

PARENTS NEWS

April 2012 No. 164 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

1993 - 2012
20th Successful Year
Thank you

FREE

What's On April and Easter Bumper Spring Calendar

Kingston Merrie
www.kingstonfirst.co.uk

Marlowe Theatre
www.marlowetheatre.com

Centrale Petting Zoo
www.centrale.co.uk

Chatham, Historic Dockyard
www.thedockyard.co.uk

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

Three Editions in South-East England

Southwest
London
& Surrey

London
South
E Surrey
W Kent

Kent

London South
East Surrey & West Kent

What's On

Easter Egg Hunt at Battersea Park Zoo!

31st March-8th April

Around the zoo the animals are guarding EASTER EGGS. Purchase a quiz sheet upon entry & use the clues to work out where they are. Cost £1.50 (includes prize)

Usual entrance fee applies
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Make an Easter card!
Tues 3rd & Thurs 5th April
Drawing, colouring & sticking fun! Cost £1
Drop in sessions: 11:00-12:30 & 1:30-3:30
Usual entrance fee applies
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Rabbit Day

Tues 10th April

*Help the keeper to feed the rabbits
*Rabbit Story time @ 11.45am & 3.15pm free
*Rabbit Badge & mask making Cost £1
Drop in sessions: 11:00-12:30 & 1:30-3:30
Usual entrance fee applies
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Chicken Day!

Thurs 12th of April

Chicken portrait drawing, colouring & feather sticking fun! Cost £1
*Chicken Story time @ 11.45am & 3.15pm free



Drop in sessions: 11:00-12:30 & 1:30-3:30
Usual entrance fee applies
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
020 7924 5826
www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk

Battersea Park Children's Zoo

...who will you see?

PLUS OUR Adventure Wonderland PLAY AREA
See our website for Special Events

From cheeky monkeys to leaping lemurs, noisy otters to snuffling coats, who will you come face to face with?

Enquiries: 020 7924 5826 www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk
Open 7 days: 10am-5.30pm (last entry 5pm)

Entrance near Chelsea Bridge Gate on Queenstown Road. Closest railway station Battersea Park

Centrale Presents Tuesday Tales for Croydons Little Bookworms

Centrale Shopping Centre is launching Tuesday Tales - free story-telling sessions. Starting 3rd April, every Tuesday 11 am - 1pm for the under 5's in the Lower Mall between French Connection and Next. Each week will see Centrale's Balamory themed storyteller read a children's classic. Surrounded by colourful books and magical characters, there is no better way to encourage your little one's literary interest.

Sony Mistou, Marketing Manager comments: "It's increasingly difficult these days to keep children interested in reading when they have so many digital influences. We wanted to create a special reading area that parents can bring their children to, which will really increase their love of reading." Special Centrale bookmarks will be given out to everyone who takes part so make sure you bring your little ones and help kick start their love of reading!



April 2012

Easter Bunnies & friends at Centrale this Easter Bank Holiday Weekend

If you're looking for something fun and educational to keep the kids entertained this Easter, then Centrale's Petting Zoo will provide just that. On Friday 6th April and Monday 9th April, families will get to meet a variety of loveable animals as a special Easter treat. Ranging from baby rabbits to giant millipedes and chicks to African pygmy hedgehogs, Centrale's cute and not so furry friends will be in the Central Atrium from 10.30am-4.30pm

For further information and opening times www.centrale.co.uk

for the region's youngsters to meet and learn about. **Sony Mistou**, Marketing Manager at Centrale comments: "To help parents out over the Easter holidays we thought we'd give local children the chance to meet a wide variety of animals in our Petting Zoo. The baby chicks and rabbits provide a nice seasonal theme whilst the more exotic animals will entertain the most inquisitive of children."

April 2012

Ducklings bring the full Easter eggsperience to WWT London Wetland Centre

Saturday 31 March - Sunday 15 April

Meet the new family of fluffy ducklings as they paddle and waddle around their new home. Easter is traditionally a time of renewal, with eggs, springtime flowers, baby birds and animals to look out for. **WWT London Wetland Centre** has all of these and more but at this time of year the springtime sights everyone wants to see are the cute new broods of ducklings.

There are two, free interactive duckling shows every day where you can find out more about these fluffy characters - how they grow and what they like to eat. During each show you can join in with some special duckling games. Watch the newly-hatched ducklings taking their first swims in their very own pool. The friendly team will be on hand to explain how the ducklings have developed and about their behaviour and habits.

Shayna Barbys, Learning Manager at WWT London Wetland Centre, said "Easter is a wonderful time for families to visit WWT London Wetland Centre, and the interactive duckling shows are a real highlight.

They're organised and run by the Centre's learning team so you can be sure that while the children are having fun, they're also finding out more about ducks and their habits."

But it's not just the ducklings that get the chance to take to the water. Join in one of the fun pond dipping sessions: see what you can find swimming around under the surface of the water. Or, continuing the egg theme, complete the special Easter trail (£1) and receive a small prize.

April is the time when wild ducklings start to hatch. Fat, fluffy mallard ducklings chase after their mother across the ponds in the sunshine and stripy Great Crested Grebe chicks hitch a ride on their parents' backs.

While you're there, enjoy a springtime walk around WWT



London Wetland Centre. Listen out for singing birds and see how many spring flowers you can spot.

As warm sunny days become more frequent primroses poke their noses above ground, willow branches are decked in their soft, shiny catkin baubles and the first newts will be making their way to the ponds to spawn.

Other spring highlights at WWT London Wetland Centre are daffodils, marsh marigold, blackthorn, colt's foot, blue anemones, sweet violets and common field-speedwell.

020 8409 4400

www.wwt.org.uk/london

What's On

The Historic Dockyard

Visitors to *The Historic Dockyard Chatham* during the Easter holidays may participate in new print-making workshops, collage making and a close up look at the dockyard's own locomotives in a new series of family activities running 1 April - 15 April. **Pam Wood**, Visitor Services Manager said: We are really looking forward to putting on these new activities this Easter. Drawing inspiration from the works of art in the eagerly anticipated exhibition 'Rail Art', families will be able to use a variety of print-making techniques including polystyrene tile printing, mono print and potato printing for the younger ones. They will be able to create individual designs, and then make colourful prints. It is a chance for all the family to be creative together and they will be able to take home all the prints they make in the session!"

A new 'Hidden Dockyard Railway Tour' will be running during the holidays from 2nd - 6th April and 9th - 13th April, giving visitors an introduction to the diverse collection of steam and diesel locomotives which 'live' at *The Historic Dockyard*. Starting in the expansive No. 3 Covered Slip, families will discover what part 'Overlord' played in the D-Day Landings,

learn about 'Achilles' and find out what a 'donkey boiler' is used for! Visitors will need to remember their cameras as they have a unique opportunity to stand on a locomotive footplate! They will then follow the old dockyard railway line through the site into the Railway Workshop to see what goes on behind the scenes and see how a steam

engine works. Entry to the Rail Art exhibition is valid with a 12 month ticket and a small charge applies to some of the family activities. The Historic Dockyard Chatham Kent ME4 4TZ
01634 823813
www.thedockyard.co.uk
www.facebook.com/historic-chatham



centrale.co.uk

FREE TUESDAY TALES AT CENTRALE 11am-1pm Every Tuesday! Starts 3rd April

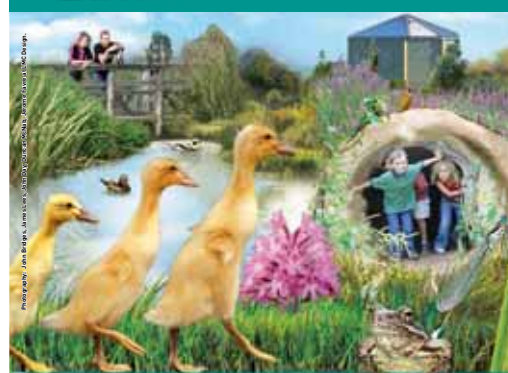
Once upon a Tuesday, a busy Mum strolled along North End, looking for a special treat for her and her little ones. She walked through some doors into a magical place called Centrale, filled with treasures and bunnies fit for a princess. Excited, she sat down some stairs and before her was a tiny new land, filled with bright colours and tiny bean bag throne, where a storyteller sat in costume, surrounded by imaginations of every little boy and girl in the land. And so, the children discovered the magical world of Tuesday Tales, then the clever mummy fell in love with some gorgeous new shoes. And they all lived happily ever after...



centrale SHOPPING CENTRE, CROYDON

any excuse

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA



Watch our ducklings take their first swim Join in our interactive show Easter egg trail • Pond dipping

All at this 105 acre wildlife haven. 10 minutes by bus from Hammersmith tube. Free parking.

WWT London Wetland Centre

For full details see www.wwt.org.uk/London or call 020 8409 4400
Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes, London SW13 9WT
WWT registered charity in England & Wales, no. 1020865 and Scotland, no. SC29170

FAMILY ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES THIS EASTER HOLIDAY!

RAILART EXHIBITION & FAMILY ACTIVITIES ENTRY VALID WITH A 12 MONTH TICKET ADDITIONAL CHARGE APPLIES TO SOME ACTIVITIES 1 APRIL - 15 APRIL

Print Making Workshop for all ages

Indoor and outdoor play

Collage Making and more

thedockyard.co.uk 01634 823807

THE BIG DAY OUT THAT LASTS A WHOLE YEAR! Use your 12 month ticket to enjoy 400 years of maritime history and architecture, 3 different exhibitions, 3 historic warships and the Victorian Ropery.

N01 SMITHERY

NATIONAL TRUST'S CULTURE

Large Visitor Attraction of the Year - Gold Award

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD CHATHAM

THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD CHATHAM

Easter Treats

Easter Treats from QVC

Technique 9 Piece Easter Baking Set
QVC Price £10.98 Item Number 831040



Set of 2 6" x 6" **Spring Drop & Dreamcatcher Cardstock Pads** QVC Price £13.00 Item Number 500889



Adina Hand Painted Ceramic Easter Egg Cookie Jar
QVC Price £37.50 Item Number 832742



Martha Stewart Set of 4 Tubs of Flocking Powders
QVC Price £20.25 Item Number 589421



Thorntons 3 Piece Chocolatiers Collection
QVC Price £42.00 Item Number 800684



Steff Collectable Manni Plush Rabbit with Bow Tie
QVC Price £29.50 Item Number 760358



Butler & Wilson Crystal Duck & Egg Brooch
QVC Price £33.75 Item Number 300520



Martha Stewart Set of 12 Glitters
QVC Price £17.25 Item Number 589423



Ranger Set of 3 118ml Tubes of Clear Rock Candy Crackle Paints
QVC Price £19.25 Item Number 500245



Charlie Bears Collectable Hawthorne 17.5" Plush Bunny
Rabbit QVC Price £34.75 Item Number 700383



Butler & Wilson Bunny Pendant & 47cm Necklace
QVC Price £28.26 Item Number 339735



Thorntons 8 Piece Luxury Favourite Sharing Bags
QVC Price £20.50 Item Number 800121



Butler & Wilson Jewelled Duck PVC Bag
QVC Price £58.00 Item Number 153660



Ranger Set of 5 Perfect Pearl Mists QVC Price £20.75 Item Number 500250



Butler & Wilson Pave Crystal Ring QVC Price £34.02 Item Number 339693



www.qvcuk.com
Direct 0800 50 40 30

April 2012

Easter Holiday Entertainment for Little Ones

The Easter holidays are approaching and with many families taking the opportunity to visit friends and family around the country, parents are looking for ways to keep the kids entertained, at home and away.

This year, visit www.Toyella.com to find innovative, entertaining and fun games and toys for children.

The **Kid-o Magnatab** range is



available exclusively in the UK from **Toyella** and encourages children to learn while having fun. **Magnatab** works on a board filled with tiny magnetic beads. Drawing on the board using a magnetic pen causes the beads to appear on the surface of the board making patterns, shapes and numbers. Patterns are removed by simply running a finger over the surface of the board, pushing the beads back down.

The **A-Z Magnatab Letters** games are stylish handwriting games for children of three and over. Children can learn and practise handwriting using the tablet and magnet pen, which also encourages concentration skills. The **A-Z Magnatab** games (available in Uppercase and Lowercase) retail at £26.99.

If your little one is learning numbers, the **Magnatab**



3 months to get in shape for summer ...and kiss diets goodbye once and for all.

Most of the people I work with have previously been on numerous diets, but always found the pounds would creep back on. The low GL approach brings about radical long term changes and a whole new awareness about food, benefiting their families too.

So why is low GL eating different from a diet? The main reason is that it increases the body's natural metabolism, rather than just restricting the food we eat. This means that our body is able to burn fat and produce energy more effectively.

Numbers Numeracy game allows them to learn and practice their ability to write numbers. Absorbing and entertaining, **Magnatab Numbers** will ensure children are kept entertained while on the move as well as reinforcing essential numeracy skills.

If you're looking for an easily transportable, quiet toy to hold your child's attention when visiting friends, or even in the small space of a hotel room, the **Tegu Magnetic Wooden Building Blocks** offer a new slant on this much loved game. **Tegu's** building blocks include magnets embedded inside the hardwood blocks, which make a satisfying 'click clack' sound when put together. The magnets mean

children can use their imaginations to create almost anything without their creations collapsing – ideal for situations where quiet play in a confined space is needed.

The bricks are made from responsibly sourced Honduran hardwoods and the coatings are water based and non-toxic. The **Tegu** range starts from £19.99 for a durable felt pouch and eight blocks. The felt pouch is perfect for keeping the blocks tidied away and enables easy transportation when out and about. Additional sets of 22 or 40 pieces are also available.



Angela Steel is a **BANT** registered **Nutritional Therapist**. For a free no-obligation 30 minute phone consultation call Angela on **07828 293 386**.

Consultations and programmes are available from £60.

FAMILY FUN DAYS



20%
ADVANCE
BOOKING
DISCOUNT

31.03.12 FIREMAN SAM

07.04.12 PEPPA PIG & GEORGE

AND HORRIBLE HISTORIES

07.05.12 THE MASCOT GRAND NATIONAL

ADMISSION FROM JUST £12.80* | KIDS GO FREE

WWW.KEMPTON.CO.UK

0844 579 3008



CHARACTERS WILL BE MAKING PERSONAL APPEARANCES AT INTERVALS THROUGHOUT THE DAY
*Price illustrated is a £16 on the gate price less 20% advanced booking discount | Fee applies to all ticket bookings | Under 18s go free when accompanied by an adult | 20% advanced booking discount is only available on ticket bookings and does not apply to Winner or Hospitality packages | Advanced bookings must be made by 2pm the day before the event | All artists appear subject to availability | Full terms and conditions apply



Working together to make the best choice for you and your family.

Parental Choice is the essential "one-stop shop" for your childcare needs and advice on your legal rights during and after pregnancy.



- ✓ Childcare options clearly presented
- ✓ Employment legal rights explained
- ✓ Nanny employment and payroll services.

Our services include:

- ✓ Advice on maternity and paternity employment rights
- ✓ Drafting flexible working proposals and guidance on flexible working
- ✓ Guidance on all your childcare options and the costs
- ✓ Nursery search to find the best nursery closest to you
- ✓ Advice on employing nannies
- ✓ Bespoke employment contracts and payroll services.

Parental Choice: dedicated to helping you make the right choices for you and your family.

www.parentalchoice.co.uk
020 8979 6453



Daily Harry Potter London Locations Tour 020 7222 1234 Meet at Temple Station, 2 ½ hr bus tour of London locations featured in the Harry Potter films. Learn more about the wizard & the Hogwarts wand with facts, discussions & an insight into how the films were made.

Daily Tower of London Tower Hill London 0844 482 7799 Fri for a King exhibition learn about the personalities, power & physical scale of England's kings, from the Tudors, & the notorious Henry VIII to today's royal family.

Daily London Zoo Regent's Park London 020 7222 3333 Rainforest Life Exhibit, experience the sights sound, smells of the rainforest & come face to face with amazing rainforest species including monkeys sloth, armadillo, tamandua plus there's a special Night Life area, where you'll discover bats, rats & other nocturnal creatures that dwell in the dark.

Daily Tate Modern Bankside London SE1 020 7887 8008 Family resources with paper based activities for families all ages. **FREE.** **Daily Children's Multimedia Guide** keeps children entertained & animates art works through music, video clips & entertaining games, 5+ yrs. **Every weekend** Sat Sessions with music, map making & clue matching, 5+ yrs. **FREE.**

Daily National Army Museum 020 7730 0717 www.national-army-museum.ac.uk Victorian Soldier Action Zone with quizzes, games & hands on activities to help you learn about life as a Victorian soldier. **FREE.** **Daily The World's Army.** Commonwealth & Dominion Soldiers 1914-45 Action Zone family interactive zone. **FREE.** **Daily Kids Zone,** interactive

learning & play space for under 10's plus play area for babies.

Just opened London Dungeon London 020 7403 7221 Vengeance: The UK's first 5D laser ride **Ongoing Dupass Hill Outdoor Gym** Each item has clear instruction for use over 12's **Ongoing HMS Belfast** Trolley Street London 020 7940 6230 7403 0719(Gun Turret Experience: A Sailor's Story. **Ongoing Private** Tours discover some of the quirky sailor's stories of living & working on board including the time a reinder joined the crew. **Every final weekend of the month** A Sailor's Life for Me family activities.

Ongoing Royal Wyes Buckingham Palace 020 7766 7302 Family groups may explore a range of self directed activities from the art trolley, 5-11yrs. **Ongoing Churchill War Rooms** Clive Steps King Charles Street 020 7930 6961 **Ongoing Undercover Life in Churchill's Bunker** learn what life & conditions were like underground.

Every Sun National Gallery www.nationalgallery.org.uk 020 7747 2885 Family workshops for families bringing paintings alive & listening to a themed story on the music carpet, plus **FREE** family trail. **Every Sun Hildreth Street Market** Balham SW12. Street market with fresh food traders sourced from all over London. **Every Sun London Gallery** 65 Peckham Road 020 7703 6120 Hands on workshops for families led by gallery artists. **FREE.**

Every Mon Benheim Children's Family Centre Bromley 01689 879145 **Tues, Wed & Fri** mon toddlers activities. **Every Mon Lloyd Park** 020 8726

6900 Health walk circular through Lloyd Park & Shirley on mainly flat terrain, ideal for beginners, 2 miles last approx 1hr, meet 11am **FREE** & same walk on potentially hilly terrain, 3+miles ideal for advanced walkers, 2pm, **FREE.** Every Sat **Burton** run. **FREE** weekly timed 5k run, need to register first.

Every Mon Parchmore Community Centre 53-55 Parchmore Road 020 8726 6000 x88965 Circuit for those new to exercise, returning after illness & the more mature exerciser. **Every Tues Conisdon Library** 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. Every Sat Storytime, 2-½yrs. Every Sat Storytime, under 7s, **FREE.**

Every Tues Ashburton Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers. Every Thurs Wiggle & Jiggle, toddlers. Every Mon Chatterbooks drop in sessions, 8-11yrs. Every Sat Rock & Rhyme for babies & toddlers. Every Wed Social club for older people for a chat & a cup of tea. Every Thurs term time only storytime for under 7s, **FREE.**

Every Tues Purley Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers & Wiggle & Jiggle, toddlers over 18mths. Every Fri Storytime 2½yrs. Every Sat Rock & Rhyme for babies & toddlers, **FREE.**

Every Tues Centrale Shopping Centre Croydon www.centrale.co.uk In the Early Learning Centre playtime sessions for children, all ages with all kinds of arts & crafts from making face masks, cards, painting, colouring or just play. **FREE.** 10-12pm, Tel: 020 8686 7535.

Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhymetime for babies & toddlers. **FREE.** Every Tues Carers, training & learning advice sessions, 2-4.30pm, **FREE** & Computer training courses for beginners to experts. **Every Tues De Staffords Leisure Centre** Caterham 01883 344355 Family Swim.

Every Tues Riddlesdown Circular Walk 020 8726 6000 x64952 Health walk, 2-3miles, meet 11am at 'Good Companions' pub, Hansey Green, **FREE.** **Every Tues Farnham Library** www.bookstart.org.uk Baby Bounce 'n' Rhyme. **Every Tues Leatherhead Library** www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff/storytime, **FREE.** Every Thurs Rhymetime, **FREE.**

Every Tues Fri, Sat & Sun until 7 Apr Haynes Lane Market Crystal Palace With lots of bric-a-brac, records, CD's, DVD's, books, antiques, toys, designer, fashion, art, photography & lots more, 11-5pm, entrance **FREE.**

Every Wed Heaven at Nutfield 19 High Street www.heaven-nutfield.com Smiley Faces music group for babies & toddlers for up to 2yrs & 2-4yrs, there is also a playroom for under 5's, a café & a crèche. **Every Wed Sandertan Library** 02087266900 Bookstart rhymetime, babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 18mths+yrs, Storytime 2 ½ yrs. Fortnightly Rock & Rhyme for pre-school children, **FREE.**

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. **Every Thurs Selsdon Baptist Church** Addington Road 020 8726 6000 x88965 Circuits Low intensity for mature exercisers.

Every Thurs Croydon Sports College Croydon High School 020 8726 6000 x88965 Fitness & low intensity for mature exercisers. **Every Thurs South Norwood Leisure Centre** 164 Portland Road 020 8726 6000 x88965 Aquatics sessions.

Every Thurs Caterham Hill Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff/storytime, **FREE.** **Every Tues Fri, Sat & Sun until 7 Apr Haynes Lane Market** Crystal Palace With lots of bric-a-brac, records, CD's, DVD's, books, antiques, toys, designer, fashion, art, photography & lots more, 11-5pm, entrance **FREE.**

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Every Fri Thornton Heath Leisure Centre 89-110 High Street 020 8726 6000 x88965 Aquatics pay as you go sessions. **Every Fri Caterham Valley Library** www.surrey.gov.uk **kidstuff** Rhymetime, **FREE.** Every Thurs Rhymetime, **FREE.** **Every Fri Gatton Park** 01737 780255 www.gattonpark.com Toddler Tales & Trails meet at the activity centre for a mix of indoor & outdoor activities, each week a popular children's book is featured, staff read the book with the children & then bring it to life out in the park, returning to do some art to take home, 2-4yrs, **FREE.**

Every Fri Warrington Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidstuff/storytime, **FREE.** **Every 2nd Sat of month National Geographic** Stone 83-97 Regent Street 020 7025 6960 Animal Man comes face to face with slithering snakes, slimy insects & smelly skunks. Meet a wide variety of animals to include owls, lizards, tortoises, armadillos, meerkats & lots more, hands on activities are led by AnimalMan Nick Spellman for all ages.

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

Every Sat The Green Dragon 560 High Street Croydon 020 8867 0684 Storytime for families 3-7yrs, drop in 2hr session with toys, puppets, arts activities & songs. **FREE.** **Every Sat morn Norman Park** Haynes Lane Bromley Kent 020 8460 5291 School, 4-6,7-9 & 10+yrs. **Every weekend Rich Mix** Bethnal Green 020 7613 7498 Kids' Cine Time a collection of films suitable for all the family.

Every weekend Temple Station 020 7222 1234 Harry Potter Locations Tour, 2 ½ hrs. **Every weekend Greenwich Clocktower Market** High Street 020 8688 9291 stalls specialising in vintage, retro & antiques with a few contemporary craft stalls, **FREE** entry, www.clocktowermarket.co.uk

Until 1 Apr Ashcroft Theatre 020 8688 9291 Peppa Pig's Treasure Hunt featuring true to life puppets, singalong songs & a new story which will delight all. 10-14 Apr Sense & Sensibility, 22 Apr The Searchers, 27 Apr Cosi Fan Tutte, 28-29 Apr The Wheels on the Bus family show.

Until 1 Apr Broadway Theatre Barking 020 8507 5607 Bram Stoker's Dracula, 14 +yrs. 3 Apr Bob the Builder Live, 20 Apr Stars of Strictly Come Dancing an evening of exhibition dance routines, 21-22 Apr You Haven't Seen Nothing Yet family friendly musical comedy.

Until 9 Apr Science Museum Exhibition Rd London 0870 870 4868 Stephen Hawking: A 70th birthday celebration exhibition. **FREE.** **Until 10 Apr** Me in 3D visitors can have their photograph taken in 3D & explore what they look like in another dimension. **Every weekend Up, Up and Away** interactive storytelling for under 7s, **FREE.** **Daily** Launchpad Science Shows interactive gallery which will allow visitors to launch a rocket, turn their head into a sound box & control a magnetic cloud for families. **FREE.** **10** April Family Tours, families 13+yrs, **FREE.** **Ongoing** Flyzone take control in 360 degrees flight simulator or fly the Red Arrows in their sensational 3D motion effects theatre. **Every weekend** Ice Cool Adventure

families, under 7s, **FREE.** **Every Weekend** Space Out family exhibition. **Every weekend & school** hols Hands on Nature Dinosaurs, using the handling station & explore interesting specimens with the help of the museums science educators, **FREE** & Up, Up and Away interactive storytelling for under 7s, **FREE.** **Daily** Family Earth Lab explore the wonder of fossils, rocks & minerals, families, 6+yrs, **FREE.**

Explorer backpacks, families under 7s, Dippy Floor puzzle under 7s, **FREE.** Bookstart, families under 5's, Jurassic Ark family activity pack includes code breaking activities. **Daily Learning** activities encourage visitors of all ages to discover more about the natural world. **FREE.** **Daily** Focus Points handling trolleys explore real specimens with the help of volunteers, using different natural history theme activities, all ages, **FREE.**

31 Mar National Maritime Museum Greenwich 020 8312 6565 Explore Saturdays meet a character from he part & take part in an exciting performance which will bring maritime history to life, 6+yrs. **FREE.** 13.15.22.29 Apr Discover Sundays activities for all ages, **FREE.** 2-13 Apr Titanic Remembered: Stories from the Sea, **FREE.** 2-13 Apr For someone special drop in workshop, all ages, **FREE.** 4-11 Apr Titanic journey bus archive session, 7+yrs, **FREE.** 2,6,9,13 Apr In the picture role play on board the great ship, all ages, **FREE.** 3,5,7,10,12 Apr Creative card: ideas trolley, write, draw & talk about what you discover, drop in workshop, all ages, **FREE.** 3,10 July Images of Nature Dinosaur Wax exhibition, all ages. **Until**

2 Sept Scott's Last Expedition. 17-24 Apr Play Tuesdays, under 5's **FREE.** **Daily** Ship Simulator discover the art of navigation & communication at sea, become the captain of a ship & try your hand at manoeuvring in port using the state of the art bridge simulator, for younger visitors, **FREE.**

31 Mar, 1-3 Apr Museum of London 150 London Wall London 020 7001 9844 Precious animals workshop, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 31 Mar-12 Apr Animated animals, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 1.15.29 Apr Museum explored hands on activities for the whole family, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 29 Apr Animals from the past discover how important animals have been to London's past, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 2-4 Apr The Roaring Lions of Trafalgar storytelling, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 4 Apr My Animal Book creative workshop for under 5's, 5,6,7,10,11 Apr The Fire of London on horseback storytelling, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 7,10,12,13 Apr Animal hunt, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 9 Apr Animalism London, 7+yrs, **FREE.** 9,11,14 Apr Mythical Beasts, 5+yrs, **FREE.** 11 Apr Prehistoric Animal Adventure with movement & songs, under 5's, **FREE.** 13-15 Apr Tibs the Cat employee of the month, fun storytelling session, 5+yrs, **FREE.** **Until 15 Apr** Streets of Gold exhibition, **Until 10 June** Dickens & London exhibition.

31 Mar-15 Apr Bembridge Windmill 01983 873945 Spring Nature Trail. **1 Apr Gatton Park** 01737 699055 Percy the Park Keeper Treasure Hunt plus bring a picnic to enjoy on the newly restored parterre, plants all ages. 4 Apr Get Growing, planting seeds & gardening activities, 4-7yrs, meet to book. 6 Apr Nature Tots, Frogs, hoot for tadpoles & find out

through the Observatory's enormous 28 inch telescope at the planetarium as it approaches its greatest apparent distance from the Sun on 30 March, 7+yrs, 31 Mar, 28 Apr Saturday Space Explorers drop in family workshops offering something new to make & take away each month to help you learn more about astronomy including star charts, planet finders & much more, 3+yrs, **FREE.** 24 Apr Captain Cook & the Cosmic Yardstick.

1-15 Apr Clendon Park 01483 222482 Simple Easter & Spring themed arts & crafts activities for children. 6 Apr Easter Egg trails with a Cadbury's chocolate egg at the end, all ages. 6-7 Apr Pony Magic safe pony rides for children with experienced handlers, 2-11yrs. 2 Apr **Museum of Childhood** Bethnal Green 020 8983 5200 World Autism Awareness Day need to book, 6-9 Apr A weekend of Easter themed stories & games, activities make a pop up Easter egg card, **FREE.** **drop in, 21 Apr** St George's Day event Morris dancing children can join in, traditional games Punch & Judy & arts & crafts

2-4 Apr Claremont Landscape Gardens 01372 467806 Easter Craft workshop with special themed craft activities in the Thatched Cottage. 6-7 Apr Easter Egg Hunt & trail plus special activities for children including **FREE** face painting, play zone & storytelling. 21 Apr Family Farm day with goats, chickens, ponies, lambs & lots more plus children will have the opportunity to stroke, groom, feed & milk the wide range of animals.

2-5,10-13 Apr Painshill Park Portsmouth Road, Cobham 01932 868113 Easter Egg & Spoon Challenge outdoor challenge for 2-

13yrs. 3,4,11,12 Apr Wild Survival, Bush Craft for kids an action packed day of tracking & orienteering treasure hunt & a day of den building in the woods, 8-13yrs. 22 Apr Storytelling Events, Grimms Tales a story walk for all the family. 2-6,10-13 Apr **Brooklands Museum** 01932 857381 Easter holiday activities take a trip in a vintage style car, trails for children up to 12yrs plus lots more.

3 Apr Chelsea Physic Garden London 020 7352 5646 Chocolate Tuesday with craft activities, a garden tour, chocolate tasting & the chance to create your own mixture to take away, 7+yrs. 4 Apr Garden Safari & Microscopic Marvels plus pond dipping, 7+yrs. 10 Apr Garden Photography bring your own camera along plus advice on lighting & composition will be provided, 11+yrs. 11 Apr Creepy Crawling discover the diverse world of animals including a cockroach, com snake, giant millipede & more, **FREE.** **drop in, 21 Apr** St George's Day event Morris dancing children can join in, traditional games Punch & Judy & arts & crafts

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Continued on page 11

kmfm Easter SUPERHERO FAMILY DAY



MEET HUMUNCOUSUR FROM BEN 10 ALIEN FORCE!

THURSDAY 5TH APRIL 2012

Gates open 12.10pm, first race 2.10pm, last race 4.40pm

BEN 10'S HUMUNCOUSUR is joining us at the racecourse on Thursday 5th April for our kmfm Easter Superheroes Race Day.

Not only do the kids have the chance to meet HUMUNCOUSUR at intervals throughout the afternoon, but we have lots of FREE children's entertainment such as face painting, balloon modelling and superheroes running race for all the dads who come dressed as their favourite superheroes character. There will also be a superheroes fancy dress competition for the kids and a FREE Wii Entertainment tent for kids and adults alike.

PLUS Family Day on Thursday 12th April with a treasure hunt, face painting, balloon modelling, gladiator fencing and lots more... gates open 12.10 pm, first race is 2.10pm



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For further information call: 01303 266 407

info@folkstone-racecourse.co.uk www.folkstone-racecourse.co.uk

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Box Office: 01227 787787 (obj fee) marlowetheatre.com (obj fee)



THE PERFECT EASTER TREAT!

Education

Arm & Hammer launches My Way!™ Spinbrush™

Children are very rarely excited by brushing their teeth, and parents can often share their children's anxiety by having to make sure the task is performed properly each morning and evening! The effects of bad oral hygiene can set in at any age, so getting your children into a good toothbrushing routine will give them a great chance at maintaining beautiful, healthy teeth as they grow up. Designed to appeal to children's love of toys and gadgets, the **Arm & Hammer® My Way! Spinbrush** allows kids to put the fun back into toothbrushing. Both boys and girls will love the colourful design of this battery powered toothbrush, which comes complete with customising features such as a removable head and battery cap, a unique 'Gem' on-off button, and over 141 decorative stickers. Studies have shown that kids brush up to 38 percent longer with the **Arm & Hammer® My Way! Spinbrush**. So, while your children look forward to brushing with their **My Way! toothbrush™** you can rest assured their teeth are in good hands. £6.99 at *Boots & Tesco*.

RHS Reacts to DEFRA-backed Report into Growing in Schools

The *Royal Horticultural Society (RHS)* welcomes a Government-backed report launched by Secretary of State **Caroline Spelman**. The *RHS* is part of the Taskforce that compiled the report, which looks at schools in England, to explore and set out the huge benefits to children who are taught how to grow food.

Clare Custance, *RHS Strategic Development Manager*, said: "This is a very exciting report that expands on the research we carried out two years ago into the benefits of growing plants and food at school to a child's educational experience. We hope that the recommendations of the report are recognized and that food growing becomes part of the activities in which all schoolchildren get involved. Growing and gardening teaches skills that are transferable to a child's academic needs and I hope all the schools take on board the findings of this report - we'd be thrilled to work with them."

Builds life and employability skills Aside from the emphasis on improving learning, the Taskforce found that the activity of growing food in schools also supported the acquisition of life skills, including financial

literacy and enterprise skills. Communication and employment skills were also enhanced. Signs for improved motivation and behaviour, for example arriving early to school and leaving later, were found, as was increased attendance and completion of homework, and less disruptive classroom behaviour.

Improves health and wellbeing 73% of schools cited teaching children about nutrition as a motivation for food growing, 68% for giving them skills for a healthy adult life and 33% for encouraging exercise. Evidence showed improved understanding of food and nutrition, increased willingness to try fruit and vegetables and increased consumption of fruit and vegetables.

The report is being released just a week after the *RHS* announced that the 15,000th school had signed up to the charity's *Campaign for School Gardening*, backed by **Alan Titchmarsh**, meaning that nearly half of all UK schools are now part of the campaign.

To find out more about the campaign and to read *RHS* research that looks at the benefits of growing in schools, visit www.rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening

Is your child starting school in September?



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Are you sure you've made the right decision?

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April 2012

Bromley High School Celebrate Books and Reading World Book Day

"GET CAUGHT READING"

At *Bromley High* they don't need an excuse to celebrate books and reading, but for *World Book Day* they decided to try something a little different. Junior school parents were busy over half term snapping their daughters enjoying a good book in a favourite or unusual place, or dressing up and using props to illustrate their reading choice. Siblings, toys and even literary pets joined in the fun, and now the girls in senior school and members of staff are rushing to compete.

The photos were compiled into a short film, *'Get Caught Reading'* and shown at assembly, and around the School. In Senior Assembly a collection was taken to buy books for a charity in Africa. Other activities to celebrate books and reading with girls getting a £1 voucher to exchange for

a free *World Book Day* mini-book or to get £1 off any book.

The Junior School launched *The Readathon*, a sponsored read to raise money for sick children. "The Readathon actively engages pupils in reading for pleasure. As well as rising to the challenge of reading more books, the girls are hoping to raise lots of money for CLIC Sargent and the Roald Dahl Foundation, who do so much to support seriously ill children and their families. *Bromley High Junior School* will also be rewarded with free books.

Back at the Senior School there is a Library competition,

www.bromleyhigh.gdst.net
020 8781 7000



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"Bromley High helps you succeed in anything you want to do in life." - Eve, Year 7 A GDST school

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YEAR 5 TASTER DAYS

JUNE 2012

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April 2012

The Lewisham Toy Library

is a local charity providing stimulating, educational fun toys and play equipment to *Lewisham* for 40 years. *The Toy Library* is an invaluable resource to hundreds of *Lewisham* families with a wide range of toys for children 0 to 8 years to encourage educational development and active physical play. A huge number of toys for all parents, carers, childminders and non-profit organisations in the borough to borrow.

Toys include balance bikes, art and design toys, multicultural dressing up clothes and toys, story sacks, special needs toys, large toys, games, jigsaws and

much much more. Also a large collection of special needs toys with advice on hand to make the right choice.

They are proud of the personal service, sourcing and recommending the most appropriate toys according to specific learning or development needs. Membership for a small fee per month is available to all families, carers and childminders living in the *London Borough of Lewisham* and is free to families on income supports. Proof of address and benefits is required. www.lewishamtoylibrary.org.uk



Go Canoeing

Go Canoeing is an initiative organised by **Canoe England** and part funded by **Sport England**. The starter sessions, many offered free of charge by clubs and centres around the country, provide the perfect introduction to canoeing for adults and children. Many clubs and centres can provide the necessary equipment and sessions are supervised by a fully qualified canoe instructor. Brand new for 2012 A half day tour includes supervision from a fully qualified *Go Canoeing* Leader and costs start from £20 per person.

National Go Canoeing Week takes place 6 – 15 April 12. The week also marks the launch of the new website www.go canoeing.org.uk which provides a one-stop-shop for those looking to get into the sport. For more information or to book a local canoeing session visit www.go canoeing.org.uk

YOUR CHILDREN ARE AMAZING ALREADY. WE JUST HELP THEM PROVE IT.

From Reception to Year 11, **NumberWorks@Works** after-school tuition brings out the best in all students by:

- Tailoring lessons according to each individual's needs
- Setting achievable goals and monitoring their progress
- Developing our own programmes using only qualified Maths and English experts
- Rewarding skills and strategies for Reception to GCSE, Verbal Reasoning, 11+ and SATs

Parents struggling with their children's behaviour will be pleased to learn about the launch of a new free *iPhone* app which helps children to combat negative thinking.

With the app, children learn to overcome anxiety, shyness and a lack of confidence – problems which cause their performance at school to suffer and hold back the development of vital life skills. Parents are included in the experience, with a tips section and a report on their child's responses.

Children take an interactive journey through the story *'Mikey Helps Too-Too'*, from child confidence specialist **KidzAMation**, with Mikey the monkey and his friends, answering questions about their well-being and hunting for hidden bananas on the way. **The Good Childhood Report 2012** reveals that half a million children across the UK are

Combat Negative Thinking

unhappy with their lives. The study, by the **Children's Society's**, found that while most children are happy with their lives as a whole, around one in 11 (9%) is not.

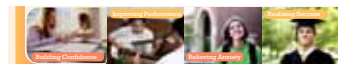
Developed as a joint venture with *Turned On Digital*, the app has an added twist to give children a laugh – literally. Each time the child finds a banana, their laugh, which they record the first time they use the app, is played back to them.

Family Coach **Alan Wilson**, founder of *Every Family Matters* welcomed the launch of the app: "I love this app because it addresses the core issue of emotional wellbeing. How we feel is directly related to what we think. Children's well-being is a core factor for their success at school and in later life. I am glad *KidzAMation* has come up with

this app to help children deal with their negative emotions."

Seema Thobhani, Director and Co-Founder of *KidzAMation*, said: "We are on a mission to improve parenting and child well-being in Britain. Our app takes the secrets from our books and workshops, giving children the best start in life in a way they find fun. I have a job wrestling my *iPhone* out of my daughters' hands, so an app seemed the perfect way to help busy parents teach their children valuable life skills." *KidzAMation*, the company behind the app, specialises in boosting children's school performance and improving their behaviour by raising their confidence.

Parents can download the app, called *KidzAMation*, free from the *AppStore* now.



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Lewisham Toy Library

Fancy dolls & many different cultural dressing up outfits - Educational toys - Multicultural toys - Fairy tales & children - Wigs & play clay - Construction sets - Toys - Videos, light - Games and puzzles

At *Lewisham Toy Library* we have nearly 2000 toys available to entertain and stimulate children aged between 0 and 8 yrs. Membership is available to all families or childminders living in the *London Borough of Lewisham* and is free to families on income supports. Proof of address and benefits will be required.

Lewisham Toy Library, The Old Coach House
41 Rushey Green (Entrance on Rosenthal Road)
Cathford, London SE8 4AG

Please ring for details: Telephone 020 8690 7433
www.lewishamtoylibrary.org.uk

Disability awareness and additional needs toys www.lewishamtoylibrary.org.uk

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Chelsfield 01689 602 196	Oxted 01883 723 204	Streatham 020 8681 1634
Croydon Central 020 8686 6833		

Small text: Fees vary. Please refer to your local study centre.

Education

A new free primary school for Balham?

Parents in Balham are asked if they would send their child to a free primary school set up and run by **CETPS Primary Schools (CETPS)**. This follows reports of a London-wide shortage of Primary provision in the capital. **CETPS** is looking for a suitable site in London to open a brand new, state-funded Primary Free School and has identified Balham as an area where there is a demand for additional primary places. Parents are being asked whether they would be interested in a **CETPS Primary School** opening in their area in September 2013. The proposed **CETPS Primary School** will be mainstream and support high academic attainment and progress. However, drawing on its substantial experience, the School would also ensure that there was early identification and intervention where children showed problems with language, literacy and processing. Children will be taught the National Curriculum as well as Modern Foreign Languages, a range of sports, ICT and creative subjects. **CETPS** was set up by the **Constable Educational Trust**, which has 17 years of

Visit Greenfields Day & Boarding School ...

- any Wednesday during term time - just contact them and arrange a personal tour of the school. Telephone **01342 822189** info@greenfieldschool.com www.greenfieldschool.com

Greenfields is a co-educational, *ISA* approved independent school for girls and boys ages 3 to 18 located in the heart of the *Ashdown Forest*, East Sussex. It offers education up to and including A Levels, with special programmes in English-as-a-Second-Language and a Summer School for junior and senior students. **Greenfields** currently has around 100 students and 23 staff. There are 30 boarders from around the world. **Greenfields** uses study methods called "Study Technology" which first isolates the barriers preventing a child from learning, and then provides precise tools to deal with them.

There is a high level of open communication between students and staff that helps to prevent failure, bullying or drugs. The classes are small and a full curriculum, provides core subjects and peripheral studies up available up to GCSE and Advanced Levels.

Chairman of **CETPS**, **Richard Simmons** said: 'I would really encourage anyone who has a child who will be aged between 3 and 5 or before 31 August 2012, to register. We have a huge amount of experience in opening and running a highly successful school and we are convinced that we can use that experience to enhance the educational choices on offer in Balham.'

Much-loved characters Biff, Chip and Kipper offer helping hand

As six-year-olds prepare for the first ever phonics check at school this summer, **Biff, Chip and Kipper** will be giving a reassuring helping hand with parents and children who want to practise together at home. **'My Phonics Kit'** includes a CD-ROM with eBooks and phonics support; reward chart; sticker sheet; tips for parents; and 3 phonics workbooks.

It has been created by educational experts, to be totally in line with how children learn to read in school. The Kit combines decoding practice with engaging stories and interactive features - making learning to read a fun and exciting journey.

Independent literary consultant, **Laura Sharp**, who led the

development of the Kit, said: **'The Oxford Reading Tree** is a well-established programme and a trusted resource used by teachers across the UK. We have developed **'My Phonics Kit'** to give parents this same level of support.....'

'My Phonics Kit' is widely available to purchase at an RRP of £9.99. It is the latest addition to the wide range of **Oxford University Press** phonics resources for parents, which includes the free eBooks and advice on www.oxfordowl.co.uk.

The **'Read with Biff, Chip and Kipper'** books available on the high-street and the **'Songbirds'** series by the Children's Laureate, **Julia Donaldson**.



April 2012

Save a Life

Free First Aid Training Day April 28, 2012

Someone collapses in front of you. People start panicking - WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO? Just 30 minutes of first aid training would give you the skills and confidence to step up and make a difference. Simple things can save a life.

St John Ambulance Surrey is holding **FREE** first aid training sessions for the public at 15 separate venues across the county on **April 28** because the volunteers are committed to making their communities safer place to live and work. **St John** believes no-one should die from a lack of first aid knowledge. So come along with all the family on **April 28** - no need to book - just turn up and enjoy 30 minutes of training that could make the difference between life and death. It's as simple as that. No price on a life. This training by the qualified first aid volunteers is **FREE**.

The training will take place between 10am and 3pm at Addlestone, Ash Vale, Caterham, Cobham, Cranleigh, Dorking, Epsom, Farnham, Guildford, Haslemere, Horley, Leatherhead, Reigate, Walton on Thames and Woking, on **01483 450000 opt 3** www.sja.org/surrey

April 2012

Calendar continued from Centre Pages

5 Apr Ruby Red Tells Tales, under 5's. **10-15 Apr** Egg & Spoon, under 5's. **Until 15 Apr** The Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth, 7+ yrs.

3-13 Apr **Peacock Theatre** Portugal Street off Kingsway 0870 737 0337 My First Sleeping Beauty performed by graduating students from English National Ballet School, 3+ yrs. **19-22 Apr** **A Little Princess** children's ballet performed by a cast of dancers aged 9-16 yrs.

3 Apr-31 May **Hatchlands Park** East Clendon 01483 222482 Visit the stunning bluebell wood on foot. **8-9 Apr** Have a Go Archery, 6+ yrs. **10-15 Apr** Easter themed special trail fun for all the family. **21 Apr** Pony Magic, pony rides for children with safe ponies & experienced handlers, 2-11 yrs.

4 Apr **Surrey History Centre** 130 Goldsworth Road 01483 518737 **Kipper Party** enjoy stories & activities featuring your favourite storybook book & a chance to meet Kipper himself, 3+ yrs. **5 Apr** **Leigh Village** Leigh Hill 07749 927783 Easter **Cookery** workshops for children, 5-11 yrs. **5 Apr** **Royal Naval Submarine Museum** 02932 545034 Pesky Pets from Animal Emergencies stroke those rockrats, cut cockroaches, giant snails & from Blue Reef Aquarium meet their underwater pets & then create your own pesky pet. **7-8 Apr** **Beasty Bug Trail**. **12 Apr** **Dastardly Die** Event Showcase & do your own experiments, for all ages. Daily Skull & Crossbones: Living under the Jolly Roger Family Exhibition, become a pirate, learn how to speak pirate, command your boat, discover treasure, host your Jolly Roger & set sail for a pirate tour of the museum. New family

activity area the Warrior's gunhouse where young sailors can have some R&R including costumed roleplay, toys, games & colouring. **From 5 Apr** **Imperial War Museum** Lambeth Road. 020 7416 5439 A Family in Wartime new exhibition. **6-15 Apr** Meet the Family a new exhibition with hands-on activities to discover how the family coped with the difficulties of living on the home front during the 2nd World War. **FREE**, drop in activities for all ages. **Ongoing** The Holocaust Exhibition, children 14+ yrs. **Ongoing** Extraordinary Heroes exhibition, **Ongoing** Undercover - Life in Churchill's bunker. **Until 30 Oct** Once Upon a Wartime: Classic War Stories for Children. **5 Apr-30 Sept** **Hampton Court Palace** Hampton Court 0871 230 2200 The Wild, the Beautiful & The Damned exhibition. **11 Apr** Open Garden Spring Ever see the displays of spring bulbs & plants at this special time of year. **6 Apr** **Southbank Centre** 0844 847 9910 Strictly Easter Ballroom hosted by Nicky Miles with demonstrations, lessons & live music from the Ross Mitchell Combo. **FREE**. **6-9 Apr** **Real Food Market**, Easter gift ideas & fresh seasonal produce **From 6 Apr** **Teacher Harrison Pantheom** 020 8858 4422 Across the Universe: the story of the Voyager, 5+ yrs. Sky Tonight Live, 5+ yrs. Space Safari join Ted, the teddy bear for live music & rhyme as he journeys throughout the solar system looking for the Great Bear in the sky, under 7's. **From 16 Apr** Mon, Wed during term time only Meet the Neighbours, 5+ yrs. **19 Apr** Solar System, Galaxy, Universe, 5+ yrs.

6-9 Apr **Polesden Lacey** Dorking 01372 452048 Easter Weekend Fun with special activities for children including facepainting & storytelling. **15 Apr-15 May** **Talip Festival** with over 15,000 tulips ready to bloom. **19 Apr** Spring Guided Walk. **22 Apr** **Apr** Day out more about exploring, caring for, & enjoying the estate with your dog. **6-9 Apr** **South Bank Centre** Parthia Show 0844 847 9910 Parthia school about friendship, trust & a goose from the award winning Catherine Wheels, 4+ yrs. **6 Apr-13 May** **Bates Green Farm** Arlington East Sussex 01323 48511 Bluebell Walk & farm trail plus RSPB stand, farmers mini market, secondhand book room & plant stall, dogs are welcome but must remain on leads. **6 Apr-8 July** **Jubilee Gardens** 0871 663 2501 E4 Udderbury. **9 Apr** First performance of The Vocal Orchestra a spine tingling hour of incredible musical entertainment. **7 Apr** **The Children's Trust** Family Fun Day Tadworth 01737 365019 Spring Fair Easter Egg Hunt & Spring Fun with rabbits, guinea pigs & chicks, ducks & a sheep or a goat. Go karts, fairground rides, bouncy castle, giant slide, face painting, balloon modelling, glitter tattoos, nail painting, lucky dip, book a duck plus lots of stalls. 12-4pm. Entrance under 16's **FREE**. **7 Apr** **Electric Theatre** Onslow Street Guildford 01483 444789 A Day of Arty Fun with Wallace & Gromit an afternoon of making models from all sorts of arty fun, sticking & gluing & all play of arty fun plus three special screening of Wallace & Gromit. **11-14 Apr** The Railway

Children, 6+ yrs. **Every Sat** Little Sparks in the Café Bar with music, games, songs, stories & puppets together & Sparkles Dance drop in classes for 5-8 yrs. **Every Mon & Tues** after school The Man in the Moon Weekly drama workshops, 6-14 yrs. **Every Wed** All Star Choir, 8-14 yrs. **7 Apr** **Somerset House** Strand 020 7845 4600 Visions of Home, create your own sculpture. **7 Apr** **Home**, means to you using recycled domestic materials, family workshop, 6-12 yrs. **FREE**. **28 Apr** **Studio Day**, Dream Accessories workshop 13-18 yrs. **14 Apr** The Living Carpet drop in family workshop, 6-12 yrs. **FREE**. **28 Apr** **Charm offensive** make your own lucky charms that tell a story family workshop, 6-12 yrs. **FREE**. **7-9 Apr** **Shafford Mill** 01483 561389 Easter Trails around the Mill plus children's craft activities. **8-9 Apr** **Royal Festival Hall** Belvedere Road London 0870 380 4300 Peter & the Wolf with live performances by the Royal Philharmonic orchestra. **9-10 Apr** **Sadler's Wells** Portugal Street Kingsway London 0844 412 4300 Echoa & workshop 5+ yrs. Echoa appears as part of Sadler's Wells Family Weekend a two day festival with an array of games & activities, happening all over the building for all ages. **9-10 Apr** **Lilian Baylis Theatre** at Sadler's Wells Portugal Street London 020 7863 8000 Underneath the Floorboards ballet production for under 5's. **14-15 Apr** **John Jacksons Lane** London 020 8341 4421 Kid Carpet & The Noisy Animals, 3-8 yrs. **12-22 Apr** **Acheny Culture Festival** of **South Asian** Culture Southbank Centre **FREE** activities throughout the festival from daily yoga in the Core Ballroom to workshops in Urdu calligraphy, Punjabi poetry & Pakistani folk dance plus lots more, www.southbankcentre.co.uk **15 Apr** **Bay Pond Nature Reserve** Godstone 01883 345020 Open Day with pond dipping, bug hunting & visit the manded bird table, refreshments available. **15 Apr** **London** Imax Cinema South Bank Waterloo 020 7928 3535 Family Funday Willy Wonka themed arts & crafts for all ages. **29 Apr** **Sci Fi London** Parade dress up as your favourite movie character & parade around the Southbank. **Throughout Apr** S.O.S-The Titanic Centenary, session of films to mark the occasion. **16-21 Apr** **Old Spinnfields Market** Brushfield Street 020 7247 8556 Alternative Fashion Week. **FREE**. **16 Apr-4 June** **Royal National Theatre** South Bank 020-7452 3234 Festival exhibition, **FREE**. **18 Apr** **Cambridge Theatre** 01483 203237 The Sleeping Beauty. **20 Apr** **Concert Hall** Fairfield 020 8688 9291 One Night of Elvis. **25 Apr** **The Johnny Cash Roadshow**. **21 Apr** **All Hallows** by the Tower Byward Street 020 7481 2928 Concert for the Children of West Kenya a series of Saturday afternoon concerts. **22 Apr** **Clare Ballroom** Royal Festival Hall 0844 847 9910 Bollywood Blockbuster. **FREE**. **25 Apr** **South Norwood Recreation Ground** Car Green Road Croydon 020-8760 5707 Migrating birds meet the countryside warden at 10am at the Visitor Centre for a 2-3hr walk. **FREE**. Daily Fitness Trails for adults. Children under 11 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. **28 Apr** **Addlestone Community Centre** 0870 104950 Save a Life **FREE** First Aid Training Day, no need to book just turn up for the half hour training session, 10-3pm, www.sja.org.uk **28 Apr** **SJA HQ** Caterham Save a Life **FREE** First Aid Training Day, no need to book just turn up for the half hour training session, 10-3pm, www.sja.org.uk **28 Apr** **Nafield Health & Fitness** Leatherhead 01483 203237 Save a Life **FREE** First Aid Training Day, no need to book just turn up for the half hour training session, 10-3pm, www.sja.org.uk **28 Apr** **The St John Ambulance** HQ Horley 01483 203237 Save a Life **FREE** First Aid Training Day, no need to book just turn up for the half hour training session, 10-3pm, www.sja.org.uk **29 Apr** **Devisden Wood & Happy Valley** 020 8684 4000 A walk through woods, meadows & chalk grassland for bluebells, cowslips & other spring flowers, 2 miles, 2-4pm, donations welcomed. **29 Apr** **Ockham Common** 07896 640165 Step into Spring guided walk.

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