

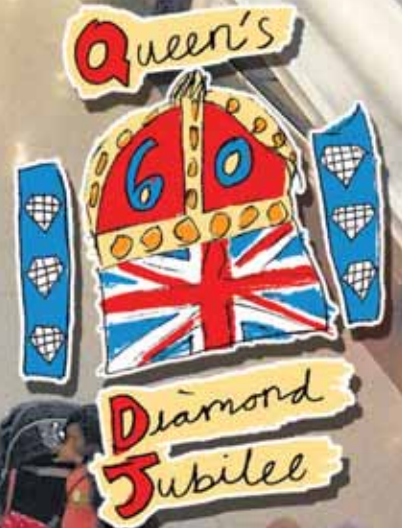
PARENTS NEWS

May 2012 No. 165 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

1993 - 2012
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What's On May Bumper Calendar of Events



Celebrate with the Nation
Invesec Derby Festival

1-2 June 2012

www.epsomdowns.co.uk

www.centrale.co.uk

The Big Jubilee Lunch

www.madametussauds.com/london

St Lawrence College
www.slccuk.com

Three Editions in South-East England

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London
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London
South
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Kent

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PARENTS NEWS

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What's On

Camping for Beginners

Whether you're a first time festival goer or have decided to camp out during the Olympics to cut costs, **Vango's Adventure Tents** ensure that your event with no experience can pitch up like a pro. Ideal for first timers and people on the move due to the pack weight and versatility of the space, the **Adventure tents** range from **Jango** have plenty of features to keep you dry and comfortable. With hotly anticipated UK festival line ups being announced and Summer holidays not too far off, there's really no better time to get out into the great outdoors with your family and friends.

A new style for 2012, the **Ark DS** has full length front windows to let in plenty of light as well as an added inner tent. The front door of the tent can also be turned into a sun porch to create even more much needed relaxation space. Sleeping 2,3 or 4 people and available in bright yellow, green or classic

black, the **Ark DS** also features colour coded poles and a handy loop to hang your lantern.

Vango Sigma 300 £100, **Sigma 300+** £120.
An ideal option for the more technical camper due to its dome-style structure adding flexible stability. Updated for 2012, the **Sigma** features cleaner aesthetics and higher porch poles for additional height. Large windows will allow plenty of light into the tent and the breathable polyester inert tent and new linked in groundsheet will stay comfortable while keeping your possessions dry.

Vango Dart DS 200: £85, **Dart DS 300**: £100
Ideal for new campers and updated for 2012, the **Dart DS** offers separate sleeping porch areas thanks to its pre-attached inner whilst still providing the simplicity of a pop up tent. Light can pour in thanks to the

new, large front windows but a good night's sleep can still be had by all due to the built in privacy curtains. Great internal space and a small pack size make the **Dart DS** easy to carry and great to use.

Vango Tigris 400 XL
The new **Tigris XL** is a major update of the well loved **Tigris**. The added front pole doubles as a living space and creates an area ideal for storage and relaxing, perfect for a holiday. Pitching time 20 mins.

All in one or Flysheet First pitching Easy pitch tunnel style. Tension Band System. Lightweight inner groundsheet. Colour coded poles. New larger windows New privacy curtain New low level vents. Easy find inner clips. Pelmet with pockets 3 mesh doors. Handled carry bag

Little Paddock becomes Bigger Paddock!

Little Paddock, a collection of Scandinavian-style lodges located on the borders of the New Forest and Avon Heath Country Park has just added 'Snowdrop Cottage' to the collection, taking the total to nine.

As with all the lodges, **Snowdrop Cottage** is individually decorated, and features include a bathroom with a hand-made rubber bath – complete with barrel duck and rain shower! – lounge/diner with a 32" TV/DVD, bedroom with king-sized white faux leather bed, a fully-fitted kitchen and a large decking area.

The lodges are all designed for just two people and the complex is 'adult only' ensuring a peaceful and relaxing break, even during the summer school holidays.

There are also three delightful B&B rooms available in owners **Brett & Sue Jones's** main house, within the site, each of which can be accessed privately through French doors.

The complex has a resident's alcohol licence and Sue and Brett can provide meals



May 2012

May 2012

Enjoy the sunshine and all the fun of the farm!

Children love to explore and as summer arrives there are more opportunities to get out and do just that. Sometimes it is difficult to find places or activities that can entertain all members of the family but **Farming World** has a wide range of activities to suit all age groups. There is plenty to keep the family occupied for a whole day and the cost of entrance won't break the bank! **Farming World** is conveniently situated just off the M2 between Faversham and Boughton. It is a family run open farm with the emphasis firmly placed on fun in a safe environment. There are plenty of attractions for everyone to enjoy and the farm also has a wide variety of special events planned throughout the year. The half term activities and bank holiday fun begin with **Picnic in the Park** taking place on the 4th June. **Farming World** encourage people to come to the farm with a picnic and enjoy the outdoors and get involved in the celebrations going on at the farm. Children will also gain free entry to the farm when dressed as a King or Queen (conditions apply). Further activities that are planned for the half term include **Sheep Shearing & Wool Week (4th June – 8th June)** when you can follow the progress of wool

from fleece to woolly jumper! Watch the farm's sheep being sheared (1-4pm daily), see and do just that. Sometimes it is difficult to find places or activities that can entertain all members of the family but **Farming World** has a wide range of activities to suit all age groups. There is plenty to keep the family occupied for a whole day and the cost of entrance won't break the bank! **Farming World** is conveniently situated just off the M2 between Faversham and Boughton. It is a family run open farm with the emphasis firmly placed on fun in a safe environment. There are plenty of attractions for everyone to enjoy and the farm also has a wide variety of special events planned throughout the year. The half term activities and bank holiday fun begin with **Picnic in the Park** taking place on the 4th June. **Farming World** encourage people to come to the farm with a picnic and enjoy the outdoors and get involved in the celebrations going on at the farm. Children will also gain free entry to the farm when dressed as a King or Queen (conditions apply). Further activities that are planned for the half term include **Sheep Shearing & Wool Week (4th June – 8th June)** when you can follow the progress of wool

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Tin Bath Theatre presents: Bee Detective

Part of the **Unlimited Cultural Olympiad** programme and the **London 2012 Festival** An outdoor theatre show for deaf and hearing children Created by **Sophie Woolley** NATIONAL TOUR: **SAT 5 MAY – SUN 2 SEP** In parks and squares across the UK this summer, children will be invited to step into the inner sanctum of a bee hive to help solve a honey bee murder mystery as **Sophie Bee**, champion forger, turns detective to track down the honey bees when they go missing from the Queen Bee's birthday party.

Bee Detective is an interactive, multisensory adventure. The action is both spoken and signed, with projected animation and creative captioning making the show both accessible and dynamic. Through vibration effects children will be able to feel the buzzing of the bees, and will be invited to join in the "waggle dance" that is used by bees to explain where pollen and nectar

can be found in the outside world. The project is one of the twelve new commissions for **Unlimited**, the ground-breaking **London 2012 Cultural Olympiad** programme that celebrates art and culture by disabled and deaf artists on an unprecedented scale. The only children's show of all the **Unlimited** commissions, **Bee Detective** is created by Sophie Woolley, who is deaf, and is designed for both deaf and hearing children aged six upwards. **Bee Detective** is also part of the **London 2012 Festival**, the spectacular 12-week nationwide celebration running from 21 June until 9 September 2012 bringing together leading artists from across the world with the very best from the UK. Sophie Woolley is a writer and actor from London. As well as her stage plays, she is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 3 and 4 (notably afternoon plays *When to Run* and *Carbon Cleansing*). A recent graduate of Channel 4's screenwriting

course, she also starred as a deaf mum-to-be in Channel 4's award winning *Cast Offs* series. Her first play, *When to Run* toured the UK 2006 - 2008, with sell out runs at the *Royal Festival Hall*, *Soho Theatre* and *Manchester's Royal Exchange* studio. She followed this up with *Fight Face* at *Hammersmith Lyric*. She was an attached writer at *Soho Theatre* from 2005 - 2006. **Tin Bath** is a theatre company formed by **Sophie Woolley** and **Derrick Gemma Fairlie**. The company produces exciting interactive theatre that is accessible to deaf and hard of hearing people. They have created a unique way of captioning theatre that uses animation, graphics, text and visual jokes. The result is part video game, part cartoon and entertaining to all. This is the company's first show for children.

www.beedetective.biz
Running Time: 45 minutes | Suitable for ages 6+



Blowing the Whistle on the General Dental Council.

Traditional train tracks create flat faces, big noses and tired looking eyes: if you doubt this, just look at those who have been treated in the past. They also routinely damage the enamel and roots of the teeth and worse still the teeth go crooked again unless the patient wears a brace for the rest of their life. Extractions of sound teeth are almost always required although patients may not be told about this until near the end of treatment. Newer treatments can achieve better and more permanent results without extractions but orthodontists avoid comparative research as they don't want the damage they do to faces to be exposed.

Worst of all the General Dental Council allows orthodontists to withhold information about some newer methods. This leaves many patients accepting extractions and even major surgery unaware that improved techniques can render them unnecessary. If you have suffered you are entitled to compensation.

There is another way.

Takes a second opinion now. Nine years old may be too late.

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John Mew, The London School of Facial Orthotropics, Purley, 020-8660-3695 and Tunbridge Wells 01892 526406



Looking for Childcare?

Have you considered using an Ofsted Registered Childminder?

- Childminders offer a safe, homely environment. Children are cared for in small numbers allowing for individual needs to be planned for and met.
- Registered Childminders hold Paediatric First Aid certificates, Public Liability Insurance, and Criminal Records Bureau checks for anyone in their household 16 or over. They are inspected by Ofsted and deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage for children aged from birth to five.
- Childminders offer a flexible service, accommodating unsociable working hours, before and after school care, school holidays and siblings of different ages from birth onwards.
- Childminders are part of the local community, regularly taking children out and about to local parks, libraries, Childrens centres and Childminder stay and play sessions. Many also visit farms, soft-play areas and museums.
- Ofsted Registered Childminders are valued members of the Royal Borough of Kingston childcare workforce and are supported by the Local Authority Childcare Support Team to provide high quality childcare within the borough.

Want to know more about Kingston's registered childminders? Please contact the Families Information Service (FIS) on 020 8547 6582 or email FIS@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

FARM FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Visit www.farming-world.co.uk for special event details including:

- Picnic in the Park,
- Sheep Shearing and Wool Week,
- Creepy Crawly Days,
- SpongeBob Square Pants,
- Have a Go Falconry,
- Birds of prey & flying demonstrations,
- Large adventure play,
- Rare breeds & farm animals,
- Heavy horses,
- Indoor soft play,
- Craft room,
- Mini golf course,
- Tractor and Trailer Rides,
- Hot & cold refreshments, (Some activities weather permitting)

Show this advert to receive 50p off entry per person in your party. (PN May, Valid 28/4 - 31/5/12)

Open everyday until 4th Nov.
Farming World, Boughton, Faversham, ME13 9HY
Tel: 01227 751144
M2 junc 7 follow brown signs, sorry no dogs.

Springwatch Saturday 12 May 11am to 4pm
Lakehurst Road KT19 0EB

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REFRESHMENTS

Ewell Court House Organisation

What's On

What is Foster Care Fortnight?

Foster Care Fortnight is an annual awareness campaign run by the **Fostering Network**. The aim is to raise the profile of fostering and highlight the urgent need for more foster carers across the UK. This year's campaign runs from **Monday 14 to Sunday 27 May**. Under the theme of *fostering: time to care*, it will encourage more people to come forward and consider becoming a foster carer.

Fostering services – local authorities and independent agencies – throughout the UK join in the campaign to run local activity promoting the specific needs they have for foster carers in their area. For more information about becoming a foster carer please should contact their local fostering service, visit www.couldyoufoster.org.uk or call **Fosterline on 0800 040 7675**.

Why do we need more foster carers? Since the tragic death of baby Peter Connelly in August 2007, more and more children have been coming into care. As the vast majority of children in care live with foster families, thousands of new foster carers are needed now. Children should live with a foster carer whose skills and experience meet the child's individual needs. The shortage of foster carers means fostering

services often struggle to find the right home for a child, first time.

As a result, children often have to live with a foster family a long way from their home, are split up from their brothers and sisters, and have to move from Monday to family and school to school.

Frequent moves result in children missing out on the help they need to help them make friends and build other relationships, and to be in one place long enough to receive the support they need to succeed in education. A wider pool of foster carers with the right skills and qualities would make it more likely that the right homes can be found for children first time, giving them the best chance of a happy childhood and a successful future.

"I am a qualified solicitor. After working at a specialist young people's law centre I decided to leave my job and become a full-time foster carer for two teenage asylum seekers. They are great lads and my family life is much improved."

Rosella Potts, foster carer

Fostering FAQs
What is fostering?
Fostering is a way of offering children and young people who need to be in care a stable family environment while their own parents are unable to look after them. On any one day,

around 59,000 children live with 45,000 foster families across the UK.

Why do children need fostering?
Foster carers look after children so families have the chance to sort out their problems. These problems can range from a family member's short-term illness to a parents depression or drug or alcohol abuse. Many children have been abused or neglected.

Some children will need to be looked after for only a short time until they can return home, while others will stay with foster carers for the longer term or move elsewhere. *What is the difference between fostering and adoption?*
Fostering is usually a temporary way of offering children a home until they can return to their family, although many live with foster carers for years, some for their whole childhoods. Fostered children continue to be legally part of their own family, even if there is limited contact with them.

Adoption provides a new family for a child and their legal relationship with their birth family ends. About 4,000 out of the 75,000 children in care away from home in the UK are awaiting adoptive families. See www.nationaladoptionweek.org.uk

May/ June Events at Battersea Park Children's Zoo

Usual entrance fees apply to all activities (with the exception of the **Friends of Battersea Park BBQ** where entry is included in the ticket price)
Children must always be accompanied by an adult.
26th May - 10th June - Battersea Park Children's Zoo are taking part in the **BLAZA "Love your Zoo"** campaign by holding an **"Animal Portrait Drawing competition"**, children can pick up a drawing pack upon entry and create a portrait of their favourite animal!

The top 3 win an adoption of the animal in their portrait and a **Family Day Ticket** to the zoo.
Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th June Children wearing a Crown or Tiara visiting the zoo can claim a Free biscuit, from our **Lemon Tree Cafe**.
Hedgehog Day Thurs 7th June *The People's Trust for Endangered Species PTES* are visiting the zoo for some hedgehog focussed fun...
Story time, meet a real hedgehog & hedgehog themed arts & crafts! 4 x 45min sessions, starting at 11.00...

1st am & 1st pm sessions ONLY are bookable in advance through the PTES.

www.ptes.org/events
The 2 other sessions are on a first come first served basis. Max no 30 per session. Usual entrance fees apply. The activity is free.
Father's Day Treat Sunday 17th June Kids treat dad to a free slice of cake!
1 free slice of cake for dad per family

Friends of Battersea Park Barbecue at Children's Zoo Tuesday 19 June 6 - 9pm
Live Music Bar Tombola
Children's Activities Silent Auction
Advance Tickets only
Adults: £15 (£20 after 14th June) Children: £6 Under 6s: Free
Tickets from www.batterseapark.org/bbq **020-7622 5199**.
Free parking in Chelsea Bridge Car Park No Dogs

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• All ages & abilities • Lessons & Hacks
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Emperor Tamarin

Battersea Park Children's Zoo
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PLUS OUR Adventure Wonderland PLAY AREA
See our website for special events
Love Animals
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.

May 2012

May 2012

Enjoy A Taste Of The Great Outdoors in Rye Bay

On land and on water, lovers of the great outdoors can enjoy a huge number of thrilling, healthy and fun activities in **Rye Bay** in 2012.

With the medieval East Sussex town of Rye at its hub, **Rye Bay** is developing a reputation as one of the South East's hottest destinations for outdoor sports and activities. Away from the hilltop town's cobbled streets and old world charms, you can spend your days kitesurfing, sailing, canoeing, horse riding, golfing, fishing, rambling, cycling and even powerboating.

Rye Bay offers excellent sailing throughout the year and the rivers Rother and Tillingham are both popular with canoeists. The Royal Military Canal passes through Rye offering visitors opportunities for boating and fishing. Ramblers are spoilt for choice when it comes to exploring the region on foot – away from the coast there are glorious woodlands and forests and wide open spaces to enjoy.

Across the River Rother estuary lies the 805-acre **Rye Harbour Nature Reserve** that stretches along the shoreline. There are many walking paths,

including one that loops the entire reserve. Local audio walking tours are also offered.

Visitors can also enjoy cycling tours and horse riding breaks. Go hacking in lovely countryside from several riding stables across **Rye Bay**. Cycles can be hired in the town and cyclists have a wide choice when it comes to routes along the leafy lanes and tranquil hamlets.

Cheer on the participants in the 1066 Relay race in May, a five stage off-road team relay race. Back on the water the annual Rye raft race draws large crowds to the town every August. The River Rother flows peacefully through the High Weald to the 14th century Bodiham Castle.

And for the ultimate spectator 'sport' visitors can get a taste of Olympic glory by joining in the fun when Rye welcomes the Olympic torch relay on 18 July.

For more information about holidays and short breaks in **Rye Bay** – including details on where to stay and the outstanding shopping facilities on offer – check out www.visitryebay.com enquiries@visitryebay.com

BBQ Anyone?

We all love BBQing but we are often concerned about how well the meat is cooked. **Superfast Thermapen** digital thermometer will help make sure alls cooked well!

The thermometer incorporates a large digital display with a precise read out of temperature. The true temperature of a product can be tested in under four seconds. The thermapen incorporates a reduced tip, stainless steel, food penetration probe that conveniently folds back through 180 degrees into the side of the instrument when not in use. The thermometer will power off automatically after ten minutes, maximising battery life. The casing is washable & includes **"Biomaster"** additive that reduces bacterial growth & the ergonomic rubber seal minimises the risk of the ingress of water, dust or food. The **Thermapen** is available in thirteen colours ideal for many different applications. For more information

01903 202151, www.eitltd.com.

Advertise in **PARENTS NEWS**
Call fergus
020 8337 6337
fergus@parents-news.co.uk

Venn Street Food Market

Venn Street Market is a local community food market taking place on Saturdays. The Sunday market will be reintroduced later this year providing food, crafts and plants.

From April onwards many small independent producers takepart at **Venn Street** each week.
Wild Country Organic wide variety of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, aubergines and leaf. It has over 5 acres of glasshouses and grow organic salads and oriental vegetables year round and without heating improving the flavours and making the crops the tastiest available. **Banham II** makes French toasted French floured demi-baguettes with a choice of freshly cooked meat, fish or tofu fillings with carrot and daikon pickle, cucumber and coriander...

The Culinary Herb Company bringing the freshest edible herbs for any recipe.
The Garlic Farm – All things garlic: fresh and smoked.. **Hardcore Prawn** – Asian influenced cooking of skewered meats (chicken, pork and steak) and prawns! There are also noodles and soups like Tom Yum and Tom Kha to look out for. www.vennstreetmarket.co.uk 10am – 4pm

What's On

A Norfolk Treat for all the Family

Norfolk Hideaways specialise in high quality coastal cottages along the beautiful north Norfolk coastline.
Jasmine Cottage at **South Creake** is beautifully presented with a contemporary style in a village location, just three miles from Burnham Market. The dog friendly cottage is spacious with a good sized room on the first floor for children to play in and the house is opposite tennis courts and playing fields. Two minutes' walk you can

find a local pub with a good reputation for food at *The Ostrich*.
Cottage features include Limestone flooring with under floor heating, an open fire and stylish kitchen. A lovely bonus to renting this cottage is that exclusive beach huts are available to rent out too at *Wells-next-the-Sea* at just £125 per week.
www.norfolkhideaways.co.uk/smartweb/our-cottages/ our-cottages/216-jasmine-cottage

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The Jubilee Family Enclosure on Investec Derby Day

The Jubilee Family Enclosure on **Investec Derby Day** **Epsom Downs Racecourse** have launched the brand new **Jubilee Family Enclosure** on **Investec Derby Day**. This will be a secure area on **The Hill** where families can relax in a safe and friendly environment with entertainment for all to enjoy. Admission is: £5 per adult in advance (£17's and under free of charge); £10 per adult on the day.

For more information or to book your tickets in advance, visit www.epsondowns.co.uk
Celebrate with the nation at the **Investec Derby Festival 1-2 June**. **Epsom Downs Racecourse** will be hosting the first engagement of *The Queen's Diamond Jubilee* on **Investec Derby Day on June 2nd**. www.epsondowns.co.uk



Photo: David Davies PA Wire

Foster Carers Required
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Childcare Experience Patience
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Ongoing Dupess Hill Outdoor Gym Each item has clear instruction for its use over 12's.

Daily South Norwood Recreation Ground 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 correct use to be undertaken with the suggested number of number repetitions.

Daily Royal Naval Submarine Museum 02392 545034 Skiff & Crossbones: Living under the Jolly Roger Family Exhibition, become a pirate, learn how to speak pirate, command your boat, discover treasure, hoist your Jolly Roger & set sail for a pirate tour of the museum. New family activity area the Warrior's gunroom where young sailors can have R&R including costumed roleplay, toys, games & colouring.

Every Mon Benheim Children & Family Centre Bromley 01689 879145 **Tues, Wed & Fri** mom toddlers activities.

Every Mon Lloyd Park 020 8726 6000 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** Park run, FREE weekly timed 5k run, meet to register first.

Every Mon Purchase 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 Coudon Library 020 8726-6900 Bookstart Rhythmic for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. **Every Thurs** Storytime, 2 ½yrs. **Every Sat** Storytime, under 7s, FREE.

Every Tues Ashburton Library 02087266900 Bookstart Rhythmic for babies & toddlers. **Every Thurs** Wiggle & Jiggle for 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 Rhythmic for babies & toddlers & Wiggle & Jiggle, toddlers over 18months. **Every Fri** Storytime 2 ½yrs. **Every Sat** Rock & Rhyme for babies & toddlers, FREE.

Every Tues Central Shopping Centre Croydon www.centralshopping.co.uk Early Learning Centre 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.

Every Tues Thornton Heath Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhythmic for babies & toddlers, FREE. **Every Tues** Careers, training & learning advice sessions, 2-4.30pm, FREE & Computer training courses for beginners to experts.

Every Thurs South Norwood Leisure Centre 164 Portland Road 020 8726 6000 x88965 Aquatics sessions.

Every Thurs Caterham Hill Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidsstuff Rhythmic, FREE. **Every Fri** Storytime, FREE.

Every Fri Pavilion Leisure Centre Kentish Way Bromley 020 8313 9911 Families & under 11's Roller Disco sessions, 4.30-5.45pm & Families & under 16's Roller Disco sessions with full skate & safety equipment provided, doors open 6.15pm, Tel: 07970 266790.

Every Fri Bradmore Green Library Old Coudon 020 8726 6000 X64952 Bookstart Rhythmic for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. **Every Mon** Storytime 2 ½yrs & Chatterbooks reading group for 8-11yrs. **Fortnightly** Every Sat Rhythmic, FREE.

Every Fri Broad Green Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhythmic 0-5yrs. **Fortnightly** on Sat Rock & Rhyme for pre-school children. **Every Wed** Arty Crafty

computers drop in sessions for under 5's, parents & carers, FREE.

Every Fri South Norwood Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhythmic for babies & toddlers. **Every Tues** Wiggle & Jiggle, 2-4yrs. **Alternate Sat** Rock & Rhyme or Storytime, FREE.

Every Fri Shirley Library 020 8253 1023 Bookstart rhythmic for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle for 18months. **Every Thurs** Storytime for 2 ½yrs. **Every Sat** Rock & Rhyme for babies & toddlers. **Monthly** story & craft workshops, 5-10yrs.

Every Fri New Addington Library 020 8253 1023 Bookstart Rhythmic for babies & toddlers & Wiggle & Jiggle, 18months+. **Free.**

Every Fri Northbury Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart Rhythmic. **Every Thurs** Wiggle & Jiggle. **Alternate Sat** Rock & Rhyme followed by Storytime. **Last Fri of each month** Chatter Books reading group for 8-12yrs, FREE.

Every Fri Selsdon Library 020 8726 6900 Bookstart rhythmic for babies & toddlers, Wiggle & Jiggle, 18months+. **Every Tues** Storytime for pre-school children. **Every Sat** Rock & Rhyme for toddlers. **1st Tues of the month** Arty Crafty, 4-8yrs plus parents & siblings. **Every Sat afternoon** teenage reading group. **Last Thurs of month** adult reading group.

Every Fri Waddon Parks & Wandle Park 020 8656 5947 Circular walk through Waddon Parks & Wandle Park, 2-3 miles, meet outside Lidl, 11am, FREE.

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/kidsstuff Rhythmic, FREE. **Every Thurs** Storytime, FREE.

Every Fri Dorking Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidsstuff Rhythmic, FREE.

Every Fri Gatton Park 01737 780255 www.gattonpark.com Toddlers 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 Redhill Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidsstuff Rhythmic, FREE.

Every Fri Warlingham Library www.surrey.gov.uk/kidsstuff Storytime, FREE.

Every Sat mora Norman Park Hayes Lane Bromley Kent 020 8460 5291 Soccer School, 4-6,7-9 & 10yrs.

Every Tues De Staffords Leisure Centre Caterham 01883 344355 Family Swim.

Every Sat The Green Dragon 58-60 High Street Croydon 020 8667 0884 Storytime for families 3-7yrs, need to book. **9 May** Mad About Bats a family evening for adults & children see & hear the bats using a baty detector, with batty slides & a talk, 7-18yrs, booking essential.

3 May Camberley Theatre 01276 707600 Magical Extravaganza on Ice with magic, circus, fantasy, ice skating show for all the family.

7-10 May RHS Gardens Wisley Wisley 01482 211113 Contemporary Craft & Design Fair a range of home & garden crafts. There are also family trails with ideas of the best spots to explore, things to look out for, fun activities in the garden, Wisley I-Spy book to keep younger visitors on track, a fascinating 'plants for bugs' area & seasonal bug collecting & insect identification activities plus children of all ages can play in the outdoor play area with its naturally created climbing & balancing equipment.

4 May Ashcroft Theatre Fairfield Croydon 020 8688 9291 Nicholas Nickleby. **13 May** A Night of Soul Tour 2012. **29 May** Sing-a-long-a Grease.

5 May Priory Farm South Nutfield 01737 522603 Tractor & trailer rides, all ages. **6 May** Wild Food learn the dos & don'ts & discover how to prepare seasonal wild food.

5 May Rural Life Centre Farnham 01252 795571 Model Railway exhibition a variety of layouts of many different scales & periods. **12,13 May** A Village at War re-enactors transform the museum

Calendar

the London Loop, the parish boundary & back through the wood, 2 ½ hr level walk, FREE.

6 May Claremont Landscape Gardens 01372 467806 Fleur de Lys Morris Dancers, dancing & tunes in the garden. **20 May** Claremont Community Day - featuring demonstrations of traditional skills in local craftspeople, live music, displays & more throughout the day fun for all the family.

6-7 May Blindley Heath Country Show Onsey Lodge Farm 01342 892216 Show all about the country its crafts, traditions & attractions plus live pony the UK's No 1 all female equestrian display team plus lots more, fun day out for all the family.

6-7 May Clandon Park 01483 222482 Clandon comes to life meet the Mannered Mob, 18th century re-enactors. **13 May** Attic tours see the hidden spaces which are not normally open to the public. **27 May** Day of Maori dance, performances throughout the afternoon.

7 May Haslemere Charter Fair High Street 01428 645234 There will be traditional fair ground rides, animals, live music, still walkers & much more for all the family.

7 May River Wey & Dapdune Wharf 01483 561389 Down your Wey Day with environmental family fun to include sow a seed, bug hunts, ladybird hunt & bird box making. **29 May** Artists Studio Cruise to St Catherine's Lock with tea on the lockside before returning to Dapdune, need to book.

10 May Brooklands Museum 01932 857381 Emergency Service Day line up of display vehicles & live demonstrations.

11-12 May Ewell Court House Lakehurst Drive, Ewell Springfield walk children from local schools will be

invited to view the birds & wildlife, the event will be supported by local wildlife charities. There will be competitions & activities & hopefully demonstrations of hawk flying.

11.12 May The Hawth Crawley 01293 553636 My First Sleeping Beauty by English National Ballet.

16-17 May Loseley Park Guildford 01483 454213 My Fair helping for children's charity Action Medical Research with over 70 stalls selling home & garden wares, clothes, accessories, jewellery, gifts & food to suit all budgets.

17 May Tuseley Farm Godalming 0790 0604955 Open Farm Day & Country Market meet the farmers who grow their food & care for the countryside, all ages, 10-3.30pm, FREE entry.

18-20 May Museums at Night Celebration of arts, history & heritage when hundreds of museums & galleries across the UK will be opening up after hours & hosting an array of special events, www.museumsatnight.org.uk.

19 May South Norwood Country Park 020 8726 6900 Circuit spring 2 ½ hr guided walk, FREE.

19 May Harlequin Theatre, Redhill 01737 765547 Fireman Sam Live - Pontypandy Rocks.

19 May Compton Village Green 01483 415390 Village Jubilee Fete, visitors & stall holders are encouraged to wear 1950's dress with prizes for the best efforts. There will be stalls & side shows including bbq, tea tent, beer & pimm's bars, ice creams, briar a brace, bottles, tomato, coconut shy, children's races, dog races, punch & jelly, bouncy castles, plants, grand prize draw, 50's car display & more, admission & parking FREE.

19 May Dunsborough Park Ripley 041869 Towpath Trundle fun, family friendly sponsored walk along the Thames between Molesey & Walton Bridge, 4 or 8 mile route. It is pushchair friendly & dogs are welcome on leads, enter under 5's FREE, to register 01372 461869 or email chcc@pnh.org.uk.

26 May St Martin of Tours Church St Epson Jubilee Fair a fun afternoon of face painting & children's games plus red, white & blue stall & others with brioche-brac, scarves & jewellery, hats & bags, plants & homemade cakes, there will also be ploughman's lunches & cream teas available, admission FREE.

26 May Lingfield Park Course 01342 834800 Countryside Evening, first evening fixture with family fun & entertainment celebrating country life, under 18's FREE.

27 May Happy Valley & Farthing Downs Coudon 020 8726 6900 Sleepy Dornice meet at the Farthing Downs car park at 2pm to find out more about the life of the elusive dormouse. Find out how to spot their signs, how they live & more. **Every Wed** Circular walk around Happy Valley meet at Fox Lane car park 11am, 2-3 miles, FREE.

27 May Staffhurst Wood Oxted 07968 832511 a walk in the Woods guided walk.

27 May University of Surrey Sports Ground Guildford Move Guildford, Athletics Research UK fundraising event an activity to suit all ages from wots on wheels, bicycles to go carts & lots more anything to get your joints moving, www.athleticsresearchuk.org/move Tel: 0300 790 4444. www.parents-news.co.uk



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Friday 25th May 2012, 10am to 12pm

St Lawrence College, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7AF www.slclcuk.com
Junior School Tel: 01843 572912 Email: mags@slclcuk.com
St Lawrence College exists to provide education for children. Charity No 307921

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There are a lot of other and supporting features on the website.

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

Education

Helping Children Get Safe 4 Summer

Remember the important messages of staying safe in and around the water, including the 'SAFE' code:

S: Spot the dangers. Whenever children are near water they should take extra care. They should look to see if the water is affected by currents or tides or if there are rocks, piers, groynes or breakwaters that may affect swimming. Children should also learn to look at what the general conditions are like in and out of the water.

A: Advise. Children should always try and choose a place to swim where there are lifeguards and always take notice of safety information that may include warning or safety signs.

F: Friends. If children are going near water they should always go with a friend if they cannot be accompanied an

adult. If your child is with a friend one of them may be able to get help if the other gets into trouble in the water.

E: Emergency. Children should never jump into water to rescue someone. A drowning person may be very strong and pull them under the water as well. Instead they should ring 999 or 112 and shout for help.

For more information on the **Get Safe 4 Summer** campaign visit www.getsafe4summer.org Check out website for programmes at your local pool for instance Tonbridge Swimming Pool and Larkfield Leisure Centre are running a **Get Safe 4 Summer** one day course.

Tonbridge Swimming Pool
01732 367449
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The Very Helpful Hedgehog by Rosie Wellesley

Isaac is a solitary hedgehog. He never speaks to anyone and he likes it that way. He eats alone, sleeps alone, lives quietly alone and goes about his life perfectly content with having no friends to talk to. One day, an apple falls from a tree and lands on his back. Isaac tries to shake it off, but the apple has stuck fast to his spines.

Poor Isaac panics – what will he do? He has no friends to help him and he starts to cry. He is crying hard when suddenly a donkey plucks the apple from Isaac's back. The donkey is overjoyed that at last he has an apple to eat, the tree is too far from his paddock for him to ever reach his favourite fruit.

The donkey tries to talk to the little hedgehog and make friends, but Isaac has never had any and doesn't know what to do. So he stays quiet. But returning to his pile of leaves, Isaac spots another apple, and an idea forms in his head. This touching story is all about Isaac learning that it's better to have friends and help others, than to be alone.

Beautifully illustrated throughout, this timeless tale is perfect for children 3+ yrs. £5.99

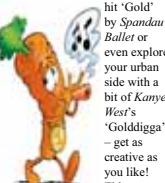
Go for Gold with the Great British Carrot Whistle Olympics to win a £1,200 Prize!

Carrots are one of the nation's favourite vegetables and it's easy to see why. Not only can you roast them for Sunday lunch, grate them into a sandwich or salad, bake them in a wonderful carrot cake or blend them into a warming soup, but did you know that carrots also make great musical instruments?!

Once a few holes have been made, a carrot is transformed into a carrot whistle, much like the recorder you used to play at school. Just type the words 'carrot whistle' into Google and you'll see there's already over sixty million people interested in turning the humble carrot

into something you blow! And now it's your chance to get your hands on a free carrot whistle, courtesy of *The British Carrot Growers' Association*, and get involved with - the **Great British Carrot Whistle Olympics!** Top prize is a limited edition London 2012 set of two gold coins made of 22 carat gold and worth a whopping £1,200! All you have to do to enter is video yourself playing a 'gold' themed song on your carrot whistle and post it on

www.facebook.com/greatbritishcarrots
Try a rendition of the classic Bond theme 'Goldfinger, belt



is open to everyone including all amateurs, musicians, schools and music groups etc www.facebook.com/greatbritishcarrots

Young Scientists' Challenging Day

Year 5 pupils from 24 different East Kent primary schools enjoyed an exciting and thought-provoking day at **St Lawrence College** for this year's 'Thanet Primary Schools' Science and Engineering Challenge' held on Thursday 15th March. The event was sponsored by EDF Energy as part of *National Science and Engineering Week*. The teams all participated in a series of challenges during the morning, which included a colourful pH Chemistry task, a Biology enzyme race and a Design Technology competition to build and fire the best rocket. There was

fierece competition in the hi-tech Science quiz after lunch and then pupils and guests were treated to the **St Lawrence College Science Department's** explosive 'Chemical Magic Show'! The day finished with the presentation of prizes, with only three points separating the top three teams. Third place went to **Ramsgate Holy Trinity**, second place to **Swalecliffe Community Primary School** and the overall winners were **St Lawrence College Junior School**. Successful winners received certificates and book tokens and their schools were awarded prize money towards Science teaching.

The Headmaster of **St Lawrence College**, Reverend **Mark Aitken**, said: "It was so exciting to see so many budding young scientists from schools in Thanet enjoying a day's exploration using the great facilities at the College."

The day's events were part of **St Lawrence College's** celebrations for **National Science and Engineering Week** which also included a 'Cool Physics' show, a web-chat with a **NASA** astronaut, a debate on genetic engineering and a Science Fair.

www.slukc.com

Bingo with a Zingo!

game whilst the other is all about words and pictures. Described as *Bingo with a Zingo* these games are super speedy and totally addictive! Players compete to match up numbers, or words and pictures to fill their score card as quickly as they can.

Apart from being a lot of fun, a

game of *Zingo* not only builds number and word recognition, it also develops concentration and memory. Suitable for children aged four and up, this is a perfect game to play to boost confidence and support learning. Children will love pressing the red 'Zinger' to release images, this really is interactive bingo!

Even better each *Zingo* game has two levels of play. Younger players will enjoy the 'beginner' games but once they've mastered the basics they'll be clamouring to move onto the advanced level, meaning your set of *Zingo* will last for years and years!

Parents can play *Zingo* too and there is even a handy guide included with every game that offers hints and tips on how to encourage healthy competition, support early readers and build logic so that everyone gets the most out of their game of *Zingo!*

Roger Martin owner of **Coiledspring Games** commented 'We are very excited to have brought *Zingo* to the UK. We want to make sure kids have the opportunity to play and enjoy traditional games, and *Zingo* is a game the whole family can get excited about, enjoy and learn from.'

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May 2012

May 2012

Nearly half of UK parents keep tabs on teens via Facebook

Is this a new kind of parental relationship, or is it spying?

Parents are keeping tabs on their teens by accessing their **Facebook** accounts without their consent. *AVG Technologies'* latest **Digital Diaries** study reveals.

Digital Coming of Age the fifth instalment of *AVG's Digital Diaries* study, features responses to questions to 4,400 parents with 14-17 year olds in 11 countries. It found that only 30 per cent of UK parents are likely to be concerned about how their teen's interaction with social media sites could affect their future job prospects. This was the lowest figure (excluding the Czech Republic) of all the countries surveyed.

Other key findings from Digital Coming of Age include:

• UK parents are most likely to suspect teens of 'sexting' - nearly one quarter (23 per cent) of UK parents suspect their kids of sexting, compared with their European counterparts in Germany (9 per cent), France (10 per cent), Italy (11 per cent) and Czech Republic (13 per cent)

• 28 per cent of UK parents suspect their teens are illegally downloading music - compared with Spain (45 per cent), Czech Republic (35 per cent) France (30 per cent), Australia and New Zealand (27 per cent), United States (19 per cent). UK teens could face up to ten years in jail for illegal downloads as a result of Britain signing the disputed Anti-Counterfeit Trade Agreement (ACTA) bill

• One fifth of UK parents suspect their teens of accessing pornography on their PC - in comparison to over a quarter of Spanish parents

• One fifth of UK parents have seen explicit or abusive messages on their offspring's social networks - compared with over one quarter of Australian and New Zealand parents

• Parents 'friending' teens on Facebook - over half of UK parents are connected with their teens on Facebook, compared with United States (72 per cent), Canada (66 per cent), Italy (66 per cent), Spain (64 per cent), New Zealand (60 per cent), Australia (57 per cent), Germany (51 per cent), Czech Republic (50 per cent), France (32 per cent) and Japan (10 per cent)

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• Nearly half of UK parents are worried that their teen's mobile phones are geo-tagged

Only 30% of UK parents concerned about how their teen's interaction with social media sites could affect their future job prospects, compared with Spain (65 per cent), Italy (57 per cent), Germany (47 per cent), France (45 per cent), Australia (42 per cent), Canada (38 per cent), New Zealand (37 per cent), Japan (33 per cent) and Czech Republic (29 per cent).

UK parents most satisfied (59%) with how schools are teaching their teens to responsibly navigate the internet, compared with Spain (54 per cent), United States (49 per cent), Australia (53 per cent), New Zealand (47 per cent), Germany (44 per cent), France (43 per cent), Canada (43 per cent), Japan (42 per cent), Italy (35 per cent) and Czech Republic (31 per cent).

BBC Learning & the RSC Unveil Shakespeare Unlocked

A new online learning resource for schools Young people can 'unlock' Shakespeare via new online resources as part of their studies thanks to a new series of short films created by **BBC Learning** and the **Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC)**.

These films, produced as part of the **BBC's Shakespeare** season and the **World Shakespeare Festival** bring Shakespeare to life for a secondary school audience. They provide students and teachers with a unique insight into Shakespeare's work through world-class theatre productions and workshops with actors and directors.

Students will be able to "unlock" key scenes from RSC theatre productions of three of Shakespeare's most widely studied and performed plays – *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. By visiting the portal at: www.bbc.co.uk/shakespeare they will be able to click through to explore three pivotal scenes from each play, each containing significant moments for character and plot development.

The series of 12 short films for each play are designed to

help students develop their understanding of language, character development and dramatic devices which are all at the core of the **GCSE English Shakespeare curriculum**. The website will explore the interpretative choices that lie at the heart of all Shakespeare's plays and also provide ideas for activities and discussion in the classroom.

Rebecca Simor, Executive Producer **BBC Learning**, said: "Shakespeare Unlocked has enabled us to create fantastically rich content and resources for both students and teachers who want to delve deeper into these famous plays. By working with the RSC, we've been able to provide a fascinating insight into how actors and directors interpret material and bring it to life for audiences in ways that make

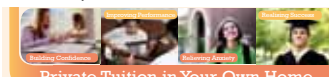
the texts feel as relevant today as they were when they were written."

The online resources became accessible from April 1st 2012 and are available via the website portal at www.bbc.co.uk/shakespeare

Teachers packs, with ideas for using the films in class, are published at the end of April 2012.

Shakespeare Unlocked was created by **BBC Learning** in partnership with **RSC Education**. It is part of the **BBC Shakespeare** season and the **World Shakespeare Festival**.

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00g1kg



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Education

Olympic Park gets gold for ethical wood sourcing

Soil Association Woodmark announced certification for ethical wood sourcing at 19 different sites around the **Olympic Park** following a ground breaking, collaborative project. Sites include the iconic *Idoladrome* and track, the *Aquatics Centre* and all the bridges, fences and benches. The project involved over 12,500 cubic metres of timber – from European construction timber to Tropical hardwoods – and is a world first that involved adapting existing standards to suit a demanding and complex site.

The Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) worked with **Soil Association Woodmark** to achieve certification to **Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)** and **Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)** standards.

Noah Bold, ODA Park Operations Environment & Sustainability Manager, said:

"A huge thanks to **Soil Association Woodmark** for guiding us through the certification process. Right from the start we knew we wanted our construction work to have the smallest possible

environmental footprint and supporting sustainable forest management around the world was a big part of that. We hope that other large scale developments can be inspired by the scale of what we have achieved and that ethical wood sourcing will become the norm for future Olympic sites and construction projects globally."

Beck Woodrow, Woodmark project manager, said:

"Managing the certification process for such an iconic site was a positive and fulfilling experience. It's great to know that after The Games take place these buildings, and all the supporting infrastructure, will be enjoyed and appreciated by **Olympic Park** visitors and the local community for years to come."

10 – Minute Bedtime Stories

Classic Nursery Tales, Tales from Around the World by Graham Percy, pb £3.99 each. A wonderful series of classic tales retold especially to be read aloud to a younger audience. The **10-minute Bedtime Stories** series make it simple and fun to choose stories to read aloud to children at night, and as each book is divided up into 10-minute bite-sized chapters, the books are ideal for parents and children to enjoy reading together. Reading aloud to children before bed has endless benefits for future development. Recent studies have shown that bedtime stories can help promote healthy sleep patterns, improve motor skills and memory, and increase closeness with parents. Catching your children early with bedtime stories also helps to reinforce reading as a pleasurable activity, and gives them a head start at school.

Each book in the **10-minute Bedtime Stories** collection retells much loved classics that are brimming with magic and adventure, with enchanting characters from some of the most popular children's tales of all time. Beautiful, action packed illustrations by popular children's artists **Graham Percy** and **Graham Philpot**

The ability to speak another language is one of those skills that is as useful in the world of work as it is for getting the most out of life.

Research is vast, and shows again and again that exposure to second language learning before the age of 11 is the most significant factor in developing the ability to learn languages. One of several language organisations for Primary aged children, **Le Club Français** stands out with its experience in teaching. Established for over 15 years in **Ashford, Canterbury, Herne Bay, Faversham, Tenterden** and the surrounding villages it only uses teachers who are qualified, experienced and bi-lingual and able to devise curriculum specific for each group of primary school students. It doesn't use a format or a course that everyone has to follow, because that can seem uninspiring for children, and what really counts is to start at school.

"The sheer scale of the project was impressive, the largest we've ever been involved in, and **Soil Association Woodmark** can now offer tailored **Project Certification** for large, complex construction sites through to micro-projects – the smallest so far is an **FSC** certified Japanese woodcarving event"

Le Club Français

inspire, to capture children's enthusiasm, and lead them towards a lifelong love of language learning.

There are classes outside of school, principally on Saturday mornings, or the extremely popular **Summer Holiday Club**, which this year is running from **July 23rd-27th** in Challock, between Ashford, Canterbury and Faversham. If your child isn't yet at school, watch out for the parent and toddler classes on Tuesday mornings. A wonderful session of songs and games is run for pre-school children from eighteen months onwards, followed by coffee and time to chat and play. Parents even get the chance for their own French lessons, if they want, thanks to the free baby-sitting service.

For any further details contact **leclubfrancais@gmail.com**
01233 714713
07966 599684



J'adore LE CLUB FRANCAIS SUMMER CLUB!

5 Full days of fabulous French and lots of Holiday Fun.

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Our whole family looks forward to it every year, it kicks off the holidays in style! Debbie from Canterbury.

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May 2012

The Horse Trust

Something special to do on the **May Bank Holiday weekend** is the **Horses, Heroes and Hounds Family Fun Day** which will be held at **The Horse Trust's Home of Rest for Horses** in Speen, Buckinghamshire on **Sunday 6th May** from 11.00 am to 17.00 pm.

The Horse Trust, the oldest horse charity in the UK, opens its doors for this countryside themed, family fun day. Entry to the event is only £1 per adult or £2 for the event programme which permits entry for the whole family.

This inaugural event is a joint fundraiser with **Hounds for Heroes**, who provide specially trained assistance dogs for disabled military and emergency service men and women. The event will have a strong military focus with a *Spiffier* flyover and support from the *RAF, Army, Navy* and the *Marines*.

There will be a licensed bar, food, activities for the whole family, shopping opportunities and of course lots of animals! **Susan Lewis, Marketing Manager of The Horse Trust** explains, "It is a huge community event, the first that has ever been held at our magnificent horse sanctuary, and we would be delighted to welcome you and your family." To celebrate this amazing event we have a spectacular **Spiffier Fly Past** at 15.10 pm and special appearances by **Thames Valley Police Mounted Section, The Light Cavalry, Stokenchurch Dog Rescue**, who will be running a **Fun Dog Show** with entries in categories such as Best Fancy Dress, Best Rescued and Waggiest Tail and a visit from **Wycombe Wanderers FC** mascot, **Bodger**. Other activities include Ferret Racing, Pony Rides, Falconry Display, Army Assault Course, Farm Animals, Farrier demonstrations, Face Painting and much, much more.

To enter the dog show, which starts at 11.30 am, turn up at 11.00 and make your way to the sign-up station and enter your pooch into the classes of your choice.

Award presentations for the championship dogs in the main arena at 15.30 pm so make the most of your day and join in the other activities we have on offer.

Susan Lewis said, "Our sanctuary for retired working horses, ponies and donkeys in Speen is a wonderful setting for such an event and the surroundings stunning." She continued, "We hope to welcome lots of visitors and to raise much needed funds for both **The Horse Trust** and **Hounds for Heroes**."

www.horstrust.org.uk

Calendar London

Daily Harry Potter London Locations Tour 020 7222 1234 Meet at Temple Station, 2 1/2 hrs bus tour of London locations featured in the Harry Potter films.

Daily Tower of London Tour Hill London 0844 482 7799 **Daily London Zoo Regent's Park** London 020 7222 3333 **Rainforest Film Exhibit**.

Daily National Army Museum 020 7730 0717 www.national-army-museum.co.uk **Victorian Soldier Action Zone** **FREE**.

Daily The World's Army, Empire, Commonwealth & Dominion Soldiers 1914-45 Action Zone family interactive zone, **FREE**.

Daily Kids Zone, interactive learning & play space for under 10's plus a soft play area for babies.

Daily The Queen's Gallery Buckingham Palace London 020 7766 7301

Daily Victoria & Albert Museum Cromwell Road London 020 7942 2000 **Daily Back Packs** families **Ongoing Royal Mews 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 1 020 7930 6961 Undercover, Life in Churchill's bunker.

Every Sun National Gallery www.nationalgallery.org.uk 020 7747 2885 Family workshops plus **FREE** family trail.

Every 2nd Sat of month **Geographic Store** 83-97 Regent Street 020 7025 6960 Animal Man comes face to face with slithering snakes, slimy insects & smelly skunks, 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 weekend Rich Mix Bethnal Green 020 7613 7498 Kids' Cine Time a collection of films suitable for all the family

Every weekend Greenwich Clocktower Market Greenwich High Road Quirky weekend market has 50 stalls specialising in vintage, retro & antiques with a few

contemporary craft stalls, **FREE**

www.clocktowermarket.co.uk

Until 19 May Unicorn Theatre for Children 147 Toley Street 020 7645 0560 How to think the Unthinkable, 11-14yrs, **FREE**, 5 May **Blue & White Beauties** creative workshop, take inspiration from Chinese, Dutch & English ceramics & decorate a plate to take home & use, 11-16yrs, **FREE**.

5 May **Sunset House Strand** 020 7845 4600 Spray Away drop in workshop for families **FREE**.

12 May **Kokoro Dragons** family workshop experiment with brush & ink & scrolls & take home your own dragons of mythic creatures, 6-12yrs, **FREE**, 18 May **Museums at Night** with live music, creative learning workshops & guided tours for all ages, 19 May **River Poes**, create workshop families all ages, create very short 3 line poems originally from Japan, **FREE**, 26 May **Dazzle** the eye family workshop create sizzling optical art & patterns inspired by abstract paintings in The Courtauld Gallery, 5-12yrs, **FREE**.

5-12 May **Davenport's Magic Theatre** Strand 020 7836 0408 Magic Symphony all the family.

6 May **Royal Albert Hall** 020 7589 8212 The Night of 1000 Voices raising funds for the benefit of Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research.

7 May-9 Sept **Exchange Shopping Centre** Putney High Street Crown Jewels competition, a chance to win a diamond worth £3,000.

12-13 May **Wembley Exhibition Centre** 0844 873 7332 Pet Show under 5's **FREE**.

13 May **ReGenesis Park** 0845 673 2154 Superhero 5K run for Cancer Recovery Foundation, costume **FREE**, www.cancerrecovery.org.uk/events

19 May-8 July **Little Angel Theatre** Cross Street 020 7226 1787 The Ugly Duckling, 3+ yrs.

23 May-8 July **Science Museum** 0870 870 4868 Universe of Sound exhibition, Daily Launchpad Science Shows interactive gallery for families, **FREE**, **Daily Gallery Tours**, families 13+yrs, **FREE**, **Ongoing** Flyzone take control in

360 degree flight simulators or fly with the Red Arrows in their sensational 3D motion effects theatre. **Every weekend** **Key Col Adventure** families, under 7s, **FREE**, **Every Weekend** **Spaced Out**, families, 5+yrs, **FREE**, **Every Weekend** **A Cockroach Tour** of the museum visitors take on the form of cockroaches dressing up in realistic costumes, **FREE**.

26-27 May **Imperial War Museum** 020 7416 5439 Build the Trace, family discussion, art & writing activities looking at why wars happen & end, drop in activities for all ages, **FREE**, **Ongoing** **Extraordinary Heroes** exhibition, **Ongoing** **Undercover** – Life in Churchill's Bunker, **Until 30 Oct** **Once Upon A Wartime: Classic War Stories** for Children.

26-27 May **HMS Belfast** Tooley Street London 020 7940 6320 Summer jamboree of **FREE** activities, **Every final weekend** of the month **A Sailor's Life** for Me family activities.

27 May **Natural History Museum** 020 7942 5000 Big Nature Day, museum educators will be running family activities, such as exploring pond life, bug hunting & tree trails plus lots more. **Until 31 July** **Images of Nature Dinosaur** Way exhibition, all ages. **Until 2 Sept** **Scott's Last Expedition**, **Until 16 Sept** **Animal Inside Out** exhibition, under 4's **FREE**, **Every weekend & school** **Hands on Nature** Dinosaurs, visit the handling station & explore interesting specimens with the help of the museums science educators, **FREE** & Up, Lip and Away interactive storytelling for under 7's, **FREE**, **Daily** **Earth Lab** explore the wonder of fossils, rocks & minerals, families, 6+yrs, **FREE**, **Explorer** backpacks, families under 7's, **Dippy** Floor puzzle under 7's, **FREE**, **Bookasaurus**, families under 5's, **Jurassic Ark** family activity pack includes code breaking activities, **Daily Learning** Activators encourage visitors of all ages to discover more about the natural world, **FREE**, **Daily Focus** points handling trophies explore real specimens with the help of volunteers, using different natural history themed activities, all ages, **FREE**.

www.parents-news.co.uk

Classified Lineage-£1 per word inc vat min 10 words Box £240 inc vat +£5 for colour. **Classified** pay for ten entries get two free. Boxes pay for 5 entries get one free. Cheques payable to **PARENTS NEWS**, 10 The Manor Drive, Worcester Park, Surrey, KT4 7LG Tel: 020 8337 6337 Deadline see P2.

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