FREE



THE ESSENTIAL RESOURCE FOR DERBYSHIRE FAMILIES WITH O-11 YEAR OLDS READ ONLINE AT WWW.BOOMDERBYSHIRE.CO.UK







Learn to swim

with Freedom Leisure

For children aged 4 months+

Developing confident & competent swimmers through fun and enjoyment



Bakewell Swimming Pool: 01629 814205 Ashbourne Leisure Centre: 01335 343712 Arc Leisure Matlock: 01629 581322

www.freedom-leisure.co.uk





BOOM...

Check out that front cover!

We had to pinch ourselves when illustrator Katie Abey not only agreed to an interview but also a **front cover 'take over'** for our very special **Arts and Literature** themed issue! We're both long-standing fans of her work and we're sure you'll agree that the cover is pretty special. In Katie's interview, you'll find out all about how she **juggles life as a mum, illustrator and entrepreneur.** Look out for an exciting **giveaway** on social media soon too!

It doesn't stop there though. We've got so many brilliant articles for you in this issue. Renowned dancer and choreographer Alice Marshall (Vale) shares her **experiences of creativity meeting parenthood** and Steven Howard is back to tell us how to **get creative in your garden**. Amanda Mundin from The Ritz has a selection of **family film recommendations** and Amy Stevenson returns with a **puppet theatre craft** for all your young storytellers.

Our wonderful **Boom Buddies** have suggested a range of **unmissable books for you and your children** and Vanessa Cameron from the Derby Book Festival tells us all about the fantastic finalists in this year's **Children's Picture Book Award**.

All our articles can now be found on **our website's blog** alongside many other web-only articles covering vital first aid topics, additional walks, book recommendations and more.

Follow our **social media accounts** so you don't miss our popular weekly **What's On** posts, regular reviews and giveaways.

Steph & Heather

steph@boommagazine.co.uk heather@boommagazine.co.uk www.boomderbyshire.co.uk





inside

Timetable of Groups and Classes	4-7
Katie Abey: Mum,	8-9
Illustrator, Entrepreneur	
Boom Buddy Book Recommendations	- 11
Dancing Through Parenthood	13
May/June Events Guide	16-18
Children's Picture Book Award 2024	21
Five Family Films	25
Getting Creative in the Garden	27
Create Your Own Puppet Theatre	29

Get in touch!

To list a class or event or suggest an article email steph@boommagazine.co.uk

To find out more about advertising in Boom email heather@boommagazine.co.uk

Or, if you're not sure who you need to speak to, just email info@boommagazine.co.uk

We can't wait to hear from you!

You can pick up a copy of Boom at many places INCLUDING:

nurseries, schools, libraries, health visitors, shops, cafes, and classes and groups for 0-11s in Belper, Ripley, Alfreton, Heanor, Wirksworth, Ashbourne, Matlock, Matlock Bath, Cromford, Milford, Duffield, Quarndon, Allestree, Darley Abbey and many places in between.

Magazine design by: 45 Degrees Design & Print 01773 880 365 info@fortyfivedegrees.co.uk



Published by Heather Gunn and Steph Patrick of Boom Magazine Ltd. All rights reserved. Reproduction in part or whole without permission is strictly prohibited. Health related articles are intended for information only. Goods and services advertised are not necessarily endorsed by Boom Magazine Ltd or its directors. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, however dates, locations and prices may change.



Supporting you through an active healthy

pregnancy & safe effective post-natal recovery

Classes include: Pregnancy & Post-Natal Pilates

Mums & Babies Reformer • Mat Work Pilates Classes

See our website for 20+ Classes per week

at Belper's East mill www.belperlifefitnessphysio.co.uk





GROUPS & CLASSES FOR 0-11s



AMBER VALLEY, ASHBOURNE, WIRKSWORTH, MATLOCK AND BEYOND!

Baby Sensory (0-13m) FlowMotion.Life Yoga

Studio, Matlock Mon 10.30 - 11.30am (birth-6m) Mon 12 - Ipm (6m-13m)
The Venue, Ashbourne

Tue 10 - 11am (birth-6m) Tue 11.30am - 12.30pm (6m-13m) Tue 1 - 2pm (birth-13m) Wed I - 2pm (birth-13m)
Wed I - 2pm (birth-13m)

Ripley Leisure Centre
Thu I0 - I Iam (birth-6m)
Thu II.30am - I2.30pm (6m-I3m)
Thu I - 2pm (birth-13m)
Book 07989 443734 www.babysensory.com/ centralderbyshire

Balance and Bloom Yoga with Emily Shine with Tabitha Yoga

Studio, Belper
Wed I lam - I 2pm mother and baby
yoga (0-toddling)
Thu I - 2pm baby massage (4wks-6m)
Thu 6.15 - 7.15pm pregnancy yoga (14wks-birth)

Book one session or a block. 07816 653812

www.tabitha-yoga.co.uk emilyplastow@hotmail.co.uk

Kirk Langley Village Hall Mon 9.45 - 10.45am mother and baby yoga (0-toddling) Mon 1 Iam - 12pm baby massage

(4wks-6m) Wed 6 - 7.30pm pregnancy yoga

(14wks-birth) Wed 7.45 - 9.15pm pregnancy yoga

(14wks-birth) Book www.mamablossom.com

Belper Cloth Nappy Library Come visit us at Belper Goes Green

Festival to see our range of hire kits suitable from birth to potty. Advice is free too!

belperclothnappylibrary@hotmail.com facebook.com **BelperClothNappyLibrary**

Codnor Quackers (0-4s) Codnor Sports Club Fri 9.45 - 11.15am

A Friday morning full of fun, giggles, playing, snacks and singing at the top of our voices. Snacks for children and a lovely treat and a hot drink for the

£5 for I adult and I child if you pay weekly. £20 for a 4-week prepaid ticket. £1.50 for additional adult or child. Booking advised but not essential

Fb Quackers in Codnor

Derbyshire Toy Libraries Toy Hire

Strutts Centre, Belper Wed 10am - 12pm, Fri 9.30 - 11am,

Sat 9 - 11.30am Click and collect. Browse at www.derbyshiretoylibraries. org/shop Book collection on Fb

Hopyard Wood Forest School

Lodge Lane, Kirk Langley Tue 10.30am - 12pm Woodland Babes Stay & Play (0-5s) Fri 10.30am - I2pm Woodland Babes Stay & Play (0-5s) Sat 10.30am - 12.15pm Woodland

Explorers (5-11s)
Hopyard Wood is a magical woodland where the soul rests, the heart soars and the body is refreshed. It's a place where magić is discovered, bonding rituals are explored, memories are made and, more importantly, a place where children (and adults) can breathe and just be. Book www.bookwhen.com/ hopyardwood

www.hopyardwood.co.uk Infinite Wellbeing Community Centre

Market Street, Heanor Mon to Fri 9am - 3pm; Sat 10am -

Role play area for children with a dedicated baby and sensory area. £5 per family Toddler Fun & Fit, Messy Play and Rhyme Time throughout the week (included in entry price). Monthly family-friendly movie screenings/my first cinema on Saturday afternoons. £3 per ticket. Booking not required. www.infinite-wellbeing.co.uk

Languages for All Language learning for all ages. Groups or individually. Online or in person, imoses@languagesforall.org.uk 07918 173844

www.languagesforall.org.uk

Messy Munchies (6m-4yrs) All Saints Church Hall, **Matlock**

Mon 10 - Ham Food sensory play, allowing children to explore foods in a fun environment which can help with the weaning process. Each month is themed. £7.50. Book www.bookwhen.com/ messymunchies

Mini First Aid Nottingham & Derby
Across Derbyshire including
Belper, Clay Cross, Darley
Abbey, Matlock and Oakwood

Award winning 2-hour baby and child first aid classes. Ideal for parents and expectant parents. Babis welcome. £25pp. Private classes also available. maria@minifirstaid.co.uk 07806 820393 www.nottingham.minifirstaid.co.uk

Moo Music Alfreton Area

Alfreton Community Hall Mon 9.20 - 10am Baby Moo Mon 10.20 - 11am Mixed Moo Mon 11.10 - 11.50am Mixed Moo

JL Dance Studio, Ripley Mon 1.10 - 1.50pm Mixed Moo in the Dark Wed 11.30am - 12.10pm Baby Moo

in the Dark Wed 12.30 - 1.10pm Baby Moo in the Dark

Shirland Village Hall Tue 9.20 - 10am Baby Moo Tue 10.20 - 11am Mixed Moo **Riddings Park Community**

Centre Tue I - I.40pm Mixed Moo Swanwick Centenary Centre Wed 9.30 - 10.10am Mixed Moo

Somercotes Village Hall Thu 10 - 10.40am Mixed Moo Multisensory baby and toddler classes where we sing, dance and have fun to a unique catalogue of songs – you won't find our music anywhere else. £7 PAYG or block book classes £6.50 Book bookwhen.com/moomusicalfreton

moomusicalfreton@outlook.com 07368 523259

Nature Tots (0-4s)
Carsington Water Outdoor Classroom

Mon 10am - 12pm Fortnightly 06/05, 20/05, 03/06 and

A wide selection of outdoor activities which may include pond-dipping, Pay on arrival, parking included. £6 first child; £3 sibling.

Nest & Nurture

Belper Community Hall Thu 12 - Ipm Hatchlings baby massage & postnatal yoga (6wks-5m) £54 for

Thu 1.30 - 2.30pm Nestlings baby yoga (4/5m-crawling) £54 for 6 weeks **Nurtured Birthing Classes** Thu 7 – 8.30pm (14wks pregnant onwards)

Pregnancy yoga and hypnobirthing. £75 for 6 weeks.

Old Farm Bus (0-11s Warmwells Lane, DE5 8JB Muck Out Mornings Fri & Sun 9.30 - 11.30am (0-4s)

Messy play, soft play bus and farm animals in the barn child £5 / adult £1. Sun 9.30 - 11.30am craft session (5-11s) - £5

Book at Eventbrite

Home Ed Group

Wed 27/03 & 24/04 12 - 2pm £3 contribution.

Book via theoldfarmbus@gmail.com

If you wish to be listed in later editions, please get in touch:

steph@boommagazine.co.uk



Please note that this information was correct at the time of publishing. Check all details before attending.



Pregnancy & Post Natal Pilates (babies welcome) Belper Pilates Studio, East Mill

Mat work - Wed 7.10pm Reformer - Thu 9.45am, Fri 10.20am Our physio-led classes are part of the Belper Health Hub. Mums and mums-to-be of all levels of fitness will benefit from safe mat or reformer Pilates instruction from trained physiotherapists. Babies are welcome at all sessions. Book 07703 116284

www.belperlifefitnessphysio.co.uk Primrose Art Club (4-13s)

Lizzy Morris Studio Wed 4 - 5pm (4-9s) Wed 5 - 6pm (10-13s) Strutts Community Centre Wed 4.15 - 5.15pm (10-13s) Wed 5.15 - 6.15pm (4-9s) Arts and crafts group sessions where kids can explore their creativity and develop skills. Book primroseartclub@gmail.com www.primroseart.club 07387 962150

Sparks Film Club (7-11s) The Grand Pavilion,

Matlock Bath
Wed 5.30 - 7.30pm
Weekly filmmaking workshop on the theme The Camera Games for this summer term. Membership costs £56.25 monthly or £250 termly. Discounts for siblings or groups. Five-day summer camp 29 Jul to 02 Aug 10am to 4pm available too. DerbyshireNorth@sparksarts.co.uk www.sparksarts.co.uk/product/ filmmaking-classes-derbyshire-north/

Taekwondo Maestros & Masters Academy (4+) Little Eaton Village Hall

Tue 7 - 9pm (8+) Sat 9 - 10am (4-7s) Sat 10am - 12pm (8+) The Korean martial art of Taekwondo improves fitness, flexibility, balance, confidence, discipline and moral values such as courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control and indomitable spirit. £20 per month for under 8s; £30 per month for 8+. admin@mandm.academy 07818 559309 www.mandm.academy

The Little Baby Sanctuary (0-active crawling) Fusion Yoga Well-being

Centre, Ripley
Tue 10.30 - 11.30am baby massage
Tue 1 - 2pm baby yoga
Sage Yoga Studio, Belper
Thu 10.30 - 11.30am baby yoga
Thu 1 - 2pm baby massage
Anna Michelle's School of **Dance, Darley Abbey** Fri 10.30 - 11.30am baby massage Fri I - 2pm baby yoga

Gentle, interactive strokes and movement supporting common ailments, concerns and baby milestones with Nicky, qualified NNEB nursery nurse, baby massage and baby yoga instructor.
Book www.thelittlebabysanctuary. co.uk

07739 551379

TinyTalk (0-4s) Communicate with your baby before they can speak! At Tiny Talk we sign, bounce and giggle through each class, while you learn a handful of useful BSL signs with action songs, stories and familiar nursery rhymes. Enjoy social time and a nice hot cuppa and biscuits after every class. All class sizes are limited

Derbyshire Central St Mark's Church,

Openwoodgate
Tue 10 - 11am (baby class)
Tue 11.30am - 12.30pm (baby class)
Fri 10 - 11am (baby class)
Fri 11.30am - 12.30pm (baby class) bookwhen.com/tinytalkdc www.tinytalk.co.uk/kathgreaves

Derby North St John's Methodist Church, Allestree Mon 10 - Ham (baby class) The Church on Oakwood
Tue 10 - 11am (toddler class)
Tue 11.30am - 12.30pm (baby class)
Mickleover Memorial Hall Wed 10 - 11am (toddler class) Wed 11.30am - 12.30pm (baby class)

bookwhen.com/tinytalkderbynorth www.tinytalk.co.uk/emilyreeve

Toddler Tuesdays (18m-5yrs) Denby Pottery Village Tue 10 - 11am Creative group craft sessions for your

pre-schooler and a free hot drink at Bourne's Coffee shop for you. £7. Book www.denbypottery.com

Belper Community Hall Mon 12.30 - 1.30pm Tue 11.15am - 12.15pm

Twistin' Tinies Adventures

(0-18m non-walkers)

Arc Leisure Centre, Matlock Wed 11.15am - 12.15pm

Innovative sensory adventures to help your baby grow! Block bookings - 4 trial classes. £20 for new customers. www.twistintots.co.uk 07977 578359

jacqui@twistintots.co.uk

Twistin' Tots (0-5s) Belper Community Hall Mon 9.45 - 11.20am stay and play Tue 9.45 - 10.30am Arc Leisure Centre, Matlock Wed 9.45 - 10.30am

Darley Abbey Village Hall Thu 9.45 - 10.30am

Magical music and movement classes for under 5s and their grown-ups. Weekly or block bookings - 4 trial

classes £20 for new customers. www.twistintots.co.uk 07977 578359 jacqui@twistintots.co.uk

Vanessa's School of Dance (3-18s) Vanessa's School of Dance, Belper

Mon 4.15 - 4.45pm nursery class (2.5yrs-reception) Mon 4.45 - 5.15pm Tiny Tots modern (reception-6yrs) Sat 9 - 9.30am Tiny Tots acro (reception-6yrs) Mon to Thu 4pm onwards and Sat 8.45am - 6.30pm (see timetable) Ballet, tap, modern, contemporary, musical theatre, singing, acrobatics and street dance classes. Adult classes offered in tap, ballet & fitness. www.vsdance.co.uk

UNDER £4 OR FREE

01773 823309 • 07581 228557

Acorns Toddler Group (0-4s) Woodlands Church, Allestree Mon 9.30 - 11.15am

Free play, snacks, singing and a Bible story. www.woodlandschurch.org.uk 01332 551336

B.E.A.R.S. Breastfeeding Support Group

Heanor Children's Centre Tue 9.30 - I Iam (fortnightly) Alfreton Children's Centre Thu 10.30 - 11.30am (fortnightly) Belper Early Years Centre, Alder Road Fri 1.30 – 2.45pm

Refreshments, social and breastfeeding support. Meet other parents. Toys and entertainment for the little ones. See Fb page for breastfeeding support and details of antenatal sessions. 07776 495900 Fb messenger

Belper Early Years Centre (6m-5yrs) Alder Road, Belper Natural World Group

Fri 10 - 11.30am Toys, sing-alongs and sensory room. No need to book. £1 donation. Special Friends Coffee Morning & Playgroup 2nd Wed of the month 9.45 - 11.45am For children with additional needs and their families belperearlyyearsfun@gmail.com 01773 821288

Most classes are term time only. Please check before attending.

Breastfeeding Network Derbyshire

Online - Zoom 2nd Thu of the month 8 - 9.30pm Workshop for pregnant parents interested in learning more about breastfeeding. Free but register to receive the invite. Check the Fb page for details and the Eventbrite link.

Bridge the Gap Family Hubs (0-5s) Sinfin Family Hub Tue 10 - 11.30am **Osmaston & Allenton** Family Hub Tue 1.30 - 3pm **Mackworth & Morley** Family Hub Wed 9.30 - 1 lam

Becket Family Hub Wed 1.30 - 3pm A friendly and relaxed space to support your own wellbeing, get creative and talk to the Bridge the Gap team about supporting your child's mental health. Parents can come on their own or with their children. Toys, activities and stories available for children. No need to book www.jwbridgethegap.com staceymurray@jwbridgethegap.com 01332 600827

Denby Bottles Messy Church Denby Bottles Methodist

3rd Sunday of the month 10.15am Crafts, food, music and worship.

Derbyshire Dales Mum2Mum Breastfeeding Support Group *Note all groups run once a month. Follow social media pages to see which week each venue is. **Hulland Ward Millennium Hall**Every 3rd Wed of the month 10 11.30am (at Hulland Hippos) Wirksworth Memorial Hall Thu 9.45 - 11.15am (stay and play) Ashbourne Pavilion
Fri 9.30am - 12pm (stay and play)
Ashbourne Library
Fri 1.30 - 2.30pm Drop-in sessions run by local mums trained in peer support. Part of the Breastfeeding Network. All welcome.

Derbyshire Toy Libraries Stay and Play Glebe Field Centre, Crich Mon 9.30 - 11am **Grassmoor Community Centre** Tue 9.30 - 11am **Belper Community Hall** Wed 9.30 - Ham Kilburn Village Hall Thu 9.30 - 11am Cost of sessions varies from £2-4. Additional siblings/adults £1. Under 6m go free. No booking required. **Strutts Centre, Belper** 2nd Sat of the month 9.30 - 11am multiples playgroup For carers of twins and triplets. Friends of multiples welcome.

Holbrook Baby and Toddler Group (0-5s) Holbrook Moor Methodist Chapel Wed 9 - 11am

Have fun and share experiences in a friendly, open environment. Toys for all ages, craft activities, stories and singing plus a healthy snack for the children and cake and a drink for the adults. £2 per family. No need to book. 07980 652431 or Fb

Hulland Hippos Baby & Toddler Group (0-5s) **Hulland Ward Millennium** Hall

Wed 10 - 11.30am (inc. school holidays) A range of stimulating play activities

for under 5s, including a baby area. Snacks and drinks. Songs and a story at the end. Busy, friendly group. New families welcome.

£3 per family. No booking required. Fb or www.hullandchurches.org.uk/ groups/hulland-hippos

Kilburn Baby & Toddler **Drop In**

Kilburn Village Hall Sun 9.30 - 11.30am (fortnightly) Welcoming all families, babies and toddlers to our play, colouring, reading & sensory areas. Drinks

provided. 07877 356262 kilburnbaby@gmail.com Fb KilburnBabyAndToddlers

Little Church (0-5s)

St Peter's Church, Belper Wed 10am - 12pm £1 per family office@stpetersparishbelper.org.uk

Messy Church (all ages) Ripley Salvation Army 3rd Fri of the month 3.30pm

Games, craft and stories followed by a meal. Donation of whatever you can afford.

Messy Church (all ages) **St Swithun's Church, Belper** 2nd Sat of the month 4 - 6pm -

donation office@stpetersparishbelper.org.uk St Mark's Church, Belper 4th Sat of the month 4 - 6pm -

office@stpetersparishbelper.org.uk

Nature Tots Avenue Country Park, Chesterfield

Fri 10 - 11am Monthly 10/05 & 07/06 Meet at the carpark for a short walk with fun nature activities along the way. Free. No booking required. Free parking. www.derbyshirewildlifetrust. org.uk/things-to-do

Most classes are term time only. Please check before attending.

Nest & Nurture Reunion Café Belper Nest & Nurture Tea Club Tue 1.15 - 2.30pm

Monthly social and support drop-in session for expectant and new parents. Donation.

Prams & First Shoes (0-2.5s) St Mark's Church, Openwoodgate Thu 9.30 - 11.30am

Stanley St. Andrew's Stay and Play (0-5s) Stanley St. Andrew's CofE Primary School Wed 2 - 3pm fortnightly (see school

01772 826519

website calendar) Free play session for pre-schoolers, led by a qualified teacher to encourage and develop school readiness. Sit back with a hot drink and have a chat whilst staff run the activities. info@st-andrews-pri. derbyshire.sch.uk • 01159 324252

Toddlers Inc. (0-5s) **Denby Bottles Methodist** Church

Tue 10am - 12pm Lots of toys for all ages, finishing with a song and rhyme time. 50p per child includes a snack and drink for all.

Tots @ Dots Dot-Teas Emporium, Belper Thu 10am – 12pm

Drop-in meet-up for mums, dads and carers to come along with little ones. Free but the tea rooms ask that you buy a drink. No booking required.

Tuesday Tots (0-5s) Central United Reformed Church, Derby Tue 10 - 11.45am

Enjoy a range of activities including crafts, messy play and a baby area. Singing time at the end. Snacks for children and hot drinks for adults available. Donations welcome. Booking not required but maximum 20 children per session. More info on Fb.

Whistlestop Wildlife Watch Group (5-11s) A different place each month

Sun 12 May 10am - 12pm – All About Water Voles Sun 09 Jun 1 - 3pm – Session led by DWT Junior Rangers
Outdoor wildlife-themed activities at a different nature reserve/wild space in central and north-east Derbyshire each month plus occasional indoor sessions at the Matlock Bath base. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Booking required. '
whistlestop_watch@yahoo.com £2.50 for one child; siblings 50p extra

Wirksworth Parent and Toddler Group Wirksworth Heritage Centre Wed 2 - 3pm

Enjoy the studio space and café menu and chat with other parents.

£4 for the first child. Additional siblings/adults £1. Book www.

Wirksworth Stay and Play Baby & Toddler Group (0-5s) Memorial Hall, Wirksworth Thu 9.45 - 11.15am

Volunteer-run playgroup with sensory play, a wide range of toys, and themed creative activities. No booking required. Includes snack for the children. Hot drinks and biscuits for the adults. See more on Facebook. 0-6m £1.50; 6m+ £3 per family

Yellow Daisies Stay & Play

(0-5s)
The Village Hall, Heage
Mon, Wed & Fri 9 - Ham play group -£3.50 per child Tue 9 - I I am messy play - £3 per

Includes snack and drink plus hot drinks for adults.

LIBRARIES FREE

Alfreton

Mon II - II.30am story time

Allestree

Tue 2.30 - 3pm rhyme time

Ashbourne

Tue 10.15 - 10.45am story time

Belper

Wed II - II.30am story and rhyme time Fri II - II.30am rhyme time

Heanor

Mon 2 - 2.30pm story and rhyme time (fortnightly)

Thu II - II.30am story and rhyme time (fortnightly)

Matlock

Thu 10.30 - I lam story and rhyme time

Ripley

Tue 10 - 10.30am rhyme time

Wirksworth

Thu 2.15 - 2.45pm children's singalong





Find all this information online at www.boomderbyshire.co.uk



DERBYSHIRE FAMILY HEALTH SERVICE 01246 515100



Follow us on **social media** for updates and loads more content.

JURASSIC

in Cathedral Quarter

Sat 20th July 2024 11am-4pm **Derby Market Place**

Step back in time and meet Zeus - the Giant T-Rex, Emily Bronty and friends! Train to become a Dino Ranger and have a roooarsome day in Cathedral Quarter!

www.derbycathedralquarter.co.uk

f @ CathedralQuarterDerby Cathedral Quarter Derby BID

@DerbyCQ

CATHEDRAL

Enjoy these other FREE activities too!

- · Dino World AR Trail
- Prehistoric crafting
- Facepainting
- Dino Dia



KATIE ABEY: MUM, ILLUSTRATOR, ENTREPRENEUR



Katie is a yellow-haired, creative, illustrator human, who transmutes her deep feelings into artwork in the hopes of making a positive difference in the world.

Tell us a bit about yourself

I'm originally from Langley Mill and moved to South Wingfield ten years ago. I'm an illustrator and general creative human and mum to a craft goblin. I guess that pretty much sums it up!

How would you describe your work?

It's difficult because I used to say, 'Oh, I'm an illustrator,' but it just feels like it's so much more than that. Drawing is what I love doing but I also get a rush from all the organising, reordering stock for the online shop, and being creative brain for Punnydukes – our shop in Matlock.

Tell us about your business

I've been in business for 10 years this year which feels crazy! When I left university, my now husband, Jeff, was working in aerospace and supported me whilst I built the business up. Everything happened quite rapidly and they ended up sacking their engineering job in and we run it together now. Five years ago, Punnydukes was born and the Room of Enchantment event space is going to be two years old this summer. My business partner, Angela, and I do drop-in craft or portrait days and a lot of self-development,

spirituality and meditation

You create new artwork at an incredible rate – where do you get your inspiration?

I made a new year's resolution to do a drawing every day when I started my business ten years ago and I did it every single day for five years. That stopped when I got pregnant and was growing a child and

then raising said child. And then recently, with Violet starting school, I've felt like I've had the capacity to do it again. And I really do love it because it stops me from overthinking because I'm creating every day. It tends to come from personal experiences. If I go through something in my life, I'll try and make it into loads of cute artwork.

Or if someone annoys me, I'll make it into a passive aggressive post!

Does Violet share your creativity?

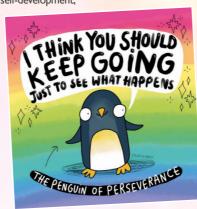
She loves trying everything and is super creative. She's a mix of really proud of my work but also sarcastically unimpressed when I show her stuff! She

creates artwork at an insane rate especially at after school club. She loves using my iPad to colour in illustrations I copy for her. I love her style — I want to get one of her drawings tattooed on me!

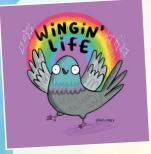


How do you juggle motherhood with running a successful business and with time to be creative?

I just try and be in one mode or the other. Which is not always easy. I think it's easier since Violet's got a bit older and I can say 'that day is a work day' but the creative bit is difficult because you can't force creativity if you don't feel it. Especially if you're exhausted from hard-core mumming! It's hard to feel like you're bossing both but I do try and keep them separate so my brain doesn't explode.



Throughout May and June, join Katie's **free Magic Seeker event at Punnydukes**. Grab a treasure map and find faeries, witches and other magical beings throughout the shop. Tick them off to claim your treasure pin badge!



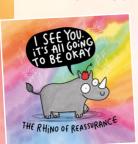
What do you do for self-care?

I like that question because it's a fairly new thing. And because of me being a bit of a recovering workaholic, the way that I do this is I view my self-care as a project – I

check how well I'm doing at relaxing! I'll extend the walk back from school every day by 20-30 minutes because I really love wandering in nature. I try and get up before Violet to have 15 minutes journaling or something but that doesn't happen every day. And then I really do like my baths but I often find myself scrolling when I could be reading or tuning out so, as I'm assessing this project management of my relaxation, there's room for improvement! And trying to have self-care time means that I then have to be OK with the fact that there's loads of stuff that needs doing.

Mental health and celebrating diversity are strong themes throughout your work. What makes you so passionate about these topics?

I've struggled with my own mental health a lot. I'm a really highly sensitive person which means I feel all the happy feelings really intensely but also all of the low feelings the same. Before I realised that about myself, there's been a lot of times where I've been consumed by the bog quite a lot. Because I know



what it's like, it feels good to think that I might be able to help other people with that. It fills me with a sense of purpose. With diversity, I've recently realised that embracing your weirdness is how I would sum up what my message is. The things

that people find weird about you are where your

superpowers lie. It's important to voice things that matter and a lot of that is diversity.

THE ELEPHANT OF ENTHUSIASM

What tips would you give someone who wants to pursue illustration as a hobby or career?

Just create from your heart and create every day. That's how I developed my style in the beginning – you can see online how it evolved over the first year as I was getting more confident with drawing so frequently. If you want to do kids' books then it's really useful to get an illustration agent too.

And finally, tell us about some of the proudest moments in your career so far.

Getting to illustrate a book for Ant and Dec was really cool! And I love the books where I've had a bit more involvement in the writing. My favourite



is We Feel Happy and I was really proud when I went to look around Violet's school and they had it in the library! My name was also the answer to a question on The Chase recently which is a good conversation starter! I do feel really proud of myself and I always try and check in with my inner child, Little Katie, and I know that she'd be absolutely buzzing that this is my life.

Join the Business Witch coven for small businesses at patreon.com/happinessenchanters

Visit **Punnydukes** and escape with an enchanted shopping experience. Punnydukes, The Courtyard, Dale Road, Matlock, DE43LT





"You'll love it, your babies will love it. 10/10"

- Jen, TinyTalk Belper parent



tinytalk

Baby Signing . Toddler Talking

Join the UK's favourite baby signing classes and help your child communicate before they can speak! Signing babies are happy babies, able to express their needs, wants and feelings. Sing, dance, giggle and learn as you bond with your baby on a whole new level.

"We both love it so much! After just one class I knew I would book the rest of the

- Rhiannon, TinyTalk Belper parent

"A judgement-free zone, with other lovely parents" - Annie, TinyTalk

Belper parent



Join our friendly Belper classes

Tuesdays 10am & 11:30am Fridays 10am & 11:30am

Find out more and book online

bookwhen.com/tinytalkdc or email kathgreaves@tinytalk.co.uk



...and there are lots more TinyTalk classes around the East Midlands

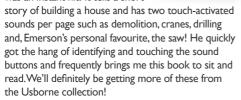
BOOM BUDDY BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

We invited our Boom Buddy Families to share a favourite book with the rest of our Boom community. Here are their picks!

Kim - The **Shawver Family**

Building Site Sounds by Sam Taplin (age 0-2)

We found this book on a recent trip to Alfreton library and it was an instant hit! It tells a short



Bethan - The Yallop Family

Little Acorn

by Melanie Joyce (age 3-6)

This is a lovely rhyming story telling you about the life cycle of an acorn becoming an oak tree. It

has beautiful and bright illustrations showing children (and adults) the wonders of nature. My little ones loved learning about the life of an acorn and how other animals are a part of that journey.



The Lost Words: A Spell Book

by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris (age 4+)

An A4-sized hardback poetry book that was created in response to a popular children's dictionary removing certain

everyday nature words because they weren't being used enough. Inspiring and enchanting, it's a celebration of creatures and plants. The beautiful watercolour illustrations add even more charm to this must-have book.

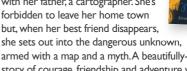


Steph - Boom

The Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave (age 9-12)

Isabella lives on the island of Joya with her father, a cartographer. She's forbidden to leave her home town but, when her best friend disappears,

armed with a map and a myth. A beautifully-written story of courage, friendship and adventure which my year 6 class loved.



Weronika **The Allan Family**

Foraging: The Complete Guide for Kids and Families

by Stella and Dane De Luca Mulandiee (all ages)

If you're looking to encourage

your children to go for long walks - look no longer! This book is a comprehensive and child-friendly guide to foraging that includes quests and culinary challenges. Full of pictures and detailed descriptions, it will add so much joy to your nature walks!



Hannah - The **Adamson Family**

The Happiest Ever After by Milly Johnson (adult)

I'm a firm believer in 'everything happens for a reason' and, for me, that's the message in this book. After hitting her head, Polly loses her memory and thinks she is the

main character in the novel she was writing. The book follows her journey to finding her old life and true self! A delightful read with the happiest ever after!









struggles through creative therapies

Parent Child Attachment Play training *One-to-one play therapy for children* *Creative and therapeutic arts classes*

The Hollies, 105 Bridge Street, Belper, DE56 1BA





HOPYARD WOOD, KIRK LANGLEY,

FOREST SCHOOL

- Half Term Holiday Club









DANCING THROUGH PARENTHOOD



programmes at the University of Derby.

Please note: this article includes experience of baby loss.

"Mummy... when you go to work, what do you do?"

"Well, I am a Dance Lecturer, so I teach, choreograph and write about dance." "Hmm. So you get to twirl all day??"

As many dancers do, I started at a very early age. I was extremely committed and trained hard. Working through my professional exams whilst still at school and then training further at HE level, I always knew that dance was who I am. Neither one could exist without the other. But then I started my journey into parenthood, and this twosided coin became multi-faced.

My initial parenthood journey was traumatic. I lost two babies, one quite far into the pregnancy. Nobody can ever explain the pain that this causes, and I could never have predicted how profoundly it affected my artistry. My wonderful body that had been my 'tool' for so many years, had trained so hard, had made me strong and graceful, had let me down. It had failed to keep my babies alive. I lost the love for dance. But I needed it. My therapist told me to embrace this and dance for my lost babies - and I did. As every artist will tell you, your art-form is what will heal you, and in my story, I danced my way through grief and into two successful pregnancies.

Great, I thought, now to crack on with my dance journey! Oh no, no, no, I now had two children, and those little beauties have managed to change me, and my work. I now see the immense value of



dance for young children and families; I now create work that is accessible for all and am innately interested in how other artistic parents have found the impact of parenthood on their art-form. This has resulted in the creation of 'The Creative Parent', a symposium designed to explore exactly that (14th May at Déda). Most importantly, I now look at my body as a wonderful dance tool, but also a wondrous thing that went through pain, and then created two girls who make my heart beat with such joy. That rhythm is now what keeps my twinkle-toes dancing. That rhythm is one of love, dedication, and admiration for what we as parents endure and are fortunate to be a part of.

"Mummy?"

"Yes..."

"When I am very old like you" (Thanks!) "I will dance too - dance like you do - all full of love." Yes you will my miracle, yes you will.

a.e.a.marshall@derby.ac.uk

(i) @aemarshall

Symposium booking form: www.derby.ac.uk/events/latest-events/ the-creative-parent-symposium



Wirksworth Heritage Centre

- Museum interactive panels and special exhibitions. Visit our 'Dream Cave' and try on costumes
- Fresh food in our cafe. Dogs are welcome in our courtyard area
- · Local branded gifts, cards, books and toys in our shop
- Family workshops including woodturning and needle felting, drop in children's craft sessions
- Monthly table of **events** including heritage talks, poetry, book club and more
- Check out our website for up to date activities, events and opening times

Ask us if you have access requirements and/or book a tailored group visit.













EVENTS MAY & JUNE 2024



Events happening locally for all ages!

Magic Seeker FREE

Punnydukes, Matlock

Throughout May & Jun - Wed to Sun - I lam to 5pm Look for the magic! Grab a treasure map and immerse yourself in the magical fantasy world of Punnydukes. Find faeries, witches and other magical beings throughout the shop and tick them off to claim your treasure pin badge. Suitable for ages

Bunny Egg Hunt FREE

2 - 200.

Matlock Town Council Until Fri 31 May Bunny Eggs are hiding the secret location of the precious Golden Bunny Egg. Receive a certificate and badge when you've cracked the code.

Mary Anning Maquette FREE

The National Stone Centre Until 31 Jul - 10am to 4pm Exhibition including the model of the bronze statue in place at Lyme Regis, where Mary was born. Other artefacts, lots of information and activities such as a spotter's trail. fossil digging and fossil panning. Free exhibition but some activities are chargeable.

Young at Heart **Intergenerational Stay & Play**

Coxbench Care

Thu 02 May - 9.30 to 11am Young children come to sessions to foster new relationships with old friends. Suitable from birth. Book: Derbyshire Toy Libraries on **Facebook**

Children's Craft Drop-In FREE **Belper Library**

Sat 04 May & Sat 01 Jun - 10am to

Age 5 and above.

Belper Arts Trail

Various Venues

Sun 05 & Mon 06 May - 10.30am to

170 artists, makers and creatives in 50 venues - displaying, demonstrating and doing workshops. Live music, street entertainment and film events too.

Wristbands: £5



Magical May

Crich Tramway Village Sun 05 & Mon 06 May - 10am to

5.30pm

Springtime magic with a fairy trail through the woods. Meet the Fairy Queen at the bird hide and make a wish (11.30am to 3.45pm), make fairy dens, attend wizarding school, get your face painted and have a go at Maypole dancing (2 & 3pm). Plus owls and parrots on Sunday, falconry on Monday and Meadow Sprites puppet walkabouts.

Tickets: £23 adult; £14 child (annual

Superhero Bank Holiday Funday

Matlock Farm Park

Mon 06 May - 10.30am to 4.30pm Spider-Man, Batman and Supergirl perform some superhero training sessions for your young superhero wannabes!

Tickets: £16.50 adult: £14.50 child: free under 2

Derbyshire Toy Libraries Auctions

Fb Derbyshire Toy Libraries Selling and Fundraising Group Thu 09 May & Thu 13 Jun (auctions) Buy it now from the Saturdays before the auctions from 4pm. Wed 10am to 12pm; Fri 9.30 to Ham; Sat 9.30 to Ham (collections from Strutts Centre, Belper)

Family Led Board Games FREE Alfreton Library

Sat II May & Sat 08 Jun - 10am to

Drop in to enjoy a range of board games as a family.

STEAM Tots FREE

Museum of Making

Sat 11 May & 08 Jun - 10 to 11.30am This loose-parts play session offers a sensory and playful exploration of objects and materials, stimulating children's curiosity, imagination and experimentation. Drop-in session, suitable for children 2-5 years old with their carers. Free - give what you think.

Active Birth Workshop

Shine with Tabitha Yoga Sun 12 May - 2 to 4.30pm Emily from Balance and Bloom offers self-help strategies, what to expect, the birthing partner role as well as tools to navigate the maternity system and birthing options/choices. For pregnant women and their partners.

Tickets: £45 for two attendees Book on Bookwhen

Creative Parents Symposium

Déda

Tue 14 May - 9.30am Free event for artistic parents and caregivers, seamlessly blending the joys and challenges of parenting with a passion for creativity. Talks, performances and discussions uniquely designed for family involvement. Book to attend.

Transition to Secondary School Bridge the Gap, Derby

Thu 16 May & Thu 23 Jun - 5.30 to 6.30pm

Supportive, non-judgemental environment for immediate advice and assistance about your child's move to year 7.

Spectrum Mini Spring Festival Shipley Park

Sat 18 May - I lam to 3pm A brand-new mini festival focused on sensory activities and experiences allowing people with Autism and other disabilities to have fun in an environment where they can be themselves.

Tickets: £10 (under 3s free)

Crafty Saturday FREE

Alfreton Library Sat 18 May & Jun date TBC Drop in to enjoy free crafts, suitable

for all the family Contact 01629 531481

50th Anniversary Celebrations

Heights of Abraham

Sat 18 & Sun 19 May - 10am to 4.30pm

The Big Music Weekend. Musicians from across Derbyshire and beyond celebrate this anniversary year. Dance, sing along and immerse

yourself at a memorable and family-friendly event.

Mon 20 May – 10am to 4.30pm The anniversary of the Pugh family taking over the Heights. The day promises a delightful fusion of history and natural beauty with fun activities for all.

Tickets: £25 adult; £17.50 child (5-15 years) online advance

Early Support Hub Drop-In

Bridge the Gap, Derby

Sat 18 May & Sat 29 Jun – 10am to 3pm Two small group sessions (attend both) for year 6 children to explore transition and coping strategies to tackle worries and anxiety head-on. Experienced practitioners provide a safe space for children to express their feelings and share experiences. Tickets: £30

Garden Party FREE

57 Ripley Road, Heage

Sun 19 May – 12.30 to 4pm BBQ, plant stall, cream teas, stalls, games, face paints and a golf ball race organised by the Heage Committee of Action Medical Research. Cash only. Contact: 07443 464619 or 07975

Vintage Tractor Day

Heage Windmill

905156

Sun 19 May – I lam to 3pm Lovingly-restored vintage tractors and stationary engines.

Baby & Brew

Carnero Lounge, Derby

Mon 20 May – 10 am to 12 pm Bring your baby, have a brew and enjoy a natter. Have cake and a drink (£6) or join a 2 hour Mini First Aid session from a qualified instructor (£25). Spaces are limited. Book: curateandcreate.sumupstore. com

Woodland Creatives

Shining Cliff Woods

Tue 21 May & 11 Jun – 12 to 3pm Family home ed sessions with seasonal crafts and activities. Children of any age welcome with at least 1 adult per family. Tickets: £2 Book: info@woodlandconnections. org or on Eventbrite

Mr Blobby's Annual Charity Tractor Road Run FREE

The Railway Inn, Shottle Sat 25 May – 10am

Bake sale and raffle hosted at The Railway Inn. Supporting the Air Ambulances.

Derbyshire Open Arts

Various Venues

Sat 25 to Mon 27 May 200 artists and crafts people exhibiting in 61 venues throughout Derbyshire including The National Stone Centre in Wirksworth, The Haybarn Gallery in Ilam, Crompton Inglefield Village Hall in Turnditch and The Willows in Darley Dale. www.derbyshireopenarts.co.uk

Seaside Fun

Crich Tramway Museum

Sat 25 to Fri 31 May – 10am to 5.30pm

Enjoy the fun of the seaside with a fun fair, mini-beach, bingo, crafts, Punch & Judy, face painter, balloon modeller, flea circus (25-27 May) and juggling shows (28-31 May)!
Tickets: £23 adult; £14 child (annual ticket)

Medieval May

Bluebells Dairy

Sat 25 May to Sun 2 June – 10am to 5pm A week of thrilling quests, sword training and magical tales for timeless memories. Tickets: see website

Wirksworth Carnival Party and Parade

Memorial Gardens

Sun 26 May Floats, T'Owd Man Morris Dancers, Belly Dance Flames, live music, animal encounters and a fun fair.

Mayfly Craft & Pond Dip

Carsington Water

Mon 27 May – 10am to 3pm Derbyshire Wildlife Trust drop-in session suitable for 4 years and up. £1 per craft

Woodland Adventure Days for Kids

Shining Cliff Woods

Tue 28 & Wed 29 May – 10am to

Den building, shelter making, fire lighting, campfire cooking, games, adventures and fun! A drop off session for children in year I and over.

Tickets: £26
Book: info@woodlandconnections.
org or on Eventbrite

Family Bushcraft Event

Carsington Water

Wed 29 May – 10am to12pm Make a shelter, keep warm and cook on a fire and use simple tools. Suitable for ages 4-11. Tickets: £10 per person. Parking included. Book: Eventbrite

Mayday Magic

Location TBC

29 May – I pm Woodcrafts and stories with Belper North Mill. Suitable for children aged 3-11.

Tickets: £4 per child

Ingenious Creations FREE Museum of Making

Wed 29 May - 10.30am to 12.30pm & 1.30 to 3.30pm

Taking inspiration from Ingenious Edie, Master Inventor of Tiny Town (see p21), make your own mini creations, precious objects or shiny things, and for one day only, display them at the Museum of Making. FREE drop-in sessions, suitable for families

Bookworms: The Kids' Takeover

Electric Daisy

Thu 30 May – 10am to 3pm Calling all Bookworms! Head down to Electric Daisy for a day of stories and nature discovery. A full programme of storytelling from authors, illustration demonstrations and talks on nature. Free play in the garden with nature play and craft activities.

Tickets: £5 child; adults free but must book a ticket

Storytelling FREE

Derbion

Thu 30 May

Live children's book reading sessions throughout the day in our themed reading area. Suitable for ages 3-10. Free but booking essential. A Derby Book Festival event.

Kilburn Community Day FREE Kilburn Village Hall & Church Street Park

Sat 01 Jun – 10am to 1pm Fun for the whole family. Local groups. Police and other local organisations. Free have-a-go activities.

Rail and Road Steam and Vintage Gala

Peak Rail, Rowsley Steam

Depot

Sat 01 & Sun 02 Jun Showcasing a vast array of vehicles along with children's fairground rides, stalls and refreshments. Steam train rides between Rowsley

and Matlock.
Tickets: £10 per
ticket plus £10
for discounted
train rides
(kids go free)



Clocking On - Family Friendly Tour

Belper North Mill

Sun 02 Jun – 2 to 3pm Join our experienced guides in a short family-friendly walking tour around the mill to find out what Belper children were doing 200 years ago and visit the historic basement to discover some of Belper's amazing story.

Tickets: from £2.50
Book: www.belpernorthmill.org.uk/calendar

Family Owl Event

Carsington Water

Sat 02 Jun – 10am to 12pm
Find out about our five native
owl species, their habits and their
habitats. Then identify their prey by
dissecting an owl pellet!
Suitable for ages 4-11.
Tickets: £6 per person. Parking
included
Book: Eventbrite

The Big I FREE

Cathedral Green

Sat 02 Jun - I I am Chaddesden's annual summer family fun day for all to enjoy.

Check out our full half-term events guide on our blog!

Belper Goes Green

Belper Meadows Cricket Club Fri 07 to Sun 09 Jun Boom will be part of this joyful event! Come along and say hello! We'll be in the tennis courts with Derbyshire Toy Libraries. Celebrate the local community with music, talks, crafts, great food, cracking beer, and an environmentally-conscious

Weekend tickets: £5.50

approach.

The Great Big Green Week

St Peter's Quarter, Derby

Sat 15 Jun – I lam to 4pm An exciting day filled with ecofriendly fun. Flower and ivy stilt walkers, seed bomb making, crafting with recycled packaging and more. Learn, create and make positive green swaps together. Part of a week of celebrations (08 – 16 Jun).

Father's Day Bushcraft Event

Carsington Water

Sun 16 Jun – 10.30am to 12.30pm Make a shelter, keep warm and cook on a fire and use simple tools. Suitable for ages 4-11. Tickets: £10 per person. Parking included Book: Eventbrite

Father's Day Dinosaur Day Matlock Farm Park

Sun 16 Jun – 10am to 4.30pm Learn about Rita the great T-Rex and several baby dinosaurs at outdoor shows throughout the day. Find them wandering around the park and let the kids join in some dig site fun.

Tickets: £16.50 adult; £14.50 child; free under 2

Ilkeston Music Festival

New Manor ground

Sat 22 Jun – 10.30am to 10.30pm A great family day out. Tribute Acts to Queen, Oasis, Arctic Monkeys, Rihanna, Little Mix, Harry Styles and many more.

International StreetFest Extravaganza FREE

Ashbourne

Sat 22 & Sun 23 Jun – 10am to 5pm Kicking off the Ashbourne Festival, Entertainers from all over the world challenge themselves (and members of the audience!) to perform death defying feats and incredibly silly stunts. Events continue until 07 Jul. See ashbournefestival.org for full listings

Derbyshire County Show

Elvaston Showground, Derby Sun 23 Jun – 9am to 5.30pm Horse, dog, cattle and sheep shows, Shetland pony racing, donkey rides, bouncy slides, fairground, petting zoo, crafts, vintage cars and food favre.

Tickets: £18 adult; £2 child

Music on Crossley Park FREE Crossley Park, Ripley

Sun 23 Jun – 2.30 to 4.30pm The fantastic Newstead Brass will be performing from the bandstand. Bring a chair and picnic, sit back and enjoy the music!

Celebrate Sadler Gate FREE Sadler Gate, Derby

Sat 29 Jun – I lam
A fun filled day for all of the
family. A vibrant day of live music,
historical tours, magical characters
and more in the heart of Cathedral
Quarter.

Kids' Sunday Adventures

Shining Cliff Woods

Sun 30 Jun – I lam to 2pm Sundays were made for adventures so let your kids go wild in the woods! A drop off session for children in year I and over. Tickets: £16 Book: info@woodlandconnections. org or on Eventbrite

There's just SO much going on in Derbyshire so, for May and June's theatre, film and market listings, visit our blog at www. boomderbyshire.co.uk







Together, let's shape a brighter future for every child.

Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire councils need you.

Find out more and enquire at fosterforeastmidlands.org.uk



















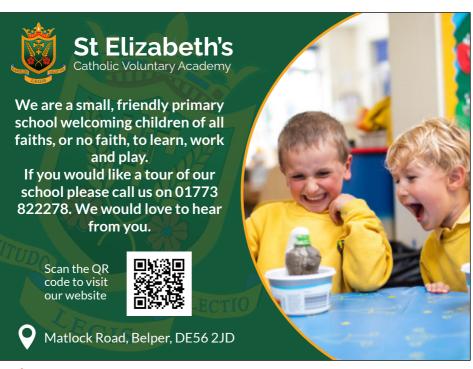
LION HOTEL

A WARM WELCOME FOR FAMILIES

Hotel, Restaurant & Bar Gastro Pub & Pizzeria Superb children's menu Function rooms

THE LION HOTEL BELPER

24 Bridge Street Belper, DE56 1AX enquiries@lionhotelbelper.com lionhotelbelper.com 01773 824 033



DERBY CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK AWARD



Written by Vanessa Cameron

Vanessa is a book lover, play creator, accidental gardener, mother, former teacher and the Children and Young People's Co-ordinator at Derby Book Festival.



Now in its sixth year, Derby
Children's Picture
Book Award was started by Di Smith in response to the
CLPE (Centre for Literacy in Primary Education) report that found that picture books published in the

UK were not reflecting the diversity of modern Britain. The Award aims to inspire a new generation of readers through books which reflect their own lives and experiences, enabling children to see themselves represented in the books they read.

Here is a brief introduction to the three shortlisted books and the book that was highly commended, by a team of Derby teachers in 2024.

The Dress in The Window by Robert Tregoning and Pippa Curnick (Oxford University Press)

Highly Commended: Have you ever seen a dress so sparkly and beautiful that you just had to have it? The boy in this story falls in love with a dress in the charity shop window and dreams of making it his. This story is joyful and affirming and I especially love the page where he imagines all the different people who could have worn it. The delightful rhyme and Pippa Curnick's dazzling illustrations make this a wonderful book. The teachers were keen to include this book's messages of working to earn the things that you desire, and family love and acceptance.

Ingenious Edie, Master Inventor of Tiny Town by Patrick Corrigan (Flying Eye Books)

Journey into the tiny town where Edie lives with her friends and works, by herself, to invent solutions to their problems. But when a Magpie thief causes trouble, Edie has to work with her friends to sort things out. The illustrations are delightful and so elaborate, that you'll be spotting new details with each read. A story about the value of friendship, teamwork and finding positive solutions to difficulties

Someone Just Like You by Helen Docherty and David Roberts (Simon and Schuster Kids)

Inspired by the words of late politician, Jo Cox MP, that we have more in common than that which divides us, Helen Docherty encourages us to look for similarities between ourselves and others. Her beautiful words are brought to life through David Roberts' incredible illustrations. These are a real highlight, being bright and intricate, adding additional empathy to the words. The shortlisting teachers were particularly impressed with how appealing the book is. You will find yourself engrossed!

Thunder Boots by Naomi Jones and Rebecca Ashdown (Oxford University Press)

And finally, this year's winner, voted for by the children of Derby. Thunder Boots is the tale of rambunctious Trixie, who enjoys life without fear. She excitedly starts school and loves it, until she begins to find letters very tricky. Inspired by both the author's and the illustrator's experiences with dyslexia, the story is a joyful celebration of difference and how everyone has a superpower. What's yours?

Derby Book Festival organises three festivals in 2024, as well as a year-round programme of community projects all aimed at bringing books to life for the people of Derby. We are developing an increasing number of events for children and young people and we'd love for you to join us soon.



- derbybookfestival.co.uk
- f /DerbyBookFestival
- (c) @derbybookfest



MID-WEEK FUN

AT DENBY POTTERY VILLAGE

Arrange a play date or catch up with friends, there's always plenty to keep the little ones busy throughout the week at Denby Pottery Village



Pottery Painting



Toddler Tuesday Crafts (Term Time)





To book visit: denbypottery.digitickets.co.uk/tickets





DENBY POTTERY VILLAGE











LESTER & NIX

VISIT YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICAL STORE!

WE HAVE COMPETITIVE DEALS ON HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES SUCH AS:



Washing Machines & Dryers
Fridges & Freezers
Dishwashers
TV's

Small Appliances











We specialise in major brands such as...

Shark. dyson





BOSCHInvented for life













Contact Us Today!

Visit our store: 11-13 King Street, Belper, DE56 1PW Call us: 01773 822828 Email: lesterandnix@gmail.com

Brand new eco-friendly school now open!





Come and join our St Mary's family

We also offer nursery education for children aged 3 and above

Scan the QR code to visit our website



Broadway, Derby, DE22 1AU

01332 554831





FIVE FAMILY FILMS





Written by Amanda Mundin

Amanda opened The Ritz Cinema, Belper in 2006 to bring a wide variety of quality films to the town. She currently programmes films at five independent cinemas and is busy spreading the film love!

The Ritz Cinema Belper is the perfect place to see a wide variety of films for all ages. Every school holiday there is a film for all the family to enjoy. In May half-term, we will be showing **If**, starring Ryan Reynolds as the father of a young girl who can see everyone's imaginary friends who have been left behind as their real-life friends have grown-up. During the summer, you'll be able to catch our screenings of **Inside Out 2**. On the days when you're not at the big screen, here are The Ritz top five family films to look out for on the small screen at home...



5. NIMONA

In a futuristic world, Ballister Boldheart is framed for a crime he didn't commit and the only person who can help him prove his innocence is the shapeshifting

Nimona. Through their adventure, they learn about acceptance and the importance of being true to yourself by celebrating individuality and the power of friendship.



This film tells the story of a magical family in Colombia where every member possesses unique abilities apart from Mirabel who has no apparent gift. Because of this, she

feels left out and sets about learning what she can do despite her lack of powers. This is a fantastic story about family bonds and embracing differences with some very catchy songs thrown in!



3. SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE

Miles Morales is bitten by a radioactive spider and develops powers to transform him into Spider-Man. It is when he meets

Peter Parker that he learns that multiple people can wear the mask of Spider-Man in the fight against evil. Anyone can be a hero. With its highly original animation, this is a colourful, imaginative and funny update to the franchise.



2. STRANGE WORLD

A group of friends find themselves transported to a mysterious realm where their imaginations come to life. As they navigate this strange world together, they learn

to appreciate each other's differences and the strength of their friendship. This is a fresh take on a classic adventure story.

I. MOANA

A Polynesian princess sets off on an adventure to save her people when their island is threatened. Along the way, she forms an unlikely friendship with the demigod Maui, learning



the importance of self-discovery, perseverance and empathy. With its captivating story, colourful animation and enduring songs, Moana is the most entertaining of films to celebrate diversity, friendship and having the courage to follow your heart.

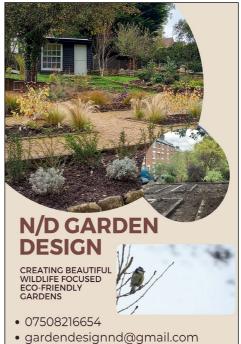
Whether it's through empowering characters like Moana and Nimona or via the celebration of family bonds in Encanto, all these films will inspire children to embrace their individuality, cultivate meaningful friendships and navigate the complex emotions of courage and kindness.

- www.ritz-belper.co.uk
- © 01773 822224
- 76B King Street, Belper DE56 IQA









GETTING CREATIVE IN THE GARDEN

Written by Steven Howard from N/D Garden Design Steven is an eco-friendly garden designer and consultant based in Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

By May, the garden is a hustle and bustle of life, the busiest time of year for both the gardener and the wildlife that calls the garden home.

Most gardeners and garden designers would tell you that, while May is not necessarily the right time of year to start planning your garden, it's certainly a good time to see where changes need to be made in your planting. The early summer gap before the main show in June can be a tricky one to fill but there are a few design tricks and tips to help make sure the garden looks beautiful all year round.

Planting Choosing the right plants for a garden can often be the biggest part of the battle and understanding what will work and what won't work, whether that be aesthetically or otherwise, is why gardeners with good knowledge are so sought after. It's important to remember to utilise what works and not try to force things and then run with it. Grouping three, five or seven of the same plant is a brilliant way of adding continuity, structure and order to your garden. The same can be said for grouping flowers of the same colour. Having lots of different flowers chosen from the same colour palette is a wonderful way of designing your planting scheme but, rather than simply adopting a buy-one-of-everything approach, try choosing three of each to maximise on form and texture. If you notice you have a flower or colour gap in your garden it's a good idea to go to the garden centre or nursery and buy plants which are just coming into bloom. If you do this once a month and buy in groups you'll always have something flowering in the garden.

Permanent Structure One element of garden design which cannot be overlooked is how to incorporate permanent structure. Topiary, whether it be large and lavish garden sculptures or simple clipped balls or mounds, really add a touch of class and elegance to a garden as well as giving shape and structure through the whole year. Topiary pieces

are a versatile addition to the garden, adding a focal point which draws the eye but also giving a neutral backdrop to allow the flowers to perform in front of. Although the more traditional Box (Buxus sempervirens) is becoming a less wise choice, due mainly to the rise of the Box Moth caterpillar, there are plenty of suitable alternatives which work just as well. One of my favourites, which I use in most of the gardens I create, is Pittosporum tenuifolium. Although it grows quicker than Box, it holds its shape well and helps to create structure in the border.

Learning More Whether you're just starting to learn about gardening or planning a big project over the next few months, there are some fantastic books which might help get the creative juices flowing. Here are a few I recommend which will give you a helping hand in creating a beautiful garden.

- Dream Plants for the Natural Garden by Piet Oudolf and Henk Gerritsen
- Garden Style by Heidi Howcroft and Marianne Majerus
- The No-Dig Children's Gardening Book by Charles Dowding
- The Cottage Garden by Claus Dalby
- Resilient Garden: Sustainable Gardening for a Changing Climate by Tom Massey
- Wild: The Naturalistic Garden by Noel Kingsbury







07508 216654







Easy Accounts Ltd is a breath of fresh air in the world of accountancy.

Why choose Easy Accounts?

- FREE book-keeping software that's really EASY to use
- Check out our great low prices at www.easyaccountsltd.co.uk
- Friendly advice for small limited companies and sole traders

For more information go to www.easyaccountsltd.co.uk or call Liz on 01773 880113

Let us change your accountancy experience for the better!



Unit 6, Heritage Business Centre, Derby Road, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 ISW Tel: 01773 880113. Web: www.easyaccountsltd.co.uk Email: liz@easyaccountsltd.co.uk

CREATE YOUR OWN PUPPET THEATRE





Written by Amy Stevenson from Primrose Art Club

Amy has loved delving into a range of creative activities since childhood due to her Granny offering space and materials. She opened Primrose Art Club to provide other children with the same opportunities.

Everyone loves making stick and sock puppets so how about making your own puppet theatre to re-tell your favourite stories or make up your own? The Hungry Caterpillar could join the Tiger in coming for tea or the Three Little Pigs could go on a Bear Hunt. This theatre also includes instructions for creating extra backgrounds to swap and change depending on the setting of the story. You could even make more backgrounds at another time when you get more ideas.

What you will need:

- Shoe box
- Cereal box
- Ruler
- Scissors
- · Paints, pens, pencils or collage materials and glue or tape for decorating
- Paper
- · String or wool

Method:

- I. To begin with, turn your shoe box onto its long edge and push the lid into the box. The lid will act as the stage for your theatre.
- 2. Cut a T shape out of one side of the cereal box. Make the top of the T at least 3 cm thick and 3 cm wider than the central part of the T on each side.
- 3. Cut a slot in the top of the shoe box the same width as the middle part of the T. Ensure it is central (get a grown up to cut the slot).
- 4. Slide the card in and out of the slot to check it fits properly. Once it does, you can use your T as a template to make another T out of the other side of the cereal box.





- 5. The next step is to take everything apart and decorate your shoe box and T shapes. I used paint but you can use collage materials, pens or pencils. Make the shoe box lid (your stage) brown and decorate your Ts and the back of the shoe box with different backgrounds (I made a valley, a forest and an under the sea background). You can also decorate the outside of the box.
- 6. Create curtains for your stage by making two paper fans and tying them in the middle with some string or wool.
- 7. Once everything is dry, stick your stage back inside the shoe box. You should be able to pop one T at a time in the slot so your theatre has three different backgrounds.
- 8. Stick one end of each curtain to the top of the box on the inside, making sure they keep to the sides.

Extra idea:

You could get a grownup to film or take photos of the puppet theatre as you tell a story. They could then send these to your family and friends or share them on Instagram @boom magazine derbyshire or to Boom Magazine Derbyshire on Facebook.



- www.primroseart.club primroseartclub@gmail.com
- 07387 962150

DARREN MAYES DECORATORS

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR • PRIVATE & COMMERCIAL

FREE ESTIMATES · ESTABLISHED 2001

Tel: 01773 820656Mobile: 07966 296925

34 GEORGE STREET, BELPER, DERBYSHIRE DE56 1DL

Email: dmayesdecorator@btinternet.com





The Reading Doctor's mission is to unlock the potential in struggling readers and writers



I am a qualified teacher, based in Belper, offering one to one support using high quality, multi-sensory resources

We teach the way you learn



Just Cox

Contact Kate, your local Reading Doctor
07787881704
www.thereadingdoctors.com
kate@thereadingdoctors.com



We are a new family run business providing:

great coffee cooked breakfast lunches

afternoon tea buffets

Children's parties and fantastic gifts

Come and enjoy our secure outside courtyard seating area. Or try our upstairs snug, showcasing gifts such as children's toys, sweets, candles, much more!



We have baby changing facilities, a children's menu, colouring books & crayons. We are Dog Friendly too!



3 Strutt St, Belper DE56 1UN 01773 448000

Welcome to





Interactive role play centres based in South Perbyshire

Titchy Town and Hero Town are both indoor play villages designed especially for little ones up to 8 years of age. Children can freely explore the many different play zones in both villages. The villages are designed to allow children's imagination to run wild whilst they role play in a safe environment.

Grown-ups can participate in their child's play, or just sit back and watch them learn whilst enjoying a mug of freshly brewed tea or coffee and an amazing homemade cake from our little coffee shop.



Where are we?

Titchy Town is based on the site of Scallywags Private Day Nursey in Chellaston (Rowallan Way, DE73 5WX).

Hero Town is based on the site of Scallywags Private Day Nursery in Melbourne (Castle Lane, DE73 8JB).

Please use Scallywags car park at both sites. You will find signage in both car parks on how to access the centres.

How it works?

Both role play centres work on a pre-book via our website and pay on arrival basis with sessions lasting 90 minutes. On your first entry you will be issued a loyalty card and for every nine sessions you attend you will receive your 10th entry free of charge! Loyalty cards can be used across both sites. Payment is cash only.

Titchy Town Play Village

Castle Store Town House Vets 'n' Pets Anabelle's Caf Wash 'n' go Harry's Yard

Hero Town Play Village

Dolly Dogs Grooming Parlour George's Garage Simon's Shed Foston's Fire Station Mrs Potts tearoom The Land Where Dreams Come True Castle Lane clinic Baby Zone

To find out more or to book into a play session...

Visit our websites: titchytown.com or hero-town.co.uk





"GB only, 18+. Promotion opens 09:00 01/04/2024, closes 23:59 31/03/2025. Redeem by 23:59 31/05/2025. Automatic claim for one free 6-month membership code to Kids Pass for Everyone Active cardholders joining swimming lessons on Direct Debit or continuing their Direct Debit for swimming lessons as of 09:00 01/04/2024 or paying in full in advance for swimming lessons during the promotional period at participating centree. Everyone Active card required to join swimming lessons. Opt-out via email. Max one claim per person. Valid email address required to claim, and internet access required remembership code on-line. Kid Pass requires spop download and registration. Existing Kids Pass members will receive an additional 6 months on their pass by emailing enquiries@kidspass.com. Exclusions apply. Vialt www.everyonesctive.com/kidspass for full terms.

With Kids Pass you can make great savings at hundreds of UK attractions plus 1.4 million hotels worldwide. Visit everyoneactive.com/kidspass