The week ahead @ Saint James

"Be strong and courageous and do it!" 1 Chronicles 28:20

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Tues 15 th July	Thurs 17 th July	Fri 18 th July		Wed 3 rd Sept	Thurs 4th Sept
Year 6 Leavers'	Year 6 Photo	Year 6 Leavers'	Last day of term	INSET day	Start of term –
Disco	Booth in school	service	school closes	(no children in	children return
5pm – 6pm		12.15pm	between 1.30 -	school)	to school
			1.45pm		

A message from the Senior Leadership team

There's quite a menagerie in this week's newsletter; 30 bears, 1 big bad wolf, a child who swims like a dolphin and two children who have wallowed in mud like hippos! We've got some impressive, selfless examples of charity fundraising and a very special gift to the school. With our 'Big Move' happening today, followed by an exciting event after school, it is sure to be an enjoyable start to the weekend.

We're enjoying hearing about the beautiful sunflowers that have brightened your days and were grown from the seeds the children brought home in the Spring. If you have any photos of sunflowers you've grown, please do share them with us, so we can brighten the days of others.

Collective Worship



This week's theme: **Friendship**

This week's bible verse:

Elijah and Elisha

2 Kings 3:11

It may have been hot this week, but it's been bearable in school!

There are currently no bears in residence at London Zoo. There are also no bears homed at Marwell Zoo. Indeed, there are only 16 bears in UK zoos. This includes 6 polar bears at Yorkshire Wildlife Park and 4 brown bears at Bristol Zoo Project. Woburn Safari Park also has 4 North American black bears.

Whereas some schools might unkindly and unfavourably be compared to zoos, that is never a comparison that has been levelled at Saint James Primary School! Therefore, it is a surprising announcement that Saint James is now the home to thirty, rare bears. These beautiful creatures, resplendent in royal blue, are now taking residence in every room of the school with a clear marker that links them to their new home. So, are we now busy researching the diet of bears and carefully scrutinising the budget to see how much can be diverted towards the purchase of berries, nuts, roots, insects, fish, and small mammals? Thankfully not. Our lovely new bears are exceptionally well-behaved, have no dietary requirements and are mercifully house-trained.

So, why have we received this wonderous gift of thirty beautiful bears? Danielle (who is now in Year 9) and her brothers Zeke and Eli (now in Year 6) wanted to provide the school with a lasting memory of them, in exchange for the wonderful and lasting memories they will have as a result of their time at Saint James Primary school. Begun as a two-year-project (shortly after Danielle left the school) the whole family became like a cottage industry, busily creating bears for each class and room in the school.

During Collective Worship on Monday, each class was presented with a lovingly wrapped package holding the new addition to their class. Immediately after unwrapping their beautifully constructed present, the children were deep in thought and conversation, trying to think of a fitting name for their class mascot.

We are all probably familiar with Paddington, the refugee bear from Peru who was named after the railway station where he was found by the Brown family. We also probably know of Winnie the Pooh, named after AA Milne's pet swan 'Pooh' and a black bear called Winnie that was homed at London Zoo. However, those names show a shocking lack of inspiration when compared to some of the imaginative monikers dreamt up for 'the Saint James thirty'!

On behalf of all the classes and staff in the school, we would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to the entire Cooper family for their monumental sewing efforts and kind and personalised gift. We're sure the bears will be in residence for many years to come.









Young Hero Awards 2025 - Sophia from Saint James is shortlisted

Over the past few years, we're sure you'll recall reading about Sophia, now in Year 5, who has completed some impressive fundraising feats for charity. Beginning when she was seven years old, Sophia swam a mile to raise much-needed funds for the Southampton Hospital Charity, where her brother Oliver was under the care of the respiratory team. Then, only a year later, Sophia doubled her challenge by swimming two miles for Diabetes UK. Both of those charities were close to Sophia's heart and inspired her to don her goggles and swim suit and complete the respective challenges she set herself. However, when she heard of the campaign for her friend and classmate Lily, she knew she had to go one better! She set herself a challenge of swimming 5km (the equivalent of Saint James Primary School to West Quay in Southampton).

Specialists considered that Lily, who lives with Wiedemann Steiner syndrome (a rare genetic disorder), would greatly benefit from an assistance dog to support her. However, the cost of purchasing and training a dog capable of fulfilling this role was prohibitive without extensive fundraising, so her parents began a campaign to raise funds to achieve this goal. For Sophia, after hearing this, there was never any question what her next fundraising endeavours would be. Now a member of the City of Southampton Swimming Club, Sophia, her dad and her coaches worked extensively at distance training to help her achieve her target of 5 kilometres. She even enjoyed a 1:1 training session with Katy Sexton MBE, former Olympic swimmer and winner of the 200-metre backstroke at 2003 World Championships!

After two months of rigorous training, Sophia took to the pool at 6am on 21st December. With the support of her dad by her side and her family and friends encouraging her, she completed the 5 kilometres (200 lengths in the 25m pool) in just over 2 hours!

We can't imagine that there are many 10-year-olds that have selflessly raised so much for charity, in their young lives. Perhaps unsurprisingly, we aren't the only ones who share this opinion, as Sophia has now been nominated and shortlisted as a finalist for a BBC Radio Solent Make a Difference Award for 2025. The awards recognise individuals and groups who make life better for people in our communities. Fittingly, Sophia is a finalist in the Young Hero category.





To surprise Sophia with her selection, and film her reaction, a team from BBC Radio Solent visited Saint James Primary School on Tuesday. Sophia, along with Lily and her brother Oliver, met with the reporter Suzanne and were interviewed about her amazing achievements.

If you would like to listen to the interview with Suzanne follow the link below and scroll forward to 3:47

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m002f0h9

A film, also recorded at the time, will be available on social media. It will be placed on the BBC Radio Solent Facebook page from Monday 14th July. You will be able to view it by following the link:

https://www.facebook.com/HampshireBBC

Saint James: synonymous for stunning sunflowers

Van Gogh is famed for his 'Sunflowers', a series of still life paintings featuring the vibrant, yellow flower. 'Sunflowers' is also the name of a popular fragrance, launched in 1993 from the cosmetics house of Elizabeth Arden. Finally, 'Sunflower', by Post Malone and Swae Lee, is now the most streamed song in U.S. history with just over 3.96 billion streams. Hopefully, after this Summer, those associations with sunflowers will become less synonymous than their association with Saint James Primary School (in West End at least)!

This Springtime, you will have received three envelopes containing sunflower seeds to distribute among your friends and neighbours in West End. We received many complimentary emails at the time, from families who received this unexpected gift and were looking forward to seeing the seeds sprout and eventually blossom. The initial intention, to spread some happiness among our community, seems to have been realised as we are now receiving photographs of the impressive flowers that have grown from the seeds.

If you have any pictures of sunflowers that have grown from these seeds, please do share them with us and we'll aim to publish them in future weeks. Please send any photos to a.boyden@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk .



Breaktime snacks

We are in the fortunate position that fruit is provided for all children in school, thanks to the Government scheme that provides free fruit and vegetables to children aged 4 to 6 and the generosity of Shergolds, who have been providing fruit for all of Key Stage 2. However, if you would like to send your child with a piece of fruit or a vegetable, of their choice, you are welcome to. Please note, the only snacks permissible for breaktime are pieces of fresh fruit and vegetable. Fruit flavoured products, such as fruit 'winders' and 'yoyos' are not acceptable as a snack for breaktime.

Huffing and puffing isnt a great deal of fun, so our Big Bad Wolf used a leaf-blower to get the job done!

As you are probably aware, if you have been a parent at Saint James for a while, we have previously had our field invaded by a pair of deer. The startled creatures needed to be shepherded back into the area of woodland that they call home, located between the end of our field and the motorway. Their presence, so close to the school site, might go some way to explaining the visit of one of fairytales' most feared, and perhaps misunderstood creatures; the Big Bad Wolf! Unfortunately, this mischievous and hungry predator appears to have become bored with the taste of venison and has developed a taste for gammon, bacon and ham!

With those concerns in mind, we enlisted our brilliant Year R and Year 1 engineers to take on the ultimate Design Technology challenge: building dens fit for the Three Little Pigs. Carefully considering the structural rigidity of their creations, our design teams felt certain that their homes would stand up to the ultimate test.

Just as they were admiring their architectural masterpieces, in stormed the Big Bad Wolf. You may be aware that Superman is the alter ego of Clarke Kent, Spiderman is the other persona of Peter Parker and Diana Prince is the civilian identity of Wonder Woman. However, even we were unaware that, in everyday life, the Big Bad Wolf usually identifies as, site manager, Mr Vardy! Armed with an industrial strength leaf blower, the mischievous Big Bad Wolf huffed, puffed and switched on his hand held, gardening appliance! Despite the alliterative adjectives that are so often placed in front of the wolf, the brave children appeared unfazed by the unexpected intrusion, even giggling as he put their structures to the test!

Were the three little pigs present, we're sure they would have had some clear preferences when it came to house builders, as they watched some of the structures stand strong and others collapse. Regardless of whether their buildings were successful or not, the children had a thoroughly enjoyable time. The Year 1 and Year R teams would like to extend a big 'thank you' to Mr Vardy, our big (but ultimately not very bad) wolf!











We're getting bored of our existing board games

With many children enjoying being outside and playing, during this beautiful weather we've been experiencing, it is important that we remember that some still enjoy the opportunity for some calm, quiet time during their lunchtimes. This is evident by the popularity of Board Games club.

Whilst we have a significant number of games that are appropriate for children in Key Stage 1, we would appreciate any donations of games that would appeal to children in Key Stage 2. If you have any good condition games that you are willing to donate, please send them into school with your child, who can deliver them to Mrs Weston or Mrs Griffiths in the Ark.

Can there be anything better than spending time with your bud, raising money for charity and getting covered in mud!

In this week's newsletter you will read about a very bad wolf, thirty very good bears and now, based on how much they seem to like mud, two very happy, helpful hippos! However, I'm sure you'll agree that, even with mud caked all over them, Jude and Hugo in Year 4 couldn't be mistaken for the world's deadliest land mammal!

The two determined friends decided that they wanted to 'do their bit' for a charity close to their heart, so decided to brave a five kilometre 'mud run' for Cancer Research UK. Whilst for many of us, the thought of running five kilometres is daunting enough, couple that with thick, wet and gooey terrain and it's probably enough to put most of us off! However, relishing these challenging conditions, Jude and Hugo set forth with gusto, completing the course with the same smiles on their faces that they began with! What an achievement!

Determined and resilient; as well as conquering this undeniably challenging course, the two friends raised over £100 for Cancer Research! Well done boys, we're sure this very deserving charity will thoroughly appreciate your efforts.



Uniform expectations

With the Summer holidays rapidly approaching, we're sure it won't be long before the 'Back to school' adverts start appearing on TV and in the media! It therefore seems an appropriate time to give a reminder about uniform expectations, before families start shopping for the return to school.

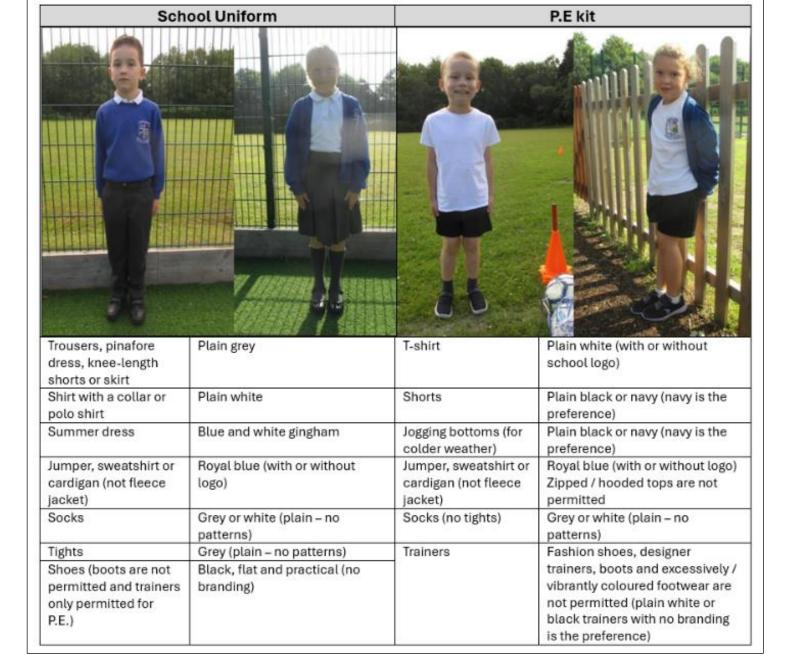
Please remember that you can purchase labels from Stikins and MyNameTags (see the adjacent codes). A percentage of any purchases is donated to the school.

STIKINS°









Please be respectful of other road users

Whilst we appreciate the efforts so many parents are making to park respectfully and responsibly, we received some alarming news from some of our parents and children, this week.

Cones had been placed out along Moorgreen Road, due to emergency services getting stuck and therefore delayed when they tried to attend someone needing urgent care, earlier in the week. Whilst any restriction on parking can be frustrating, the resulting behaviour can be viewed as irresponsible at best. Some parents were observed, by parents and children walking to school, to be knocking the cones over and deliberately moving them, laughing as they did so. Cones were thrown from the road and onto the grass, so parents could park closer.

Some of our families have reported that they found this irresponsible and unthinking behaviour difficult to justify to their impressionable young children. Please remember, your actions are model for your children and double yellow lines and temporary traffic measures, whilst frustrating, have been put in place to support all road users.

Plea for a pianist

Do you play the piano? Do you know someone else who plays the piano? Could you spare a half an hour a fortnight to help us with our Songs of Praise Collective Worship? Starting from September on Wednesdays at 10am.

We are always trying to improve the quality of our singing in Collective Worship and to sing a variety of hymns and songs. Although we have a very capable and qualified teacher who can teach the singing, when learning the songs it is always good to have a piano accompaniment.

If you think you could volunteer to help in this way, please contact Reverend Linda in school or via <u>L.Galvin@st-james-westend.hants.sch.uk</u>. If you would like to find out more about this role, Reverend Linda would be pleased to speak with you and explain more.



End of term arrangements

Please note: There has been a change to the start time of the Leavers' service for Year 6 parents. It is now at <u>12.15pm</u>.

12:15pm Leavers' service in the hall for parents

1:15pm Year 6 pupils leave

13:30-13:45 All other year groups leave (staggered end time)

13:45 School is closed for children

Run for fun, at the park (in the sun?)

On Sunday 13th July, we would like to invite you to join us at Dowds Farm Junior Parkrun. Junior Parkrun is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 2k event for juniors (4 to 14 year olds). It starts at 9am. Miss Howell and Mr Jones will be present from 8:45, if you would like to join us. Please note: this is a public event and not an educational visit. You will therefore need to remain present and supervise your children. Further information is included below:

What does it cost to join in?

Nothing - it's free! but please register before you first come along. Only ever register with parkrun once and don't forget to bring a scannable copy of your barcode (request a reminder). If you forget it, you won't get a time.

How fast do I have to be?

The aim is to have fun. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!

Try something new this Summer!

Eastleigh Borough Council's SportWorks team have informed us of the Summer holiday activity programme across the Borough, with an emphasis on getting kids moving. The programme is for 5-16 year-olds and runs from 28 July to 22 August. Included alongside familiar sessions across the four weeks are: Aerial Hoops, Fencing, CrossFit, Fishing, Sailing, and Yoga (as well as many more). Free Swimming is also available at Places Leisure Eastleigh. The programme launches 28 July with the popular SkateJam at Freespace Skate Park, Skateboarders, scooters and BMXers are all welcome!

Due to additional funding, kindly provided by town and parish Councils, the price for activities can be kept to £3.50 per session, or £1 for households in receipt of Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support.

Please visit https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/sport-and-health to sign up.



Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Mental Health Focus Week



A week of training days for Parent/Carers and Professionals provided by Hampshire CAMHS on a variety of subjects.

- 8th Eating Disorders and Difficulties
- 9th Anxiety understanding and strategies to support young people



10th Trauma - The profound impact on young people

- 11th Understanding ADHD
- 12th Embracing Autism



Mental Health





We are also running a whole week of bitesized workshops to run alongside these days. The sessions all last one hour and cover topics including: Introduction to mental health, anxiety, low mood, sleep hygiene, trauma and much more.

8 - 12 September 2025

United Reform Church Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RZ

For more information scan the QR codes or visit:

https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/



Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

INFORMATION & ADVICE SESSION

YOUNG PERSON'S MENTAL HEALTH

10am - 2pm

The Arc, Jewry Street Winchester, SO23 8SB

This is an opportunity for parents/carers, professionals or young people to come and chat to our CAMHS clinicians, ask questions, get advice and resources.

Bookable slots available via our website or just drop in.



7 May 3 September

4 June 1 October 2 July 5 November

6 August 3 December

hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk

STUDENTS AND E





We're bubbling up against a lack of basic toiletry needs. Can you help us burst Hygiene Poverty?

Our School is collecting

Shower Gel, Bubble Bath, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Deodorant, etc.



Please bring your donations into school during the week of the 30th June to 4th July.

Reaching out the hand of friendship to those in need.

www.eastleighbasicsbank.co.uk



SATURDAY 5TH JULY | 11AM-6PM

THE PRECINCT & LEIGH ROAD REC. EASTLEIGH TOWN CENTRE. HAMPSHIRE, SO50 9FF



GASTRONOMIC DELIGHTS - WORLD CUISINE - FOOD SAMPLING - LOCAL PRODUCE - LIVE MUSIC - LOCAL CHARITIES - MASCOTS - DISTILLERS
THEMED BARS - ENTERTAINMENT - MARKET STALLS - BOUNCY CASTLE - PRIZE EVERY TIME GAMES - FACE PAINTING - CHILDREN'S RIDE



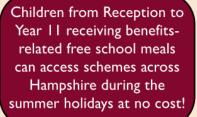
COME HUNGRY, LEAVE HAPPY WWW.DREAMEMPIREEVENTS.CO.UK

















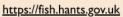
Schemes are now open for bookings - scan the QR below to check if you're eligible, find HAF schemes running near you, and book your child(ren)'s place:

















connect communities









360 Degrees Sports Coaching

The Crescent Primary School (SO50 9DH) Knightwood Leisure Centre (SO53 4SJ)



Wellstead Primary School (SO30 2LE)





Active For All

Stoneham Park Academy (SO50 9SB)

Active Future

Wildern Leisure Centre (SO30 4EJ)





ActiveMe 360

Barton Peveril College (SO50 5ZA) Toynbee School (SO53 2PL)

Creative Kidz

Hamble Primary School (SO31 4ND)











EMES





Computer Xplorers

Nightingale Primary School (SO50 9JW)



GCS Connect4Families

Fair Oak Infant School (SO50 7AN) The Pavilion On The Park (SO50 9LH)





Globe Fit

Bursledon Infant School (SO31 8BZ) Saint James Primary School (SO30 3EG)



JG Tennis Coaching

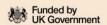




Personal Best Education

Norwood Primary School (SO50 5JL) Wildern School (SO30 4EJ) Wyvern College (SO50 7AN)

Please keep an eye on the FISH website as it will be regularly updated with available HAF schemes.









KIDS CLUB

EXTRAVAGANZA BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

Suitable for

ages 5-11

28th July - 21st August (8.30am - 4.00pm)

www.bookwhen.com/globefitkidsclubs www.globefit.co.uk E: info@globefit.co.uk

- Free HAF places
- · Lunch and snacks Included
- · Childcare vouchers accepted
- Tax-Free Childcare Payments accepted
- · Discounts for siblings and block bookings

St James' Primary - West End



WHAT'S ON SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES





See venue websites for further details on events and to book*



Deep Sea Watercolours (7+) or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Hands On History: Discover Titanic (6+) Fri 25 July / 10.30am, 1 2.30pm / SeaCity / £8



Hands On History: Treasure Seekers (6+) Mon 28 July / 10.30am, 1pm /Tudor House / £8





Pokemon Pictures (5+) Wed 30 July / 10.30am, 12.30 or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Art for All: Under the Sea Summer Lanterns (4+) Thurs 31 July / 10am, 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3pm / Art Gallery / £6

Hands On History: Awesome Egyptians (6+) Fri 1 Aug / 10.30am and 1pm / SeaCity / £8

Art for All: Regency Fashion Paper Dolls (6+) Tues 5 Aug / 10.15am, 11.30am, 1.15pm / Tudor House / £6



Sunset Summer Lanterns (4+) ed 6 Aug 10am, 11.30am, 10pm, 3pm / Art Gallery / £6



Tour For All:
Jans Austen
and Georgian
Southampton
Thurs 7 Aug / Ham
/ Tudor House /
£8 or £24 for
families

Panda Press Printing (5+) Thurs 7 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Discover Titanic (6+) Fri 8 Aug / 10.30am, 12 2.30pm / SeaCity / £8

*Advance booking is rec

SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

ships (5+)



WHAT'S ON

mer Suncatchers (4+) Tues 12 Aug / 10am, 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3pm / Art Gallery / £6

Pop Up Bargate Lions (5+) Wed 13 Aug / 10.15am, 11.30 1.15pm / Tudor House / £6

rt for All: Miniature Matchbox

Sketchbooks (6+) Wed 13 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Tour For All: Roman Southampton Walk Thurs 14 Aug / 11am / Bitterne Manor Park / £8 or £24 for families



All: Brilliant Beach Bags: Paint, Print and More! (5+)

Hands On History: Dino-Roar! (6+) Fri 15 Aug / 10.30am and 1pm / SeaCity / £8

See venue websites for further details on events and to book*

Hands On History: Great Fire of London (6+) Mon 18 Aug / 10.30am and 1pm / Tudor House / £8



Wed 20 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30 or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Clay Unicorns and Dragons (5+) Thurs 21 Aug / 10.30am, 12.3 or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Bevois and the Bargate Walking Tour Thurs 21 Aug / 11am / Tudor House / £8 or £24 for families

Hands On History: Discover Titanic (6+) Fri 22 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm / SeaCity / £8 Pet Portrait Printing (5+) Tues 26 Aug / 10.30ar Tudor House / £8

Seaside Scenes in Clay (5+) Tues 26 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30 or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Hands On History: Steam Punk! (6+)



Art for All: Terrific Tie Dye (4+) Wed 27 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30 or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £9





Art for All: Terrific Tie Dye (4+) Thurs 28 Aug / 10.30am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8

Hands On History: Discover Titanic (6+) Fri 29 Aug / 10.30am, 1 2.30pm / SeaCity / £8



*Advance booking is recommended

WHAT'S ON **CLUBS AND CLASSES**





See venue websites for further details on events and to book*



Saturdays 31 May, 28 June, 26 July £7.50 or £20 for three

Join artist **Debra Marsh** to experiment with different art styles and materials in a fun and accessible way.



Young Ones Art Club

/ 10.30am - 12.30pm / Art Gallery / £12.50 or £30 for all three







All Day Holiday Art Classes and Activities for 6 - 16 year olds

Junior Art School (7 - 13 yrs)

Fridays 10.30am – 3.30pm / Art Gallery / £26 per day

Fri 30 May: Discover Art in Nature Fri 25 July: Discover Clay Sculpture

Fri 01 Aug: Discover Printmaking Fri 08 Aug: Discover Surrealism

Fri 15 Aug: Discover Impressionism Fri 22 Aug: Discover Pop Art

Fri 29 Aug: Discover Abstract Art

Art School Plus (11-16 yrs)

Mondays 10.30am - 3.30pm / Art Gallery / £26 per day

Develop Linocut Printmaking

Develop Drawing Skills Mon 11 Aug: Develop Painting with Watercolour

Develop Painting with Acrylic

Southampton Culture Club for Kids (Age 61/2-12 yrs)

Three days per week 9am - 4pm (drop off from 8.45am) / SeaCity Museum / £35 per day / £90 for all three days

es 27, Wed 28, Thurs 29 May: Theme - Adventure

Mon 28, Tues 29, Wed 30 July Theme - Imagine

Mon 11, Tues 12, Wed 13 Aug: Theme - Myths, Legends and Magic

Theme - To Infinity and Beyond



Please bring a packed lunch and a water bottle to these day-long workshops. For full details visit our websites or email us at museums@southampton.gov.uk

Mountbatten Hampshire **Open Garden Weekend**

19 & 20 July | 12-4pm Explore our beautiful gardens

Plants for sale Follow the Children's Garden Trail Enjoy a cream tea at our Hazel Centre café



Mountbatten Hampshire, Botley Rd, West End, Southampton, SO30 3JB

