, **BARMY BRITAIN**. We all want to meet people from history. The trouble is everyone is dead! So it's time to prepare yourselves for an incredible journey through two thousand years of history from the Romans to the First World War, where you'll meet fascinating characters, discover funny facts that teachers never tell you and be blown away by amazing 3D Bogglevision!

Can you beat battling Bouicca? What if a Viking moved in next door? Can evil Elizabeth entertain England? Will Parliament survive gunpowder Guy? Should King Charles keep his head? Dare you stand and deliver to dastardly Dick Turpin? Move

to grove with party Queen Victoria and prepare to do battle in the frightful First World War.

It's the history of Britain with the nasty bits left in! Presented by **Birmingham Stage Company, Barmy Britain** is adapted by Terry Deary and Neal Foster from Deary's best-selling **Horrible Histories** books. Performances are at: Tues 7pm, Wed 10.30am & 7pm, Thurs 10.30am & 1.30pm, Fri 10.30am & 7pm and Sat 11am, 2.30pm & 7pm. Tickets are available from the **Fairfield Halls** Box Office

020 8688 9291
 or
 www.fairfield.co.uk
 Adults £14.50, Children £10, Family Ticket £44, Schools £8. A booking fee of £1.50 per ticket applies, reduced to £1 when paying in person in cash. Booking fee for Schools: £1 per ticket.

February 2014

- PRIMIGI -

What's in Store for Spring - Summer 2014

Primigi's Spring-Summer 2014 collection traces the lines that have marked the brand's history: design research, technological innovation and comfort. Style,



fashion and quality distinguishing the footwear brand that has always



been attentive to children's basic needs, without ever losing sight of their well-being.

The key to the new collection is colour, that, thanks to its dynamic

and versatile spirit, effortlessly influences the collection's three

moods. Starting from shoes for children's very first steps to the line for juniors, with sandals, sneakers and ballet flats influenced by the themes that inspire the collection.



Color's mood is reminiscent of a happy, sun-drenched summer made of rich and saturated colours that alternate with powdery pastel shades and lead into iridescent



digressions and neon details. The must-have look of the season is camouflage, in shades of green and multicolour prints.

In perfect harmony

with the joy and light-heartedness of the season, **Primigi** shoes for little boys are tinged in royal blue, orange and washed red, while girls can choose from plenty of fuchsia, neon yellow,

lilac, aquamarine and coral, presented with both a patent and washed finish.

The Vintage mood is inspired by a street-



fashion look, for a metropolitan style with a feisty and dynamic spirit. The "used" effect dominates the line with a fake worn look that



gives the footwear a vintage flair. Pyramid rivets and small studs accent the Rock-n-Roll style and appear in bronze, gold and silver.

Materials range from aged denim to camouflage canvas in various shades, patent leather or suede, and sequin or printed fabrics.

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HORRIBLE HISTORIES

LIVE ON STAGE!

BARMY BRITAIN

TUE 4 - SAT 8 MARCH

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WWT reg. charity in England & Wales, no. 1030884 and Scotland, no. SC039410

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 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

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Orthodontics usually requires the extraction of 4 to 8 sound teeth although this is frequently denied.

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 www.Orthotropics.com
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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.

Out & About

A Squash and a Squeeze: Sharing Stories with Julia Donaldson

A brand new exhibition showing at *The Historic Dockyard Chatham*

The Historic Dockyard Chatham opens for the 2014 season with the perfect exhibition for families – “A Squash and a Squeeze: Sharing Stories with Julia Donaldson”, which runs from 15th February until 1st June. Julia Donaldson, author of children’s modern classics such as *The Gruffalo*, *Room on the Broom*, *Princess Mirror-Belle* and *The Troll*, has worked with *Seven Stories National Centre for Children’s Books* to bring these best-selling children’s captivating stories to life, allowing visitors to enter the imagination of this much loved author and discover how she inspires her readers with story,

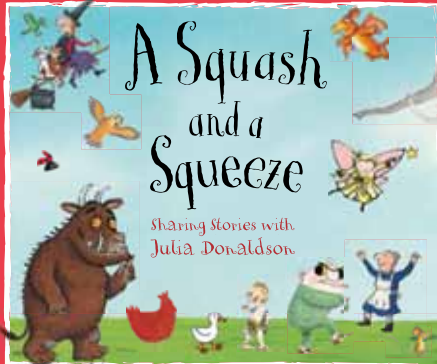


rhyme and rhythm. Julia’s journey can be followed from song writer for children’s television to Children’s Laureate 2011-2013. Families can share stories, cuddle the Gruffalo, crawl into the *Squash and a Squeeze House*, climb into Cave Baby’s cave and enjoy dressing up, looking in the funny mirrors. They can follow in *Toddle Waddle’s* footsteps, and even sing-a-long to her songs on *Julia’s Jukebox* or perform a play on the special stage! Visitors can view the amazing original artwork by her many illustrators – most famously Axel Scheffler, but also Lydia Monks, David Roberts, Nick Sharratt, Karen

Because of my love of drama and song, I am particularly excited about the theatre and the juke box!” Kate Edwards, Chief Executive at *Seven Stories* said: “We are delighted to be working with Julia to bring many of her much loved stories and characters to life within this exhibition in ground breaking and interactive

15 FEBRUARY - 1 JUNE
PAY ONCE & VISIT AGAIN & AGAIN

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD CHATHAM



See Julia Donaldson’s captivating stories brought to life in an exhibition featuring her wonderful characters

www.thedockyard.co.uk/juliadonaldson



Exhibition entry is included in the price of an annual ticket to The Historic Dockyard Chatham

February 2014

Lace Up Your Boots and Walk Together in London to Face Breast Cancer

Breast Cancer Care is encouraging supporters to lace up their boots and walk together for the *Hampton Court Pink Ribbonwalk* to help support those with breast cancer. The *Pink Ribbonwalk* will start in the ornate gardens of *Hampton Court Palace* on the banks of the River Thames, on Saturday 17 May. The route will take walkers through the very best of the *Hampton Court Palace Estate*, the Thames Path and Royal Parks leaving no doubt as to why Richmond and Kingston-Upon-Thames are widely regarded as the most scenic part of London and a retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. Registration for the event is open now – visit www.breastcancercare.org.uk/walk or call 0870 145 0101

Books, Glorious Books: 15 - 23 February Brilliant books are brought to life with musical storytelling and craft activities. Make your own peg Freddy or Fairy! *Monkey Business: 5 - 19 April* Musical activities, Monkey Puzzle storytelling and the chance to produce your own paper primate! *Marvelous Monsters: 24 May - 1 June* Zog story telling with a musical difference! Make your own monster mask and take part in a “Monster Safari”.

A Squash and a Squeeze: Sharing Stories with Julia Donaldson is supported by *Scholastic*, *Macmillan Children’s Books* and *Alison Green Books*. It runs from 15th February until 1st June in No. 5 Smithery: *The Gallery* and is included in the normal dockyard admission price. All tickets are valid for a year, giving families the opportunity to visit again and again. www.thedockyard.co.uk/juliadonaldson



Lil’ Jockeys Ltd.....

.....is a family run entertainment business, founded in 2012, based in Kent. Remember how fun that Rocking Horse was when you were a kid? Now imagine how much more fun it is when the horse doesn’t just rock, but can be ridden just like a real horse, *Lil’ Jockeys Ride-On* animals do exactly that!

A stress free party with a difference. One happy parent quoted “I wanted to thank you for the *Lil’ Jockeys* session you ran for my daughters 5 birthday party. All the kids had such a fantastic time on your vast selection of horses, unicorns and zoo animals. I don’t think there was a single minute where the animals weren’t being ridden during the whole 2 hours..... We will be back again for sure.”

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Web : www.lil-jockeys.co.uk

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February 2014

Romantic Getaway

Top 5 Romantic Spa Getaways for Valentine’s Looking to treat your beloved one to an unforgettable experience this Valentine’s? Take them on a healthy Spa getaway for two in some of Europe’s top romantic locations. Get loved up at *The Royal Crescent Hotel* in Bath, the perfect place to unwind and experience quintessential English hospitality at its best. A stone’s throw from one of the most renowned Roman Baths and picturesque Avon waterway. Take their breath away at the *Gleneagles Spa & Golf Resort*, located in the stunning



Perthshire countryside in Scotland. Men can enjoy a lazy game of golf while ladies get pampered at the Spa, then reconvene in the evening over a romantic candlelit dinner. Turn up the heat at the *Shant-Som Wellbeing Retreat*, located in the *Sierra de Las Nieves Nature Park*, Spain. Oozing tranquility (and waterfalls!), this Asian style escape is the perfect place to relax, soak up the sun and get to know one another better. Nothing says romance like a medieval castle! *Penha Longa Resort*, Portugal is located just minutes away from the fairytale castles of

Sintra and the bustling city of Lisbon. Set within a 14 century monastery and boasting fountains, water mills and gardens, this is one trip she won’t forget! *Lefay Resort & Spa*, Italy, on the edge of Lake Garda, is the ultimate hidden getaway. Located on a private estate and with lemon trees and olive groves dotting the land, this eco-friendly resort is one place you will want to stay forever. Book it now, gift it on Valentine’s, take your holiday any time.

To find out more and book visit www.wellbeingescapes.com

The London Bike Show

The UK’s largest cycling exhibition, *The London Bike Show* – Driven by *SEAT*, returns to *ExCeL London* 13 – 16 February 2014, bringing along everything you need from the world of cycling. After a packed 2013 show, it’s back, bigger and better than ever before.

For those looking for their dream bike or beginners wanting to make their first purchase, make your way to the *RCUK Cycling Test Track* where some of the biggest bike brands will be showcasing their bikes. Once you’ve found your perfect bike, the experts in the *BikeRadar Training Hub* will be on hand with tests and consultations designed to help your performance (separate tickets required).

The *Animal WD-40 Sports Tour* returns with the display team showing off their skills on and off their bikes. There will be demos each day mixing incredible skill, control and balance with some spectacular aerial action from athletes including Pro Mountain Biker *Blake Samson*.

For the chance to hear from the greats of the cycling world, head to *The Cycling Performance Theatre* where experts will be sharing their experiences. Olympic cycling

legend *Sir Chris Hoy* will be taking part in a Q&A in the Theatre as well as showcasing his bike range at the show and the *Total Women’s Cycling Awards* ceremony will take place in the Theatre too.

The London Bike Show will once again run alongside *The Telegraph Outdoor and Adventure Travel Show* and a new show, the *Triathlon Plus Show*. A ticket for one show allows visitors access into all three shows where there

will be lots more to see and do, creating an entertaining, affordable day out for all visitors.

For more information, visit: www.thelondonbikeshow.co.uk

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Out & About

New Year - New Start – New Career!

Is that what you’ve been thinking? Is it time for you to take control and be your own boss? It might sound good but we all know it’s not easy starting up your own business, so could buying a franchise be the answer?

There was a time when franchising was thought of as being “a bit dodgy” but a recent survey (*NatWest/BEA - Jan 2014*) shows that there are now over half a million people in the UK employed in franchised

businesses, an increase of 20% over the last 5 years. So maybe it’s not so dodgy after all.

Of course, running a business is not everyone’s cup of tea but it is surprising how many people find they really can do it and wished they tried earlier. Interestingly, two-thirds of those who go into franchising were in salaried employment immediately before taking out their current franchise. So why not you?

MAD Academy are always looking for new franchisees who would love to teach and entertain young children. They have opportunities throughout the country and a variety of franchise packages available to suit all lifestyles and business ambitions. I find sounds interesting, call or mail Elaine for no obligation chat?

07732 322 540
0118 926 1384
elaine.edmondson@madacademy.co.uk
madacademy.co.uk



MAD Academy

the best music and dance classes for preschool children

MAD Academy classes are available in many parts of the country, including south London, but now we would like to enable the children of Kent to enjoy the delights of our fun packed, high energy classes. Our aim is to help children develop confidence, co-ordination and social skills whilst learning to express themselves creatively and to inspire them to form a life-long love of music and dance.

Joining MAD Academy can be a life changing experience!

The benefits of a MAD Academy franchise are:

- A highly motivating career where you are the boss
- Relatively low start-up costs
- Flexible hours – working term-time only is an option
- Job satisfaction – see the children’s delight in attending your classes
- Local working – close to home so no more commuting
- An expandable business – employ your own team of class instructors

Are you enthusiastic, passionate and fun-loving?

We are looking for self-motivated and confident communicators to join our team of franchisees and open the doors of MAD Academy in Kent and south-east London.



For more details call Elaine on **07732 322540** or **01189 261384** or email her@franchise@madacademy.com

Quote PN114 to receive a 10% discount voucher

Education

Kent County Council

Parents in Kent can get up to 15-hours free early education for their two-year-olds. The nationally-funded scheme is for looked-after children, and parents who receive certain benefits.

Early education can improve children's communication and

social skills, helping them to make friends and prepare for school. It is also good for families, helping parents to return to work, save on current childcare costs or spend more time with their other children.

Checking eligibility and finding a registered early years

provider or childminder is simple. Visit www.kent.gov.uk/childcare and click on *Free childcare for two year olds*.

Chat with an advisor: phone 03000 41 23 23 email kentcfs@kent.gov.uk

Relate: Being Parents Apart

Families come in all shapes and sizes, being a parent isn't easy especially in the tough times like dealing with separation. That's why *Relate* has launched a campaign called, *Being Parents Apart*. Young Persons Counselling Family Counselling Individual Counselling Relationship Counselling

www.relate-mid-surrey.co.uk

BFI Future Film Festival.

The hugely popular event for 15-25 year olds returns to *BFI Southbank* from 21-23 February 2014, with a packed line-up of workshops, masterclasses, screenings and Q&As, designed to help aspiring filmmakers develop their knowledge and skills and help them find their own pathway into the world of film.

www.bfi.org.uk/southbank

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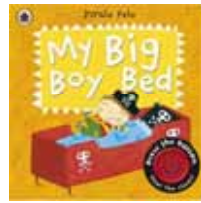
February 2014

Progress through the Toddler Years with Pirate Pete and Princess Polly

Here to guide your little ones through life's everyday journeys, the new *Pirate Pete and Princess Polly* books publishing in 2014, are packed with fun-filled adventures. With rewarding and motivational activities in each, the new books from *Ladybird* offer the perfect learning tool to help and encourage your toddler through each important life stage. This year's adventures include the transition from cot to big bed in *My Big Boy Bed* and *My Big Girl Bed* and ditching the nappies and learning to use the potty in the *Pirate Pete Potty Sticker Book* and *Princess Polly Potty Sticker Book* in addition to a whole many more adventures in the *Little Box of Books*.

My Big Boy Bed: A *Pirate Pete* book and *My Big Girl Bed:* A *Princess Polly* book published in January. Age Range: 0 - 5 years. Price: £6.99 Board book

My Big Boy Bed and My Big Girl Bed are the brand new titles starring the famous *Pirate Pete* and *Princess Polly*, part of *Ladybird's* best-selling *Pirate Pete* and *Princess Polly* series for toddlers and young children.



My Big Boy Bed and My Big Girl Bed describe the excitement of moving from a cot to a big bed and all the stages along the way, such as choosing bedding, getting rid of the cot and finally *Pirate Pete* and *Princess Polly* discovering what it's like to sleep all night in a big bed of their own.

The simple text and colourful illustrations in both books will help little boys and girls understand more about sleeping in a big bed; even why it may at first seem a bit daunting, but how in the end moving to a big bed is an important stage of growing up.

Pressing the cheer sound button on every page is also a fun way to motivate your child and involve them in the story.

Pirate Pete Potty Sticker Activity Book and Princess Polly Potty Sticker Activity Book by *Ladybird*. 06 March. Age Range: 0 - 5 years. Price: £3.99

Both *Pirate Pete* and *Princess Polly's* well-loved potty-training journeys come to life for the first time in two interactive sticker activity books, ideal for sharing with a potty-training child.

Pirate Pete and *Princess Polly* are both getting rid of their nappies and learning to use the potty like a big boy and girl.

Follow them on their potty training adventures and join in by adding stickers to the story. At the end you can fill in your very own potty training reward chart.



February 2014

Viral video helps boost students' physics knowledge

New project helping raise standards in physics, maths and engineering -

A viral video seen by almost three million people is helping boost students' knowledge of physics as part of a new resource funded by the *Department for Education*.

Cambridge University Professor Mark Warner is encouraging A Level students to solve the physics problems behind the popular BBC science clip - which shows a chain in a jar appearing to defy gravity by leaping up in the air before falling to the floor - as part of the £7 million project. As well as giving a formal explanation of the physics involved in the 'chain fountain' in a science journal, *Professor Warner* and his colleague *Dr John Biggins* have published a collection of problems online which require sixth-form students to use their subject knowledge to explain the problem.

The challenge is part of a five-year project to prepare students better for university courses in physics, maths and engineering, and widen their access to top universities. The *Rutherford Schools Physics Partnership (RSPP)* sees *Cambridge academics* tutor students online or through regionally-run face-to-face

classes, and offer support to teachers.

Education Secretary Michael Gove welcomed *RSPP's* approach to getting students interested in physics problems. *Professor Warner* said:

"This project was only possible with the encouragement and funding that the *Department for Education* provided. It aims to raise standards and to make academic subjects and places at top universities available to all.

"We hope that by showing how the problems studied at school relate to real academic challenges, young people will develop confidence in their ability to solve physics problems and be inspired to continue studying physics to a higher level."

The *Department for Education* granted the funding to *RSPP* in May last year.

The full online course is still being designed and eventually students will be able to create their own specific training course, allowing them to have their progress tracked and problems and challenges suggested to them. They will also be notified when new materials and classes are available.

For further information www.rutherford-physics.org.uk/

Nursery (from 3 years): Offering flexible attendance and an extended day, *Nursery* pupils are overseen by well-qualified, experienced staff.

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Junior School (5-11 years): Children thrive in the secure and positive atmosphere.

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With its exceptional facilities and outstanding pastoral care, find out more about how *St Lawrence College* can make a difference for your child.

Open Day on Friday 7 February - a warm welcome awaits you and your family!

For more information contact **Lindsey Harris**, Junior School Registrar, on 01843 572912 lah@slcuk.com www.slcuk.com



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