

Welcome to the new look TEACHER'S GUIDE Newsletter for Schools and Colleges, with information about events and educational activities and the latest news on educational resources.

**PLEASE CIRCULATE TO ALL RELEVANT MEMBERS OF STAFF . . . Thank you.**

#### INDEX

South East .....	1-3	London .....	8-9
South West .....	3-4	Cumbria/Northumbria.....	9
Yorkshire .....	4-5	East Anglia .....	9-10
North West .....	6	West Midlands .....	10-11
Thames & Chilterns .....	6-7	East Midlands .....	11
<b>EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIERS:</b> .....	<b>12-15</b>		

### THE TEACHER'S GUIDE WEBSITE HAS BEEN RELAUNCHED!

We now have a redesigned and updated website for your use in referencing School Trip venues and Educational Resources.

[www.teachers-guide.co.uk](http://www.teachers-guide.co.uk)

#### SOUTH EAST

##### AVON TYRRELL ACTIVITY CENTRE

UK Youth, Bransgore, Hampshire BH23 8EE

Avon Tyrrell is the activity centre for UK Youth, a national youth work charity which develops and promotes innovative and exciting learning opportunities and programmes for young people. We now have a new and improved website. Please follow Schools Links for all your information in one place -

<http://www.avontyrrell.org.uk/page/schools.jsf>

**School Trips** – Are you looking to find ways to reduce the cost of your next school trip? Avon Tyrrell is currently offering Teachers Guide readers exclusive winter discounts between 2nd November 2009 and 15th March 2010 for both our self catering and full board accommodation. Please contact us for more details and let us provide you with a bespoke quotation to match your exact requirements.

**Opening Soon** – Due to open at the end of April is our sustainable strawbale classroom available for use by day visitors or residential groups. This building will be used by the Environment Team to bring the outdoors indoors and to deliver Curriculum Based Environmental sessions. The classroom is located beside one of our lakes with a balcony and ramp enabling equality of access for all. On the balcony facing the lake will be a viewing area with scopes, allowing children and young people to view the wildlife living in the surrounding woods and wetland.

Day sessions provided by the Environment Team are specifically designed to support specific QCA schemes of work. The content of these days can be tailored to fit your needs. All you need to do is give us a ring to discuss your options, or you can book an hour and a half session which provides a mix and match menu from selected sessions to suit your needs. Where appropriate sessions can focus on either the Key Stage 1 or 2 units, all sessions have an underlying link to sustainability and citizenship. Key Stage Curriculum links are also on the website.

To place a booking or to find out how Avon Tyrrell could best work for you please contact our Customer Services Team on 01425 672347 or email [info@ukyouth.org](mailto:info@ukyouth.org) Please visit our new website [www.avontyrrell.org.uk](http://www.avontyrrell.org.uk) for all our latest news.

##### BOCKETTS FARM PARK

Young Street, Fetcham, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 9BS

##### Bocketts Farm Park - Awarded Learning Outside The Classroom Quality Badge

Bocketts Farm Park in Leatherhead is one of the first organisations in the country to be awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge, recognising it as a provider of quality, safely managed educational experiences for young people.

The Quality Badge is a brand new scheme, combining for the first time learning and safety into one easily recognisable badge for all organisations providing learning outside experiences.

A Bocketts Farm spokesperson Jane Gowing said "I am immensely proud of the farm being awarded the Quality Badge. It is a real stamp of approval that the activities we offer young people are recognised as being of high quality. We have always worked closely with local schools and youth groups to provide quality learning in a safe environment. We know that children really benefit from these important experiences and it's great to have all our hard work recognised in this way." /Continued P2

## **SOUTH EAST (Continued . . .)**

The Quality Badge was developed as part of the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto, a national initiative to ensure young people are given more opportunities to have these experiences as part of the curriculum. The Quality Badge scheme is part of the Government's £4.5m Out and About package which, in addition to the badges, provides guidance and information to teachers on how to plan and organise high quality activities. The badge is designed to make it easier for teachers to identify providers of quality educational visits. Organisations will display the badge to show schools that their venue has met required standards, so teachers do not need to carry out their own risk or quality assessments.

Ed Balls, Secretary of State Children, Schools and Families, said:

"Educational visits are among the most memorable experiences in a child's school life. Quality Badges offer teachers a guarantee that not only is a venue providing the sort of educational value that they can build on in class long after the visit but they also have the appropriate risk management structures in place.

"It is a significant victory in our battle to move away from the misguided perception that learning outside the classroom is a potential minefield for teachers. I want to see teachers using Quality Badges as practical decision making tool. It should ensure that many more young people have memorable, exciting and valuable learning outside the classroom experiences. I congratulate Bocketts Farm on being awarded the badge."

The Quality Badge is available to large and small organisations providing quality learning outside the classroom experiences and managing risk effectively. Organisations already awarded the badge include museums, adventurous activity and field study centres, places of worship, art galleries, visitor attractions and farms, with many more starting to apply.

The Quality Badge was developed by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. Badges are awarded by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom.

For more information about the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge, please visit [www.lotcqualitybadge.org.uk](http://www.lotcqualitybadge.org.uk)

**COWDRAY HERITAGE TRUST** - Visitor Centre,  
River Ground Stables, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9AL

### **500 Years of History at Cowdray**

Cowdray is now entering its third year of educational visits, and can offer more educational tours than ever, across the curriculum. History, literacy, art, geography and science at most of the key stages can all be approached.

Cowdray House offers a trip back in time to the Tudor and Stuart eras, encompassing the Civil Wars and the Gunpowder Plot, plus of course the building burnt down and can be linked to the Great Fire of London. The Guy Fawkes tour is very popular, especially as Fawkes worked at Cowdray for a time. The visit can either be accompanied by one of the on-site guides, or the students can use the audio guide which has a children's tour, or the group can self-guide with the teachers.

At present Cowdray has a range of 8 subject tours available, but invites all enquiries if students are working on something in particular that could be incorporated into a visit.

Tel: 01730 810781  
[info@cowdray.org.uk](mailto:info@cowdray.org.uk)  
[www.cowdray.org.uk](http://www.cowdray.org.uk)

### **GUILDFORD HOUSE GALLERY**

155 High Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3AJ

### **Silk, Squalor and Scandal - Hogarth's London Saturday 25 April - Saturday 20 June**

Do you like a good story? William Hogarth's engravings include all the right ingredients! They show us the stark realities of life in London in the 1700s - often scandalous and corrupt. This exhibition tells his stories using engravings, costume & everyday 18th century artefacts.

Children and families can unravel the stories through trails and activities, and there is a Primary School session and teacher's pack.

Suitable for Key Stage 1 & 2 Art & Design and History.

For further details on the exhibitions and to enquire about school visits, please call 01483 444734 or email [guildfordhouse@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:guildfordhouse@guildford.gov.uk) or visit our website [www.guildfordhouse.co.uk](http://www.guildfordhouse.co.uk)

## SOUTH EAST (Continued . . .)

### MAIDSTONE MUSEUM & BENTLIF ART GALLERY

St Faith's Street, Maidstone, Kent M14 1LH

#### Two New Schools Workshops from Maidstone Museum's 'Step into Learning' Programme.

##### Mini-Museum Curators

To celebrate our fantastic 150 year old collection, we are launching a new schools' workshop. Inspired by our handling artefacts, pupils will learn how to curate a collection, design their own exhibition and discover the 10 agents of deterioration. Why not combine this with a science experiment workshop, where pupils will speed up chemical and physical damage to objects.

Mini-Museum Curators is split into 3 parts of an hour each. Booking one part is £50, subsequent parts are £30 each.

Part 1 - Collecting and Exhibiting.

Part 2 - Preservation Agents.

Part 3 - Science experiments.

##### Life at Home in WWII

Handling real artefacts and replicas from WWII, children will learn what life was like at home during the Second World War.

This interactive workshop will lead children through enquiry, to learn about the differences in the lives of children who were left at home or evacuated to the countryside. They will also learn about the lives of families who were struggling to live on rations and in new conditions and about the joint efforts of ordinary people to ensure day to day life ran as smoothly as possible. This workshop is an hour long with prices starting from £48.50.

For more information or to book, call the Learning Team on 01622 602853/9

[www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk](http://www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk)

## THE TEACHER'S GUIDE 2009

If your school/college would like to order a complimentary hard copy of **The Teacher's Guide 2009**, just email your full school name and postal address to: [carole@teachers-guide.co.uk](mailto:carole@teachers-guide.co.uk) (1 free copy per school/college)

## Outreach Schools Programme

### WILDLIFE VISITS TO YOUR SCHOOL

Practical workshops for Foundation, KS1 and 2 either using your school grounds or working in the classroom to bring quality environmental education to your school and fulfilling the requirements of the National Curriculum.



Outreach visits take place on Tuesdays and Fridays and we are able to work with up to 4 classes per day. Some of our most popular programmes include:

- **Foundation**  
The Snail Trail, Crunching Munching Caterpillar, What a Sensation
- **Key Stage 1**  
Minibeast Magic, Playing with Plants, Habitats and Homes
- **Key Stage 2**  
Investigating Life Cycles, Investigating Habitats, School Grounds Wildlife Survey

If you are interested in booking an outreach visit to your school or would like further information please ring Alison Patrick on 01273 497564 or e-mail [alisonpatrick@sussexwt.org.uk](mailto:alisonpatrick@sussexwt.org.uk)

**Costs: Full Day £200 (4 hours), Half Day £150 (2 hours)**

For all our educational opportunities please visit [www.sussexwt.org.uk](http://www.sussexwt.org.uk)

Taking Care of Sussex



## SOUTH WEST

### BUTTERFLY WORLD

Studley Grange Garden & Leisure Park, Hay Lane Wroughton, Swindon, Wilts SN4 9QT

Butterfly World near M4 Junction 16, in Hay Lane Wroughton is part of the Studley Grange garden and leisure park complex and is an ideal place to visit rain or shine, summer or winter. This is because it is kept at approximately 80 degrees all year round. At any one time you will be able to walk amongst some of the most colourful and beautiful butterflies in the world, flying freely against a backdrop of tropical plants and flowers in 12500 square feet of covered butterfly gardens. Hear the waterfalls cascading down into ponds full of fish; sit, relax and unwind in this beautiful peaceful atmosphere.

The enthusiastic staff will show you where the butterfly eggs, caterpillars and pupae are hiding in amongst the tropical plants. There is also a pupae hatching room where you may be lucky enough to see a butterfly hatch.

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## **SOUTH WEST (Continued . . )**

The mini beast section (those of you with a nervous nature can avoid this area) includes tarantulas, hissing cockroaches, fire bellied toads, stick insects, terrapins, snakes and Iggy the iguana.

Needless to say this is a tourist attraction which will appeal to the young and old. Everybody will be captivated by these beautiful butterflies. We are happy for you to take photographs of this panorama of butterfly life. There are goats, sheep, chickens, rabbits, guinea pigs, ducks, geese, pheasants and other farmyard favourites to add to the fun in our animal paddock.

All in all Studley Grange Garden and Leisure Park has become an enjoyable and educational day out for all of the family and we hope to see you soon. Our website gives you all the information you need to plan your visit.

Tel: 01793 852400  
info@studleygrange.co.uk  
www.studleygrange.co.uk



### **WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY**

The Railway Station, Minehead, Somerset TA24 5BG

**The West Somerset Railway's timetable for 2009 and copies are available on request.**

School parties are always most welcome and, providing enough notice is given, we can provide an input into the experience of a ride behind a steam engine prior to the party travelling. We have found from previous school party visits that the journey is enhanced if there has been some classroom input which can then be followed with a debrief period after the journey. One of the more popular journeys on the railway revolved around a re-enactment of an Evacuation Train. Although a certain amount of pre planning is essential, the children do seem enjoy the wearing of shorts, gas masks and the name labels typical of a World War II evacuation.

The Railway runs steam hauled trains every day from 28th April to 4th October 2009. Please consider booking early and remember there is additional discount if parties travel on Mondays or Fridays. Telephone:  
The Tours Office on 01643 704996 for further details.

### **WOODLANDS LEISURE PARK**

Blackawton, Dartmouth, Devon TQ9 7DQ

The new Seascape Mirror Maze is now open, Fishy mask making, Seascape treasure hunt, win Goodie bags. Enter the weird world of mysterious sea creatures, a baffling illusion of bewildering pathways & sea monsters that disappear. 16 family rides and 10 playzones for all ages. 100,000sq.ft. of undercover action, five floors of play and rides. Experience the Sea Dragon Swing Ship – its big, its white knuckle, its awesome & dynamic! Incredible Zoo-in-a-Farm where 'U-drive' the tractors, fascinating Nocturnal house & Reptile house. Superb indoor Falconry centre, free bookable Hawk Talks with unique flying displays.

Let us help you plan your day out for groups, School trips, Youth Club outings, etc. Organizers appreciate the high standards of health & safety at the park, children enjoy the challenges in a safe environment ensuring outstanding group visits. Kids days out include Halloween workshops, Firework Festivals and a lot more at one inclusive price. Woodlands offers a full day of family rides, indoor & outdoor attractions set in 90 beautiful acres. All weather fun – Guaranteed! Excellent venue for all ages. One price includes rides, coach parking & drivers meal, risk assessment, generous free leader ratio. Group discounts up to 35%  
www.woodlandspark.com. Tel:01803 712598

## **YORKSHIRE**

### **THE DEEP HULL**

Tower Street, Hull NH1 4DP

#### **KS2 Teacher Open Day at The Deep, Hull**

Need some inspiration for your next ocean theme? Thinking about bringing your pupils to The Deep? Want to bring the family? (up to 3 members only).....then join us on Saturday 25 April to learn how The Deep can help you plan and carry out a memorable educational visit.

Meet our resident teachers and take time to look around our Learning Centre and experience some of the hands-on activities we use in our KS2 workshops. View all the facilities available for education groups including storage and lunch areas, then explore the exhibition giving you opportunity to conduct your own risk assessment.

To book your place please call 01482 381091 with the time you wish to visit (please be flexible), the school you are visiting from, telephone number and the number of guests you intend to bring.

**YORKSHIRE (Continued . . .)**

**EUREKA! THE MUSEUM FOR CHILDREN**

Discovery Road, Halifax HX1 2NE

Eureka! is preparing a swashbuckling adventure for school groups this summer with **Pirates Ahoy!** - a celebration of all things buccaneer from **29 April to 12 June 2009**.

Treasure Maps! is a performance-based workshop where classes will be transported on an adventure across rough seas and perilous terrain to help the resident pirates locate hidden treasure.

In Scurvy Sam's Nutritious Adventure, pupils will meet Captain Sam who is feeling very unwell - little does he know that he and his crew have come down with a dose of the scurvy! How on earth will they get better?

Children can also enjoy Crazy Catapults - an exciting, hands-on session, where they'll take on the role of pirates to design and build a free standing catapult.

All sessions are available from £5.00 per child. To book a visit for your group call the Bookings Hotline during office hours on 01422 330012. [www.eureka.org.uk](http://www.eureka.org.uk)

**RIPLEY CASTLE**

Ripley, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 3AY

**Friday 24th April**

Harrogate Male Voice Choir Concert in the East Wing

**Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd May**

Carriage Driving Trials on the Showfield and Deer Park

**Friday 8th and Saturday 9th May**

Marie Curie Cancer Clay Pigeon Shoot and Crystal Ball on the Showfield and Deer Park

**Monday 25th May**

Classic Car Rally on the Showfield

**Monday 25th May**

Family Birdwatch and Falconry Day in the Grounds of Ripley Castle

Tel: 01423 770152

[jcarter@ripleycastle.co.uk](mailto:jcarter@ripleycastle.co.uk)

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

**YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK**

West Bretton, Wakefield WF4 4LG

**May Events**

Heritage, exhibition + landscape tours continue every weekend at 2pm

**Dance + performance workshop**

**3 May | 11-3 | free drop-in event**

Movement, performance and workshop by resident dance artist Kim Glassby to celebrate the closing of the Japan-inspired Wish Tree.

**Creative writing workshop**

**3 May | £15 Lunch provided.**

Investigate Japanese writing styles and the beliefs behind what we wish for.

**Calligraphy workshop**

**4 May | 11-3.30 | £45**

Explore the ancient art of calligraphy with Japanese artist Yoko Takenami. Materials + lunch provided. No experience necessary.

**Sculpture Course: hot + cold sheet metal**

**13-17 May | £295**

Learn welding and cutting techniques with Owen Cunningham and Brian Fell.

**EXHIBITIONS**

**Isamu Noguchi Until 4 May 09**

A chance to see the first major European exhibition of sculpture, drawing, furniture and more by Isamu Noguchi. <http://www.jsp.co.uk/view.aspx?id=457>

**Shared Horizon 24 April 3 July 09**

A striking photography exhibition by a group of young unaccompanied asylum seekers living in Wakefield, Barnsley and Kirklees. <http://www.jsp.co.uk/view.aspx?id=437>

**New Acquisitions from the Arts Council Collection  
From 4 April 09 June 09**

This exciting programme of changing displays showcases some of the most recent developments in contemporary British art. Artists include Luke Collins, Margaret Salmon, Jane Pollard and Iain Forsyth.

t 0044 (0)1924 832633 (direct)

f 0044 (0)1924 832600

[anna.neville@jsp.co.uk](mailto:anna.neville@jsp.co.uk)

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

**NORTH WEST**

**CATALYST SCIENCE DISCOVERY CENTRE**

Mersey Road, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0DF

**Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th April**

**Big Revision Room - Aimed at Year 6 pupils**

Now in its 5th year the Big Revision Room has proved to be a big hit with year 6 teachers. Use our innovative Sc1 based revision investigations to solve a mystery then follow the SAT's style Maths trail around our galleries. A great way to revise 'outside the classroom'! Prices £3.25 per pupil entrance + £50 workshop session for up to 32 pupils.

**Monday 1st - Friday 5th June**

**Recycle Now Week - Aimed at KS1 & KS2 Pupils**

Celebrate this National event with us by taking part in one of our recycle workshops and watching our 3D interactive film "What a Waste". Why not come on World Environment Day on 5th June? Prices £2 per pupils (In addition to entry charge).

**Tuesday 9th - Thursday 11th June**

**Minibeasts and Habitats - Aimed at KS1 or KS2 pupils**

Once again Dave Duckett will present his fascinating and light-hearted minibeasts show, where pupils come face to face with spiders, snakes, giant millipedes and many other wonderful creatures. Learn how they have adapted to their habitats, what they eat, how they survive and much, much more! Price £1 per pupil (In addition to entry charge).

Tel: 0151 420 1121

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

**LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM  
ACCREDITATION - QUALITY BADGE**

Under the brand new scheme which recognises a venue as a provider of quality, safely managed educational experiences for young people, three of the first to receive this award are Teacher's Guide Priority Attractions, namely:

**BAYLHAM HOUSE RARE BREEDS FARM  
BOCKETTS FARM PARK  
EASTON FARM PARK**

Congratulations to them for all their hard work in providing quality venues for School Trips.

**THAMES & CHILTERN**

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM**

**AND THE ROALD DAHL CHILDREN'S GALLERY**

Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2QP

**The Victorians Teaching  
Session at Buckinghamshire  
County Museum**

Mix and match your 90-minute Victorian teaching session from the following themes:



- Victorian Children at work and play: a hands-on circuit of replica toys and domestic servant duties for children to work and play with
- Mystery Object activity: handle and analyse real Victorian domestic objects with an opportunity to share discoveries with the rest of the group
- Victorian costume: handling of real garments from the period and a chance for one pupil to be transformed in to a Victorian lady
- Compare what life was really like for rich and poor Victorian children

**A typical visit:**

10.30 – 12.00: 90-minute teaching session led by a member of the Schools Learning Team based on the themes you choose from the above, as well as the chance to explore the Victorian exhibitions.

12.00 – 12.30: Lunch in the Learning Zones at Bucks County Museum.

12.30 – 2.00: Self guided visit or and addition curriculum based teaching session at the County Museum or the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery.

There is a choice of several start times throughout the day for the teaching sessions; please enquire at time of booking.

**New for 2009!**

Joint workshop price of £8 per pupil attending both a Museum and Roald Dahl Children's Gallery workshop on the same day – that's a saving of 50p per pupil.

Sessions cost £3.75 per pupil with a minimum price per group of £75. Price includes the use of a Learning Zone for lunch. (prices correct at time of print: January 2009)

To find out more about the above teaching session, please contact the Schools Learning Officer, Caroline Frith on 01296 387347 or email [cafrith@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:cafrith@buckscc.gov.uk)

To make a booking please call Sonia Whiteman on 01296 331441 between 10.00 and 4.00, Monday to Friday).

**THAMES & CHILTERNIS (Continued . . .)**

**COGGES MANOR FARM MUSEUM**

Church Lane, Witney, Oxon OX28 3LA

Take a step back in time when you come to Cogges. We are a working farm and Manor House, set in the late 19th century. Explore the farmyard and original Cotswold buildings and learn about life in days gone by. Meet the House Maids and the farm workers of Cogges Manor Farm, as you experience the sights, sounds and smells of a Victorian Farm.

You will be greeted by costumed staff and be introduced to the site. In pre booked sessions learn about the lives of the cook, dairy maid, gardener, laundry maid, boot boys and scullery maids. Explore the farm, house and gardens, have a go at polishing shoes, beating a rag rug or try the dolly tub.

**A typical day visit**

10.30: welcome and orientation  
11am: Booked session, hands on experience  
12 noon: Exploration of the house  
12.30: Lunch  
1pm: Exploration of the farm, walled garden & grounds  
These slots will be moved around depending on the demonstrations booked.

We are open Tuesdays to Sundays

**Family activities in May include:**

May 2nd 3rd 4th Traditional Mayday Celebrations  
May 9th 10th All About Ewe- traditional sheep shearing, weaving activities, learn how the washing was traditionally done  
May 16th A night at the Museum  
May 23rd, 24th, 25th Our daily Bread  
May 25th National Picnic Event & virtual sandwich trail  
May 26th Make a peg Person  
May 27th National Story Telling Day  
May 28th Farm Fun - meet the animals  
May 29th Family Craft – natural printing  
May 30th 31st Poultry weekend

For further information and more details on all our Educational activities and themed weekends contact:-

Tel: 01993 772602

Email: [sonja.roberts@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sonja.roberts@oxfordshire.gov.uk)  
[www.cogges.org](http://www.cogges.org)

**NEW THEATRE OXFORD**

George Street, Oxford OX1 2AG

**Information for Teachers**

**Shows with a specific school group discount:**

**Chicago ~ 27th April ~ 2nd May 2009**

Limited tickets: £10 Best seats plus 1 in 10 free, (Mon, Tues eve & Friday early, excl. top and second price seats)

**42nd Street ~ 19th May 2009**

Schools/Dancing schools tickets @ £7.50

**Disney's Beauty & The Beast ~ 26th ~ 30th May 2009**

Best available tickets £10. Plus 1 free adult ticket for every 10 children. (Midweek matinee and Tuesday & Wednesday evening only)

Tel: 01865 320772

[OxfordGroups@Livenation.co.uk](mailto:OxfordGroups@Livenation.co.uk)  
[www.NewTheatreOxford.org.uk](http://www.NewTheatreOxford.org.uk)

**What is ThamesWatch 2009?**

The aim is to get as many children between aged 5 to 11 exploring Bird-Life along the Thames. We want children to enjoy the River, the sense of adventure and excitement about getting out of the classroom for the morning or afternoon. You can take part as a school, a club, or just a family trip.

**ThamesWatch 2009 starts 27th April and ends on 4th May.** To take part, your team will need to download or photocopy one form for each person.

Choose a part of the Thames to suit you and get spotting! It is fun, educational and the children will get to explore some interesting places that have a relevance to what they are learning at school etc.

**Educational prizes**

All teams that complete the task can send in the forms to be entered into the draw to be held soon after 4th May. Winners will be announced by 31st May. Lucky teams can win a boat trip on the Thames or London canals, with prizes donated by top cruise trip operators that cater for children all year around.

If you would like to take part please email [riverthames@btconnect.com](mailto:riverthames@btconnect.com) advising us of when and how many will be taking part. Good luck!

**More info - [www.riverthames.co.uk](http://www.riverthames.co.uk) in association with the RSPB [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)**

## LONDON

### THE BRITISH MUSEUM - EXHIBITIONS

Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG

#### EXHIBITIONS

##### **Shah 'Abbas: The Remaking of Iran: until 14th June 09**

Pre-booking essential via the Box Office - 020 7323 8181. Explore the reign and legacy of this influential 17th century Iranian king in the next major exhibition in the British Museum series focusing on great rulers.

##### **The splendour of Isfahan: coins from Iran : until 5 July**

Free. Discover the rich history of Isfahan in central Iran through coins and other objects, from its pre-Islamic foundation to the present day.

##### **The Intimate Portrait: drawings, miniatures and pastels from Ramsay to Lawrence : until 31 May 2009**

Free. Exploring a fascinating but relatively unknown type of intimate portraiture that flourished in Georgian and Regency Britain between the 1730s and 1830s.

To make a group booking for any British Museum exhibition, workshop, or gallery visit, please call the Box Office team on 020 7323 8181. Teachers' resource packs can be downloaded free from the Learning pages of the British Museum web site: [www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk)

### THE LONDON EYE

County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7PB

At 135 metres high, the London Eye is the world's tallest cantilevered observation wheel, providing panoramic views across London and unique perspectives that are just not visible from the ground.

From every angle, the London Eye is an inspiring educational tool. Working with practising teachers and educational advisors we have created a programme of activities especially for schools, along with a free resource pack designed to support cross curricular study.

A London Eye Flight will provide pupils with an historical, geographical and architectural overview of their capital city.

A School Discovery Flight with commentary offers an enhanced learning experience where our hosts interact with pupils pointing out important landmarks, key historical dates and offer an insight into the creation of the London Eye itself.

A London Eye River Cruise is a great way to see some of the world's most famous landmarks and an exciting learning experience. The 40 minute circular cruise includes fascinating live, highly educational commentary.

For more information or booking please visit our website  
[www.londoneye.com/schools](http://www.londoneye.com/schools)  
or call us on 0870 990 8886



### THE NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3 4HT

The National Army Museum provides a broad range of free curriculum-linked taught sessions and workshops for all Primary, Secondary, Sixth Form and FE levels. New sessions this year include:

- **Be Prepared!** Scouts and Guides 'doing their bit' on the Home Front. Learn First Aid and build a Morrison Shelter (History KS2)
- **Eyes Front!** Portraits, uniforms, transport and much more – investigate the Museum's Art collection and brush up your art skills. (Art KS1/2)
- **Changing Nature of War: Afghanistan, 1838-1919.** A workshop using three critical but largely forgotten campaigns to explore changes in leadership, tactics and technology. (History GCSE/AS/A2)
- **Experience of Warfare, 1854 – 1929.** Illustrated talk and handling. (AS/A2)

Free coach parking and a private lunchroom are available for booking. Please see our website for full information.

Tel: 020 7730 0717 x2336 Contact: Saskia Nesja  
[edu@national-army-museum.ac.uk](mailto:edu@national-army-museum.ac.uk)  
[www.national-army-museum.ac.uk](http://www.national-army-museum.ac.uk)

**THE TEACHER'S GUIDE NEW WEBSITE  
HAS NOW BEEN LAUNCHED!**

**Check it out now and register to receive future  
monthly newsletters from The Teacher's Guide**



## LONDON (Continued . . )

### NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD

#### Butterfly Jungle

Butterfly house and jungle explorer trail  
(Reception, KS1, KS2)

Opens 1 May

Monday – Friday during term time, 10.30-17.00

Come on a jungle journey from the dark depths of the forest floor to the heady heights of the tree canopy.

In this amazing exhibition you'll experience the magic and beauty of live butterflies as well as other rainforest creatures.

See our website for more details

[www.nhm.ac.uk/education](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/education)

£2.50 per pupil. Teachers and helpers free. To book please call our Bookings Office on 020 7942 5555.

#### Wildlife Garden

(All Key Stages)

1 April – 31 October 12.00 – 17.00

During the summer term we run fieldwork activities that complement National Curriculum Science and Early Learning Goals (see our website for more details

[www.nhm.ac.uk/education](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/education)). The Wildlife Garden is the perfect hands-on experience for children of all ages.

Themes covered include creepy crawlies, habitats, variation, classification and grouping, plants and animals in the local environment and adaptation.

To book a free school visit to the Wildlife Garden, please call our Bookings Office on 020 7942 5555.

## CUMBRIA / NORTHUMBRIA

### BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN HALL

Market Place, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham. DL14 7NP

**Big Wooden Horse Theatre Company presents Don't Let the Pigeon Stay up Late! by Mo Williams**  
Wednesday 20th May, at 10.30am and 1.30pm



Following Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus — our favourite feathered friend is back with a new story! The Bus Driver says it's time for bed but Pigeon wants to stay up late...

With original music and lots of laughs and audience participation.

All tickets: £4.00

A show full of fun, feathers and laughter, for ages 3-7years

**Thursday 28th May, at 3.00pm**  
**Kung Fu Panda**

Jack Black voices lazy and fat Po the Panda, Kung Fu's biggest fan. Through a twist of fate Po is chosen to save the Valley of Peace from the villainous snow leopard, Tai Lung. Cert: U.

Tickets: £2.50



New season's brochure is available, covering April - September

For further information and tickets please call the Box Office on 01388 602610, or email [bath@durham.gov.uk](mailto:bath@durham.gov.uk)  
[www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk](http://www.bishopaucklandtownhall.org.uk)

## EAST ANGLIA

### EASTON FARM PARK

Easton, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 0EQ

Spring has sprung at Easton Farm Park, a nationally accredited farm for school visits. With a comprehensive education programme geared primarily towards KS1 and KS2 and lots of fun things to do and animals to meet, a day at Easton Farm Park is a safe and fun educational experience.

Children have been learning at Easton Farm Park for 35 years and activities can include Meet the Babies, Learn about the Suffolk Punch Horse, Minibeast hunting, Egg Collecting, Hold a Chick and much more.

The Farm has also worked with GCSE students on business case studies and geography projects, which can be tailor made to your requirements.

*Easton Farm Park has recently received their Learning Outside the Classroom Accreditation/Quality Badge.*

For more details please visit the website and call or e-mail the farm.

Tel: 01728 746475  
[info@eastonfarmpark.co.uk](mailto:info@eastonfarmpark.co.uk)  
[www.eastonfarmpark.co.uk](http://www.eastonfarmpark.co.uk)

## EAST ANGLIA (Continued . . )

### **BELCHAMPS SCOUT ACTIVITY CENTRE**

Holyoak Lane, Hawkwell, Essex SS5 4JD

Belchamps Scout centre offers activity days with a wide range of activities to choose from, including the leap of faith, High ropes, Jacobs ladder, archery, and climbing.

We've been offering our facilities to schools for a few years now and believe we can offer a high standard of service and a wide choice of activities. Our new high ropes facilities are proving very popular with schools and our wide open spaces make it a perfect setting for an activity day. We can even offer lunch for a small extra cost.

A typical day starts with an introduction and briefing, then it's straight into the first activity - maybe Jacobs ladder where teams of 4 have to try to get as high up the giant ladder as they can in 15 minutes. It's strenuous, but with good team work you'll go far. Then it's off round the archery range for a bit of Robin Hood style fun. A few practice shots, then we have a little team competition to see who can score the most. A break for lunch - those who finish early go for a walk around the site or play football, others just sit and sunbathe. Then the afternoon activities start - maybe it's crate stacking first, where teams of 4 try to stand on and build up 3 towers of crates without it overbalancing. The challenge is to stack as many as you can in 15 minutes. You are all harnessed and roped up. The best bit is when the crates topple and you are left hanging. Then to finish with it's off to the assault course, time trial, team runs and the best bit is trying to get the big log down the course as a team without it touching the floor. Then it's time for a quick drink before the coach picks you up to go home tired and happy. For more info go to our website: [www.belchamps.co.uk](http://www.belchamps.co.uk)

## WEST MIDLANDS

### **BLUE ICE, SOLIHULL RINK**

Blue Ice Plaza, Hobs Moat Road, Solihull B92 8JN

Dear Teacher,  
Would you like your PE lessons to be different and more fun? Then why not look outside of your school!  
Ice skating is a great fun activity for young people and one that they will enjoy. What's more it's a great exercise burning an average 400kcal without you even realising!

We here at Solihull Ice Rink understand the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and are backing government proposals for increased activities to get children healthy. More importantly, we believe that individuals should have improved choice and options this is why we are offering new schemes such as ice hockey, figure and dance classes.

We also understand that schools have low budgets, thus we are aiming to meet your budget requirements so that you can extend your curriculum at affordable rates. You can book a visit with us for just £3.50 per child (minimum of 15) including skate hire during midweek daytime sessions throughout term time. You can even incorporate a lesson into your visit. For an extra £32.00 you can have 30 minutes of tuition or for an extra £52.00 you can have 60 minutes of tuition (per 15). Lessons can be in ice hockey or the basics of skating and are taught by fully qualified instructors. All equipment is included in the price and certificates will be provided with block bookings.

**SPECIAL OFFER** – Book six consecutive visits with us including six lessons and only pay £2.50 per child.

Alternatively, if you just want to end the year on a high, to show the children how much you appreciate their hard work! - Bring them along as a special treat, we will ensure that a fun day is had by all. We would love to be able to talk more about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle through skating and can arrange for staff to visit school assemblies to talk about staying fit and the various clubs and activities we have on offer.

If you are interested in this please contact Penny on 0121 722 8304 or email: [ppearce@solihullicerink.co.uk](mailto:ppearce@solihullicerink.co.uk) to discuss further. Remember we will tailor ourselves to best meet your needs. (A copy of our risk assessment is available upon request).



## WEST MIDLANDS (Continued . . .)

### THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK

Stratford Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 4AF

#### Resources for Schools KS1/2

'Seasons' pack: Cross-curricular activities.  
Art Packs and Toys and Games of the Past.  
The Victorians: 'A Snapshot of Victorian Life' or 'Prince Albert's Palace of Varieties' (also available as Outreach)  
Homes of the Past, Rocks and Soils: A 2-hour activity.

#### Resources for Schools KS2/3

Diversity: 'The Collector': A new programme which explores different ideas of diversity with direct relation to the Museum's Collection.  
Local History: Explore the history of Stroud.  
Museum Trails: We have a number of themed 'discovery trails' to guide children through the displays at Key Stages 1, 2 and 3.

**Outreach:** We offer a range of Outreach sessions, in conjunction with the Spaniel in the Works Theatre Company. Contact The Learning Programmes Officer at the Museum for more details and bookings. Topics include Master and Slave, Bernard and Beatrice's (Nearly) Complete Guide to Modern Art: A two-person show exploring the history of modern art. (KS2/3)

**Time Boxes:** The Museum is developing a range of timeboxes available for hire to schools: World War II • The 1950s • The Seaside • The Victorians

And finally ... How can we help you? If you have a project in mind, contact us and we will help if we can. We can prepare 'one-off' programmes, or provide activities to link with our current exhibition.

For more information, or to book a visit, please contact Ann Taylor, Learning Programmes Officer  
Tel: 01453 763394  
ann.taylor@stroud.gov.uk  
www.museuminthepark.org.uk

### ROYAL AIR FORCE MUSEUM COSFORD

Shifnal, Shropshire TF11 8UP

#### 'Let's Fly' Launch at Cosford

A major refurbishment to enhance the Royal Air Force museum's 'flying experience' has been underway in the Let's Fly classroom at Cosford.

The classroom has been transformed into a mini airport enabling children to participate in the entire holiday flight experience from checking-in through to passport control and actually boarding an aeroplane.

A conveyor belt and a security gate are new additions to the classroom, along with a section of an aeroplane, which has been created using genuine aircraft seating to allow children to climb aboard to complete the whole experience. The aim of the experience is to educate young children about how aircraft fly and to introduce them to world geography.

During 2007/08 over 1200 pupils aged 3-7 visited the 'Let's Fly' classroom for the workshop aimed at Foundation and KS1 children, with many teachers commenting on how much their charges enjoyed the experience.

For further details please email:  
learning-cosford@rafmuseum.org or call 01902 376 241  
www.rafmuseum.org

## EAST MIDLANDS

### BROCKS HILL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

Washbrook Lane, off Wigston Road, Oadby LE2 5JJ

#### Biodiversity Countdown 2010 Calendar

Help raise awareness of the importance of wildlife in our towns by contributing to a calendar for 2011!

You may remember the successful Tree Calendar competition that Oadby & Wigston Borough Council ran in 200. Now we want to run a Biodiversity Countdown Calendar competition in the borough to look at the 'wealth' and 'range' of birds, mammals, amphibians, insects, plants etc. that are found in residential gardens throughout the borough.

We want you to take photographs of plants and animals in your garden over the 12 months from April 2009 to March 2010. Then submit them to the Oadby & Wigston Borough Council. The best ones will be printed in a 2011 calendar with a prize awarded for each.

Entry forms now available. If you would like to take part in the competition, please contact the Countryside and Biodiversity Officer on 0116 257 2651 or e-mail helen.gregory@oadby-wigston.gov.uk  
www.brockshill.co.uk

**EDUCATION SUPPLIERS** This section provides information about the latest initiatives in the field of education, up to date Teaching Resources, equipment and other services available to assist Teaching Professionals. It contains the latest news from some of our Priority Educational Suppliers, all of whom can be found on our website. You can register to receive regular copies of our monthly Newsletters on our website at [www.teachers-guide.co.uk](http://www.teachers-guide.co.uk)



**Ranger Remote Control** gives you instant control in the classroom, enabling you to command students' attention and make better use of the technology at your disposal. You can remotely view, record and play staff and students' screen activity, to demonstrate work, interact with the class, provide support and gather feedback - without continually moving from one machine to another. You can also praise individual students' efforts by displaying their work on an interactive whiteboard.

- Control screens
- Lock screens
- Keyboard monitoring
- Lesson planning
- Survey tools
- Remote assistance

'Using Remote Control, teachers are able to limit access in their classrooms to applications, internet sites or even computers. I'd have no hesitation in recommending the entire ranger suite of applications.' *Steve Smith, ICT Network Manager, Oxclose Community School, Tyne & Wear.*

Talk to your Network Manager about Ranger, for further information call +44 (0)1403 754702 or visit [www.rangersuite.com](http://www.rangersuite.com)

## BEZERKAZ CIRCUS

Bezerkaz Circus offers exciting circus workshops and performances all over the UK and beyond.

From making giant bubbles to amazing comedy juggling, riding the unicycle and even juggling fire (us - not the students!) we offer unforgettable workshops and performances.

Our experienced tutors are specially trained to teach skills to children of all ages.

We work at all manner of events in all types of schools; from fun days and activities weeks to after school clubs, special needs groups, PRUs, specialist circus projects . . . Even INSET sessions!

Workshops are learner centred - we tailor our activities to meet all group members' needs. Everyone has ability and everyone can succeed within a short space of time. It is our aim to ensure everyone learns something new, leading to an improvement in self esteem.

Tel: 07866261346  
email: [bezerkaz@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bezerkaz@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.bezerkaz.co.uk](http://www.bezerkaz.co.uk)



To advertise, visit the website or call 01763 243760

The Teacher's Guide has now launched its new website, with multi-source referencing for educational establishments. You can search on the map for School Trips and also search on List View under various categories to find the right educational venue to visit with your students, most of which are National Curriculum linked.

You can also search our database of suppliers to the Education Sector, to find teaching resources and services, products and supplies. Our suppliers provide the latest initiatives in the field of education and you can find the latest Special Offers available to Schools and Colleges.

[www.teachers-guide.co.uk](http://www.teachers-guide.co.uk)

**JPA's furniture** for offices includes their No 2 Cantilever range available in four wood grain MFC finishes – Beech – Maple – Oak – Walnut.

There are ten different designs of workstations including Wave, Double Wave, Kidney Shape, Curved and Rectangular – most workstations are 800mm deep and come in widths of 1200mm, 1400mm, 1600mm and 1800mm.



Desk storage is provided with either high under desk or desk high mobile pedestals.

There is also a fully wire managed range of desking plus steel storage in many sizes.

Fully coloured catalogue immediately available from JPA Customer Services on 01727 840800 or email [info@jpa-furniture.com](mailto:info@jpa-furniture.com) [www.jpa-furniture.com](http://www.jpa-furniture.com)



**PLANET SCIENCE**  
([www.planet-science.com](http://www.planet-science.com))

There are plenty of new features to look out for, engineering fun with newspapers all cleverly Darwin related, and a brand new game based on Napoleonic V modern medicine!

There will also be lots of new material on the brain - including some notoriously hard GCSE revision topics covered in a way that the brain may find easier to swallow.

To keep up to date with what's new on our planet sign up for our free newsletter  
[www.planet-science.com/about\\_sy/listFS.html](http://www.planet-science.com/about_sy/listFS.html)



**Primary Engineer**<sup>®</sup>

Primary Engineer is a primary liaison programme (working through secondary schools), applying science, maths and ICT through a design technology context for Key Stages 1 & 2.

Via a one or two day hands on workshop, schools discover more about:

- . Structures and Mechanisms
- . Computer Control
- . Engineering Textiles

All courses include interactive whiteboard resources, digital and paper-based resources are compatible with QCA Design & Technology requirements for Key Stages 1 & 2. General Teaching Council recognised CPD too.

Each year a national challenge activity for each key stage is held bringing together schools to celebrate and support the work they have done.

An additional stored energy project linked to the BLOODHOUND SSC land speed record for primary, secondary and wider community participation is a brand new programme.

For more information, including upcoming workshop dates contact Primary Engineer on:

Tel: 01254 720650

[graham.walton@primaryengineer.com](mailto:graham.walton@primaryengineer.com)

We at the Teachers Building

Society are running a competition via our website to win a Blu-ray player, and all anyone has to do to enter is sign up for our free e-newsletter about finance matters - see here:

<http://www.teachersbs.co.uk/notice/newsletters/>

Newsletters from Teachers Building Society contain features and articles relating to education professionals, products and services. Competitions are often launched via email as well as keeping you up to date with important notices.





[www.chewtv.com](http://www.chewtv.com)

a communication channel  
for a connected generation

### Chew TV helps Falmouth Uni Animation Students see a final product!

You may have heard on the grapevine about a Chew TV re-launch... Well the rumours are true and the new site is going to be up and running this spring and one of the many things that is going to be needed is a short promotional video.

After a discussion with some decision-makers at the University College Falmouth's Animation course and some students keen to see their hard-graft put into a real-life situation, Chew TV is now letting the students design the new channel ident!

All the paperwork and briefs have been done and the students will be getting to work in the next few weeks. The chosen ident that fits the bill is going to be used and shown to the media-enthusiastic audience and industry leaders on [www.chewtv.com](http://www.chewtv.com), as well as alongside all video-based viral marketing resources.

Not a bad prize for doing your coursework!

For more information on collaborating with Chew TV on a film / animation / marketing project for your students, please contact [Max@chewtv.com](mailto:Max@chewtv.com)



### SPECIAL OFFER

Ziptales, the famous online reading scheme, with over 300 content modules, is available for you to use throughout your school

for a two week FREE TRIAL – absolutely no obligation. Ziptales is suitable for use across all years in primary school.

Go to [www.ziptales.co.uk](http://www.ziptales.co.uk)

... to have a look.

To request a FREE TRIAL (unlimited use for 14 days), email: [admin@ziptales.com](mailto:admin@ziptales.com)

A downloadable teacher manual is also available.

### Creative Steps Magazine

is published bi-monthly and provides dozens of fun creative activities aimed at supporting learning across the curriculum, for Early Years and KS1 & KS2.

Available on subscription only - visit:

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

and use promotional code

**CSTGP908**

to receive a specially discounted Teacher's Guide subscription price of just £24.75 per year. [Offer is for six issues at £24.75 (should cost £29.70)]

Tel: 01233 503055 Contact: John Hopley

[info@creativesteps.co.uk](mailto:info@creativesteps.co.uk)



sound**FABRIC**



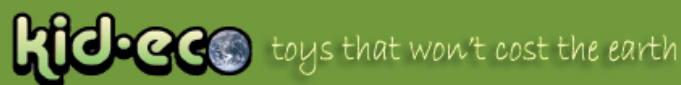
At soundFABRIC we're either teachers or musicians or both, and we're passionate about giving young people fantastic opportunities to work alongside exciting professional musicians so that they can develop their skills in music-making.

Whether it be partnering up with dance companies to explore music and dance, or music projects using new technology, we're here to help. We offer a wide range of activities using the voice, traditional instruments or new media, and if there's something you want to do we can probably make sure your young people can do it. And if you don't have funding for music for your young people – well, we may be able to help you with that too.

We're friendly and professional, and we've been doing this long enough to know how to do it properly. Please see our website for what we can offer:

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

We look forward very much to hearing from you!



### LEARNING THROUGH ROLE PLAY

Teaching young children can be extremely rewarding but also frustrating as they are easily distracted and their concentration spans tend to be short. Holding their attention can be a challenge so in order to be effective, learning needs to be fun. Children naturally adapt to and enjoy role play. At Kid-Eco we have produced an exciting and innovative range of cardboard playhouses designed to provide hours of exiting role play activities. Many schools, playgroups and nurseries have already recognised some of the benefits of our products. Our playhouses are easily assembled in minutes. They are then easily taken apart for storage. Our playhouses are made from environmentally friendly corrugated cardboard which is fully reusable, recyclable and bio-degradable.

Permanent 20% school discount when you register for an instant 30 day account. To view our playhouses and register your school, nursery or playgroup for a free instant account visit [www.cardboardtoys.co.uk](http://www.cardboardtoys.co.uk)



### New School Playground Funding Guide from Playforce - Out Now!

Playforce, one of the country's leading names of school playground design and bespoke play equipment structures, has launched a School Playground Funding Guide, which not only provides details on how to manage a funding project for a school grounds development but provides up to date sources of funding opportunities for Primary Schools and Early Years.

'We have tried to make our School Playground Funding Guide as useful a tool as possible for any school, organisation or individual looking at creating a holistic play environment,' said Julia Budniak, Head of Marketing. 'Playground funding is a vital part of any play development and it's important to have as much background information as possible in order to make the right choices. We take pride in working closely with clients in order to ensure that all their requirements are fully met,' said Julia.

/ Continued ...

'We have collated a wide variety of information in our School Funding Guide because it can take a lot of time to trawl around different sites finding useful facts and guides.

The website address is [www.playforce.co.uk](http://www.playforce.co.uk)

### ALL TEACHER'S GUIDE PRIORITY EDUCATION SUPPLIERS are listing on our website @ [www.teachers-guide.co.uk](http://www.teachers-guide.co.uk)

The Teacher's Guide Priority Suppliers include :  
(New Suppliers this month are in bold.)

Action Indoor Sports	Lafour Prima Dance
ASG Stage Products	Lapbox
ATPaK Ltd	LCF Ltd
Barefoot Books	Learning Materials Ltd
Bezerkaz Circus	Living Worksheets for
Bridgeman Education	Mathematics
Castle Hill Crafts	Music Is Fun
Chew TV	Outdoor Classrooms
CME Books Europe	Pangea Systems
(Chinese Resources)	Pilot Theatre
Cool Science	Planet Science &
Creative Steps	Planet SciCast,
Magazine	NESTA
Excursions -	Playforce
Group Travel Show	Primary Engineer
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<b>FEAST, The Food &amp;</b>	<b>SANAKO UK Ltd</b>
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Five Minute Box	Teachers Building
<i>The Focus on Food</i>	Society
<i>Campaign</i>	Thorpe Kilworth Ltd
Fones4Schools	YHA School Trips
JPA Furniture	Ziptales Pty Ltd
Kid-Eco	

### THE TEACHER'S GUIDE NEW WEBSITE HAS NOW BEEN LAUNCHED!

Check it out now and register to receive future monthly newsletters from The Teacher's Guide