

familylife

Spring 2015

Inside...

Easter fun for all the family

Meet Mr Bloom

What's hot in your
local area

Spring events
planner



Welcome to the spring issue of Family Life

Family Life is the council's magazine aimed at families in Oldham.

It lists all of the fun activities and events taking place across the borough throughout the Easter holiday period and beyond. We hope that it provides lots of inspiration for fun days out with your family and helps you make the most of what Oldham has to offer.

Oldham is in a fantastic position – close to Manchester and with great transport links to access all of the amenities and events it has to offer but we shouldn't forget about the fantastic things available on our doorstep.

We're lucky to live in one of Greater Manchester's greenest boroughs which sits at the heart of the Peak District National Park. Alongside this we have a wealth of parks and green spaces and 70 children's playgrounds for you to enjoy all year round at no cost – including the newest play area in the heart of Oldham Town Centre.

Gallery Oldham is one of the best in the region and plays host to brilliant touring

exhibitions and our libraries hold daily activities and events for kids of all ages. We're also lucky to have Mahdlo – our state of the art youth zone based in Oldham Town Centre which offers a wide range of activities in a fantastic modern setting.

Alongside this we have fantastic activities provided by the voluntary sector and by local businesses – everything from Brownie and Scout meetings to karate and judo classes.

You can find out more about what's happening in your area by visiting www.gooldham.com or by visiting www.visitoldham.com

We always like to hear feedback about the services we provide. Tell us what you think about this magazine and about services for families more generally using marketing@oldham.gov.uk

Jim McMahon

Jim McMahon,
Leader of Oldham Council



Contents

Go! Oldham – What's hot in your local area	4
Spring event planner	18
Let's go for a walk	22
Let's get active at Oldham Community Leisure	23
Mahdlo	24
Spring into Oldham at your local markets	26
Love your local market	27
Festival Oldham	28
Gallery Oldham	29
Bookmark Festival	30
The Small Cinema	32
Oldham Coliseum Theatre	33
Free early education	34
Love your smile	35
Discover your local children's centre	36
Meet our wise owls	38

Go! Oldham

Hundreds of exciting activities at your fingertips!

Go! Oldham is the only website you need to find fun stuff to do across the borough.

You'll find lots of activities from many different groups and organisations including Oldham Community Leisure (OCL), local youth clubs, libraries and more.

Lots of people across the borough are already volunteering to help deliver these activities, but more are still needed. If you've got a few hours to spare each week get in contact with Voluntary Action Oldham to find out how you can get involved.

www.vaoldham.org.uk
T: 0161 633 6222

Find out more on the Go! Oldham website:
www.gooldham.com

You can also keep up to date with all the latest activities by:

- Following Go! Oldham on twitter: [@GoOldham](https://twitter.com/GoOldham)
- Liking the Go! Oldham Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Go.Oldham

Follow Go! Oldham on twitter: [@GoOldham](https://twitter.com/GoOldham) • www.facebook.com/Go.Oldham

Why not...

Get fit with the 'Teen Gym' at centres across Oldham

Anyone aged 13 to 15 years of age can use the gym under supervision from qualified instructors – get fit and have fun.

Try street dance sessions at Oldham Academy North.

Hang out with friends at your local skate park or youth club.

Over the next 12 pages...

We've picked out the best events from www.gooldham.com and split them up into local areas – making it easier for you to find local stuff to do.

Go! Chadderton page 6

Go! Shaw and Crompton page 8

Go! Royton page 10

Go! Saddleworth and Lees page 12

Go! Failsworth and Hollinwood page 14

Go! Oldham Central page 16



What's happening in Chadderton?

Get your skates on!

The brand new, state of the art skate park is now open in Coalshaw Green Park. It's the biggest in Oldham and was designed with input from local skaters.

Come along with your skateboard, scooter, bike or roller skates and have some fun!

Coalshaw Green Park is just a minute's walk away from South Chadderton tram stop.



Coalshaw Green Park, Coalshaw Green Road, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 8JW

What's hot in Chadderton?

www.gooldham.com

Teen gym sessions 13-16 year olds

Various sessions available every day, just check the website for session times.

Get fit at supervised gym sessions which provide an introduction to fitness and exercise.

Chadderton Wellbeing Centre, Burnley Street, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0JW
E: info@ocll.co.uk
T: 0161 207 7000
www.oclactive.co.uk

Homework help power hour 5-11 year olds

Wednesdays, 3.30-4.30pm

Get help with that piece of homework you've been struggling with. Make use of the library facilities and get free access to printing and books.

Trained staff are available to offer help and support for primary pupils and give advice on using online resources.

Chadderton Library, Wellbeing Centre, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0JW

Youth Drop In 10-18 year olds

Thursdays, 7.30-9.30pm

Meet new friends and join in with fun activities like badminton, snooker, table tennis and much more.

Firwood Church, 300 Middleton Road, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 6JH

Oldham and Royton Harriers and Athletics Club

Oldham Rockets 8-10 year olds

Mondays, 6-7pm

Interested in long jump, triple jump, javelin, shot put, discus, sprints and long distance running? Get fit, try new sports and take the first steps to becoming the next Olympic champion!

Radcliffe Athletics Centre, Hunt Lane, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0LS
T: 0161 770 1639
E: neil.bennett@oldham.gov.uk

Arts, crafts and sports all ages welcome

Under eights must be accompanied by an adult

Fridays 10, 17 April, 29 May, 1-3pm

Get messy with outdoor arts and crafts. Have fun with exciting sporting activities.

Chadderton Hall Park, Chadderton Hall Road, Oldham OL9 0QB
E: dawn.fox@groundwork.org.uk



What's happening in Shaw and Crompton?

Enjoy local drama, music, and big screen movies this spring at **Playhouse 2**



Could you be a star of stage or screen?

Sunday 25 April

Join the Playhouse 2 Youth Theatre for this exciting introduction into the world of theatre. Both young and older students can get valuable experience in theatre and move to drama college and the professional theatre.

Experience and learn about all aspects of stage craft in a fully working theatre with tuition from professional actors. You never know, you could make it onto the big screen!

For more information and how to book visit:

www.playhouse2.org

Paddington (PG)

Saturday 28 March, 2pm
Tickets £4



Everyone's favourite bear travels to London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he begins to realize that city life is not all he had imagined – until he meets the Brown family, who offer him a temporary haven.

King Pleasure and The Biscuit Boys

Friday 29 May, 8pm
Tickets £15

A seven piece band who play all over Europe, give a terrific rendering of Blues, Swing, Boogie, Rock 'n' Roll and more, a show not to be missed.

A Little Local Difficulty by Philip Goulding

Saturday 13–20 June, 7.30pm
Tickets £9

The corrupt mayor of a northern town tries to win over a 'government inspector' who has recently arrived. Terrified that he and his friends will be discovered, the mayor sets about wooing the 'inspector', who is in fact a penniless rogue and in his own way just as corrupt as the mayor. 'A Little Local Difficulty' is an end of season panto poking fun at local politics.

2 Newtown Street, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8NX • Box Office: 01706 840400 • Theatre: 01706 847281

What's hot in Shaw and Crompton?

Senior Youth Club 13–19 year olds

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays
6.30–9.30pm

Join in with pool games, topical workshops and games. Hang out with people your own age and discuss ideas about how to improve your community.

Shaw Youth Club, 8 Chapel Street,
Shaw, Oldham OL2 8AJ

Teen gym 13–16 year olds

Wednesdays, 3.30–5.30pm,
£3.40 per session

Get fit at supervised gym sessions which provide an introduction to fitness and exercise.

Crompton Sports Centre, 5 Farrow Street,
Shaw, Oldham OL2 8NW

E: info@ocll.co.uk

T: 0161 207 7000

www.oclactive.co.uk



Library support all ages

Wednesdays, 4–6pm, free

Love reading?

Why not help out at your local library and discover how libraries work? It will help boost your CV and give you basic customer service skills.

Crompton Library, 7 Farrow Street East,
Shaw, Oldham OL2 8QY
T: 01706 842184



Oldham junior badminton 8–16 year olds

Thursdays, 6–9pm, £3

Get your game on, challenge friends and become the best in the class. Whatever your ability, have fun and learn to play badminton.

Crompton House School,
Sports Hall, Rochdale Road,
Shaw, Oldham OL2 7HS

www.goldham.com

What's happening in Royton?

Basketball club 8-16 year olds

Wednesdays, 5.30-8pm,
£1 a session

Learn how to shoot hoops like a pro at basketball club. Beginners and new players are always welcome. You must wear suitable sports clothing and bring a drink.

Royton and Crompton School Sports Hall,
Blackshaw Lane, Royton, Oldham OL2 6NT
T: 0161 770 1635
E: anna.shiels@oldham.gov.uk

Street dance 7-16 year olds

Mondays, 5.30-6.30pm,
term time only

Learn all the latest street dance moves and show off your skills. You could even get the chance to take part in regional performances.

All abilities are welcome.
The Oldham Academy North,
Broadway, Oldham OL2 5BF
T: 07811 056241



What's hot in Royton?

Teen gym 13-16 year olds

Tuesdays and Thursdays
3.30-4.30pm, Royton Sports Centre

Wednesdays, 3.30-5.30pm,
Crompton Sports Centre
£3.40 per session

Get fit at supervised gym sessions which provide an introduction to fitness and exercise.

E: info@ocll.co.uk
T: 0161 207 7000
www.oclactive.co.uk

Junior Youth Club 8-12 year olds

Fridays, 4-6pm, 30p per session

Join other like-minded kids and discuss ideas and join in with fun activities, including games, face painting and artwork with a difference.

Royton Youth Centre, Chapel Street,
Royton, Oldham OL2 5QL
E: lynda.winrow@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 8648

Community netball all ages

Wednesdays, 6.30-8pm

Get hooked on netball with these weekly sessions.

Oldham Academy North, Broadway,
Royton, Oldham OL2 5BF
E: Rachel@netballinthecommunity.co.uk
T: 07740 456215

Taekwondo sessions age 4+

Various times

Want to learn self-defence, body control and moves that will wow everyone? Learn more about Taekwondo and develop your skills in discipline - mind, body and spirit.

First Floor at Unit A, 1 Shepherd Street,
Royton, Oldham OL2 5PB
E: info@tbkroyton.com
T: 0161 620 0100

Fierce Dance age 3+

Various times
£4 per class

Start dancing and learn new skills. Fierce dance provides classes in styles such as street and freestyle.

Saint Marks
Church Hall, Royton,
Perth Street,
Heyside, Oldham OL2 6LY
T: 07522 370880

www.goldham.com



What's happening in Saddleworth?

Making and doing at the Saddleworth Handmade Festival

11–12 April, 11am–4pm, free entry

There's crafty fun for all the family this April at the Saddleworth Handmade Festival. Have your face painted, watch demonstrations and even try out new crafts yourself!

You can also enjoy drinks and cakes at the handmade tea shop run by 'Something Yummy Cakes and Catering'.

There will be a tombola raising money for charity 'The Isaac Nash Trust'.

E: saddleworthcreativenetwork@gmail.com
T: 01457 765632
www.creativenetwork-saddleworth.co.uk

Tennis coaching age 11+

Various times
£12 and upwards

Fancy yourself as the next Andy Murray? Why not join Sean Stafford's tennis coaching sessions? Children can join from as young as three.

Saddleworth Tennis Club,
Well-i-hole Road, Greenfield,
Oldham OL3 7HY

E: sean@sstenniscoaching.co.uk
T: 07800 717790

Boredom Busters 4–11 year olds

Tuesdays and Thursdays
in school holidays 1–3pm
£3 per child. Booking is essential.

Get crafty at the Saddleworth Museum. Painting, sticking, cutting, stitching and much more. Children aged 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments available.

T: 07917 740882
www.saddleworthmuseum.co.uk/events

Little Netterz 5–11 year olds

Fridays, 4–5pm
Learn all the skills you need to become a nifty netballer. With Little Netterz help, you could be joining a local netball club in no time.

Saddleworth School, High Street,
Uppermill, Oldham OL3 6BU
T: 07971 348228
www.netballinthecommunity.co.uk



What's hot in Saddleworth?

Teen gym 13–16 year olds

Various sessions available every day, see website for details. £3.40 per session

Get fit at supervised gym sessions which provide an introduction into fitness and exercise.

Saddleworth Pool and Leisure Centre,
Station Road, Uppermill, Oldham OL3 6HQ
E: info@ocll.co.uk
T: 0161 207 7000 www.oclactive.co.uk

Caroline's School of Dance age 3+

Various sessions available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Contact for prices.

Caroline will teach you all the moves from ballet to tap and freestyle to cheer-leading. There's a style for all wannabe dancers.

T: 07967 444267
www.carolinesschoolofdance.co.uk

Street Dance 4 to 6 year olds and 7+

Wednesdays,
4–6 year olds session 6–6.30pm
7 year olds+ session 6.30–7.30pm
£2–£3.50

Keep up with the trends and learn street dance moves with Saddleworth Street Dance.

Delph Methodist Church,
Gartside Street, Oldham OL3 5DW
T: 07507632115
E: saddleworthstreetdance@outlook.com

Oldham Kyokushinkai Karate Training 6–16 year olds

Tuesdays and Thursdays
Juniors: 7–8pm Seniors: 8–9.30pm
Contact for prices.

Join experienced instructors who have competed for Great Britain. Learn the skills of the sport, have lots of fun and make new friends.

Springhead Congregational Church,
Radcliffe Street, Springhead,
Oldham OL4 4QP

Kid's car boot

First Sunday of every month,
10am–12noon
£10 per pitch

Come along to a car boot sale with a difference – only kids' stuff can be sold, swapped or bought. It's a great place to buy some amazing bargains or clear the house of clutter, and make some money.

You can also join in the fun swap session and trade your old toys and games for new ones.

Saddleworth School, High Street,
Uppermill, Oldham OL3 6BU

www.goldham.com



What's happening in Failsworth and Hollinwood?

Failsworth Youth Zone 11-19 year olds

Every Friday, 6.30-8.30pm, free

Meet new friends, play games and listen to music in a chilled out environment on the town hall's top floor.

Failsworth Town Hall, Oldham Road,
Failsworth, Oldham M35 0EJ
E: kathryn.bardsley@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 5434

Brownies 6-10 year olds

Wednesdays, 6.30-8pm
Contact for prices

Are you looking for an adventure?
Then Brownies could be the perfect
club for you.

Canterbury Hall, Failsworth,
Oldham M35 0QS
T: 0161 688 9332

Dancerise all ages

Tuesdays, 6.30-7.30pm

Put on your dancing shoes, improve
your skills, take part in competitions
and have fun.

York Hall, Failsworth, Oldham M35 0QS
T: 0161 688 9332

www.goldham.com



Crossfit Kids 6-13 year olds

Wednesday, 4-4.45pm
Saturday, 9.15-10am

Run, jump, squat, pull, push, lift and
handstand just like your favourite
superhero. It's free for unlimited
member kids or just £3 per child.

Crossfit Northern Soul, Ivy Mill,
Failsworth, Oldham M35 9BG
T: 07572660199

Hollinwood Netball 9-14 year olds

Wednesdays, 5-6.30pm
Advance training Mondays, 5-6.30pm

Do you love to win? Train with Hollinwood
Netball Club, play against other teams and
take part in competitions. Don't forget to
make space for the trophies and medals!

Newbridge School, Roman Road,
Hollinwood, Oldham OL8 3PT
E: Nicallees19@hotmail.co.uk
T: 0161 682 7278

What's hot in Failsworth and Hollinwood?

Teen Gym 13-16 year olds

Monday to Thursday 4-8pm
Friday 4-7pm, Saturday, Sunday
9.30am-3.30pm
£3.40 per session

Visit Failsworth's teen only gym!
Get fit at supervised gym sessions
which provide an introduction to fitness
and exercise.

Failsworth Sports Centre, Brierley Avenue,
Failsworth, Oldham M35 9HA
E: info@ocl.co.uk
T: 0161 207 7000
www.oclactive.co.uk

Senior Open Access 13-19 year olds

Every Wednesday, 7-9pm
Contact for prices

You can enjoy sports, games, team
building, cookery workshops, and arts and
crafts. Come along to these weekly
sessions and have fun with friends, meet
new people and build confidence.

Limehurst Youth Centre,
Farm Road, Oldham OL8 4PB
T: 0161 770 5683

Junior Youth Club 9-11 year olds

Tuesdays 6.30-8pm
20p admission

Are you looking for a place to hang out with
people of the same age? Don't miss Junior
Youth Club where there's games to be
played and new friends to be made.

Failsworth Town Hall, Oldham Road,
Failsworth, M35 0EJ T: 0161 770 543

Failsworth and Hollinwood youth forum 11-19 year olds

Every second Monday of the month,
6-7pm, free
If you're passionate about your community
then your local youth forum is a great
place to voice your views. Come along
and make a real difference to young
people in your area.
Limehurst Youth Centre, Farm Road,
Limeside OL8 3PB T: 0161 770 5683

Friday Gang 6-10 year olds

Every Friday (term-time only),
6.30-7.30pm, £1 per session

If you're into songs, quizzes, games,
crafts and prayers, Friday Gang is the
perfect spot for you.

Roman Road Independent Methodist
Church, Roman Road, Failsworth M35 9JG
T: 0161 682 4761
E: elizabethbarron@msn.com

Amateur Boxing Club ages 9+

Tuesdays, 6-7.30pm, Thursdays, 6-7.30pm
£2 per session

Train and become the next Amir Khan.
The boxing club welcomes kids and adults
of all shapes and sizes. They provide a fun
and friendly atmosphere.

Brierley Avenue, Failsworth M35 9HA
T: 07454 786037

Karma Jujitsu Organization ages 5+

Mondays, 6.15-7.15pm, £3 per session
Compete with your mates, have fun, and
take part in tournaments.

Inside the Mission Hall, Church Street,
Failsworth M35 9JW T: 07855 324270

What's happening in Oldham?

Drop In Beats with Square 1 Studios 11-16 year olds

13-16 April, 11am-2pm, free

Do you want to make your own music or find out what it takes to become a DJ? Intimidated by the high cost of audio engineering classes?

Never fear, Drop In Beats is here.

It's a series of free workshops designed to unlock your creative potential. Plus you'll have access to rehearsal rooms, professional recording facilities and the latest music software.

The project will run for a total of 24 weeks and Square 1 Studios are now booking places for the workshops, on a first come first serve basis. So don't miss out.

Visit square1studios.org/projects for more information or to book a place. Square 1 Studios, 130 Union Street, Oldham OL1 1DU
E: admin@square1studios.org
T: 0161 628 8101

Student Youth Café 16-20 year olds

Monday to Friday, 10.30am-2pm

You can beat your mates at games and activities every day of the week at the Student Youth Café.

There's also some great consoles...Xbox Kinect, Wii and Xbox 360. So come and refresh your energy.

Salt Cellar Youth Project,
11a Church Lane, Oldham OL1 3AN
E: youth@scyp.org.uk
T: 07794602243

Film Night @ Fitton Hill 8-13 year olds

26 March, 30 April and 28 May, 5pm

Drop into Fitton Hills' monthly film club. Watch one of the latest films on the big screen. Just visit the library to see the film listings. Free. Must book with Fitton Hill Library.

Fitton Hill Shopping Precinct,
Oldham OL8 2QP
E: fittonhill.library@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 8000

What's hot in Oldham?

Oldham Boxing Club age 8+

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 5pm-6pm for all beginners.
£2 a session

Training to be the next Ricky Hatton? Get the skills you need to keep fit and build stamina. Come along to the beginners' sessions, more experienced classes or adult sessions and have fun.

Oldham Boxing Club, Victoria House,
Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1QN
E: ericnoi@oldhamboxing.co.uk
T: 0161 628 8466
www.oldhamboxing.co.uk

Homework Help Power Hour 5-11 year olds

Every Wednesday, 3.30 - 4.30pm

Get help with tough homework and get free access to printing and books. Trained staff are available to offer help and support and give advice on using online resources at the library.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street,
Oldham OL1 1AL
E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 8000
www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries

Hack the Library all ages

Saturday 28, March 10am-4pm,
free book through the library.

Join Hack Oldham as they take over the library for one day only. Take part in James Bond-like activities including coding, creating new technologies and gaming - what technology will you create?

The Hack Oldham group meets on the last Saturday of the month at Oldham Library.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street,
Oldham OL1 1AL
E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 8000
www.hackoldham.com

Oldham's Futsal arena

Love football?

Oldham Futsal arena, located at Oldham College, is available all year round for fun 5-a-side football. Oldham College and Futsal, have jointly created a cool urban environment where you can listen to music while you play sports and get interactive with technology.

The arena provides a wide range of activities from themed leagues and tournaments, through to kids clubs and community education courses.

Oldham College, Rochdale Road,
Oldham OL9 6AA T: 0161 914 9631
www.futsaluk.net

Oldham Spring and Summer Planner

Paddington (PG)

28 March, 2pm, £4



The little bear hits the big screen for a family adventure stuffed with charm.

Playhouse 2, 2 Newtown Street, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8NX

T: 01706 840400
www.playhouse2.org

Hack the Library

28 March, 10am–4pm, free

Take part in coding, creating new technologies and gaming. It's free to take part, just show up! The Hack Oldham group meets on the last Saturday of the month at Oldham Library.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

T: 0161 770 8000
E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.hackoldham.com

Little Hands at Oldham Coliseum Theatre: Easter Eggstravaganza

28 March, 10–11am

£3 per child. Free for adults.

Book in advance through the box office to guarantee your place.

Little Hands helps children's development in a fun and creative environment.

Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Fairbottom Street, Oldham OL1 3SW

T: 0161 624 2829
W: www.coliseum.org.uk

Spring into Oldham

28 March, 10am–4pm, free



Meet Shaun the Sheep at the petting farm with the Easter Bunny and Easter-themed entertainment on the High Street and Albion Street. Easter egg hunt in Tommyfield Market.

Oldham High Street, Albion Street, and Tommyfield Market Hall, Oldham Town Centre.

T: 0161 770 4516
E: towncentreteam@oldham.gov.uk
www.visitoldham.com

Baby Days Easter Event (0–18 months)

1 April, 10am–12noon, free

Get together with other parents and carers to share experiences at this Baby Days event.

Oldham Library, Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries

Frozen sing along

2 April, 5pm,

£10 children, £15 adults



Enjoy a full screening of Disney's Frozen with on screen lyrics so you can sing along with Anna and Elsa. Remember to dress up as your favourite character.

Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Fairbottom Street, Oldham OL1 3SW

T: 0161 624 2829
www.coliseum.org.uk

Super Saturdays

4 April, 12noon–4pm, free

Come along and get messy with our creative craft activities on the first Saturday of every month.

Gallery Oldham, Oldham Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

www.galleryoldham.org.uk

Charlie and Lola

8 and 9 April, 11am and 1.30pm, £10

Enter a magical journey through the seasons, as Charlie and Lola discover that everything is different and not the same!

Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Fairbottom Street, Oldham OL1 3SW

T: 0161 624 2829
www.coliseum.org.uk

The Saddleworth Handmade Festival: Making and Doing

11–12 April, 11am–4pm, free

Enjoy 55 stalls of wonderful handmade products from local makers, watch craft demonstrations, have your face painted and even try out new crafts yourself!

Uppermill Civic Hall, Uppermill, Oldham OL3 6AE
E: scntraders@gmail.com
www.creativenetwork-saddleworth.co.uk

Children's Car Boot

First Sunday of every month, 10am–12noon (9am for stall holders) £10 per pitch

Come along to a car boot where only children's stuff is on sale! Buy some amazing bargains or clear the house of clutter, and make some money!

Saddleworth School, High Street, Uppermill, Oldham OL3 6BU

www.kidscarboot.co.uk/events/saddleworth



The Small Cinema: The Book of Life (U)

18 April, 2pm, £3

Manolo, a young man who is torn between fulfilling the expectations of his family and following his heart, embarks on an adventure that spans three fantastic worlds where he must face his greatest fears.

Oldham Library Performance Space, Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

T: 0161 770 4742
W: www.thesmallcinema.com

Mr Bloom

18 April, 11–11.45am, 12 Albion Street, Oldham Town Centre and 1–1.30pm and 2–2.30pm Oldham Library, free (booking essential)



Pop along and say 'Elo!' with Mr Bloom. There'll be a bundle of veggie stories, gardening games, and catchy Nursery songs for Tiddlers and Parents alike.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark

Bookend Saturday

18 April, 11am–4pm, free (no need to book)

Fabulous garden themed fun for all the family!

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark

Poetry writing workshop

23 April, 2–3.30pm, £3.50 library members, £5 non members

Cathy Crabb will take participants through a journey from first idea through to story, character and scene breakdowns.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark

Little Hands at Oldham Coliseum: Pirates Ahoy
25 April, 10–11am



£3 per child. Free for adults. Book in advance through the box office to guarantee your place.

Little Hands helps children's development in a fun and creative environment.

Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Fairbottom Street, Oldham OL1 3SW

T: 0161 624 2829

www.coliseum.org.uk

Bookend Saturday

25 April, 10am–4pm, free (no booking needed)

Come along and celebrate one of our favourite authors Jill Murphy at our Family Fun Day.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark

Talk by Jill Murphy

25 April, 10.30–11.30am, 1–2pm and 3–4pm, free (booking essential)



A talk by Jill Murphy, the award winning writer of 'The Worst Witch' titles.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

E: oldham.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark

Dr Kershaw's Charity Walk

26 April, 10.30am, £7 (includes refreshments)

Help raise funds on this seven mile walk suitable for all the family. The walk starts at Dr Kershaw's Hospice, up to Springhill Hospice and back.

Dr Kershaw's Hospice, Turf Lane, Royton, Oldham OL2 6EU

E: info@drkershawshospice.org.uk
T: 0161 624 9984
www.drkershawshospice.org.uk/events

Film Night@Fitton Hill

30 April, 5pm, free (book with Fitton Hill Library)

Aged 8–13? Drop into Fitton Hills' monthly film club. Watch one of the latest films on the big screen at Fitton Hill Library. Fitton Hill Shopping Precinct, Oldham OL8 2QP

T: 0161 770 8000
E: fittonhill.library@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries

Super Saturdays

2 May, 12noon–4pm, free

Come along and get messy with our creative craft activities on the first Saturday of every month.

Gallery Oldham, Oldham Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

www.galleryoldham.org.uk

Frozen sing along

8 May, 5pm, £10 children, £15 adults



Enjoy a full screening of Disney's FROZEN with on screen lyrics so you can sing along with Anna and Elsa. Remember to dress up as your favourite character. Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Fairbottom Street, Oldham OL1 3SW

T: 0161 624 2829
W: www.coliseum.org.uk

Love Your Local Market

16–30 May, various times, free

Oldham's best loved markets are playing host to a range of fun events, including food demos, street food, give-aways, competitions and more.

T: 0161 770 4515
www.oldham.gov.uk/markets

Festival Oldham

23 May, 12noon–4pm, free

Celebrate with the very best art and entertainment Oldham town centre has to offer. With shows, music and street theatre, this festival celebrates Oldham's past and future.

Oldham Town Centre and Tommyfield Market, Oldham

T: 0161 770 3070
www.visitoldham.com

Oldham Reminiscence Walk

23 May, 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm (4 walks)

Join in a memory walk around Alexandra Park.

Each walk will start with a film about dementia and there will be 2 dementia friends sessions at 12noon and 1pm.

Alexandra Park, Kings Road, Oldham OL8 2BN

T: 0161 770 4056
www.oldham.gov.uk/dementia

The Small Cinema: Paddington (PG)

23 May, 2pm, £3

The little bear hits the big screen for a family adventure stuffed with charm.

Oldham Library Performance Space, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

T: 0161 770 4742
www.thesmallcinema.com

Film Night @ Fitton Hill

28 May, 5pm, free (book with Fitton Hill Library)

Aged 8–13? Drop into the monthly film club to watch one of the latest films on the big screen at Fitton Hill Library.

Fitton Hill Shopping Precinct, Oldham OL8 2QP

T: 0161 770 8000

E: fittonhill.library@oldham.gov.uk

www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries

King Pleasure and The Biscuit Boys

29 May, 8pm, £15

This seven piece band who play all over Europe, give a terrific rendering of Blues, Swing, Boogie, Rock 'n' Roll and more.

Playhouse 2, 2 Newtown Street, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8NX

T: 01706 840400
www.playhouse2.org

Forget Me Not Family Fun Day

30 May, 10am–4pm

Come along for a fun day of craft activities. Help to make a giant forget-me-not flower and enjoy a showing of My Grandma by Oldham Coliseum Theatre's Young Rep Company.

Oldham Library, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

www.oldham.gov.uk/dementia

Super Saturdays

6 June, 12noon–4pm, free

Come along and get messy with our creative craft activities on the first Saturday of every month.

Gallery Oldham, Oldham Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

www.galleryoldham.org.uk

A Little Local Difficulty by Philip Goulding

13–20 June, 7.30pm, £9

The corrupt mayor of a Northern town tries to win over a 'Government inspector' who has recently arrived. 'A Little Local Difficulty' is an end of season panto poking fun at local politics.

Playhouse 2, 2 Newtown Street, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8NX

T: 01706 840400
www.playhouse2.org

The Small Cinema: My Neighbour Totoro (PG)

20 June, 2pm, £3

A heart-warming and enchanting film full of magic for all ages.

Oldham Library Performance Space, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL

T: 0161 770 4742
www.thesmallcinema.com



Let's go for a walk



Our handpicked walks...

Oldham has some of the best scenery and villages in Greater Manchester. From quiet walks along the canal in Uppermill, to a stroll around your local park, there are lots of trails and routes to try out.

Explore the history of Uppermill

The trail is a great way to explore the historic villages and learn more about the area. Starting at the Saddleworth Linear and finishing at the Civic Hall Uppermill, you can enjoy a day out with the family, exploring the rural area.

Explore Crompton Moor like never before

There are several walks on the moor with different levels of difficulty and a history trail showing various features of interest in the area. The moor isn't just dedicated to walking. You can enjoy horse riding, cycling, bird watching and even take part in the permanent orienteering course.

Explore Tandle Hill Country Park

Tandle Hill is Oldham's oldest country park, and was first used as a meeting area in the 19th century by political activists. Enjoy walks around the stunning area and take in the breath-taking views across Manchester and the Pennine Hills. On a clear day you can even see the Welsh Mountains.

The Castleshaw Quest – the family quest in Saddleworth

The Castleshaw Quest is for families of all ages and invites you to run wild as you follow a trail to save Castleshaw Reservoir from 'Grott' the toad and 'Cross Dob' the troll. Seek help from 'Upp' the unicorn, 'Frieze' the wise water nymph and 'Densh' the dragon, as you make your way round this picturesque reservoir.

Let's go for a walk

If you are looking for a family friendly walk, try our 'Let's go for a walk' scheme, showcasing nine of Oldham's fantastic parks and countryside sites.

The walks are a great way to have fun and get active.

For more information:

T: 07870 857972

www.visitoldham.com/activities/walking-and-trails



Let's get active

There's a packed programme of sports and activities with Oldham Community Leisure.



Get fit as a family this spring

Get fit classes for children aged 11 and over.

11 years+

Aerobics, aquajog, aqua zumba, zumba, dance aerobics, fitness pilates, nordic walking, pilates, sit and get fit, spin, step aerobics, Thai Chi and yoga.

13 years+

Abs blast, body tone, bootcamp, cardio, circuits, easy line circuits, fitball, legs, bums and tums, plus all of the above.

16 years+

Pump Fx, Vopr, boxer-circuit, boxercise, MMA, plus all of the above.

Everyone aged between 11–15 years must be accompanied by an adult (16+) who will be participating in the class with them. If you are aged 16+ you are classed as an adult and can attend all classes.

Family Tumble Fun

Mondays and Fridays, 9.30–11.30am

Soft play sessions are for ages five and under. They include a bouncy castle, arts and crafts, toys and games plus a sing along. There's also changing and feeding facilities. Oldham Sports Centre, Lord Street, Oldham OL1 3HA

Family Table Tennis

Mondays, 4–5pm

Get into the competitive spirit with some fast paced family table tennis. Booking recommended.

Chadderton Wellbeing Centre, Burnley Street, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0JW

Climbing wall

Thursdays, 4.15–5.15pm, Fridays, 3–6pm

5+ years

Tone up your body and focus on building your core strength with rock climbing.

Oldham Sports Centre, Lord Street, Oldham OL1 3HA



Kids' Camp

7–10 April, 13–17 April, 8am–5.30pm

6–12 years, £10

Fun filled activity camp which will introduce you to new sports.

The Radclyffe Athletic Centre
Hunt Lane, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0LS
To book T: 0161 207 7000

Have you got your Active Oldham card yet?

The card costs just £2 for adults and is free for under 18s or those in full time education. The card gives you and your family great savings on sport and leisure activities at all the OCL facilities. Get your Oldham Active card by visiting your local sports centre or applying online. www.oclactive.co.uk

MAHDLO.OLDHAM

Registered charity 1134427



Join the fun at Mahdlo

www.mahdloyz.org

@mahdloyz

T: 0161 624 0111

If you're not a member of Mahdlo yet...why not?

Membership is only £5 for a whole year and only 50p per session. New members can sign up at www.mahdloyz.org or by calling into reception.

Junior Zone at Mahdlo

8-12 year olds

Mahdlo's Junior Zone is jam-packed with exciting activities.

For the budding stars of stage and screen, there's Glee Club, music sessions and dance, whilst the climbing wall, gym and sports sessions give everyone a chance to get active.

Mahdlo Junior members regularly go out on trips, enjoy group outings to the cinema, bowling, the theatre and explore the great outdoors on expeditions and residential.

Fun for all the family with the Family Zone

8-21 year olds and family members

Sundays, 10am-1pm and 1.30-4.30pm for the Ability session

Take part in a range of activities, from crafts and cooking to sports and competitions.

"My son is creating some fantastic memories at Mahdlo and it's giving him the opportunity to do wonderful things." Parent

"Mahdlo has made me feel like I can do anything I want to do. It's fantastic, you never get bored. It has helped me to be happier at school." Junior Zone member, aged 9



Just the girls

Saturdays, 1.30-4.30pm



On Saturday afternoons, the youth zone becomes a 'Girls Only Zone' and welcomes female members aged 8-21 years to take part in activities such as karate, dance, football, baking and creative arts.

"I have made new friends in the girls' sessions and love going on the rock climbing wall!"

Girls' Zone attendee, aged 8



Volunteer with us

Mahdlo is looking for volunteers and volunteer mentors to join the team. If you have a few hours spare a week, on a regular basis, and would like to make a difference in a young person's life, Mahdlo would love to hear from you.

Contact the team on

T: 0161 624 0111



Get Oldham Growing

Mahdlo has recently joined up with 'Incredible Farm' to get green-fingered members growing their own veg. The new project, Mahdlo Growing Zones, provide great classes to give you the chance to learn about healthy eating in a fun environment.

Spring is the perfect time to get the kids outdoors so get in touch if you want to get involved.



Spring into Oldham

For lots of Easter fun

**Saturday 28 March,
10am–4pm**

In Oldham Town Centre

Come along to the petting farm, meet the Easter Bunny and enjoy Easter-themed entertainment on High Street and Albion Street.

Hop along to the town centre for the Easter extravaganza and meet everyone's favourite children's character, Shaun the Sheep, who will be making appearances at 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm.

- Visit the live petting farm, featuring bunnies, chicks and a Jersey calf
- Watch 'Sheep! Little Bo Peep' by Oldham Theatre Workshop
- Meet special guest, Bertie the Easter Bunny

In Tommyfield Market Hall

Once you've said hello to all the animals, stroll up to Tommyfield Market Hall. Find a character, get the clues and take part in the Easter Egg Treasure Hunt. Solve the clues and make your way around the Market Hall and discover the locations of the secret eggs. You could win a giant easter egg.

Enjoy face painting and balloon modelling in the Market Hall.

E: towncentreteam@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 4516
www.visitoldham.com



Love Your Local Market

16–30 May



Join Oldham's markets and celebrate the 'Love Your Local Market' campaign

The fortnight celebrates everything that is great about your local market. Over 900 markets took part last year, putting on over nearly 7,000 fun family events across Britain.

As part of the campaign, some of Oldham's best loved markets are hosting a range of fun events. There will be food demos from celebrity chef, Richard Fox and a children's funfair.

Bring the family and take part in children's activities including free face painting, craft workshops and balloon modelling. There will also be a chance to vote for your favourite trader in the 'Trader of the Year Competition'.



Shaw Street Market grand opening

To coincide with the Love Your Local Market campaign, Shaw Market is on the move for at least three months! The market will move to Shaw's main shopping street – Market High Street – in the early summer.

Say hi to the new market traders, taste fresh produce and see what the market will look like in its new location. There will be family entertainment and special guests from around Oldham.

Keep your eyes and ears peeled for the final line-up of events, which will be available to view at www.visitoldham.com Shaw High Street, Shaw, Oldham.

For more information about Love Your Local Market or how to become a market trader visit www.oldham.gov.uk/markets or call 0161 770 4515.

Like Tommyfield Market Hall on Facebook (www.facebook.com/tommyfieldmarkethall) and get involved on social media, using the hashtag #LYLM2015.

For more information about town centre events visit, www.visitoldham.com

Festival Oldham

Saturday 23 May, 12noon–4pm

Celebrate with the very best art and entertainment Oldham Town Centre has to offer.

East meets West at this year's Festival Oldham. See the very best in British and South Asian street theatre, music and dance shows.

Be amazed by the Bollywood dancers and hear the unique sounds of the Bombay Baja Brass Band. Take part in Dhol drumming workshops and get creative with Henna mask making.

Look out for a special surprise event on High Street and head to Gallery Oldham for more street theatre, crafts and film fun.

Oldham Town Centre and Gallery Oldham, Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL
T: 0161 770 3070



• Gallery Oldham T: 0161 770 3070 • www.visitoldham.com •

Gallery Oldham

www.galleryoldham.org.uk • @GalleryOldham • T: 0161 770 4653

Creative sessions

Super Saturdays

4 April, 2 May, 6 June



Come along and get messy with our creative craft activities on the first Saturday of every month.

Free – no need to book, just drop in from 12noon–4pm. Activities are most suitable for children aged 4 to 10 years.

Black Sheep exhibition

Until 9 May

Felt is the most ancient constructed textile in the world and in this exhibition you will get to see 'the darker side of felt'. The artists have created bizarre oddities and brilliant objects with this versatile material.

Solar Flowers

Until 24 August

The whole family will love Alexandre Dang's fantastic solar powered dancing flowers. You can learn about how the power of the sun gets these flowers moving while taking in the beautiful spring colours.

Go Baby (0–2 years)



These popular creative sessions for little ones last one hour.

Every Thursday (term-time only)

10.30–11.30am: Non-walkers

11.30am–12.30pm: Walkers

Free – no need to book, just drop in.



bookmark festival

Oldham's all booked up!

It's back again and bigger than ever! We're bringing you even more events for all the family in venues across the town centre!

What's in store?

Mr Bloom

18 April

11–11.45am, at the Town Centre Shop, 12 Albion Street.

1–1.30pm and 2–2.30pm at Oldham Library. Free (booking essential)
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark

Pop along and say 'Elo!' to Mr Bloom, the popular TV show gardener. There'll be a bundle of veggie stories, gardening games, and catchy nursery songs for tiddlers and parents alike. To sum it up in the words of a famous Aubergine: 'Let's sing and dance and have some fun!'

Oldham Library Cultural Quarter,
 Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL and
 Albion Street, Oldham Town Centre.



Bookend Saturdays

18 and 25 April, 11am–4pm

Free (no need to book)

We've lots of fun planned for all the family. Our first Bookend Saturday sees us making a funky flower pot and listening to stories and rhymes.

Don't miss our second event where we are celebrating one of our favourite authors, Jill Murphy author of *The Worst Witch* and lots more children's favourites.

Join us for stories and rhymes and welcome in spring by decorating our Writing Trees.

Wait...there's more!

Teddy Bears Picnic Under 5s

22 April, 11am–1pm

Free (no need to book)

Bring your favourite Teddy Bear along for lots of fun! Little ones can climb and jump as you go on a bear hunt around the library, explore the sensory table and enjoy some fun crafts! Stories and rhymes will be followed by a picnic among the bookshelves. Please bring your own picnic lunch.

Oldham Library Cultural Quarter,
 Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL



Poetry writing workshop

age 14+

23 April, 2–3.30pm

£3.50 library members (show your library card on door), £5 non members (booking essential)

Using artwork from Gallery Oldham as inspiration, Cathy Crabb will take participants through a journey from first idea through to story, character and scene breakdowns.

Oldham Library Cultural Quarter,
 Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL
www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark



Jill Murphy

7–11 year olds

25 April, 10.30–11.30am

1–2pm and 3–4pm

Free (booking essential)

Come and meet Jill Murphy, the award winning author of *The Worst Witch*.

Oldham Library Cultural Quarter,
 Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1AL and
 Albion Street, Oldham Town Centre.

www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark



More events...

We've picked out some great family events, but there are lots more to suit all tastes.

Visit www.oldham.gov.uk/bookmark for a full events guide of the Bookmark Festival.



Come for some **big fun** at Oldham's Small Cinema!

Watch the latest films with your family.

Tickets are just £3 – and includes a goodie bag for kids.

Advance booking is recommended.

The Book of Life (U)

Saturday, 18 April 2pm

Manolo, a young man who is torn between fulfilling the expectations of his family and following his heart, embarks on an adventure that spans three fantastic worlds where he must face his greatest fears.

Paddington (PG)

Saturday, 23 May 2pm

Join Paddington bear for a family adventure stuffed with charm.

My Neighbour Totoro (PG)

Saturday, 20 June 2pm

A heart-warming and enchanting film full of magic for all ages.

Film-related arts and crafts take place before each movie from 12noon–2pm in the gallery foyer at Gallery Oldham

www.thesmallcinema.com • @thesmallcinema • T: 0161 770 4742

OLDHAM Coliseum THEATRE

www.coliseum.org.uk • @OldhamColiseum • T: 0161 624 2829

Oldham Coliseum has lots of great activities for little ones.

Frozen sing along (Ages 5+)

Thursday, 2 April and Friday, 8 May 5pm

Children: £10 Adults: £15

Family ticket: (2 Adults plus 2 children) £46

Family ticket: (1 Adult plus 2 children) £33

'Let it Go' at a full screening of Disney's Frozen with on screen lyrics so you can sing along with Anna and Elsa. The live host will show you how to use your free prop bag and warm up your singing voices.

Don't forget to dress up.



Charlie and Lola (Ages 3+)

Wednesday, 8 and Thursday, 9 April,

11am and 1.30pm

Tickets £10

Enter a magical journey through the seasons, as Charlie and Lola discover that everything is different and not the same.



Little Hands

For children aged 2–4 years plus their grown-ups

£3 per child. Free for adults.

Book in advance through the box office to guarantee your place.

Easter Eggstravaganza

Saturday, 28 March 10–11am

Pirates Ahoy

Saturday, 25 April 10–11am

Little Hands helps children's development in a fun and creative environment.

Join Oldham Coliseum once a month for a workshop of play, pretend and performance.

Make sure your child gets their **free education**



It's helped Akeem...

Akeem is a happy 4 year old who attends Premier Preschool in Greenacres.

When he was 2, Akeem had difficulty communicating and struggled to socialise with other children. He would argue with his older brother and have outbursts at home. Akeem's local children's centre suggested that using his 15 hours of free early education could help with his behaviour and development.

Staff at the pre-school have worked hard with Akeem since he started. He's made great progress and now knows how to share and talk to other children. Thanks to the help and support he's received, he will find it much easier to start school in September.

Alicia, his key worker said "Akeem gets involved with anything and everything." On a typical afternoon, he will paint, read a book

with Alicia and play educational games. His favourite activity is imaginative role play with the other children."

Mum Nikita is thrilled and added: "Akeem loves nursery. His behaviour has improved so much, it used to be his way or no way, now he knows how to act. I would recommend early education to anyone. The benefits for Akeem have been fantastic and the 15 hours of free education means that I can think of going back to college."

All 3 and 4 year olds and some 2 year olds are entitled to 15 hours a week of free early education. As Akeem's story shows, early education allows them to make friends, develop through exploration, play and social interaction. It also gives them the knowledge and experience they need for starting school.

To find out how to get your child's free early education, visit www.oldham.gov.uk/free_early_education or ask your local children's centre.

Love your smile

What is tooth decay?

Tooth decay happens when acids in your mouth dissolve the outer layers of your teeth, and can lead to toothache, tooth sensitivity, grey, brown or black spots appearing on teeth and bad breath. If left untreated, tooth decay can lead to further problems such as holes in the teeth, gum disease or painful abscesses in the mouth.

Follow these 3 simple steps to prevent problems before they occur.

1 Brush teeth

Children should brush their teeth twice a day, every day as soon as they get their first tooth. They should always brush before bedtime and at one other time in the day.



2 Limit sugar

Everyone has plaque bacteria in their mouth. When plaque bacteria mixes with sugary food and drinks, acids are produced which can cause tooth decay.

Every time your child has sugary food or drinks, they increase their risk of tooth decay.

Limit the number and amount of sugary foods and drinks your child has to help prevent tooth decay.



3 Visit a dentist

Your child should have regular dental check-ups as soon as they get their first tooth. NHS dental care for children is free from birth until they are 18.

Visiting the dentist helps children become familiar with the dental environment and you will be able to get important information and advice.

To find a local dentist call NHS England on 0300 311 2233
www.oldham.gov.uk/babyteeth

Discover your local children's centre

From baby massage to messy play, health advice sessions to parenting courses, there's so much to do at your local children's centre with experienced friendly staff.

Did you know children's centres can also help you find work and volunteering opportunities? Staff are on hand to help get you the support available to your family such as child benefits, childcare, training, free early education entitlement and more.

They're also a great place to meet new friends and share parenting experiences and advice.

"I've just finished the baby massage course. It was a great way to meet other mums and it helped Lucy's eczema – she's suffered with it since she was born."

Kirsty, mum to 7 month old Lucy



"I enjoy the new parents class and can't wait to join the baby massage class. Although I've got a lot of support at home, it's good to know that there's somewhere I can turn if I need extra help."

Philippa, mum to 4 month old Ella-Louise



Look what's going on

Ante-natal

**Mondays,
9am–12.30pm**
Failsworth Children's
Centre

Tiny Tots

Fridays, 9.30–11am
Beever Children's Centre
(East Oldham)

Baby Yoga

Fridays, 11–11.45am
Saddleworth North and
South Children's Centre

Weaning

**Wednesdays,
1.30–2.30pm**
Shaw and Crompton
Children's Centre

Mess and Muddles

Mondays, 1.30–2.45pm
Stockbrook Children's
Centre (Chadderton)

Baby Club

(0–18 months)

**Thursdays,
1.30–3.30pm**

Medlock Vale Children's
Centre (West Oldham)

Stay and Play

Fridays, 1.30–3.30pm
Spring Meadows
Children's Centre
(East Oldham)

"We always come to the stay and play session on a Friday and I've done lots of courses such as maths, English and cooking."

Tracy, mum to Lucas and Amy.

"We've been coming since Isla was a tiny baby when we came for baby weighing. I'm now back at work but love coming on my day off to the stay and play session. It's a great place to meet up with friends and Isla loves getting messy."

Claire, mum to 18 month old Isla.

"We're regular visitors to Spring Meadows and have been since Alfie was a baby. They love interacting with other children and their speech and coordination skills have really developed since we started coming. We loved the baby massage course and enjoy the parties and events the centre organises."

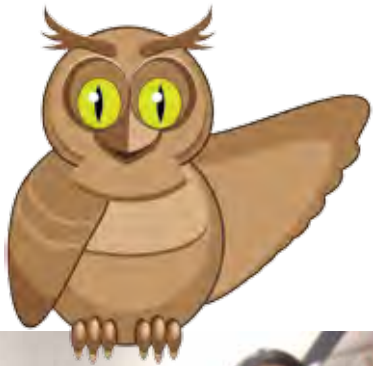
Susan, mum to Alfie (three and a half) and Lilly (two and a half).

Contact your children's centre and make the most of all the opportunities on offer.

www.oldham.gov.uk/childrens_centres

Meet our Wise Owls

Our maths fledglings have hatched into wise owl mathematicians after taking part in the free family maths group, held at Oldham Library.



The fun-filled sessions gave families the chance to learn together every Saturday morning. Among other things, the wise owls went on a shape hunt, made life size models of themselves, played number games, discovered that maths is all around and got technical with online maths programmes. Parents enjoyed seeing new ways children are taught maths at school and improved their own maths skills.

"We've all loved this course. I was very nervous about joining the course but both tutors put me at ease. We used to have a little tantrum over Emily's homework but for the last few weeks we've made it fun and if we've struggled, we've used methods we've been taught such as watching maths online through Youtube. I can't thank you enough for helping us." Parent



"The new strategies learnt at school today have really helped my own understanding of maths. We have tried to put our knowledge into everyday life. William has been helping to set the table using left and right language and we have been playing maths quizzes while walking to school using real life examples. William has been baking this week and has enjoyed using measurements. We are so pleased with William's development, at parents' evening, his teacher said his maths has come on leaps and bounds. Thank you!" Parent

The group was delivered thanks to funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation and NIACE.



Family Learning

As well as the Wise Owls, there are a range of Family Learning courses. Families can learn together or mums, dads, grandparents and carers can gain new skills while their child is cared for in the onsite crèche.

Choose from:

- Family English
- Family Maths
- Family Language
- Playing with Language
- Family Health
- Family ICT
- Money matters
- Keeping up with the children

For more information please contact Ruth Crossley:

T: 0161 770 8032

E: ruth.crossley@oldham.gov.uk

Want to change the life of a teenager?

**You could help by becoming
a foster carer**

**There are lots of teenagers in Oldham
waiting for foster carers.**

They need help, support and guidance as much, if not more than younger children. Many have had a difficult start and just want to live in a stable family like their friends at school.

You don't need special qualifications—life experience and personal qualities can make a big difference to a teenager.

You would receive lots of support including your own social worker, access to an 24/7 emergency line, full training and up to £29,000 per year.



Get in touch to find out more

T: 0161 770 6600 www.oldham.gov.uk/fostering

YOU CAN'T VOTE.

Unless you've registered by 20 April.

www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



Published by Oldham Council

If you wish to contact us please write to
Family Life, Room 315, Civic Centre,
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UT
E: marketing@oldham.gov.uk

All event dates were correct at the time of publishing.

