

Children invited to join Space Chase at Wiltshire Council libraries

Wiltshire Council libraries are calling for children to sign up to read six books this summer, as part of Space Chase, Summer Reading Challenge 2019.

The Summer Reading Challenge asks 4-11 year olds to borrow and read any six library books over the summer. The theme for the 2019 Summer Reading Challenge is Space Chase, inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Children will team up with futuristic family The Rockets for an exciting space mission, as they track down books nabbed by a mischievous band of aliens. As children read library books for the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive special stickers, some with mysterious smells. By adding these stickers to their collectable mission folders, young readers will help the Rockets solve clues, dodge asteroids and discover the missing books, having lots of fun and adventures along the way.

To take part in Space Chase, all children need to do is sign up at their nearest library, where they will be given a membership card, followed by a collector folder (once they've read their first book) to keep a record of their Summer Reading Challenge journey.

Space Chase launched in libraries across Wiltshire on Saturday 13 July and runs until Saturday 7 September.

This year an additional activity will be taking place that has been produced in partnership with Wiltshire Council leisure services the 'Astronaut training programme' - six fun and healthy challenges for children to do as they are reading. Each challenge will highlight positive messages about healthy eating, physical exercise and good hydration. On completion the trainee astronauts will receive a small prize and be entered into a prize draw.

Devizes Market Place - parking charges come into force while future use decided

Discussions on the future role of Devizes Market Place to ensure it becomes a community focal point to bring the local area together are ongoing with Devizes Town Council and residents.



Earlier this year the town council agreed to take on a number of assets and services from Wiltshire Council, and this transfer is now nearing completion.

A key part of the town's future is how the market place can best be used. Although original plans were to create a fully pedestrianised space, comments following the initial consultation mean the area could become dual use for both pedestrians and parking.

While discussions continue, parking charges which were due to be introduced earlier this year, will now begin on 1 August. People will pay for parking on their mobile phone as a temporary measure while the future use is decided and if parking continues, the installment of a permanent cash payment machine will be undertaken.

At Devizes Area Board on 15 July, people were encouraged to look at the latest proposals for its future use, including continuing parking on part of the area with pay and display and the remainder being community space.

Information on all changes will be published as they occur.

People can view the proposals at <http://www.devizes-tc.gov.uk/marketplace>

Improvement work to get under way in Corsham from 22 July

Improvements will be made to a key junction in Corsham from next week, but motorists are being warned to expect disruption while the essential work is taking place.

Ageing traffic signals will be replaced at the junction by the Cross Keys Inn as well as some resurfacing improvements being carried out.

The work will be carried out in two phases and is due to get underway from 22 July. It will last up to eight weeks.

The first phase will see new traffic signals installed to replace the current system. To minimise delay to traffic using the A4, the contractor will use the space available on the road to maintain unrestricted two way traffic flow. There will be a temporary 40mph limit as the lane widths will be reduced.

East and westbound traffic will be able to pass through the works for the majority of the time they are carried out. To enable unrestricted travel on the A4 it will be necessary to close both of the side roads to all traffic, from Cross Keys Road, and Biddestone Road. This will mean that vehicles won't be able to access the A4, nor will traffic be able to turn from the A4, into these roads. While these measures are in place, clear diversion signs will be out. These closures will operate 24 hours a day for the full duration of the works. There may be some periods when two-way signals are used on the A4 due to some work contractors need to carry out.

The second phase of work will see surfacing improvements take place overnight. During this, it will be necessary to close all roads at the junction to complete these activities, this is in addition to the measures in place for phase one, which will continue to operate outside of the full closure period. To mitigate against the impact on the network, work will take place between 8pm and 6am. Given the nature of traffic on the A4, the diversionary route requires traffic to follow the A4 / A46 / A420 / A350 (and vice versa). These works are anticipated to last for five nights.

A dedicated webpage has been set-up at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/highways-improvements-a4-cross-keys-Corsham> and will provide updates and information on the improvements.

Ceremony to celebrate adult learners' achievements

Wiltshire Council's Family and Community Learning team will celebrate learner achievements with a special awards ceremony

The awards ceremony takes place at Trowbridge Civic Centre on 31 July, and is a perfect chance to celebrate the learners' hard work and successes over the last 12 months.

The service is funded by Educational Skills Funding Agency and supports learners who may have missed opportunities in life due to educational, social or other circumstances.

Cabinet member for children's services, Pauline Church, said: "It can be a brave step to go back into education when you have left school behind, these individuals deserve an enormous amount of credit and admiration for making that move.

"These awards are a great way to celebrate all their achievements."

The service has encouraged more than 200 people back into learning this year. Many were unemployed at the start but have used Wiltshire Family and Community Learning as a springboard to improvement; progression to further learning, working and volunteering.

Courses available to learners include:

- A range of joint family activities, where the adults learn how they can offer support to their children with English, maths and homework.
- Developmental opportunities for adults to review their personal aspirations
- Courses designed specifically for learners wanting to get back to work
- Maths and English qualifications

The awards will be presented by members of the service's Governance Board. Winners have been chosen by an external panel of judges. The categories are: Life change and progression, Health and wellbeing, Closing the gap, Overcoming challenges, Functional skills learner of the year, Into work and Outstanding individual learner. There will be a winner and runner up for each category.

Find out more about the training and support we offer at: <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/family-learning>

Want a career in adult care? Our fair is just the job

Those interested in a rewarding career in adult social care are being invited to a free job fair later this month.

The Help to Live at Home Alliance's adult care job fair takes place on Tuesday 30 July from 10am until 2pm at Salisbury City Hall. There is no need to book a place as people can drop-in when they can.

The event, organised by Wiltshire Council and NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), gives people the opportunity to ask questions and seek advice about a career in the sector.

There will be a number of information stalls hosted by a range of homecare providers and Wiltshire Council and CCG staff, all ready to help people on the journey to a career in adult care.

In 2018 Wiltshire Council transformed its adult social care services with the aim of ensuring people get quick access to joined up quality care. This programme of work included setting up its



own reablement support service, improving how people first access its adult care services, enhancing its Help to Live at Home Service, and working with partners to launch a Wiltshire Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Wiltshire Council hosted its first [Proud to Care Social Care Celebration Awards](#) on 4 April to thank those who work in a range of roles within the adult care and voluntary sector.

Pupils in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire to have faster access to mental health support

More pupils in the future across Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire will have access to specially trained mental health practitioners thanks to funding for a new programme.

Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group successfully bid for funding to be part of NHS England's Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Trailblazer programme.



The programme is already being implemented in Swindon and has been successfully rolled out in a number of other areas across the country. Now pupils across B&NES and Wiltshire will benefit from the second wave once the scheme starts in January 2020.

The scheme will see MHSTs working directly in selected schools and colleges across the region by providing on-site access to early mental health support.

The teams will provide early intervention for mild to moderate mental health issues, such as exam stress, low mood or friendship difficulties as well as providing support to staff. They will also act as a link with local specialist children and young people's mental health services ensuring, if appropriate, that pupils can access more intensive support.

The funding for the scheme comes as recent public engagement driven by local health and care organisations has found that young people would prioritise better and faster access to mental health services.

One in nine young people aged 5 to 15 had a diagnosable mental health condition in 2017 and teenagers with a mental health disorder are more than twice as likely to have a mental disorder in adulthood. This package of measures is part of the Government's plan to improve mental health support for children and young people, including identifying mental health issues before they become more acute.

Funding available to homeowners and landlords for home improvements

Wiltshire Council would like to make residents aware of funding that is available to make improvements to homes in our area.

Wessex
Resolutions CIC

Homeowners and landlords can apply for a loan to make improvements to their homes. Essential

home repairs such as a replacement boiler, new windows and doors, roof repairs (including thatch), plumbing, heating or electrical works and even structural repairs are included under the scheme.

Everyone receives the same interest rate, whether you borrow £1,000 or £15,000 and no matter what your circumstances or credit score. Eligible homeowners choose their own contractor and there are a variety of loan products available to suit individual needs*.

The scheme is delivered through Wessex Resolutions, a not-for-profit lender that works in close partnership with us. Established in 2003, Wessex Resolutions has helped many homeowners throughout the South West, lending almost £13.6 million.

For more information, visit www.wessesxresolutions.org.uk or contact Wessex Resolutions at 01823 461099 / enquiries@wrcic.org.uk.

(*subject to eligibility)

Loans have a fixed interest rate and typical 4.2% APR. Missing payments could affect your credit rating and ability to obtain credit in the future. Loans are typically protected by a Title Restriction and are subject to status.

Quick links

Area Board information: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-democracy-area-boards

All the latest news releases: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news

Community virtual notice boards: <http://ourcommunitymatters.org.uk/>

Roadworks: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/highways-road-closures

What's on at City Hall in Salisbury: www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk

A blog for Wiltshire's arts community: <http://theartsinwiltshire.wordpress.com>