



# SLS Parent Newsletter

## Summer 2 2023

Here are some of the exciting, FREE local events for children and young people coming up during the summer holidays.

### Summer Reading Challenge 2023 - Ready, Set, Read



The Summer Reading Challenge is ON.

Ready, Set, Read! is the name of the game and this year, you guessed it, our theme is sports and games.

Take part in your local library or online, right here. Set a reading goal and log your books on your profile. When you reach your goal you will unlock some digital goodies.

This year's Summer Reading Challenge launched in all Portsmouth public libraries on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July**.

Children need to read as many library books over the summer. They will receive special rewards each time they finish a book and there's a certificate and medal for everyone who completes the Challenge.

Completers of the Summer Reading Challenge will be invited to Southsea Castle on **Sunday 24th September** to collect their certificate and medal, there will be all sorts of activities such as face painting and special guests at the event too.

Nike has specially commissioned a Rebel Girls book to celebrate this year's FIFA Women's World Cup, aimed at both girls and boys. Portsmouth Libraries will be gifting these books to Summer Reading Challenge participants as well.

For further details see the link below:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

## **Public Libraries**



### **Activities**

Check out your local library for some **free** activities going on in the summer. All activities are free and drop-in unless specified otherwise.

#### **Alderman lacey Library**

- Friday 28 July, 11am: Kite Making Activity - Make and decorate your own kite - wind not guaranteed.
- Friday 4 August, 11am: Trophy Time - Make your own trophy - because you're simply the best.
- Friday 11 August, 11am: Wave a Flag! Create your own flag and support your favourite team, whatever the weather
- Friday 18 August: Make Your Own Frisbee Create your own design and have frisbee fun. Come at any time.
- Friday 25 August: Make an Olympic Torch - it's time to shine. Come at any time.
- Friday 1 September: Paper Plate Tennis: Create your own racket and play tennis with a balloon - Wimbledon watch out. Come at any time.

#### **Beddow Library**

- Friday 28 July, 3-4pm: Day at the Races - Make your own Racing Caterpillar and Bird. There's a prize for Best Hat! (Free but need to book in advance)
- Thursday 3 August, 3-4pm: Beddow Library Olympics. (Free but need to book in advance)
- Friday 11 August, 2.30-3.30pm: School Yard Sports and Games. (Free but need to book in advance)
- Thursday 17 August, 3-4pm; Fun at the Fair Games. (Free but need to book in advance)
- Friday 25 August, 2-3pm: Alpacas Visit - Tickets £2 per head regardless of age except babies under 6 months. No places can be held due to demand, all places must be paid for in advance, in person.

#### **Carnegie Library**

- Monday 24 July, 10-12pm: Design an interactive plate.
- Monday 31 July, 10-12pm: Make a blow football game.
- Monday 7 August, 10-12pm: Design a medal.
- Monday 14 August, 10-12pm: Sports themed papercraft
- Monday 21 August, 10-12pm: Sporty spoons!
- Tuesday 29 August, 10-12pm: Design a trophy.

### **Central Library**

- Friday 28 July, 10-12pm: Design an interactive plate.
- Friday 4 Aug, 10-12pm: Make a blow football game.
- Friday 11 August, 10-12pm: Design a medal.
- Friday 18 August, 10-12pm: Sports themed papercraft
- Friday 25 August, 10-12: Sporty spoons!
- Friday 1 September, 10-12pm: Design a trophy.

### **Cosham Library**

- Monday 24 July, 11am
- Wednesday 9 August, 1pm
- Friday 25 August, 11am

### **North End**

- Tuesday 25 July, 11am
- Tuesday 8 August, 11am
- Tuesday 22 August, 11am

### **Paulsgrove Library**

- Friday 28 July, 2pm
- Thursday 10 August, 11am
- Monday 21 August, 11am

### **Portsea Library**

- Friday 28 July, 2-4pm: Design an interactive plate.
- Friday 4 August, 2-4pm: Make a blow football game.
- Friday 11 August, 2-4pm: Design a medal.
- Friday 18 August, 2-4: Sports themed papercraft
- Friday 25 August, 2-4pm: Sporty spoons!
- Friday 1 September, 2-4pm: Design a trophy.

### **Southsea Library**

- Thursday 27 July: Southsea Library's Birthday party all day
- Wednesday 2 August, 10.30-11.30am: Opening ceremony - design a flag.
- Wednesday 9 August, 10.30-11.30am: Sports Day! Enjoy hula hoops, hoop toss, three-legged race and sleeping lions.
- Thursday 17 August, 10.35-11.35am: Sports day! Enjoy archery, egg & spoon race and long jump.
- Wednesday 23 August, 10.30-11.30: Olympic crown and medal craft

### **Summer of Sherlock Make and Take**

Arts based workshops making props and scenery for a puppet theatre performance "The case of the Missing Dinosaur". All workshops are free, drop in and designed to be family friendly.

- Wednesday 26 July, 10-12pm: Dinosaur masks at **Beddow Library**
- Wednesday 26 July, 2-4pm: Dinosaur masks at **North End Library**
- Wednesday 16 August, 10-12pm: Wax crayon rubbing at **Southsea Library**
- Wednesday 16 August, 2-4pm: Feather making at **Central Library**
- Wednesday 23 August, 10-12pm: Props on sticks at **Cosham Library**
- Wednesday 23 August, 2-4pm: Leaf making at **Central Library**
- Wednesday 30 August, 10-12pm: Dinosaur mosaic pictures at **North End library**
- Wednesday 30 August, 2-4pm: Dinosaur mosaic pictures at **Southsea Library**

## Join the Explorer's Quest!

Explore Learning are seeking contestants to complete a captivating mystery through a series of puzzles and games in a special 1-hour ONLINE workshop. Aimed at children aged 5-11 this **free** mystery-solving experience takes them through a quest by overcoming maths and English challenges.

Children attend the workshop from home and there are 3 alternative dates to choose from. Book your place via eventbrite:

Wednesday 26th July @ 12pm - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-explorers-quest-free-summer-reading-challenge-online-workshop-tickets-650813158677?aff=oddtcreator>

Thursday 3rd August @ 2pm - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-explorers-quest-free-summer-reading-challenge-online-workshop-tickets-650823700207?aff=oddtcreator>

Friday 11th August @ 10am - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-explorers-quest-free-summer-reading-challenge-online-workshop-tickets-650831714177?aff=oddtcreator>

## Children's drawing for wellbeing workshop at North End Library

Every **Wednesday** during the summer holidays, 12pm to 2pm

This workshop will run on Wednesdays from 26 July to 30 August. It's aimed at children who are neurodivergent or have additional emotional and mental health needs. For children aged 7 to 16.

Materials will be provided but you can bring your own if you wish – local artist Andy White will show you how to get the best out of them.

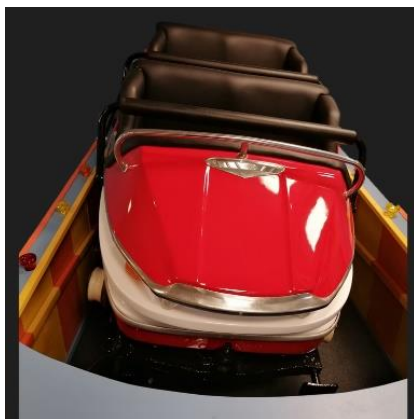
This is free and drop in. For further Information call 023 9268 8057 or email [askalibrarian@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:askalibrarian@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

## Pompey Words

### The Portsmouth Short Story Competition for young people

Portsmouth Library and Archive Service has teamed up with Portsmouth Museums to launch this year's short story competition!

Take inspiration from one of the three objects pictured below from the Portsmouth City Museum's stunning Ocean At The End of the Lane exhibition, write a short story and be in with a chance to win a prize!



The competition is FREE to enter and the story must be 500 Words. For entrants aged 11-16 prizes include; £75 voucher for a shop of your choice and a signed Neil Gaiman book for the winner, £50 voucher and a signed Neil Gaiman book for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.

The winning stories will be published on the Portsmouth Museums and the Portsmouth Library and Archive Service website.

Competition opens on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 and closes on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

Winners announced at Portsmouth BookFest in February 2024!

**For details on how to enter and terms and conditions**

see <https://portsmouth.spydus.co.uk> from 1<sup>st</sup> August or pick up a leaflet from your local Portsmouth library or museum.

## Unwanted Uniform



Portsmouth libraries will be collecting any unwanted school uniform as part of a campaign to donate it during July and August. Items will be sent to The HIVE Uniform Share Store at Central Library for any families should they need them.

## Portsmouth Museum

### Coastal Awareness Day

Get wild about Portsmouth's coastal environment with family friendly activities and talks at Portsmouth Museum and Art Gallery. Meet the local experts who help protect our Solent shore and find out how you can help.

Date: 12 August 2023

Time: 10am to 4pm

Price: **Free**



### Solent Meccano Club

The Solent Meccano Club is back with all the Meccano pieces you could possibly need to make anything and everything! Just drop in between 11am and 3pm in the Activity Room of Portsmouth Museum and Art Gallery.

It's your chance to learn more about this fun hobby, chat with the experts, or learn how to get started on your very own building projects.

From seasoned Meccano builders to first timers, all are welcome to this event.

Date: 23 August 2023

Time: 11am to 3pm

Price: **Free**





## Cumberland House

### **Bug Hunts**

2nd and 23rd August

Join the Natural History team and discover some of the insects and other invertebrates living in the garden of Cumberland House.

There will be insects from our collections, simple identification guides and bug hunting equipment that you can use.

All insects and invertebrates will be returned to the garden throughout the day.

Time: 10.30am to 3pm. Drop in, no advance booking required (children must be accompanied by an adult). Cost: **Free**



### **Craft**

Tuesday 8 August

Create a colourful feathered friend using paper plates, brightly coloured card and tissue paper, plus anything else we can find in our store cupboard! We will be using child friendly glue so dress for mess.

This event is suitable for children from 5 years, accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Times: 10.30am to 11.30am and 2pm to 3pm

Cost: **£2**



## **Natural Art**

Wednesday 16 August

Discover the fascinating patterns and sequences there are to be found in nature. We will be exploring flowers, shells, and other natural objects, before having a go at creating an artwork inspired by natural patterns.

Times: 10.30am to 11.30am and 2pm to 3pm

Cost: **£2**

This event is suitable for 7-12-year-old children, accompanied by a parent/guardian.



## **Summer in the Park**

### **Family fun and music**

Victoria Park will host a big **free** event this summer, bringing family fun and a feast of music to Portsmouth's historic city centre haven.

On 16 July the park joins up with the Roberts Centre for a Family Sunday Funday from 10.30am to 4pm. The event will cover the whole of the 'people's park', and will feature community and commercial stalls, food outlets and activities for children, including funfair rides. A fire truck is set to make an appearance too.



Live performances are planned from Panatical steel band, Ska Choir, Centre Stage Academy, Cantrelle Singers, Bessie Cursons Academy, DrumNation Tribe and international street performer Taroo.

## **Fort Nelson**



### **Fit for the Fort**

Do you have what it takes to join the Fort Nelson garrison as a soldier? There's only one way to find out! Come and join us on any weekend throughout the summer holidays and we'll put you through your paces in lots of fun activities.

Under the watchful eye of our instructors, we'll be giving young recruits the opportunity to learn the skills a soldier would be expected to have to be considered 'Fit for the Fort'. Each weekend will focus on a different period in history including Victorian times to the First and Second World Wars and will encompass a wide variety of activities and the chance to learn some special skills, all pitched at just the right level for our younger visitors.

Summer weekends (Suitable for ages 3+)

July: 22 & 23, 29 & 30

August: 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 20, 26 & 27

#### **Free** drop-in activity sessions

- Come and join a training session with our PT instructor and improve your physical fitness.
- Have-a-go at military drills and learn to follow instructions from our sergeant-major.
- Learn some key battle communication skills like semaphore and Morse code.
- Find out about transport methods and how soldiers got to the battlefield by marching or parachuting in. Try marching in formation and learn how to do a proper parachute roll.
- Discover how to load a cannon and why precise artillery drills were so important. Learn about the world of weapons and unarmed combat.
- Stealth and cunning are important skills for any soldier. Find out about camouflage and how to sneak up on the enemy.
- Learn some special survival skills to help you feed and look after yourself out in the field.

[Please pre-book your free tickets to guarantee your visit to Fort Nelson.](#)

## Junior Assault Course

Our ever-popular assault course is back, packed with obstacles, challenges and plenty of adventures

Daily from Monday 24 July – Sunday 3 September- Suitable for ages 3 – 14 years    Cost **£3.50** (Pay on the day)

## Port Solent kids club



**LAUGH, MAKE FRIENDS  
AND ENJOY FREE  
SUMMER HOLIDAY  
FUN AT PORT SOLENT'S  
KIDS CLUB**

Looking for something to do with the kids? Set sail for Port Solent every Tuesday and Thursday during the school holidays, for its free Kids Club! From magic shows and craft activities, to birds of prey shows and live action Mountain Bike performances, there's something to excite every little adventurer.

### Tuesday 25th July

#### Summer Disco Party

Get your Summer started and learn some new moves with Children's Parties Portsmouth dance sessions at 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

### Thursday 27th July

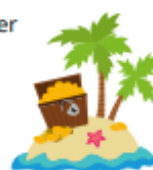
#### Silly Scott & Creation Station shows

Silly Scott is back with more extraordinary comedy magic shows. Shows at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm. It wouldn't be summer without a crafting session with Creation Station from 11am - 4pm.

### Tuesday 1st August

#### Allin Kempthorne - Captain Crossbones Shows

Ahoy Mateys! Captain Crossbones the Potty Pirate will be hosting a pirate's voyage across the seas in his storytelling and magic show at 11am, 12:30pm, 2pm and 3pm.



**NO  
BOOKING  
REQUIRED**

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#### Thursday 3rd August

##### Extreme Mountain Bike shows

See the UK & Europe's number one Mountain Bike, trials and BMX demonstration team in action. Shows at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm will also include advice on health and wellbeing, road safety and fitness.

#### Tuesday 8th August

##### Lovely Bubbly Bubble show & Creation Station shows

Discover the wonderful world of bubbles with The Lovely Bubbly Show! Watch our Bubbleologist perform magical bubble tricks at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm, then get crafty with the Creation Station from 11am - 4pm.

#### Thursday 10th August

##### Birds of Prey Flying shows

Summer is a time for soaring, come and admire our wonderful friends of the sky with a brilliant Birds of Prey Flying show. Flying shows at 12pm and 3pm.

#### Tuesday 15th August

##### Samba Drumming Sessions

Feel the rhythm of summer and get musical! Learn the energetic and traditional rhythms from the Latin American culture in our Samba Drumming Workshops at 11am, 11:50am, 1:10pm, 2pm and 3pm.

#### Thursday 17th August

##### Matthew Garrett Entertains Shows

Matthew Garrett will be entertaining us with a fantastic day of fun including Punch and Judy shows, magic and balloon modelling. Shows will take place at 11am, 12:30pm, 2pm and 3pm.

#### Tuesday 22nd August

##### Mill Cottage Mobile Farm

Get up close and personal with some adorable animals from Mill Cottage Mobile Farm. Meet the animals and make some new friends between 11am - 4pm.

#### Thursday 24th August

##### Back to School Disco Party

Come along to the last summer dance session with Children's Parties Portsmouth between 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

#### Tuesday 29th August

##### Allin Kempthorne - Professor Strange Shows

Join the crazy Professor Strange for his loud and lively shows with a colourful mix of magic, circus and illusion. Shows will take place at 11am, 12:30pm, 2pm and 3pm.

#### Thursday 31st August

##### Silly Scott & Creation Station shows

Silly Scott is back to entertain little ones with fun, magic and games. Join him at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm, then get crafty with the Creation Station from 11am - 4pm.

----- OCTOBER HALF TERM

#### Tuesday 24th October

##### Halloween Disco Party

It's dance time! Come along and have some Halloween themed disco party fun, and games galore! Disco sessions at 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

#### Thursday 26th October

##### Silly Scott & Creation Station shows

Prepare to laugh your socks off with Silly Scott's madcap humour and entertaining games, join him at 11am, 12:30pm and 2pm, then make some Halloween themed crafts with the Creation Station from 11am - 4pm.

Kids Club events are FREE and run on a drop-in basis, with no booking required, for children aged 3-12. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

For more information visit  
[WWW.PORTSOLENT.COM](http://WWW.PORTSOLENT.COM)

Have a wonderful summer

