

**FREE MAGAZINE:** WHAT'S ON WHERE GUIDE

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PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN



Gloucestershire

# primary times

EASTER 2025  
31 MARCH - 5 MAY



[www.primarytimes.co.uk](http://www.primarytimes.co.uk)

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this spring at  
We The Curious

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at Cholderton

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Monday 14th  
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Easter Themed  
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# INSIDE



**primary**  
times

**Easter**  
2025

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*Dear Readers,*

The Easter holidays are nearly here! Fresh air, some spring sunshine and lots of local family fun awaits. You'll find your go-to guide for exciting outings and adventures on our What's on Where pages, with ideas and activities to entertain children of all ages. Be sure to check the Box Office and explore lots of family-friendly shows and cinema experiences taking place near you. Make sure you double check timings on the venues' websites in advance, and don't forget to follow us on social media to keep in touch. Wishing you a wonderful Easter!

*Emma x*

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Primary Times is independently published and distributed free through national primary schools in Gloucestershire. It aims to inform families and children about current educational issues, forthcoming events, courses, attractions and to give teachers, pupils and parents the opportunity to participate in the magazine by adding to its contents or by joining in the competitions. It is NOT our intention to publish any racist, sexist or politically based material whatsoever. We also undertake not to carry any advertising which we would consider to be offensive to young families or harmful to the best interests of young children. Primary Times would like to thank all the schools in Gloucestershire for their assistance in distributing the magazine and for their contributions to its contents. We would also like to thank all the advertisers who have supported this publication and therefore made it possible. Please support their endeavours when and where you can. The copyright on all written material, logos and advertising artwork produced by our studio remains with Primary Times or with the relevant contributor. Primary Times is currently publishing over 2 million copies per issue under franchise licences throughout Britain.

## LET THEIR IMAGINATIONS TAKE FLIGHT

See history come to life

For details on family tickets and activities this Easter visit:  
**romanbaths.co.uk**

**THE ROMAN BATHS BATH**

**New for 2025 Archaeology Adventures**  
Dig for Roman artefacts!

Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Awards Best of the Best 2024





### Are you passionate about making a difference in the lives of children?



Local councils need dedicated foster carers to provide safe and loving homes for children in need right across the south west. Foster carers play a crucial role in offering love, stability and care to children and young people. They offer a loving home environment, giving children the support and consistency to grow and thrive. Fostering for a local council helps children stay in their

communities, close to school and friends. People foster for their local council due to the available support and competitive fees and allowances offered. Fostering South West is your gateway to local council fostering in the region. For more details call **0300 456 0120**, or visit **fosterwithyourlocalcouncil.org.uk** Stability. Consistency. Safety. It all starts with you.



### Too Late for the 11+?

There are about five months to go before the Gloucestershire 11+ test for grammar school admission. In recent years, there has been more competition than ever. Many parents may be wondering if they have 'missed the boat'. The good news is that there is still time to prepare your child for the 11+, but it's probably wise to start your preparation soon to give them the opportunity to demonstrate their

true potential. Consider taking an 11+ mock test or signing up for an online spring course to get your child up to speed. Cotswold Education provides a large range of high quality, cost effective 11+ preparation events including summer camps and a revision day. Contact Cotswold Education at **www.cotswoldeducation.co.uk**. Call on **01242 350593**.



### Discover an Easter adventure with the National Trust

Take part in an Easter Trail at a National Trust place near you for just £3.50. Before you set off, you'll receive a trail sheet to guide you on your adventure and Easter bunny ears to wear along the way. Complete the trail and choose from either a chocolate egg or a vegan and Free From chocolate egg. Normal admission applies. What's more, every time you experience a National Trust day out, you help care for these special places for future generations. Easter Trails in Gloucestershire:

Chedworth Roman Villa, 12th-27th April, 10am-4.30pm  
Dyrham Park, 5th-21st April, 10am-5pm  
Hidcote, 12th-27th April, 10am-4pm  
Newark Park, 5th April-27th April, 10am - 4.30pm  
Snowhill Manor, 12th-27th April, 11am-4.30pm  
Tinkley Gate, Woodchester Park, 7th April-27th April, 10am - 4.30pm.

*Picture credit: National Trust Images James Dobson*

### Kartoon Channel's Gaming Challenge UK

The first ever feature-length gaming movie aimed at children and families will hit the big screens this Easter featuring six children from across the UK battling it out on the hugely popular Roblox platform to be crowned the ultimate gamer. Kartoon Channel's Gaming Challenge UK will be released in Vue Cinemas across Britain on Saturday April 19th, 2025. It has been awarded a U certification from the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). Fans will watch the six competitors taking on eight

exclusive Roblox levels - which include dinosaurs, cats, shark tanks, obstacle courses and races - with two finalists going head-to-head to win a grand prize and the coveted title. Kartoon Channel's Gaming Challenge UK will be released on April 19th. For tickets go to **www.myvue.com**







National  
Trust

Calling all

Easter adventurers

Seek out somewhere special as a family  
this Easter.

[nationaltrust.org.uk/gloucestershire](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/gloucestershire)

For everyone, for ever







## Ongoing

### Colliers Trail at Beechenhurst

Beechenhurst  
[www.forestryengland.uk/beeceenhurst/colliers-trail](http://www.forestryengland.uk/beeceenhurst/colliers-trail)

The Colliers Trail is a family cycling trail - a fully waymarked, circular route, with connecting routes to villages and picnic sites. This route has been especially surfaced and is suitable for all ages and abilities. This is a shared use trail and so you will come across walkers, dogs and runners on your way around. To find out about cycle hire, tag-a-longs or electric bikes, contact the on-site bike hire specialists at Forest of Dean Cycle Centre.

### The Stick Man Trail at Beechenhurst

Beechenhurst  
[www.forestryengland.uk/beeceenhurst](http://www.forestryengland.uk/beeceenhurst)

Before you set off, pick up an activity pack for just £4 from Beechenhurst Cafe or Info Hatch during opening hours. It's packed with fun activities to help you complete the trail. Inside, you'll find a Kraft bag to colour in, a Stick Man lanyard to wear, adventure stamp stickers and much more.

### The Gruffalo Party Trail at Beechenhurst

Beechenhurst  
[www.forestryengland.uk/beeceenhurst](http://www.forestryengland.uk/beeceenhurst)  
Follow the trail to help find the missing party items to give the Gruffalo a birthday to remember. Search for balloons, pine cones, apples and the Gruffalo himself, and complete fun activities and rubbings as you go along.

### The Ultimate 11+ Grammar School Test Preparation

Cotswold Education  
[www.cotswoldeducation.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldeducation.co.uk)

Cotswold Education are here for you for the whole of your grammar school journey. They offer individual consultations, signpost to resources and help you with applying for grammar school and completing appeals if the results weren't what you hoped. Visit the website for more details.

### Gruffalo Orienteering

Mallards Pike  
[www.forestryengland.uk](http://www.forestryengland.uk)  
Navigational challenge at Mallards Pike using a simple map to find twelve Gruffalo markers hidden in the deep, dark wood. If you're feeling competitive, choose to run, walk (or skip!) the course against the clock. Pick up a Gruffalo orienteering leaflet with a certificate and map for £1.50.

### Stonehouse Junior Parkrun

Oldends Lane Playing Fields, Stonehouse  
[www.parkrun.org.uk/stonehouse-juniors](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/stonehouse-juniors)  
A free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). Sundays, 9am start. It's free, but please register before you first go along. The aim is to have fun. Go along and join in whatever your pace!

### Painswick Rococo Garden

Painswick Rococo Garden  
[www.rococogarden.org.uk](http://www.rococogarden.org.uk)  
Discover the amazing maze or set your imagination free in the rustic play area and quirky follies. Run free, play hide and seek, and explore to your heart's content. You can even take your dogs (provided you keep them on a lead).

### Cheltenham Junior Parkrun

The Park, Cheltenham  
[www.parkrun.org.uk/cheltenham-juniors](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/cheltenham-juniors)  
A free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). It's free but please register before you first go along. The aim is to have fun. Go along and join in whatever your pace!

### Samurai Martial Arts

Various venues  
[www.samurai-martialarts.co.uk](http://www.samurai-martialarts.co.uk)  
Karate Classes - Fun, Fitness and Self Defence for the Whole Family. This Karate club offers introductory free trial karate classes to help you and your family decide whether or not karate is for you. The programmes offers age specific karate classes for children, teens and adults.

### Taster Days at The Crypt School

The Crypt School  
[www.cryptschool.org/admissions/open-events](http://www.cryptschool.org/admissions/open-events)

The Crypt School offer taster days in the summer for year 5 which comprise 4 lessons, with plenty of time available for the children to become familiar with their surroundings, to socialise with their potential Year 7 classmates and to have some fun! Visit the website for full details.

## Sat 15 Feb to Sun 13 Apr

### Mammoths at the Museum Family Trail

Corinium Museum  
[www.coriniummuseum.org](http://www.coriniummuseum.org)  
There are six mammoths dressed in costumes from different time periods hidden around the museum. Find all the mammoths and discover the characters from history they represent and win a prize! Find the three bonus mammoths and claim another prize!

## Sat 01 Mar to Sat 31 May

### Spring Family Trail

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum

[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt/family-trail-spring](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt/family-trail-spring)

Discover what lives at Westonbirt through this trail challenge and activities. Collect your detectives activity sheet from the Welcome Building to complete as you go, and return to collect your reward at the end! Self-guided trail suitable for children aged 6yrs and over.

## Sun 30 Mar to Wed 30 Apr

### An Egg-cellent Easter Trail

Gloucestershire Cathedral  
[www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk)  
Crack the clues and explore the Cathedral in this exciting new family trail and discover something new about Gloucester Cathedral. No booking is required and the trail is free to take part in, although donations towards the Cathedral are much appreciated.

## Mon 31 Mar to Sun 06 Apr

### Schools Football Week 2025

Nationwide  
[www.schoolsfootball.org/campaigns-and-events/schools-football-week](http://www.schoolsfootball.org/campaigns-and-events/schools-football-week)

Don't miss your opportunity to be part of this fantastic campaign celebrating the importance of schools' football, competitive or otherwise, to pupils across England and provides teachers and coaches with tools and a motivation to further discuss the benefits of schools' football.

## Mon 31 Mar to Fri 25 Apr

### Ultimate Activity Camps

Various locations  
[www.ultimateactivity.co.uk](http://www.ultimateactivity.co.uk)  
Ultimate Activity Camps provide outstanding Ofsted regulated childcare for 4-14 year olds during the school holidays with over 40 activities every week at over 40 locations! They have many years of experience and their enthusiastic staff create a programme that changes each day.

## Fri 04 Apr to Mon 05 May

### Funderworld Theme Park

Durdham Downs  
[www.funderworld.com](http://www.funderworld.com)  
Promising everything you love with unlimited rides plus much more... packed with unique thrill rides, huge roller coasters and a whole host of traditional fairground favourites. You will see the Downs come to life with a wash of vibrant colour, licensed bar and plenty of thrills!

## Sat 05 Apr to Sun 20 Apr

### Easter holidays at We The Curious

We The Curious  
[www.wethecurious.org](http://www.wethecurious.org)  
Celebrate the natural world at Bristol's science centre this spring. Make homes for pollinators in the Greenhouse, find out how your lunch can help the planet in Open City Lab and explore how communities can come together to care for nature in the Box gallery exhibition 'Nature Rising'.

## Sat 05 Apr to Mon 21 Apr

### Easter egg hunt at Dyrham Park

Dyrham Park  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/bath-bristol/dyrham-park](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/bath-bristol/dyrham-park)  
Make your way along the trail and find activities for the whole family. The trail takes place from 10am to 5pm, so go along and explore the beautiful grounds at Dyrham Park. Prices are £3.50 per trail which includes an Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and dairy or vegan and Free From chocolate egg.

## Sat 05 Apr to Sun 27 Apr

## Ultimate Easter Experience

Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park  
[www.cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk)  
The magic of springtime has arrived on the farm! Celebrate the arrival of over 600 lambs (and goat kids!) and participate in egg-citing new activities with your little explorers. Includes Build a Bunny, Lambing and Kidding, Face Painting and a Spring Trail.

## Easter Eggsplorers

Bristol Zoo Project  
[www.bristolzoo.org.uk/events/easter-eggexplorers](http://www.bristolzoo.org.uk/events/easter-eggexplorers)

Explore the zoo and search for the Easter egg boards along the way. Solve the puzzles on your trail activity sheet and discover some eggs-traordinary animal facts - like how ostrich eggs are the largest in the world! Complete the trail and claim your free sweet prize.



## Sat 05 Apr to Mon 05 May

### The Big Batsford Bunny Hunt

Batsford Arboretum  
<https://batsarb.co.uk/the-big-batsford-bunny-hunt>

The Easter Bunny's helpers have escaped and they're hopping around the arboretum - find them to win a prize! The Bunny Hunt costs £3 per child (payable on arrival) plus admission fees for children and accompanying adults. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-booking recommended online.

## Tue 08 Apr

### Our Feathered Friends Walk

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum  
[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt)  
Test your stealth and listening skills with an Owl and Mouse Game. Can you hear like an owl or move as silently as a mouse? Next, take on the Nest Building Challenge and see if you can create a sturdy nest that can hold an egg.

## Wed 09 Apr

### Marvellous Mammals Walk

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum  
[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt)  
There's No Place Like Home - search for setts, burrows, roosts, and drays and discover the fascinating creatures that live inside. Then, step into the world of nocturnal hunters with the Bat and Moth Game, where you'll explore echolocation and try to evade capture.

## Thu 10 Apr

### Amazing Minibeasts Walk

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum  
[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt)  
Take on the Pollinator Challenge, searching for flowers that attract bees, butterflies, and even night-flying moths. Become a wildlife detective with a Minibeast Hunt and get hands-on with Bug Homes, creating a mini-habitat for insects to leave in the arboretum.

## Sat 12 Apr to Sun 13 Apr

### Farmyard Friends

Avon Valley Railway  
[www.avonvalleyrailway.org](http://www.avonvalleyrailway.org)  
Meet some cute and cuddly animals from 2nd Chance Petting Farm including donkeys, goats, sheep and giant rabbits. Then take a ride on the trains and enjoy an animal-themed trail around the station.

SAY YOU  
SAW IT IN  
primary  
times

## Corinium Museum's Fun Family Trail: Brickus Orpheus



Imagine exploring a museum where the ancient myth of Orpheus is brought to life in a fun and modern way. Corinium Museum's Brickus Orpheus is a magical trail where children can discover statues of the animals, humans, gods and goddesses from the Orpheus myth, all made from colourful LEGO® bricks.

The trail, which starts on April 15th and runs up until the 2nd of November, is part of Project Orpheus, which celebrates the 200th anniversary of the discovery of the Roman Orpheus Mosaic at Barton Farm in Cirencester.

The first Project Orpheus family workshop at the museum in Park Street, Cirencester, is happening at Easter. During the Orpheus: Myth and Music workshop, children learn about the Orpheus myth and then make and decorate their very own lyre like the one Orpheus plays to tame the animals.

The workshop is on April 16th at 10.30am. Other Easter holiday craft workshops at the Corinium Museum include Mini Mosaics, Roman Swords and Shields, Anglo-Saxon Brooches, Happy Birthday to the Bard! and Prehistoric Pottery.

For more details about any of their family events or the museum itself, visit [www.coriniummuseum.org](http://www.coriniummuseum.org). Project Orpheus is year-long celebration and partnership project between the Corinium Museum, the Barn Theatre and New Brewery Arts in Cirencester and is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The museum is also developing a KS1 workshop for schools based on Greek and Roman myths.



## Easter at Sudeley Castle

This Easter, step back in time to medieval England with a family game of 'Tudor Guess Who'. As visitors explore the castle gardens and secret pathways, they are invited to search for Henry VIII's six wives. A life-sized hand painted model of each wife will be hiding with a fascinating fact about Easter traditions in Tudor England. Work out which wife is which... and discover giant Tudor eggs hidden around the castle grounds. (From April 12th-27th). Special Tudor Easter celebrations with dressed up historic actors

will invite you to try Tudor games, dancing, and medieval egg decorating. Join the fun across the Easter weekend. Families will also have the chance to join Elizabeth I for her extra hot cross bun special. [sudeleycastle.co.uk](http://sudeleycastle.co.uk)



## Easter Dragon Egg Trail

The Cotswold Dragon Conservation Society is on high alert! Several 'egg-quisite' dragon eggs have been mislaid. They're calling on all budding dragonologists to help track them down before it's too late! The Quest begins...

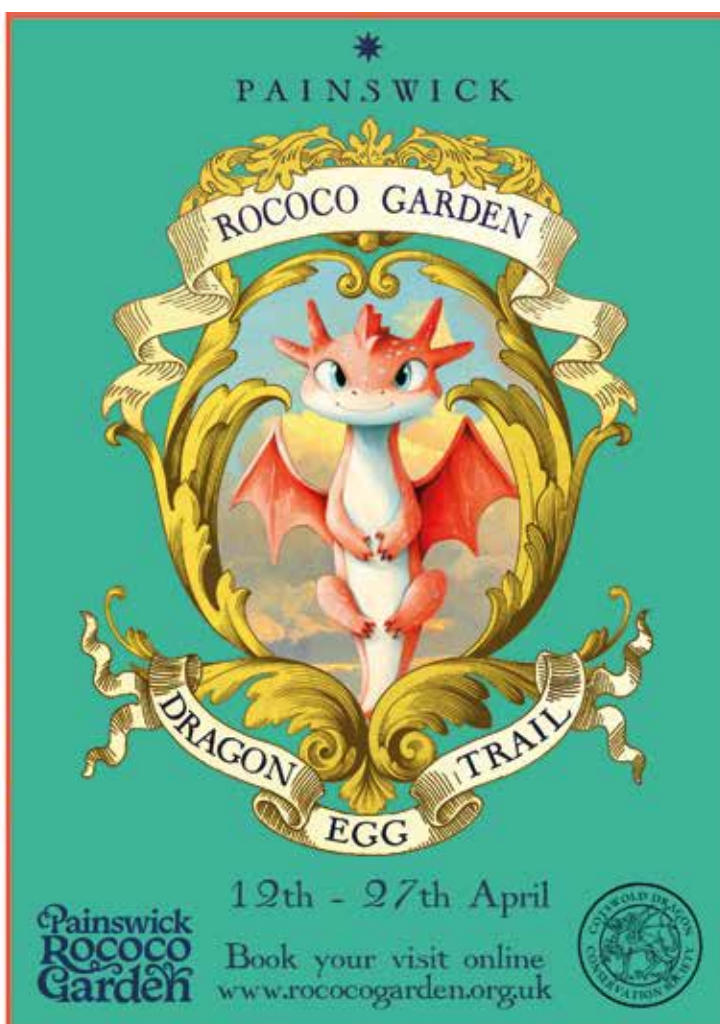
Your mission is to embark on an enchanted egg hunt like no other.



With a map in hand and a sense of adventure in your heart, you'll journey through the Garden in search of precious dragon eggs. Grab your explorer's hat and visit for an Easter adventure!

- Well-behaved dogs on short leads are welcome - they have it on good authority that dogs have a special ability to help sniff out dragon eggs!
- Dragon egg hunting is a very popular pastime - book your tickets today!

[www.rococogarden.org.uk](http://www.rococogarden.org.uk)  
[info@rococogarden.org.uk](mailto:info@rococogarden.org.uk)  
 01452 813204.





**Sat 12 Apr to Sun 20 Apr****Free Children's Easter Craft Activities**

Gloucestershire Warwickshire

Steam Railway  
[www.gwsr.com](http://www.gwsr.com)

Let your children explore their artistic talents by making easter baskets and paper flowers, pom pom chicks and more. From vibrant colours to glittery designs, watch as their creativity blossoms. Take part in the Easter egg hunt on platform 2.

**SAY YOU SAW IT IN**  
**primary**  
times

**Sat 12 Apr to Sun 27 Apr****Buzzing Bees Easter Adventure at Hidcote**

Hidcote  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/hidcote](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/hidcote)  
Make your way along the trail and find activities for the whole family. The trail takes place from 10am-4pm, so go along and explore the beautiful gardens of Hidcote. Prices are £3.50 per trail which includes an Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and dairy or vegan and Free From chocolate egg.

**Dragon Eggs**

Painswick Rococo Garden  
[www.rococogarden.org.uk](http://www.rococogarden.org.uk)  
Embark on an enchanted egg hunt like no other.

With a map in hand and a sense of adventure in your heart, you'll journey through the Garden in search of precious Dragon Eggs. Those who complete the quest will earn a chocolatey surprise.

**Easter egg hunt at Chedworth Roman Villa**

Chedworth Roman Villa  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/chedworth-roman-villa](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/chedworth-roman-villa)

The trail takes place from 10am-4.30pm, prices are £3.50 per trail which includes an Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and dairy or vegan and Free From chocolate egg. There will be ten stops on the trail for families to get involved in Roman-themed games, puzzles, activities and crafts.

**Easter Treasure Trail**

The Wilson Art Gallery and Museum  
[www.cheltenhammuseum.org.uk](http://www.cheltenhammuseum.org.uk)  
Follow the clues, explore the galleries, and discover hidden treasures throughout the museum. Complete the trail for a sweet reward and enjoy a day of creativity, exploration, and seasonal fun. The trail is open to all from 10am to 5pm. Suitable for all ages.

**Easter Family Adventures**

Sudeley Castle and Gardens  
[www.sudeleycastle.co.uk](http://www.sudeleycastle.co.uk)  
Along with the Easter-themed activities, springtime at Sudeley Castle offers the perfect opportunity to explore the beautiful gardens, adventure playground and historic castle treasures. Discover vibrant spring blooms, sweet cherry blossoms, striking beds of colourful tulips and luxurious magnolias.

**Sun 13 Apr****Tudor Day**

Berkeley Castle  
[www.berkeley-castle.com](http://www.berkeley-castle.com)  
Step back in time and immerse yourself in the fascinating world of the Tudors at Berkeley Castle! Inspired by the acclaimed BBC production Wolf Hall, which was partly filmed here, this special event brings history to life with appearances from iconic figures of the Tudor court.

**Tue 15 Apr****Roman Swords and Shields Workshop**

Corinium Museum  
[www.coriniummuseum.org](http://www.coriniummuseum.org)  
During this workshop you will create a Roman shield and sword so that you feel as ready as a real Roman soldier to venture into the world to do battle. This creative workshop is inspired by archaeology from the Roman fort and from tombstones of Roman cavalrymen. Booking essential.

**Tue 15 Apr to Thu 17 Apr****Awakening Woods – family activities**

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum  
[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt)  
Pick up a collecting bag from the Welcome Building and gather fallen petals and spring treasures as you make your way to the Learning Centre. Design a spring window with natural objects, make tissue primroses, felt magnolias and create pompom chicks. Suitable for ages 3+.

**Thu 17 Apr****Mini Mosaics**

Corinium Museum  
[www.coriniummuseum.org](http://www.coriniummuseum.org)  
Join this morning of mosaic making and explore the museum looking for inspiration from the museum's Roman mosaic collections. During this workshop you will create a mosaic tile to take home using colourful, safe glass tiles. All materials and instruction provided. Booking essential.

**Countrytastic**

Three Counties Showground  
[www.countrytastic.co.uk](http://www.countrytastic.co.uk)  
Meet farmyard animals, enjoy tractor rides and engage in indoor and outdoor activities including arts, crafts, sports and more. As this one-day event sells out every year, early booking is essential, so don't forget to get your tickets in advance as they are unavailable to purchase on the gate.

**Fri 18 Apr****Good Friday Easter Trail**

Cleeve Common Trust  
[www.cleevecommon.org.uk](http://www.cleevecommon.org.uk)  
Drop in any time in your half-hour time slot to start the Easter Trail. As a family follow the trail of clues on a circular approx. 1 mile walk around the Common. Answer all the questions to find your way back and collect your prize! Adults free, £3 (plus booking fee) per child.

**Fri 18 Apr to Mon 21 Apr****Easter Eggstravaganza**

Blenheim Palace  
[www.blenheimpalace.com](http://www.blenheimpalace.com)  
Whether you're looking for fun-filled entertainment for the kids or simply a chance

## Easter Time Travel at Berkeley Castle

Step back in time with a visit to the magnificent Berkeley Castle! Over the Easter weekend (19th – 21st April), experience the sights and sounds of history with an exciting Civil War re-enactment, where soldiers and horses clash in thrilling displays of musket fire and battlefield tactics. Immerse



yourself in the drama of the past as history comes to life before your eyes. For those who love period fashion, don't miss the exclusive Wolf Hall costume exhibition, showcasing stunning outfits from the acclaimed TV series - some of which was filmed at the Castle. With interactive living history, fascinating stories, and plenty of family-friendly fun, Berkeley Castle is the perfect place for an Easter adventure.  
[info@berkeley-castle.com](mailto:info@berkeley-castle.com)  
[www.berkeley-castle.com](http://www.berkeley-castle.com)



## Funderworld returns to Bristol's Durdham Downs this spring!

The Matthews Family took ownership of the Funderworld brand back in 2017 annually hosting events nationwide and they have quickly gained a reputation for providing events which offer excellent value family fun for everyone, with thrilling rides and attractions, plenty of fairground games and a massive selection of food and beverages. Funderworld Bristol opens to the public on Friday 4th April and runs until bank holiday Monday 5th May. The event consists of a whole array of exciting rides and attractions, including Crazy Mouse, a full-size roller coaster, extreme white-knuckle rides as well as Fun Houses, Haunted House and traditional fairground favourites. Funderworld has plenty for all ages, with an awesome selection for the little ones too

with fantastic children's rides, inflatable attractions and bungee trampolines. Visitors will be able to try their luck and skill on an array of game stalls to win a life-size teddy and other fantastic prizes, there are plenty to choose from. Guests will not go hungry either with a vast selection of truly scrumptious treats, from tasty burgers and hot dogs, freshly made donuts, crepes, candy floss, sweets, and speciality coffees, with a food court delivering a large variety of fast food at its finest. Entry includes four hours of unlimited riding, available online or at all times from the venue Box Office. Tickets are available online [www.funderworld.com](http://www.funderworld.com) Friday 4th April 5pm - 9pm all wristbands £10! Cannot be combined with any other offers.



**Berkeley Castle**

**Sunday 13th April • Sat 19th - Mon 21st April**

Thrilling reenactments, living history, and hands-on activities  
Fun for all the family in a truly spectacular setting!

[www.berkeley-castle.com](http://www.berkeley-castle.com)



# Batsford

ARBORETUM & GARDEN CENTRE

The Easter Bunny's helpers have escaped at Batsford Arboretum—find them to win a prize! Enjoy lunch or a sweet treat in the café and explore the play area for a fun family day out!

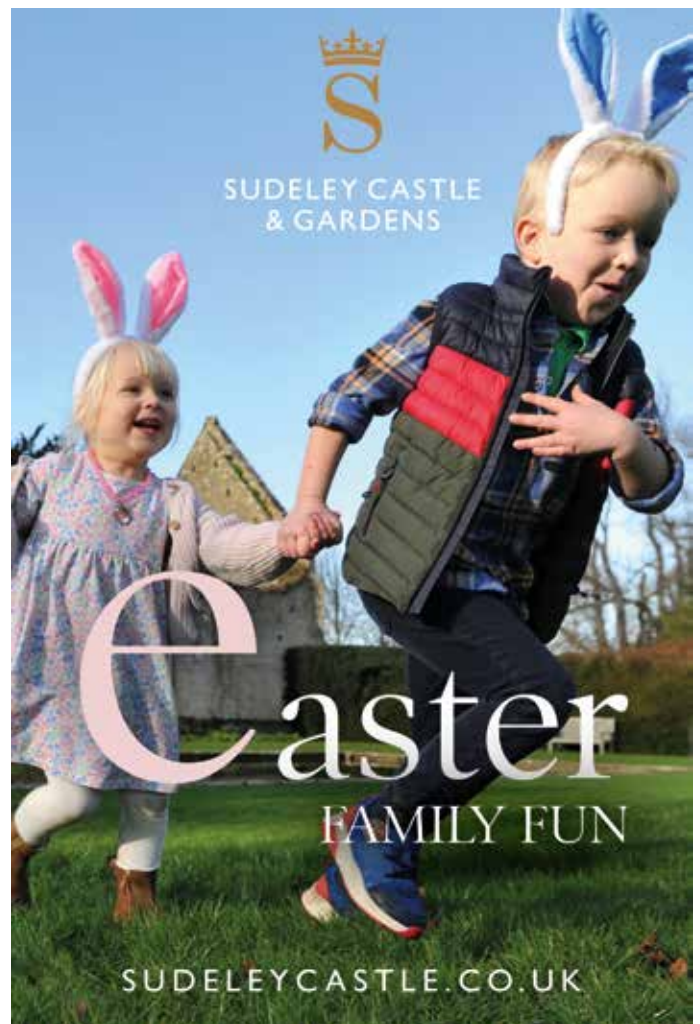


[www.batsarb.co.uk](http://www.batsarb.co.uk)

Batsford Arboretum & Garden Centre  
Near Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 9AT. Open daily.



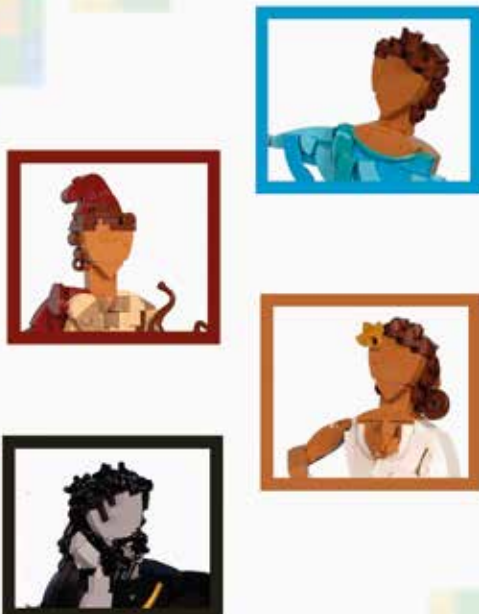
SUDELEY CASTLE  
& GARDENS



Easter  
FAMILY FUN

[SUDELEYCASTLE.CO.UK](http://SUDELEYCASTLE.CO.UK)

# Brickus Orpheus



## Museum Trail



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# Fostering: Finding the Avenue for You

Primary Times explores different fostering options ahead of this year's Foster Care Fortnight™ - 12th to 25th May 2025

**F**oster Care Fortnight™ is The Fostering Network's yearly campaign dedicated to raising awareness of foster care and celebrating the amazing people who open their hearts and homes to children in need. It's a chance to recognise the people that work

together to help children feel safe and supported. The theme for 2025 is The Power of Relationships. During this fortnight, many schools and communities come together to show appreciation for foster carers, with hopes that more people will consider fostering a child in the future.

Several fostering options are available to suit a variety of individual circumstances and needs. Here are a few to consider:

## Short term fostering

Provides children with a safe, loving home usually on a temporary basis, until a more stable long-term arrangement can be made. This could be for a number of days or weeks, months, or up to a few years.

## Long term fostering

The foster family aim to create more of a permanent home, caring for the child or young person until they reach adulthood.

## Emergency foster care

Temporary care is provided often suddenly or at short notice for a child in urgent need of safety, until more of a long-term home can hopefully be arranged.

## Private fostering

An arrangement made between a parent and carer, involving a child

under 16 (or 18 if the child has a disability) living in the care of someone who is not their parent or a close relative for 28 days or more. Private foster carers can be from the extended family or family friends, and the council must be notified of the agreement.

## The Difference Fostering Makes

Fostering aims to transform a child or young person's life, but it can also be incredibly rewarding for the foster carer too. From knowing that you're helping others during a challenging time to learning new social and communication skills, life lessons and creating memories together. Being a foster carer is also an impactful way to support your local community more widely.

To find out more about Foster Care Fortnight™, visit:

**[www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight](http://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight)**



to relax in beautiful surroundings, there's something for everyone to enjoy. From games to seasonal surprises, this Easter promises plenty of family friendly fun.

## Sat 19 Apr to Mon 21 Apr

### Easter Weekend – Civil War at the Castle

Berkeley Castle  
[www.berkeley-castle.com](http://www.berkeley-castle.com)

Experience the sights and sounds of the era as soldiers march, muskets fire, and cavalry charge through the Castle grounds. Immerse yourself in the period with lively dancing displays, showcasing the elegance and entertainment of the time. Families can enjoy a variety of children's activities.

## Sun 20 Apr to Mon 21 Apr

### Chocolate Train

Avon Valley Railway  
[www.avonvalleyrailway.org](http://www.avonvalleyrailway.org)

Enjoy an Easter ride on the iconic restored locomotive from the Fry's chocolate factory in Keynsham. And seeing as you can't have Easter without chocolate... children will also enjoy a FREE bar of Fry's chocolate handed out onboard while they travel the line.

## Tue 22 Apr

### Anglo-Saxon Brooch Workshop

Corinium Museum  
[www.coriniummuseum.org](http://www.coriniummuseum.org)

Brooches are a prevalent feature in the collection because they were not only beautiful, but also practical. Bring your little designers along to learn about these brooches and then create several of their own. Make them as dazzling as

you wish with gold, silver and bronze, and don't forget the gems either! £9 members, £10.50 for non-members. Booking essential. Suitable for ages 6 and above.

## Thu 24 Apr

### Prehistoric Pottery Workshop

Corinium Museum  
[www.coriniummuseum.org](http://www.coriniummuseum.org)

People have been making pottery for thousands of years. In this workshop, you will learn the techniques ancient people used to decorate their distinctive pots, and try your hand at making your very own vessel. After exploring the prehistory galleries for inspiration, get creative and decorate your pot with natural materials such as: sticks, string, and even your own fingernails! All materials are provided. Booking essential.

### KAM Performing Arts - Wicked Easter Workshop

The Reddings and District Community Centre  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

Children aged 4 - 7 years will have a wickedly good time with fun songs, magical characters, and a mischievous Easter egg hunt. They'll dive into singing, choreography, and character work—because who doesn't want to be a little bit Wicked or make good?

## Sat 26 Apr to Sun 27 Apr

### Bioblitz at Westonbirt Arboretum

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum  
[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt)  
Join scientists, wildlife experts, and fellow nature lovers as you explore the arboretum, spotting and recording as many species as possible. From

birds and bugs to botany and bryophytes, every discovery helps build a picture of the biodiversity at Westonbirt Arboretum.

## Thu 01 May

### Home Education Learning Event - Forests for the Future

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum  
[www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt/home-educated](http://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt/home-educated)

Using the arboretum's magnificent surroundings, students will have the opportunity to engage creatively with the natural setting. Each event has a different theme and learning activity for the children to immerse themselves in. These events are specifically designed for children aged 7-11 years, however younger and older siblings are welcome to join in. Children aged 7-11 years are £6 per child, accompanying children are £4 per child.

## Sat 03 May to Sun 04 May

### 2025 Amberley Cow Hunt

Amberley, Stroud  
[www.facebook.com/AmberleyCowHunt](http://www.facebook.com/AmberleyCowHunt)  
A hunt across Amberley Village and Minchinhampton Common hun to spot the best and worst cow puns -inspired by current affairs and children characters, followed by a vintage tea party with luscious homemade cakes. 1-5pm.

## Sun 04 May

### Celebrate VE80

Berkeley Castle  
[www.berkeley-castle.com](http://www.berkeley-castle.com)

Celebrate with amazing live performances from the incredible D-Day Darlings, as seen on Britain's Got Talent. Meet Winston Churchill himself as he strolls through the grounds, and step back in time with WW2 re-enactors offering an authentic glimpse into life on the front line.

## Sun 18 May

### Gloucester Brick Festival

GL1 Centre  
[www.brickfestivalevents.com](http://www.brickfestivalevents.com)

This will be a great day for families and every other kind of LEGO fan. With lots to see and do including speed building competitions, large scale displays, activities, traders selling loose bricks, new LEGO sets, retired LEGO sets, minifigures and accessories plus a dedicated building area.

## Sun 25 May

### Knights' Tournament

Berkeley Castle  
[www.berkeley-castle.com](http://www.berkeley-castle.com)

Witness four fully-armoured knights and their loyal squires clash in an epic battle for glory and honour. It's a day packed with adrenaline, drama, and unforgettable moments for the whole family—don't miss this chance to experience history come to life!

**[www.primarytimes.co.uk](http://www.primarytimes.co.uk)**



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To find out more about local council fostering, get in touch.



**0300 456 0120**



**info@fosterwithyourlocalcouncil.org.uk**



**www.fosterwithyourlocalcouncil.org.uk**



## Bees, blooms and the Great Bear - celebrate spring at We The Curious

From making giant bubbles to exploring the nature of time, Bristol's science centre, We The Curious, is brimming with exhibits to get minds buzzing. This holiday, visitors exploring the centre's two floors will also find the fun and engaging Live Science Team running activities and experiments themed around spring and the natural world. Families can head to the Greenhouse to make homes for pollinators, create colourful flowers in the Tinkering Space and find out how their lunch can help the planet in the Open City Lab. Over in the Box gallery, the inspiring 'Nature Rising' exhibition explores how communities can come together

to care for nature. Older children and their grown-ups can set off on a journey into the spring night sky in the Planetarium, encountering Ursa, the Great Bear constellation and getting a glimpse of the night sky far into the future. If you're visiting with little ones, then check out the 2D Space Explorers show for an interactive space adventure. Tickets are limited, and the centre does get busy during weekends and holidays, so it's best to book your day tickets and Planetarium shows in advance. More information and tickets: [wethecurious.org](http://wethecurious.org)

*Image credit: Lisa Whiting*



## Ultimate Activity Camps

Offering over 40 activities every week at over 40 locations! Ultimate Activity Camps provide outstanding Ofsted regulated childcare with the primary function of delivering a very high level of care and welfare for 4-14 year olds during the school holidays. They deliver this childcare through a fantastic range of exciting activities whether these be in the art room, the sports hall or playing fields. Ultimate Activity Camps use their many years of experience and enthusiastic

staff to create a programme that changes each day and delivers the outstanding levels of care you would expect whilst ensuring that kids of all ages are engaged and inspired to try new activities and make friends! Check location specific dates on their website!

[www.ultimateactivity.co.uk](http://www.ultimateactivity.co.uk)



## Family Fun at CountryTastic

One of the region's favourite children's events, CountryTastic returns this Easter with a fun-filled day of activities designed especially for children. This exciting day out gives kids the opportunity to explore the world of farming through interactive play and engaging activities. Meet farmyard animals, enjoy tractor rides and engage in indoor and outdoor activities including arts, crafts, sports and more. As this one-day event

sells out every year, early booking is essential, so don't forget to get your tickets in advance as they are unavailable to purchase on the gate.



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*Image credit: Lisa Whiting, registered charity no. 1047954*





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# Easter Escapades and Family Fun

**Primary Times** shares some spring fun for everyone with 10 exciting day-out ideas to explore this Easter

**A**s nature bursts into life and with warmer, sunny days to look forward to, it's the perfect time for fresh air and family adventures...

## Easter Egg Hunts

Take part in an event near you and get involved with hunting for colourful chocolate eggs. Make memories searching high and low at shopping centres, on nature trail routes and at community halls. Schools and nurseries also sometimes organise egg hunts too. If you're lucky, you might even get to meet the Easter Bunny!

## Farmyard Frolics

See some little baby chicks, make friends with the animals, feed the lambs, and get out and about in nature. Farm visits sometimes also offer tractor rides and petting or animal handling to enjoy, making it a fun day out for the whole family.



## Flower Trails & Botanical Gardens

Step into a world of colour and wonder this Easter! Look out for butterflies and beautiful spring flowers - how many tulips, bluebells or daffodils can you count? With magical gardens and hidden paths to explore, it's inspiration and relaxation combined.

## Adventure Parks and Theme Parks

Ride roller coasters, splash around on water slides, and meet some of your favourite characters. With exciting attractions for thrill-seekers of all ages, the tasty treats, refreshing drinks and magical memories await!

## Castles and Historic Sites

Travel back in time this Easter! Explore grand towers, secret tunnels, and ancient ruins. Imagine knights, queens, and epic battles as you step into history. With exciting stories and stunning

views, it's the perfect family outing.

## Easter Craft Workshops

Get creative and paint some colourful eggs or draw a scenic spring picture together. Why not have a go at pottery painting or making your own Easter decorations? Visit local art sessions as a family and let your imaginations soar. Don't forget to take your masterpieces home with you!

## Wildlife Reserves

From wetland spaces to birdwatching, embark on an adventure to a nearby wildlife reserve during the holidays to observe animals in their natural habitats! With lush landscapes and interactive activities, families can connect with nature and learn more about local wildlife.



## Country Fayres

Springtime fairs and festivals are full of wonderful family activities! Take part in carnival games, sample delicious food and drink, brave the rides and shop for unique handmade goods. With music, dancing, and lively stalls, it's a great way to celebrate the season together.

## Safari Parks and Zoos

Go on a wild adventure and see some amazing animals up close! Look out for your favourites together. From fascinating encounters and fun trails to hands-on activities, it's a day of education and exploration for the whole family.

## Nature Trails and Woodland Walks

Spot spring flowers, listen to birds sing, and look for hidden wildlife. Run and play in open green spaces, breathe in the forest air and enjoy exciting outdoor discoveries this Easter holiday.



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## The Benefits of Martial Arts for Children

Martial arts offer numerous benefits for children, making it an excellent choice for parents seeking physical, mental, and emotional development for their kids. First, it promotes physical fitness by improving strength, flexibility, and coordination.



Regular training helps children maintain a healthy lifestyle and develop good exercise habits. Second, martial arts teach discipline and respect. Through structured training, children learn to follow instructions, set goals, and develop self-control. Additionally, martial arts boost confidence and self-esteem. As children progress through belt levels and master new techniques, they gain a sense of accomplishment. Finally, martial arts provide valuable self-defence skills. Overall, martial arts offer a well-rounded approach to personal growth and development.

## Water Safety Talks

Puddle Ducks have been offering free water safety talks to primary schools within the area since July 2023. Over 3,000 children now have the knowledge to enjoy water safely, to keep their families and friends safe and know what to do in an emergency, and Puddle Ducks want to reach more children this year. Puddle Ducks' teacher Chloe and mascot Puddle would love to visit your school. Ask them to get in touch to secure your child's potentially life-saving visit! For more information and to book your school's water safety talks

contact:  
[chloe.griffiths@puddleducks.com](mailto:chloe.griffiths@puddleducks.com).  
[www.puddleducks.com/gloucestershire](http://www.puddleducks.com/gloucestershire)



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Call/message 07971 584901 or visit

[www.samurai-martialarts.co.uk](http://www.samurai-martialarts.co.uk)

## Favourite breeds and family pets with Graeme Hall 'The Dogfather'

Primary Times catches up with Master Dog Trainer Graeme Hall to discuss our wonderful canine companions, alongside the exciting, brand-new series of Channel 5's *Dogs Behaving Very Badly*

A talented columnist, TV presenter and best-selling author, Graeme Hall is perhaps best known for being one of the UK's leading professional dog trainers and the star of Channel 5's *Dogs Behaving Very Badly*, now on its seventh season. In the popular television show that's both entertaining and informative for the whole family, Graeme implements innovative fixes to almost any dog behavioural problem. Ahead of National Pet Day on April 11th, we spoke with Graeme to find out more about the new series and to get some advice for dog-loving families...

### If you could be any dog breed, what would you be and why?

Well "apparently" (according to someone who knows me well) I'm a boxer. They're fun-loving big galoots. But clumsy with it. No one is perfect.

### How would you sum up Season 7 of *Dogs Behaving Very Badly*?

I really think it's the best one yet, but I'll let others decide. Heartfelt, dramatic, laugh-out-loud funny at times (the dogs, not me). I think it's a cracker. So many great dogs and interesting people...

### In the new series, which dog did you find the easiest and which the most difficult to train?

Can I answer both with the same dog? Episode 1 features a lovely deaf Dalmatian. It's hard to train a dog when you can't communicate when he's not looking your way, but he was so smart it turned out to be easy.

### What's your favourite thing about working with dogs and creating the show?

Dogs do funny things: both funny-ha-ha and funny-peculiar, they also tug at our heartstrings or create heart-stopping moments, but the show is also about people and 'You can only change the dog through their people' is one of my mottos. Seeing that change come about is really rewarding.

### With National Pet Day coming up, what advice would you give to families looking to get their first dog?

Take your time and ask yourself the boring questions first: Is a dog really for you? Can you afford everything that goes with having a

dog? Do you have the time? Does your energy and personality suit the breed (or individual dog) you're thinking about? Never choose a dog or puppy just on looks alone. I know it's hard, but try to let your head rule your heart.

### Which dog breed do you think makes the best family pet?

Truth be told, all dogs are individuals, so picking one breed is tricky. If you twisted my arm though, I might say "Labrador". They're a good bet. (But, oh boy, I could tell you some stories about naughty ones!).

### Are there any future projects in the pipeline that we can look out for?

Well obviously, it's all top secret and 'If I told you, I'd have to shoot you', but rumour has it I'll be in Australia with a TV crew when you read this. Wink wink!

*Dogs Behaving Very Badly* Season 7 with Graeme Hall airs every Tuesday at 8pm on Channel 5. You can also watch online on catch up with My5: [www.channel5.com/show/dogs-behaving-very-badly/season-7](http://www.channel5.com/show/dogs-behaving-very-badly/season-7)

Photography © Avalon





## Explore different languages



## Easter Fun with The Cheltenham Trust

Make the most of the Easter holidays with a packed programme of activities across Leisure at Cheltenham, The Wilson Art Gallery and Museum, and Cheltenham Town Hall. Bounce into action at the Hoppin' Boppin' Easter Party on Thursday 17th April at Leisure at Cheltenham, featuring bouncy castles and a sensory-friendly SEND session. Enjoy buy one, get one half price with code PT25, subject to availability. Keep active at the Multi-Sport Activity Camp from Monday 14th to Friday 25th April (excluding weekends).

At The Wilson Art Gallery and Museum, embark on an Easter Treasure Trail from Saturday 12th to Sunday 27th April (excluding Mondays), following clues through the galleries to claim a sweet treat. Find out more at [cheltenhamtrust.org.uk/easter2025](http://cheltenhamtrust.org.uk/easter2025).



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# ART ADVENTURES

**Primary Times** explores some fun art activities for families, ahead of World Art Day 2025 on 15th April



**W**orld Art Day is a fantastic opportunity to embrace creativity and the joy of making art. The event also reminds us to appreciate the power of art in sparking curiosity and shaping our ideas. Schools, galleries, museums and communities often celebrate with workshops, exhibitions, and hands-on activities for all ages to promote its future development.

## Inspiring Young Artists at School and Home

Art can play a huge role in a child's development, helping them to express emotions, build self-confidence and develop important skills including imagination, problem-solving and critical thinking. Children discover a variety of artistic techniques at school, from painting and drawing to sculpture and collage, learning about world-famous artists along the way.



Parents can support children's learning and love for art through creative activities and family adventures. Enjoy local craft sessions or storytelling workshops, visit the cinema for innovative and inspiring films, try pottery painting together, or explore art galleries and museums. These outings help to deepen children's understanding and spark their interest in art. Encouraging creativity at home is just as important - giving children the freedom to experiment and bring their own ideas to life in fun and exciting ways!

## Make a Collage

Have a go at an engaging collage craft project. Sketch out a rough outline of a simple landscape together - the park or the beach,

for example. Your child might want to draw their favourite animal or object instead. Children can then use little cut up bits of scrap paper or tear from old magazines, cereal boxes or coloured card. By sticking the different paper pieces onto their drawing with glue, it creates an imaginative collage creation for their bedroom wall!

## Salt Painting

A simple yet exciting activity and a great way to combine both art and science - all you need is some white glue, table salt and watercolour paints! First, draw out the lines of your pattern - you could make it seasonal with an outline of the sun, a leaf, a snowflake, or a spider's web for example. Trace every line of your design with glue, sprinkle salt over your page

and then shake off the excess. Once dry, mix your watercolours, dip a little paintbrush in and gently apply to your raised salt pattern. Watch the paint magically travel along your design as the water is absorbed! See what you can create by adding a few drops of some different colours together.

## Paper Cup Wind Chimes

Decorate your paper cups; then pierce small holes around the mouth of the cup to feed your colourful string or thread through and tie in place. Then comes the fun part! Thread bright beads, buttons and bells along each piece of string and tie at the ends to create a unique, homemade wind chime. The perfect art activity for spring and summer, you can enjoy the lovely sounds it makes as it sways in the breeze.







## Discover the 'outstanding' school where everyone can flourish

The Crypt School, Gloucester's only co-educational grammar school, holds an open morning on Wednesday 25th June, when parents and their children are invited to learn about its academic, pastoral and extracurricular offerings. Families can meet current students, speak to staff and explore its purpose-built facilities. The school provides a supportive and inclusive environment with a strong pastoral system and a wide-

ranging enrichment and sporting programme. The school was rated 'outstanding' in all areas during its last Ofsted inspection in March 2024, with the report noting that "Pupils receive an exceptional quality of education and benefit from a rich offer to develop their talents and interests. The school motto is, 'flourish Cryptians', and pupils do." Find out more at: [cryptschool.org/open-events](https://cryptschool.org/open-events)



## Marling School: Where Tradition Meets Innovation in Education

Discover the heart of academic excellence and innovation at Marling School, where tradition meets forward-thinking education in the picturesque town of Stroud, Gloucestershire. Marling School, a grammar school for boys aged 11-18 with a co-educational Sixth Form, is dedicated to nurturing both academic prowess and personal growth. Students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and responsible citizens, ready to engage with the world around them.

The school's ethos, embodied in the motto "Abeunt Studia in Mores" (Let us go forward through study to character), underscores its dedication to nurturing well-rounded individuals. This commitment is rooted in Marling's five core values: respect, inclusion, academic excellence, passion for learning, and perseverance. Marling School provides a rich curriculum and a diverse array of extracurricular activities, ensuring every student has the chance

to explore their interests and talents.

Teachers excel at making lessons engaging and helping students discover new areas of knowledge. Whether it's science, art, sports, or music, there's something for everyone at Marling School. The inclusive and welcoming community at Marling School values diversity and ensures every student feels respected and supported. Visitors often remark on the warmth and enthusiasm of the students, who take pride in their school and are deeply engaged in their education. Marling School is a place where students can truly flourish, preparing them for a bright and successful future.

[www.marling.school](https://www.marling.school) | [reception@marling.school](mailto:reception@marling.school)



The Crypt School is the only co-educational grammar school in Gloucester, welcoming students aged 11 to 18.

We provide a supportive and inclusive environment with modern teaching facilities, a strong pastoral system and a wide ranging enrichment and extra-curricular programme which enables our diverse student body to flourish.

Find out more at: [cryptschool.org/open-events](https://cryptschool.org/open-events)

TEL: 01452 530291

EMAIL: [enquiries@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)



THE CRYPT SCHOOL  
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[www.cryptschool.org](https://www.cryptschool.org)



# BOOK SHELF

Check out the latest Primary Times shortlist of great books for young minds

## BEST FOR MYSTERY



### HIDDEN TREASURE

By Jessie Burton

Genre: Fiction | Age Range: 9+  
Price: £14.99 (Bloomsbury Children's Books)

For the people who live on the banks of the Thames, the river is a living, breathing thing. It can take your treasures. It can hide your treasures. And, sometimes, it can give them back... But should the treasure be put back together again?

## BEST FOR FUN



### THERE'S A LITTLE PUPPY IN YOUR BOOK

By Tom Fletcher

Genre: Board book | Age Range: 0-5  
Price: £7.99 (Puffin)

Tap, slide, and jiggle the pages to follow mischievous Puppy on her adventure. A wonderful, interactive board book, full of fun novelties that encourage curiosity and exploration with a gentle narrative that is perfect to read aloud.

## BEST FOR EXPLORERS



### THE WORLD NEEDS THE WONDER YOU SEE

By Joanna Gaines

Genre: Picture book | Age Range: 4-8  
Price: £12.99 (Tommy Nelson)

Joanna Gaines welcomes you on an imaginative adventure through nature's small surprises. With vibrant art that is full of dreamy details, this whimsical book will inspire your family to pause busy schedules and explore together.

## BEST FOR CURIOUS MINDS



### IZZY THE INVENTOR AND THE ELF INSPECTORS

By Zanna Davidson

Genre: Fiction | Age Range: 5-8  
Price: £5.99 (Usborne Publishing Ltd)

Science meets magic in this STEM-packed, funny new fiction series, starring Izzy the Inventor and a lovable unicorn. Packed full of illustrations and easy-to-read text, this series is perfect for newly independent readers.

## BEST FOR LITTLE ONES



### GOZZLE

By Julia Donaldson

Genre: Picture book | Age Range: 3-5  
Price: £12.99 (Macmillan Children's Books)

It's springtime. Bear finds a lost egg outside his cave. Out hatches Gozle, a very sweet little gosling who is convinced that Bear must be her daddy. A heartwarming and joyous book about what home and family truly mean.

## BEST FOR MAGIC



### DREAM KEEPERS: SECRETS OF MOON WOOD

By Rebecca Lewis-Oakes

Genre: Fiction | Age Range: 7+  
Price: £7.99 (Piccadilly Press)

When Bella and her friends are whisked away to the magical Moon Wood, the girls discover that they are Dream Keepers! But their arrival in the dream realm has awakened the Queen of Nightmares. Can they work together to banish her?

## BEST FOR SPRINGTIME



### AGAIN!

By Britta Teckentrup

Genre: Fiction | Age Range: 3+  
Price: £11.99 (Prestel)

It's finally spring, and Big Hedgehog and Little Hedgehog are ready to explore after having slept all winter. Everything looks the same, but also new. A charming story about friends, playing, and doing the same fun thing over and over.

## BEST FOR ADVENTURE



### MIGHTY MYTHS

By Thiago de Moraes

Genre: Illustrated guide | Age Range: 6-11  
Price: £15 (Alison Green Books)

A spectacular, fun-packed introduction to the magnificent myths and legends of the world. Discover dragons and giants and three-headed monsters... Packed with stories, facts and dazzling illustrations.

## BEST FOR FRIENDSHIP



### THE MISADVENTURES OF MINA MAHMOOD

By Farhana Islam

Genre: Fiction | Age Range: 7-9  
Price: £7.99 (Farshore)

Mina, Reema and Mobeen can't wait to go on their school trip... until somebody spooks them with stories about Bertie Blackteeth. This trip will test their friendship, courage and love of potato chips to the limit.



# BOX OFFICE

All the very best theatre, arts and films near you, there's loads more on [www.primarytimes.co.uk/gloucestershire](http://www.primarytimes.co.uk/gloucestershire)



Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at the Everyman Theatre

## Bacon Theatre

[www.bacontheatre.co.uk](http://www.bacontheatre.co.uk)

Sun 06 Apr

### Princess Live!

The ultimate hour long princess pop party, featuring your favourite fairytale royalty in this all singing all dancing concert show. With pop and musical theatre songs that will get the whole family singing and dancing along. Imagine your favourite princesses but as you've never seen them before.

Wed 09 Apr

### Puss In Boots

Let's All Dance Ballet Company brings a new version of Puss in Boots about a friendship between a magical cat and a young man with a talent for music. Treat your children to the magic of live, professional dance and fire their imaginations with this lovely new show for the whole family!

Thu 29 May

### Angelica Sprocket's Pockets

Angelica Sprocket lives next door. Her overcoat has pockets galore! You'll never believe the wonders hidden within!

Featuring Folksy's signature blend of live music, puppetry, interactive fun, and a dash of delightful chaos! This joyful show is the perfect treat for the entire family.

**SAY YOU SAW IT IN**  
**primary**  
**times**

## Cheltenham Playhouse

[www.cheltenhamplayhouse.org.uk](http://www.cheltenhamplayhouse.org.uk)

Thu 22 May to Sun 25 May

### Pinocchio

A new family musical, written by Karen Benjamin with songs by David Last, performed by Performing Arts students from the University of Gloucestershire. Age recommendation 7+.

## Cidermill Theatre

<https://cidermilltheatre.com/princess-live>

Sat 12 Apr

### Princess Live!

Princess Live is the ultimate hour long princess pop party, featuring your favourite fairytale royalty in this all singing all dancing hour long concert show. With pop and musical theatre songs that will get the whole family singing and dancing along.

## Cineworld Gloucester

[www.cineworld.co.uk/cinemas/gloucester-quays](http://www.cineworld.co.uk/cinemas/gloucester-quays)

Fri 04 Apr to Sun 06 Apr

### A Minecraft Movie

Four misfits find themselves struggling with ordinary problems when they are suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into the Overworld. To get back home, they'll have to master this world while embarking on a magical quest with an unexpected, expert crafter, Steve.

## Everyman Theatre

[www.everymantheatre.org.uk](http://www.everymantheatre.org.uk)

Tue 15 Apr to Sat 19 Apr

### Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Escape into a world of pure imagination with this devilishly delicious story of young Charlie Bucket. Based on the iconic story from Roald Dahl, join Charlie and Grandpa Joe as they enter the iconic world of Willy Wonka and his incredible chocolate factory.

Sat 24 May

### Splat!

Splat! is a physical comedy about Art and Creativity for ages 3-6. Set in an artists studio the show follows two aspiring artists one dedicated and serious the other erratic and messy. The show explores themes of collaboration, play, dedication, spontaneity and letting go.

## Gloucester Guildhall

[www.gloucesterguildhall.co.uk](http://www.gloucesterguildhall.co.uk)

Sun 04 May

### Shlomo's Beatbox Adventure for Kids

Beatboxer SK Shlomo makes amazing music with just a mouth and a mic, and has performed around the world with legends like Bjork, Ed Sheeran and Rudimental. Anybody can become one of this sonic superhero's sidekicks in a world of funny sounds and brilliant noises.

Sat 10 May

### Wonderland Faery Ball

Step into Faery Wonderland at The Gloucester Guildhall for an enchanted evening in the Faery Realm. This year Faeries gather to incorporate the magical theme of Alice in Wonderland. Enjoy an incredible lineup of uplifting musical talent for an enchanted evening in Faery-land.

## Sudeley Castle and Gardens

[www.sudeleycastle.co.uk](http://www.sudeleycastle.co.uk)

Fri 09 May to Mon 19 May

### Gifford's Circus

As determined as ever to delight, Gifford's Circus will weave together a cast of acrobats, magicians, musicians and clowns from all over the world in a show that will combine poetry, music and performing arts. The circus, is renowned for producing a show worthy of London's West End.

## The Roses Theatre

[www.roses theatre.org](http://www.roses theatre.org)

Wed 16 Apr to Thu 17 Apr

### Pinocchio

Join Pinocchio as he sets off on his adventure to Fantasy Island, where he hopes to learn right from wrong and fulfil his dreams of becoming a real boy. But will he follow his conscience or will the wicked Stromboli have other plans?

Fri 18 Apr to Fri 25 Apr

### Snow White (PG)

Disney's classic 1937 film Snow White is the latest to get the live-action remake. The magical music adventure journeys back to the timeless story with beloved characters Bashful, Doc, Dopey, Grumpy, Happy, Sleepy, and Sneezzy alongside an all-star cast.

Tue 27 May

### All Aboard: A Pirate Adventure!

This 50-minute high-energy family adventure guarantees a swashbuckling journey filled with fun for children of all ages and grown-ups too. Before the show, at 12pm, enjoy free captain

crafts, treasure treats and bandit board games. All included in the price of the ticket.

## The Sub Rooms

<https://thesubrooms.co.uk>

Wed 23 Apr

### Peter Rabbit 2

The sequel to the 2018 film, 'Peter Rabbit'. After the marriage of Bea and Thomas along with the release of the acclaimed novel based on the adventures of Peter and his friends, Peter is feeling like everyone only sees him as rebellious.



## Vue Stroud

[www.myvue.com/cinema/stroud](http://www.myvue.com/cinema/stroud)

Sat 12 Apr to Thu 17 Apr

### Babe (30th Anniversary)

Gentle farmer Arthur Hoggett wins a piglet Babe at a county fair. Narrowly escaping his fate as Christmas dinner, Babe bonds with motherly border collie Fly and discovers that he too can herd sheep. But will the other animals accept him?

To find out more  
visit our What's On  
page on the  
**primary**  
times  
website



Splat! at the Everyman Theatre



# WIN!

To enter these competitions please visit:  
[www.primarytimes.co.uk/competitions](http://www.primarytimes.co.uk/competitions)

## WIN A FAMILY TICKET FOR TWO ADULTS AND TWO CHILDREN TO BERKELEY CASTLE

Step into history and adventure at Berkeley Castle! Explore grand rooms, secret passages, and beautiful gardens while the kids enjoy interactive activities, trails, and exciting events like jousting and falconry.



A perfect family day out. The ticket can be used on any date this season, Sunday - Wednesday.

### FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SIMPLY ANSWER...

**What is Berkeley Castle famous for?**

- A) Being the birthplace of William the Conqueror
- B) The imprisonment and alleged murder of King Edward II
- C) Hosting the signing of the Magna Carta
- D) Serving as the first Parliament building

T&C's Apply | Closing Date 30th April 2025

## WIN A FAMILY TICKET (TWO ADULTS AND THREE CHILD TICKETS) TO COUNTRYTASTIC 2025

CountryTastic returns this Easter with a fun-filled day of activities designed especially for children. Meet farmyard animals, enjoy tractor rides and engage in indoor and outdoor activities



including arts, crafts, sports and more. As this one-day event sells out every year, early booking is essential.

[countrytastic.co.uk/whats-on/about-the-show-and-special-guests/](http://countrytastic.co.uk/whats-on/about-the-show-and-special-guests/)

### FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SIMPLY ANSWER...

**Which JLS star and farmer will families be able to meet at CountryTastic this year?**

- A) JB Gill B) Marvin Humes C) Aston Merrygold

T&C's Apply | Closing Date 9th April 2025

## WIN A BOND 11+ PREP BUNDLE FOR THE AGE RANGE OF YOUR CHOICE



With over 60 years of experience publishing 11+ practice materials, you can count on Bond. One lucky winner will win a bundle of Bond Assessment Practice Books (either for ages 5-6, 6-7, 7-8, 9-10 or 10-11) and a set of the new 11+ Vocabulary Flashcards. For more 11+ tips and practice, visit: [www.bond11plus.co.uk](http://www.bond11plus.co.uk)

### FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SIMPLY ANSWER...

**What word is opposite to 'doubt' and rhymes with achieve?**

- A) Drought B) Believe C) Receive

T&C's Apply | Closing Date 17th April 2025

## WIN 4 FREE VUE CINEMA TICKETS TO SEE THE KARTOON CHANNEL'S GAMING CHALLENGE UK AND 4 FREE T-SHIRTS



The first ever feature-length gaming movie aimed at children and families will hit the big screens this Easter featuring six children from across the UK battling it out on the hugely popular **Roblox** platform to be crowned the ultimate gamer.

### FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SIMPLY ANSWER...

**How many kids are taking part in The Kartoon Channel's Gaming Challenge UK?**

- A) 2 B) 4 C) 6

T&C's Apply | Closing Date 11th April 2025



# KIDS

# ZONE

## Letter Scramble

Unscramble the letters to create a word\*

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(1) YBBA KICHC

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(2) TLCHCOOAE GEG

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

(3) BYNNU ITBBAR

## Jokes

What did the Easter Bunny say to the carrot?  
Nice gnawing you.

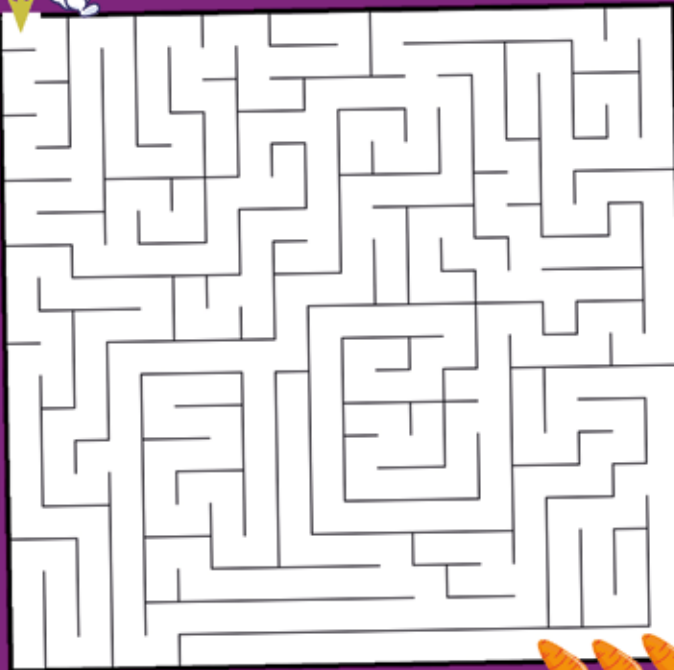
What did one Easter egg say to the other?  
Heard any good yolks today?

Knock, knock! Who's there?  
Some bunny. Some bunny who?  
Some bunny's been eating all my Eggs!

What do you call a very tired Easter egg? Eggs-austed.

## Rabbit Run

Can you help the rabbit reach the carrots?



## Spot The Difference

Can you spot the 5 differences



## Chocolate Wordsearch

Can you find which chocolate brand is missing?

■ Smarties ■ Twirl ■ Wispa ■ Mars ■ Galaxy ■ Bounty  
■ Milky Way ■ Freddo ■ Kit Kat ■ Maltesers ■ Crunchie

S	M	A	R	T	I	E	S	Q	W	M
Y	K	K	M	W	N	B	F	D	S	A
A	M	I	V	I	I	Q	W	E	A	L
W	G	X	C	R	V	S	B	R	N	T
Y	A	P	O	L	U	T	P	F	A	E
K	L	Z	X	C	V	N	M	A	R	S
L	A	E	C	R	U	N	C	H	I	E
I	X	R	C	K	I	T	K	A	T	R
M	Y	T	R	G	B	N	H	Y	U	S
B	O	U	N	T	Y	Y	N	B	O	U

## Colouring Corner

Add some colour to the Easter egg!



\* Answers (1) Baby Chick (2) Chocolate Egg (3) Bunny Rabbit



# Gloucestershire Grammar Schools Entrance Test Dates for 2026 Entry

Register in Year 5  
to sit Entrance Test in Year 6

## ONLINE REGISTRATION

Opens: Monday 19 May 2025 (12 noon)

Closes: Friday 27 June 2025 (12 noon)



## TEST DAY

Saturday 13 September 2025

[Register here!](#)

For more information and to register, visit school websites



THE CRYPT SCHOOL



### BOYS

[marling.school](http://marling.school)  
[strschool.co.uk](http://strschool.co.uk)

### CO-ED

[cryptschool.org](http://cryptschool.org)  
[patesgs.org](http://patesgs.org)

### GIRLS

[denmarkroad.org](http://denmarkroad.org)  
[ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk](http://ribstonhall.gloucs.sch.uk)  
[stroudhigh.gloucs.sch.uk](http://stroudhigh.gloucs.sch.uk)

