

PARENTS NEWS

November 2014 No.195 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

1993 - 2014
22nd Successful Year
Thank you

FREE

www.sadlerswells.com
Photo Herbie Knott

What's On in November Pantomimes and Christmas Shows

www.fairfield.co.uk

www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk

www.atgtickets.com/woking

www.marlowetheatre.com

Published on time, every time since 1993

www.parents-news.co.uk

Three Editions in South-East England



ISSN 2050-4772

KENT

Christmas Gifts

Gadget Shop, Genius Twist 'n' Turn
A super smart 21st Century of the Rubik's Cube. Use the coloured handles to unravel the matching cords. A real brain tease! This kept up entertained for hours. *WHSmith* £14.99



Gadget Shop Science, Ten-Pin Strike

Link your Motosaurus to a whole host of clever battery powered toys through the same electric circuit, including your own mini ten pin bowling game! Fun and a great stress release.
Stockist: *WHSmith* £7.99



The wooden toy craze is still in fashion, so get your kids thinking this Christmas with Puzzleman. Slot the wooden blocks together to transform the man into a cube, and then back into a man. Intriguing and fun
Stockist: *WHSmith* £5.99



Kobo Kids' Store

Fun and friendly experience allows kids to safely search for popular, age appropriate series and beloved characters.
Kobo, a global leader in eReading, now has Kids' Store, available to readers in the UK. With nearly 100,000 titles including popular books such as *Gangster Grammy* by *David Walliams* and *City of Heavenly Fire* by *Cassandra Clare*, the Kids' Store is equipped with safe-search features designed to allow kids to easily browse and find age appropriate books.

With dedicated kids' accounts, parents can set spending allowances – giving children the freedom to make their own choices of what to read next. *The Kobo Kids'* catalogue can be enjoyed on award winning devices such as the *Kobo Aura*, *Ink eReader* or *Kobo Arc 7HD tablet*, or with *Kobo's* FREE top ranked reading apps built for the most popular tablets and smartphones.

"As a parent and booklover, I am constantly looking for ways to keep my kids reading within a fun, safe environment as I do my part to try to grow the next generation of readers," said *Michael*



For more information www.kobo.com.

November 2014 Christmas gift ideas from Jumbo Games

Peppa Pig Hide & Seek Game
RRP: £14.99
Stockists: Argos, Toys R Us and Amazon

Gift Box with 2 puzzles included (Peppa Pig, Fireman Sam, Disney Princess and Planes boxes available)
RRP: £9.99
Stockists: Argos and Amazon

Playlab Christmas Trio Puzzle Collection
RRP: £7.99
Stockists: Amazon

Strange Hill High Double-Sided Shaped Puzzle gift tin
RRP: £9.99
Stockists: The Entertainer and Amazon

A PURE GENIE-US OF A PANTOMIME!
JUSTIN FLETCHER AS WISHEE WASHEE
BEN ADAMS AS ALADDIN
STEVEN ARNOLD AS PC PONG
5 DEC - 10 JAN
ATGTICKETS **0844 871 7645**
ATGTICKETS.COM/WOKING

November 2014

November 2014

Peacock Theatre

A perennial family favourite, *The Snowman* has transported a generation of children and their families into the wonderful wintery world of a boy and his magical snowman. As a unique friendship is kindled, the two embark on a starty-skied adventure to the North Pole, where they meet Father Christmas and narrowly escape the clutches of Jack Frost. When a young boy's snowman magically comes to life, the two set off on a starty-skied adventure to the North Pole, where they meet dancing penguins, reindeer and naturally, Father Christmas. Watch spellbound as the Snowman flies through the night sky above you, before escaping the clutches of Jack Frost to return home for Christmas morning.

In its 17th hit year, this heart-warming stage show based on *Raymond Briggs'* much-loved book, is brought to life in a magical mix of live music, dance, beautiful costumes and wondrous sets, and features *Howard Blake's* timeless "Walking in the Air".

"Sheer theatrical magic. Go see *The Snowman*, and melt!" *The Times*
www.sadlerswells.com/whats-on/2014/the-snowman/

Broadway Theatre

Richard Blackwood is to star as muddles in the *Broadway Theatre* spectacular family pantomime, *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs*. This dazzling show will melt your heart as the beautiful Snow White meets her Prince Charming (*Sami Lamine*), they fall in love and live happily ever after, but not without trials and tribulations along the way thanks to the Wicked Queen. An extra special treat for all the family in a spine-tingling, foot-tapping, hand-clapping Christmas cracker of a show! With an action-packed, bang-up-to-date script, high energy choreography set to modern music, dazzling costumes full of glitz and glamour, magical scenery to transport audiences to pantoland, and a good supply of laugh-out-loud comedy, *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs* is the must-see show this Christmas. Returning for another season of pantomime madness and mayhem is the comedy star *Richard Blackwood* with *Amy Reader* bringing beauty to the plot.
12th - 30th December 2014
Box Office **020 8690 0002**
www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk

Aladdin at The Marlowe Theatre

Scott Maslen, *Phil Gallagher* TV stars top the bill of the pantomime at *The Marlowe Theatre*, which opens on **Friday 28 November**. Maslen is best known as *Jack Branning* from *EastEnders*. Before his six-year tenure in the BBC soap, he played DS Phil Hunter for five years in ITV's police drama, *The Bill*. In 2010, he was a popular contestant in the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing*. The 42 year old returned to theatre last Christmas for pantomime in Bournemouth (his first). He played *Abanazar*, the same villainous role he will be playing in *Canterbury*. Maslen said: "It was hard work, but a lot of fun. It was good being back on stage again after so many years on TV, and I was keen to do another pantomime, especially a character like *Abanazar* – so great to get your teeth into!" The former model is good friends with fellow *EastEnders* *Samantha Womack*, who starred in last year's *Marlowe Theatre* pantomime, *Jack and The Beanstalk*. He said: "Sam was full of praise for the theatre and the audiences. She also enjoyed living in Canterbury for the show's run; in fact, she highly recommended it all!" Gallagher is otherwise known as *Mister Maker*

Christmas Out & About

Fairfield Halls, Croydon, Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs

"Mirror, mirror on the wall, which is the greatest pant of them all?" *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs*, of course, this year's Christmas treat at *Fairfield Halls*, Croydon, starting Pop icon and West End superstar *Gareth Gates* as Prince Charming. The sensational cast also includes everyone's favourite Dame, the hilarious *Quinn Patrick*, who returns by popular demand for the fourth year running, plus *Siani Owena* as the wicked Queen Morgiana, *Witney White* as Snow White and *Jack Glanville* as Muddles, not forgetting the magnificent *Seven Dwarfs*! This fun-packed family pantomime is, once again, written by *Paul Hendto* and produced by *Evolution Pantomimes*. With great comedy, music and choreography, dazzling sets and costumes and audience participation, book your tickets now for the funniest and most spectacular show of the year! *Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs* opens on **Friday 5 December 2014** and runs until **Sunday 4 January 2015**. Tickets are on sale from the *Fairfield Halls* Box Office **020 8688 9291** www.fairfield.co.uk Group Booking **020 8603 3973** groupbooking@fairfield.co.uk All tickets for performances Fri 5th to Fri 12th Dec & Sun 4th Jan £17. All other performances are Adults £21, £26 & £30 and Children & Senior Citizens £21, £22 & £25. Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 Children) £91, Schools/Brownies/Cubs £13.50 (restricted performances), Groups, Buy 10 Tickets Get 1 Free. No Booking Fee!

Reclaim your social life!
Now you can find professional, experienced babysitters even at short notice. We interview each babysitter in person and check all references thoroughly. All have professional childcare experience with most being Registered Childminders or qualified Nursery Nurses & Nannies.
For your first booking FREE of any booking fee visit us at www.sitters.co.uk and quote promo code PNEWSFREE.
If you would like to discuss your childcare needs call Sitters on **08447 367 367**.

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.
When experts disagree, where do you go for answers? www.Orthotropics.com
Ask an appropriate professional to refer you for a free assessment.
Research shows Orthotropics can get much better results than "Train Tracks".
Professor John Mew, Tunbridge Wells 01892 526406 and personal 01435 862045
Email: john.mew@virgin.net

Aladdin at the New Victoria Theatre, Woking

BAFTA award-winning *Cheebies* superstar *Justin Fletcher* returns to the *New Victoria Theatre*, Woking this Christmas to star in the spectacular and magical pantomime, *Aladdin*, alongside pop star *Ben Adams*, *Coronation Street* favourite *Steven Arnold* and *Britain's Got Talent's* *Shabheen Jafarhali*. Following a sell out 2013 season and overwhelming public demand, the presenter and actor returns as *Wishie Washee*. Joining him will be the lead singer of 90's boyband *A1* *Ben Adams*, who has also appeared in *Celebrity Big Brother* as *Aladdin*. Take a magical carpet ride to the Far East in this year's pantomime spectacular

Performance Times & Ticket Information
Friday 5 December 2014 - Saturday 10 January 2015
Tickets £13.90 - £32.40 plus a £2.85 transaction fee
You can book tickets by calling the Box Office on **0844 871 7645** (fees apply)
Groups Booking Line **0844 871 7601** or online at www.atgtickets.com/woking

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 £100
4 tickets, must include at least 1 child
Transaction fee applies. Max £2.50
Peacock Theatre
SADLER'S WELLS IN THE WEST END
0844 412 4322
www.sadlerswells.com
26 Nov - 4 Jan

FAIRFIELD HALLS
BOX OFFICE **020 8688 9291**
www.fairfield.co.uk
THIS CHRISTMAS AT FAIRFIELD HALLS
Quinn Patrick *Gareth Gates* *Witney White*
SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS
Tickets are £17 - £30 **NO BOOKING FEES!**
SOMETHING FOR YOU AT FAIRFIELD'S NEW WEBSITE! WWW.FAIRFIELD.CO.UK
FAIRFIELD • PARK LANE • CROYDON • CR9 1DG **Croydon Guardian**

Christmas Gifts

Cartamundi & Hasbro Gaming

Fun for the whole family with 12 new card games to enjoy at home or on the move!
New card game range **Shuffle™** hits stores this July with a host of Hasbro brands, including *Monopoly*, *Transformers*, *My Little Pony*, *Littlest Pet Shop*, *Nerf*, *Play-Doh*, *Shuffle™*, *Guess Who?*, *Trivial Pursuit* and many more.
Produced by leading card games company **Cartamundi**, the new range offers consumers fun and exciting, quick-play card games for all ages. An optional free app can be downloaded from *Apple iTunes* and *Google Play* stores with each game to offer digitally enhanced game play. PLUS, innovative new packaging means **Shuffle** games are perfect for enjoying at home or on the move! Heaps of family fun for just £6.99p (RRP).



Popcorn Kitchen

Their mission is to create 'the best popcorn you'll ever taste' using traditional handmade methods. And we thought its tasted really great

They started popping corn in giant stainless steel kettles at small festivals and food fairs and receiving positive feedback were encouraged to start selling it to a wider audience.

Flavours include Sweet & Salt, Sweet Chilli, Sea Salt & Olive Oil and Simply Sweet and Christmas will bring festival packs

www.popcornkitchen.co.uk



LEARN GUITAR NOW
ACOUSTIC ELECTRIC OR BASS GUITAR LESSONS

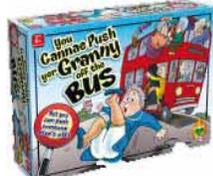
Private guitar tuition in Surbiton
Guitar playing is one of the fastest growing pastimes in the UK right now and I have the great privilege of teaching newcomers and improvers of all ages in my home studio in Surbiton.
Lessons start from just £20 for a half hour to 1 to 1 session and as an RGT registered tutor I can give the perfect start to your child on their musical journey.
Check out my website www.pauldavesguitar.co.uk
Call now on 077718756250 or email paul.davies31@blueyonder.co.uk

Christmas Gifts

Pants on Fire Games

Forget spending the post-Christmas-Dinner lull playing politely with fluffy family classics – try something that'll have your granny fending off whirling handbag attacks and your friends wondering how they can ever trust you again!
Can your granny survive a bombardment of mint humbugs with just an umbrella to defend herself? Or is she the one to take a walking-stick-swipe at all the other grannies? **You Cannae Push Yer Granny off the Bus** (RRP £15, ages 6+) is the slapstick game of tactics and strategy, which sees grannies battle it out to stay on the bus. With lashings of cartoon comedy thrown in, players battle to force other grannies off the bus with hatspins, pension books and ankle-biting lapdogs, their only ludicrous defence being things like shopping

For something even sneakier, try the deceptively wholesome-looking **Wing It** (RRP £20, ages 8+). The overland, underhand bird-watching challenge is a race around the British countryside in a bid to spot unusual birds whilst at the same time hampering your opponents' attempts to get there first. Featuring official RSPB illustrations, with input from RSPB wardens and using actual RSPB reserves, this fun family board game is an authentic bird-watching game which is certain to ruffle a few feathers!



The Bluebeards Revenge

Big Blue Bar of Soap for Blokes designed by a real life "Blue Beard" (a man who has to shave twice a day) who was bored to death with being a Desperate Dan look-alike. **The Bluebeards Revenge** is a premium range of quality shaving and male grooming products engineered to reduce and slowdown beard growth as well as tackle common shaving irritations like razor rash, ingrowing hairs and razor burn. £4.99

trolleys and woolly tights! A perfect Christmas family game, especially if Granny's come to stay.
If you're even more of a badnut, **Liar Liar** (RRP £20, ages 12+) is the wickedly twisted trivia game which lets you outwit even the smartest Christmas dinner guests. Fib, falsify and fabricate your way to victory by teasing your opponents with truth and lies



Pants on Fire Games are available from **WHSmith**, *Waterstones*, *John Lewis*, *HMV*, *Amazon* and direct from www.pantsonfiregames.co.uk

Old Barn Stables
Waffrons Farm, Woodstock Lane South, Chessington, Surrey
A Friendly, Family Run Riding School
◆ BHS Qualified Instructors ◆ All weather sandschool
◆ All ages & abilities ◆ Lessons & Hacks
◆ Pony Days ◆ Holiday Fun
Woodland Walk
For directions and info, call 020 8398 0822

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www.pauldavesguitar.co.uk

November 2014

Wasgij Christmas Mystery Shopper and Wasgij Junior

Will you be winning £10,000 this Christmas?
Festival jigsaw puzzle are great for Christmas entertainment for the whole family, everyone can help. This brand new puzzle also features a fantastic on-pack promotion to win **£10,000! Win, Win!**
Wasgij Christmas 10: Mystery Shopper is a hilariously festive 2 x 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle. The image shown on the box depicts the local department store thriving with shopper's trying to pick up the best Christmas bargains in the lead up to the big day!



WATCHSHOP

A wonderful range of watches are available and make good presents at this time of year. Women's & Men's, Kids and Teens, and a range of prices are all there as good as they look on the website. www.watchshop.com There are as many different styles: classic, funky, designer,

trendy and much more. We had a chance to look at the full range. We were impressed by the range and they are as good as they look on the website. www.watchshop.com There are as many different styles: classic, funky, designer,

as it is easy to find your way around. *Categories/Best Sellers* is a good place to start and they have the prices shown clearly, and set in ranges. The quality is superb and designers such as *Ted Baker*, *Vivienne Westwood* and others would not put their name to them otherwise.

So there is the option for "The Big Present" or down to stocking fillers for all members of the family, and all will be appreciated as they are quite stunning.

www.watchshop.com

November 2014

Traditional Festive Fun this Christmas with University Games

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without settling down to an afternoon of family fun with a great board game.

Chicken Charades:

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without settling down to an afternoon of family fun with a great board game.

If it's a crazy, fun, fast-paced family game you're after, there's only one to choose. 8+. For 3+ players. SRP £19.99. Available at *Argos*, *Smyths*, *TRU*, *Amazon*, *John Lewis* and *Toymaster*.

Mini Games:

Just like the full size board games but in mini sizes, the mini games collection includes *Pointless*, *Sort it Out!*, *5 Second Rule*, *Spot the Difference*, *Smart Ass* and *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* (Pink). All will fit nicely into a Christmas Stocking! Age 8+. SRP from £7.99. Available at *Amazon*, *WH Smith*, *Toymaster* and *John Lewis*.

Don't Rock the Boat:

Arrrrr ye ready to set sail on a rockin' adventure with a crew of 16 pirate penguins? Take turns balancing the pirate penguins on the ship without making it tip! 5+. For 2-4 players. SRP £14.99. Available at *Toymaster*, *Argos*, *Toys R Us*, *Amazon*, and *Smyths*.

www.university-games.co.uk

SOUTH OF ENGLAND RARE BREEDS FARM PARK
So much to do you'll need more than a day
Book now to see Santa for a truly magical Christmas
December 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 22nd & 23rd
Mr Wong returns with his Pantomime adventures!

Book online at rarebreeds.org.uk T 01233 861508

Christmas Gifts

www.buttonbag.co.uk

Britain's best loved craft brand **Buttonbag** has a brilliant selection of craft kits designed to bring out the creative side in everyone - however hidden that might be.

With lots of new girls for boys and girls, there is a great selection priced between £10-£20 and from 4 years up. **Buttonbag** is a British craft brand with a loyal following of fans - young and old. Created by craft designers and authors **Sara Duchars** and **Sarah Marks** in 2005, exceptional designs, quality and authentic brand story. All kits are priced between £10 and £20 and contain an assortment of beautiful and contemporary fabrics, wools and trimmings.

020 8525 1640 and nationwide at all good haberdashery's and toy shops



NEW - FIRST SEWING KIT HIPPO £11.95 (AGES 4+)

Cocorose London

In association with *The Royal Ballet*, foldable ballet pumps leather ballerinas have been specially designed with a fully flexible outer sole enabling the shoes to be worn throughout the day or simply folded up and conveniently stored. Each bag comes with a signature travel purse and is beautifully presented in a black and gold box.

Luxury Heritage
This range is made in England. A beautiful collection of leather ballerina shoes incorporate specialist memory foam cushioning for unrivalled comfort and support and made in England.



Marmite Board Games

The search for the ideal gift for the **Marmite** lover - or hater - in your life is well and truly over! There are now two official **Marmite** board games: **Love It or Hate It** and **Who Put the Marmite in the Fridge?** brought to you by **Pants on Fire Games**, the first board game company to ever secure backing to the BBC *Dragons' Den* (**Marmite Love It or Hate It**) RRP £15, for ages 6+ is a classic game of pairs with one odd card - match the grocery items, pop them in the fridge but don't be the one left holding the jar of **Marmite**...



The Royal Ballet
In association with *The Royal Ballet*, foldable ballet pumps

Liberty Art Fabrics
New and classic designs in the rich heritage of Liberty print

020 8829 8919, www.cocoroselondon.com



because we all know **Marmite** should never go in the fridge!
Both **Marmite** board games are available from **WHSmith**, *Waterstones*, *HMV*, *Amazon* and *John Lewis* (online) and direct from www.pantsonfiregames.co.uk

Swimming Lessons
Quality classes in small group
** COME AND TRY A CLASS FREE **
Lessons for:
Adults and Children from 2 yrs
Non-swimmers - Improvers
Advanced & SUPER Advanced
Classes held at:
Downsland School Aislehead/Letherhead
Epsom College
For more info contact Colin on 01372 739600

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Animal Themed Childrens Parties & Events
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Charity Events, Christenings
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For Sale
For more information please call
Tel: 01843 583454 / Mobile: 07536058849
Email: info@lil-jockeys.co.uk
Web: www.lil-jockeys.co.uk

Ongoing on Mans Cuxton Library Rochester 01634 336209 Baby massage courses for babies 8wks & not yet crawling, FREE, to book Tel: 01634 711391. 1st & 3rd Thurs of the month Children's activities, Health visitor drop in clinic, meet your local health visitor plus a toy library will also be available after the session, 9.30-11am, Tel: 01634 336209.

Ongoing Run off your Feet 07730 870696 Running Group first session FREE at your local group when mentioning Parents News.

Ongoing Pengebury Farm www.pengebury.info With friendly farm animals plus goats, donkeys, Kune Kune pigs, chickens, ducks rabbits, guinea pigs plus woodland trails suitable for all ages. Woodland walks FREE but donations welcome.

New Tonbridge Swimming Pool Lower Castle Drive 01732 367449 Kickstart a brand new all inclusive membership with unlimited access which offers a wide range of activities for under 10's. Every 10th Tues & Thurs term time only parent & child fun swim.

Daily Larkfield Leisure Centre Aylesford 01622 713225 Soft play zone with 3 stores of interactive play equipment for under 10's with water waterfall slide, crawl tubes, ball pool & ball cannons.

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Daily Fishbourne Roman Palace Chichester 01243 798929 Guided tours, plus café & picnic area.

Daily Maidstone Leisure Centre 0845 1552277 Various times Junior Fitness, 12-15yrs learn how the body works, the benefits of a healthy lifestyle & participate in structured fitness sessions with a qualified fitness instructor. Selected Sats

Wave Rave Pool Party sessions with inflatable, floats, games & the latest music. Available: Birthday Parties for children leave all the planning & tidying up to the Centre.

Daily Wingham Wildlife Park Canterbury 01227 720836 Meet the animals including their hands on animal encounters plus children's play area.

Daily Tides Leisure Centre Deal 01304 373399 Indoor tropical lagoon with waves & gusher, fun water features & giant slide Jacuzzi & toddler pool. Every weekend Family Splash.

Daily from 29 Nov-1 Jan Ightham Mote Sevenoaks 01732 810378 Christmas past & present see rooms in the house decorated for a medieval, Victorian & 1950's Christmas reflecting festivities through the ages. 29.30 Nov Christmas Fair.

Every Sun Dover Leisure Centre 01304 201145 Roller Disco, www.atlantisentertainment.co.uk

Every Sun Edenbridge Leisure Centre Stangrove Park 01732 865665 Under 16's & families roller disco.

3rd Sun of the month Chislehurst Farmers Market 0775 736116 The market is held in a new location of Hornbrook House Car park, High Street, produce includes seasonal fruit & vegetables, chocolates bread, meat, preserves & much more. FREE entry.

3rd Sun of the month Aylesford Farmers Market 07876 685853 Farmers Market with more than 30 stalls, www.aylesfordfarmersmarket.co.uk

2nd Sun of the month Tonbridge Farmers Market Sovereign Way 07876 685853 Held in Sovereign Way with normally 70 stalls, www.tonbridgefarmersmarket.co.uk

Every Sun until 16 Nov Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory 01304 617341 Guided walk, these walks cover a different part of the Bay area every week & may include the beach, Worth marshes, reserves at Restharow scrape and the Elms. Discover and record the flora & fauna of this unique area including birds, butterflies, orchids & fungi.

Every Mon Strood Library 01634 335890 Toddler Shake & Boogie activity session that offers rhymes, songs & movement for pre-school children, FREE. Every Tues Teatime Storytime after school, 3-8yrs, term time only. Every Fri Homework club with friendly staff on hand to help you with all your homework questions, 3.30-5pm.

Every Mon St Matthew's Church Hall Rochester 01634 843666 Baby Sensory classes for babies up to 16mths, activities to include bells, balls, bubbles, light shows & more. Tel: 07813 632552.

Every Mon Walderslade Hook Meadow Library Chatham 01634 861531 Baby bounce & rhyme time, 18mths & under, FREE. Every Wed Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children that include stories & rhymes.

Every Mon Gillingham Library 01634 337340 Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children with stories & rhymes, FREE. Every Fri Baby bounce & rhyme time, FREE.

Every Mon St Andrews Church Hall Broadstairs 01843 863480 Little Ted's Parent & Toddler group, term time only.

Every Mon-Wed The Angel Centre Tonbridge 01732 359966 Kickstart members Pre-school bounce, Every Sat morning fun club 5-10yrs, Every Wed & Fri dance mat & target wall fitness.

Every Mon & Fri Rochester Library Eastgate 01634 337411 Baby bounce & rhyme time with finger & nursery rhymes, 18mths & under, FREE. Every Sat Pop in and Play sessions for parents & children, 10.30-11am, FREE.

Every Wed & weekends Kingsmead Leisure Centre Canterbury 01227 769818 Futime sessions available in the pool.

Every Wed Dunorlan Park 07990 973313 Buggy Workout, exercise for mother & baby, power walking around the park utilising the benches & steps available, 10.30-11.30am.

Every Wed Grosvenor Park 07990 973313 Buggy Workout, exercise for mother & baby, power walking around the park utilising the benches & steps available, 10.30-11.30am.

Every Wed Crampton Tower Museum 01843 871133 Scalextric Digital Racing Club, 1 Dec Broadstairs Victorians - Christmas Social.

Last Thurs of every month Maidstone Museum & Benfit Art Gallery 01622 602838 Museum Lates an evening of entertainment from poetry readings & live music to film screenings & interesting talks, FREE entry, www.museummaidstone.co.uk

Every Wed Rainham Library Rainham 01634 337799 Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children that include stories & rhymes. Every Thurs Baby bounce & rhyme time, 18mths or under, FREE.

Every Tues Fairview Community Primary School 01634 376270 Parents & toddlers club term time only 10-11.30am. Every Thurs Baby bounce & rhyme time, parents & carers can enjoy knee bouncing, finger rhymes & nursery rhymes, 18mths & under, term time only, 01634 337340.

Every Tues Walderslade Village Library Chatham 01634 686467 Toddler shake & boogie activity session that offers rhymes, songs & movement for pre-schoolers. Musical instruments, scarves & parachutes are often included. Every Fri Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children that include stories & rhymes.

Every Thurs Hundred of Ho Swimming Pool Rochester 01634 401989 Beaver Swimming Club.

Every Tues Southborough Library 01892529808 Storytime, 2.15-2.45pm, FREE.

Every Tues Hempstead Library 01634 361544 Baby bounce & rhyme time for parents & carers, 18mths & under, Every Fri Storytime fun interactive sessions for pre-schoolers, FREE. 1st & 3rd Sat of month Medway Health Walks change to improve fitness levels, all ages.

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Every Wed Dunorlan Park 07990 973313 Buggy Workout, exercise for mother & baby, power walking around the park utilising the benches & steps available, 10.30-11.30am.

Every Wed Grosvenor Park 07990 973313 Buggy Workout, exercise for mother & baby, power walking around the park utilising the benches & steps available, 10.30-11.30am.

Every Wed Crampton Tower Museum 01843 871133 Scalextric Digital Racing Club, 1 Dec Broadstairs Victorians - Christmas Social.

Last Thurs of every month Maidstone Museum & Benfit Art Gallery 01622 602838 Museum Lates an evening of entertainment from poetry readings & live music to film screenings & interesting talks, FREE entry, www.museummaidstone.co.uk

Every Wed Rainham Library Rainham 01634 337799 Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children that include stories & rhymes. Every Thurs Baby bounce & rhyme time, 18mths or under, FREE.

Every Tues Fairview Community Primary School 01634 376270 Parents & toddlers club term time only 10-11.30am. Every Thurs Baby bounce & rhyme time, parents & carers can enjoy knee bouncing, finger rhymes & nursery rhymes, 18mths & under, term time only, 01634 337340.

Every Tues Walderslade Village Library Chatham 01634 686467 Toddler shake & boogie activity session that offers rhymes, songs & movement for pre-schoolers. Musical instruments, scarves & parachutes are often included. Every Fri Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children that include stories & rhymes.

Every Thurs Hundred of Ho Swimming Pool Rochester 01634 401989 Beaver Swimming Club.

Calendar

www.parents-news.co.uk

This information plus much more online



Twitter: @parentsnewsuk

Witchmarks & demon traps talks about recent finds at Knote. Every Thurs, Sat & Sun Guided walks in the deer park suitable for little legs.

4th Nov Orchard Theatre Dartford 01322 220000 The Wyr's. 9th Nov Dancing in the Streets musical. 10th Nov Shakespeare Schools Festival. 12th Nov Marty Wilde's Rock 'n' Roll party. 15th Nov Let's Hang On a musical journey through the prolific career of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, one of the most successful bands of all time. 18th Nov West End Women in concert. 21st Nov The Stylistics greatest hits show. 24-29 Nov Miracle on 34th Street musical with the Rat Pack. www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

7th Nov Salvation Army Maidstone 01622 681808 Xmas Club with darts, nerf guns, table tennis, pool, Wii & lots more, 11-15yrs.

8th Nov Quebec House Westerham 01732 868381 With map & musket how mapmakers played a key role in the Quebec campaign. Every Sun Mrs Wolfe's recipes recreate some of Mrs Wolfe's 18th century recipes including pudding & lemon drops. Every Wed Guided tours FREE.

8th Nov Kent Life Maidstone 01622 763926 Bonfire & Firework Spectacular bonfire lit at 7 pm & fireworks at 7.45 visitors can wander through the period buildings in the Vintage Village & children can enjoy the indoor & outdoor play areas & meet some farmyard friends in Cuddle Corner. There will also be plenty of entertainment for all ages, including face painting, water

zorbng, children's fairground rides, refreshments & lots more, entrance under 3yrs, FREE. 29 Nov-21 Dec Christmas on the Home Front -WVW! Experience, talk to the family preparing for Christmas in the 1940s cottage, make wartime decorations with the Blitz victims in the rest centre, gather around the piano for carols & a little song & dance. You can also sample the Christmas cookery, watch 'Make Do & Mend' demonstrations, join the Home Guard training, visit the warden's office, take some wartime school lessons & join the RAF bilted in the Victorian farmhouse, www.kentlife.org.uk

9th Nov Emmetts Garden lide Hill Sevenoaks 01732 868381 Fly a Kite Day. 28 Nov Star gazing evening with the Edenbridge Astronomical Society. 30th Nov Animal tracking. 9th Nov Holy Trinity Church St Mary's Avenue, Margate 01304 620560 Remembrance Service. 9th Nov War Memorial Pierromont Broadstairs 01843 868718 Concert with the Broadstairs & St Peter's Concert Band.

14th Nov Chatham High Street Christmas Lights Switch on from 3.45 p.m with the lights on at 5 p.m. Every Sat from 22 Nov-20 Dec on the evening of 18 Dec there will be entertainment in The Pentagon Shopping Centre & the High St, highlights include, 22 Nov Father Christmas parade & Robot launch. 29 Nov Titan th Grotto, www.medway.gov.uk

15th Nov Rochester High Street Christmas light switch on from 12 noon with lights switched on at 5 p.m. by Voice finalist Jamie Johnson, www.medway.gov.uk

15th Nov Pembury Village Hall 01892 822168 Annual Quiz raising

money for adults with learning disabilities. 15th Nov Memorial Hall St Peter's Margate 01843 864162 Village Fayre with various stalls & refreshments, entrance FREE. 16th Nov Yesterveat Exhibition & refreshments, St Peter's Old Boys Association. 15,16,22,23,29,30 Nov Dickens Country Experience Immerse yourself in the world of Dickens on a bus tour accompanied with a costumed actor who will show you where Dickens wrote his novels & took inspiration for his book, starts at the Guildhall & finishes at Eastgate House plus Christmas carols, mulled wine & mince pies, www.visitmedway.gov

17th Nov Chartwell Westerham 01732 868381 Christmas floral workshop & lunch. 17 Nov-22 Feb Death of a Hero exhibition & Life & Legacy family trail. 28-30 Nov Christmas market. 21st Nov Canterbury Heritage Museum 01227 475202 Jumping Beans: Jack & the Beanestalk magical adventure, you can find the gold at the top of the Beanestalk, then create your own beanstalk to take home, 3-5yrs, adults FREE, advance booking required, www.canterbury.gov.uk/Beaney/

21st Nov Gillingham High Street Christmas Lights switch on featuring Spongebob SquarePants performances from local majorette & dance troupes, competitions & give aways, 3.45-5 p.m. lights switched on, www.medway.gov.uk

21st Nov-4 Jan Tunbridge Wells Ice Rink Ice skating with side traditional wooden chalets selling local & seasonal products, www.tunbridgewellschristmas.com

22nd Nov Dover Museum Market Square 01304 201066 Games

Day Family Day, play a selection of family board games, entrance FREE. 22nd Nov Cornwallis Academy Craft Fair with a large variety of stalls a chance to buy locally produced Christmas presents, tombola, refreshments, 10-3 p.m. entrance by donation to village hall funds, www.capele-ferne.org.uk

29th Nov Alexander Centre Preston St Faversham 01795 227071 Christmas Market with carol singing, face painting plus Santa in his grotto, www.Faversham.org.uk

29th Nov Sandwich Christmas Community & Lights Switch On 01304 621959 An afternoon of outdoor & indoor stalls will be followed by a parade around sandwich in the early evening, www.sandwichevents.info

29-30 Nov Rochester Christmas Market With luxury & unique gift ideas plus stocking fillers & lots more, plus visit from Santa, www.visitmedway.org

29-30 Nov St George's School Westwood Road Broadstairs 07803 229235 Model Railway exhibition

29-30 Nov Sissinghurst Castle Garden Cranbrook 01580 710700 Festive Market with local products, festive fare, gifts & food. 29 Nov-24 Dec Hever Castle Kent 01892 870681 Christmas Magic with relaxed Xmas shopping plus Father Christmas will be visiting, www.hevercastle.co.uk

What's On in London & Out and About Page 11

Education

Scholarship Opportunities at St Lawrence College

Just received your child's 11+ results? If you have a current Year 6 child, whether they have passed the 11+ or not, have you considered looking at St Lawrence College in Ramsgate for the next stage of his or her education?

St Lawrence College is proud of its high academic standards and excellent results. The school puts great emphasis

upon the needs of each individual pupil, with small class sizes, a close sense of community and a supportive atmosphere.

• Your Year 6 child is welcome to take the school's forthcoming scholarship tests for entry into Year 7 in September 2015.

• The scholarship tests take place on **Thursday 20 Nov.**

• Depending upon the results, up to 50% off the fees could be awarded.

• Scholarships are offered for Academic, All-Rounder, Sports and Music disciplines.

Contact Simon Heard, Registrar, on **01843 572931** to find out more about the scholarship process. www.slclcuk.com



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November 2014

Join the Gruffalo's Child on her winter forest adventure

Forest activity trails and an app encourage children to learn about nature. This winter families are invited to go on a forest adventure with Mouse as the *Gruffalo's Child* activity trails come to 24 forests and woods across England.

The *Gruffalo's Child* will leave her comfortable cave and go into the deep dark wood until **February 2015** to inspire children to explore and learn about nature.

The self-led trails will encourage children to search for animal tracks, create *Gruffalo* and animal footprints, pretend to grow tall like trees, build animal homes and find materials that animals can use to keep warm in winter.

The activity trails have been devised to support **Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1** curriculums, with links to knowledge of the world, language development, sensory learning and numeracy. The *Gruffalo's Child* trails are the latest initiative organised by **Forestry Commission England** in conjunction with **Magic Light Pictures** to celebrate the nationwide 10th anniversary celebrations of the book's publication.

Ian Gambles, Director of *Forestry Commission England* commented: "The *Gruffalo* activity trails this summer were an

outstanding success and we welcomed an unprecedented number of children and families to forests across the country – many for their first time. "We are looking forward to providing new reasons for families to get outdoors and explore our woods and forests with *Gruffalo's Child* activities this winter. "The trails will be an amazing adventure, encouraging visitors to make the most of the winter season and learn about our beautiful forests alongside one of the all-time favourite book characters."

The *Gruffalo's Child* activity trails follow on from *The Gruffalo* trails that took place during the spring and summer, which saw hundreds of thousands of children following *The Gruffalo* and his friends through woods and forests across the country. Visitors will also be able to purchase an activity pack for £2 which includes a foraging bag for collecting woodland materials, a fun-packed *Gruffalo's Child* activity leaflet which is closely linked to the activity trail, a special *Gruffalo's Child* sticker and a colouring-in sheet. These special packs will encourage children to learn even more about the behaviour of animals in winter.

If that's not enough, *Magic Light Pictures* have released a *Gruffalo* app, *Gruffalo: Photo*, which encourages children and their families to explore and take photographs whilst they are out on their forest adventure. They can even take a *#gruffaloselfie!* Using an intuitive and simple design, the app enables children to take pictures using four exclusive *Gruffalo* frames. Photos can then be personalised using character stickers, phrases and artwork from the iconic picture book. The app also includes a map and directions to all of the 24 *Gruffalo's Child* trail locations across England.

Gruffalo: Photo comes hot on the heels of *Gruffalo: Games*, the No.1 Kids and Education app on iPad, which saw over 250,000 plays in the first three weeks.

Developed by *Magic Light Pictures* with *Linpark Studios*, *Gruffalo: Photo* is available to download exclusively via the AppStore for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad and iPad Mini, priced at £1.49.

Visit www.forestry.gov.uk/gruffalo for details of *Gruffalo's Child* activity and trails and to sign up to the newsletter.

020 8234 6886
www.leyt.co.uk/

November 2014

Get Kids Reading

Stephen Hawking has joined a government-backed campaign to improve child literacy and encourage parents to read with their children.

A specially adapted ten-minute extract of **Professor Hawking** and daughter **Lucy's** latest book, *George and the Unbreakable Code*, will be published in Saturday's edition of *The Sun* as part of the newspaper's **Get Kids Reading** initiative.

The physicist joins author and comedian **David Walliams**, Deputy PM **Nick Clegg**, Education Secretary **Nicky Morgan** and former children's laureate **Michael Morpurgo** in backing the initiative, which is part of the wider **Read On. Get On.** campaign with *Save the Children* that aims to ensure every child in the UK is a confident reader by age 11.

Stephen Hawking said: "I'm pleased to be part of *The Sun's Get Kids Reading* campaign. I love the challenge of turning cutting edge science into rollercoaster adventure stories for my young readers. I hope that by entertaining them with gripping and sometimes scary, stories, I can also teach them along the way. That's my mission!"

Professor Hawking has written four children's books with daughter Lucy, who took part in *The Sun's* bus tour of primary schools across the country that gave away 6,700 books to youngsters.

Lucy Hawking said: "I'm honoured to be part of the campaign. It's a great idea to get authors to schools and talk about books. I'm passionate about books – both reading and writing – and I want to pass on that excitement to kids."

A *Save the Children*-led report reveals that Britain currently has one of the biggest literacy problems in Europe with one in six adults not being able to read to the standard set for 11-year olds. The cost of illiteracy to the economy is currently an estimated £18 billion a year. By 2025 that could well have risen to an annual £43 billion.

The report revealed that reading with kids for just ten minutes a day can make a huge difference and help improve literacy levels.

www.savethechildren.org.uk/reading

PARENTS NEWS
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Home-Start

New report shows a quarter of parents never ask what their kids want to do when they grow up. 28% of parents think their children will have less career opportunities than they did. Children are more interested in fame and fortune, more so than their parents expect.

Home-Start, a national charity that supports children and families in times of difficulty, have released a report, **EARNING MONEY**: Children's aspirations and their views on work and wages, which compares children's views of their future career opportunities and aspirations with their parents' views.

Key findings from the report, developed in partnership with *Lloyds Banking Group's Money for Life* programme, suggests that despite a greater pressure on children to perform well at school and seek aspirational careers, there is still a large number of parents (26%) not talking to their children about 'what they want to be when they grow up' – pointing to a communication gap.

In addition, many parents feel apprehensive about their children's future. 28% believe their children may have less career opportunities than they did.

Contrasting, children are much more optimistic about their future than their parents are, with 93% of children believing they would earn the same or more than their parents and 71% saying they want to do 'a job that they love'.

Children also believe they can achieve fame and fortune and are more interested in having high earnings and fame than their parents expect, which, again, points to a gap in communication and understanding about aspiration between parents and their children.

With parents' financial behaviours and decisions, both good and bad, influencing children's behaviour and choices, help with opening up communications channels between parents and children (and children's wider influencers) is crucial.

As part of the report, *Home-Start* has set out its views on supporting families in this area.

The full report can be read on-line including the list of advice points:

www.home-start.org.uk/about_us/what_we_do/money_for_life_report2

Education

Winter 2015 Elegance and colour: the Primigi children's winter collection

Finally the most enchanting holidays of the year are coming! *Primigi*, as always, will accompany children throughout this long and cold winter: everyone is ready for new extraordinary adventures.

Primigi winter collection, undoubtedly a step ahead, is conscious and highly aware of the latest trends. It is ideal for taking on this season full of activities and exciting new experiences with a stylish and fun approach.

Primigi girls can choose from a wide selection: from ankle boots in soft leather with a glamorous twist, to soft suede ankle-boots with appliques up to sneakers full of highly fashionable elements and details. Beige, taupe, brown and everlasting black are complemented by splashes of red to conclude a fabulous collection, ideal for looking perfect in every occasion.

Primigi line for little boys is just as exceptional to: sporty and chic, classic yet fashionable, inspired by a collection that offers many ideas for a fresh and trendy look even in winter! From boots with *GORE-TEX* membrane, to ensure absolute waterproof wear by protecting feet from the heavy rain and snow, to the classic shoes with velcro strap closure, the most practical wear. Lace-up boots and sneakers are perfect for trend-conscious boys: footwear that's elegant yet practical at the same time, enhanced by classic shades of grey, brown and black in addition to charming red.



www.primigi.com



ST LAWRENCE
COLLEGE

Co-educational, day & boarding school for 3-18 years



Sixth Form Open Evening

Tuesday 18 November, 7.00pm – 8.30pm

11+ Scholarship Day

for Y7 entry in Sept 2015
Thursday 20 November, 9.00am – 2.00pm

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: ACADEMIC, MUSIC, SPORTS & ALL-ROUNDER (INCLUDING ART & DRAMA)

For more information and to book a place:

T: 01843 572931
Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7AE

E: admissions@slclcuk.com
www.slclcuk.com



"Where training is child's play"

London Early Years Training fills the gap that funding cuts created

London Early Years Training (LEYY) has been launched to help Early Years education providers fill in the gap that recent government funding cuts have made. With the government cutting funding to early years education, it has never been a more important time to closely monitor our children's learning.

LEYY offers a range of courses and online resources that are designed to aid Early Years education providers with the tools they need to further our children's learning. Courses available include *Paediatric First Aid*, *Asthma Awareness* and *Food and Hygiene*.

Depending on your needs they have two types of membership available. Firstly they have full membership. This gives you discounts on all courses, certificate of completion for all courses (handy for *Ofsted*

inspections), accompanying online resources, as well as your own personal online management dashboard. The dashboard allows you to make online course bookings, record and track progress of staff and create reports to show staff development. Full membership also gives you access to exclusive 'ToyBoxTalks'. These are short talks about useful topical issues that may affect your day to day business, including *Introduction to Autism* and *Preparation for your Early Years Inspection*.

For those that fall outside of the London catchment area, there is an online membership option. This gives you access to all of the online resources. These include activity packs, posters and step-by-step guides.

Full membership starts from as little as £10 a month and online membership starts from £6 per month.



Learn to Read in 4 Weeks for FREE with Reading Eggs!

The multi-award winning online reading programme for 3-11 year olds.

With hundreds of reading lessons and activities to explore, sign up for our special **4 WEEK TRIAL*** and see first-hand how your child's reading can improve in just 4 weeks!



FREE TRIAL

Education

NSPCC teams up with Santa to make Christmas wishes come true

Children's charity the NSPCC teams up with Santa to make children's Christmas wishes come true by sending them a personalised Letter from Santa, sent direct from the North Pole via *Rudolph Mail*. The colourful, beautifully

illustrated letters include the child's (or big kid's) name, age, gender, and a few other details which only Santa could know. Santa has even written a special poem to celebrate baby's first Christmas too – a keepsake to treasure for years to come.

Christmas is an exciting time of year but for some children it can be an incredibly difficult and lonely time. By requesting a Letter from Santa for a suggested donation of £5, the NSPCC can be there for vulnerable children, giving them someone to turn to when they need advice and support, this Christmas and beyond.

Every £5 raised by Letter from Santa could help the NSPCC's ChildLine service be there whenever a child seeks help either online or by phone. Every £12 raised could help train ChildLine Schools Service volunteers talk to one primary school child about abuse, improving their understanding of abuse and how they can stay safe.

The ChildLine Schools Service has already spoken to 2,474 children in schools across Kent. Santa's mailroom is open until 15 December 2014, and all those who request a Letter from Santa this year will be entered into a draw to win a Center Pares holiday for a family of four. Request your Letter from Santa from now at

www.nspcc.org.uk/santa or by calling 0845 839 9304



The Ursuline Preparatory School celebrate Winners of the Wimbledon Bookfest

The Ursuline Prep School, long term sponsors of the successful Wimbledon Bookfest, were pleased to celebrate with winners from the annual Young Writers Competition. Girls in both Year 3 and Year 4 were the delighted winners, whilst the school also secured many Highly Commended and Commended awards. Girls were issued with their certificates at The Bookfest Prize Giving on Tuesday 7th October in "The Big Tent" by celebrated children's author Jacqueline Wilson.

Mrs Anne Farnish, Headmistress of The Ursuline Prep School said "We are delighted that again this year we have winners of the Bookfest Competition and more

girls throughout the school collecting Highly Commended and Commended Awards. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our girls to be able to receive acknowledgement from a prestigious group of judges, and to meet such celebrated Authors. This was a very exciting time for all concerned. Well done everyone".

The Ursuline Prep School will be holding its next Open Saturday on 8th November from 10am to 12 noon, and a full open week from 10th November to 14th November from 9:30am to 11am daily. Appointments are unnecessary. Visit them – you will be sure of a warm welcome

020 8947 0859



November 2014

The Really Cool Activity Book

In association with

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity

Foreword by Claudia Winkelman "The Really Cool Activity Book is an amazing activity book that makes learning fun...Donations from books like this will help rebuild and refurbish Great Ormond Street Hospital, fund research into new treatments for childhood illness, buy vital equipment, and provide essential support to the hospital's patients and families."

Aimed at children aged 5 and upwards, readers will be able to learn about each subject by completing puzzles, playing games, colouring, drawing and answering quizzes. All activities can be completed without the need for any extra materials.

The Really Cool Activity Book is both fun and educational, guaranteed to provide hours of enjoyment.

Price: £4.99 Age: 5 plus

London Calendar

www.parents-news.co.uk

This information plus much more online



Twitter: @parentsnewsuk

13 Nov St Alfege Church Greenich Church Street London 020 8691 8337 Trinity Laban Prize winners' concert. **FREE**. www.stalfege.org

13-15 Nov Royal Greenwich Laban Contemporary Music Festival & Exhibition Three day event with a packed programme of performances & masterclasses, complementing the world's largest exhibition of early musical instruments. www.rtrinitylaban.ac.uk/whats-on

13-19 Nov The Young Vic Theatre Company The Cut 020 7922 2922

14 Nov-4 Jan Wembley Park Ice Rink new 600sqm ice rink www.iceskatingwembleypark.co.uk

14 Nov-4 Jan Museum of London 150 London Wall 020 7001 9844 A Bear Called Paddington all ages. **FREE**. 14 Nov-4 Jan Paddington's picnic a family-friendly activity space, up to 11 yrs. **FREE**. 29-30 Nov Paddington Trail. **FREE**.

15 Nov Natural History Museum Cromwell Road 020 7942 5000 Dino Snores 7-11hrs. www.nhm.ac.uk/dino-snores. Until 4 Jan Ice Rink with beginners & advanced skaters alike who can enjoy the 1,000 sq metre rink, this year there will be an interactive Christmas chalet bringing to life the Lindt Bear & other chocolate favourites, plus complimentary truffles to sample. **Weekdays** in Nov special sessions for parents & toddlers & students with NLS card, parents with pre-school children can enjoy special rate skating sessions with complimentary drinks for both adult & child in the cafe afterwards. www.nhmskating.com. **Who** Do You Think You Really Are state of the art interactive film. www.nhm.ac.uk/film. **FREE**. Daily Family Explorer backpacks filled with explorer's tools, drawing materials & fun activities to help children make exciting discoveries in the galleries. www.nhm.ac.uk/education under 7s **FREE**. Daily Investigate Centre explore hundreds of real natural history specimens, from a shark's jaw to a meteorite as old as Earth in their hands-on science centre. Families 7-9yrs. **FREE**. Daily Nature Through the Lens with close-ups of insects & extraordinary time lapse photography. **FREE**. www.nhm.ac.uk/whats-on. Daily David Attenborough: Life on Camera enjoy some of the best loved clips from his landmark television series. **FREE**. www.nhm.ac.uk/whats-on. Daily Wildscapes experience what it's like to be an animal on the African plain, swimming through the ocean & in the Arctic & Antarctic circles. **FREE**. www.nhm.ac.uk/whats-on. 17 Nov Frozen sing-along shows with up to a thousand children from across London being invited to take their places on the world's most famous stage. www.royalalberthall.com. 12-15 Nov Barbican Theatre Silk Street 020 7638 8891 www.barbican.co.uk. 8-9 Nov Earls Court 0870 122 1313 Discover Dogs with nearly 200 breeds of dogs, shop for dog related products, Kids' Zone & fun competitions, displays & events for children in the Young Kennel Club area, entrance under 12's **FREE**. www.discoverdogs.org.uk. 8-9 Nov Imperial War Museum 2016 2416 5439 A Poppy Field make your own poppy from paper & wire & plant it in your Poppy Field to remember those who gave their lives to protect their country for families all ages. **FREE**. 16-23 Nov No Object Conservation object handling session for families. **FREE**. 16-23 Nov Creative Response make a drawing, take a photograph, & write a postcard session for families. **FREE**. Until 4 Jan Horrible Histories exhibition 7 Ruthless Resistance, Cracking Codes, Great Gadgets, Savage Sabotage & Clever Camouflage plus how to make invisible ink, crack codes & use fake feet. Until 4 Jan A Family in Wartime exhibition. **FREE** entrance. Until 4 Jan Secret War exhibition. **FREE** entrance. Every Sun Object Conservations family object handling sessions & Creative Response A Family in Wartime exhibition explores the lives of William & Alice Allpress & their ten children & what life in London was like during the war. A Family in Wartime is brought to life through interactive exhibits, photographs, recorded interviews with the family, archive film footage & more. **FREE**. Until 8 Mar Truth & Memory: British Art of the first World War art exhibition. www.wm.org.uk. 11 Nov Museum of London Docklands No 1 Warehouse West India Quay 020 7001 9844 Creative event or activity, 5-11yrs. **FREE**. 12 Nov Royal Albert Hall 020 7589 8212 Music for Youth Schools Prom around 550 young people from junior trios & from the London boroughs of Lambeth, Lewisham, Greenwich & Southwark come together for the first time to form a massed ensemble demonstrating Trinity Laban's commitment to nurturing the progression of young musicians at every stage of their music making. 8-12yrs. www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/whats-on. 14 Nov The Pied Piper of Hamelin a family friendly theatrical spectacular for trickers young and old. www.piedpiperhamelin.com. 17 Nov Frozen sing-along shows with up to a thousand children from across London being invited to take their places on the world's most famous stage. www.royalalberthall.com. 12-15 Nov Barbican Theatre Silk Street 020 7638 8891 www.barbican.co.uk. 8-9 Nov Earls Court 0870 122 1313 Discover Dogs with nearly 200 breeds of dogs, shop for dog related products, Kids' Zone & fun competitions, displays & events for

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