

PARENTS NEWS

November 2012 No.174 The First & Foremost Local Monthly Newspaper for Families

1993 - 2012
20th Successful Year
Thank you

FREE

What's On in November Pantomimes & Christmas Shows



New Victoria Theatre
www.atgtickets.com/woking

St Lawrence College
www.slccuk.com



www.leicestersquaretheatre.com

www.suttontheatres.co.uk

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

www.fairfield.co.uk

Three Editions in South-East England

Southwest
London
& Surrey

London
South
E Surrey
& West
Kent

Kent

ISSN 2050-4772

KENT

PARENTS NEWS

Next Issue Dec 2012/Jan 2013:
 Editorial Deadline: 16 Nov
 Advert Deadline: 22 November
 Distributed 3 December
 Christmas & New Year
 Publishers & Editors: **Fergus & Penny McCarthy** Distribution
 Novos 60,000 South West
 London & Surrey; 78,000
 Kent; 54,000 London South
 East-Surrey & West Kent.
 Distributed through schools,
 nurseries, libraries, leisure
 centres, restaurants, advertisers,
 play schemes and events.
 Subscription by post £15 year.
For Advertising:
 fergus@parents-news.co.uk
 020 8337 6337
PARENTS NEWS UK ISSN
 1362-5551; 2050-4772; 2050
 4762
 10 The Manor Drive, Worcester
 Park, Surrey, KT4 7LG.
 Tel: 020 8337 6337
 info@parents-news.co.uk
 read on-line via the website
WWW.
parents-news.co.uk
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 those of **PARENTS NEWS**.
 We hope mums and dads enjoy
 the articles, be interested by
 Calendar (finding it useful),
 and use the advertisers. Any
 endorsement by **PARENTS**
NEWS is explicitly stated.

The Queen's Hall Theatre

Cranbrook School

The UK's largest Youth Drama Festival is coming to **Queen's Hall Theatre**, Cranbrook School, **Tues Nov 13th & Weds Nov 14th**. **The Shakespeare Schools Festival** works in partnership with the **National Theatre** to help 700 schools from across the UK to stage abridged Shakespeare productions in their local professional theatre. Family, friends and Shakespeare lovers are invited to celebrate an evening's entertainment "For the first time in their lives every one of these pupils has faced a challenge without running away. The change in them individually, and collectively, has been astounding." - participating teacher, 2011 - participating teacher, 2011 "What a fantastic organisation...it was truly inspiring to see local children engaging with Shakespeare and clearly benefiting from the experience" - Parent of participating student.



01580 711856
 (Box office part-time)
www.queenshalltheatre.co.uk

Starring **Laila Morse** and **Sid Sloane** with **Neil Fingleton** the **tallest man in Europe!**

Friday 7th December 2012 to Sunday 6th January 2013

Ashcroft Theatre, Fairfield Halls, Croydon

There's a GIANT of a pantomime in store at **Fairfield Halls' Ashcroft Theatre** this year packed with Fe Fi Fo Fun! Laila Morse, known to millions as Mo Harris in BBC TV's award-winning series **EastEnders**, heads the cast of **Jack and the Beanstalk** starring as the Fairy with children's favourite, **Cbeebies** presenter **Sid Sloane** in the role of hero Jack, from **Friday 7th December to Sunday 6th January**.

The superb cast also features the tallest man in Europe and **Guinness** World record holder **Neil Fingleton**, who at 7ft 7.56 inches tall plays the mighty **Giant**. **Quinn Patrick** returns with a wardrobe of fantastic costumes as the outrageous



JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

November 2012

Gemma Sutton steps from the West End production of **Legally Blonde** to play the beautiful Princess.

With great dancing, music and songs, comedy, audience participation, beautiful costumes and sets, amazing special effects, and not forgetting **Daisy** the break-dancing pantomime **Cow**, **Jack and the Beanstalk** promises to be the biggest, best and most spectacular pantomime of all, guaranteeing a magical treat for all the family!

Tickets for Jack and the Beanstalk are available from the **Fairfield Halls** Box Office **020 8688 9291** or online at www.fairfield.co.uk All tickets for performances from **Friday 7th to Friday 14th December** are £16.50. Performances thereafter are priced £27.50, £24 & £19.50 Adults, and £23.50, £20.50, £19.50 Children & Senior Citizens. Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 Children) £85. Concessions available for Groups, Schools, Brownies & Cubs. **NO BOOKING FEE.**

Honestech VHS to DVD 5.0 Deluxe:

Honestech VHS to DVD 5.0 Deluxe is an all in one video converter software and hardware solution. It provides everything you need to easily convert your video to DVD including a USB 2.0 video capture device.

VHS to DVD 5.0 Deluxe is perfect for both novices and professionals alike. The software offers tools to edit and produce quality video files easily, while saving priceless home videos in sharp and crystal-clear DVD quality. With just a few clicks anyone can easily transfer HDV, VHS, Beta, or other videotapes to DVD or Blu-ray using the step-by-step pictorial instructions that guide the user through the easy wizard mode. Advanced scene editing tools allow users to record movies, delete commercials or unwanted



scenes, and easily add special effects, titles and chapter menus. RRP £45.99

Claymotion Studio: Currently available priced at £39.99, Claymotion Studio 3.0 Deluxe is now both fun and educational for students. Creating stop-motion animation not only encourages the development of story-telling, it also provides an opportunity for kids to use the PC as a movie production tool. By combining the power of your PC and stop-motion animation, users can bring figures, objects or drawings to life. **Honestech Claymotion Studio 3.0 Deluxe** can create output in WMV, MPEG1, MPEG2 and high-definition MPEG video resolution up to 1920 x 1080 (requires HD webcam or camcorder). The storyboard allows users to view the frames in sequence for easy editing, and users can add onscreen text, subtitles, sound effects, voice, and background music.

The completed stop-motion video can be converted into MPEG/AVC format so you can watch on your portable device such as iPhone and iPad. The video also can be uploaded onto **YouTube** and **Facebook** directly from the software with One-Click option. RRP £39.99



STM Compass: The compass is the perfect carry-all for a busy digital day. The internal organiser panel provides space for cards, pens and accessories whilst the external zippered pocket ensures easy access to travel documents or your phone. With over the shoulder length handles for a comfortable carry, an internal divider for laptop sleeve and space for notebooks and folders, the compass is your perfect bag for travelling the world! Extra Small: £79.95 Small: £79.95

Honestech Claymotion Studio 3.0 is available at £39.99 from Ideal Shopping, Amazon and PC World. **Honestech VHS to DVD 5.0 Deluxe** is available at £45.99 from Currys and Amazon. www.stmbags.com.

Toys for under £5 from Galt Toys

Paper Planes - £4.99, suitable for 7+ years - Make 10 different paper planes following the step by step guide. Includes 40 sheets of patterned paper, stickers and glue.
JAWBones® 25PC Box Set - **AirPlanes** - £4.99, suitable for 6+ years **The Buildable Art System** with construction pieces that swivel, ratchet and snap together in countless ways. The possibilities for new and unique creations are limited only by the imagination. Build any of the models shown on the box or create your own work of art! Each set includes an Instruction Leaflet for building 4 different models.
Super Spirals - £4.99, suitable for 6+ years Make fascinating spiral patterns with the selection of plates and wheels. Combine with stencils to create fun spiral pictures. Contents: 3 spiral plates with stencils, stencil plate, 7 spiral wheels, 3 gel pens, A5 paper, guide.
 4 Puzzles in a Box - Farm - £4.99, suitable for 3+ years Set of 4 first puzzles featuring farm animals. Puzzles have different numbers of pieces to encourage the development of matching and sorting skills. 4 puzzles with 4, 6, 8 and 12 pieces.

Mashooq Christmas Gifts from Mashooq Choose one of three packs from **Mashooq**, the natural hair care specialist, to give the gift of beautiful shiny, manageable hair this Christmas. **Mashooq** products contain a unique blend of natural oils including coconut, olive, palm, wheat germ, almond and sunflower which are full of vitamins and minerals to nourish and protect the hair and scalp. The packs are:
Full Hair Range Gift Pack - 100ml bottles of Deep Penetrating Oil, Moisturising Hair Serum, Frequent Use Shampoo and Crème Rinse Conditioner for £28.35. **Mashooq Oil and Hair Serum Pack** - 100ml bottles of Deep Penetrating Oil and Moisturising Hair Serum for £20.40. **Mashooq Oil, Frequent Use Shampoo and Crème Conditioner** - 100ml bottles of each for £14.75. Apply to hair for 5-20 minutes before shampooing. Wrap the oiled hair in a hot towel or cover with a shower cap while soaking in the bath. The oil can also be applied before treatments such as colouring, bleaching, perming or relaxing to protect the hair from damage. **Mashooq Blend Frequent Use Shampoo** - formulated to leave hair soft, glossy and manageable. Gentle enough to be used daily and will keep all hair types in peak condition. Buy online at www.mashooqhair.com 0871 716 5529

Christmas Gifts

Christmas Gifts from Mashooq

Mashooq Christmas Gifts from Mashooq Choose one of three packs from **Mashooq**, the natural hair care specialist, to give the gift of beautiful shiny, manageable hair this Christmas. **Mashooq** products contain a unique blend of natural oils including coconut, olive, palm, wheat germ, almond and sunflower which are full of vitamins and minerals to nourish and protect the hair and scalp. The packs are:
Full Hair Range Gift Pack - 100ml bottles of Deep Penetrating Oil, Moisturising Hair Serum, Frequent Use Shampoo and Crème Rinse Conditioner for £28.35. **Mashooq Oil and Hair Serum Pack** - 100ml bottles of Deep Penetrating Oil and Moisturising Hair Serum for £20.40. **Mashooq Oil, Frequent Use Shampoo and Crème Conditioner** - 100ml bottles of each for £14.75. Apply to hair for 5-20 minutes before shampooing. Wrap the oiled hair in a hot towel or cover with a shower cap while soaking in the bath. The oil can also be applied before treatments such as colouring, bleaching, perming or relaxing to protect the hair from damage. **Mashooq Blend Frequent Use Shampoo** - formulated to leave hair soft, glossy and manageable. Gentle enough to be used daily and will keep all hair types in peak condition. Buy online at www.mashooqhair.com 0871 716 5529



Blowing the Whistle on the General Dental Council.

Orthodontics has one of the worst scientific records of all medical treatment. Little is known about the cause or cure of crooked teeth but despite this, orthodontists use "Train Tracks" and surgery to straighten them. Unfortunately these have been found to damage the enamel and roots of the teeth, flattening the face, leaving fixed eyes with big noses. Methods are based on trial and error and there is little evidence to show that the long-term results are beneficial. Patients rarely always lose between four and eight permanent teeth but are often not warned of this in advance. Worse still the teeth go crooked again unless the patient wears a brace for the rest of their life.

The General Dental Council does not dispute that certain alternatives can provide better results, but are permitting orthodontists to break the law by not telling patients about more natural methods that can avoid almost all extractions and surgery as well as providing straight teeth.

There is another way.

Take a second opinion now. Eight years old is getting too late.

ORTHOTROPICS

The alternative to orthodontics with extractions and surgery

Emily was treated naturally and easily. No extractions. No "Train Tracks". No retainers.

Research shows dentists and the public think Orthotropics gets much better results than orthodontics "Train Tracks".

When experts disagree, where do you go for answers? www.Orthotropics.com Phone or e-mail for a consultation.

John Mew, The London School of Facial Orthotropics, Purley. 020-8660-3695 and Tunbridge Wells 01892 525798

ASHCROFT THEATRE BOX OFFICE 020 8688 9291 www.fairfield.co.uk

COMING THIS CHRISTMAS

Laila Morse (Mo from EastEnders) **Sid Sloane** (Sid from Cbeebies)

Jack and the Beanstalk

Quinn Patrick (Heroic Adams)

7th Dec 2012 - 6th Jan 2013
 Tickets £16.50 - £27.50 - Group Rates Available!

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

London's favourite Christmas show!

Sadler's Wells presents **The Snowman**

The stage show based upon the book by Raymond Briggs and the film directed by Clive Jackson and produced by John Coates

Music and Lyrics by Howard Blake
 Design by Rami Marichon
 Lighting Design by Tim Mitchell
 Choreographed by Robert North
 Directed by Bill Alexander

15th anniversary

"As traditional as mince pies and Santa Claus"

Time Out

Featuring "Walking in the Air"

FAMILY TICKET ONLY £95 4 tickets, must include at least 1 child

Wednesday 28 November - Sunday 6 January

Peacock Theatre Sadler's Wells 0844 412 4322 www.sadlerswells.com

CENTRALE PRESENTS "ROCKET THE REINDEER"

KID'S 4D MOVIE PREMIERE

15TH NOVEMBER, 4PM

FREE ENTRY AND GOODY BAG FOR THE FIRST 75 PEOPLE*

Bring your little ones along to the Lower Mall at 4pm for the chance to be at the premiere of our 4D Christmas Cinema. Then get into the festive spirit as we switch on our **Christmas lights at 5.30pm!**

TICKETS BETWEEN 6.30PM - 8.00PM

At 6.30pm we open our doors to paying guests. For prices, show times and pre-booking, visit www.wish4ticket.com or call the ticket hotline on 0871 330 8070

centrale SHOPPING CENTRE, CROYDON **any excuse**

*For full terms and conditions visit www.centrale.co.uk

Big Farm John Deere 6210R

Die cast metal model tractor with removable cab, folding view mirrors, original decal detail, working steering wheel controlling front wheel steering, lift up engine bonnet, front coupling, rear 3-point hitch, original detail wheel rims and agricultural track tyres on rolling wheels.



The tractor is large and impressive, with great detailing. My son has played with it all the time it is well built to allow a child of five to use it as a robust toy and has not broken yet!

Overall this is a great toy that will keep tractor fans amused for hours. Suitable for ages 3+ - www.tomy.co.uk

Guinness World Records™ 2013 Edition

The Perfect Gift for the Inquisitive Mind - New *Augmented Reality* - See Records Come to Life in Stunning 3D 100% New and updated Content - Including Over 3,000 Records Unrivaled for decades as the perfect gift, with over a million people unwrapping a copy on Christmas Day last year, *Guinness World Records* returns with a brand new 2013 edition that will excite and inspire readers of all ages. The new edition is packed full of features that will turn the most reluctant reader into a book lover.

Largest Shark will leap out of the page, the Shortest Man will stroll across the open book - this exclusive feature has to be seen to be believed.

The 2013 edition also sees the introduction of another exciting feature: *Infographics*. Running down every page of the book is a strip of illustrated stats, facts, and trivia, designed to engage the reader in a friendly way. See at a glance how record holders compare. Discover the biggest killer - the Largest Snake or the Most Dangerous Road? Who'd win the book lover.

This year, the content is literally exploding off the pages thanks to a new *'Augmented Reality' (AR)* feature. When you see the *AR* logo in the book simply point your mobile device (Apple or Android) at the page and the record will come to life in a full 3D animation. The world's



in a race - the Fastest Man or the Fastest Sheep? Who's smaller - the Shortest Woman or the Heaviest Newborn Baby? In addition to the new features are the fascinating superlatives that you have come to expect from *Guinness World Records*: over 3,000 new and updated records with never-before seen photography. Categories that cover the whole spectrum of this spectacular planet, including the First Robot Policeman; Longest Fall Survived in an Elevator; Most Conquests of Mount Everest; First Person to Vomit in Space; Tallest Dog; and the Largest School.

Guinness World Records 2013 is the perfect gift for all ages!

Dubble Trouble

Daniel Galvin Jr, an expert hair colourist and Ambassador of the *Princess Trust*, has launched an organic product line, *'Dubble Trouble'*, a collection of five pH balanced hair and body washes and detangling mist, all utilising organic botanical extracts. **Prince Charles** approached Daniel personally to create an affordable organic product line for the masses, which *Dubble Trouble* is costing £2.99 per item. This brilliant range is packed with 5 fruity 2in1 Shampoo & Body Washes, including wonderful Cherry Bomb and Banaanaberry fragrances and a Cool Cucumber Detangling Spray. The whole range is hypo-allergenic. *Waggle Tag* exclusively at *Morrison's* nationwide, the sales of the products will help raise 5p from every product sold will be donated to The *Princess's Trust* with the aim of securing a massive £25,000 for the fantastic charity! Head down to your local *Morrison's*.

Performances are from **Tuesday 18 - Monday 24 December**. Tickets are £13 standard £11 child Family Ticket of Four £44 (2 adults 2 children) Schools £8 (19th & 20th Dec only) Schools offer 1 free ticket for every 10 booked Group of 20+ £11 per ticket. Suitable for age 6-106.

The *Rat Pack* return with their show *Rat Pack at Christmas* in what is still the hottest party around. Wonderful memories of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis in a totally live production that continues to be successful worldwide. Every song is an absolute classic - Come Fly with Me, Volare, Under My Skin, Mr Bojangles, Lady is A Tramp, Mack The Knife plus many more of your favourites and endless hanky panky and banter.

Performances are on **Friday 28 and Saturday 29 December** at 8pm with tickets £20



November 2012

Sutton Theatres.....

.... two venues four Christmas productions with something suitable for everyone.

At the *Secombe Theatre* return of *Polka Dot Pantomimes* bring their fantastic production of **THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ**. Join Dorothy and her friends, Scarecrow, Tin Man and, of course, Cowardly Lion as they battle with good and evil, and a particularly nasty witch in order to find a brain, a heart, courage and a home. With Munchkins, monkeys and magic this wonderful story is the perfect festive treat for audiences of all ages. This production is a pantomime and is not based on musical, stage or film versions of the story.

Performances are from **Tuesday 18 - Monday 24 December**. Tickets are £13 standard £11 child Family Ticket of Four £44 (2 adults 2 children) Schools £8 (19th & 20th Dec only) Schools offer 1 free ticket for every 10 booked Group of 20+ £11 per ticket. Suitable for age 6-106.

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Performances are on **Friday 28 and Saturday 29 December** at 8pm with tickets £20

Box Office 020 8770 6990
online @ www.suttontheatres.co.uk

November 2012

Waggle Tagz

With this magical Tagz studio, decorate and personalise printed images, then transform them into cool 3D, motion and morphing images!

Pop on a strap and tag your books, bags, pencil case or anything special! *Waggle Tagz* make great ID cards and invitations or can be used on special gifts.

Decorate and personalise cool 3D pictures with *Waggle Tagz* studio. Simply choose a card and add stickers or a message. Then laminate it and tag a pencil case, bag or bedroom door. *Waggle Tagz* also make great ID cards, invitations and gift labels.



Perfect for kids aged six and up this fun craft kit includes: *Waggle Tagz* workstation Printed cards Lenses (2 sizes) Holders for small cards *Tagz* Sticker sheet Instructions

My daughter had great fun decorate and personalise printed images, then transform them into 3D motion images with the transforming lenses. Ideal to tag her books, bags, pencil case

Age 6 and above. *Waggle Tagz* - for stockists call John Adams on

01480 414361

Out & About

Every Wed - Heaven at Nutfield-19 High Street-- www.heaven-nutfield.com. -Smiley Faces music group for babies & toddlers for up to 2yrs & 2yrs, there is also a playroom for under 5's, a café & a crèche.

10-11 Nov - Michelham Priory -Hailsham-East Sussex- **01323 844030**.

-*Christmas Fair* with stalls, Santa's grotto, children's activities, Christmas decorations & music.

24-25 Nov - A Tudor Christmas with food demonstrations, decorations, archery, children's activities & traditional Tudor entertainment, suitable for all the family.

23-25 Nov - Corn Exchange -Church Street -Brighton- **0870 060 6632**

MADE12, Brighton's Design & Craft Fair perfect opportunity to purchase original & often quirky work for Christmas gifts, entrance under 13s FREE.

1 Dec-6 Jan - Windsor Castle **0175 386 8286**

A Victorian family Christmas visitors will see how Queen Victoria & Prince Albert celebrated Christmas at Windsor with their young family.



SACK IT TO 'EM.....

WITH THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS MUST-HAVE TOYS

Pre-schoolers:

- **Britains Big Farm: John Deere 6190R RC Tractor - £49.99**
- **Baby Jake Giggler N Wiggle - £29.99**
- **Little Charley Bear: Ready, Teddy Go! £29.99**
- **Cloudbabies: Glow Babas £24.99**
- **Everything's Rose: Sweet Dreams Rosie & Raggles - £29.99**

Girls:

- **Tiny Tears (Classic) - £19.99**
- **Girls World: Gabriella Styling Doll - £19.99**
- **WaggleTagz - £17.99**
- **Cabbage Patch Kids - £29.99**
- **AniMagic: Tessie Goes Trotting - £22.99**
- **Moshi Monsters: Super Moshi HQ - £24.99**
- **Crayola Catwalk Creations: House of Fashion - £29.99**
- **Flufflings: Jiggle n Dance - £22.99**
- **Winx: Deluxe Dolls - £19.99**

Boys:

- **LEGO Monster Fighters: Vampire Castle - £79.99**
- **LEGO CITY: The Mine - £69.99**
- **LEGO Ninjago: Epic Dragon Battle - £84.99**
- **Pro Deck Workshop £24.99**
- **Spy Net Video Watch £49.99**



CROYDON'S BIG CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

Celebrate Christmas in Croydon
gbcutting@mmm.com
Come enjoy the fun!

Thanks to Croydon BID

Thursday 15th November 3-7pm
The BIG Switch-On

Saturday 1st December 11-5pm
Festive Fun

Saturday 24th November 11-5pm
Festive Fun

Saturday 8th December 11-5pm
Croydon Christmas Beat

Thursday 13th December 4-6pm
Light Night

Follow us on Twitter @CroydonBID
Join the conversation #ChristmasinCroydon
www.croydowntowncentre.com

central@centralcroydon.co.uk
Whitgift Croydon
HOUSE OF FRASER SINCE 1849
FAIRFIELD PARK

KINGSWOOD CHRISTMAS TREES

Buy a first grade Christmas Tree direct from the grower, cut, rooted or potted - probably the best value trees and largest choice in Kent, including non-drop varieties, and wreaths freshly made on site **£1 off a tree with this advert** 10% off with tree + stand + lights **FREE** kid's tree with every tree

DECORATIONS - LIGHTS - POTS - STANDS MISLETOE - GIFT SHOP - SANTA'S GROTTO OPEN DAILY FROM SAT 10th NOVEMBER - 5AM-5PM

Enjoy a drink by the fire
Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood, Maidstone, ME17 3NU
T 01622 843780 F 01622 843410 M 07962 268018
E jetty.miller@btinternet.com
www.kingswoodchristmastrees.co.uk
FOR MAP - SEE WEBSITE CC ACCEPTED TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

Get Running in Kent...
Improve your fitness and have fun!
Join a sociable running group today.

FREE Running Session with this Ad

Groups at **Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Medway, Maidstone, Ashford, Ramsgate and many more...**
Find your local beginner group... kentsport.org/rungroups

Contact: Lucy Tomlinson
Kent Running Activator call: 07730 870696

KentSport RUN ENGLAND KENT

Daily Fishbourne Roman Palace 01243 789829 Guided tours, plus cafe & picnic area.

Daily Expressive Interactive Art Studio & Cafe Canterbury 01227 756655 Fun activities such as paint your own pottery, glass painting, ceramics & mosaic making for all ages.

Daily Maidstone Leisure Centre 0845 1552227 Junior Fitness, 12-15yrs learn how the body works, the benefits of a healthy lifestyle & participate in structured fitness sessions with a qualified fitness instructor. **Selected Sats** Wave Pool Party sessions with inflatables, floats, games & the latest music. Available Birthday Parties for children leave all the planning & tidying up to the Centre.

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

Daily Druidstone Park and Woodland Hoey Hill Blean 01227 765168 Meet friendly animals, follow the trail around the enchanted woodland & discover the sleeping dragon & other magical creatures or fun in the adventure play area, a fun day out for all the family.

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

Ongoing Run off your Feet FREE running sessions across Kent, women & men of all ages & abilities are putting on their trainers & jogging the streets & parks of Kent all part of a county wide campaign to get people running to feel fitter, healthier & happier. In Kent leaders have been trained to set up local running groups & they are kept to welcome new runners. Get your first running session FREE at your local group when you mention **PARENTS NEWS**.

Ongoing Dover Leisure Centre 01304 201145 Full range of exercise classes with a modern fitness suite, 2 swimming pools, squash courts & sports hall.

Ongoing on Moxon Cuxton Library Rochester Baby massage courses for babies 8wks & not yet crawling. **FREE**, to book Tel: 01634 711391

1-1 & 3+ Thurs of the month Children's activities, Health visitor drop in clinic, meet your local health visitor plus a toy library will also be available after the session, 9.30-11am, Tel: 01634 336209.

Throughout Dec Penshurst Place 01892 57007 Winter Wonderland Tours for children leave all the planning & tidying up to the Centre.

1* & 3* Sun of each month The Pantiles Tunbridge Wells 01892 515675 Pantiles Craft Fair.

Every Mon Tunbridge Wells Library 01892 522522 Storytime, 11-11.30am, **FREE**.

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

Every Mon St Matthew's Church Hall Rochester 01634 843666 www.hertforddiocese.org.uk Baby Sensory classes for babies up to 16months, activities to include bells, bubbles, light shows & more. Tel: 07813 62552.

Every Mon Walderslade Hall 01634 861531 Baby bounce & rhyme time, 18months & under, **FREE**. Every Wed Storytime fun sessions for pre-school children that include stories & rhymes.

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

Every Mon & Fri Rochester Library Eastgate 01634 337411 Baby bounce

& rhyme time with finger & nursery rhymes, 18mths & under, **FREE**. Every Sat Pop in and Play sessions for parents & children, 10.30-11am, **FREE**. **4* Fri of month** Advice & support - Health & lifestyle advice, drop-in.

Every Tues The Pavilion Broadsiders 01843 581185 Salsa Salones with Lou.

Every Tues Grosvenor Park 0790 973313 Buggy Workout, exercise for mother & baby, walking around the park utilising the benches & steps available, 10.30-11.30am.

Every Tues Chatham Library 0790 Wharf Dock Road 01634 337799 Storytime for pre-schoolers, **FREE**. Every Thurs until 31 Mar Toddler shake & boogie fun packed activity session.

Every Tues St Saviour's Centre Canterbury Road, Folkestone 01303 244610 Fabulous Fare Market with locally sourced fresh fruit & veg, meat, fish & dairy, preserves & jams & lots more. Also on offer recipe tasting, take away meals, tapas, ready salads, natural home & body products, books, magazine exchange, plants, flowers & lots more.

Midweek & weekends Kingsmead Leisure Centre Canterbury 01227 769818 Funtime sessions in the pool.

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

1 Dec Drusillas Park East Sussex 01323 874100 Santa's Christmas Cottage children can meet Santa & receive an early Christmas gift.

1 Dec Alexander Centre Preston St Faversham Christmas Craft Fair with locally made handicrafts to include Christmas crackers, jewellery, knitted items, embroidery pottery, home made jams & lots more, Tel: 01795 531192.

New TunbridgeSwimmingPool Lower Castle Field 01732 367449 Kickstart a brand new all inclusive membership with unlimited access which offers a wide range of activities for under 10's.

Every Tues & Thurs term time only parent & child fun swim.

12 Dec Dickens World Chatham Maritime 01634 890421 Dick Whittington

Every Fri Grain Library Rochester 01634 338727 Homework club with friendly & knowledgeable staff on hand to help, **FREE**. Every Sat Craft Club for under 8's, **FREE**.

Every Fri Hempstead Library Gillingham 01634 361544 Homework club with friendly staff on hand to help with all your homework questions.

Every Fri Lordswold Library Chatham 01634 862096 Teatime Storytime after school storytelling, 3-8yrs & Toddler shake & boogie.

Every Fri Wigmore Library 01634 235576 Toddler shake & boogie offers rhymes, songs & movement for pre-schoolers. Musical instruments, scarves & parachutes are often included.

Every Sat Medway Little Theatre Rochester 07909 921041 Youth Company for 12-18yrs & children's workshop, 7-12yrs.

Every Sat mon Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre Faversham 01795 534542 Guided Town walks, 90 minute guided stroll through Faversham.

Every weekend Broadstairs Harbour 07847 473615 Market, weather permitting.

Until 23 Dec Hazlitt Theatre Maidstone 01622 726155 There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly magical new show for families, 4-9yrs.

Until 30 Dec Mama Mia Workshop, 16-9yrs.

1 Dec Drusillas Park East Sussex 01323 874100 Santa's Christmas Cottage children can meet Santa & receive an early Christmas gift.

1 Dec The New School at West Heath Sevenoaks 01732 460553 Christmas Fair, **FREE** entry, 10-2pm.

16 Nov St John's Comprehensive School Greensted 0844 243642 Nearly New Sale with children's clothes, toys & maternity clothing, games, books & baby equipment plus refreshments available.

10 Nov 2 Dec New Ash Green Village Hall Kent 07935 700417 Craft & Gift Fair with facinating & a craft table for children, refreshments plus cakes & snacks, 10-2pm, **FREE** entry.

11 Nov Tunbridge Farmers Market Sovereign Way 07876 685853 normally more than 60 stalls, 9.30-1.30pm.

11 Nov Assembly Hall Theatre Tunbridge Wells 01204 334400 Remembrance Day Concert.

11 Nov Orchard Theatre Dartford 01322 220000 The 60s Platinum Tour 11.22 Van Morrissey. 18 Nov Spanish Fiesta with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

13-14 Nov Queen's Hall Theatre Cranbrook School Cranbrook 01580 711814 Shakespeare for Schools Festival.

15 Nov Dover Castle & The Secret Wartime Tunnels 13 Nov Ghost Tour guided tour through Dover Castle's most haunted areas. 12 Dec & every weekend throughout Dec The Castle Queue follow the clues around the castle to receive a prize.

16 Nov Darford Farmers Market 07775 736116 Offering a variety of local produce.

18 Nov Central Theatre Chatham 01634 338338 The Magic of the Beatles concert show.

16 Nov-13 Jan Bluewater Shopping Centre 0844 847 1741 Winter wonderland with a skating rink for all ages, 4-12yr olds will be supervised, penguin cake supports will be available for younger ones to be hired on the day. Also on offer a 40 metre long extreme snow slide, Santa's Grotto & receive a quality gift, lots of vintage Christmas cards & amendments for all.

17 Nov The New School at West Heath Sevenoaks 01732 460553 Christmas Fayre with a seasonal cheer, Santa's Grotto, a children's entertainer, tombola, face painting & a chance to meet Santa's Reindeer. There is also his new collection.

17 Nov 2 Dec Dickens World Chatham Maritime 01634 890421 Dick Whittington

seasonal food & drink plus lots of craft stalls & handmade gifts, fun day out for all the family.

17 Nov St John the Baptist Church Waterbury 01622 814234 Christmas Bazaar local crafts, plants, cakes, raffle & tombola & Father Christmas.

17 Nov St Lawrence's Church Main Hall Sidcup Bump & Beyond Craft Fair & Pre-loved Sale with toys & maternity plus sellers with new children's items & handmade personalised crafts & gifts for all the family, refreshments also available, **FREE** entry.

17 Nov 24 Dec Chequers Mall Maidstone 0162 756866 Santa in his Groves.

18 Nov St Marys Church West Malling 01622 790195 Light up a Life service celebrating the life & love of someone special. www.hobb.org.uk to book a place & make your dedication.

18 Nov Museum of Kent Life Laine Maidstone 01622 763956 Christmas on the Home Front sample Christmas cookie, join the Home Guard training & much more, fun for all the family. 23 Nov Meet Thomas the Tank Engine who will be appearing at timed intervals throughout the day. 12 Dec Christmas Shopping Weekend with great discounts available throughout the weekend across a range of retro, quirky & great gift ideas.

22-24 Nov Bedbegony Natiumet & Forest Goodhouse 01580 879820 Midwinter Fair. 22 Nov-23 Dec Christmas Trees on sale. 24 Dec Christmas Trees on sale. 24 Dec Christmas Trees on sale.

lots of fun for all the family, meet kids favourites Ben & Holly from Ben & Holly's Little Kingdom, performances from local majorette & dance troupes, choir singing, face painting, balloon modelling, carousel rides & lots of competitions & giveaways with radio presenters from Heart, the show starts at 3.45pm with the lights being turned on at 5pm.

23 Nov Chatham High Street Christmas Lights Switch On Meet Charley Bear, plus performances from local majorette & dance troupes, choir singing, face painting, balloon modelling, carousel rides & lots of competitions & give aways with radio presenters from Heart, show starts at 3.45pm & lights turned on at 5pm.

24 Nov Father Christmas Parade starts at 11am at the Chatham High Street & goes into the city to the town's Christmas lights whilst Simply Take That performs for the crowds, 3-6pm, **FREE**.

25 Nov Danson Park Beckleyhead Kent 020 8319 9230 Greenwich & Beckley Community Hospice, Santa Dash, walk or jog 5k, all ages around the park in support of the Hospice, entry price includes a **FREE** Santa suit & a model, under 5's **FREE**, visit www.hospice.org.uk.

24-25 Nov Leeds Castle 01622 765400 Christmas Gifts Fair, festive food, in the hotel & carpeted marquee, under 16's **FREE**. Daily World of Wings Show, falconry & **FREE**-flying bird shows.

24 Nov Dover Museum Market Square 01304 201066 Family Day making stained glass style snowflake window decoration, all ages.

24 Nov Northfield Village Hall 07716 946477 Baby & children's nearby sale, 10.30-3pm, entrance under 16's **FREE**.

24 Nov Rochester Castle Gardens Medway Festival Events 01634 338338 Santa Fun Run with a mass of Father Christmas fundraisers running from the Castle Gardens through Rochester High St, led by live musicians, starts 2pm.

24-25 Nov The Home of Charles Darwin Down House 01689 859119 Origin Weekend with a variety of specialist talks & tours.

24-25 Nov The Friars Auldreyth 01622 717272 Christmas Fayre entertainment, crafts & stalls. 2 Dec Light up a Life service celebrating the life & love of someone special. www.hobb.org.uk to book a place & make your dedication.

25 Nov RSPB Dungeness Nature Reserve 01797 320858 Birdwatching for beginners guided walk, book.

25 Nov West Walling Farmers Market 01634 7736116 Wide variety of local produce on offer to include fish, cakes, pies, fruit, bread, wines & more, 9.30-1.0pm, **FREE** entry.

25 Nov Tunbridge Castle 01273 735788 Christmas Festival with music, lights & fireworks, stars from the

Assembly Theatre's Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs will switch on the town's Christmas lights whilst Simply Take That performs for the crowds, 3-6pm, **FREE**.

25 Nov Danson Park Beckleyhead Kent 020 8319 9230 Greenwich & Beckley Community Hospice, Santa Dash, walk or jog 5k, all ages around the park in support of the Hospice, entry price includes a **FREE** Santa suit & a model, under 5's **FREE**, visit www.hospice.org.uk.

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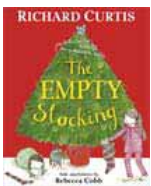
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The Empty Stocking
By Richard Curtis



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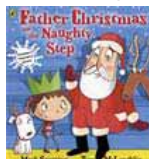
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A brilliantly funny and heart-warming story for Christmas Eve from acclaimed scriptwriter Richard Curtis. It's Christmas Eve and there's one very important question on everyone's mind - have YOU been good this year? For twins Sam and Charlie this is a big worry. Charlie has been especially naughty and everyone is sure that she won't get any presents AT ALL. But when Santa makes a mistake, it's up to naughty Charlie to put things right. Will her last-minute secret act of kindness be enough to redeem her after all?

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Celebrate 30 years of *The Snowman* animated film with this magical book and CD gift set. In 1982 Raymond Briggs's classic picture book *The Snowman* was made into an enchanting animated film, now loved by generations of



children all over the world. This special gift set combines a magical story book illustrated with pictures from the film and an audio CD with readings by Andrew Sachs

Experience a War Time Christmas at Kent Life's Home Front Weekend

The sights, sounds and tastes of life during the Second World War at Christmas will be recreated for visitors to *Kent Life*, near Maidstone, Kent.

using genuine 1940s recipes issued by the *Ministry of Food*, one of which uses liquid paraffin instead of fat for a sponge cake!

Judi said: "We'll also have a habit of a bit of knees-up around the piano and would love visitors to join in the 1940s songs."

The weekend's activities will centre on *Lenham Cottages*, former railway workers' homes rescued from the path of the



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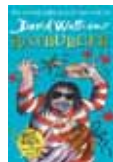
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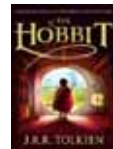
Batburger
by David Williams



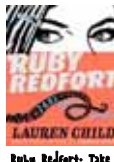
Skullguy's Pleasant Kingdom of the Wicked
By Derek Landy



A Medal for Leroy
By Michael Morpurgo



The Hobbit
By J.R.R. Tolkien



Ruby Redfort: Take Your Last Breath
By Lauren Child



The Peculiar
By Stefan Bachmann

Channel Tunnel in 1999 and rebuilt at *Kent Life*. One of the cottages has been converted to recreate life in the Second World War, with sticky tape on the windows to reduce bomb blast damage, a bathtub with water ration line and a mangle to do the washing. An *Anderson Shelter* has been built in the garden, to show visitors how families sheltered from bombing raids.

A one-day ticket for the *Christmas on the Home Front* event costs £7 for adults, £6 for concessions, £5 for children aged 3 to 15. Under-threes go free. **From 5 November to 31 January 2013**, normal admission prices to *Kent Life* are £5 adults, £4 concessions and £3 children. *Kent Life* members visit for free. Seasonal variations and closures apply during December and January.

For more information visit www.kentlife.org.uk or call **01622 763936**.

Kent Life has special events all year round so there's always something to do, whatever the weather. It's conveniently located next to the A20, and is just an hour from London and 30 minutes from the Channel Tunnel and ports.

Dyslexia East Kent Support

Evening Talk

'The Importance of Looking at the Overlap between Specific Learning Difficulties'

Speaker: Professor Colin Terrell BSc., MSc. (Ed.Psych), Ph.D. (London) CPsychol, AFBPSS

Co author of the Family Doctor Book, 'Understanding ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia & Dyspraxia'

Tuesday 20th November

7.45pm for 8 pm start until 9.15 pm

Venue: *The Spires Academy*, Bredlands Lane, Westbere, Sturry, Canterbury. CT2 0HD (just off the A28)

The new school is on the opposite side of Bredlands Lane to the old school.

There's no need to book a seat.

A £3 donation from non-members would be appreciated.

For further information phone **0845 0038 979**

or see website www.dyslexia-east-kent.org.uk



St Lawrence College

Co-educational, day and boarding school for ages 3-18 years



Senior School Scholarships for September 2013:

- 16+ Examination for Sixth Form: **Tuesday 20th November**
- 11+ Examination for Year 7: **Thursday 22nd November**
- 13+ Examination for Year 9: **Friday 18th January**

For an informal discussion about the scholarship process and how to apply, please contact Alison Hall by phone **01843 572931** or email ah@slcuk.com

St Lawrence College, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7AE
www.slcuk.com

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Charity No. 307921

St Lawrence College

The waiting is over! For those families whose Year 6 child sat the 11+ Kent Test, the results are now known. If you have a current Year 6 child, whether they have passed the 11+ or not, have you considered looking at *St Lawrence College* for the next stage of their education? Over 60% of the intake at Year 7 comes from maintained sector schools.

Your Year 6 child is welcome to sit the school's forthcoming scholarship tests for entry into Year 7 in September 2013.

The scholarship tests take place on **Thursday 22nd November** when candidates are invited to spend the day at the school. Depending upon the results, up to 50% off the fees could be awarded.

Scholarships are offered for Academic, All-Rounder, Sports and Music disciplines, so whatever your child's strength, there is something to suit.

For an informal discussion about the process or to arrange a visit to look around *St Lawrence College*, please contact Alison Hall on **01843 572931** or at ah@slcuk.com

Pride at First Parade

New Year 7 and 8 pupils at the *Duke of York's Royal Military School* received their School cap badge and baret in October to mark the completion of their basic parade training. The formal ceremony allows the new pupils to fully participate in all future School parades and is a proud moment for both pupils and parents.

The School's *Executive Principal, Chris Russell*, made the presentations and took the salute.

The School's *Regimental Sergeant Major Staff Dowle* said "With no previous experience and after only a few hours of instruction, our newest pupils are able to take their place on the parade square with their fellow Dukies.

This is the first parade of many, leading towards the School's *Grand Day 'Trooping the Colour'* ceremony. It is therefore considered a very significant and exciting event for all our young pupils."

For more information visit - www.doyrms.com
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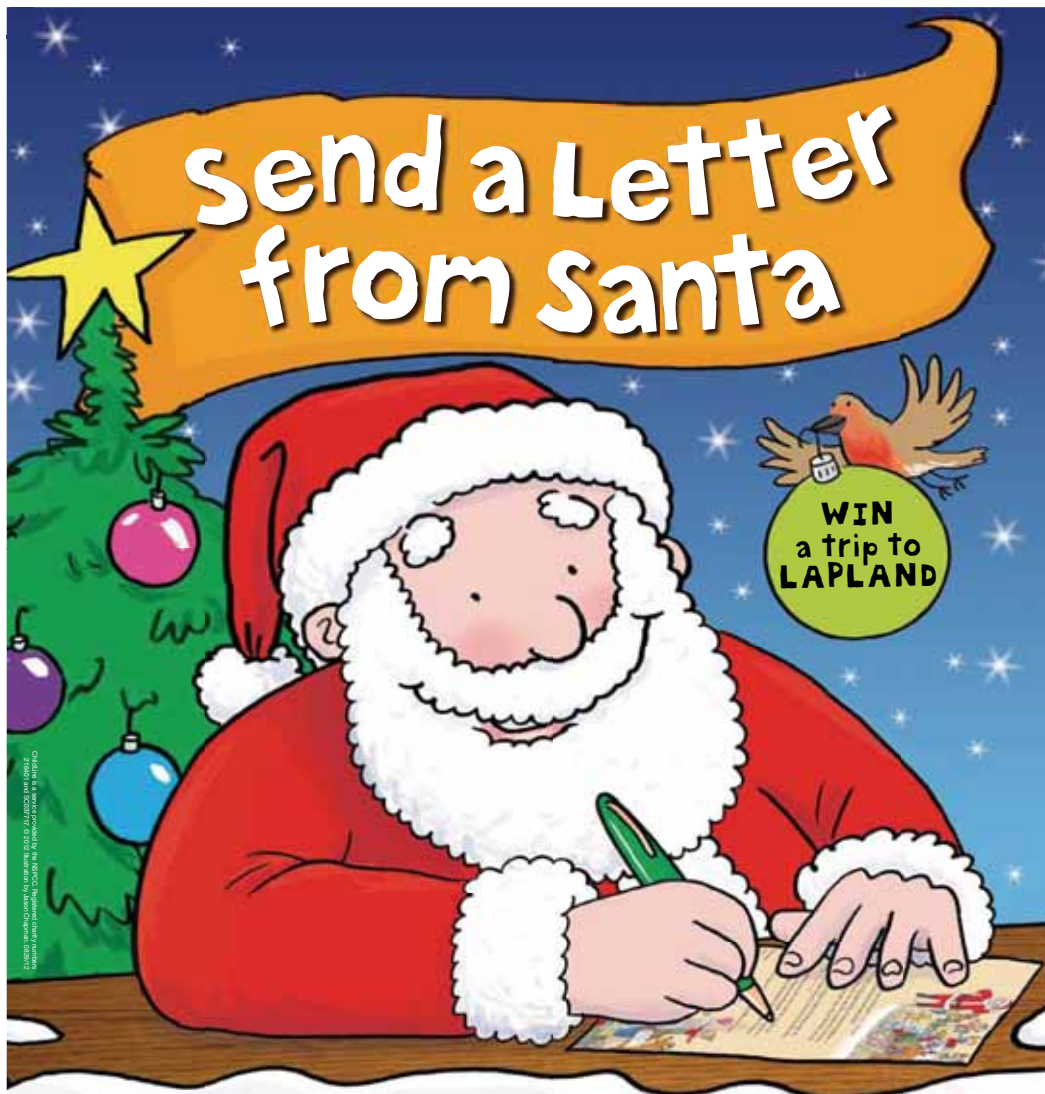
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- an ethos where traditional values such as self-discipline, self-reliance, spirituality, leadership and respect for others is present; and
- a busy and fun community where they can live and study with their friends.

Our fees are only £3,325 per term (£9,975 per year)*. We are competitively priced as you only pay for boarding: your child's education is paid for by the state. Come and visit us for a pupil-guided tour. We also offer 'Taster Weekends' so that your child can try boarding with us.



* Our fees are indexed annually.



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Daily Harry Potter London Locations Tour 020 7222 1234 Meet at Temple Station, 2 1/2 hr bus tour of London locations featured in the Harry Potter films. Learn more about the wizard & the Hogwarts gang, with facts, discussions & an insight into how the films were made.

Daily London Dungeon London 020 7403 7221 Vengeance: The UK's first 5D laser ride

Daily Tower of London Tower Hill London 0844 482 7799 Fit for a King exhibition learn about the personalities, power & physical size 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, sounds, 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. **16 Sept** London Zoo Stampede 10K charity run will take runners past some of the world's most amazing animals, including wetland & gorillas & a mob of meerkats & lots more. www.zsl.org/stampede

Every 2nd Sat of month National Geographic Store 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 Spelman 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 Temple Station 020 7222 1234 Harry Potter Locations Tour, 2 1/2 hrs.

Every weekend Greenwich Checktower Market High Road Quirky weekend market has 50 stalls specialising in vintage, retro & antiques with a few contemporary craft stalls, FREE entry. www.slackmarket.co.uk

Every weekend & school hols Natural History Museum 020 7942 5000 Hands on Nature Dinosaurs, handling station specimens with help of science educators, FREE & Up, Up and Away interactive storytelling under 7's, FREE. Families can work together as scientists to investigate specimens, 7+yrs, FREE. **Daily Family Earth Lab** explore the wonder of fossils, rocks & minerals, families, 6-9yrs, FREE. Explorer backpacks, families under 7's. Dippy Floor puzzle under 7's, FREE. Bookassaur, families under 5's. Jurassic Ark family activity pack.

Daily Learning Activators natural world, FREE. **Daily Focus Points** handling trolleys, all ages, FREE.

Until 25 Nov British Museum 020 7323 8000 Shakespeare, staging the world exhibition.

Until 6 Jan Horniman Museum The Arts, 020 8699 1872 The Body Adorned: Dressing London exhibition. **Every Wed & every Fri** Busy Bees sessions for under 5's, FREE. **Every Sat** Hands on family workshops, 3+yrs. **Every Sun** Discovery for All, 3+yrs, FREE.

Until 31 Mar The Art of Harmony: The V & A & Horniman Music Collections, FREE.

Until 17 Feb Cambridge Theatre Earlham Street 020 7492 1532 **Mattila the Musical**, 6+yrs.

Until May Science Museum 0870 870 4868 Codebreaker exhibition, FREE. **Daily** take control in 360 degrees flight simulators or fly with the Red Arrows in their sensational 3D motion effects theatre. **Every weekend** Ley Cow Adventure families, under 7's, FREE. **Every Weekend** Spaced Out, families, 5+yrs, FREE. **Every Weekend** A Cockroach Tour take on the form of cockroaches dressing up in realistic costumes, FREE. **Every Weekend** explore hundreds of real natural history specimens, using microscopes, the computer database & other scientific instruments, science educators help, FREE.

3 Nov-13 Jan Canary Wharf Ice Rink London 020 8205 2266 Let's Forget, children can decorate a petal to add to the poppy collage & learn more about the importance of Remembrance.

10-11 Nov Imperial War Museum Lambeth Road 020 7416 5439

The Sunday Spot explore the current exhibition at artist led workshops, families 3-12yrs, FREE. **11 Nov** Film Africa Master Class, a filmmaking master class for 16-25yrs, need to book, FREE. **Every Sat 2-4pm, & after school on Tue** & **Thus** The Shop of Possibilities for children & families living on five neighbouring estates, Pelican, Southampton Way, Elmington, Wyndham & Cocker, & Secoux Gardens are invited to play at after school, slimy insects & smelly skunks. This recently renovated former retail outlet on the Secaux Gardens housing estate.

7,14,21,28 Nov-3 Dec The Mail Pavilions Shopping Centre Uxbridge Uxbridge Craft Market with local crafts businesses offering picture framing services, interior design, painting tuition, knitwear & lots more.

28 Nov-12 Jan ChickenShed Theatre Company Chase Side Southgate 020 8292 9222 Sleeping Beauty Dream On, not a pantomime in the traditional sense, fun for all the family, 5+yrs.

26 Nov-5 Jan Geoffrey Museum Kingsland Rd London 020 7739 9893 Christmas Past, 400 Years of Seasonal Traditions in English Homes exhibition. **1 Dec** Nursery Rhyme Time Christmas Fun listen to stories, sing festive songs & make Christmas decorations suitable families 2-5yrs. **Weekend** craft activities for children will be on offer.

10 Nov Lord Mayor's Show & Procession The City London 020 7246 8346 Join in the fun as around half a million people turn out to watch as the colourful procession travels 1.7 miles across Westminster.

10 Nov Duke of York Square Chelsea London SW3 Christmas Light Switch On with a range of FREE family friendly activities on offer from 3pm. Meet Santa in his grotto from 6pm who will be telling stories & giving away Christmas sweets, visitors can also post their wish list in his postbox. This year one lucky child will have the chance to be part of the magic & help turn on the Christmas Lights. The event is FREE & will be in support of the Princes Foundation for Children & The Arts.

10 Nov Museum of Childhood Bethnal Green 020 8983 5200 Action Man Study Day event for adults, FREE, need to book. **Until 9 Dec** Happy Birthday Mr Punch new display & exhibition. **Daily** family backpacks for under 5's containing a train map, storybooks, play mats & question sheets, FREE.

10 Nov Victoria & Albert Museum Cromwell Road London 020 7942 2000 Set Design Workshop an opportunity for young people to create blueprint drawings & a 3D model, 13-15yrs. **16 Nov** Museum from the Movies, FREE. **Until 27 Jan** Hollywood Costume new exhibition. **Daily** Back Packs families can pick up an activity bag & pack filled with jigsaws, stories & games to explore the collection, 4-11yrs. Activity Card hands on art fun for children to create a Samuri helmet, a silver goblet or an elephant mask to take home, FREE, drop in plus Agent Animal bag a sensory activity bag that has been developed for under 5's containing an audio map & fabric cubes, FREE.

10-11 Nov Royal Air Force Museum Grays Park Way Hendon London 020 825 2266 Let's Forget, children can decorate a petal to add to the poppy collage & learn more about the importance of Remembrance.

10-11 Nov Imperial War Museum Lambeth Road 020 7416 5439

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Drop in activity for children of all ages with parental supervision. **11 Nov** Ceremony of Remembrance. **1-2 Dec** 'Make Do & Mend' quite Christmas communal art drop in activity, all ages, FREE. **Ongoing** A Family in Wartime Exhibition explores the lives of William & Alice Allpress & their ten children & what life in London was like during the war, FREE. **Ongoing** Secret War exhibition, FREE.

10-11 Nov Earls Court 2 Exhibition Centre Warwick Road London 0844 581 1381 Discover Dogs 2012 is a fun family day out that brings people & dogs together. It helps to educate people about the importance of choosing the right breed for their lifestyle & to make sure they buy a puppy responsibly.

10-11 Nov Battersea Park London SW1 1 4NJ The Independent School Show showcasing the very best of the country's independent schools, tickets are FREE if booked in advance. www.schoolshow.com

10-17-24 Nov National Maritime Museum Greenwich 020 8312 6565 Explore Saturdays meet a character from the past & take part in an exciting performance that will bring maritime history to life, 6+yrs, FREE. **11-18-25 Nov** Discover Sundays explore your personal connections to the sea, all ages, FREE. **6,13,20,27 Nov** Play Tuesdays explore the museum through making music, dance & drama, under 5's FREE. **24 Nov** Diwali celebration the Festival of Lights with a range of activities for all the family, discover more about how trade by sea brought ideas, culture language & people from Asia to Britain, all ages, FREE.

11 Nov The Lost Theatre 208 Wandsworth Road 0844 847 1680 The Ice Cave Magic Show with visual magic, water magically turns to ice on command, for all the family.

11 Nov Stanmore Cricket Club Stanmore Hill Fireworks display a pyro musical display, starts 7.30pm, buy tickets online to avoid disappointment on the door, www.stanmorefireworks.co.uk

11 Nov National Army Museum 020 730 0717 www.national-army-museum.ac.uk Remembrance the Roll Call of the Fallen will be read, FREE entry. **Daily** 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, Empire, Commonwealth & Dominion Soldiers 1914-45 Action Zone family interactive zone, FREE. **Daily** Kids Zone, interactive learning & play area for under 10's plus a soft play area for babies. **11.13.14 Oct British Film Institute** 21 Stephen Street London 020 7255

14-18 Nov Earls Court Exhibition Centre 0870 122 1313 The Ideal Home Christmas Show 600 exhibitors from furniture to festive food & drinks, home improvement to the latest gadgets, sumptuous gifts & beauty & fashion.

16-18 Nov Exel Exhibition Centre 0870 7300112 Horseworld Live adrenaline action packed show world's leading equestrian artists horsemanship, acrobatics, classical equitation, stunt riding & special effects. **30 Nov-2 Dec** Gadget Show for all the family.

16 Nov-6 Jan Somerset House Strand 020 7845 4600 Ice skating for all ages & abilities.

17 Nov London's Discover Children's Story Centre Stratford 020 8536 5555 Jazz for Toddlers with Orphy Robinson, fun, music & movement, 2-5yrs, under 2's FREE. **24 Nov** White Night garden, enjoy the magically lit up garden, enjoy the snow machine & listen to winter stories & make your own lanterns to explore the garden with under 2's FREE. **29 Nov-13 Jan** The House Where Winter Lives an interactive storytelling adventure, wrap up warm & join them on a journey through a secret forest to find the missing key.

18 Nov Design Museum Shad Thames London 0870 833 9955 **Alway There!** Design a model boat inspired by the Designed to Win exhibition and the array of yachts, tall ships & speed boats that go past the museum on the Thames. **18 Nov** Designers in Residence **Guided** Tour, FREE with museum entry.

20 Nov Harrow Arts Centre Uxbridge Road 020 8416 8989 The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde. **25 Nov** The Elves & the Shoemakers.

21-25 Nov Compass Theatre Ickenham Middx 01895 673200 The Magic Flute, 5-16yrs. **1 Dec** The Night Before Christmas.

21 Nov-13 Jan Lyric Theatre Hammersmith London 0870 500 511 Room on the Broom from the

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creators of The Gruffalo.

23 Nov-6 Jan Hyde Park Winter Wonderland 020 7298 2100 Festive family favourite with ice skating, big top shows, the observation wheel & a huge Christmas market, FREE entry.

22 Nov-26 Jan Phoenix Theatre Charing Cross Road 020 7492 532 Goodnight Mr Tom

24-25 Nov HMS Belfast Tooley Street London 020 7940 6320 020 7403 0719(f) Slang at Sea a fun look at navy slang & the origin of popular phrases that link to life at sea & the importance of the navy in British history & culture, family drop-in activity, all ages, FREE.

24 Nov Peckham Square Peckham Library 07729 279945 Healthy Cycle Rides, guided mostly on quiet roads or paths, rides 1st 2hrs, 16+yrs, 10-12pm, FREE.

27 Nov Olivier Theatre South Bank Centre 020-7452 3000 The Court of Monte Cristo, 10+yrs.

1 Dec Covent Garden Market Cancer Research 31' Great Christmas Pudding Race, teams of 6 have to negotiate a challenging obstacle course whilst wearing fancy dress & carefully balancing a Christmas pudding on a tray, fun event for all the family, 11.30-1pm.

1-2 Dec Catty Sark King William Walk Greenwich 020 8858 3445 Family fun weekend with a Christmas tree decoration workshop using Cutty Sark itself for inspiration. Stars, bells & gingerbread make a tree decoration inspired by shiny shapes on the ship, all ages, FREE with entry.

1 Dec-19 Jan Theatre Royal Stratford East Gerry Raffick Sq London 020 8534 0310 Jack & the Beanstalk with lots of singing-long tunes.

8th December St Albans Church Hall Margravine Road W6 Albert & Friends Instant Circus Christmas Fair A fantastic community event, family friendly. Performances by local young people, food and stalls from 12-5

Published & Copyright 2012
Parents News UK,
10 The Manor Drive
Worcester Park
Surrey KT4 7LG
020-8337 6337
Printers: Mortons,
Horncastle, Lincs LN9 6JR
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