

Family events – September 2018

**Solihull Family
Information Service**

As well as the events below, don't forget to check out further activities and things to do on www.solihull.gov.uk/familyinfo

Please note: The below activities are not registered or regulated by Solihull Family Information Service. It is your responsibility to ensure you are happy that the activities are safe and appropriate for your child.

North Solihull (and surrounding areas)

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Marston Green Parish Hall Elmdon Road, Marston Green, Solihull B37 7BT Website: www.marstongreenparishhall.co.uk				
Sat 29 Sept	<p>Family Disco Join us for another of our fantastic Family Disco's. Why not let the kids burn some energy on the dance floor while you enjoy a drink from the bar!</p> <p>With games and prizes to be won the kids will have a great time. From 6pm-7pm we open our kitchen and serve trays of chips and cobs and there's lots of other refreshments on sale too!</p> <p>More details to follow, so keep a look out via our website!</p>	TBC	5.30pm - 8.30pm	All ages
Chelmsley Wood Shopping Centre Chelmsley Wood, Solihull B37 5TS Tel: 0121 770 1775 Website: www.chelmsleywoodshopping.co.uk				
Sat 15 Sept	<p>Help Create a New Art Display! We will be holding a free craft session for children to enjoy.</p> <p>Working together to create a window display at Chelmsley Wood (at the old Perfect Home store).</p>	FREE	10am - 3pm	3 to 10 years
Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Castle Bromwich Library Hurst Lane North, Castle Bromwich, Solihull B36 0EY Tel: 0121 747 3708				
	<p>Storytime. Term time only on Fridays.</p>	FREE	2.15pm - 2.45pm	Under 5s

	Rhyme time on Mondays. Alternating between either a morning or afternoon session. A short interactive session for babies and very young children, which includes finger and action rhymes and songs.	FREE	10.45am - 11.05am or 2.30pm - 2.50pm	0 - 2 years
Chelmsley Wood Library 10 West Mall, Chelmsley Wood Shopping Centre, Solihull B37 5TN Tel: 0121 788 4380				
	Rhymetime Free stories, songs, rhymes and toys. Drop-in session, term time only on Fridays.	FREE	10am	Under 5s
	Code Club Do you have a favourite computer game? Would you like to learn how to make your own computer games? At Code Club you will learn how to make cool games, animations and websites too! Drop-in session, term time only on Mondays. Contact library staff to find out more details.	FREE	4pm - 5pm	8 - 12 years
	Owlets - Play & Stay A children's drop-in session. Monthly on Tuesdays. Contact library staff to find out more details.	FREE	10am	Under 3s
Kingshurst Library Marston Drive, Kingshurst, Solihull B37 6BD Tel: 0121 770 3451				
	Story Time on Fridays, term time only	FREE	10.15am - 10.45am	Under 5s
	Rhyme time – A short interactive session for babies and very young children that includes finger & action rhymes and songs. Also a chance to meet other mums and carers. Once a fortnight on Tuesdays.	FREE	10.15am - 10.45am	0 - 2 years
Marston Green Library Land Lane, Solihull B37 7DQ Call: 0121 779 2131				
	Story Time - On Mondays, term time only. No need to book. Just pop along with your little ones for half an hour of stories, rhymes, songs and colouring.	FREE	2.30pm - 3pm	Under 5s

South Solihull (and surrounding areas)				
Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
The Core Theatre Solihull Theatre Square, Touchwood, Homer Road Solihull B91 3RG Tel: 0121 704 6962 (Box Office) Website: www.thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk				
Sat 22 Sept	<p>Beginners Folk Art Class Helen will show you step by step how to paint simply beautiful designs using simple dotting techniques.</p> <p>These Folk It sessions are suitable for children age 7+ and adults.</p> <p>You do not need any previous painting skills and you do not need to consider yourself as "artistic" as Helen, from Mindful Crafts will show you how easy it is to use dots to create fabulous projects.</p> <p>In this session, you will make a hanging heart and greetings cards. There will be a choice of designs from you to choose from.</p> <p>Learn to paint, chat and make new friends! What better way to spend a few hours and create your calm? All materials and guidance are provided.</p> <p>Let's get dotty about painting!</p>	£15 per person	2pm to 4pm	Children 7 years+ & adults
Mell Square B91 3AL Website: www.solihullbid.co.uk				
Fri 28 to Sun 30 Sept	<p>Solihull Food & Drink Festival 2018 This year's food festival will be the biggest and best one yet, with not just one, but three famous faces in our demo kitchen. See website for details.</p> <p>Our demo kitchen will be accompanied by over 60 continental food stalls and bars, children's entertainment including Solihull's favourite Mr Bubble, food tasters, the most loved voucher booklets for Solihull venues and the all new evening area with funky street food and bands on until later in the evening on Friday and Saturday.</p>	FREE to attend	See website	All ages
Libraries...				
Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Balsall Common Library 283 Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common CV7 3EL Tel: 01676 532590				
	<p>Tales and Time to Play - on Mondays. Bring your little ones for a story followed by a chance to play, sing, chat and relax with other young families. All pre-school children are welcome. Toys and musical instruments are provided.</p>	FREE	2.15pm - 3pm	Under 5s

	Rhyme Time - on Tuesdays. Enjoy an afternoon spending time with your babies and toddlers listening to happy songs and rhymes with actions and percussion instruments.	FREE	2.15pm - 2.45pm	0 - 2 years
Dickens Heath Library Old Dickens Heath Road, Dickens Heath, Solihull B90 1SD Tel: 0121 744 6078				
	Rhymetimes on Mondays, term time only. A fun session of action rhymes and songs.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	0 - 2 years
	Children's Board Games Club - Second Saturday of the month. Get your children away from their computer screens. Who doesn't love a game of Guess Who?	FREE	2pm - 3pm	5 - 9 years
	Tea & Tots - Every other Thursday of the month A chance for mums, dads, grans and carers to meet for a cuppa and a chat whilst the toddlers play. Occasional guest speakers may also attend.	FREE	2pm - 3pm	Under 5s
	Lego Club - Last Saturday of the month. Come along for some Lego fun.	FREE	2pm onwards	5 - 9 years
Hampton in Arden Library 39 Fentham Road, Hampton in Arden, Solihull B92 0AY Tel: 01675 442629				
	Storytimes - Fortnightly on Tuesdays. Stories and crafts for all pre-school children. Please call for dates.	FREE	1.45pm - 2.15pm	Under 5s
	The Great Storybook Journey - Fortnightly on Fridays. A story for under 5s about a new place or environment, followed by painting pictures for our Great Storybook Journey wall display. Contact the library for dates. N.B. Warm water is provided to wash hands, but wearing clothes that can get messy is recommended.	FREE	1.45pm - 2.15pm	Under 5s
Hobs Moat Library Ulleries Road, Solihull B92 8EB Tel: 0121 743 4592				
	Under 5s Story Session 'Little Hobbits' - Thursdays, term time only. Join the 'Little Hobbits' and sing along with rhymes before listening to stories and enjoying colouring with your pre-school children.	FREE	10am - 10.45am	Under 5s

	Daddy Rhyme Time - Monthly on Saturdays. This is a special time of enjoyment and bonding for you and your child. Come along and meet with other fathers and male carers for a chat. Refreshments are provided. Please contact for more details.	FREE	10.30am - 11am	Under 5s
	Animal Antics First Monday of the month. Staff will read stories about a new animal. Children can then colour in a picture of the animal and collect them. Every time you come to the library you can collect a paw print for your Animal Collector Card.	FREE	10.15 - 11am	Under 5s

Knowle Library Chester House, 1667-1669 High Street, Knowle, Solihull B93 0LL
Tel: 01564 775840

	Monday Storytime - This new activity will run fortnightly. It is aimed at preschool children. Join us for stories and rhymes. Please contact library for dates.	FREE	10.30am - 11am	Under 5s
	Jellybeans - Our monthly session of rhymes, songs, stories and a craft activity. Lots of fun for the under fives.	£1.50 charge applies	10.45am - 11.30am	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - Every Friday afternoon, term time only. Bring your little ones along for a fun half hour of songs, action rhymes and musical instruments.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	Under 5s

Meriden Library Arden Cottage, The Green, Meriden CV7 7LN
Tel: 01676 522717

	Reading Zoo on Mondays. Term time only. Our weekly story and painting session where we read a story about an animal and then all paint pictures of that animal. Please note: warm water to wash hands is provided but wearing clothes that can get messy is recommended.	FREE	2.30pm - 3pm	Under 5s
	Reading Zoo on Mondays. Term time only. Our weekly story and painting session where we read a story about an animal and then all paint pictures of that animal. Please note: warm water to wash hands is provided but wearing clothes that can get messy is recommended.	FREE	2.30pm - 3pm	Under 5s
	Storytime on Mondays. Term time only. A different theme each week, with a special craft to follow.	FREE	2.45pm - 3.15pm	Under 5s

Olton Library 169A Warwick Road, Olton, Solihull B92 7AR
Tel: 0121 706 3038

	Storytime on second Tuesday of the month. Term time only. Come along and enjoy listening to stories for your pre-school child in the company of other children and their families.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	Under 5s
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Shirley Library 22 Parkgate, Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 3GG
Tel: 0121 704 6300

	Rhyme Time - For babies and toddlers on Tuesdays (term time only).	FREE	10am - 10.30am	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - For babies and toddlers on Wednesdays (term time only).	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - For babies and toddlers on Saturdays (term time only).	FREE	11am - 11.30am	Under 5s
	<p>Children's Code Club on Thursdays. Term time only. Code Club runs as a 6 week course. Booking is essential as there is a maximum of 8 children per course.</p> <p>In each session children will use various coding websites (depending on their level of coding) to make their own cool computer games, animations and websites. All children will receive a certificate at the end of each completed course! We currently run courses in Scratch 1 & 2 and HTML 1 & 2, so lots of room for progression!</p> <p>N.B. Limited places are available so please either speak to a member of staff at Shirley Library or call for more information or to get a spot on the waiting list!</p>	FREE	5pm - 6pm	9 - 11 years

The Core Library Theatre Square, Touchwood, Homer Road, Solihull B91 3RG
Tel: 0121 704 6965

	Homework Club - Tuesdays (term time only) with designated staff to support children.	FREE	3:45pm - 5.15pm	8 years+
	Story Times - Mondays (term time only).	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	Under 5s
	Rhyme Time - Wednesdays (term time only). A short interactive session that includes finger & action rhymes and songs. Come along and meet up with other parents/carers and discover what the library can offer your child.	FREE	10.15am - 10.30am	0 -2 years
	Meet and Play - Fridays (term time only). A session for families to meet up, relax, chat, play, sing or make music together. Instruments and toys are provided.	FREE	10.15am - 11.15am	0 -2 years

	Core Code Club - Saturdays (fortnightly). To register email... kjewsbury@solihull.gov.uk or call for more details.	FREE	10.30am - 11.30am	8 - 13 years
	Lego Club - Monthly. Meet in The Core Creative space. N.B. Places are limited. Please call the library and ask to speak to David Brayne for more information.	FREE	4pm - 5pm	8 - 12 years
	Twins Plus Storytime - Last Thursday of the month, term time only. Storytime for twins and multiples. Enjoy stories and rhymes followed by time to chat and share experiences with others. No booking required, just turn up on the day.	FREE	2pm - 2.30pm	Under 5s

Parks...

Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Dorridge Park Dorridge, Solihull B93 8LJ Website: www.kandd.org.uk				
Sun 16 Sept	<p>Dorridge Day The greatest family fun day featuring: The Vander Brothers Wheel of Death, circus skills workshops, local dance groups, fancy dress competition (The Greatest Showman / circus theme) and The Big Water Fight (bring your water pistol!).</p> <p>Plus join our classic car procession into the park. Starting at the Black Boy Pub, around 11.30am and passing outside Sainsbury's in Dorridge at 11.45am, then heading into the park.</p> <p>Please see the Knowle & Dorridge Round Table website for further details.</p>	<p>£2 per person (adult or child)</p> <p>or</p> <p>£6 per family (2 adults & up to 3 children)</p>	12pm - 4pm	All ages
Tudor Grange Park Solihull B91 3LU				
Sun 23 Sept	<p>Fun in the Park The annual charity fundraising event returns. Organised by the Soroptimists and featuring entertainment including a dog show, classic car show, cycling events and an arena with shows and performances from talented local dancers and musicians, this event is fun for all the family! Local artisans and charities will also have stalls at the event.</p> <p>For more info visit www.funinthepark-solihull.co.uk</p>	<p>Entrance cost:</p> <p>£3 per adult</p> <p>£1 per child (under 16)</p> <p>£6 per family</p>	11am - 5pm	All ages

The Parkridge Centre Brueton Park, Solihull B91 3HW Tel: 0121 704 0768 Website: www.wkwt.org.uk/whats-on				
Fri 7 Sept (Feathered Friends)	Nature Tots at Parkridge Nature Tots aims to encourage an early interest in wildlife. With this in mind, we hold activities outdoors, in the natural surroundings of our reserve at The Parkridge Centre. The session starts with fifteen minutes of free play, when everyone is here, when head outside to get stuck in with some wonderful activities based on that week's theme, before returning to the centre to make an amazing craft to take home. There is a tearoom on site where you can purchase refreshments after the Nature Tots session. Please be aware we head out in all weathers, so please dress appropriately.	£3.50 per child See website for booking details	10.30am - 12pm 1.30pm - 3pm	0 - 4 years
Fri 14 Sept (Caterpillars that go Crunch)				
Fri 21 Sept (Happy Hoppy Frogs)				
Fri 28 Sept (Teeny Tiny Den Building)				

Birmingham City Centre & other areas...				
Date(s)	Activity	Price	Time	Suitable age
Botanical Gardens Westbourne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3TR Tel: 0121 454 1860 Website: www.birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk				
Sat 15 Sept	Outdoor Cinema - The Greatest Showman Films under the stars at Birmingham Botanical Gardens! Visit the Gardens after hours for an outdoor screening of The Greatest Showman. Book a bean bag, deck chair or just bring a blanket! Then grab some popcorn and sit back and enjoy the film in the surroundings of our beautiful grounds.	See website for prices	Doors open 7pm Film starts 8.30pm	5 years+
Birmingham Repertory Theatre (The REP) Broad Street, Centenary Square, Birmingham, B1 2EP Tel: 0121 454 1860 Website: www.birmingham-rep.co.uk				
Sat 22 Sept	Young Herbert's Horrors A swashbuckling pirate adventure with a twist. Young Herbert is a little horror. Living on a boat should be the ideal life for a wannabe pirate, but the boat's grounded until Herbert can learn to tidy his cabin, eat his greens and be more polite. A big storm brews up when Herbert is sent home from school and Mum calls on Great Uncle Albatross - navy captain and scourge of all pirates - to warn him of the dangers of rebellion. Featuring swashbuckling verse, jaunty music, gallows humour and the obligatory parrot, Young Herbert's Horrors is Justin Coe's brand new spoken word show for children, following the highly popular Big Wow, Small Wonder. Our First Stages shows are the ideal way to introduce a new generation to the delights of theatre and are especially created for nursery and primary school aged children.	From £7 Babes in Arms £2 See website for details	11.30am 2.30pm	4 to 9 years

Birmingham Cathedral Square Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2QB
 Website: www.insitefestival.craftspace.co.uk

<p>Mon 3 - Fri 7 Sept</p>	<p>In:Site Festival 2018 A festival of graduate creativity.</p> <p>This September Craftspace are taking over the centre of Birmingham once again for In:Site Festival. The free week-long event will see the green space outside Birmingham Cathedral turn into an outdoor art gallery as it gradually fills up with new artworks, created outside by recent graduates, in collaboration with passers-by.</p>	<p>FREE</p>	<p>Throughout the day</p>	<p>All ages</p>
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Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery Chamberlain Square, Birmingham B3 3DH
 Tel: 0121 348 8038
 Web: www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/bmag

<p>Sun 9 Sept</p>	<p>Dippy Farewell Party Dippy on Tour has wowed visitors to the museum since 26th May and is sadly coming to an end. On Sunday 9th September, the Natural History Museum's famous Diplodocus will be leaving us to continue his adventure to Ulster Museum in Belfast.</p> <p>To mark Dippy's last day in Birmingham and to celebrate his time on 9th September, we will be hosting a farewell party. To fully get into the dinosaur spirit, and to show Dippy how much he will be missed, we encourage all visitors to get creative and dress up as dinosaurs or birds, or simply in themed clothing. There will be exciting prizes for the best dressed so think carefully and creatively about your outfit! For those who do not want to dress up there will be other fun celebrations throughout the day.</p> <p>There will be walk up slots available, however as this is expected to be a popular day, pre-booking is recommended to guarantee entry.</p> <p>Let's give Dippy a great send off!</p>	<p>FREE (pre-booking recommended)</p>	<p>10am - 5pm</p>	<p>All ages</p>
<p>Wed 19 Sept</p>	<p>BMAG Babies Join us for our regular, on gallery early years stay and play session. Creative, interactive and sensory play & fun with colours, textures and sounds.</p> <p>Designed for babies and toddlers to play and interact with a parent or caregiver.</p> <p>The event will take place in Gallery 20, on the second floor. You can stay for as little or as long as you like. Lift access available on Edmund Street.</p> <p>This is a free event but please pre-book to guarantee a place.</p>	<p>FREE (pre-booking recommended)</p>	<p>10.30am - 12.30pm</p>	<p>6 months to 3 years</p>

Waterstones, Birmingham 24-26 High Street, Birmingham B4 7SL

Tel: 0121 633 4353

Website: www.waterstones.com/events/search/shop/birmingham-high-stre (see website for T&Cs)

Sat 15 Sept	<p>Middle Grade Bookclub Come and join our monthly bookclub for readers aged 8+</p> <p>This month we will be discussing A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle.</p> <p>No need to book a place, just read the book and come along for the discussion, held on our Children's floor.</p>	FREE	2pm	8 Years+
Sun 23 Sept	<p>YA (Young Adult) Bookclub with special guest Hayley Barker We will be reading Show Stealer, Hayley's new novel. She will be joining us to discuss the book, answer any questions you have and sign copies.</p> <p>This is a free event but spaces are limited so please book in advance.</p>	FREE <small>(but must book in advance)</small>	2.30pm - 3.30pm	Teenagers

Birmingham Hippodrome Hurst Street, Southside, Birmingham, B5 4TB

Call: 0844 338 5000 (Tickets & Information)

Website: www.birminghamhippodrome.com

Fridays (term-time)	<p>Drama Adventures with Toni Midlane Energetic and highly interactive drama adventures for pre-school children including movement, music, imaginative play and crafts.</p> <p>You simply pay on the day, but please book online using the button above, or call Information and Sales to reserve your spot and help us know how many maracas to bring!</p>	£2 per child	10.30am - 12pm	2 - 4 years
Fri 14 & Fri 28 Sept	<p>Fresh Fridays Drop in every other Friday evening for free pop-up performances at our coffee bar. Related to the main stage shows and festivals going on at the Hippodrome, these exciting performances will range from music to comedy, and craft activities to dance. Upcoming performances include...</p> <p>Fri 14 Sept - A tabla and sitar duo will be playing for you, ahead of the evening performance of Taj Express.</p> <p>Fri 28 Sept - A string quartet will be giving a free performance in the Coffee Bar before BRB's La Fille mal gardee commences.</p> <p>There's no need to book - simply turn up and enjoy!</p>	FREE	5.30pm - 6.30pm	All ages

Aston Hall Trinity Road, Aston, Birmingham B6 6JD

Tel: 0121 348 8038

Website: www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/aston

<p>Sat 29 Sept</p>	<p>Autumnal Aston: Rufus and the Golden Acorns Families are invited to join us for half a day of activities celebrating Autumnal Aston. Explore our North Courtyard to take part in our outdoor nature challenges.</p> <p>Join us inside Aston Hall to help us tell our story of our favourite autumnal animal, Rufus the Red Squirrel, and his preparations for the King's visit as we look around this beautiful old house together.</p> <p>Suitable for children aged 4-8 and accompanying adults. This experience is not suitable for adults not accompanying children.</p> <p>Usual admission fees apply. Your ticket includes the story tour, activities, and general entrance into Aston Hall. General entrance allows you wander around the Hall from 11 am until 4pm. Tickets are non-refundable. The Hall, Tea Room and Gift Shop are open from 11am until 4pm.</p> <p>Spaces are limited, pre-booking is essential.</p>	<p>Entry to this event is included in the price of admission</p> <p>£8 per adult</p> <p>£3 per child (3 - 15 years)</p> <p>£6 concessions (students/benefits). Excludes over 60s</p> <p>See website for family ticket info</p>	<p>11am or 1pm</p>	<p>4 to 8 years</p>
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