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Welcome

The long summer holiday is nearly here, bringing with it both the prospect of trips and fun with the family, but also, for many parents, the challenges of summer childcare arrangements and keeping the kids entertained for at least six weeks....

Well, you can rely on us to have you covered. We have loads of local summer entertainment ideas in this issue, as well as tips on piecing together the summer childcare jigsaw and thoughts about preparing for a family holiday. You'll also find information about summer camps and local classes and clubs to consider for the

We hate to mention the words 'back to school' as the summer is just starting as we write this, so, instead, we're focussing on keeping the kids' brains ticking over during the long break with ideas in this issue on how to have an educational holiday.

Finally, in this issue, we have loads of cool kids' backpacks from Grass&Air to giveaway! Apply for these handy accessories for your child at familiesmag.co.uk/ go. By doing so, you'll also ensure you receive our digital magazine with lots more content and goodies on offer.

Línda

Linda Stone Editor, Families Upon Thames

Calling all young Scientists!

Help us discover how babies & kids learn! We're recruiting infants from birth to school age to take part in fun studies at Birkbeck's Babylab & $\overset{\cdot}{\text{ToddlerLab}}$ in central London. Our prime locations are easy to reach and we refund travel expenses. We also have online studies you can do from the comfort of home www.cbcd.bbk.ac.uk/online-studies

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Meet the Head

Families chats to Louise McCabe-Arnold, Head of Girls' Prep at Surbiton High School.

What do you most enjoy about being Head of Girls' Prep at Surbiton High School?

Getting to know the girls' individual personalities, their quirks and unique traits and what makes them tick – it's a real privilege.

In three words, how would the students describe you?

Caring, approachable, encouraging.

What is your favourite time of the school day?

Lunchtime – there is so much going on. The older girls finishing their lessons whilst the younger girls are eating lunch. There's always excited chatter in the hall and shrieks of delight from the playground!

What about your pupils makes you most proud?

Their grit and resilience – the ability to brush themselves off and try again and the way they support each other to have a go.

What benefits do you think girls' prep schools offer young girls?

I really believe that single sex education helps girls thrive and studies have shown that they perform better academically in girls' only schools.

Not only do girls and boys develop differently, particularly between the ages of 6 and 14 but they also learn differently and express themselves in contrasting ways. Boys need a lot less encouragement to speak aloud in class, meaning that girls are often battling to be heard.

The complete lack of gender stereotypes in a girls' school means that girls have no pre-conceived ideas of what they can and can't do, are happier to take risks, care less about failing and express themselves more freely without worrying about what the boys think of them.



The advantage at Surbiton is that we provide a single sex education alongside collaboration with the boys' prep, where appropriate.

How do you measure the happiness of your students?

You need only walk in the door to witness how happy the girls are. But we also regularly ask them via pupil surveys, as well as weekly Pupil Leadership team meetings where the girls discuss things that are going well at school and how we can improve their experience.

What's the most important quality you look for in a teacher?

A palpable passion and enthusiasm for their subject alongside a deep desire to understand what makes each individual student tick so they can tailor their teaching to their needs. At the end of the day, an outstanding teacher cares deeply and has the skills to ensure their students makes great progress.



What keeps you awake at night? And how do you go about addressing it the next morning?

At the end of each day, I want to know that all the girls in my care feel safe and cared for, have enjoyed their day and made good progress. If my staff are happy too, then I sleep well! And if not, then I make sure it gets put right the next day.

How do you manage the 11+ process?

When girls join the Girls' Prep in Reception, they are automatically given a place in the Senior School. They still take the Senior School entrance exam to be considered for scholarships but without the stress often associated with the 11+ process and without the need for us to narrow the curriculum in Years 5 and 6 in order to cram for exams.

As Head, what is the decision you're most proud of?

I always put the children's mental health and wellbeing above everything else. I very much live by the mantra that happy children learn best.

What values do you champion as a Head?

Developing resilience and the cycle of continually learning and improving.

How do you teach girls that there is no such thing as 'boys' jobs' and a 'girls' jobs?'

In a single sex environment, you will rarely, if ever, hear girls talk about girls' jobs and boys' jobs. The concept of only some professions being available is just not considered. The girls put no limits on what they can achieve and in their eyes every avenue is open to them.

What is your most useless skill?

I can write backwards quite quickly and fluently and that is definitely a useless skill!

What is your real-life superpower?

My friends and family would say I am incredibly laid back and calm – I guess that's pretty useful.

Film, theatre or television?

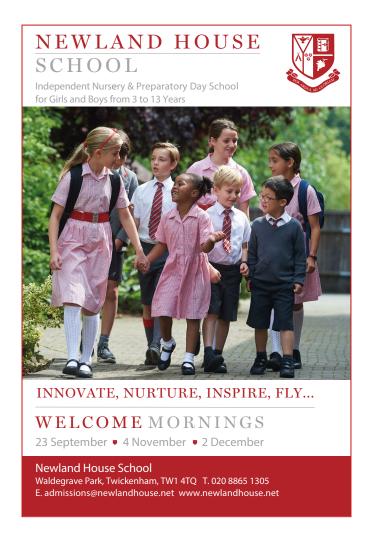
Probably theatre although I don't get to see performances as much as I would like.

Glass half full or glass half empty?

Always glass half full – I'm annoyingly positive almost all the time!

Surbiton High School is comprised of a girls' prep school, boys' prep school and girls' senior school. For more information visit www.surbitonhigh.com









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How to have an educational holiday

By Jemma Zoe Smith

Holidays are all about swimming, having fun and playing games, all past bedtime, aren't they? Living in the UK, our 'big annual holiday' often takes place in the summer and whether you are jetting off abroad or staying in a tent at home, this break is generally considered to be a time that is free from the demands of school and everything that comes along with it.

What does it mean then to have an educational holiday? Do you have to stay inside and read books all day? Well, no. Holidays can be fun AND educational. You can use these tips to make sure that your child comes back from their summer break knowing a little bit more than they did before.

Get kids involved with planning

Whether you are choosing to go to Spain or Salcombe, get your child to look up the location on a map or on Google Earth. They can find out how many kilometres you will travel to get there, how long it will take to drive, walk or fly. This will help them contextualise the place they are visiting, hopefully avoiding the 'are we nearly there yet?' questions as well.

Learn a bit of the local language

Regardless of where you are travelling to, the locals will have a specific vernacular. Learning hello, goodbye and thank you is not just a way to introduce a new language to your child, it is also a great way to get along with the locals. Discuss any similarities between English and the local language, for example, in French the word for 'dance' is 'danse.'



Take an immersive class

If you are travelling to Italy, how about learning how to make pizza or pasta? If you're on holiday in France, learn how to play boules; in Spain, try a bit of flamenco! It is a great way to celebrate a local culture and learn a new skill; after all, not all learning happens in the classroom.

If you're holidaying by the beach and your child likes being in the water, consider scuba diving, fishing or surfing tuition.

Waiting games

Instead of handing your child your phone when you're in a queue for an attraction, try some simple word games. See how many words you can think of that are ... a type of hat? Trilby, sombrero, cap, bowler! You could even bring along a pocket quiz game to keep you all occupied.

Jemma Zoe Smith is Director of The Education Hotel (www.educationhotel.co.uk).





Educational travel activities

Here are some ideas to keep your kids' brains ticking over whilst on holiday.

Using currency and converting between pounds and local currency;

Using a map and scales; Writing letters/postcards home; Writing a scrapbook/keeping a journal.

There are also some longer projects that older kids can embark on and many of these relate to the school curriculum. I use these when I accompany students on their trips as a full-time tutor.

Creating a vlog or website for friends and family;
Getting involved with local conservation efforts;
Learning about volcanoes or Egyptians by visiting key places
and then creating a poster or presentation;
Putting together a talk or a short video which will teach the class
about the place you're visiting;
Writing a story for kids about the area that you are visiting.

Jubilee High School in Addlestone and Twickenham School (Twickenham) are both pioneering innovative approaches to education in the local area. These schools come under the umbrella of The Bourne Education Trust (BET) which brings together a group of primary, secondary and specialist schools in London, Surrey and Hampshire. We are proud to showcase some of their exciting work here.

Jubilee High School (www.jubileehigh.surrey.sch.uk) is a secondary school in Addlestone with a building and curriculum designed around its commitment to ensuring students access stimulating careers once they leave education. The new state-of-the-art business centre encourages collaborative, project-based work, allowing students to practise the skills required in the modern workplace. This was brought to life recently during a STEM innovation day led by Brooklands Museum, when students designed and built remote controlled cars to a tight deadline.

The sky is the limit for Jubilee High and this was recently given added dimension when students were chosen to attend a gala event celebrating Apollo 16's fiftieth anniversary at the Science Museum. At this glittering black tie occasion, students from Jubilee and local BET school, Chertsey High, met Charlie Duke, the tenth man to walk on the moon. One year 10 student said:

'This was a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet people who have worked in the space industry for years. They talked to us about the skills it takes to prepare to put a person on the moon and how this links to our work in school. It made me want to practise these skills more and I feel even more determined now to embark on a career in space!'

September 2022 will see the launch of Brooklands Innovation Academy, bringing together BET schools with Brooklands Museum, Well North Enterprises, major employers and the local NHS Trust. Professor Brian Cox is joining the Academy to help inspire young people to take up STEM careers.

St Peter's Hospital is a huge local employer, keen to recruit the best local talent. Jubilee High and other local BET schools are



developing links between their curriculum and careers within the NHS to ensure students are equipped to take on exciting and meaningful work there. Many of the jobs students will do in the future have not yet been created and so Jubilee High is ensuring it teaches children the skills they need to fly high in the future.

The school is working with the hospital on preventative health care and particularly with families on how to reduce the risk of type two diabetes. Next term students will be exploring this topic in science, PE and cookery, working alongside their parents. Some sessions will be **delivered by NHS experts** in the field and will take place in the hospital's simulation suite where trainee doctors are encouraged to practise responding to critical situations.

Twickenham School (www.twickenhamschool.org.uk), just a stone's throw away from the official home of England Rugby, serves its local community well. As a secondary school centred within the heart of its community, its motto of aspire, achieve and enjoy and its values of perseverance, responsibility, integrity, dedication and empathy underpin everything it does for all its students.

Learning within a state-of-the-art, modern building, all students benefit from the school's Master Learner Programme. This additional and innovative approach is designed to guide students to study further, to develop academic and transferable skills and to surpass their examination targets. Students access this amazing resource through lessons, enrichment and supracurricular opportunities.

Recently, across Twickenham School, students experienced the Master Learner Programme through magazine editing, UK maths challenges, a national STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) competition, participation in climate conferences, Parliament Square performances, dance competitions, trips to the Royal Opera House and active roles within a FTSE funding management scheme. Twickenham School is rightly proud of this homegrown initiative and will introduce it to its new year 7 students in September.

In collaboration with other schools in the Bourne Education Trust Richmond cluster, (including Hampton High, Teddington School, The Matthew Arnold School) and its strategic partners, Twickenham School's projects this year have included Sixth Form transition lessons at Teddington School and studentled projects with the Harlequins Foundation, including student leadership and careers, advice and guidance projects.

The summer break at Twickenham School will be a busy time for all, with a planned IT upgrade for the whole site, including new computers for staff and students, as well as the building of The Aspire Centre. The centre will bring together the work of careers, mentors and master learners allowing them to benefit from a new base in the heart of Twickenham School.

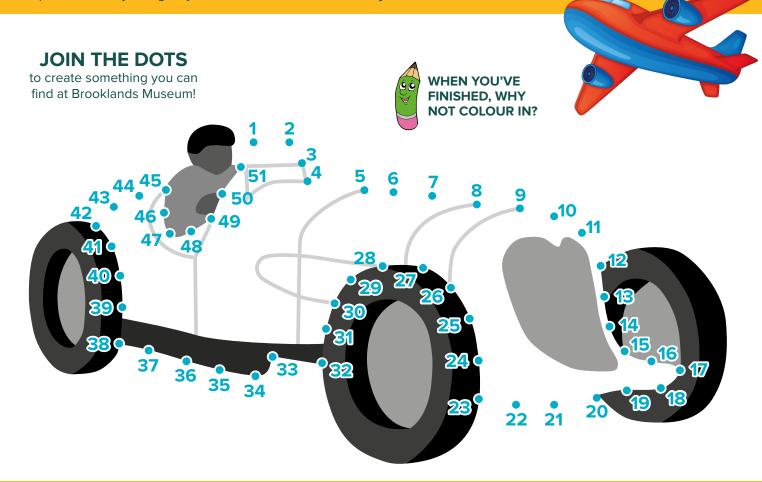
Exciting times!

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KIDS' CORNER

BROOKLANDS MUSEUM

We've teamed up with our friends at Brooklands Museum in Weybridge to help you keep the kids busy and give you the chance to win free family tickets to the museum!



WHAT'S ON AT BROOKLANDS MUSEUM?

Find these words or phrases in the grid.

R	N	L	A	w	N	G	A	М	Е	s	Р	Z
Α	R	1	٧	н	1	A	S	A	A	н	Р	N
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G	Υ	G	F	Е	S	A	F	A	T	М	Υ	S
Е	U	н	D	С	J	D	L	w	N	X	S	R
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BUILD A LEGO CAR

BUS RIDES

CAR RIDES

ICE CREAM

LAWN GAMES

PEDAL PLANES

TRAILS

WHAT CAN YOU SEE AT BROOKLANDS MUSEUM?

Unscramble the letters below to find out.

1 HET BLCUUSOHE										
2 FIRARCTA										
3 CCRNOEDO PXCEIENREE										
								,		
4 CMROLECYOTS										
5 CNIRAG SRAC										

NEED CLUES? VISIT WWW.BROOKLANDSMUSEUM.COM





Join the **fun** this summer at WWT London





Join the Junior Wetland Rangers for free

Do you have what it takes to care for the beautiful wetlands and wildlife at the WWT London Wetland Centre in Barnes and help save wetland nature?

Then why not become a Junior Wetland Ranger and put your skills to the test? Come rain or shine, the WWT team keeps its feathered and furred animals safe and healthy and makes sure that the wetlands and wildlife are well cared for.

As a Junior Wetland Ranger, your animal knowledge, mess cleaning and more will be tested to see if you're up to the task! Join Top Trainer, Sam Feather and Rookie Ranger, Charlie Beak in these fun, FREE interactive family sessions, taking place daily from 23 July to 2 September at 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 3pm. Suitable for ages 5-11. First come, first served.

Afterwards, explore the London Wetland Centre's wild reserve with the Junior Wetland Rangers trail card and discover what makes wetlands amazing!

More info at https://bit.ly/WetlandRangers or www.wwt.org.uk



New family attraction opens in Hounslow

This summer, check out Hounslow Golf Park, an exciting, new local family entertainment complex. Perfect for children of all ages, the attraction is set in over twenty five acres with loads of space to burn off energy, learn new skills and have fun.

Volcano Island Adventure Golf. Not one, but two huge 18hole Adventure Golf courses! One course snakes around an enormous erupting volcano; the other winds under waterfalls, over bridges and through vegetation. Prepare for incredible lifesize, moving dinosaurs!

Test your skills on the Games Range. A double-decker golf driving range with arcade-like virtual games. Screen games with the healthy physicality of hitting golf balls!

KnockAbout 9. For beginners and improvers, 9 holes of informal golfing fun. Borrow a club and putter for FREE!

For a readers' discount of up to 60% off, go to https://bit.ly/ HounslowGolfPark and click on Spin to Win. Limited time only!

More at www.hounslowgolfpark.com



Get ready for the Summer Jousting Tournament

Prepare for exciting medieval action, stunts, falls and fights galore this summer at Hever Castle. The annual Summer Jousting Tournaments will begin on 16 and 17 July and continue on all Saturdays and Sundays until 29 August.

This summer, the Knights of Royal England will be entertaining visitors with exhilarating displays in an authentic arena complete with a Royal Box. Battling it out in the saddle and on foot, in one-to-one combat, the valiant knights will then compete for points to find this season's ultimate champion. Get in the spirit by joining Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn and the Knights of Royal England in the procession to the jousting arena.

Bring a blanket or watch the joust in style from the medieval spectator stands. These stands are available for a small cost (£2 per seat) on a first-come, first-served basis. Then choose which knight to support and make sure you cheer them loudly on to certain glory!

For more information, visit www.hevercastle.co.uk



Enjoy Summer at Brooklands Museum

Looking for somewhere to go this summer that guarantees lots to keep everyone entertained? Look no further!

Step back in time at Brooklands Years Relived on 9 July, celebrating the best of Brooklands' motorsport, aviation and social history. Dress to impress in your finest vintage outfits – with prizes up for grabs!

Then join Brooklands for its **Summer Fete** running throughout the school holidays. Enjoy traditional games, problem-solving trails, pedal planes/cars, building LEGO race cars at the McLaren exhibit and vintage car/bus rides. There will be a daily BBQ available, treats from the café or bring your own picnic.

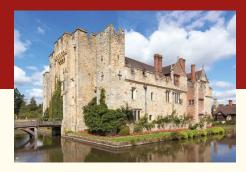
The much-loved Emergency Services Day returns to the Museum on 11 September. Say thank you to some of the heroes of our country and explore every conceivable emergency services vehicle. Look out for Skye, Marshall and Chase from PAW Patrol who will appear at intervals throughout the day.

More info at www.brooklandsmuseum.com





HEVER CASTLE



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The summer holiday childcare jigsaw

By Andrew Campbell

For many parents, the long summer holidays can cause a massive childcare headache requiring an enormous amount of juggling and 'piecing it together' and involving substantial cost. If you're facing the school holiday childcare puzzle right now, then here are some of the pieces you might be able to fit together in your jigsaw.

Family care

Family members, typically grandparents, are often more than happy to share the childcare burden and with this comes with the advantage of knowing your children are with someone you all trust. Your kids will benefit by learning they don't need you all the time and will build long-lasting bonds.

Other parents

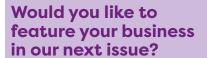
Teaming up with other parents by taking turns to care for each other's children is a great way to spread the load. But this will require forward planning and organisation - so get in now. Try setting up a summer childcare WhatsApp group with the parents of your child's friends.

Private nursery

Many nurseries continue as normal throughout the summer but those adjoined to schools and pre-schools usually follow school term dates. Some private nurseries will take on some younger children just for the summer holidays. Contact them to enquire.

Childminders

Childminders care for small groups of children of different ages in the childminder's home. The children usually come from different families and sometimes include the childminder's own children. If you currently use a childminder, ask about availability



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for summer childcare as they take holidays too.

Nanny share

A nanny share or 'home childcarer' is when you and another family share the costs and responsibilities of employing a nanny to look after your children in your home. Nannies can often work for two or more families, by caring for the children all at the same time or by splitting the week between them.

Holiday camps and workshops

Run by private providers, these can be multi-activity day camps focussing on a variety of sport and/or creative activities or single activity camps focussed on a specific sport/creative activity. Holiday workshops tend to take place for shorter more intense periods and, often organised by providers that also offer weekly term time classes, they offer a valuable opportunity to receive elite coaching and tuition.

Holiday play schemes

Playschemes are usually for children of primary school age. Run by schools, councils, youth clubs and community groups, they provide a range of activities and typically cost around £30 a day although this can vary widely, with subsidised prices offered for low-income households.



Grandparent care

Here are some do's and don'ts if your parents will be looking after your kids this summer.

Rules and routines. Don't assume grandparents know all the rules your children are expected to follow or their routines. Make sure they are all discussed and written down if necessary.

Timekeeping. Stick to the agreed times for pick ups and collections. Caring for young children can be exhausting, especially for elderly relatives.

Money. While most grandparents won't expect to be paid for occasional babysitting, it is reasonable for them to be paid if they provide ongoing or full-time care. Don't expect them to meet all expenses such as nappies, activities and treats - they quickly add up.

Be fair. If you regularly use grandparents for childcare, be conscious that other grandchildren or children in the family may be missing out.

Be considerate. Grandparents have their own lives and activities too. They can often be very flexible but do offer as much advance notice as possible.

Backup plan. In case of illness, make sure you have another option. Make this clear at the outset, so grandparents don't feel under pressure if feeling poorly.









Build your child's confidence through singing, drama and dance.

Small groups so every child can shine and be heard!

Filmed performance on final day

Encanto: 25th - 28th July Sing: 1st - 4th August Frozen: 15th - 18th August Matilda: 22nd - 25th August CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

9am-3.30pm

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AGES

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FREE copy of Help your Child Cope with Change

Families has teamed up with Summersdale to offer readers this accessible guide to supporting your child through difficult experiences and life changes, including divorce, new siblings or the loss of a loved one.

Change is part of life but for a child, events such as starting school, dealing with changes in the family or unsettled times in the wider world can feel destabilising and frightening.



As parents and carers, it can sometimes be hard to know what to do for the best. This book, written by Liat Joshi Hughes, offers actionable tips that will give you and your child the tools to navigate difficult times.

To apply for your free copy, visit www.familiesmag.co.uk/go Closing date: 19 August. T&Cs at https://bit.ly/Famhelpyourchild

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Musical Theatre • Acting • Dance • Stage Combat Mini workshops aged 3-7 • Juniors 7-11 • Seniors 11-18

Please call 07973 900196 or e: info@steponstageacademy.co.uk www.steponstageacademy.co.uk



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Introducing Stagecoach Richmond!

Stagecoach Richmond has been established for more than twenty years and continues to uphold its excellent reputation as a pioneering performing arts school for local children.

Its venue at Kings House School is the ideal environment for Jo and her team of dynamic teachers to fully explore the disciplines of drama, dance and singing, as part of a comprehensive performing arts experience.

Passionate and dedicated to achieving the highest possible standards in a fun and exciting environment, the priority of Jo and her team is to develop the self-confidence of every one of their students by allowing them to express themselves in new and imaginative ways. This experience offers the students invaluable life skills, fantastic foundations for future learning and wonderful new reaches of creative expression. The aim is to give Stagecoach students creative courage for life.

For ages 4 to 17, classes take place every Saturday at King's House School, Richmond, TW10 6ES

To talk to Jo about her classes and what is on offer, call 020 8332 6741, email richmond@stagecoach.co.uk or visit www.stagecoach.co.uk/richmond



Try Stagecoach Richmond Summer Camp!

Fame! Jr. 25-29 July Ages 5-12

Set during the last years of the Fame School, New York City's celebrated High School for the Performing Arts (1980-1984), this musical follows the bittersweet but inspiring story of a diverse group of students as they face gruelling artistic and academic work in order to achieve their dream of 'putting their name in lights.'

Children will make new friends, unleash their creativity and have lots of fun singing, dancing and acting.

No previous experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and willingness to have a go!

Performance for friends and family on final day. Limited availability - book early.

Call 020 8332 6741 or email richmond@ stagecoach.co.uk

For Stagecoach summer camps in other areas, please see page 16.



Performing and developing key life skills with PQA

Whether it be diving into their dressing up box or stepping onto the stage, performing is important to children and young people, although its benefits can often go unnoticed. Performing arts can teach children and young people key skills that can be used in everyday life.

Creativity

Naturally imaginative, pretend play and make believe come easily to kids and can assist their social and emotional development, helping them form new ideas and develop resourcefulness.

Problem solving

Solving problems creatively within the safety of a performing arts environment can help kids deal with issues in everyday life. If children feel comfortable exploring and dealing with problems in a non-linear way, this makes them more confident overall.

Empathy

Performance is a classic form of storytelling, used both to entertain and to share tales and ideas and performing in character can help children appreciate another person's point of view. To accurately portray a character, it's necessary to step into their shoes and understand both their situation and what has brought them to that situation. This involves developing empathy which can then be applied in everyday life, helping them to interact with friends and adults in an understanding way and develop their social skills.



Listening

Listening is an important skill, especially when a child is in a new setting with new routines and expectations. During performing arts classes children take direction from their teachers and peers, encouraging them to be receptive to others' ideas and work collaboratively.

Confidence Building

Some children are never happier than putting on a show for their family and friends whilst others can be daunted by standing up in front an audience. Performing arts is hugely beneficial in increasing children's confidence levels. Learning new skills, rehearsing and performing in a safe space, with the support and encouragement of expert teachers and peers, can prepare children to deal with situations in which they feel anxious.

PQA Richmond's three core modules, Musical Theatre, Comedy & Drama and Film & Television, offer students the very best mix of both performance-based and technical training as well as providing skills for life.

www.pqacademy.com/academies/richmond









Mampton_teddington@thelittlegym.co.uk

The Little Gym's age-appropriate children's activities are Serious Fun! Using movement, music, learning and laughter to nurture ongoing skill development and boost self-esteem, your child progresses at their own pace, having fun and building confidence.

Explore the range of classes on offer at The Little Gym of Hampton & Teddington.

Visit hamptonteddington.thelittlegym.co.uk

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Summer camps and workshops



ASHFORD

Stagecoach Theatre Arts (Staines)

Early Stages Summer Fun

25-29 July, Ages 4-6

A week when more than the sun will shine! Attend weekly/daily and explore the magical world of Stagecoach Performing Arts with two DBS, early years trained teachers.

We Will Rock You

Ages 6-18 (grouped ages 6-8, 9-11, 12+)
An exciting week of singing, dancing and drama, taught by West End professionals.
Every day the students will work on new pieces culminating in a performance for parents at the end of the week.
Professional lighting, sound and costumes provided (no extra cost). A memorable experience in which all children will have a chance to shine. Attend weekly/daily.
No Stagecoach experience required. Call 07802 800633, email staines@stagecoach.co.uk/ staines#workshops

EAST MOLESEY

Stagecoach Theatre Arts (Hinchley Wood & Esher)

Magic of the Musicals in East Molesey

1-5 August, Ages 6-16

A fun-packed week of musical theatre, learning songs, dances and scenes from some popular musicals. Build confidence and make new friends. Performance to family and friends on the final day.

Just Dance in East Molesey

25-29 July, Ages 6-16

Enjoy working on different dance styles.
Full of fun, fitness, new friends and a
wonderful feeling of achievement! The
week ends with a performance. Call 01372
238238, email hinchleywood@stagecoach.
co.uk or visit www.stagecoach.co.uk/
hinchleywood#workshops

HAMPTON HILL

Step on Stage Academy of Performing

1-5 August Ages 3-18 Disney Week Mini Musical Theatre

1-6 August Ages 7+

Musical Theatre: Show in a Week

Ages 12+

Musical Theatre: Show in a Week

15-19 August Ages 3-6 Roald Dahl Week Mini Musical Theatre Ages 7+

West End Workshops

Call 07973 900196, email info@ steponstageacademy.co.uk or visit www.steponstageacademy.co.uk

RICHMOND

SW London Little Voices

Ages 5-11

Encanto: 25-28 July SING 2: 1-4 August Frozen The Musical: 15-18 August Matilda The Musical: 22-25 August

Small groups, half day options, props, costumes and excitement! Professionally filmed final performance sent to families to watch. Build confidence, get lots of individual attention and make new friends. Call 020 8088 01113, email swl@littlevoices. org.uk or visit www.littlevoices.org.uk

TWICKENHAM

Stagecoach Theatre Arts Twickenham 25-29 July

Boppin' Bruno

Ages 4-6

Meet Bruno and all his friends and enjoy songs and dances from popular musicals, toe-tappin' tunes, jumpin' and jivin', working your magical powers and entering a world of the imagination.

GREASE the Musical

Ages 6-18

It's Sandy and Danny, Summer Nights and GOOOOO GREASE LIGHTENIN' .. don't hang about. Book now as places are going like hot cakes! No experience necessary and you don't have to be a Stagecoach student to attend. Email twickenham@stagecoach.co.uk/twickenham#workshops

WEYBRIDGE

Stagecoach Theatre Arts Weybridge

25-29 July

Summer Musical Mayhem is a fabulous workshop for the summer holidays. Five days of fun and frolics as children explore the most impactful musicals on the planet! Book now to avoid disappointment. Call 07939, email weybridge@stagecoach.co.uk/ or visit www.stagecoach.co.uk/ weybridge#workshops

CLUBS DIRECTORY





www.danceforceschoolofdancing.com









Your family holiday countdown

By Ellie Malt

Okay, take a deep breath, hold it, now focus on this happy thought: the summer holidays are coming! The prospect of a carefree, sun-drenched release from routine has never seemed quite so inviting. If you've booked a getaway it's time to stop procrastinating and dig out those dusty suitcases. Packing clothes is the easy bit but what about the rest? Here's our four step plan to help you keep calm and get ready:

Step one: check the swim kits

For the children, swimming is probably going to be their 'favouritist bit' (Mine is sitting down, anywhere, with a drink in my hand). As children grow (ridiculously fast in my opinion), the right kit can encourage their independence. What fitted last year is unlikely to work again this year. For babies, swim nappies are a no-brainer but consider buoyancy aids, sun hats, UV suits, floating toys and beach shoes.

For children beginning to swim independently, a small life jacket could boost confidence in deeper waters, without embarrassing arm bands. Meanwhile, back in the shallow end, underwater toys and goggles will keep kids occupied for hours.

For tweens, a boogie board, wet suit, mask and snorkel are more likely to buy you some peace. Many of these items only last for one holiday so it's worth checking charity shops.

Step two: don't forget essential equipment, allergies and medicines

No one wants to waste a precious day of their holiday hunting down a pharmacy and then describing the problem with GCSE-



It's all in the planning

When it comes to packing baby paraphernalia, it's a bit of a reality check when you see just how much luggage space one tiny human needs. Sadly, all this equipment leaves considerably less room for the really important stuff like your beach books and assorted favourite holiday shoes. Sigh.

On top of the full kit of baby feeding and changing equipment, take the essentials with you to avoid an emergency trip to the nearest chemist, supermarket or doctors' surgery while on holiday.

Packing checklists come in useful here: yours is likely to include sun cream, after-sun, children's paracetamol, any regular prescription medications, insect repellent, anti-histamine, plasters, a thermometer, snacks and adapter plugs.

Super-efficient tips

Change all the beds before you set off on hols - there's nothing better than coming home to clean sheets on your own bed. Pre-order a big online food shop to arrive as soon as possible after you get home, so the supermarket run is one less thing to worry about.



French and sign language!

Step three: plan ahead for quality sleep

Yes, adapting to new surroundings IS part of growing up but when your child's bedtime routine is essential to a happy holiday, have nightlights, blackout blinds and ear plugs on standby. Small travel clocks can help your child know when to stay in bed when they wake up early in a strange bedroom. Who knows, you might even get a lie in.

Step four: get mobile!

Travel buggies are lighter and suited to aeroplanes and pavements. Fat-wheeled buggies or carriers are better for rough terrain. A sling is a faff-free solution for short walks. Finally, if any part of your journey is by road, remember the car seat. However you travel, distractions will help. Plan ahead and pack some age-appropriate activities to minimise 'are we nearly there yet?' syndrome.

Ellie is a writer and mum to two daughters living in Surrey.



Families Upon Thames 17

How to holiday responsibly

By Vicki Bradley

We all like to do our bit for the planet but, when it comes to holidays, it's easy for all those good intentions to fall by the wayside amongst all the planning. We asked Vicki Bradley from Tested by Tots for her ideas for some easy, eco-friendly holiday products that can easily be substituted for traditional alternatives. One of the key pillars of Vicki's ethos is sustainable holidaying and she's even managed to come up with some special offers to tempt you.

Remember, it's Plastic Free July so an ideal time of year to focus on really making a difference!



Beeswax wraps

Beeswax wraps are a natural alternative to clingfilm; much better for storing and keeping food fresh and perfect for picnics and days out. Simply wrap

your sandwiches or leftovers, sealing with the warmth of your hands. Plastic-free, washable and reusable for up to six years.

Use TOTS15 for 15% off. www.beeswaxwraps.co.uk

Sustainable teethers

For a sustainable alternative to rattles, teethers and dummies, check out the Peace With the Wild collection. Made from natural, plant-based rubber there are lots of options to help you do your bit for the planet.

https://bit.ly/sustainableteethers



Beachwear

Skin needs protecting from the sun but you don't have to compromise on your green ethos to do this. Style out the holiday in Frugi swimwear and clothing.

Beautifully designed to be bright and colourful, plus allorganic, Frugi prides itself on its sustainability message. It only uses GOTS certified organic cotton and its outerwear is made from recycled materials. Available in baby to adult sizes. https://bit.ly/Frugibeachwear

Bamboo nappies and wipes

While regular disposable nappies can take literally hundreds of years to decompose, more than seventy percent of Mama Bamboo nappy components will biodegrade in six months,

in a hot compost. Their bamboo wipes are fully compostable within three months. For a half price offer on a newborn starter kit, use the code NBTOT50 at the checkout.

https://bit.ly/sustainablenappies



Use
NBTOT50
half price
offer



Shampoo bars

Ditch the weighty plastic bottles and save space by packing shampoo and conditioner bars. These mini bars from Ethique are perfect for holidays and just as effective as the runny stuff!

Trial sizes are available for adults and children of all ages. https://bit.ly/EthiqueMiniShampoo

Reef-friendly sunscreen

Scientists have recently discovered that some ingredients in sunscreens could be damaging ocean life. Smart brands are now developing 'reef friendly' sunscreens which avoid the culprit ingredients oxybenzone and octinoxate. Switch to the biodegradable spray from Nivea, which is compliant with the Hawaii Reef Bill.

https://bit.ly/ReefFriendlySunscreen





Reusable BBQs

They're very convenient but disposable BBQs can't be recycled or composted and the aluminium frame can take up to two hundred years to decompose. Solve the problem by investing in a reusable one.

The Landmann Piccolino BBQ comes in two colours for under £70. https://bit.ly/LandmannPiccolinoBBQ

Sustainable toys

An easy swap from plastic playthings is to choose wooden, bamboo or recycled toys. Green Toys have a great range for babies upwards, covering bath time, pretend play and outdoor fun. We like

the beach range - made from recycled materials and vigorously safety tested for happy times in the sand. Use 10GREENTOYS22 for 10% off.

https://bit.ly/EcoFriendlyGreenToys



Tested by Tots checks out and recommends only products and services that are genuinely child-friendly. For hints and tips on holidaying with children, including holiday packing checklists, go to **www.testedbytots.com**

Home working in the school holidays

By Louise Goss

School holidays can be one of the most challenging times for a working parent. Even with organised childcare, holiday clubs and generous offers from grandparents, there are often days when you are trying to meet deadlines while acting as a snack vending machine or being constantly pestered by demands to 'look at me.'

Here are a few tips to help you cope with the stressors and be as productive as possible.

Prepare in advance

Realistically, you probably won't get as much done on the days your children are home. Knowing and accepting this can immediately lessen the stress and frustration. Ahead of the holidays, if you have time to prepare in advance, you'll also ease the anxiety over how you'll manage your workload.

If you have any big projects or deadlines looming, try to get the bulk of the work out of the way so that you're left with the smaller tasks to complete during the holidays.

Of course, it's not just managing your own expectations but also those of your customers, colleagues and clients. A good way to prevent misunderstandings about availability is to let clients know you won't be available for a big order or that deadlines will need to be extended to allow for shorter working days.

You can help emphasise these boundaries for others and keep them firm for yourself by highlighting reduced office hours when you speak to colleagues and in your emails and utilising automated out-of-office email responses.

Fill their cup

It can be hard to focus with a child clamouring for your attention. But by giving your child the right kind of quality time, they are often more accepting when you need to step away to work. I often find when I am very present and engaged with my children for a short time, they are satisfied and happy to then play alone for a while, freeing me up to work in peace.

Getting them set up with a game or started with some Lego building are great ways to give them your time and then allow



you to step away.

Communication is key

Communicate with your team. Be transparent about your situation and capacity. Explore flexible working options.

Setting boundaries is important when you are trying to work with other family members around.

Communicating to children and partners when you are and are not available can prevent any misunderstandings or resentment.

Younger children hear the word 'no' a lot, so a more positive way of asking them to be patient is to give them something to look forward to after you've finished your work, whether it is the collage you'll make together or a den you'll build.

Ask for help

Don't forget or be afraid to ask for help. We can often feel guilty or that we have failed in some way if we don't manage everything. However, asking for help is a sensible way to relieve stress and maintain some balance.

Older children and other family members may be able to help with housework or babysitting. You could even organise a swap with a fellow working parent to look after each other's children a couple of times a week, allowing you each to work on your child-free days.

Louise Goss is a journalist and the Founder of The Homeworker magazine (www.thehomeworker.com) which supports people who work from home and remotely.

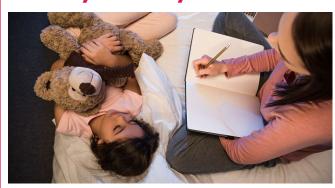
Use your pockets of time



If you have flexibility and can organise your days as you need them, allocate tasks according to the different lengths of time you have available in your day. For instance, during nap time, to time, snack time or minutes when the kids are playing a game, catch up on emails and admin.

Leave longer tasks for longer pockets of time. It can be helpful to have a list of quick jobs you can do in a spare few minutes.

Skew your day



To allow time to spend with your family as well as work, skewing your working day a little is a great way to fit in your hours.

If you have flexible working or work for yourself, adjust your working day to start earlier or finish later.

I often find I can do a couple of hours in the evening or get a couple of hours done first thing because I'm not having to rush around for a school drop off.

Meaningful holiday communication

By Lisa Wander and Catherine Loble

Communication is essential to children's development. Teaching them to listen and talk effectively, verbally and non-verbally are invaluable life skills we can impart by being effective role models.

Relationships between children and parents are noticeably improved by meaningful communication. This is how children begin developing their ideas and beliefs. The more positive the communication, the more secure and confident they become. It's what's often called 'quality time'. From the child's perspective, quality time is having direct and full attention from their parents, not just being present in the same space.

Long school holidays give us more opportunities to interact. Depending on the age of your child there are many ways to create space to encourage communication.

With younger children, it's about playing at their level; chatting while drawing, building Lego or being part of their make believe games. **Together** is key.

With older children it might be making time for each other for a chat. If at all possible, make time for each child on a one to one basis, sharing something you both enjoy. For family communication, mealtimes set the scene for open discussion.

Communication is only half the job; it's how we listen and acknowledge what our children are saying that is key. Validating and acknowledging make a difference, even a simple nod or a touch will let your child know that you are listening and that what they are saying is important.



As parents, we may still need to carry on with work and other responsibilities during school holidays. This is where enriching holiday camps and allowing some use of screens can be a godsend. But one of the greatest challenges for parents is balancing screen time with other activities.

The important distinction is that this balance is achieved via moderation and self-regulation, not restriction. Despite other responsibilities, finding time to spend together is possible and whatever you can manage will benefit your children in the long run.

Effective, open communication takes hard work and practice. Remember, it will not always be perfect. What's important is making the effort to communicate with our children. The result will be a much closer, honest, open and positive family relationship.

Lisa and Catherine are co-founders of Emparenting (www.emparenting.co.uk), supporting children, parents and families with insights, skills and tools to nurture the development and well-being of the next generation.



What's on

All listings are correct at the time of publication. Please check with the venue before you visit in case anything has changed.

Every day until 11 Sep

Mirror, Shape & Play at Orleans House Gallery

Free interactive exhibition for ages

www.orleanshousegallery.org

Daily during holidays Family Entertainment at Watermans Art Centre

Family cinema screenings (£6) and theatre workshops www.watermans.org.uk

Every Tue & Thu

Singing & Story Session at the London Transport Museum Sessions include rhythm, dancing and storytelling. www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Every Thursday in July Storytime with Mark at London Museum of Water & Steam

Songs, rhymes and stories for babies and under 5s. 1.30pm. www.waterandsteam.org.uk

Every Sat & Sun in July & August Steam Train Rides at Hampton Kempton Waterworks Railway

Train rides every half hour and picnic area open (not every Sat). Booking required. www.hamptonkemptonrailway.

Boating on the Lake at Claremont

Landscape Garden Explore Claremont in a rowing

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ claremont-landscape-garden

Alternate Sats in Jul & Aug Meet the Rangers at Polesden

Meet the rangers to learn more about the work they do to look after the estate.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ polesden-lacey

Fri 1 Jul-Wed 31 Aug Come Out and Play at Claremont Landscape Garden

Enjoy a variety of games and sports at Claremont this summer. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ claremont-landscape-garden

Come Out and Play at **Hatchlands Park**

Come and try your hand at sports and games this summer. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ hatchlands-park

Let's Play Together at London Museum of Water & Steam Inclusive stay and play sessions for children under 5s. www.waterandsteam.org.uk

Brooklands Years Relived at Brooklands Museum Step back in time and celebrate

the best of Brooklands

motorsport, aviation and social history. Dress to impress in your finest vintage outfits. Prizes up for grabs.

www.brooklandsmuseum.com

Claygate Flower & Village Show Classic cars, dog show, marching bands, gift stalls, children's races,

tug of war, fun fair, farmyard animals and arena events. www.claygateflowershow.co.uk

Grotto Dig at Marble Hill Park Watch a dig in process and learn how to become an archaeologist. www.english-heritage.org.uk/ places/marble-hill

Barnes Fair

London's best village fete held beside the duck pond. www.barnes-ca.org

Sat 9 & Sun 10 Jul

Kingston Regatta Held on the river Thames since 1857, featuring top rowing crews from across the country. www.kingstonregatta.co.uk

Sat 9 Jul-Sun 4 Sep Come Play at Winkworth Arboretum

Have fun at activity stations to complete challenges from running, hopping and skipping, to conquering the Azalea steps. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ winkworth-arboretum

Mon 11 Jul & 12 Sep

Little Explorers at Kew Gardens Fun, hands-on ninety minute learning sessions for children ages 2-5 and parents/carers. www.kew.org

Wed 13 Jul & 14 Sep Music and Movement at Kew Gardens

Hands on music-making, natureinspired songs, dance and traditional rhymes for ages 2mths to 2 years. www.kew.org

Fri 15 & 29 Jul

Play:Make:Art at Orleans House Gallery

Have fun exploring art skills and techniques in workshops. Ages 2-5.

www.orleanshousegallery.org

Sat 17 Jul Let's Get Creative Music **Performance at Orleans House** Gallery

Dance, sing, shout and shake at a fun gig that the whole family can enjoy outdoors in the grounds. www.orleanshousegallery.org

Kingston Dragon Boat Challenge

at Canbury Gardens Watch the flotilla of dragon boats in a spectacular race on the river. www.kingstonrotaryclub.org.uk



Win a family ticket to **Brooklands** Museum

Discover the pioneers of speed, flight and adventure at Brooklands Museum, the birthplace of British motorsport, aviation and home of Concorde. Walk under the wings and sit inside the cockpits of the giant flying machines designed and built at Brooklands! Visit the motoring village and see the cars that raced on the historic track at Britain's first Grand Prix, before checking out the largest collection of vintage London Buses.

Parking is free and there's plenty of picnic space and a café. Family tickets start at £31 but with so much on offer, consider an annual family membership (from £60) which allows you to enjoy the museum all year round.

Get up close, go onboard and explore the amazing history that was made at Brooklands Museum in one incredible day out! More info at www.brooklandsmuseum.com

Enter at https://bit.ly/brooklandscompentry

Closing date: 31 July 2022

T&Cs. Ticket for 2 adults and up to 3 children. Prize valid for one entry in a 12 month period. Families additional T&Cs at https://bit.ly/FamMagTCs

Anagram answers from page 8
The Clubhouse, Aircraft, Concorde Experience, Motorcycles, Racing cars



Come out and play at The National Trust

Come and try your hand at sports, games and fun activities at a National Trust place near you this summer! Challenge your family and friends to a range of different activities! All included in admission price. Running at:

Hatchlands Park GU4 7RT 1 July-31 Aug, 10am-4pm.

Claremont Landscape Garden KT10 9JG 1 July-4 Sep, 10am-3pm.

Polesden Lacey RH5 6BD 16 July-28 Aug, 10am-4pm.

Dapdune Wharf and River Wey GU1 4RR 1-21 Aug, 11am-5pm.

Winkworth Arboretum GU8 4AD 9 July-4 Sept, 10am-5pm.

The Devil's Punch Bowl GU26 6AB

1-31 Aug, 10am-4pm (on the green near the viewpoint).

You'll find other events at these National Trust properties in these What's on pages.

For more information, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Tue 19 Jul & 2, 16 & 30 Aug

Curious Tots at Orleans House Sing along, wiggle and explore sensory worlds with artist Charlie

www.orleanshousegallery.org

Sat 16-Sun 17 Jul

Big Camp at Dapdune Wharf Camp out under the stars on the

island at Dapdune Wharf with a bonfire and a barbecue available. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/riverwey-and-godalming-navigationsand-dapdune-wharf

Sat 16 Jul-Sun 28 Aug **Come Out and Play at Polesden** Lacev

Enjoy special outdoor games and explore the gardens. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ polesden-lacey

Sat 23 Jul-Mon 29 Aug The Great Garden Adventure at **RHS Wisley**

Take part in daily activities; tree climbing and den building to sow and grow workshops, plus a trail. www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley

Sat 23 Jul-Wed 31 Aug Spellbound at Hever Castle

Take part in a range of handson activities and watch jousting tournaments and falconry displays.

www.hevercastle.co.uk

Summer Fete at Brooklands

Traditional games, problem-solving rails, pedal planes/cars, building LEGO® race cars and vintage car/bus rides. Daily BBQ, café or BYO picnic.

www.brooklandsmuseum.com

Sat 23 Jul-Sun 4 Sep

Sensory trail at Hatchlands Park Great opportunity to explore the parkland with your senses. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ hatchlands-park

Sat 23 Jul-Fri 2 Sep Become a Junior Wetland Ranger

Daily thirty minute immersive sessions where you find out what it takes to keep wildlife and nature happy and healthy.

www.wwt.org.uk/wetlandcentres/london

Sun 24 & 31 Jul Peppa Pig My First Concert at the London Coliseum

Travel from Mozart to muddy puddles with Peppa, George and family and a live orchestra. www.londoncoliseum.org

Tue 26-Fri 29 Jul

A Horse! My Kingdom for a **Horse at Museum of Richmond**

Create your own treasure box, decorated with your favourite character from stage or film. www.museumofrichmond.com

Thu 28 July & 4, 11, 18 & 25 Aug Thumbs Up It's Thursday in Kingston

Kingston town centre businesses will be running a range of free or low-cost activities, including face painting, balloon modellers and fun drop-in workshops. www.kingstonfirst.co.uk

Fri 29 & Sat 30 Jul

Depot Discovery Tour at London Transport Museum, Acton Depot Discover the story of London's public transport from its horse

drawn beginnings, taking in rare and unusual vehicles along the way, as well as pioneering engineering equipment. www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Fri 29 Jul-Mon 29 Aug Summer Holidays at London Museum of Water & Steam Learn about the hidden world

underneath our feet with crafts. hands-on activities and trails. www.waterandsteam.org.uk

Mon 1-Sun 21 Aug Come Out and Play at Dapdune Wharf

Popular summer holiday festival of sport is back with over twenty activities to take part in. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/riverwey-and-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf

From Tue 2 Aug on selected

Redbeard Forest School at Osterley Park & House Immerse your child in nature and help them learn new skills. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ osterley-park-and-house

Tue 2-Sun 7 Aug **Let's Get Creative at Orleans House Gallery**

Free creative arts sessions for families and children. Ages 4-11. www.orleanshousegallery.org

Thu 4 Aug

Holiday Crafts at Chertsey Museum

Use recycled material to make a fun wind charm. Ages 6-12. www.chertseymuseum.org

Sat 6 Aug & 3 Sep 15 Minutes of Fun at Chertsey Museum

Free drop-in craft session for all the family.

www.chertseymuseum.org

Sun 7, 28 & 29 Aug & 4 Sep Public Running Day at Thames Ditton Miniature Railway Take a ride, have a picnic - but make sure you book.

www.malden-dsme.org

Sun 7, 14, 21 & 28 Aug Arts in Park at Marble Hill Park Free open-air music concerts in the park for all to enjoy. Informal, perfect for all ages – bring a

www.english-heritage.org.uk/ places/marble-hill

Tue 9-Fri 12 Aug The Lady or the Tiger at Museum of Richmond

Come and explore the story behind The Lady and the Tiger and create a craft.

www.museumofrichmond.com

Sat & Sun 21-22 Aug Steaming Weekend at Kempton Steam Museum

See these unique and enormous ancient steam engines in action. www.kemptonsteam.org

Tue 23-Fri 26 Aug A Georgian Super Star at **Museum of Richmond**

Discover the story of the superstar of Georgian Theatre and take part in a fashionable craft.

www.museumofrichmond.com

Fri 26 & Sat 27 Aug

Depot Discovery Tour at London Transport Museum Acton Depot

Discover the story of London's public transport from its horsedrawn beginnings, taking in rare and unusual vehicles along the way, as well as pioneering engineering equipment. www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Sat 27 Aug

Summer family fun run at **Dapdune Wharf**

Take on a 2k run around the island and then enjoy an evening of relaxation and refreshment www.nationaltrust.org.uk/riverwey-and-godalming-navigationsand-dapdune-wharf

Sun 11 Sep

Emergency Services Day at Brooklands Museum

Say thank you to some of the heroes of our country and explore every conceivable emergency services vehicle. Look out for appearances from Skye, Marshall and Chase from PAW Patrol. www.brooklandsmuseum.com

CHILDREN'S THEATRE

THE EXCHANGE, TWICKENHAM www.exchangetwickenham.co.uk

Teach Rex

Uses life-like dinosaurs in a show, teaching children about their anatomy and life.

LITTLE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH www.lyric.co.uk

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Beloved stories are transformed from page to stage using lovable puppets and charming music.

NEW WIMBLEDON THEATRE www.atgtickets.com/newwimbledon-theatre

The Princess & The Dragon

This brand new, modern fairy tale navigates freedom and friendship. Ages 7-11.

The Tiger Who Came to Tea 30 Aug-1 Sep

The tea-guzzling tiger is back.

POLKA THEATRE, WIMBLEDON www.polkatheatre.com

The Paper Dolls Until 7 Aug

The Paper Dolls comes to life with stunning puppetry and original music. Ages 3-7.

The Pirate, the Princess and the Playtypus Until 20 Aug

Comic fairy-tale adventure with music, pirate kings, queens, frogs, tall towers.

PUPPET BARGE THEATRE, RICHMOND www.puppetbarge.com

The Hare and the Tortoise 16 Jul-14 Aug

The most famous race on earth is beautifully brought to life using marionettes. Ages 3+.

Jungle Book

23 July to 21 August Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew

Join Mowgli, Baloo, Bagheera and the wolves in this classic tale of friendship as they seek to escape the tiger Shere Khan!

> Family open-air theatre. Free entry to Kew with every ticket!

> > Book online via:

theatreonkew.co.uk

The Three Pigs & Captain Grimey 17 Aug-18 Sep

Lively shows featuring puppets for children. Ages 3+.

THE ROSE THEATRE, KINGSTON www.rosetheatre.org

The Gruffalo 24 Aug-3 Sep

Songs, laughs and monstrous fun for children and their grown-ups, in the much-loved show. Ages 3+.

RICHMOND THEATRE www.atgtickets.com/richmondtheatre

Gangsta Granny 7-10 Jul

Ben is staying in with Granny and things are about to get more exciting than he could imagine!

RIVERHOUSE BARN ARTS CENTRE, WALTON ON THAMES www.riverhousebarn.co.uk

Catch that Beast! 7 Aug

A magical, deliciously silly show about a society with one mission: to capture mythical beasts.

WATERMANS THEATRE, BRENTFORD www.watermans.org.uk Visit website for details.

YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE, GUILDFORD www.yvonne-arnaud.co.uk

The Gruffalo 15-16 Jul

Songs, laughs and monstrous fun for children and their grown-ups,

in the much-loved show. Ages 3+.

Billionaire Boy

Adaptation of David Walliams book about 12-year-old Joe Spud, the richest boy in the country.

OUTDOOR THEATRE

CLAREMONT LANDSCAPE GARDEN

nationaltrust.org.uk/claremontlandscape-garden

The Secret Garden, 16 Jul
High-quality, one-hour ballet
offers enchanting experience for
adults and children alike.

The Reluctant Dragon, 26 Aug Enchanting tale of bravery and friendship all the family.

DAPDUNE WHARF www.prologue.org.uk/whats-on

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland Musical, 26-29 Jul Outdoor musical production by Prologue Youth Theatre Company.

DORKING HALLS PLAYS IN THE PARK www.dorkinghalls.co.uk

The Wind in the Willows, 16 Jul Join Mole, Ratty, Toad and Badger on a wild adventure.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, 16 Jul

Family friendly adaptation of Shakespeare's favourite comedy.

HATCHLANDS PARK www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hatchlands-park

Rapunzo

A fast-paced, larger-than-life production of the classic fairy tale set in the park.

KEW GARDENS www.theatreonkew.com

The Jungle Book, 23 Jul-21 Aug Fun, songs and adventure await in this heart-warming story for all of the family. Free entry to Kew Gardens.

MORDEN HALL PARK FAMILY THEATRE www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ morden-hall-park

Awful Aunty, 27 Jul

A truly thrilling tale adapted for the outdoor stage.

The Tale of Peter Rabbit, 29 & 31 Jul

An outdoor theatre performance of the classic children's tale.

OSTERLEY PARK & HOUSE nationaltrust.org.uk/osterley-park-and-house

The Jungle Book, 5 Aug

A fun outdoor show that takes you on a rollercoaster adventure.

Awful Auntie, 19 Aug

Wonderful outdoor adaptation of David Walliam's book.

PAINSHILL PARK www.painshill.co.uk

Alice in Wonderland, 27 Aug

Come along and meet some of the strangest and most peculiar characters in a show for the family. RIVERHOUSE BARN ARTS CENTRE, WALTON ON THAMES www.riverhousebarn.co.uk

A Midsummer Night's Dream,

An outdoor, sixty minute, family-friendly production.

STRAWBERRY HILL HOUSE www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk

The Wonderland Adventure, 21 Aug

A magical outdoor adventure through Wonderland, featuring some of your favourite characters.

OUTDOOR CINEMA

HAMPTON COURT PALACE www.thelunacinema.com

Grease, 13 Aug

KEW GARDENS www.thelunacinema.com

Kew the Movies, 31 Aug-4 Sep Five days of cinema magic, alfresco style with sessions featuring a host popular family

MARBLE HILL PARK www.thelunacinema.com

The Greatest Showman, 21 Jul

PAINSHILL PARK www.painshill.co.uk

Moulin Rouge (12A), 20 Aug

The Greatest Showman, 22 Aug

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This summer **enjoy games, sports** and **fun activities** at a National Trust place near you. Visit Claremont Landscape Garden, Dapdune Wharf, The Devil's Punch Bowl, Hatchlands Park, Polesden Lacey and Winkworth Arboretum.

Outdoor family theatre

Enjoy fabulous family theatre hosted by the National Trust:

Claremont Landscape Garden

Sat 16 Jul, 6pm *The Secret Garden'* by New Creations Collective **Fri 26 Aug, 6.30pm** *The Reluctant Dragon'* by Quantum Theatre

Dapdune Wharf

Tue 26-Fri 29 Jul 'Alice in Wonderland' by Prologue Youth Theatre

Hatchlands Park

Fri 26 Aug, 6pm 'Rapunzel' by Immersion Theatre

Box Hill

Sat 13 & Sun 14 Aug, 12 & 3pm Award-winning puppetry by Smoking Apples

Hindhead Commons and The Devil's Punch Bowl

Sat 20 & Sun 21 Aug, 12 & 3pm Award-winning puppetry by Smoking Apples

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/surrey