



NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2025

1. GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS

What a wonderful way to complete the school year in July. Two packed graduation ceremonies celebrating all the amazing learning activities our young people had achieved after school and at weekends.

We would like to thank the University of Southampton, all the school staff and the parents and children for making it them such special celebrations.

180 children managed to gain credits ranging from 30 hours to 1000 hours.

362 Certificates were presented totalling an all time record of 15, 849 hours of learning.

We are looking forward to supporting everyone to reach new challenges this academic year!



2. IMPORTANT REMINDER

If your child completed any activities included in the Summer Challenge Pack 2025, don't forget to email a picture of the completed activity (you don't need to include your child in the picture). Include your child's name and school and we will email them a certificate with all the codes for them to upload.

Email newforestcu@gmail.com

3. AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Included in this Newsletter

- Ideas for fun days out for the half term holiday which are free or low cost
- A list of validated learning providers in the local area.

4. AUTUMN CHALLENGE PACK

- The Next New Forest Challenge Pack will be published on 17th October 2025 on our website. It will be packed with great activities to try at home or with friends <https://newforestcu.co.uk/activity-zone/>

HALF TERM FAMILY DAYS OUT & ACTIVITIES NO COST/LOW COST



Pumpkins in the Park

18th & 19th October 10am TO 4am

Royal Victoria Country Park, Netley Abbey SO31 5GA

10am to 4pm

A two day festival packed with pumpkin fun! There will be activities for all the family, a scarecrow village, live music, pumpkin painting / carving, some of the UK's biggest pumpkins, a fun fair and over 90 stall holders. All ticket holders will receive free parking.

Children £1, Adults £5

Pumpkin Pastures, Fordingbridge

18 – 31 October 2025

The family-run Pumpkin Pastures pick your own pumpkin field in Fordingbridge has 30 varieties of pumpkin and squash over its 10 acres.

As well as pumpkin picking you can enjoy craft activities, games, and a Halloween barrel train, against the seasonal backdrops on the edge of the New Forest.

Pick Your Own Pumpkins Free Entry

<https://pumpkinpastures.co.uk/>

Lepe Beach

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/countryparks/lepe/whats-on>

Story Telling & Crafts 18th and 25th of October 1.30 - 2.30

Cosy up in our classroom for an enchanting wildlife story, followed by making your own adorable pinecone animal.

Free But booking required

4th October - 2nd November

Crawlies in the Canopy Halloween Trail

Join us this Halloween for a spine-tingling adventure in the woods!

Trails can be purchased at the Lookout Cafe **Cost £4**



New Forest Heritage Centre

<https://www.newforestheritage.org.uk/>

They love to welcome families, and there are many things for you to do! Discover their galleries, displays, and a programme of family events, creative craft workshops and activities inspired by our museum collections over the school holidays.

They have museum trails, activity sheets, and colouring sheets for younger visitors. Whether you pop in for a quick visit or spend a little more time exploring, you'll find activities to engage and educate the whole family, from toddlers to grandparents!

Free Entry

HALF TERM FAMILY DAYS OUT NO COST/LOW COST

Fordingbridge Museum

Local History brought to life

<https://www.fordingbridgemuseum.co.uk/>

Family-Friendly Things to Do in the New Forest

The museum is designed for all ages, with hands-on activities and engaging resources for children. Families visiting the New Forest will find Fordingbridge Museum a great free day out, with new interactive displays updated regularly. Dogs are welcome too, making it a fun and inclusive attraction for everyone.

Visitor Information

Admission: **Free entry**

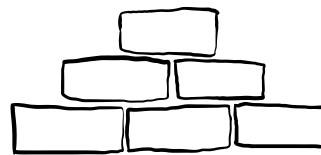
Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday, 11am – 4pm. Closed Sundays

The Bricksworks Museum

<https://thebrickworksmuseum.org/>

Indoor and Outdoor Children's play areas

Family-friendly and accessible, the museum features interactive galleries and play zones. It's open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (last entry 3:00 PM), typically from April through October.



- Experience living history with steam-driven brick-making machinery still in action.
- Engaging for all: from industrial archaeology enthusiasts to families seeking interactive days out.
- Accessible heritage: facilities support visitors with mobility needs, including disabled parking, accessible toilets, and a lift with evacuation provisions

They have an indoor and outdoor children's play area, with interactive exhibits a large boat and of course some brick related toys, there is plenty to keep them entertained.

The outdoor children's play area, is right next to the onsite Cafe, so you can enjoy a relaxing coffee whilst the children have a play.

Museum Entry **Adults £4, Children £2**

Children's University and Forestry England

<https://www.forestryengland.uk/childrens-university>

Free

There are a wide range of fun Activity Sheets to download. Although designed for forests, these sheets can be completed in any outdoor space where there are trees. Some of the activities can be completed back inside when you have finished exploring. When you are ready, download the resources via the form and then please email your work to learning.england@forestryengland.uk with your first name and age, and the name of the forest or outdoor space you visited. We understand that not all children are able to complete written work; where necessary, the child may give verbal answers which are noted by a parent or teacher and sent with an accompanying comment.



HALF TERM FAMILY DAYS OUT

NO COST/LOW COST

Curious About Southampton

<https://www.curiousabout.co.uk/southampton.html>

Explore Southampton city centre with two self-guided heritage walks with a treasure hunt theme. Discover Southampton's "hidden treasures" whilst having a fun day out (or spread it over a couple of days, with family and friends!)

Try this unusual and quirky activity which gets you out in the fresh air whatever the weather. Take one of these self-guided walks with a treasure hunt theme – looping around the better-known sights, as well as some of the more unusual and quirky ones, which combined make Southampton a fascinating place to explore!

You'll get detailed directions, a map, clues (with answers in the back!), and some interesting snippets about the history of Southampton and the people that have shaped it.

Order a printed booklet for £7.49 plus P&P or download straight to your phone for £7.49

IKEA Southampton will be hosting a range of **free family activities** full of adventure and Halloween fun! From safari-themed activities to hands-on crafts and a lively Halloween party, there's plenty to keep the kids entertained.

<https://www.ikea.com/gb/en/stores/events/ikea-southampton/>

- 28th Oct: Creature Creations – children can get crafty making their own safari animals with Pyssla beads
- 29th Oct – 2 Nov: Safari Adventures – take part in a fun in-store trail and spot safari surprises along the way.
- 29th Oct: Mini Park Ranger for the Day – little explorers can experience life as a park ranger for the day
- 31 Oct: Annual Halloween Party – join in the spooky celebrations with a live DJ and plenty of Halloween spirit

Pets At Home

My Pet Pals Free Workshops Please Book

<https://community.petsathome.com/events/child-workshop/my-pet-pals-autumn/>

Join in this October for some free Halloween family fun by booking My Pet Pals workshops. Learn all about our pets and their diets, with spooky-themed activities to entertain the whole family.

- Each child will receive:
- Fun activity sheets
- A My Pet Pals certificate
- The chance to meet some of our wonderful animals



NEW FOREST CU LEARNING PROVIDERS

- 1st Hythe Boys Brigade
- Beach School
- Bishops Waltham Palace
- Blackfield Library
- Blue Peter Badges
- Burlesdon Brickworks Museum
- Corfe Castle
- Curious About Southampton
- Dominik's Monthly Beach Clean
- Fawley Cricket Academy
- Fawley Falcons Football Club
- Forest England Seasonal Activities
- Flare Gymnastics
- Berserk New Forest and Southampton
- Golden Gecko Climbing
- Hunt Fun – Southampton
- Hurst Castle
- Hythe Library
- Kids Lingo Spanish, Southampton
- Lepe Beach and Country Park
- Mayflower Theatre
- Medieval Merchants House
- Netley Library
- New Forest & Hampshire County Show
- New Forest Heritage Centre
- New Forest Martial Arts Club
- New Forest Tool Kit
- New Forest Wildlife Park
- Outdoor Sports Centre
- Pawprint Badges
- Pets at Home/My Pet Pals
- Quays Swimming and Diving Centre
- Sammy's School of Dance
- Sea City Museum
- Science Fun
- Shine Dance Studio
- Southampton Athletics Club
- Southampton City Art Gallery
- Southampton Hockey Club
- Southampton Stagecoach Theatre Arts
- Southampton Waterside Model Club
- Starlight Trampoline and Gym Club
- Swim Academy
- Totton and Eiling Tennis Club
- Treasure Gymnastics
- Treasure Trails Ltd
- Tudor House and Gardens
- Uniformed Organisations
- Waterside Model Club Waterside

We are currently talking to lots of potential new learning providers, which have been recommended by parents, we will keep you informed of all updates

