

# PARENTS NEWS

November 2014 No. 236 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

1993 - 2014  
22nd Successful Year  
Thank you

**FREE**

[www.sadlerswells.com](http://www.sadlerswells.com)  
Photo Herbie Knott

## What's On in November Pantomimes and Christmas Shows

[www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk](http://www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk)

[www.fairfield.co.uk](http://www.fairfield.co.uk)

[www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com)

[www.atgtickets.com/woking](http://www.atgtickets.com/woking)

Published on time, every time since 1993  
[www.parents-news.co.uk](http://www.parents-news.co.uk)

Three Editions in South-East England



ISSN 1362-5551

South West London & Surrey



Christmas Gifts

**Gadget Shop, Genius Twist 'n' Turn**  
A super smart 21st Century of the Rubix 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*



**Gadget Shop, Genius Puzzleman**

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**  
Tamblyn, President and Chief Content Officer, *Kobo*.

Kids Love Reading for Fun Per Scholastic research published in a *Kobo* whitepaper titled **The Children's Digital Book Market: The Future Looks Bright**, one in five children who have read an eBook said that they tend to read more books for fun. In addition, almost half of all children age 6-17 said they would read more books for fun if they had greater access to eBooks.

For more information [www.kobo.com](http://www.kobo.com).



"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

**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 **Shaheen Jafargholi**. Following a sell out 2013 season and overwhelming public demand, the presenter and actor returns as *Wishiee 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](http://www.atgtickets.com/woking)



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!**  
CREERIES SUPERSTAR  
**JUSTIN FLETCHER**  
AS WISHEE WASHEE  
**BEN ADAMS** AS ALADDIN  
**STEVEN ARNOLD** AS PC PONG

**ALADDIN**

**5 DEC - 10 JAN**  
ATGTICKETS.COM/WOKING\*  
\*Phone and online bookings incur per ticket booking fees and a transaction fee. No fees for groups or in person bookings.

November 2014

**Peacock Theatre**

A perennial family favourite, *The Snowman* has transported a generation of children and their families into the wonderful wintry world of a boy and his magical snowman. As a unique friendship is kindled, the two embark on a starry-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 starry-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/](http://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](http://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 stint 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 ex-*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 panto of them all?"  
*Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs*, of course, this year's Christmas treat at **Fairfield Halls**, Croydon, starring 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 Owen** as the wicked Queen Morgiana, **Winney 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 Hendy** 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](http://www.fairfield.co.uk)  
Group Booking **020 8603 3973**  
[groupbooking@fairfield.co.uk](mailto: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!

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**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

**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](http://www.sadlerswells.com)

**FAIRFIELD HALLS**  
BOX OFFICE **020 8688 9291**  
[www.fairfield.co.uk](http://www.fairfield.co.uk)

**THIS CHRISTMAS AT FAIRFIELD HALLS**

**Gareth Gates**  
**Quinn Patrick**  
**Winney 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](http://WWW.FAIRFIELD.CO.UK)

**FAIRFIELD • PARK LANE • CROYDON • CR9 1DG**  
**Croydon Guardian**

**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.

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

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

Professor John Mew. Tunbridge Wells 01892 526406 and personal 01435 862045  
Email: [john.mew@virgin.net](mailto:john.mew@virgin.net)



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 kettle 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](http://www.popcornkitchen.co.uk)



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Lessons start from just £20 for a half hour 1 to 1 session and as an RGT registered tutor I can give the perfect start to your child on their musical journey.  
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Call now on 07718756250 or email [paul.davies31@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:paul.davies31@blueyonder.co.uk)

Pants on Fire Games

Forget spending the post-Christmas-Dinner full playing politely with fussy 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!

You 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 hatpins, pension books and ankle-biting lapdogs, their only ludicrous defence being things like shopping



trolleys and woolly tights! A perfect Christmas family game, especially if Granny’s come to stay.

If you’re even more of a badult, **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](http://www.pantsonfiregames.co.uk)

**Godstone Farm**  
**MEET FATHER CHRISTMAS**

The elves will be waiting to greet you and guide you through the snowman archway.

Timmy, Ringo and their lovely donkey friends will be eagerly awaiting for you to wander along and say hello.

Post your letter in the Goshone Farm Post Office to let Father Christmas know if you have been naughty or nice!

Finally, step into the Christmas cabin to meet the big man himself who has a special gift for all the children who have been good this year!

Only £7.50

Pre-book your tickets  
01883 742546

“Christmas time makes it a day of the year when everyone has a special gift for all the children who have been good this year!”

For full details, dates and pricing pick up a leaflet in the gift shop or visit [www.godstonefarm.co.uk](http://www.godstonefarm.co.uk)



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!



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, Kids and Teens, and a range of prices are all

Lady Olivia Burton Woodland Watch £65

**WATCHSHOP**

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](http://www.watchshop.com) which is well worth the visit as it is easy to find your way around. *Categorio’s 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](http://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.

**The Gruffalo Word Rhyming Game:**

Rhyming game encourages children to use their colour matching, reading and rhyming

**Junior 1: Scrooge’s Surprise**

100 Piece Jigsaw Puzzle

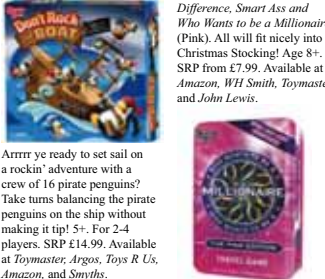
You’ll have to use your imagination and the clues provided to piece together what you think will happen next in the scene from the famous children’s story A Christmas Carol. RRP £19.99 and is available from *Argos, Tesco* and *Amazon*.



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*.

Don’t Rock the Boat: Ahoy, mateys!

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, WH Smith, Toymaster* and *John Lewis*.



[www.university-games.co.uk](http://www.university-games.co.uk)

**COUNTRY SOUTH OF ENGLAND RARE BREEDS CENTRE 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!

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](http://www.watchshop.com)

Book online at [rarebreeds.org.uk](http://rarebreeds.org.uk) T 01233 861508

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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 in 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*...



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 gifts 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+)

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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](http://www.pantsonfiregames.co.uk)

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Email: [info@lil-jockeys.co.uk](mailto:info@lil-jockeys.co.uk)  
Web: [www.lil-jockeys.co.uk](http://www.lil-jockeys.co.uk)



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

**Daily Sutton Ecology Centre** Festival Walk Carshalton 020 8770 5820 Playworld fantasy play area, 2-10yrs.

**Daily Rainbow Leisure Centre** East Street 01372 727277 Toddlers world, under 5's.

**Daily Kew Gardens, Kew Palace** 020 8847 0946 Daily Walking Tours of seasonal highlights, **FREE**. Every Sat Tropical Nurseries Tours, need to book. Every Tues & Thurs Orchard Nursery Tours, need to book. Every Sat Hands on Session Blowing in the wind stories of seed dispersal, **FREE**, no need to book.

**Daily South Norwood Recreation Ground** Car Green Road Croydon 020-8760 5707 Fitness Trails for adults & children of all fitness levels to get fit & keep fit. Positioned at each exercise station are signs showing the exercise to be undertaken with the suggested number of number repetitions.

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

**Recently re-opened Kidplay Cafe** 282-284 Lower Addiscombe Road Croydon Softplay & café, under 5's.

**Throughout Nov Bourne Hall Museum** Epsom 020 8394 1734 Field of remembrance will enable people to place a cross in memory of a fallen member of the Armed Forces, it will be officially opened by the Mayor of Epsom & Ewell on 4 Nov and children from St Clement's School, Ewell during a simple ceremony.

**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](mailto:info@wimbledonvolleyballclub.com), [www.gospike.net](http://www.gospike.net).

**Every Sun morn until 28 Dec** **Beverly Park** Park View New Malden 020 8339 1594 Tennis Sessions, junior beginner coaching, 4-yrs, & adult beginner class.

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

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

**Every Mon Morden Library** 020 8545 4040 Scrabble Club everyone is welcome. Every Wed Welcome Mornings with stories & crafts for pre-school children. 1st Thurs of every month Coffee mornings for adults. Every Fri Storytime 4-yrs. 1<sup>st</sup> Fri of each month Wellbeing drop in sessions, a Wellbeing Coordinator will be on hand to meet you face to face, talk through any issues you may have, sign you up for any upcoming workshops, tell you more about other services available in the borough, Tel: 020 3178 2540.

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

**Every Mon Wimbledon Library** 020 8946 7432 Jewellery drop in workshop for adults, **FREE**. Every Tues Coffee morning for over 50s. Every Tues IT also Basic IT Training. Every Wed Sewing Circle for adults, **FREE**. Every Wed French Conservation drop in classes, beginner & intermediate levels, for adults. Every Wed Teenage French Tutorials, 8-18yrs. Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sat

provide assistance with a wide range of IT issues, for more info 020 8274 5799. Every Fri Rhymetime. Every Sat Colliers Wood Chess Club for all ages. Every Tues Mitcham Library 020 8648 4070 Under 5's Storytime & Craft, fun activity, **FREE**. Every Thurs CV & Careers Advice. Last Thurs of each month, Coffee Mornings. Every Fri Knitting Group, need to bring own needles. Every Tues United Reformed Church Cavendish Hall 020 8949 3402 Sparkles, under 5's, 9-11.30am.

**Every Tues Malden Centre** Blagdon Road New Malden 020 83361561 Stay & Play for under 5's. Every Thurs young parents drop-in, 1-3pm. Every Fri Toy Library, under 5's, 10.30-1.30pm.

**Every Tues Coudson Library** 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. Every Thurs Storytime, 2 ½yrs. Every Sat Storytime, under 7's, **FREE**.

**Every Tues Purley Library** 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers & Wiggle & Jiggle, toddlers over 18mths. Every Fri Storytime 2 ½yrs. Every Sat Rock & Rhyme for babies & toddlers, **FREE**.

**Every Tues Centrale Shopping Centre** Croydon 020 8726 6000 x88965 Circuit for those new to exercise, returning after illness & the more mature exerciser.

**Every Mon eve Sutton Grammar School** Korbhall for Beginners for school years 3-12 various times & sessions, email for details [info@nomadskorf.com](mailto:info@nomadskorf.com).

**Every Mon eve Corpus Christi School** Aerobics Grove 07956 312920 Aesthetics all abilities, 7-8pm.

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

**Every Mon,Wed & Fri during term time Little Hamsters Play Cafe** Ham 07432 354274 Relaxed environment for mums & tots 0-5yrs offering coffee, cakes, lunches, soft play shapes, ball pool, ride on toys, table top activities & puzzles plus outdoor playground with indoor & outdoor seating, **FREE** parking, **FREE** Wi-Fi.

**Every Tues Farnham Library** [www.bookstart.org.uk](http://www.bookstart.org.uk). Baby Bounce 'n' Rhyme, **FREE**.

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

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

**Every Tues Donald Hope Library** 020 8542 1975 Storytime. Every Thurs Need Help with IT? A dedicated volunteer will be available to

provide assistance with a wide range of IT issues, for more info 020 8274 5799. Every Fri Rhymetime. Every Sat Colliers Wood Chess Club for all ages. Every Tues Mitcham Library 020 8648 4070 Under 5's Storytime & Craft, fun activity, **FREE**. Every Thurs CV & Careers Advice. Last Thurs of each month, Coffee Mornings. Every Fri Knitting Group, need to bring own needles. Every Tues United Reformed Church Cavendish Hall 020 8949 3402 Sparkles, under 5's, 9-11.30am.

**Every Tues Malden Centre** Blagdon Road New Malden 020 83361561 Stay & Play for under 5's. Every Thurs young parents drop-in, 1-3pm. Every Fri Toy Library, under 5's, 10.30-1.30pm.

**Every Tues Coudson Library** 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. Every Thurs Storytime, 2 ½yrs. Every Sat Storytime, under 7's, **FREE**.

**Every Tues Purley Library** 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers & Wiggle & Jiggle, toddlers over 18mths. Every Fri Storytime 2 ½yrs. Every Sat Rock & Rhyme for babies & toddlers, **FREE**.

**Every Tues Centrale Shopping Centre** Croydon 020 8726 6000 x88965 Circuit for those new to exercise, returning after illness & the more mature exerciser.

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**Every Tues Thornton Heath Library** 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. Every Thurs Storytime, 2 ½yrs. Every Sat Storytime, under 7's, **FREE**.

**Every Tues Careers, training & learning advice sessions,** 2.4.30pm, **FREE** & Computer training courses for beginners to experts.

**Every Tues afternoon Raynes Park Library** Storytimes for under 5's. Every Thurs mom Simple Yoga & Meditation Group.

**Every Wed Charles Cryer Theatre** 39 High Street Carshalton 020-8770 4950 Spiral Youth Theatre for 13-yrs members learn a variety of activities such as drama, dance & singing, musical theatre composition, set design & costume making culminating in two productions per year

**Every Thurs Minis & Juniors 5-7yrs.**

**Every Wed Ham Library** 020 8734 3354 Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. 1<sup>st</sup> Fri of each month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme, **FREE**.

**Every Wed Watermans 40 High Street** Brentford 020 8232 1010, mom Parents & babies screenings. Every Sat Drama Zone 5-8 & 9-14yrs. Every Sat mom Family Cinema, 1 adult goes **FREE** with every one paying child.

**Every Wed Castelnau 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**. 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of every month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme, **FREE**.

**Every Wed Ursuline Prep 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 Tolworth Library** 37-39 The Broadway 020 8547 6470 Rhyme & storytime for under 5's with simple crafts,

9.30-11.30 a.m. Every Sat until 13 Dec Rhymetime for under 5's, 10.30-11 a.m., **FREE**. 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 7-11yrs, 4-5 p.m., **FREE**.

**Every Thurs until 27 Nov Kingston Library** Wheatfield Way Kingston 020 8457 6438 Writers Group, **FREE**. Every Mon until 29 Dec Rhymetime for babies & toddlers **FREE** to library members. Every Thurs until 18 Dec Storytelling session for 2-5yrs, term time only, **FREE**. Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sat of month Chatterbooks a reading club for children 7-9yrs with a parent or carer, need to contact library to be placed on a waiting list, **FREE**. Every fortnight on a Sat Chess Club, all ages & abilities, **FREE**. 10-12 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Fri of every month Bergundy & Black Café St Martins Walk Dorking Bumps & Babies is for mums with bumps & both parents or carers of non mobile babies, meet others for tea or coffee & get your baby socialising, [www.nct.org.uk/branches/dorking/events/bumps-and-babies](http://www.nct.org.uk/branches/dorking/events/bumps-and-babies). 3rd Mon of every month Nappuccino a natter about nappies as an alternative to disposables.

**Every Fri Thornton Heath Leisure Centre** 89-110 High Street 020 8726 6000 x88965 Acquisie pay as you go sessions.

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat of the month Norbiton Children's Centre Kings Oak Primary** Dickering Lane 020 8949 6065 Who Let the dads out Play session for under 5's, 10-12.30pm.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of every month Maple Road Surbiton Farmers Market** [www.surbitonfarmersmarket.co.uk](http://www.surbitonfarmersmarket.co.uk) Offering a wide selection of fresh seasonal produce.

**Every Sat Electric Theatre** Onslow Street Guildford 01483 44789 Little Sparks in the Café Bar with music, games, songs, stories & puppets & Sparkle! 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 8734 3356 Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.20pm, **FREE**. 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme, **FREE**.

**Every Fri New Library** Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. Every Fri Christ Church Coombe Road 020 8241 9423 Toddler Group for under 5's, 9.45-11.15am.

**Every Fri New Malden Baptist Church** Kingston Road New Malden 020 8667 0684 Storytime for families 3-7yrs, drop in 2P session with stories, puppets, arts activities & songs, **FREE**.

**Every Sat morn Canbury Gardens** Kingston Fitness in the Gardens low impact outdoor cardio exercise for all with power walking, jogging & stretching, 10-11am, **FREE**, [info@AHM-Go.com](mailto:info@AHM-Go.com).

Storytelling: Maisy's Band, 3-5yrs. 21 Nov-14 Feb Peter Pan with puppetry, 6yrs. Until 8 Feb Grandad, Me ... and Teddy Too, 2-5yrs, [www.polkathatre.com](http://www.polkathatre.com).

**8 Nov Yvonne Arnaud Theatre** Guildford 01483 440000 Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus, 3-7yrs. 10 Nov Songbird the Music of Eva Cassidy. 11 Nov The Nutcracker. 12 Nov Giselle. 13 Nov Swan Lake Russian State Ballet & Opera House. 14-15 Nov Dinosaur Zoo, 3-yrs. 21-29 Nov Peter Pan Goes Wrong. 22 Nov Cinder-ella, 3-8yrs. [www.krazytheatre.co.uk](http://www.krazytheatre.co.uk).

**29 Nov Foxley Wood** 020 8668 2008 Family Woodland Fun join the Community Partnership Officer for forest school inspired activities around the camp fire. Make a wreath or stick star in time for the festive season or making the tallest twig tower ever, families 5-yrs, [biodiversity@croxdon.gov.uk](mailto:biodiversity@croxdon.gov.uk).

**6-8 Nov Mill Studio Millbrook** 01483 4400 00 Sikes & Naney, [www.yvonne-arnaud.co.uk](http://www.yvonne-arnaud.co.uk).

**6-8 Nov Polka Theatre** Wimbledon 020 8543 4888 Angel, 10-yrs. 9 Nov Little Howard & the Magic Pencil of Life & Death with interactive stand up, 3D animations, songs & laughs, 5+yrs. 16 Nov Sunday

**Every Fri Caterham Valley Library** [www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff](http://www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff) Rhymetime, **FREE**. Every Thurs Storytime, **FREE**.

**Every Fri Dorking Library** [www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff](http://www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff) Rhymetime, **FREE**.

**Every Fri Redhill Library** [www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff](http://www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff) Rhymetime, **FREE**.

**Every Fri Warringham Library** [www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff](http://www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff) Storytime, **FREE**.

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

**Every Fri Special Centre** 020 8734 3337 Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.30pm, **FREE**. 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme, **FREE**.

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

**Every Thurs Caterham Hill Library** [www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff](http://www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff) Rhymetime, 10am **FREE**. Every Fri Storytime, 2.15pm, **FREE**.

**Every Thurs Twickenham Library** Garfield Road 020 8734 3340 Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs of month Tiny Teddies

# Calendar

## www.parents-news.co.uk

### This information plus much more online



Twitter: @parentsnewsuk

**FREE**. Every Thurs 28 Nov-18 Dec Get back to work group help available for filling in online application forms, looking for jobs online, CV's & basic computer skills if required, 2.15 p.m.-3.45 p.m., **FREE**.

**Every Wed Tudor Hall** Kingston 020 8893 4250 Juggling body fitness class using boxing, dance, cardio & pilates inspired moves, 7.30-8.30 p.m.

**Every Wed Unitarian Church** 1 The Floyver 020 8726 6000 x88965 Zumba Latin inspired dance music & rhythms, all abilities.

**Every Wed morn Sutton Arena Leisure Centre** Middleton Road Carshalton 020 8770 4088 Women's Recreation Mornings with a wide range of sport & social activities available for one single fee, 9-12pm. Daily Playworld fantasy play area, 2-10yrs.

**Every Thurs until 18 Dec Hook & Chessington Library** 020 8547 6480 Rhymetime with songs & rhymes followed by half an hour of playtime, 10.30-11 a.m., **FREE**. Every Tues until 16 Dec Get back to work group with help filling in online application forms, CV's & basic computer skills, 3-4.30 p.m., **FREE**.

**Every Thurs Croydon Sports College** Croydon High School 020 8726 6000 x88965 Circuits Low intensity for mature exercisers.

**Every Thurs in term time Sutton Christian Centre** 020 8734 3337 Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month Chatterbooks reading group, 8-9yrs, 4.30pm, **FREE**. 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of month Tiny Teddies sessions baby bounce & rhyme, **FREE**.

**Every Thurs Twickenham Library** Garfield Road 020 8734 3340 Storytime session, under 5's, **FREE**. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs of month Tiny Teddies

sessions baby bounce & rhyme, **FREE**.

**Every Thurs Methodist Church** Hall High St New Malden 020 8337 1451, 11.30am.

**Every Thurs Tolworth Recreation Centre** Fullers Way North Tolworth 020-8391 1882 Badminton Club for intermediate/advanced level, Tel: 020 8395 9175.

**Every Thurs Bental Centre** Kingston Air/Land or Sea, 'Make & Take' workshops children can create their own costume or T-shirt, **FREE**, [www.kingstonfirst.co.uk](http://www.kingstonfirst.co.uk).

**Every Thurs Watch magic tricks & learn to do some at home held on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.**

**Every Thurs Norbury Park and Norwood Grove** 020 8726 6900 A circular walk through Norbury Park & Norwood Grove, 2-3 miles, meet at Norbury Train Station, 1.30pm, **FREE**. 21 Aug Butterfly Walk, 2 hrs around the park to learn about these insects, 07968 832508.

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## 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.slucuk.com](http://www.slucuk.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@slucuk.com](mailto:admissions@slucuk.com)  
[www.slucuk.com](http://www.slucuk.com)

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[www.parents-news.co.uk](http://www.parents-news.co.uk)

**Advertise in PARENTS NEWS**  
020 8337 6337  
[fergus@parents-news.co.uk](mailto:fergus@parents-news.co.uk)

### 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 first 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

### November 2014 Join the Gruffalo's Child on her winter forest adventure

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 Limepark 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](http://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/](http://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](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/reading)

**PARENTS NEWS**  
On-line  
[www.parents-news.co.uk](http://www.parents-news.co.uk)

#### 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](http://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](http://www.primigi.com)

# 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's 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 mailbox 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 Parcs holiday for a family of four. Request your Letter from Santa from now at

[www.nspcc.org.uk/santa](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/santa) or by calling 0845 839 9304

## Experts In Tuition

**Our Special Courses**

### Independent School Entrance Exam Preparation for Year 6


- ★ English, Maths, Verbal Reasoning & Non-Verbal Reasoning
- ★ Prepare for the January Independent School Exams!
- ★ **11+ Mock Test** (Designed to prepare you under real exam condition)

★ Dates **8<sup>th</sup> November** £50 / session

★ Subjects English, Maths, Verbal Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning

### Try Our Winning Courses!

- ★ Yr 1-3 - Maths and English
- ★ 11+ Preparatory Course for Yr 4 - English, Maths, Essay Writing
- ★ 11+ Intensive Course for Yr 5 - Maths, VR & NVR, English (Essay Writing, Reading Comprehension, Literacy)
- ★ Course for Yr 6 - Essay Writing and Maths
- ★ Course for Yr 7-9 - English, Maths, Science, Essay Writing
- ★ GCSE Preparation - Eng(Language & literature), Maths, Total Science, French
- ★ A-Level - Maths (Core maths, Statistics)



**Oxbridge Centre**  
ENGLAND

### 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 it's 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



Come and visit us - you will be sure of a warm welcome



"The quality of the pupils' achievement is Excellent."

Independent Schools Inspectorate, Report 2014

- ★ A leading Catholic Preparatory school, welcoming girls of all faiths
- ★ An academic but non-selective school.
- ★ Girls prepared for a range of secondary schools at 11+
- ★ After school care available until 5.45pm daily

### The Ursuline Preparatory School Wimbledon

18 The Downs, London SW20 8HR  
Telephone: 020 8947 0859  
Email: [admissions@wups.co.uk](mailto:admissions@wups.co.uk)  
[www.ursuline-prep.merton.sch.uk](http://www.ursuline-prep.merton.sch.uk)



November 2014

### The Really Cool Activity Book

In association with

### Great Ormond Street Hospital'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](http://www.parents-news.co.uk)

This information plus much more online



Twitter: @parentsnewsuk

**Daily** The Queen's Gallery Buckingham Palace London 020 7766 7301 Become an explorer & discover the exhibition with activity bags for families. Using the bags find out which animals the adventurers shared the Antarctic with and what early explorers were to protect themselves from the cold.

**Ongoing Royal Air Force Museum** Hendon 020 8205 2266 Airfix exhibition with some of Airfix's from the 50,60s & 70s.

**Ongoing Royal Mews Buckingham Palace** 020 7766 7302 Family groups explore a range of self directed activities from the art trolley, 5-11yrs.

**Ongoing Science Museum Imax Theatre** 0870 870 4868 Mysteries of the Unseen World, 8+yrs.

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

**Ongoing Churchill War Rooms** Clive Steps King Charles Street 020 7930 6961 Undercover, Life in Churchill's bunker, learn what life & conditions were like underground.

**Every Sun National Gallery** 020 7747 2885 Family workshops for families bringing paintings alive & listening to a themed story on the magic carpet, FREE family trail, [www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)

**Every Sun Hildreth Street Market** Balham SW12 Street Market w fresh food traders from over London.

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

**Every Sat Venn Street Market, Clapham Common** 020 7622 8259 Offering fine foods & fresh produce plus a variety of handmade crafts will be available throughout week with girls & cards for all the family as well as Christmas trees.

**Every Sat Blue Elephant Theatre** Camberwell 020 7701 0100 Young People's Theatre workshops, various age groups 7-18yrs, FREE to join.

**Every weekend London Transport Museum** Covent Garden 020 7379 6344 The Family Station FREE activities families all ages.

**Every weekend Tate Modern** Bankside SE1 020 7887 8008 Open Studio play & create with ideas & materials from artworks in the collection displays for all ages.

**Daily Children's Multimedia** Guide keeps children entertained & animates art works through music, video clips & entertaining games, 5+yrs. Daily Under 5's Zone a new play space for families, FREE.

**Every weekend Rich Mix Bethnal Green** 020 7613 7498 Kids' Cine Time family films.

**Every weekend Temple Station** 020 7222 1234 Harry Potter Locations Tour, 2 ½ hrs.

**Every weekend Greenwich Clocktower Market** High Road Quirky weekend market has 50 stalls specialising in vintage, retro & antiques with a few contemporary craft stalls, FREE entry, [www.greenwichmarket.co.uk](http://www.greenwichmarket.co.uk)

**Every weekend Tate Britain** 020 7887 8888 Art Trolley sessions encourages children to imagine & create collages & lots more, FREE.

**Children's Multimedia Guide** fun & interactive a sensory experience for all the family to enjoy, 3+yrs. Daily Family Train Theatre 5+yrs. FREE. **Unit 12 Nov Museum of Childhood** Bethnal Green 020 8983 5200 Daydreams & Diaries, the story of Jacqueline Wilson one of Britain's best loved children's authors exhibition.

children in the Young Kennel Club area, entrance under 12's FREE, [www.discoverdogs.org.uk](http://www.discoverdogs.org.uk)

**8-9 Nov Imperial War Museum** 020 7416 5439 A Poppy field make your own poppy from paper & wire & plant it in their Poppy Field to remember those who gave their lives to protect their country for families all ages, FREE, 16-23 Nov. Object Conservations object handling session for families, FREE, 16-23 Nov. Creative Response make a drawing, take a photograph, & write a postcard session for families, FREE, 16-23 Nov.

**Unit 4 Jan Horrible Histories exhibition** f Ruthless Resistance, Cracking Codes, Great Gadgets, Savage Sabotage & Clever Camouflage plus how to make invisible ink, FREE, 16-23 Nov. Creative Response make a drawing, take a photograph, & write a postcard session for families, FREE, 16-23 Nov.

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& their families, [www.barbican.org.uk](http://www.barbican.org.uk)

**13 Nov St Alfege Church** Greenwich Church Street London 020 8691 8337 Trinity Laban Prize-winning concert, entrance FREE, [www.st-alfeges.org](http://www.st-alfeges.org)

**13-15 Nov Royal Greenwich International East Music Festival & Exhibition** Three day event with a packed programme of performances & masterclasses, complementing the world's largest exhibition of early musical instruments, [www.rinritylaban.ac.uk/whats-on](http://www.rinritylaban.ac.uk/whats-on)

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

Dusk a new show that intertwines film & live performance, 4-7yrs, [www.youngvic.org](http://www.youngvic.org)

**14 Nov-4 Jan Wembley Park Ice Rink** new 600sqm ice rink [www.iceskatingatwembleypark.co.uk](http://www.iceskatingatwembleypark.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 7949 5000 Dino Snakes 7-11yrs, [www.nhm.ac.uk/dino-snakes](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/dino-snakes)

**Unit 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 Lord Bear & other chocolate favourites, plus complimentary truffles to sample. Weekdays in Nov special sessions for parents & toddlers & for students with NUS 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](http://www.nhmskating.com)

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healthy children,  
happy mothers

IMAC S.p.A. - www.primigi.com - export@primigi.com - contact: SKYLINE AGENCIES - Michael Schläpfer - BIZSPACE BUSINESS CENTRE - UNIT 203, 4-6 MADSWORTH ROAD - PERVALE MIDDESEX UB6 7JL - tel. 0208 567 2384 - mob. 0771 190 446 - skylineagencies@gmail.com

**PRIMIGI**  
Italian Leader for kids

The PRIMIGI SYSTEM delivers maximum well-being and reliability.



**ergonomic shape**  
Rounded toe and comfortable fit



**easy fitting**  
Easy to wear



**antishock**  
Supportive cushioning in the heel



**sky effect**  
Breathable, anatomical insole lined in leather



**flexible action**  
Maximum sole flexibility



**removable insole**  
For maximum foot hygiene



**lightness**  
Featherweight fit



**soft-comfort**  
Soft well-being



**nickel-free**  
Nickel-free



**chrome VI-free lining**  
Chrome VI-free lining

For more than 30 years, Primigi shoes have been the preferred children's footwear of Italian mums. From their first steps to school, Primigi accompanies kids throughout their growth with attractive, innovative and reliable shoes. The experience of a large group, modern technologies, the careful selection of high-quality materials and Italian style come together to create specific products that satisfy all childhood needs. Thanks to its extremely vast range, Primigi offers the right product for every situation, including GORE-TEX® shoes, Primigi Sport shoes (for the most extreme sport, growing up!), and Primigi Girls shoes for the fashion-conscious Tween.