

# PARENTS NEWS

February 2014 No. 228 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

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**What's On in  
February and  
Half Term**

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Three Editions in South-East England



ISSN 1362-5551

South West London & Surrey

# Out & About

**PARENTS NEWS UK**  
 Next Issue March 14  
 Editorial Deadline: 7 February 14  
 Advert Deadline: 13 February 14  
 Distributed 14 February 14  
 Publishers & Editors: Fergus & Penny McCarthy  
 Distribution up to 60,000 South West London & Surrey, 75,000 Kent, 54,000 London South East-Surrey & West Kent Distributed through schools, nurseries, libraries, leisure centres, restaurants, advertisers, play schemes and events.  
 Subscription by post £15 year.  
 For Advertising: fergus@parents-news.co.uk 020 8337 6337  
 ISSN 1362-5551  
 10 The Manor Drive, Worcester Park, Surrey, KT4 7LG. 020 8337 6337  
 info@parents-news.co.uk www.parents-news.co.uk  
**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.

## Virgin Holidays

7 nights in Orlando - £599pp - saving £184pp

Seven nights in Orlando with **Virgin Holidays**, including scheduled flights with **Virgin Atlantic** from London Gatwick direct to Orlando, accommodation at the 3V+ **Maingate Lakeside Resort** on a room only basis with car hire starts from £599.

Price is per person based on 2 adults travelling and sharing accommodation including all applicable taxes and fuel surcharges which are subject to change. Price is based on a departure on 14 March 2014.

**Virgin Holidays** is a member of ABTA and is ATOL protected. To book:

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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  
 www.godstonefarm.co.uk

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!!

Can you beat battling Boudicca? 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

**PARENTS NEWS**  
 On-line  
 www.  
 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 Boudicca? 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 Terry 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,

lavender, 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.

**Swimming Lessons**  
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 Lessons for:  
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 Epsom College  
 For more info contact Colin on 01372 739600

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 ♦ BHS Qualified Instructors ♦ All weather sandschool  
 ♦ All ages & abilities ♦ Lessons & Hacks  
 ♦ Pony Days ♦ Holiday Fun  
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**THE DINO TRAIL**  
 Travel back 65 million years and follow the trail of discovery into the world of Dinosaurs!  
 Trails, Facts and Fun!  
 Sounds, Bubbling and Mist!  
 'Live Creature Games' teeming with lizards, snakes, spiders and more...  
 Go on... Hear them ROAR!!!  
**OPENING 15TH FEB 14**  
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 Godstone Farm

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**COMING SOON TO CROYDON**  
**HORRIBLE HISTORIES LIVE ON STAGE!**  
**BARMY BRITAIN**  
 TUE 4 - SAT 8 MARCH  
**Croydon Guardian**  
**FAIRFIELD HALLS • PARK LANE • CROYDON • CR9 1DG**

**WWT London Wetland Centre**  
**Migration vs hibernation**  
 Saturday 15 - Sunday 23 February  
 Meet hedgehogs (15 & 16 Feb only) to discover why they hibernate.  
 Join in our migration challenge game and follow our animal trail.  
 Indoor / outdoor play areas, cafe and free parking.  
 For full details visit [www.wwt.org.uk/london](http://www.wwt.org.uk/london) or call **020 8409 4400**  
 Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes, London SW13 9WT  
 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**  
 The alternative to orthodontics with extractions and surgery.  
 Orthodontics usually requires the extraction of 4 to 8 sound teeth although this is frequently denied.  
 Easily treated by natural methods. No extractions. No "Train Tracks". No retainers.  
 Research shows Orthotropics can get much better results than "Train Tracks".  
 When experts disagree, where do you go for answers?  
 www.Orthotropics.com  
 Ask an appropriate professional to refer you for a free assessment.  
 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,

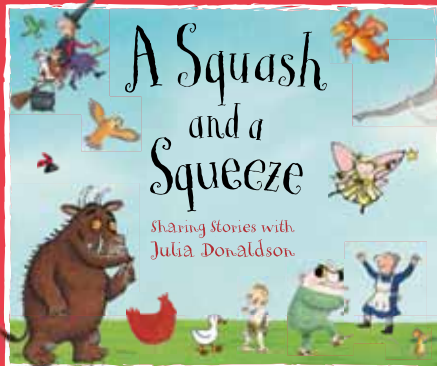


rhyme and rhythm. Julia's journey can be followed from song writer for children's television to Children's Laureate 2011-2013. Families can share stories, cuddle the Gruffalo, crawl into the *Squash and a Squeeze House*, climb into Cave Baby's cave and enjoy dressing up, looking in the funny mirrors. 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

George and Emily Gravett – a must for any art enthusiast. **Pam Wood**, Visitor Services Manager at *The Historic Dockyard Chatham* said; "This is going to be the perfect experience for both the young and the young at heart. We are so privileged to have Julia Donaldson's work here at Chatham and we cannot wait to see the little ones having a "squash and a squeeze" with the Gruffalo in the gallery!" About the exhibition, **Julia Donaldson** said; "I am thrilled that my work, and that of my illustrators, is to be presented in such a stimulating and child-friendly way, with so many mini-words and activities. 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](http://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](http://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](http://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!"

**Lil' Jockeys Ltd.....**

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and more ...

For more information please call  
Tel: 01843 583454 / Mobile: 07536958849  
Email: [info@liljockeys.co.uk](mailto:info@liljockeys.co.uk)  
Web: [www.lil-jockeys.co.uk](http://www.lil-jockeys.co.uk)

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 **Shanti-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](http://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](http://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](mailto:elaine.edmondson@madacademy.co.uk)  
[madacademy.co.uk](http://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](mailto:her@franchise@madacademy.com)

Quote PN114 to receive a **10% discount voucher**

# Calendar

**23 Jan Feb Nomad Theatre** East Hoveley 01483 284747 Sleeping Beauty **30 Jan-1 Feb Ashcroft Theatre** Fairfield 020 8688 9291 Kidnapped family show. **1 Feb Bananas** in Pajamas, family show. **19 Feb Abbanania** celebrating the 40th anniversary of Abba. **31 Jan Fairfield Halls Fairfield** 020 8688 9291 Rhapsoody Queen smash hit show. **Half Term 19-22 Feb Charlie & Lola's Best** Bestest play family show. **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 and 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 Lower Morden Garden Centre** 020 8337 7781 Soft Play, garden. **Daily Sutton Ecology Centre** Festival Walk Carshalton 020 8770 5820 fantasy play area, 2-10yrs. **Daily Rainbow Leisure Centre** East Street 01372 727277 Toddlers World, under 5's. **Daily New Gardens, Ken Palace** 020 8847 0946 Walking Tours of seasonal highlights. **FREE.** **Every Sat** Tropical Nursery Tours, need to book. **Every Tues & Thurs** Orchid Nursery Tours, need to book. **Every Sat** Hands on Sewing Blossom 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** **Every Sun YMCA Wimbledon** 020 8542 9055 Volleyball

sessions for all levels for local residents in Wimbledon & Merton. **FREE** from 12.30pm. **info@wimbledonvolleyballclub.com** **www.gospike.net** **Every Mon Seomb Theatre** Cheam Road Sutton 020 8770 6990 Zumba fitness. **Every Tues Line Dance** from 10.15am. **Every Wed** Dance, under 8's to adults. **Every Mon Hampton Library** 020 8734 3347 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **3rd Thurs** of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4pm. **FREE.** **Every Mon Kingston Children's Library** Wheatfield Way 020 8547 6438 Rhyme & storytime sessions babies, toddlers & under 5's. **Every Tues** Stories & crafts under 5's. **Every Mon New Malden Children's Centre** Burlington Road 19 New Malden 020 8336 1561 Stay & Play 0-18ths. **Every Tues Hampton Wick Library** 020 8734 3358 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **2nd Tues** of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs. **FREE.** **Every Tues Mitcham Library** 020 8648 4070 Under 5's Storytime & Craft, fun activity. **FREE.** **Every Tues CV & Carers Advice.** **Last Thurs** of each month, Coffee Mornings. **Every Fri** Knitting Group, need to bring own needles. **Every Tues Malden Centre** Blagdon Road New Malden 020 8336 1561 Stay & Play for under 5's. **Every Thurs** young parents drop-in, 1-3pm. **Every Fri** Toy Library, under 5's, 10.20-1.30pm. **Every Tues New Malden Library** 020 8547 6438 Baby & toddler rhyme time up to 3yrs. **FREE.** **Every Thurs** storytime for under 5's. **FREE.** **Every Tues Old Malden Library** 020 8547 6467 Rhymetime up to 3yrs, storytime under 5's. **FREE.** **Every Tues afternoon** Raynes Park Library Story times for

under 5's. **Every Thurs** mon Simple Yoga & Meditation Group. **Every Tues & Thurs** West Barnes Library 020 8274 5780 Barnes for those wishing to learn to use the internet which runs for 6 weeks. **Every Tues** Rendezvous Club for over 55's. **Every month** Art Club for children. **Every Tues** name forward to join need to speak to member of staff in library. **Every Fri** Toddlers Rhyme Time & musical activities. 0-5yrs. **Every Tues-Fri** Dickering Adventure Playground Dickering Lane Kingston 020 8942 1707 Bounce 'n' Rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Tues Whitton Library** 020 8734 3343 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **2nd Thurs** of the month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Tues Hampton Wick Library** 020 8734 3358 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **2nd Tues** of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.30pm. **FREE.** **1st Thurs** of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Wed Heaven at Nutfield** 020 8734 3354 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **1st Fri** of each month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Wed Watermans** 40 High Street Brentford 020 8232 1010. **Every Tues Parents & babies** screenings. **Every Sat** Drama Zone 5-8 & 9-14yrs. **Every Sat** Mon Family Cinema, 1 adult goes **FREE** with every one paying child. **Every Wed Castleknay Library** 020 8734 3350 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **One Sat** a month Tiny Teddies baby bounce & rhyme sessions. **FREE.** **Every Wed Hampton Hill Library** 020 8734 3320 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **1st Sat** of every month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Wed** Usuline Pre School 18 The Downs Wimbledon 020 8947 0859 Mother & 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** Totworth Library 37-39 The Broadway 020 8547 6470 Rhyme & storytime for under 5's with simple crafts. **FREE.** **Every Wed** more Sutton Arena Leisure Centre Middleton Road Carshalton 020 8770 4088 Women's Recreation Mornings sport & social activities available for one single fee, 9-12pm. **Daily** Playworld fantasy play area, 2-10yrs. **Every Wed & Sun** East Sheen Library Sheen Lane London SW14 8LP 020 8734 3337 Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **3rd Wed** of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.30pm. **FREE.** **1st & 3rd Thurs** of month Tiny Teddies baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Thurs** Clean Leisure Centre Cheam 020 8770 4830 Street Dance lessons for boys & girls 10-15yrs **Every Thurs** Caterham Hill Library **www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff** Rhymetime, 10am. **FREE.** **Every Fri** Storytime, 2.15pm. **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 Fri** Caterham Valley Library Rhymetime. **FREE.** **Every Thurs** Storytime. **FREE.** **Every Fri** Dorking Library Rhymetime. **FREE.**

**Every Fri** Redhill Library Rhymetime. **FREE.** **Every Fri** Wargingham Library Storytime. **FREE.** **Every Fri** Teddington Library Walgrave Road 020 8734 3304's Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **2nd Wed** of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.20pm. **FREE.** **1st Thurs** of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme. **FREE.** **Every Fri** New Library Storytime session, under 5's. **FREE.** **Every Fri** more Running Club 07936 240937 A mixed group consisting mainly, but not restricted to mothers with children in school, meet at 9.05am in the Pembroke Lodge car park for a run of between 3 & 6 miles. Social group of runners with no pressure on ability, new runners more than welcome. **3rd & 4th Sat** of the month Northor Children's Centre Kings Oak Primary Dickering Lane 020 8949 6065 Who Let the duads up Play session for under 5's, 10-12.30pm. **Every Sat** Electric Theatre Onslow Street Guildford 01483444789 Little Spinks in the Cafe Bar with music, games, songs, stories & puppets & Sparkles Dance drop in classes for 5-9yrs. **Every Mon & Tues** after school The Man in the Moon Weekly drama workshops, 6-14yrs. **Every Wed** All Star Choir, 8-14yrs. **Every Sat** Heathfield 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, 12-18yrs. **FREE.** **Every Sat** Wimbledon Park Freestanding Gazebo behind the swimming & watersport centre. Volleyball outside sessions for all levels for local residents in Wimbledon &

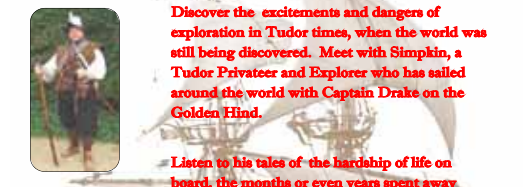
Merton, **FREE** from 10-12pm. **info@wimbledonvolleyballclub.com** **Every Sat** during term time The River & Rowing Museum Mills Meadows Henley on Thames 01491 415600 Artrays Art Club, 5 week sessions, 11-15yrs. **Every Wed** term time Taylor Tugs under 5's Club. **Every Sat** more Canbury Gardens Gardens Kingston Fitness in the Gardens low impact outdoor cardio exercise for all with power walking, jogging & stretching, 10-11am. **FREE.** **Until 11 Feb** Polka Theatre 240 The Broadway Wimbledon 020 8543 4888 After School Classes Princes & Princesses 3-4-4-5yrs. **Until 15 Feb** Alice's Adventure in Wonderland, 6-11yrs. **Until 15 Feb** Gorilla with puppetry, & music. 1-5yrs plus a tailor made version Mini Gorilla for 1-2yrs lasting just 30mins. **19 Feb** Actor's Boot Camp, workshop, 7-11yrs 5yrs. **20 Feb-8 Mar** Red Riding Hood, 4-7yrs. **Until 26 Mar** Scene Stealers Play Makers courses, 5-7-9yrs. **Until 18 Mar** Kingston Museum and Heritage Centre Wheatfield Way Kingston 020 8547 5006 Art & Play exhibition. **1 Feb** Thomas Wall Centre Benhill Avenue Sutton Email **suttonmum2mummarket@gmail.com** Mum2Mum market baby & children's nearly new sale. **2 Feb** Wildlife Museum Common Nature Club Wildlife Watch 02085406154 Recycled Crafts, 6-14yrs.

**3-8 Feb** Richmond Theatre Richmond Green 0844 871 7651 Kindertansport. **10-15 Feb** Agatha Christie's Black Coffee. **17-21 Feb** Half Term Musical Theatre Week for 8-16yrs who love to act, sing & dance to work on a host of favourite musicals. **21-23 Feb** Dinosaur Zoo. **24 Feb** That'll Be The Day. **26-27 Feb** Moscow City Ballet Romeo & Juliet. **28 Feb-2 Mar** Moscow City Ballet Nutcracker. **5-22 Feb** Yvonne Arnaud Theatre Guildford 01483 440000 Othello. **8-15 Feb** Grease On the Musical. **19-20 Feb** Kidnaped a family adventure tale. **21-22 Feb** Carmen. **27 Feb-1 Mar** Boeing Boeing. **8 Feb** MillStudio Millbrook 01483 4400 00 The Timberbox 4+ yrs. **8 Feb** Wallington United Reformed Church 020 8647 3077 Table Top Sale to include craft, candles, jewellery, bric-a-brac, toys, refreshments on sale & lots more, entrance children. **FREE.** **8 Feb** The Windmill Market St Mark's Church (opp Ely's Department Store) **www.thewindmillmarket.co.uk** Food & Craft Market with over 20 stalls selling everything from fresh breads & cakes, seasonal foods to handmade crafts & gifts. **FREE** entry, 10-2pm. **8 Feb** Sanderaed United Reformed Church Surrey 07971 212584 Nearly New Sale. **9 Feb** Selsdon Wood Nature Reserve Old Fairleigh Road 020 8726-6900 Family Winter Woodland look for tracks & trails, winter trees & toast a marshmallow over the fire. **bioiversity@crowdon.gov.uk** **11 Feb** Surrey Heath Museum 01276 707284 Toddler Tuesday, Buckingham Palace Soldiers make & take your very own toy soldier complete with his fluffy Bushy. **22 Feb** craft sessions make a marionette soldier.

## What's On London Calendar

Go to Page 10 & 11

## PRIVATEERS & EXPLORERS SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1PM-2.30PM



Discover the excitement and dangers of exploration in Tudor times, when the world was still being discovered. Meet with Simpkin, a Tudor Privateer and Explorer who has sailed around the world with Captain Drake on the Golden Hind.

Listen to his tales of the hardship of life on board, the months or even years spent away from home, and the horrors of living with scurvy. Relive the excitement of visiting exotic lands and hear tales of battles against the Spanish.

Remember that one country's privateer is another country's pirate!

64 per child  
Further information available from David Brooks, Bourne Hall Museum, Spring Street, Ewell, KT17 1JUF. Tel 020 8394 1734. Email **dbrooks@epsom-ewell.gov.uk** **http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/BourneHallMuseumClub.html**

**17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February**

# Half-term Courses

**Year 4 Maths Course** website [www.oxbridgeuk.com](http://www.oxbridgeuk.com)

Revise and review the concepts you have found difficult at school

Subjects Year 4 Maths  
Times 17<sup>th</sup>(Mon), 19<sup>th</sup>(Wed), 21<sup>st</sup>(Fri) 1 hour per day, 3 days in total

**11+ Half-term Revision Course**

Bring you up to date with the work that you've missed in preparation for your 11+ exams!

Subjects Eng+Maths(2hrs) OR VR+NVR(2hrs) OR All subjects(4hrs)  
Times 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014 (Everyday from Mon to Fri)

**Reading Club**

Improve reading & writing skills in a fun environment with books

Subjects Reading Club  
Times 9am-12pm OR 12:30pm-3:30pm (3 hours everyday)

**Try Our Winning Courses!**

★ Yr 1-3 - Maths, English  
★ 11+ Preparation Course for Yr 4 - English, Maths, Essay Writing  
★ 11+ Intensive Course for Yr 5 - Essay Writing, Reading Comprehension, Maths, VR and NVR  
★ GCSE Preparation - Eng(Language & Literature), Maths, Total Science, French  
★ A-Level - Maths (Core maths, Statistics)

Primary enquiry **020 8949 2131**  
email [info@oxbridgeuk.com](mailto:info@oxbridgeuk.com)

Secondary & SUTTON Branch enquiry **020 8949 8838**  
email [admin@oxbridgeuk.com](mailto:admin@oxbridgeuk.com)

Oxbridge Centre is a well-established tuition centre based in New Malden. Currently there are around 500 students from year 1-A-Level studying at the centre. Why don't you join us too?

**CAVE PAINTING**

**Wednesday 19 February**

**11am-12.30pm & 2pm-3.30pm**

In the deep time of prehistory early men crawled down into the darkest caves and used light from primitive candles to paint pictures of themselves and the animals they hunted.

They left behind a vivid record of their way of life and some clues of what they believed in. Discover how and why these paintings were created.

Then by flickering light try to create your own cave painting in our very own 'caves'.

Cost £4 per child. Two identical sessions will be run, please book to reserve your place: maximum 20 children.

Contact: David Brooks, Bourne Hall Museum, Spring Street, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 1UF. Tel 020 8394 1734.

Email [dbrooks@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:dbrooks@epsom-ewell.gov.uk)

<http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/>  
BourneHallMuseumClub.html

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# 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](http://www.kent.gov.uk/childcare) and click on *Free childcare for two year olds*.  
Or chat with an advisor, phone **03000 41 23 23** email [kentcfs@kent.gov.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.bfi.org.uk/southbank)

**CHILDREN'S HALF-TERM FAIR**  
NEW RIDES FREE ENTRY!  
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OPEN EVERY DAY 12.00 Noon - 6.30pm  
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1 TOKEN £1.00 12 TOKENS £10.00  
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www.parahamfair.co.uk TELEPHONE 07955 246031

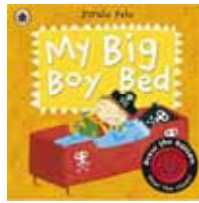
February 2014

## 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/](http://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.

Enhanced afternoon sessions provide additional learning opportunities.

## St Lawrence College Junior School in Ramsgate offers outstanding value for money.

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

With small class sizes, teachers really get to know each individual child's needs, stretching and inspiring the most able whilst supporting and encouraging those whose confidence is still developing.

The Junior School also prepares pupils thoroughly for the 11+ Kent Test.

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](mailto:lah@slcuk.com) [www.slcuk.com](http://www.slcuk.com)



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Junior School Registrar  
T: 01843 572912  
E: [lah@slcuk.com](mailto:lah@slcuk.com)  
[www.slcuk.com](http://www.slcuk.com)  
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# Education



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