

November 2011

playtimes

your expert guide to family life

all about dad

+ On The Town

Wife-approved ideas for boys' nights out

+ In The Middle

Caught between your wife and your mum

+ Spare The Rod?

Is spanking ever the right option?



+ Get ready for your close-up: What's child modelling in Hong Kong *really* like?

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Let InVu Media take your captured moments and turn them into timeless treasures.

HOME MOVIES

CORPORATE
PRESENTATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

WEDDINGS
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR

CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARIES





BIRTHS

FAMILY VIDEOS

SPORTS TOURNAMENTS

What would be the soundtrack to your life?

Our business is personalised editing of home movies, filming and photography. We apply our professional production techniques in shooting, editing, sound recording, animation and special effects.

But our passion is storytelling – using our expertise to turn your disconnected moments into a smoothly flowing narrative, telling your story through moments in time. Our primary goal is to bring happiness to people as they watch the motion picture of their own life.

Please contact InVu Media today to see how we can tell the story of your life.
invumedia@gmail.com Telephone +852 2251 8139 www.invu-media.com



INVU MEDIA



relax.
we carry
the
load.SM

Every year, more than 50,000 families trust Allied Pickfords with their international moves. With more than 800 offices in 40 countries, we can move you seamlessly, door to door. As part of SIRVA Inc, the world's largest relocation company, we understand more than just moving.

We'll take the stress out of your move, leaving you to relax and enjoy your new home.

Call us now on 2736 6032
www.alliedpickfords.com.hk/playtimesnov11

ALLIED
PICKFORDS
The Careful Movers™

contents | November 2011



35
FATHER
KNOWS BEST?



107
DAD'S IN THE
KITCHEN



70
MAN
IN THE
MIDDLE

MODEL
BEHAVIOUR
76



52
ABOUT
A BOY



Photography
Michele Moutardier

Model
Nicholas

Clothes
Nicholas wears indigo wool zip cardigan, \$1,400, Burberry, and navy long-sleeve t-shirt, \$200, Little Mercerie.

news

- 10 | WHAT'S ON**
A look at what's going on around town this month
- 12 | HOT OFF THE PRESS**
Hip new shops, services and products
- 18 | FINGER ON THE PULSE**
Parenting news from around the world
- 20 | ECO HERO**
Ideas and products for greener living
- 31 | TRAVEL WRITING CONTEST**
Want to be a travel writer? Here's your chance!

advice

- 22 | BEAUTY 101**
Top tips for looking your best
- 24 | IN YOUR OPINION**
Readers' thoughts on timely topics
- resources**
- 26 | TOY BOX**
Toys that teach and amuse
- 28 | BOOKSHELF**
Perfect picks for young readers and dads
- 33 | COOL STUFF FOR DAD**
Look good and have fun with our top picks.
- 112 | STOCKISTS**
See something you like? We'll tell you where to get it.
- 114 | DISTRIBUTION**
Find out where to get your copy of *Playtimes*.



Bookshelf
pg 28



Toy Box
pg 26



Eco Hero
pg 20

contents | November 2011



features

35 | FATHER KNOWS BEST?

You may have thought that Mum ruled the roost, but perhaps it's time to change your tune.

41 | WHEN GOOD VEINS GO BAD

Varicose veins plague many new mums.

43 | FOR THE BOYS

Are there any fun, wife-approved, places for the boys to go?

44 | BABY-DADDY BONDING

It's easy enough to start bonding when your child's old enough for ballgames. But, there's no reason for dads to wait so long to start the process.

48 | DAD'S DAY OUT

There are no hard and fast rules on what makes a good day out and the time spent together is always worth it.

52 | ABOUT A BOY

Get ready to talk to your son about his changing body.

56 | MOVING RIGHT ALONG

International relocations can be tough on the whole family. Prepare yours for the most positive experience possible.

60 | CHILD'S PLAY

Are you struggling to choose the perfect toy for a child? We can help.

64 | HOW IS YOUR CHILD SMART?

Learn about multiple intelligences and the activities that can help strengthen your child's unique intellect.

70 | MAN IN THE MIDDLE

What's a dad to do when his wife and mother disagree?

76 | MODEL BEHAVIOUR

Has your child got what it takes to become Hong Kong's next top model?

82 | SPARE THE ROD?

A smack. A slap. A spank. A tap. It's never right to hit a child. Is it?

90 | INSIDER'S DESIGN

Peek inside the flat of one Hong Kong family.

96 | MAD ABOUT DAD

Children love playtime with Dad, and here, we suit them up for an afternoon of intrepid inside fun.

107 | DAD'S IN THE KITCHEN

Learn to make these everyday favourites from Annabel Karmel that the whole family will enjoy.

120 | LAST WORD

Kids need to have their own monikers, argues father-of-three Nury Vittachi.

What makes Tutor Time® International Nursery & Kindergarten different?



TUTOR TIME 多多
INTERNATIONAL NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN
www.tutortime.com.hk



Center of Excellence Award

(Selected out of over 500 Tutor Time centers world wide)

Age-specific Full Immersion bi-lingual English and Mandarin programs for children aged six months to six years old

Since opening our first two centers in 2001, we continue to raise the standard of preschool education in Hong Kong. Our outstanding Full Immersion bilingual (English & Mandarin) program from USA, play places and personal spaces, shaped by our proprietary LifeSmart® curriculum and dedication to the whole child, focus on meeting each and every child's developmental needs.

Program Choices :

Full Immersion Bi-Lingual English and Mandarin Program

- ★ Infant Activity Group : 6 months to 12 months
- ★ Toddler Activity Group : 1 to 2 years
- ★ Nursery Program : 2 to 3 years
- ★ Kindergarten Program : 3 to 6 years
- ★ Extended Program : 2 1/2 hours English + 1 1/2 hours Mandarin (Red Hill Only)

Hong Kong side:

■ **Tutor Time: Braemar Hill**
LG/F Braemar Hill Shopping Center,
45 Braemar Hill Road, Hong Kong
香港北角寶馬山道45號賽西湖商場低層
Tel: 2529-1833 Fax: 2507-5445

■ **Tutor Time: Mid-Levels**
Shop A-B, G/F Botanical Court,
5 Caine Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong
香港半山堅道5號寶林閣地下A-B號舖
Tel: 2529-2288 Fax: 2507-5445

■ **Tutor Time: Red Hill (Tai Tam)**
101, 1/F Red Hill Plaza, 3 Red Hill Road,
Tai Tam, Hong Kong
香港大潭紅山道3號紅山半島廣場1字樓101
Tel: 2813-2688 Fax: 2507-5445

Kowloon side:

■ **Tutor Time: Kowloon Tong**
No.1 Dorset Crescent, Kowloon Tong,
Kowloon, Hong Kong
九龍彌多寶道1號
Tel: 2573-9188 Fax: 2507-5445

■ **Tutor Time WONG: Kowloon Tong**
9 Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong,
Kowloon, Hong Kong
九龍彌沙維道9號
Tel: 2529-1188 Fax: 2507-5445

Read and Share

Tutor Time's campaign to encourage the love of reading in young children. Visit <http://www.tutortime.com.hk/readandshare> to join our campaign and learn how to earn **free Tutor Time's certificates** for your children.

Michele Moutardier

Michele was born in Switzerland but grew up in Paris, where her passion for photography was realised at a young age. She spent a great deal of her spare time in her photographer mother's studio, where her flair for photography was encouraged and nurtured as she followed in her mother's footsteps.

Upon completing her studies, she travelled around the world for several years before finally settling in Asia, forging a career over the last ten years as a Hong Kong-based photographer. Combining her passion for children and photography, Michele began specialising in photographing infants and children's toys and accessories, for both editorial and commercial projects.

Michele's photography showcases her talent and aesthetic for natural light. She enjoys creating beautiful imagery that captures children and their surroundings.



John Shanahan

John was born in the UK, but moved to Hong Kong at the age of three, where he completed his primary and secondary education. After completing his postgraduate degrees in Australia, he returned to Hong Kong to work as a developmental/child psychologist. Today he works with children, teenagers and their families with various strengths and difficulties. John is also a qualified special needs teacher and regularly works with the international schools here. In addition to working with a couple of charities, he is the vice-president of the Psychotherapy Society of Hong Kong, and on the executive committee of the Hong Kong Dyslexia Association. In his spare time, John enjoys scuba diving, surfing, and travelling.



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Tracey Starr
t: 2973 6078
e: tracey.starr@ppp.com.hk



PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR
Jo Allum
t: 2973 6159
e: jo.allum@ppp.com.hk



ADVERTISING SALES AND DISTRIBUTION
Florence Choy Wan
t: 2973 6187
e: florence.choy@ppp.com.hk



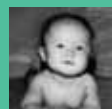
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT MANAGER
Narelle Edwards
e: narelle@ppp.com.hk



ADVERTISING ACCOUNT MANAGER
Wendy Clarke
t: 2973 6279
e: wendy@ppp.com.hk



PRODUCTION MANAGER
Michael Chau



ART DIRECTOR
Timmy Ho



GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Samuel Tang



CEO
David Tait
t: 2973 6791
e: david@ppp.com.hk

FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS & DISTRIBUTION t: 2973 6187

CONTRIBUTORS: Melanie Adamson; Angela Baura; Brooke Chenoweth; Kylie de Vos; Rennie Fensham; Ingrid Keneally; Rachel Kenney; Mishi Khanna; Elle Kwan; Michele Moutardier; John Shanahan; Julia Simens; Nury Vittachi; Kate Zhou

PUBLISHED BY:
PPP Company Ltd, 20/F Carfield Commercial Building
75-77 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 2973 6131
PRINTED BY: Fantasy Printing Ltd. in Hong Kong
ISSN 1726-183X

Published by PPP Company Limited. The publication is sold on the understanding that the publisher, advertisers, contributors and their employees are not responsible for the results of any actions, errors or omissions taken on the basis of information contained in this publication. The publisher, advertisers, contributors and their employees expressly disclaim all and any liability to any person, whether a purchaser of the publication or not, in respect of any action or omission or the consequences of any action or omission by any such person, whether whole or partial, upon the whole or part of the contents of this publication. All rights reserved. 2011 PPP Company Limited. No part of this work, covered by the publisher's copyright may be reproduced in any form by any means, graphic, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping or information storage and retrieval, without the written permission of the publisher. Any unauthorised use of this publication will result in immediate legal proceedings.



ANASTASSIA'S
ART
HOUSE

Festive Art Workshops

Santastic Christmas!

with Anastassia's Art House

Join Anastassia's Art House and create your own Christmas & Winter theme artworks collection! There are elegant, imaginative & festive projects, such as: Santa Claus & Angels paintings, Snowman Candle Holder, Santa's shoes as a decorative Sculpture; Snowflakes collage; Party masks & tiaras, just to name a few. Bring Joy & Peace home for Christmas and Celebrate a Festive Winter Time together! Art Workshops for children, adults & families!

MULTI AWARD WINNING ART ACADEMY

www.arthouse-hk.com

Happy Valley Art Studio:

No. 11 Yuk Sau Street, Happy Valley, HK
Tel: 2838 0040 Fax: 2838 0070
Email: happyvalley@arthouse-hk.com

Repulse Bay Art Studio:

Shop G107B, The Repulse Bay
109 Repulse Bay Road, HK
Tel: 2812 6465 Fax: 2812 6466
Email: repulsebay@arthouse-hk.com

Sai Kung Art Studio:

G/F, 9 Hoi Pong Street, Sai Kung Town, NT
Tel: 2719 5533 Fax: 2719 5599
Email: saikung@arthouse-hk.com

We run art classes also at

CWBS & HKUST
Contact us at
Tel: 2719 5533

welcome



Tracey and model Benjamin

This month, *we're talking to you, dads*. Now, I know that many of you read *Playtimes* all year round – I've enjoyed hearing from many of you. But I also know that many of our stories throughout the year are geared to mums, so *it's nice* to put the focus on you every now and then, too.

To that end, I hope you'll *enjoy the topics* we've got especially for you. For those of you who feel a bit out of sorts about bonding with your babies – mums, after all, have biological advantages built into the process that you don't get to experience – writer Mishi Khanna has some tips for you. Are you *feeling caught between* the opinions of your wife and your mother? Dr Rosann Kao is sympathetic and offers advice for working through it. Are you looking for ways to *enjoy an evening out* with the guys – ways that won't draw a raised eyebrow from your wife? Brooke Chenoweth scoured the city and has some ideas.

This month – in a *Playtimes* first – we've even included a *dad in the fashion shoot!* About a year ago, when we were planning the 2010 dads issue, over drinks at their newly renovated home, I complained to our friends Ian and Christi that I couldn't find any dads willing to participate in a fashion shoot. Much to what I'm sure is now regret, Ian said that had I asked *him*, he would have done it willingly. Little did he know that I mentally recorded that moment and, a year later, called him on it. He and Christi and their three sons were great sports, opening up their home to our styling team for an afternoon of fashionable *fun and chaos*. You'll find the results inside.

We've got lots of other great stories that both dads and mums will enjoy. Read on to learn what the experts have to say about corporal punishment, about whether your child should be Hong Kong's *next top model*, and about the many different ways your children are *smart and amazing*.

Thanks for reading,

Tracey Starr, Editor-in-Chief



DISCOVERY

Montessori School

Open Day @ Central

SAT. December 3rd

10am - 12pm R.S.V.P.

***Fun games & Activities**
Bring your kids along.

What make us different?

- Active Learning
- Practical Life Skills
- Sensory Development
- Mathematics Acceleration
- Language Enrichment
- Caring and Experienced Montessori Teachers
- Natural Learning Environment

Call 2850.8006



Experience our New Central Discovery Montessori School

Now accepting applications for 2012-13 (age 1 - 6 yr)

The Senses, being explorers of the world, open the way to knowledge.

- Dr. Maria Montessori

Montessori Preschool Programme:

- English Class and Bilingual English & Putonghua Class
- ~ Toddler Pgm.: Montessori Playgroup (12m- 2.5y)
 - ~ Nursery Pgm.: Little Casa Class (2y- 3.5y)
 - ~ Kindergarten Pgm.: Casa del Bambini Class (3y- 6y)
 - ~ After-school & Saturday Program.: (18m- 2.5y)
 - *Putonghua, Art & Science Club, Montessori Phonic & Math

- * AMI Montessori Curriculum
- * AMI / MCI / AMS Montessori Teachers with over 10yr experience on average.
- * Low class ratio
- * Bright/ Large classrooms
- * Nature Exploration

香港國際蒙特梭利學校

* School bus service provided to Central Campus



Associate School of
International Montessori Society

www.discoverymontessori.info

For enquiries call **2987.1201**

Central Campus: 3/F Mandarin Building, 35-43 Bonham Strand, Central, H.K.
Discovery Bay Campus: Unit 101, 1/F, Discovery Bay North Plaza, H.K.

November

THE HOTTEST HAPPENINGS AROUND TOWN

Sale! 2

Beat the Christmas rush and earn big savings on Penny Scallan samples, seconds and items never seen in the shops, as well as personalised products from Stuck on You, 8:30am to 4:30pm, at Zaks in DB. Missed it? Then catch additional savings at the Conrad Fair.



5 Picnic in the Park

Enjoy HK's largest music and dance festival from 11am to 9:30pm, in Siena Park, DB, featuring a kids' zone with pedal cars, bouncy castles and face-painting, in addition to the performances. www.picnicintheparkhk.com

PICNIC PARK

8

Networking night

Ladies looking to make professional contacts, check out Women in Charge's networking event. Coast, 1/F Kinwick Centre, Soho, 6:30pm to 8:30pm, \$180 includes two drinks and canapés.



10 Special support

The Special Needs Network (SNN) is a group of parents of children with special needs who talk, share experiences and support each other. Their next chat will be at 6:30pm at Stormies, Civic Square, Elements, Kowloon. Email kimanderson9@me.com.



11

Learn

Dr Louise Porter, a world-famous child psychologist, is back by popular demand. This time, she'll discuss emotional intelligence and resilience in children, at InnoCentre at Polytechnic University, 72 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong. Email clara@ekalli.com for details.



Meet Santa!

Shop, eat, play and meet Santa at City Kids HKPPA Christmas Fair, from 12pm to 5pm, at City Kids Preschool on Borrett Road.

19



Mini-rugby

Sandy Bay hosts its annual mini-rugby tournament at the Stanley Ho Sports Centre. Enjoy rugby, lots of activities for kids, and plenty of food and drink for the adult spectators. Email minisecretary@hkusandybayrfc.org.

27



27 Holidays Bazaar

The Jewish Women's Association offers great bargains on toys, gifts and housewares, along with activities for the kids and excellent Israeli food, from 10am to 7pm, at The Island School, 20 Borrett Road. Be sure to bring your ID.



ThreeSixty[®]

MARKET PLACE

by JASONS

— supermarket —

New Arrival

Pauls Pure Organic Full Cream Milk 1 liter

- Exclusive
- Jet Fresh from Australia
- 1st famous organic brand in Hong Kong
- The cheapest fresh organic milk in town

~~\$49~~ \$39



www.oliversthedel.com.hk

www.threesixtyhk.com

www.marketplacebyjasons.com

hot off the press

Open day

Discovery Montessori School invites all parents to bring your children and take a walk through their beautiful, bright downtown campus in Central, where they'll have lots of fun activities for the whole family on Saturday, 3 December, at 10am. They'll host an additional open day at their Discovery Bay campus on Saturday, 10 December, at 10am.

For enquiries and reservations, please call 2850 8006 (Central), 2987 1201 (Discovery Bay), or click www.discoverymontessori.info.



DISCOVERY
Montessori School

WIN

Song & dance

The award-winning children's music and entertainment duo Scotty & Lulu are back again, inviting kids to party with them on Saturday, 26 November, at The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Featuring an all new line-up of songs and dances, games and trademark slapstick silliness, the brand new musical is full of fun and laughter for cool kids and groovy grown-ups. Two lucky families will each win five tickets to see the show for free! Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 15 November and include "Win Scotty" in the subject line.



Paint your own

WIN

My Happy Sunflower paint-your-own-pottery café provides a warm and welcoming studio where adults and children can create unique masterpieces. This month, three lucky readers will win a painting playdate. Each \$800 prize pack includes: 1.5 hours of studio time for four people and moose-shaped Christmas tree ornaments to paint – a fun activity for two mums and two kids, or a lovely family activity for Mum, Dad and the kids, or whatever suits you. Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 30 November and include "Win Sunflower" in the subject line.



WIN

Your new favourite bag

Designed for families on-the-go, the Skip Hop Bento is an innovative and functional nappy bag. But it's hard to call it *just* a nappy bag, because it also includes an insulated Mealtime Kit, which slides into a compartment to keep food in its own special place, along with plenty of pockets, padded tote straps, an adjustable messenger strap and patented Shuttle Clips that allow it to attach to any pram. Available from Bumps to Babies, Mothercare, Baby Central and www.bloomandgrowdirect.com, \$899. Two lucky readers will win their own Bento bag! Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 30 November and include "Win Bento" in the subject line.



And the winners are...

In the September issue, we gave away a host of great prizes. We had a huge response, but these were the lucky few:

Expandable Leander bed: Val Bramah

C25 Family Fitness Package: Vivian Choy

BeBe Secret prize packs: Fei Ning and Rakesh Purohit

See Hong Kong passes: Axelle Frachon and Edith Lin

Under the Nile eco packs: Erin Gillespie; Stacey Leclerc; Lydia Tsui; Louise Tyrrell and Clement Woo

Cool kids' furnishings

Tickitey Boo, Hong Kong's only online store focusing exclusively on kids' homewares and décor, carries an extensive range of innovative products from some of the biggest names in international design. Co-founder mums Pauline Nelson and Radhika Talwar say their selection of bed and bath products, dinnerware, lighting options, art works, accessories, school items and travel gear is perfect for discerning parents and those seeking a cute and unique gift. Visit them at www.tickitey-boo.com and see for yourself.

Global movers

Getting ready for a mid-term move? You'll be happy to know Relocasia has gone global. Matt Burden CEO says, "We set up Relocasia from scratch in 2004, and we've worked really hard to build a good name for ourselves within Asia's expat communities." Over the past year, Writer Relocations, one of the world's largest and most respected relocation companies, purchased a majority share of the company. This past July, the company became Writer Relocasia, retaining the personalised service of Relocasia and marrying it with the resources, systems and drive of a global, quality-focused, corporation.



The Wind in the Willows

WIN

Faust International Youth Theatre proudly presents Alan Bennett's adaptation of the Kenneth Grahame classic story, 15 to 18 December, at The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Performed by young actors, the play takes you on a journey through the Wild, Wild Wood and up the river and back again, learning on the way the value of friendship and how anything is possible. Two lucky families will each win four tickets to see the play for free! Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 30 November and include "Win Willow" in the subject line.

The Wind in the Willows



Charlie and Lola™

Charlie & Lola



After thrilling audiences across the UK, Charlie and Lola are finally heading to Hong Kong to perform for young fans this month, 24 through 27 November. *Charlie and Lola's Best Bested Play* is a heart-warming story brought to life by the magic of puppetry and music, based on the books by Lauren Child and the TV series seen on CBeebies and ABC television. Two lucky families will see the play for free! Each family will receive four tickets for the 7pm show on 25 November. Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 15 November and include "Win Charlie" in the subject line.

Kids' beds

Finding good quality, reasonably priced kids' beds can be a challenge in Hong Kong. But SofaSale.com.hk launched the Tomy Niki kids' bed collection to meet the need. Different styles and cool designs for beds, desks and wardrobes are on offer. A special lacquer finish on the furniture ensures there is no risk or harmful effects by licking or biting the bed frame. Learn more at www.sofasale.com.hk.





Christmas cards

If you're planning to send Christmas wishes to friends and family abroad, then it's time to get your cards! Cupcake Designs offers an array of design options, including the Hong Kong skyline range, which can be personalised with your own message on the front and inside of the card. Shop for your Christmas cards, thank you cards and gift tags, all in packs of ten, at www.cupcakedesigns.biz.

Yoga bunnies

Thought yoga was just for mums? Think again. Kids' yoga specialists Gecko Yoga are calling all would-be yoga bunnies from six weeks up. Mums with babies up to crawling age can de-stress and re-centre in sessions that blend relaxation, baby massage and meditation. For the toddlers and pre-schoolers, a blend of storytelling, song and *asana* poses delivers all the mental and physical benefits of grown-up yoga. Classes are now running at the new White Lotus Centre in Central. Mention *Playtimes* and receive 50 per cent off your first session. Learn more at www.geckoyoga.com.



Retail re-launch

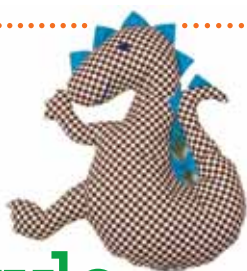
The Red Cabinet has closed their showroom on Hollywood Road and re-launched their store in the up and coming Wong Chuk Hang area. The new showroom – an open loft-space of 3,500 square feet – is just five minutes from the Aberdeen Tunnel.

The Red Cabinet continues to showcase a carefully edited collection of unusual, one-off, lacquered original pieces from China and has also expanded their portfolio to include a selection of sophisticated French and European pieces, all available in stock as well as made-to-order. Visit 2/F, Retail Podium, One Island South, 2 Heung Yip Road, Wong Chuk Hang.




Attic Lifestyle ... online

Now you can shop for distinctive handmade ceramics, quirky fashion accessories, hand-hewn items, unusual gifts and fun kids' décor online. Fabulous new products from South Africa and Denmark will be arriving online and in-store in the next few weeks, just in time for some early Christmas shopping. Click www.attic-lifestyle.com, or visit the showroom: Unit 4, 12th Floor, Sungib Industrial Centre, 53 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen.



Party place

Hosting great kids' parties can be difficult. Parents want a clean and comfortable space where they can entertain their guests, and the kids are looking for fun. Kiddy Village, located right above the TaiKoo MTR station, offers both: spacious, clean and comfortable party rooms and a variety of play facilities for the kids. During November, the first three customers, who present this issue of *Playtimes* when confirming function room reservations will receive a 20 per cent discount. Terms and conditions apply, so please call 2560 9493 for details, or click www.kiddyvillage.com.hk.



Now available in Hong Kong

Naturino

lotum
simply dutch



the-little-dragon.com

or contact Pirko@the-little-dragon.com

Sightseeing with style

From LUXE City Guides, in partnership with Little Steps Asia, comes *Little LUXE Hong Kong* – a guide for parents trying to navigate the city in style. Whether you are living here or welcoming visitors, this guide shows you the very best for you and your little ones. From family-friendly hotels and mouth-watering cuisine that will please young and old to rainy day activities to keep the kids entertained, it's all included. *Little LUXE Hong Kong*, \$80, is available in stores and online at www.luxecityguides.com. Watch out for *Little LUXE Singapore*, coming soon.



Baby bunch

Fresh from the US, as seen on *The Martha Stewart Show*, comes Baby Bunch: a bunch of baby clothes and accessories, both practical and lovely, presented perfectly. Available at www.bebegoodies.com for \$580 (medium size) or \$600 (large size). One lucky reader will win a free medium Baby Bunch in yellow. Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 30 November and include "Win Bunch" in the subject line.



Arthur Christmas



The 3D, CG-animated family comedy *Arthur Christmas* finally answers the big mystery: How does Santa deliver all those presents in one night? Classic Christmas movie elements – a family in a state of comic dysfunction and an unlikely hero with an urgent mission – will get you in a seasonal spirit. Five lucky readers will win a family four-pack of tickets to the 4 December showing. Email playtimes@ppp.com.hk by 18 November and include "Win Arthur" in the subject line. Note that the movie will be shown in Cantonese.



Share your favourites

With their new Read and Share campaign, Tutor Time aims to encourage the love of reading in young children. Most families have one or more special books that parents and children love to read together again and again. Those families are invited to register their own favourite children's book on Tutor Time's Read and Share website and share it with other families. For every five books that you Read and Share, your child will receive a certificate of appreciation from Tutor Time. Learn more at www.tutortime.com.hk/readandshare.



New Kids Furniture Collection

In Stores Now



indigo
kids

INTERIOR AND FURNISHING SOLUTIONS: HONG KONG • CHINA • MACAU • UAE • INDIA

flagship store: Suite 1817-20, 18/F, Horizon Plaza, Ap Lei Chau • tel: 2552 0545 • G111-112, The Repulse Bay, Repulse Bay • tel: 2592 8721 • www.indigo-living.com

PregMANcy?

A quarter of expectant fathers now go through their own “pregmancy” as they suffer their own symptoms such as food cravings and morning sickness, according to a study by the nappy company Pampers. Modern men have become so closely involved with their partner’s pregnancy that 23 per cent report emotional and physical changes often associated with women.

The research found they become more emotional and “weepy”, and suffer mood swings, nausea and even phantom pregnancy pains. Fathers-to-be involved in the study also reported cravings for bizarre food combinations such as tomatoes and oranges, tuna and pickled onions, and pickled eggs and ice pops. Of those affected, 26 per cent experienced mood swings, ten per cent had food cravings and six per cent felt nausea, which was unconnected to any other illness.

source: *The Telegraph*



finger on the pulse

1*

Scooby Doo, featuring a cowardly Great Dane with an insatiable appetite for snacks and giant sandwiches, is the healthiest children’s cartoon, according to a recent study by the UK’s Department of Health. Researchers watched 200 hours of children’s television, featuring the 20 most popular programmes, and noted how many times physical activity was shown.

source: *The Telegraph*

Lower levels = loyalty?

Men appear to be biologically wired to care for their babies, say researchers who have discovered levels of testosterone go down after fatherhood.

This drop in the male hormone presumably makes the dad more family-oriented and less likely to stray, says the US-based Northwestern University research team, which followed 624 young men before and after they became fathers. Research revealed that as soon as a man had a baby, his testosterone levels dropped substantially. Men with newborn babies less than a month old had especially reduced levels of testosterone. Larger falls were also seen in those who were more involved in childcare.

Lead investigator Christopher Kuzawa, says: “Raising human offspring is such an effort that it is co-operative by necessity, and our study shows that human fathers are biologically wired to help with the job. Fatherhood and the demands of having a newborn baby require many emotional, psychological and physical adjustments. Our study indicates that a man’s biology can change substantially to help meet those demands.”

source: BBC

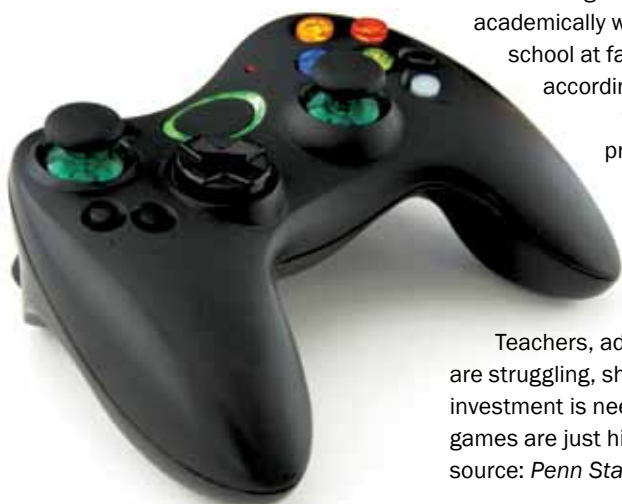
Video game value

Studies during the past decade have shown primary school boys are struggling – falling behind academically while also being diagnosed with learning disabilities and getting in trouble at school at far greater rates than girls. One answer to the problem may be video games, according to an education professor at the US-based Pennsylvania State University.

“Instructional technology is my field, thinking about how to adopt technology properly in classrooms,” said Alison Carr-Chellman, department head and professor of instructional systems. “One of the reasons I’m interested in video games is because it meets boys where they are. It picks them up with an interest they already have. If you move in that direction, you’re saying, ‘This culture accepts who you are,’ rather than saying, ‘This culture is foreign from yours and rejects who you are.’”

Teachers, administrators and parents need to be made more aware of the reasons boys are struggling, she says, and teachers need to understand the value of games to boys. More investment is needed for better educational video games, as most existing educational games are just high-tech flash cards, she adds.

source: *Penn State Live*





The perfect accessory for any toddler!
Designed to help toddlers take their first steps into the world of two wheeled bikes. The colourful wide wheels, ergonomic comfortable seating, the futuristic design, together with the impressive functionality, makes this a brilliant toddler bike.



gloddos
Barcelona Toys

Available from:
Bumps to Babes
www.bloomandgrowdirect.com

Distributed exclusively by
Bloom & Grow
LTD

Tel: +852 2815 0585



**The world's most
loved baby carrier**

- Multi award winning design
- Three carrying positions
- From infant to toddler
- Optimal hip and spine development

**The best way to support your baby,
and your lifestyle™**

Available from: Bumps to Babes, BIBIDADA, Baby Homme,
Rainbow Care Centre, Our Baby, www.bloomandgrowdirect.com

Bloom & Grow
LTD
Tel: +852 2815 0585



clean water

On its long way to your home, water can be contaminated by corroding pipes, rusty connections and poorly-maintained storage containers. Giabo's new rechargeable UV water pitcher, \$558, adopts advanced water filtration and UV sterilisation technology to remove most heavy metals, chlorine and contaminants, and kill germs and bacteria. By using silver impregnated granular activated carbon and high performance activated carbon, when water passes through the filter cartridge, heavy metals, lime scale, chlorine and certain industrial and agricultural pollutants are removed while the nutrients in water are retained. What's more, up to 99.9 per cent of E.coli is removed after being treated by the UV sterilisation process (as tested by an international laboratory).

No complicated installation is required and each cartridge can filter 150L water. A universal voltage AC/DC adaptor is also provided for use while travelling. Click www.giabo.com to learn more.

eco hero



skinRx



Britain's award-winning organic skincare brand – The Organic Pharmacy – has launched in the new Harvey Nichols at Pacific Place. Pamper your skin like Madonna, Kylie Minogue and Sarah Jessica Parker do, with products that take your skin and the environment seriously. The Organic Pharmacy uses no artificial preservatives, no animal testing, no petrochemical products, no artificial colourants or fragrances – just organic ingredients that all pass rigorous testing and have been certified by the Soil Association of Great Britain and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

new shop

Organic Baby has opened a new location at Olympian City 3 in West Kowloon. Click www.organicbaby.com.hk to learn more.



eco chic

Newly launched Lulu Hong Kong – a self-described *boutique eco fabuleuse* – believes that we need to rethink the way we produce, consume and dispose of fashion, and aims to show Hong Kongers that fashion can be fun while still being socially and environmentally responsible. For babies, they've got cloth diapers and organic clothes, and for mums? Chic, sustainable and high quality dresses, tops and maternity wear, all available online at www.luluhongkong.com.



healthy treats

Organic and healthy lunch box treats, sugar-free juice and snacks, and a range of gluten-free flours and pizza dough mixes are now available at Babushka, Shop 12, East Garden Plaza, 66 Yi Chun Street, Sai Kung. Visit the shop Tuesday through Sunday, from 11am to 6pm.

Fiona's Prince

www.fionasprince.com

Native American Indian

Kids Shoes New Collection A/W 2011-2012

for babies & children



Shop G-13, Peking Road, T.S.T. | Shop 16, G/F, Park Mall, T.S.T. | Shop G 11, The Peak Tower, HK
Shop 3, G/F, Unicorn Trade Centre, Central | Travessa Do Bispo, 2A, R/C, Flat B, Macau

CHINA ♦ HONG KONG ♦ MACAU

Q

What can dads do to look younger and more professional?

A

Follow this simple advice and your transformation will be painless ... and your friends won't even have to know what you're up to.

Skincare

You already know that first impressions are important. Your face is where people will look first when making their initial judgment about you. A smoother look starts with as little as a good face wash and a moisturiser with sunblock. Our skin is influenced by factors like genetics, health, smoking, medication and hormones, but the climate also plays a part in the skincare product(s) you need: if you lived in a dry climate, you would probably need a rich, anti-drying day cream. But, here in Hong Kong's hot and humid climate, a light day cream with almost no oil is the best choice for most men.

Even tough guys like sports celebrities now admit to using skincare products regularly. Almost every salon, spa or skincare range now has a product range for men. And you don't need to spend a fortune either: you can get some of the best products – such as Nivea for Men, L'Oreal for Men and Neutrogena for Men – at pharmacies and supermarkets. Read the label to see which product is best suited for your skin type.

Eyebrows

Men are spending more time on grooming, and many men are now shaping their eyebrows to get a fresher and younger look, or just to control the unibrow! Most men, as they grow older (it's a testosterone issue) have wilder, longer, thicker hair growing in the brow area, which can grow completely out of control. It's a new trend for the professional man to have his eyebrows

Shaving tips

1 Get prepped.

Place a warm wet towel on the area to be shaved to prepare the skin. The hair will absorb the hot water and become softer and easier to cut.

2 Problem areas.

If you have a skin irritation, don't go over it more than once, as repeatedly running the blade over it will make it more sensitive.

3 Take a break.

Take the weekend off from shaving. If you are struggling with ingrown hairs, a break can help.

4 Go collarless.

A high collar shirt can trap oil and sweat, both of which clog pores and can cause added irritation on the neck area.

5 Go old school.

If you have sensitive skin, avoid electric razors. They slice the hair in several directions, making your hair more likely to grow back into the follicle. (That's what "ingrown" hairs are.)

beauty 101

shaped to complete his groomed and successful look.

Hair

A good haircut will not only look professional, but will bring out your best facial features. Always keep your hair trimmed and the hairlines sharp.

Shampoo and conditioner is a personal choice. Go for a shampoo with a good pH balance (read the label) that can balance the oiliness or dryness of your hair and scalp as well as removing sweat, chlorine and styling products.



Award-winning hair stylist and make-up artist Rennie Fensham is well-known for her passion and skills. Her glamorous background spans 28 years of working in beauty, fashion and TV, in South Africa, the US and, for the last five years, in Hong Kong.



*Discover a New Magical
Music Journey with Us*

**We Believe
Every Child
has Talents
to Excel**



Join our Angel's Voice Choir

Get an opportunity:

- To learn from "Award-winning Musicians" and "World-renowned Conductors"
- To perform in December 2011



Little Angel's Music Wonderland

(For Age 1-5) ("Music" Playgroup Program)

- Immersed in our specialized musical environment, children will discover their own "FAVORITE" music world.
- Classes can be conducted in English, Mandarin or Cantonese

We also offer:

- Various Western & Chinese instruments lessons on the one-on-one and group basis
- Live band/Classical Music Services
(We provide live music entertainment for almost any type of event. YOU NAME IT and WE DO IT!)
- Scholarships Available



Vienna School of Music & Language

Room 1201,12/F, Methodist House, 36 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, HK

Tel: 2137 9688 / 2139 2370 Fax: 2139 2050 Email: info@vsml.hk

My dad gave me this good advice: The most important thing you'll learn at university is how to give the answer that your professor wants to hear.

He was right and it's served me well in life!

Kim

The best ever advice my dad gave me is: "Set priorities for yourself." That's what it's all about in life – socially, professionally and personally. I still (try to) live by it the best I can every day!

Saskia

It wasn't explicit advice, but my father gave advice by example. He worked hard and diligently, excelling at his profession. He loved to travel and pursued that dream all his life, taking his family to faraway places (I first visited Hong Kong in 1974!). He taught me to always seek knowledge and not believe in preconceived notions. Most importantly, he taught me to enjoy life.

Work ethic, love of travel, pursuit of knowledge and enjoying life. These are all things I want my children to learn. I'm still figuring out how to communicate the message as well as my father did.

Andreas

in your opinion

We asked: What's the best advice your dad ever gave you?



When I was 21, he said, "Travel the world as much as you can before you have kids and a mortgage". I did, and now I'm looking forward to "re-travelling" with my kids.

Sam

I think the best advice my dad ever gave me was to try and think positively about change. Specifically, when embarking on life-changing episodes in life – moving to the other side of the world for instance – he said that whilst it's sad leaving family and friends, you must always approach the new country or challenge positively. Try to embrace the changes, even if they are uncomfortable at first, and give it your best shot.

Lucy

"Remember, God is with you; remember your family is with you. Now nobody can hold you back or bring you down." Life can throw some less-than-pleasant experiences our way, some that could make a person crumble and fall. Not an option if you have a father like mine, and for that I am grateful.

Angela

It's the journey that counts.

Blair



My father, an amateur master gardener, once told me, "Bloom where you are planted." His advice has helped me to avoid focusing on other pastures (even when they look greener than my own) and to focus instead on being the best I can be at whatever I am doing throughout all the different seasons of my life – from student to marketer to business leader to business owner to mother and back again!

Gina

I got a job offer to come to work in Hong Kong while I was finishing university. At the time I wasn't sure whether I should come or not. My dad was the one who told me to give it a go. He said that I could try it out for a couple of years and, if things didn't work out, I could always return home. If I didn't try, then I would always be wondering "what if" later in life.

That was in 1996. I am still here in Hong Kong and am married to "the boyfriend" who followed me out here a couple of months later. We are raising our two lovely children and are always encouraging them to try out new things for themselves. We only wish that we lived closer to Kung Kung (Grandpa)!

Sarah

www.toysrus.com.hk

Toys R Us®

Toys to the World!

With Thousands of Toys you'll ONLY find at Toys "R" Us!

Ocean Terminal
Tsimshatsui

Windsor House
Causeway Bay

New Town Plaza 3
Shatin

Cityplaza
Tsimshatsui

Festival Walk
Kowloon Tong

Metro City 2
Tsuen Wan

Man Yee Arcade
Central

TMT Plaza 1
Tuen Mun

Whampoa Garden
Hung Hom

Aberdeen Centre 2
Aberdeen

Discovery Park
Tsuen Wan

Now
Open

Olympian City 3
West Kowloon

MegaBox
Kowloon Bay

香港玩具反斗城

Toys R Us Hong Kong

hotline: 2991 6222

利豐集團
LIFESOURCE



toy box

1 Vtech Toot-Toot Small Vehicle Garage

\$499

Vehicles sold separately, \$79 each

Age 1+ years

This interactive garage includes a tow-truck that your child can drive up and down in the lift, spin on the turntable or whiz down the winding ramp. Little drivers will be rewarded with fun sound effects and phrases.

Available at Toys"R"Us

2 Maxi Micro T-Bar Scooter

\$1,199

Age 6+ years

With three tough wheels, this scooter is robust and rides low to the ground. You'll be relieved by the safer ride, but all your kids will be thinking about is how fun it is.

Available at Bumps to Babies

3 The Magnetic Fish Pond

£10.95

Age 5+ years

Who will land the catch of the day? Just like real fishing but without the water, this beautifully illustrated game was first launched in 1909 and kept the whole family entertained in their attempt to land a whopper.

Available at Bramble Corner

4 Dinosaurs

\$85 each

Age 1+ years

Dinosaurs have never looked more inviting. Available in pink, blue, purple and green, they're perfect for girls and boys. They're made from plastic and are therefore durable and unbreakable (or so we are told!).

Available at Attic Lifestyle

5 Steer & Stroll Deluxe Trike

\$890

Age 2 to 5 years

Toddlers will enjoy ringing the bell and putting toys or snacks in the convenient storage bin. Adults will enjoy the removable stroller-style push handle, which allows them to push the trike from behind and steer the front wheels.

Available at Toys Club

Toys Club
www.itoysclub.com

Central Store :
5/FI, On Hing Building
1 On Hing Terrace Central
Tel : 2167 8474

Store Hours :
Monday to Saturday 10am to 7pm
Sunday and Public Holidays 10am to 6pm

Ap Lei Chau Store :
1913 Horizon Plaza
2 Lee Wing Street Ap Lei Chau
Tel : 2836 0875

Store Hours :
Monday to Saturday 10am to 6:30pm
Sunday and Public Holidays 11am to 6:30pm



Tap Water?



Reverse Osmosis Water Purifier
...the results are crystal clear.



Enjoy clean and healthy drinking water directly from the tap. No need to boil your water. Reduce the use of plastic bottles. Save time, save money and save the environment.

LIFE SOLUTIONS

FREE water quality test Telephone 2778 3282 Email enquiry@lifesolutions.com.hk www.lifesolutions.com.hk



petit bazaar

pb* exclusive concept store dedicated to the lifestyle of today's babies & kids
fashion . toys . furnitures . bedding . deco . lighting . accessories

9 gough street, Central, Hong Kong * t. (852) 2544 2255

80 queen's road east, Hong Kong * t. (852) 2528 0229

petitbazaar@yahoo.com * <http://petitbazaar.canalblog.com>



Early readers

My Little Star

by Janet Bingham

\$87

Little Fox is walking in the woods with Daddy, playing with leaves from the trees. Little Fox thinks the trees reach right up to the top of the sky, but Daddy Fox explains that the sky reaches much higher than the tops of the trees. Soon Little Fox discovers that, just like love, the sky goes on forever.

Available at Pollux Books

My Dad

by Anthony Browne

\$121

"My dad can wrestle with giants, eat like a horse, swim like a fish ... Can yours?" This humorous look at fatherhood from a child's point of view, from a multi-award-winning author/illustrator, is a warm, witty and very personal tribute to Dad (and to dads everywhere).

Available at Pollux Books

Daddy Lost His Head

by Andre Bouchard

\$121

What would you do if your dad lost his head? Make him a new one of course! All you need is some old newspapers, paint and a potato for his nose. But it turns out there are lots of advantages to having a dad with no head: he doesn't shout or snore, he always agrees with you, and he loves doing the cleaning.

Available at Booklodge

Peppa Pig: Daddy Pig's Fun Run

by Ladybird Books Ltd.

\$80

Huff, puff! Will Peppa Pig's daddy make it to the finish line of the fun run and raise enough money to fix the school roof? Find out when you and your littlest reader enjoy this book together.

Available at Booklodge

A Day with Dad

by Bo R. Holmberg

\$144

Tim lives with his mum. His dad lives in another town. But today, Tim's dad is coming on the train so the two can spend the whole day together – just Tim and Dad. Everywhere the pair goes – the movie theatre, the pizzeria, the library – Tim proudly tells the people they meet, "This is my dad!"

Available at Pollux Books



bookshelf

For Dad

Show Dad How

by Shawn Bean

\$149

For dads who are excited to be involved with their new baby, but might not quite know where to start, this book is a great resource. From practical to playful, learn 156 things every new father needs to know, one step at a time, in a series of nearly wordless but informative, often hilariously illustrated, activities.

Available at Bookazine

Man and Boy

by Tony Parsons

\$128

Harry did it all: a beautiful wife, an adorable four-year-old son, and a high-paying job. But on the eve of his 30th birthday, with one act, he threw it all away. Suddenly he finds himself an unemployed single dad trying to figure out how to wash his son's hair the way Mum did and whether green spaghetti is proper breakfast food.

Available at Bookazine

2101, Horizon Plaza,
2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau
Tel : 2873 6962
Monday to Saturday 10am to 6:30pm
Sunday and Public Holidays 11am to 6:30pm

www.polluxbooks.com
FREE DELIVERY
(For online purchase over \$300)

POLLUX BOOKS
Low Prices Guaranteed



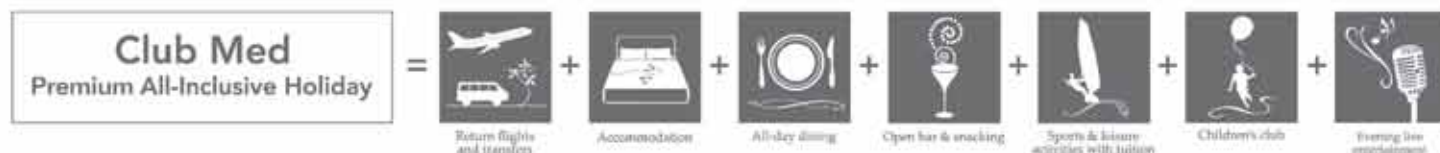
+++
+ more exclusive

++
+ more inclusive

Book before 30 Nov 2011 to Enjoy More Savings & Room Upgrade Offer*!

The stay of children under 3 years old will be on us in selected travel period.

Travel Period: 01 Nov to 23 Dec 2011; 02 Jan to 20 Jan 2012; 29 Jan to 30 Apr 2012



5-Day 4-Night Air Package (Superior room, Twin Sharing):

Bintan Island (SQ) **HK\$7,000 up**

Bali (CX) **HK\$8,700 up**

Add HK\$800 upgrade to Deluxe Room

Phuket (KA / CX) **HK\$7,520 up**

Add HK\$500 upgrade to Deluxe Room

Mauritius (MK) **HK\$12,300 up**

Add HK\$800 upgrade to Seaview Room

Malaysia (CX + MH) **HK\$7,900 up**

Add HK\$400 upgrade to Deluxe Room

Maldives (SQ) **HK\$12,600 up**

*Terms & conditions apply.
Room upgrade offer is valid for travelling in Nov 2011 and
subject to availability of specified room category.

For reservations, please call 3111 9388,
book online at www.clubmed.com.hk
or contact your travel agent.

Club Med
WHERE HAPPINESS MEANS THE WORLD



HKU Sandy Bay RFC

HKU Sandy Bay

Rugby Football Club 香港小型欖球



The best mini-rugby club in Hong Kong is having a festival at the Stanley Ho Sports Centre Sandy Bay!

Sunday 27th November 8.30am - 6.00pm

Come and enjoy a fabulous family day at Sandy Bay with great fun, sport and sun! On top of non-stop mini-rugby action, enjoy a display of fire engines, marching bands, and early seasonal Santa Claus visit, face and hair painting, bouncy castles, and hawker stalls. What's more there is great food and drink, including ice cream and a bar for the Mums and Dads...

For more information, visit our website today

www.hkusandybayrfc.org

HKU Sandy Bay RFC Community Sponsor



HKU Sandy Bay RFC Main Club Sponsor



HKU Sandy Bay RFC Mini-Section Sponsor

Linklaters

HKU Sandy Bay RFC Coaches Sponsor



HKU Sandy Bay RFC Ladies Section Sponsor

WHITE & CASE

Festival Logistics Sponsor



Hey, mums & dads become a travel writer!

You've taken amazing trips, regaled your friends and family with the tales, and thought you could give Bill Bryson a run for his money. Now, consider sharing your stories with *Playtimes* readers.

Our upcoming January 2012 Travel issue is your chance to shine. Think about a trip you've taken. What was special about it? What made it so memorable? Why would other *Playtimes* readers want to know about it?

Tell us your story and you might just see your work in print!

The top entries will appear in the January 2012 issue, and the writers will also receive cool prizes from LUXE City Guides to help plan their next adventures. Other entries will be considered for publication in future issues of *Playtimes*.

Word limit: 750 to 1000

Deadline: 18 November 2011

Format: Email a Word document to playtimes@ppp.com.hk and include "Travel Writing" in the subject line.

Photos: Great travel shots are tough to capture. But, if you've got some amazing ones that illustrate your story, feel free to attach them to the email. Please make sure they're high resolution (minimum 300 dpi), and, please, don't embed them within the Word document.

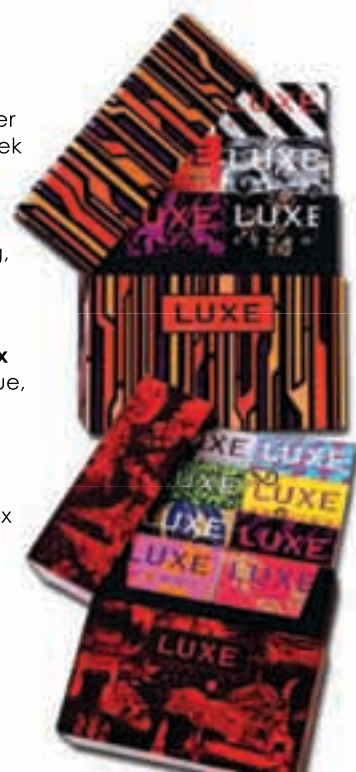
Before you start typing, read a few other *Playtimes* articles, especially those from last year's travel issue, which you can download at www.ppp.com.hk/www/playtimes.html. We're looking for well-written pieces that fit the magazine, in style and tone. Take an extra moment to edit and proofread, and send us your best effort. (We do reserve the right to edit entries as needed, for grammar, punctuation, style and clarity.)

1st PRIZE: The LUXE Grand Tour Box

This box set is a blaze of colour-blocked fiery pomegranate, blood orange, amber and rich aubergine interspersed with sleek carbon suede-flocked stripes. The box is crammed full of 12 LUXE City Guides, including London, Paris, Rome, Los Angeles, New York, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Dubai, Shanghai, Singapore and Sydney. (Retail price: \$860)

2nd PRIZE: The LUXE Asian Grand Tour Box

Exclusively developed by LUXE, this unique, textured and hand-drawn Oriental toile de Jouy features exquisitely detailed vignettes of Asia's major city landmarks and local scenes, in a dazzling, modern design that puts the fab in fabric. The box holds 8 guides, including Bali, Bangkok, Beijing, Hanoi, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore and Tokyo. (Retail price \$585)



playtimes

Get 'Stuck' Into Christmas

With Our Gorgeous
Christmas Collection



Christmas In A Cup

Everyone will love our new Christmas In A Cup this Christmas! Great for Christmas Day, parties or to fill with candy for the children.

See the full range at the Conrad Fair
on 7th and 21st November

Personalised Santa Sacks



Countdown to Christmas Wall Stickers



Personalised Christmas Stockings



Wear It For Christmas



Personalised Christmas Gift Labels



Personalised Christmas Cards



For more collections visit www.stuckonyou.biz

HOTLINE 25492245 or 中文熱線 29872608

Stuck on You
PERSONALISED LABELS AND GIFTS

Copyright 2016 All rights reserved.



Racy looks

In the 1950s, the **Suixtil** racing uniform, consisting of light blue race pants and a yellow or white short sleeve shirt, both sporting the distinctive red Suixtil embroidered name, was considered the “must-have” outfit for any race driver in Europe and the Americas. It was the very first generation of professional race gear.

Today, the same race trousers, shirts and polos have become the foundation of The Heritage Line, a faithful re-edition of that original racing uniform that includes wearable pieces for a life off the track. Dads can suit up from the comfort of home or office at the online shop. Click www.suixtil.com to learn more.



Contain the clutter

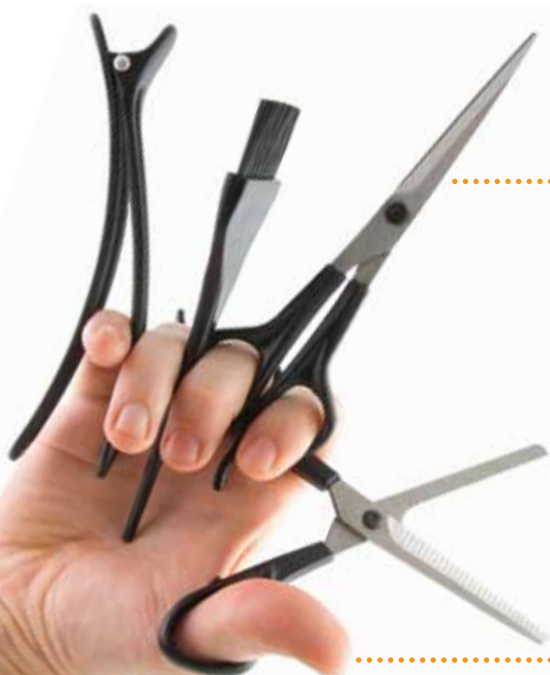
Unlike mums, who can keep their clutter hidden away in handbags, dads carry their daily detritus in their pockets ... and dump it all out at the end of the day. Make it easier on him, and the rest of the family, by creating a “landing strip” – a vessel where he can keep his essentials together and ready for tomorrow (wallet, keys, Octopus card, etc.), and dump his change. Hong Kong offers an array of possibilities, from old-school wooden rice scoopers to modern metallic options. Move a wastebasket near the area and he'll have an easy way to keep only what he needs.

Start your engines!

In a town where many of us adults don't even drive, **Sideways Racing Club** offers us and the kids the chance to pretend we're professional drivers. Sideways says their simulators are the best available, endorsed and used by racing drivers around the world. Boys, girls, dads and mums – anyone can strap in and start zooming around the virtual course. The recommended minimum age is eight, but they'll try to accommodate smaller kids with booster cushions. Be sure to book ahead to avoid disappointment.

Sideways Racing Club | LG/F, 1-2 Chancery Lane, Central | T: 2523 0983
www.sideways-driving-club.com

cool stuff for dad



Well-groomed lads

Make grooming into a cool boys' day out at the Hong Kong location of **Gentlemen's Tonic**, an establishment founded in the heart of Mayfair to “afford the modern man a traditional barbershop and a variety of lifestyle and grooming services.” Their Father & Son Haircut and Finish, \$800, is perfect for weekend mornings: Dad will enjoy a complimentary Bloody Mary while his son watches cartoons. And Mum will be delighted at how dapper both look when they get home.

Gentlemen's Tonic | B47-B48, 15 Queens Road, Central | T: 2525 2455
www.gentlemenstonic.com

The No. 1 for families!

- Designed by **PARENTS-**
- Made for **PARENTS!**

Approved quality,
functionality &
safety

Toys, fashion,
furniture, useful
items... for children
from 0 - 10 years
of age

Products that foster
a child's whole
development & cool
learning aids


Claim your
30 €*
voucher.

For orders placed
by 31/12/2011

Your
promotional
code:
N11383



www.  **JAKO-O**.com

 GmbH | Germany | Fon +49 9564 92 96 00 01 | worldwide-contact@jako-o.com

* Minimum order value 200 € (without german VAT).

father knows best?

I had always thought that mothers ruled the roost, but I think I'm changing my tune, writes *Kate Zhou*.



A couple of weeks ago, I told my daughter (who speaks Mandarin, English and French) that it was time to re-visit learning Cantonese. I am a firm believer in embracing the local culture of where one lives, and a big part of that is learning the local language, even if on the most basic level.

My daughter had different views. Actually, her views were also her father's views, which she gleefully parroted to me, word for word.

Because I have two children and run a company that offers services for children, most of the adults that I meet tend to be mothers. We take our kids to and from activities, we show up at school-organised parents' meetings, we call companies to sign our kids up for enrichment classes, we book our holidays, we determine what our children eat, wear and play, and with whom. As mothers, I believe our influence and power over our children is all-consuming.

Or is it?

We have a five-year-old Australian boy in one of our classes who had not taken to learning Mandarin as willingly as some of our other kids. Despite his mum's entreaties and threats, the child remained unperturbed.

Then, one day, after a short break between terms, he returned a completely changed young man. He was earnest and conscientious, even



MANDARIN MATRIX™



Learn & Play with Mandarin Matrix!

For more information, visit www.primarymandarin.com
or contact us at info@mandarinmatrix.com



To use this barcode simply download a free QR Reader for your smartphone





“

That simple, hyperbolic comment, said in passing, by Dad, turned the boy's attitude around.”

announcing that there was a good chance he'd grow up to become Chinese! A quick word with his mother revealed that during the vacation, when Dad was around to spend days with the boy, he told his son that when he grew up, he will be living in a world where *everyone* speaks Chinese.

That simple, hyperbolic comment, said in passing, by Dad, turned the boy's attitude around.

It started me wondering: Do dads have more influence than even mums who stay home to raise the children? Is patriarchy so ingrained in our collective DNA that however much power, autonomy and control women succeed in wresting for themselves, our children continue to instinctually believe Dad's word is law? And, if that's true, how dangerous is it that so many of us “supportive” wives of “busy” husbands allow them to parent only on weekends?

Sabotage?

When Peter, the son of a close personal friend, started learning Mandarin with me at 12 years old, his mother was concerned. With a schedule already packed with school and sport, she felt it was a non-essential burden to put on him.

She had felt so strongly about this that she'd actively tried to dissuade him – and tried to have me dissuade him. And, like a good friend, I tried, pointing out that he was starting fairly late, at the time when he was entering secondary school and the workload would already be building.

But the boy was determined because his father's view was that Mandarin was going to be critical in the world he would enter as an adult. And he believed his father was right. All of Mum's hand-wringing did nothing to dissuade him.

Increasingly, I am meeting mothers who confess to having less control over their children's academia than publicly acknowledged. From the choice of school to the range of extracurricular activities the child engages in, dads seem to be gaining a foothold on being the decision-maker.

A close friend of mine always complained that her husband, who travelled more than he was home, would (when in residence) swoop in and undo all the parenting she did while he was away with a simple comment, a snort in derision or even a raised eyebrow. For example:

1 She'd insist on vegetables and fruit daily. Dad and son would giggle and find ways to feed them to the cat. She says this form of sabotage does not happen when Dad is not around.

illumina™

illumina™
for a new generation of moms.
www.illumina.com.hk



Customer Hotline: 2705 7705

Proudly Brought To You By Wyeth

Wyeth is now a part of Pfizer Inc.

IMA-AD-087-SEP-11



2 A huge fan of interior design, she and her son would sometimes watch home design shows together. Dad came home one day and found mum and child curled up in bed watching *Design Star* and said, “Shouldn’t you be watching sports instead?” The boy decided it was sissy to watch design shows.

3 Her son wanted to grow his hair out, if only to see what it would look like. He was worried people might think he was a girl. She told him he should do what he wanted without fearing what others thought. Dad said boys don’t have long hair. Dad won again.

4 Already bilingual in English and Mandarin, the boy wanted to take on French. Since they knew they’d be moving to Chicago, Mum said, “Spanish would probably be more useful, but choose what you will enjoy.” Her son still thought French might be more fun. Then Dad said, “Useless language. Learn Spanish.” And that decided it.


She’d tell me stories like these and I used to think she was slightly paranoid. Now I am not so sure. When her little boy refuses to do/eat/drink/like something he knows his dad doesn’t do either, he’ll say “It’s in my DNA.”

While I think this in itself isn’t a totally bad thing, dads need to realise how much impact their fleeting comments have. Some of these comments can result in worrisome attitudes in their kids.

A while back, we had a four-year-old boy in our class who told his teacher that he did not want to learn Mandarin anymore because Chinese people were dirty and stupid. The offended teacher asked why he’d say such

a thing, and he said his father said so on the phone with someone, so it must be true.

Maybe it is because our kids see their dads less often than they see their mums. Maybe they view dads as ephemeral and important to please. Maybe dads just seem more formidable and therefore (to a child) more right. Whatever the reason, fathers should realise the power they have over their kids and how a simple comment from them can undermine all the work a mother has been doing.

So what am I doing about Cantonese and my daughter? Well, I seem to be fighting a losing battle and perhaps it’s time for a word with my husband. 

Kate Zhou is the founder and director of Mandarin for Munchkins. A qualified Mandarin teacher, Kate was born and educated in mainland China, and moved to Hong Kong in 1998. She and her French husband have two young children.

Mandarin for Munchkins is one of Hong Kong’s first Mandarin language centres specialising in teaching non-Chinese-speaking children. Programmes are available throughout Hong Kong and at their learning centres in Central and Discovery Bay. Visit www.mandarinformunchkins.com for more information.



“My career
and son
have completed my
colorful life.”

Carrie Chiu

Supermodel Carrie Chiu (趙嘉麗) seems to have everything she wants in life: a successful career as a fashion model and now an 18-month son named Marcus. “I never thought of giving up modeling because that was always my dream. I love photo shooting and strutting down the catwalk. On the other hand, I also dreamed of being a mother. To be able to see my son growing up happy and healthy makes me very satisfied,” Carrie commented. After a decade in the modeling industry, Carrie has learned how to delicately balance the demands of career and family.

The two things she's most proud of

After becoming a Mom, Carrie also became more mature and developed a clearer vision for life. “Now, I try to squeeze in as much time as possible to be with him and take him to the playgroup. Even at work, I often call home to check on Marcus. I want to provide and give him the best. Hence, I will work even harder to achieve my life goal. My career and my son have completed my life and made it so much richer,” Carrie said proudly.

High expectations in milk formula

It appears Marcus has inherited his mother's eye for fashion since he sometimes takes the initiative to mix and match clothes for his parents. Moreover, Carrie pays very close attention to Marcus' diet. Initially Marcus refused to drink milk when he started teething, which worried Carrie to the point of panic. Then, she decided to switch to ILLUMA's formula. “Marcus has been using ILLUMA for two months now, and he is very fond of its taste. He could finish up one whole cup of milk with amazing speed”, Carrie said. Occasionally, Carrie even shares her positive experience with ILLUMA on her Facebook and Weibo with fans.

Fall/Winter Fashion Tips

Stylish Mom Carrie Chiu shares some of the latest trends in children wear this season with her son Marcus and another baby girl model.

For more information, please visit:

www.illumina.com.hk/illumina



Just like his Mom who's comfortable in front of cameras, Marcus proves he's definitely not camera shy either.



Marcus is so adorable. Carrie loves everything about him.

The new milk formula, ILLUMA, contains the innovative “Human Affinity Formula”



- It's closer to babies' natural nutritional needs and helps them grow to their full potential.
- Containing Sn-2 Palmitate, it positively supports calcium and fat absorption and aids in gastrointestinal health.

For more details, please visit:

www.illumina.com.hk

when good veins go bad

Varicose veins plague many new mums, writes *Angela Baura*.

At university, I wore ridiculously short skirts. I thought I had a fine pair of legs and, if you've got it, flaunt it, right? Nowadays, I wear ridiculously long skirts. Protruding, purple, painful, varicose veins, which affect one in four women, writhe their way across my legs, courtesy of my pregnancies.

An explanation, please

"Hormonal changes happen within a woman's body during pregnancy," says Dr Chad Tse, a specialist in general surgery at Matilda International Hospital. "This results in the blood vessels relaxing, which can cause the valves of the veins to separate and cause excessive accumulation of blood in the veins. Moreover, the uterus becomes enlarged in pregnancy, which presses against the major veins in the pelvis, leading to increased venous pressure in the legs."

Pregnant mamas may also discover clusters of itchy-bitsy dilated blood vessels, known as spider veins, decorating their legs, and varicose veins on their vulva, vagina and bottom.

Dodging dodgy veins

Whilst heredity, multiple pregnancies and too many pork pies can increase the chances of varicose veins, a few little changes in your day can reduce the risks. If you're standing up for too long, sit down; if you're sitting down for too long, stand up; and if you're walking around for too long, sit back down again with your legs uncrossed and elevated.


Dr Tse also suggests, "Sleep on your left side to relieve the weight of the uterus and decrease the pressure on your veins." He also suggests wearing compression stockings, available in pharmacies and from your doctor, which provide support to the surface veins and prevent accumulation of blood in the legs.

From cosmetic to critical complications

Typically, varicose veins disappear shortly after giving birth. But persistent varicose veins, usually a cosmetic inconvenience, can lead to complications such as venous ulcers, itchy varicose dermatitis, torrential bleeding caused by a bump or fall, or blood clots and inflammation in the veins (thrombophlebitis). Occasionally, blood clots can be fatal should they travel to the lungs. Thrombophlebitis sufferer Allison, a Hong Kong mother-of-two, says, "I can't carry my son for too long or have fun with him at playgroups. I'm considering treatment as the constant pain is unbearable."

Be done with dead veins

According to Dr Tse, painful open surgery involving ligation and stripping of abnormal veins under general anaesthetic was once the only treatment for varicose veins. Recovery took weeks and women were left with unsightly scars. Nowadays, however, varicose veins can be made to contract and collapse by injecting a liquid agent into the veins (ultrasound-guided sclerotherapy) or cauterised and closed with radio frequency or laser energy (endovenous ablation). These quick, pain- and scar-free alternatives offer minimal downtime from bouncing around at baby classes.

If varicose veins persist post-pregnancy, discuss the appropriate treatment with your doctor. Then, once you've got your fine pair of legs backs, hit the shops, plan a night out and get ready to strut your stuff again! 



beach escape

Looking to escape the Hong Kong winter?
Consider Club Med Bintan for your next beach break.

A one-hour ferry ride from Singapore, Club Med Bintan is one of a string of resorts along the northern coastline of the Indonesian island. With a private 250-metre-long beach, lush gardens, a climate that is virtually the same all year round and a vast array of activities, this could be your destination for family fun.

At Club Med Bintan you'll have so many choices for fun that you won't even need to leave the resort. Eco tours and jungle walks, a flying trapeze, windsurfing, sailing, snorkelling, tennis, archery and more await you. And, with a full-time staff of childcare professionals on site, ready to alleviate you from your parenting duties for as long as you like, Mum and Dad can enjoy some alone time, too.

To reach the resort, book one of the seven daily direct flights between Hong Kong and Singapore on Singapore Airlines. Then, take the ferry from Singapore to Bintan. The team at Club Med will happily help you navigate the journey and welcome you with open arms and cool drinks when you arrive.

To learn more, visit www.clubmed.com.hk and www.singaporeair.com.





for the boys

Are there any fun, wife-approved, places for the boys to go? asks *Brooke Chenoweth*.

Ladies, do you keep your husband at home out of a fear that his boys' night out will resemble scenes from *The Hangover*? Or, do you have the opposite problem: an uninspired man in your life who takes up valuable sofa space on a Saturday night while you're desperate for some me-time to watch the latest episodes of *Gossip Girl*? It can be hard to find a happy medium between all-nighters on the streets of Wan Chai and couch potato. But there are ways for the husbands/boyfriends/dads of Hong Kong to let off some steam, catch up with mates, keep their wives happy and, with any luck, still remember it all in the morning.

For night owls

If you're after a reasonably subdued night out, David, a father of three, says there's nothing better than the trivia night at his local pub. There are similar nights like these all over Hong Kong, and you always have the option of bringing the whole family and having a quiet one, or really letting your hair down with the boys and making a night of it. Or, for a similarly competitive option, Kim, a mum from the UK, says she is always happy to send her husband off to the Happy Valley races on a Wednesday night. She says, "It's a fun night out, and, because it's a weeknight, there's less chance it'll get too debauchorous!"


While Hong Kong's nightclubs and bars are not often high on the list of wife-sanctioned venues for boys' nights out, Hong Kong's comedy clubs, on the other hand, are always guaranteed to get approval. Check out The Punchline Comedy Club in Wan Chai, or

Takeout Comedy in Soho. Look a little closer and you'll be surprised at what else Hong Kong has to offer. Wine tastings, live music and even poetry nights, it's not all jelly shots and skimpy-skirted barmaids out there.

For early birds

If daytime activities seem like a safer option, there are plenty to choose from in and around the city. Julian, a pilot, confesses that he has always wanted to get a group of friends together and spend a day zooming around a race track. Track Torque at Zhuhai International Circuit offers just that, and it's near enough for a day trip. Ben, originally from Australia, booked a junk for a boys' get together before his wedding. What happens on the junk stays on the junk, but sources tell me there were simply a few friendly games of poker played between the barbecue and beers, and the boys were home at a reasonable hour.

Charley, a Lantau resident, plays competitive beach volleyball, and says it's a great way to unwind on the weekend. He has also met a lot of fantastic people through the sport, and they always end up kicking on after each match. From dragon boating and bowling to cycling and rock climbing, Hong Kong is full of sporting groups and clubs that offer members the chance to engage in their favourite sports and catch up with friends at the same time.

It is definitely possible to have a good time here in Hong Kong and, if you look beyond Lan Kwai Fong, you're sure to find more PG-rated fun for the man in your life than you expected. 

1 baby-daddy 1. bonding

It's easy enough to start bonding when your child's old enough for ballgames. But, there's no reason for dads to wait so long to start the process, writes *Mishi Khanna*.

Fathers and prospective fathers often feel like they've been left out in the cold when it comes to bonding with their babies. A father can't feel his baby growing inside him, (possibly *the* most important bond between mother and child), nor can he experience the same bonding that a mother experiences when she breastfeeds. But don't despair, dads: there are plenty of other ways for you to develop strong bonds with your baby.

Start talking early

Ground-breaking research by obstetricians in Hangzhou, China, proves that babies can distinguish between their parents' and strangers' voices from 30 weeks in the womb! Male voices are lower in tone and are easier for babies to pick up than women's higher-pitched voices. The same study found that if Dad speaks to his baby before birth, the newborn will recognise his father's voice.

Singing to your baby is also an effective tool for bonding, so start flexing those vocal cords. It doesn't really matter what you sing: your child will not understand the words, but will respond to the melody.

Participate in the birth

Be present at the birth of your baby. Gone are

the days when dads were relegated to the waiting room while the mums took care of business behind closed doors. Today it's all about taking part and experiencing something truly amazing.

Try baby massage

Baby massage stimulates the baby and can help a father bond with his child. Massage can also help babies with digestion, relieve colic, ease tension, ease breathing and stimulate growth. A midwife or massage therapist can teach parents infant massage techniques, along with which oils and lotions are safe to use on a baby's delicate skin.

Enjoy bath time

Many new dads fear bathing the baby: the combination of screaming baby and slippery skin can be quite nerve-racking! It is, however, an amazing way in which Dad and baby can bond. Once you get the hang of it, you'll look forward to that special time of the day.

Carry your baby

Put your baby in a sling or carrier and get on with your day. The close contact and hands-free convenience of a carrier provide a simple and effective way for you to get some work done while bonding with your baby.



Lascal m1TM Carrier

Swedish Design



Hong Kong



香港護士協會
(只限會員)



Macau



• Newborn Baby Carrier

• Baby Spine Support

• 3 Ways Adjustment:
Width, Length & Head Support

Lascal Limited

For more detail call: 2302 1511

www.lascal.se



20% off Coupon

• 此優惠券有效期限2011年12月31日 • 此優惠券不可兌換現金或作現金找換
• 此優惠券不可與其它優惠或折扣同時使用, 不適用於任何換購品
• 此優惠券須印無效 • 購買前請出示此優惠券 • 每次購買只可以使用一張優惠券
• 此優惠券不適用於澳門及香港護士協會 • 如有任何爭議, Lascal Limited保留優惠券之最終決定權

• This coupon is valid to December 31 2011 • This coupon can not be redeemed for cash
• This coupon can not be combined with other offers or discounts, do not apply to any redemption of goods • Copy of this coupon is not valid
• Please present this coupon during purchase • Each purchase can only use one coupon
• This discount offer is not apply to stores in Macau and Hong Kong Nursing Association • In case of any dispute, Lascal Limited reserves the final right to use the coupon

Get up and dance!

Babies love dancing with their daddies, either strapped to their chests or held in their arms. Little ones enjoy being gently jiggled about, and this not only helps a dad and baby to bond, it can also soothe and calm a fussy baby. With a bit of luck, it may even help your baby fall asleep.

Learn the routine

Although many new dads feel a little out of their comfort zone with a new baby, a new father is just as adept at learning what to do as a new mother. If you're aware of baby's routine, you'll be able to help out with feedings, nappy changes and other everyday baby chores, including baths and going for walks.

Get outside

If you are an active kind of guy, there is no excuse not to pack up a pram and go for a brisk walk or jog. Not only will you both benefit from the fresh air, it will also help to clear your head.

Give a midnight bottle

There's nothing quite like cradling your baby in your arms during the night while everyone else is asleep. It's your special bonding time. Not only that, Mum will thank you for it when she wakes



- if a parent has an infection
- if either parent smokes, has had alcohol, or takes recreational drugs

Most doctors will agree that as long as parents are aware of these issues and are careful when

“A night spent rocking a sick child will make you painfully, preciously aware of what parenting is all about.”

up refreshed after a good night's sleep!

Even if your baby is solely breastfed, you can get involved by adding the finishing touches. When your baby's finished nursing and getting drowsy, take her into your arms once she's been eased off the breast. Once she gets used to Dad putting her to sleep, she'll be more likely to accept you comforting her back to sleep when she wakes up.

Cuddle up and co-sleep

There are differing views on co-sleeping, although this practice is becoming increasingly common with parents today. Some professionals think that shared sleeping surfaces are unsafe for infants, and that cots are the safest places for babies to sleep. On the other hand, some say that bed-sharing facilitates bonding and successful breastfeeding, but that parents should be aware of certain instances when bed-sharing is not advised. These include:

- if either parent has epilepsy or diabetes with unstable blood sugars


bed-sharing, there is no reason not to do it. Speak to your doctor for more information. If co-sleeping is something both parents are comfortable with, it may be worth a try.

Nurse them during a cold or fever

Nobody wants their baby to get sick, but there's nothing like an illness to prove how much the little guy really needs you. A night spent rocking a sick child will make you painfully, preciously aware of what parenting is all about.

Be silly

Making silly faces and noises with your child will probably be the only time such behaviour is acceptable in public! Keep it exciting and fun – pretend to be an animal, dress up in funny clothes, wear a colourful wig – and watch the priceless expression of joy on your baby's face.

Try out these techniques and, in no time, you'll have formed a bond to ensure that you enjoy the most precious years of your baby's life. 



dad's day out

There are no hard and fast rules on what makes a good day out. The best laid plans can be destroyed by the weather or traffic, your kids' interests may be completely different from yours, or you might just get it wrong. But, if nothing else, the time spent together is always worth it.

For dads, initial involvement in the very early years of their offsprings' blossoming lives is similar to that of a domestic helper – but without pay, training or qualifications. New mothers sensibly form groups of like-minded ladies who share specific details about parenting, ranging from birth experiences, breastfeeding and colic, to education, emancipation, stretch marks and spa treatments.

Fathers, on the other hand, stoically cope by raising the occasional sympathetic eyebrow to their buddies on the sports field or by dribbling into their beers on a Friday evening at The Sad Dad's Tavern. Even

single, unencumbered guys know that dads have taken on a weight of responsibility that renders the majority of them monosyllabic for long periods of their lives.

However, all is not lost. If nothing else, you can look forward to the occasional "Dad's day out" when the unadulterated hero worship and happy smiling faces of your little ones make it all worthwhile.

Time

The first step is to find time. It is not that difficult; if you have a responsible job and can't get away from your desk for the odd half day here or there, you are far too self-important and should

be ashamed of yourself. If someone else is tying you to your desk, use your holiday time wisely or pull a sick day, feel briefly guilty, and then write it off as a mental health day. Only hedge fund managers say on their death beds, "I wish I'd spent more time at the office."

Intimacy

Once you have made the time, let your children know that this is "one-on-one time". You will *not* be letting the team down; nothing is more important to your children than the fact that you have miraculously found time for them. By all means have your phone with you for emergencies (on

The
Dream Bag™

Baby Sleeping Bag for Babies & Toddlers

sleep safe and sound
SALE



up to
40% OFF

www.thedreambag.com.hk



MONTESSORI FOR CHILDREN

STANLEY (Established 1986)
Tel / Vozmail: 28130585 Fax: 2813 2582
hongkong@montessori.edu.hk



**Offering quality
Montessori education since 1986**

Montessori education and primary school
preparatory programme
for children 2 1/2 to 6 years:
Mandarin Immersion Programme



www.montessori.edu.sg



perfect christmas holiday gifts, great for any stylish HK kid
full of fun facts about Hong Kong
100% cotton



unique, durable, funky Hong Kong gear for kids

littlelocal
www.littlelocal.net



silent), but keep it in your pocket. Your opposable thumbs can be put to better use tying shoe laces or catching a ball.

Context

It is important to know the age of your child to carry out appropriate activities. If you can't remember, check their passports or ask an older sibling. To get started, make a list of the things that you are good at and enjoy doing. If you enjoy the outing or excel in the activity, in all likelihood your kids will as well. For safety reasons, you should probably check to see which aspects of your list translate into child-friendly activities.

Stage 1

Age of child: newborn to three years

Activity time: one to two hours

At this point, your child is still in a pushchair or a baby-holding-front-loading piece of webbing. This time is as easy as it gets, and due to feeding/ changing requirements, you will, in all likelihood, be able to confine

your trips to supermarkets, parks and playgrounds. People are a lot nicer to you than normal when you have young 'un attached to you and will generally hold open doors and talk to you without a lawyer present. If you are fully into feeding and nappy-changing, good for you. But keep it to yourself; other guys just don't want to know.

Stage 2

Age of child: four to seven years

Activity time: two hours to one day

When the child has either grown to the point of being able to construct sentences or Mum is preoccupied by the arrival of a rival, your day has really come. At this stage, you are almost certainly going to win the title of Best Dad in the World, at least until your child is seven. After that, you must realise your child is a consumer like everyone else and open to incentives, bribery and Ben10 merchandise. To maintain your competitive edge, spend even

more quality time with your kids.

To do this, however, you must have imagination, planning and cunning.

The list of places, activities and outings in Hong Kong is longer than you might think and if you combine it with your own personal interests, you should enjoy a prolonged period of being Top Dad. Try camping, fishing, hiking, go-carting, riding, sailing or kayaking (not all in one day!) to see which sparks your child's interest.

Stage 3

Age of child: seven to 12 years

By stage 3, the concept of spending time with your child should not be totally alien to you. Bear in mind that the period when you don't mutually embarrass each other is short-lived.

Try to find regular events and activities that you both enjoy. Sport is an obvious choice and there is a very wide range of options available in Hong Kong, from basketball, badminton and soccer to swimming, tennis, mini-rugby and golf. If you can coach your kid's team, all well and good. But even if you're not on the field, make sure that you take them to the game (even if Mum comes along sometimes). If you can find that couple of extra hours every week during these formative years, you may grow up to be a well-balanced old person.

If time allows, travelling overseas for short weekend breaks ensures unforgettable memories. From Hong Kong, quick trips to Singapore, Bangkok, Phuket and Bali are all relatively affordable, and if you do nothing more than play in the surf and sand, you will be the richer for it. Asia also has several millennia of history, the greatest biodiversity on the planet and a multitude of cultures, so there is always the option of a couple of days in Beijing, Shanghai, Xian or Kyoto. The fringe benefit of a happy mother who gets a nice quiet weekend on her own cannot be underestimated ... 





about a boy

Child psychologist *John Shanahan* offers tips for talking to your son about his changing body.

Teenage boys really have a raw deal. At the same time that their self-image and street credibility is of primary importance, their bodies go through a phase of not doing what they want them to. Growth spurts, clumsiness, pimples, oily hair, body odour, cracked voices and strange sprouting hair can be embarrassing. In addition, their hormones are raging, making them moody, irritable and easily frustrated. As if this wasn't enough, their ability to make rational decisions, such as to be organised, plan and follow through on activities, and make good choices, is somewhat limited as a result of the re-growth of the frontal lobe of their brain.

Witnessing this is enough to induce sympathy and compassion from any parent. However, the prospect of sitting down and discussing these changes with your son may be enough to make you want to run for the hills.

Approach

Talking about body changes can be difficult. It's a subject that, probably, both you and your son would prefer not to talk about. However, there comes a time – which in itself is difficult to decide upon – when parents should talk to their sons about body changes and the associated topics (such as dating and safe sex).

Accepting that it will be an awkward conversation is the first step to approaching it. Secondly, it's important to consider whether your son is ready to have this talk. Although he – or you! – may never be fully ready, there will be a time when you recognise that this talk is necessary.

Indicators are when he starts to

compare his physique/body to that of his friends or his peer group, when he becomes interested in girls/dating, or generally becomes more self-conscious about his body. It's also worth considering how mature your son is.

Your son probably knows more than you think he does. Children are exposed, at younger and younger ages, to all sorts of sexual information, from video games, to TV, to the internet. However, this information may be inaccurate or misrepresented, or misunderstood, which is exactly why it's important that *you* talk to your son about puberty, and not rely on other sources.

What to talk about

Boys will generally start puberty later than girls, typically from around age ten until 16 or 17. Interestingly, boys are usually genetically predisposed to start puberty at the same time their fathers did.

The physical changes that your son will experience are considerable: his height and weight will increase, shoulders will broaden, muscles will develop, pubic, underarm and facial hair will start to appear, and both the testes and penis will grow larger. In addition, his voice may crack and get deeper, skin and hair will become greasier and oilier, and the unlucky ones may experience pimples/acne.

Around this time, he will experience new sensations such as frequent erections, wet dreams (uncontrolled ejaculation when sleeping) and more sexual thoughts in general. Erections can appear anytime, anywhere – even when he's not thinking about something particularly sexual. One of the biggest worries for a boy in puberty (and onwards) is that if this happens in public, someone might notice. Reassurance that it can easily be hidden behind a well-placed jacket or bag can put his mind at ease.

Smart Toys For Busy Kids



Ladybug Girl Book And Doll Set



Early Melodies Wooden Drum



If You Give A Dog A Donut



Mr. Tickle Gift Set



Gourmet Chef Cuisine



Play-Doh Swirling Shake Shoppe



Battleship Fun On The Run



Elmo Loves You - The Pop-Up



Peppa Pig Book And Toy

Now Available At

BOOK a ZINE

PRINCE'S BUILDING: Shop 309, 3/F, Prince's Building, 10 Chater Road, Central (2522 1785)

IFC MALL: Shop 3022, 3/F, IFC Mall, Central (2295 0056)

QUEEN'S ROAD: Basement, Canton House, 54 - 56 Queen's Road, Central (2521 1649)

DISCOVERY BAY: Stall E & F, Discovery Bay Pier, Lantau Island (2987 1373)

SHUI ON CENTRE: Shop 117, Shui On Centre, 6 - 8 Harbour Road, Wanchai (2802 4932)

www.bookazine.com.hk



SUN FLOWER



Paint Your Own Pottery Studio & Custom Designed Jewellery

MEMORIES THAT BRING YOU A SMILE

Christmas Ornaments are waiting for you! *Book Now!*

A unique studio specializing in

- Paint your own pottery
- Fingerprint silver jewellery
- Hand/Foot/Petprint silver jewellery



● Birthday Parties ●
An ideal venue for parties



2/F, 171 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

T 2511 2538 F 2511 3298

www.myhappysunflower.com

*Studio fee does not include the cost of pottery item.



Kiangsu & Chekiang Primary School Kiangsu - Chekiang College (International Section)



KINDERGARTEN & PRIMARY SECTION

30 Ching Wah Street, North Point, Hong Kong

Tel.: 2570 4594 Fax: 2570 4627

Email: inter@kes.edu.hk

ED1/13273/53

- * Offering through-train education
- * Kindergarten to Year 13
- * Small class sizes 20 to 26 maximum

- * British National Curriculum adapted to local need
- * Daily Mandarin lessons for all classes
- * Secondary students have their own laptop computers.

SECONDARY SECTION

20 Braemar Hill Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Tel.: 2570 4594 Fax: 2570 4627

Email: inter2@kes.edu.hk

ED1/21133/58



Your Child's Future Today

Website: <http://www.kcis.edu.hk>

When a boy experiences his first wet dream, it might cause distress and shame; he may think that he has wet himself! It's important to reassure him that this is normal. It may be helpful to explain what has happened, why, and that all his friends will encounter the same thing at some point.

The day will come where your son feels the urge to masturbate as part of the exploration of his changing body. It's important that you talk to him about this and that he learns that masturbating is normal and not harmful.

Social standing


Self-awareness and image are at the forefront of a teenager's mind. Therefore, physical or noticeable changes often have the greatest impact on their self-image. Teenage boys are often frustrated when their voices start to crack – part of the problem is that they can't control it and don't know when it will crack and for how long. Dads: If you can tell your son stories of when you went through the same experience, it will let him know it's normal, and will reinforce that he will ultimately have a voice like yours that's much deeper and manlier.

Spots, pimples, acne and any other names you might call them are the bane of most teenagers. However, unlike when many of us were kids, there are now multitudes of products and treatments available to effectively treat this condition. Regular hygiene should be encouraged, but, like oily hair, it's part of the process of puberty that some adolescents experience due to hormonal changes. It's important to clarify that the cause of acne is not

due to a poor diet (e.g, eating chocolate or fast food) or poor hygiene (although you may be tempted to use both examples as a way to deter these behaviours!). Reinforcing that this is most likely a temporary condition may help ease the stress.

These body changes can embarrass some preteens and teens, and they can become concerned that they are not developing as quickly (or as slowly) as their friends. Explain to your son that boys' and girls' bodies will change at different rates, and that comparisons are not helpful, as they are simply different people. Your son will have a different type of body from his friends, just as he will have different strengths and weaknesses at school or in sports.

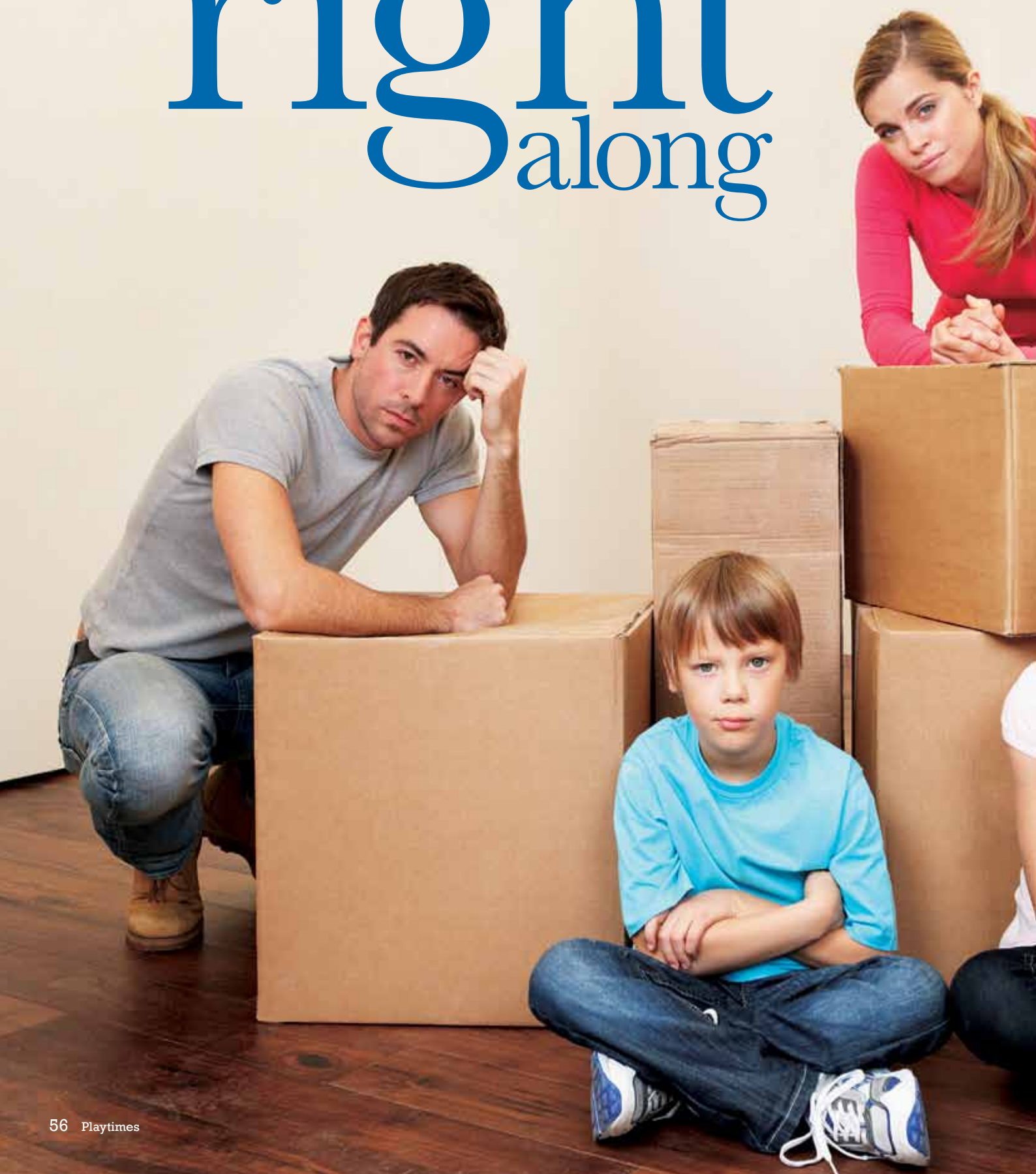
When embarking on this discussion with your son, it's often best that you have low expectations regarding his contribution. He is likely to provide you with well-practiced, monosyllabic responses such as “yeah”, “I don't know”, or “I don't care”. But try not to get discouraged: hearing your advice is likely to bring him huge relief and he will almost definitely listen to everything you say (although he might not let you know it).

Talking about your personal experiences at his age may go some way to normalising the whole experience for your son, especially how you coped with the adjustment to your new body. Obviously, do not tease your son about his pubertal changes, especially the cracking voice. The most important message you can give as a parent is that you are open to listening, anytime. This alone can help him work towards fostering a positive body image and open the doors to further communication. 

“
The most important message you can give as a parent is that you are open to listening, anytime. This alone can help him work towards fostering a positive body image and open the doors to further communication.”



moving right along





International relocations – especially mid-term moves – can be tough on the whole family. Prepare yours for the most positive experience possible, writes *Julia Simens*.

If you're a family perpetually on the move, then you probably know a thing or two about stress. Due to the fast pace of our lives, we seldom have time to close certain chapters. We get on a plane and, within hours of departing one culture, we land in another. We find new homes, establish new routines and hire new helpers, quickly bringing them into the fold as quasi-family members. We start all over again. But as we Skype, Tweet and blog ourselves around the world, we need to take time out to understand the challenges and emotions we – and our children – face during the move. Understanding the process and talking about it can help strengthen everyone's resilience and, by doing so, make a significant and positive change in the peripatetic life.

Get over it

As an international relocations consultant and author, I am often asked about the psychological challenges one faces when relocating to another country. To me, the biggest challenge always seems to be to give up the stereotypes that you already have about the new location and to be able to genuinely understand it for what it is. There are plenty of news and travel stories about destinations around the world, Hong Kong included, but they typically focus on the best of the best (ideal vacation spots, for example) or the worst of the worst (places to avoid because of high crime rates, for example). There is seldom any reality check on what is normal for that area, most of which wouldn't be very interesting to people watching from afar. So, when you land, you have lots of information about your new location, but you don't have the full picture; you don't have a balanced understanding of that city or the lifestyle you will be living.

Hong Kong is a perfect example of needing to let go of stereotypes: few of us experience, on a daily basis, what TV programmes choose to feature about our home. Not every day is full of bustling noodle shops and neon signs. We don't all spend every day in a skyscraper trading stocks, or wearing *cheongsams* while drinking tea. At first glance, there would be little for kids and families to do here, what with stories of packed streets, pollution and perpetual concrete. However, those who live here know that the only thing you'll find yourself short of is time, because there are so many events, attractions, parks, hiking trails, playrooms and more. Letting go of the stereotypes, embracing "what is", and getting on with real life will be key in a successful transition.

Filtration + Germicidal UV Lamp

Dual Treatment Process
For True Water

FEATURES:

- Effectively removes certain heavy metals & chlorine
- Removal up to 99.9% E.Coli
- 3L Pitcher, 1.2L per cycle
- Built-in rechargeable battery
- High portability
- Capacity of filter cartridge: 150L



GIABO
UV WATER PITCHER

UV STERILISATION

Removal up to
99.9% E.Coli
(Tested by
certified laboratory)



4-LEVEL FILTRATION



Giabo uses A-grade
antibacterial, silver
impregnated
activated carbon and
high performance

Ion-exchange resin:

- Removal of 99% Lead, Zinc, Cadmium & Copper
- 98% Chromium
- 97% Mercury & Nickel
- > 84% Chlorine

CERTIFIED BY INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

Giabo UV Water Pitcher is certified by CE on safety, and internationally recognized laboratories on heavy metals, chlorine and bacteria.



UV radiation complies to class II of EN60335-2-18

Available at the following stores



Enquiries
2370 0121

www.giabo.com
Online shopping available

理想家伴

Giabo
捷家伴

Francesca & Giovanni

CHOCOLATE FONDUE FOUNTAIN LOVERS



LET US DESIGN YOUR THEMED PARTY



Tel: 2399 0756 Fax: 2399 0757 Web: www.fgfountain.com
Workshop: Unit 407, Elite Industrial Centre, 883 Cheung Sha Wan Rd

Get connected

One key psychological issue everyone faces – even we nomads – is the need to belong. After we cover the basics – food, water, shelter, safety and security – we need to find “our people”. We need to connect. We need to belong to a family, a community, a unit, a race of people, a tribe, a great school, a good job ... something. If we feel connected, we can feel happy and fulfilled.

Parents can ensure social and emotional stability in their changing environment by blending past and present. You have to connect to both the new location and your past locations or home. The importance of attachment and those vital close connections are keys to a person’s happiness. If you understand how relationships develop, then you’ll have more success as a global nomad. I like to think of levels in building healthy connections: proximity, sameness, belonging, loyalty and significance.


Let’s look at an example that applies to most parents here. Through your child’s school, you come into contact with many different people (proximity). You may be different nationalities, but you all have children about the same age (sameness). You are all very different, but you all come together because you belong to the same school community (belonging). You begin to feel loyal to your new community (loyalty), and the time you spend together and the work you do takes on significance for you, both socially and for the sake of the school (significance). Significance is key for global people: we need to feel like we’ve got something beneficial out of living in our host country – so far away from home and extended family – and we often need to feel like, when we leave, we’ve given something back.

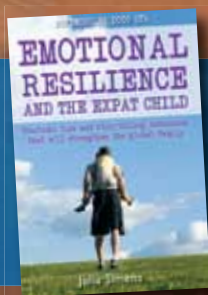
The way you leave a location sets you up for your new location. If you continue to feel like you missed out of something because you weren’t living in your home country or you felt put out because your assignment was

top tips for moving your family

- Build resilience in your life and your family’s life – the ability to bounce back when things are not going well.
- Build a vocabulary of emotions so everyone in the family knows exactly what the other members are feeling.
- Proactively address the need for positive role models for your children (or yourself) as you move around the world. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins – the people who would normally serve as important role models – are thousands of miles away.
- Build persistence. For expat families especially, it’s easy to avoid dealing with problems “because we’re moving soon”. That excuse can easily mask the underlying issue, which is lack of persistence. We need to make sure we are not using a relocation as an opportunity to run or hide from situations or people.
- Build play into your life. In our hectic expat lifestyle, we often overlook the importance of play. All families need to spend time having fun together.

“too hard”, or you felt that you wanted to quickly leave the country and say good riddance, then your next assignment will likely also seem shallow and unimportant. The baggage we carry around the world becomes filled with anger, disappointment or sadness.

It’s important for a family to deal with the emotional side of relocating, rather than letting it get swept under the rug when the rest of the move details get cumbersome. Any change is emotional, but that doesn’t mean it has to be negative. 



Emotional Resilience and the Expat Child, by Julia Simens, provides a step-by-step guide that is designed to increase a child’s emotional vocabulary and emotional intelligence. The bond between an adult and child is key to the psychological health of the child. For the expatriate child, this bond is more vital than ever. With practical and easy to understand steps, this workbook has been created for you to use together, providing the perfect place for a family to connect. Learn more at www.jsimens.com.



child's play

Struggling to choose the perfect gift for a child?
Rachel Kenney gathers expert advice.

The huge box that my husband's friend proudly presented to my son was beautifully wrapped and ribboned. Full of excitement, we ripped the paper off to see what was inside. It was a very big, very shiny, very high-tech remote control car. It was a fabulous present – but not for my one-year-old, whose proudest achievements at that age were squishing his mashed-up dinners and banging saucepans with a wooden spoon.

While most of us are a little more clued-up about our gift-giving – and avoid glaringly obvious mistakes like giving marbles to a baby, or a rattle to a ten-year-old – it can still sometimes be a challenge to get it just right. We all want the presents we have put a lot of thought – and money – into, to be a success. We want to give the sort of gift a child will treasure, not one that will end up as a mass of homeless plastic bits that are never quite reunited, or one that they didn't manage to get to grips with so it lives in the back of the cupboard, ignored. But when you walk into a toy shop and are greeted with an array of identikit Barbies, Bratz and Ben 10s, it's not always easy to hit the jackpot in originality and longevity.

Someone who has plenty of advice for gift-givers is Narguess Sousi, owner of *petit bazaar**. She selects toys



and gift items for a living, and explains, “Two things help me choose items for the shop. First, I am a mum, so I can see what interests my own kids, who are four and six. Second, I trained as a speech therapist and psychologist, so I have studied children’s development in detail.”

She says, “Obviously, the most important thing to think about when buying a gift is the child’s age. If the child doesn’t understand the toy or game, he or she won’t be interested, and it will be a waste.” It seems that the key is to choose toys that suit the skills a child has, and the skills they will develop in the near future, and to challenge, not to frustrate.

Fun for all ages

Narguess has advice for gifts for all ages, starting with a newborn baby. “I would choose something soft and useful, like a soft toy or a sleeping bag.”

What would she suggest for a first birthday? “By the age of one, the baby will probably be moving more, so I would suggest some simple, pull-along toys that the child can take anywhere.

“By the age of two or three, children often start to like more role-playing games, so they are at a perfect age for things like pretend food and tea sets. They might also like a

“ If the child doesn’t understand the toy or game, he or she won’t be interested, and it will be a waste. ”

wooden puzzle – some puzzles make a sound when you slot in the correct piece. At that age, children also love musical instruments, such as mini guitars and tambourines. If you were looking to spend more money, a doll’s house, garage, or pretend kitchen are always a good purchase – children play with them for years, and they are great for making them use their imagination.”

Narguess continues, “When a child gets to about four or five, they are much more able to play games and build things. One of my favourites for this age is Kapla – it has lots of wooden blocks that you can create shapes with. It’s very stable, very long-lasting, and everyone seems to love making things with it, even adults. Craft kits are also a good choice.”

BRAMBLE CORNER

Toys & Fine Things



*Looking for the Perfect Present to Bring a Twinkle
to the Eye this Christmas?*



*Then why not Browse our On-line Shop Brimming with
Traditional Toys & Games for the Whole Family that will
Truly Spark the Imagination!*

www.bramblecorner.com

*And We Would be Only too Happy to Classically Gift Wrap all
Your Presents and Deliver Direct to your Home.
Competitive Shipping Rates Guaranteed!*



Birthday Happiness

Caring in our Community



Make a child's life brighter...

Be a part of this local community for
underprivileged children. Instead of a party of
their own your child could donate their
birthday money to children who have never
had a birthday party, something most children
take for granted !

Email carolyn@birthdayhappiness.org or visit
our website www.birthdayhappiness.org for
more information.

Highgate House School

International Steiner Waldorf Pre-School

Family Christmas Fair

Saturday 26th November
10am to 3pm All Welcome



English & Mandarin Afternoon Nursery Classes for 2 to 3 year olds Available Now

For more information call 2849 6336
or email: info@highgatehouse.edu.hk

100 Peak Road, The Peak, Hong Kong Tel: 2849 6336 Fax: 2849 6332
info@highgatehouse.edu.hk www.highgatehouse.edu.hk



Ages and stages

Babies (six months to one year)

Babies are discovering their senses – they like to smell, taste, hear, touch and see. Toys can help them learn about size, sound, texture and how things work.

Good toys for babies include: mobiles, rattles, soft cloth books, toys that play a tune or make a noise, pop-up toys and large blocks.

One to three years

Little toddlers love being on the go and exploring, so they like toys that help them be active.

Good toys for this age group include: pushalong items (such as play pushchairs, shopping trolleys, block-filled trolleys), ride-on toys, a sand-pit, bucket and spade, balls, shape sorters, large crayons and paper, soft toys, story books and simple musical instruments such as drums or xylophones. As their skills develop, they may like trains with tracks, cars, dolls and accessories, simple jigsaws and colouring books.

Three to five years

Between these ages, imagination really comes to the fore, sociability develops, and motor skills improve.

Good toys for this age group include: play food, play money and cash register, medical sets, dressing-up costumes, a doll's house, car garages, knights' castles, a pretend kitchen, toy phones, bats and balls, a chalkboard, craft supplies, books, jigsaws, simple board games and card games.

Five years-plus

As children reach school age, they may be more influenced by their peers and classmates, but they can also tackle more complex challenges.

Good toys for this age group include: more complex building blocks and puzzles, craft kits, models to make, books and sports equipment.

Living in Hong Kong, you often don't have acres of space to store never-ending boxes of toys – but Narguess has advice for the square-footage challenged among us, too. She says, “One of our best-selling items is a magnetic wall map – it doesn't take up any floor space. It is a lovely, big, colourful map with magnetic pieces that stick onto each continent. It's educational, is great for lots of ages, and it looks nice – I think it's especially popular here because Hong Kong kids travel a lot and are very open to the world. Another suggestion is to buy toys that come in their own storage box or basket.”

So, what would she avoid? “One thing you won't see in our shop is plastic toys – the plastic might not be BPA-free, or may contain PVC. These things aren't

“


The emotional part of playing is the most important part.

”

good for children, especially young children who might put it in their mouths.” Look for toys made from more natural materials.

“I think it's important to buy things that are built to last. We all like to find old toys from our own childhoods and pass them on to our children – perhaps one day our children will like rediscovering their old toys and be proud to pass them on to their own kids.”

When you get a new toy home, is it enough to just open the box and leave the child to their own devices? According to Narguess, the answer is a definite no. “You can't just give your child a book and expect them to become a good reader. It takes time to build up their interest. It's the same with toys. An adult should help the child play, discover, understand and create some fun around the toy. The emotional part of playing is the most important part.”

After that, it's child's play. 

Kinaesthetic intelligence
Linguistic intelligence
Logical-mathematical intelligence
Musical intelligence
Intrapersonal intelligence
Interpersonal intelligence
Naturalistic intelligence
Visual-spatial intelligence

how is your child smart?

Early childhood educator *Kylie de Vos* explores the theory of multiple intelligences and provides parents with activities that can help strengthen their child's unique intellect.

When defining children as “intelligent”, society tends to place a premium on their aptitude in mathematics and linguistics. According to a contemporary theory, however, children who do not excel in these areas are still intelligent, just in a different context. It is believed that there are, in fact, many ways that a child can be intelligent, and no one way is better than another.

Dr Howard Gardner, professor of cognition and education at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, believes that a child's intelligence can't be summed up by an IQ score. He recognises that each child has multiple intelligences that can be strengthened if supported, or weakened if disregarded. According to Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligence (MI), everyone possesses, to varying degrees of competence, approximately eight intelligences: kinaesthetic, linguistic, logical-mathematical, musical, intrapersonal, interpersonal, naturalistic and visual-

spatial. Each intelligence represents a child's preferred approach to processing, interacting with and learning information.

Gardner's theory has made a significant impact on education worldwide, with many schools incorporating it into their curricula to accommodate individual needs and strengths in the classroom. Teachers who use the MI theory understand that not all children learn the same material in the same manner. To help children attain knowledge, teachers place equal importance on each intelligence by incorporating instructional activities and learning opportunities that tap into every child's unique intellectual profile.

Parents who recognise their child's intelligences are at an advantage. They can offer encouragement and enrichment so that their child can strengthen his or her more prominent intelligences, and help develop the intelligences that are weaker. This can be accomplished by providing the child with a variety of activities that stretch their skills and abilities.





BILINGUAL LEARNERS TODAY, WORLD CITIZENS TOMORROW.

Love to read • Eager to inquire • Learn to care



Victoria Educational Organisation (VEO) has been established for 47 years. After continuous growth and expansion, it is now comprised of nine nurseries and kindergartens. VEO implements a bilingual co-class teaching approach, and through a total immersion programme with trilingual learning environment and activities, children's bi-literacy and tri-lingual abilities are strengthened. In addition, teaching is carried out in small groups with an aim to cater for individual abilities as well as to provide inquiry-based learning for children to develop into caring lifelong learners with a global vision. Victoria (Belcher) Kindergarten, Victoria (Homantin) International Nursery and our affiliated primary and secondary school, Victoria Shanghai Academy, are authorized IB World Schools providing IB education (Primary Years Programme to Diploma Programme) for students from 3 to 18 years of age. Students of VEO will receive priority in admission into Victoria Shanghai Academy.



Victoria Educational Organisation

Age: 1 year 10 months to 6 years old

Streams: Trilingual Class • Bilingual (English/Putonghua) Class •
Bilingual (English/Cantonese) Class (For Pre-Nursery Class only)

Sessions: Morning Session, Afternoon Session or Whole-Day Class

* Parents may come in person for details, or download the application form at our website.

Playgroup (1-3 years old)

- A happy, caring and stimulating programme.
- Facilitate optimal development in early childhood.
- Parent-Child participation is encouraged.

www.victoria.edu.hk

enquiry@victoria.edu.hk

Upper Kornhill - 2513 1208 • Middle Kornhill - 2885 1888 • Lower Kornhill - 2885 3331 • Causeway Bay - 2578 9998 • Harbour Heights - 2571 7888
South Horizons - 2580 8633 • Belcher - 2542 7001 • Homantin - 2762 9130 • Harbour Green - 2885 1928

| Victoria Shanghai Academy | Victoria (Belcher) Kindergarten | Victoria (Homantin) International Nursery |





Kinaesthetic intelligence (Body smart)

Is strong in:

Athletics, dancing, gross and fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination and making things

Learns best through:

Moving, touching, feeling, holding, manipulating objects and using tools

Activities:

- Create an obstacle course around your home for your child to navigate by walking, hopping or jumping.
- Take your child to the park to use her gross motor skills on slides and swings.
- Explore different materials – fabrics, sandpaper, shaving foam, bubble wrap.
- Play charades with your child.
- Ask your child to pretend to be her favourite animal by mimicking its movements.
- Crawl through boxes, jump over ropes, dance, somersault, catch/throw/kick balls together.
- Encourage your child to practise using scissors, tongs or chopsticks, finger paint, make things using play dough, mix ingredients, thread beads and make simple origami.

Linguistic intelligence (Word smart)

Is strong in:

Reading, writing, conversing with others, storytelling, explaining ideas, solving problems using words, retaining written and spoken information and mastering languages

Learns best through:

Written and spoken words

Activities:

- Encourage your child to role play a character from his favourite story.
- Provide him with flashcards that display new vocabulary.
- Play word games with your child, such as Scrabble or Boggle.
- Ensure your child has access to pencils and note pads so he can write down ideas or explore letters and words.
- Ask your child to prepare a speech or rhyme about his favourite topic.
- Create a comfortable corner in your home for reading/writing/talking. Include cushions, books, newspapers, magazines, pencils, paper, word games, etc.
- Show your child how to make his own crossword puzzles or word searches.

Logical-mathematical intelligence (Number/reasoning smart)

Is strong in:

Mathematics, science, inductive and deductive reasoning, figuring out how something works and making connections between pieces of information

Learns best through:

Using numbers, conducting experiments, questioning and working with the abstract

Activities:

- Provide your child with strategy games, such as chess or checkers.
- Encourage your child to use different materials, such as coins, beans or pasta, as tools for counting and solving mathematical equations.
- Encourage your child to use play money to explore addition and subtraction.
- Show her how to make picture graphs or pie charts.
- Allow your child to measure different items around your home, either using a tape measure or her hands.
- Provide your child with a few kitchen supplies, such as cornflour, flour, water and baking soda, so she can create simple experiments. (Messy, but fun!)
- Explore together the concepts of patterns, time, sorting, ordinals, estimating, same/different, directions, cause and effect, sequencing and comparing.

Musical intelligence (Music smart)

Is strong in:

Singing, recognising tones and rhythm in music, remembering tunes and playing musical instruments

Learns best through:

Listening to music and sounds, making music, singing, rhythm and melodies

Activities:

- Sing songs with your child and clap hands, stomp feet or dance to the beat.
- Make a musical instrument together, such as a music shaker made from an empty plastic bottle filled with dried beans or rice.
- Expose your child to different genres of music – classical, jazz, hip hop, etc.
- Provide different instruments for him to experiment with, such as tambourines, bells, triangles or drums.
- Play a piece of music and ask your child how it makes him feel.
- Make up a song together by changing words in a song you both already know.
- Play musical games such as musical chairs.
- Use music as background noise when your child is eating, taking a bath or playing.

Raleigh Micro Miss 12"
3yrs+



\$1,499

Mini Micro Scooter
blue, pink, red, yellow,
green, orange



\$699

Lights & Sounds Walker



\$450

Happy Land Ready to Play Village Set



\$899

Lights & Sounds Musical Buggy Bar



\$360

Hospital Play Tent



\$300

accessories available separately

Super Sounds Drum Kit



\$600

Leapster Explorer
\$630



Leapster Games from **\$225**

Folding Football Table



\$2,999

Crocodile Creek Puzzles



From **\$125**

Catalogue now instore

Santa shops at...

bumps to babes



Pedder Building Store 5/F Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street, Central T: 2522 7112
Horizon Plaza Store 21/F Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau T: 2552 5000





Intrapersonal intelligence (Self smart)

Is strong in:

Meeting personal goals and understanding one's feelings, values, beliefs, motivations and thinking processes

Learns best through:

Thinking and working quietly, being introspective and undertaking self-paced independent projects

Activities:

- Make a space in your home for your child to create a special place just for "me time", such as an indoor tent.
- Encourage your child to create a journal using words or pictures.
- Ask your child to identify the foods he likes and dislikes, and what, in particular, makes him feel that way.
- Encourage your child to create a collage using photos of himself at different stages of growth and pictures/stickers of things that he enjoys.
- Ask him to imagine having a super power. What would it be and how would he use it?
- Give your child ample time to read or play independently.
- Ask your child to evaluate his homework. Why does he think he did a good job? How could he improve his work?
- Assist your child in creating his own chore list, prioritising each of the tasks.

Interpersonal intelligence (People smart)

Is strong in:

Teamwork, communicating and empathising with others

Learns best through:

Working in groups, interacting with others and sharing ideas

Activities:

- Ask your child to perform a puppet show for friends or family.
- Make playdates for your child.
- Sign your child up for interest classes.
- Discover the benefits of cross-age tutoring.
- Let your child explain to you what she learned at school that day.
- Talk with your child about her friends and what she likes about them.
- Encourage your child to create a radio programme, design a newspaper advertisement or bumper sticker.
- Teach your child how to share and take turns through playing games.
- Ask your child to create a mural with a group of friends.
- Participate together in a volunteer activity.

Naturalistic intelligence (Nature smart)

Is strong in:

Understanding the natural world, finding patterns and relationships in nature and recognising plants, animals and objects found in nature

Learns best through:

Observing and exploring the natural environment and exploring the outdoors

Activities:

- Go on nature walks together and collect or photograph natural objects, such as rocks or leaves.
- Take your child to the zoo and observe the behaviour and appearance of animals, and then discuss why they might look the way they do.
- Encourage your child to collect bugs or make a worm farm.
- Provide an opportunity for your child to learn how to care for pets.
- Involve your child in recycling household trash.
- Encourage your child to use a magnifying glass to observe characteristics of items found in nature.
- Plant seeds together and watch them grow.
- Encourage your child to make a pet rock.
- Encourage your child to look up at the sky and create pictures from clouds.
- Play a CD of nature sounds and listen together.

Visual-spatial intelligence (Picture smart)

Is strong in:

Seeing the physical world and translating it into new forms, art, remembering information by seeing it, reading maps and creating complex mental images

Learns best through:

Visualising ideas, constructing models and using graphs, pictures and photos

Activities:

- Encourage your child to make a scrapbook with photographs, magazine pictures, etc.
- Design a board game together.
- Provide materials for him to colour, draw, paint, sculpt and build.
- Explore together the use of charts, graphs, models, diagrams and multimedia.
- Encourage your child to design a treasure map or make a puzzle.
- Ask your child to make a worksheet about the topic he is learning about at school.
- Show your child a famous painting, such as the *Mona Lisa*, and ask him what he thinks about it.

man in the middle

What's a dad to do
when his wife and
mother disagree? asks
Dr Rosann Kao.





Mike was a troubled man. The big guy leaned heavily on the doorway of my office. Until now, I'd really only known him as our IT guy. But, with a deep breath he sighed, and then, in a soft voice, started talking. "Hey, I'm sorry to bother you. I noticed you have a lot of books about 'international families'. Is it OK if I ask you something about my family? My wife and my mother have very different opinions about our kid, and they are both driving me crazy."

What family life specialist could turn down such a direct request? "Sure, Mike. Come in; sit down. Lots of things are changing with families these days – especially ones with a global outlook. What's going on with yours?"

Mind your language

He tried several positions to set his large body into the standard office chair; he was obviously uncomfortable and his face looked strained. This man was not used to asking for help. Finally, he said: "Look, I am not complaining. But my wife has this thing. She wants our two-year-old boy to go to an English-speaking kindergarten starting in the spring. I know, for a Hong Kong Chinese family that is not so unusual. We speak English and Chinese at home, pretty much equally, depending on what we're talking about. But my mother is suddenly making a big deal about the boy learning proper



Hong Kong Sinfonietta
香港小交響樂團
www.hkslo.org.hk
音樂總監 Yip Wing-sie



Additional
Performance:
2 Dec

A musical sleigh
ride around the world!

**Christmas
Magic**

Conductor/Presenter
Peter Moore



Join Uncle Peter for an early Christmas celebration featuring festive orchestral works such as *A Christmas Festival*, *Fantasia on Greensleeves*, *Variations on a Shaker Melody* ("Simple Gifts"), Brahms' *Hungarian Dance No 5* and excerpts from *The Nutcracker* and *Carmen*. Sing along as the orchestra ends the concert with Uncle Peter's favourite Christmas carols!

Additional performance
2.12.2011 Fri 7:30pm

Limited tickets available
3.12.2011 Sat 3:00pm
3.12.2011 Sat 7:30pm
4.12.2011 Sun 3:00pm

HK City Hall Concert Hall
\$250, \$180, \$120

Tickets for additional performance available at
URBTIX from 23 October 2011

Ticketing Enquiries & Bookings : 2111 5999 | www.URBTIX.hk
Programme Enquiries : 2836 3336 | www.HKSL.org



**What a
Wonderful
World!**
A collection of songs

For ages 3+
in English
Approximately 1 hr 15 mins with 10 min intermission
Hong Kong Sinfonietta is the Sinfonietta Partner of
the Hong Kong City Hall
Hong Kong Sinfonietta is a member of
Associated Artists' Companies of the
Hong Kong General Industries' Region
Hong Kong Sinfonietta is a member of
the Hong Kong Music Association and is a
member of the Hong Kong Music Association



Simply Love

boutique party supplies + gifts

BIRTHDAY • BABY SHOWER • 400+ HELIUM BALLOONS
CUSTOM DESIGNED PARTYWARE • PARTY FAVORS • GIFTS
PARTY PLANNING • ELEGANT DESSERT TABLES & CAKES



7A HO LEE COMMERCIAL BUILDING
38 D'AGUIAR STREET, CENTRAL
TEL: (852) 2810 6223

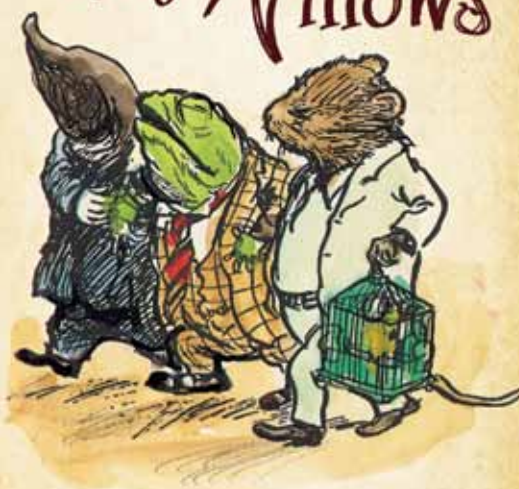
www.simplylove.com.hk

Opening Promotion
10% OFF COUPON

Faust International Youth Theatre proudly presents

The Wind 'in the Pillows

By Kenneth Grahame
Adapted for the
stage by Alan Bennett



15th – 18th December 2011

Drama Theatre, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts
1 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong



Tickets now available from HK Ticketing!
31 288 288 or www.hkticketing.com

Chinese and going to some famous Chinese kindergarten.”

Getting more comfortable in the chair and with his own story, Mike continued. “I grew up speaking Chinese at home and learned English in school. Thirty years ago in Hong Kong, even in primary grades, English language was taught well and I learned enough, just in school. Now, my English is passable – not perfect. My wife was a business major; she is smart and her English is really smooth. Two years ago, she gave up her job to be a full-time mum. She knows what she wants for our son. But, my mother has a point in wanting her first grandchild to be able to speak Chinese as well as English. My mum wants the Chinese language to be the priority for schooling.”

Nodding to let him know that I was listening to all the details, I asked, “Mike, in all of this, what is the biggest problem for you?”

Shaking his head side to side, the knowledgeable but confused man smiled. “Don’t laugh, but I don’t want to be in the middle of all this mess with my wife and my mother. I love them both. But, in these times, how are parents supposed to figure this out?”

“You don’t want to be in the middle? That’s the big question for you?”

“Yes. I don’t want both of them chewing my ear off about what is good for a little kid. Don’t women

delightfully good, the devastatingly bad or the nothing special of daily life. Differences of opinion between the wife and the mother-in-law are as old as families themselves. Fortunately, modern men get the chance to learn from both generations of women.

Hong Kong holds a unique place in the world. This town would not function without a diversity of skills. The extremely varied workforce makes it Asia’s “World City.” Yet, it is quite clear that not all of us have the ability to survive and thrive in both languages. We have to help our kids make the best choices, based on their own

“Differences of opinion between the wife and the mother-in-law are as old as families themselves.”

– or educators – already know how to figure this stuff out? What is the most modern theory for education for international kids? I figure you can tell me so that I can tell my wife and mother, and the two of them will leave me alone.”

“You asked me – an expert on international families – and even I can’t tell you the one, perfect answer. It depends. You have a complicated set of issues in front of you.”

Keep talking

Healthy families talk. And talk. And talk again. Every day, feelings grow within each person about the

abilities and where we think the best educational and job opportunities are. And the answer is different for each child. There is no one answer for all. In part, that is why there are so many different kinds of schools in Hong Kong and sometimes different “streams” within them. Welcome to the real world of choosing schools for kids.

Mike is in the middle, and that’s unlikely to change. His mother raised him. She cares about him, and one way that she can show that she cares is to take an interest in his son’s schooling. His wife married the grown-up Mike. She loves him for all he is on his own. And, she’s had her own years of life experience. She knows the competition. She knows that smooth English can help get people into jobs and sometimes get them promoted. This is not a situation that Mike – or any dad – should side-step or try to get out of. It’s important, and each of the women in his life will want to discuss it.

“But why can’t they just talk to each other?” Mike asked me. “I still want out.”

“We live in changing times,” I tell him. “The kind of schooling that was good for our generation might not be best for today’s students. But, those in our parents’ generation value tradition. Your wife knows the times are changing. She is talking to you because she wants you in on the



Music Comedy & Fun for Kids
歡樂兒童音樂喜劇

SCOTTY & LULU

**KIDDY
KEEP
FIT**



**3 shows
only!!**

**Dancing
Sing-a-long
Kiddy Yoga**

Sat 26th Nov

HK Jockey Club Amphitheatre HKAPA

1 Gloucester Rd, Wanchai

灣仔告士打道1號香港演藝學院賽馬會演藝劇院

31 288 288

www.hkticketing.com

11月26日(星期六)

10.00am 2.00pm 4.30pm

HK\$250 \$350



FREE KIDDY KEEP FIT app
for iPod, iPhone & iPad. Search 'Scotty
and Lulu' at the iTunes App Store



FREE KIDDY KEEP FIT music CD
Download from www.scottylulu.com

Life's A Breeze

Ceiling Fans With Style

拉沙貝斯·時尚風扇



Mention Playtimes when you purchase to receive free delivery.
Newly Renovated Showroom

Open 7 days Tel: 2572 4000 www.lifesabreezehk.com
Shop 1602, Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau
鴨脷洲·利榮街2號·新海怡廣場·16樓1602室

smallprint
A UNIQUE FIRST IMPRESSION



**Get Christmas
all wrapped up**

With a piece of jewellery or a
festive keepsake that captures
your child's fingerprint, hand
or foot print in silver

- ★ Pendants
- ★ Charms
- ★ Cufflinks
- ★ Keyrings

www.smallp.hk

To book to have your child's prints taken contact:

Elisa Smith t: 6050 5940 e: elisa@smallp.hk

Mandy Lai t: 9381 5481 e: mandy@smallp.hk

Book early for Christmas to avoid disappointment!



Talking about touchy topics

Be ready to listen. If there is something that is heavy on your mind that you want to talk about, chances are pretty high that it might be on her mind, too, and she'll likely have plenty to say.

Stick to one question. If you think the disagreement is over the language for kindergarten, then stay centered on that topic. Ask her to help you understand the reasons she feels the way she does and focus your attention only on that discussion.

Ask her to hear you out. You talk for two minutes, and then she gets to talk for an equal amount of time while you listen. No interruptions are allowed. Let each other speak without question for the first time around.

Watch the time. If you sense some understanding or compromise happening through your interaction, then keep going. But, remember that after about 12 to 15 minutes in an emotionally charged conversation, each person has probably talked enough. Agree to take a break.

Close with appreciation. Even if you do not finish, or feel that you have not made all your points, or sense there is no conclusion, say thank you. Let your wife know that you are grateful for the chance to start talking about the big questions.

“
Let your wife
know that you
are grateful for
the chance to
start talking
about the big
questions.
”



decision-making. She wants you to find the best answer together.”

“But what about my mother? She is on the telephone almost every night with this same question. She wants to be in on the discussion, too. I hate to have the two of them angry and both of them growling at me. What do you think?”

There was a healthy pause. We looked at each other; both of us were thinking. With caution in my voice, I began, “Talk to your wife. Being a first-time mother is darn frustrating at times. There is so much repetitive work – even bright two-year-olds take time to learn everyday skills. She chose to take time out from her career, but her job now is still hard work. Give her a chance to talk.”


“And, my mother: she wants to talk, too. I suppose I have got to give her time also?”

Being a good Chinese son comes with its own responsibilities. These two roles – husband and father – are not easily defined in this day and age. Parents have to figure it out as they go along.

“If my mother knows when she is going to see me, then she does not call so often. I guess that I had better just talk to my wife. Together we need to set up some regular times to see my mother. I know my mother would like that.”

“Could be you are on a roll. Good luck with both women.”

“And, hey, Dr Kao, are you sure there is no clear answer on which is the best language for kids to start school with? I mean, with all the books and research, how is a family supposed to decide?” Mike stopped. He paused, clicked his fingers and nodded. “Oh, yeah, I know ... talk to my wife.”

Light on his feet, the big man walked down the hall. He had his own answer and he knew he would have to talk with his wife and with his mother. No shortcuts. Talking takes real time. 

Rosann Santora Kao, Ph.D. can be contacted at the Jadis Blurton Family Development Center. Call 2869 1962, or email at rosannk@talkhk.com.

model behaviour

Have you and your child got what it takes to become Hong Kong's next top model? asks *Elle Kwan*.

Jodi stood before the building in Tsim Sha Tsui and looked up. There, staring back at her from a billboard several storeys tall, was an image of her teenage daughter – star of the new advertisement. Naturally, Jodi was thrilled. “I was acting like a total idiot,” Jodi recalls, “going down and having my picture taken in front of it.”

American Jodi has three children who are all signed up at Peanut Butter 'n Jelly, a Hong Kong agency run solely to represent child models. While her son has no interest, both girls have pursued projects with success, from magazine shoots to toy product packaging and clothing. After living in Milan and seeing “lecherous old men” involved in the entertainment business, and in Los Angeles, where “models’ mums won’t even let their children go on a swing in case they fall off and hit their face,” Jodi has been pleasantly surprised by the environment in Asia. “Here in Hong Kong there have only been positive experiences,” she says.

Highs and lows

Not everyone has such glowing reports. Wendy was approached by a talent scout at home in Discovery Bay, who asked if her two-year-old daughter would try out for a TV commercial. After venturing first to a casting, then a fitting – both unpaid – her daughter was selected to appear in the advertisement, which was shown on local TV. The appearance, which took just over two hours to shoot, resulted in a cheque for \$1,000. When the agency told Wendy their client was interested in contracting her

daughter for a larger campaign across Hong Kong and China for two years, she was asked to name her price. “I quoted between \$3,000 and \$5,000, and they said it was too much. She never came back to me,” explains Wendy. The whole experience left her feeling naive and uninformed.

Rates vary tremendously between types of job and the clients paying, says Keely Chow at Star Fantasy, the agency that approached Wendy. Agencies seem to have little control over negotiating rates. Child models are not classed as “talent” like adults, and it’s all too easy for clients to hunt out colleagues’ children to avoid paying agency fees at all.

Parents here are not asked to sign loyalty agreements and may sign with as many agencies as they wish. In theory, this sounds positive. But it does leave clients free to pick agencies with the cheapest rates, equalling less pay for models.

Star Fantasy will not force parents to attend castings or accept jobs, says Keely, and parents can state a desired minimum hourly rate or daily sum if they wish. “You can decide if you like the job or not and take it if you think it’s OK, but once you confirm you are committed.” There is no joining fee, but also no guarantees of work. Commission varies from ten per cent and up depending on the job. Keely’s strategy is to send newer models to lower paying jobs to gain experience.

Events work and catwalks can be non-paid. Magazine work and TV commercials are considered the lowest paying jobs (with commercials taking hours to film). Clothing and toy companies and catalogues can pay



FREE Delivery

**JUMPING
CASTLES**

**JUMP-START
YOUR PARTY**



www.jumpingcastles.com.hk

Jumping castle rentals hotline: 9662 1747
info@jumpingcastles.com.hk



Causeway Bay / Tin Hau / Sheung Wan / Kowloon

HOTLINE: (+852) 5188 0671

BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL CLASS TODAY



INTERNATIONAL PLAYGROUP / KINDERGARTEN
age 3 months to 6 years old

Baby Buddies & Alison's Letterland provides a unique service for both parents and children, from 3 months old to 6 years old.

The classes are a lot of fun and provide a structured and educational programme based on the British National Curriculum the "Early Years Foundation Stage". The programme is recognized by all International Kindergartens, Primary Schools and IB Schools.

NEW - BILINGUAL ENGLISH / MANDARIN CLASS

CONTACT US TODAY AND BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL CLASS

WWW.LETTER-LAND.COM



melanie adamson photography

www.melanie-adamson.com



upwards of the standard rates and generally take a few hours per shoot. Yet, even large-scale corporate companies can be unscrupulous. “I have personal experience with one well-known international company who wanted kids to work for free,” recalls Kukka Hopson, who runs Peanut Butter ‘n Jelly. “They invited kids for a supposed casting that was actually a shoot,” she says.

Kukka charges clients a two-hour minimum booking fee at rates of at least \$600 per hour and takes a 20 per cent commission in all cases. Two-hour jobs are common, but some are full-day or longer. While not essential, the agency

“
For many families, modelling
can be a fun experience with
free toys and clothes to boot.
”

does request \$600 for initial portfolio photos to appear on its website, but also offers parents two images to keep. Kukka says the policy cuts down on trekking to physical castings, which are unpaid. However, she has heard of agencies charging thousands for pictures, which, she says, is unnecessary.

For many families, modelling can be a fun experience with free toys and clothes to boot. “We’ve had some great times, but it’s not always easy,” says one mother with three modelling kids, who prefers not to be named. Parents should be prepared for lengthy waits and come with snacks, toys and a sense of humour, she says. They should also remain chief protector of their children, no matter how prestigious or pushy the client is. “We’ve walked out of a lot of jobs, but we still get hired,” she says.

With years of experience under her belt, she has picked up “tips and tricks” for getting the process to work in her favour. She refuses to go to castings and asks to leave if a shoot is stretching far over a stated contract; she asks photographers repeatedly if they have the shot they need. “You have to know your child’s limits and be prepared to walk.” The reason she continues? “I do it for the pictures or clothes. It’s not about the money for us.”

Make your own rules

Which children make the best models? “Any child who is outgoing and likes to show him/herself to the world is a good candidate,” says Aimee Knierim-Haas, the original owner of Peanut Butter ‘n Jelly and now a full-time photographer. An ideal baby model is between six and nine months, able to sit, but not walk, and is flexible. “Babies



RED SHOE DANCE STUDIOS

UNIT 3A 3/F ARBUTHNOT HSE, 10 ARBUTHNOT ROAD, CENTRAL

Kindi Jazz Ages 4-5 yrs

ADAPT Jazz Exams

Pre-Junior - Advanced Levels



Kindi Ballet Ages 3-4 yrs

RAD Ballet Exams

Pre-Primary-Advanced Levels

Call Jacqui 98130079

Email redshoedance@gmail.com or visit www.redshoedance.com



Funtastic Fitness for Kids!

Children's Fitness Centre



FUNTASTIC GYM PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN 6 MONTHS TO 6 YEARS OLD!

FUNTASTIC BIRTHDAY PARTIES!! (NOW ON SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS!)

START YOUR CHILD'S HEALTHY SCHOOL YEAR WITH ROLLY POLLIES.

CALL 3568-1629 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.RollyPollies.com.hk
TO BOOK YOUR TRIAL CLASS!

1515-1519 (odd) Leighton Centre, 77 Leighton Rd, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Tel: 3568-1629 e-mail: info@rollypollies.com.hk www.RollyPollies.com.hk

So, you want to be in *Playtimes*?

I frequently hear from parents who are eager to have their children's faces grace the cover of *Playtimes*. Perhaps you're interested, too. Think your little one is ready for her close-up? If so, then read on.

Age: Our models are typically between three years and ten years old. Kids younger than three, as parents will know, are quite unpredictable, tire easily, and aren't always able to follow instructions. By three, though, the ones who enjoy modelling can eagerly hold a pose, take direction and enjoy the process of playing dress-up and prancing unabashedly about before our team, which includes the photographer, stylist, editor and assistants.

Attitude: This is probably the most important characteristic of all. In models, we're looking for happy kids who enjoy being in front of the camera. Just as important, we look for parents who are easy to work with.

Look: We try to feature lots of different looks to appeal to our diverse audience. We are always looking for kids who photograph well. Sometimes even the most beautiful faces aren't captured well on camera.

Luck: We receive far more enquiries than we have slots for, so it's the lucky few who are selected. Each month we're working towards a different theme, which requires a different mix of models. Some months we need younger kids, some months older. Some months we need boys, other months it's girls. And, it's entirely possible that the month we contact you, you've already got holiday plans that can't be changed. Luck and flexibility play important roles.

If you'd like your child to be considered for upcoming *Playtimes* modelling opportunities, please email playtimes@ppp.com.hk and include your child's name, date of birth and a few recent snapshots.


Editor

who have problems changing from one situation to another may face problems because there can be a lot of stimulation on set," she says. Aimee warns that the market can be saturated with baby models for stretches at a time when demand is actually for tots to primary-school aged kids.

They already have that relationship," and she says it's worth bringing siblings to shoots to show them off.

But don't expect to be working every weekend. Twice a year is considered good.

For some, modelling work finds them. Gemma says the four jobs her two-year-old son has been involved in have all come word-of-mouth through friends, or friends of friends. For three of the jobs, he was paid and for one he received toys. Unusually, Gemma has received photos from some of her shoots – which agents say is unusual here. Her son has fun on set, she says, and is happy to do as the photographers request.

With no set blueprint to modelling in Hong Kong, it pays to make your own rules. As Gemma says, "If you feel what you are getting out of it works for you, just enjoy it and have fun. If you don't like an agent or you feel you aren't getting paid enough or you just aren't having a good time, what's the point?" 

“If you feel what you are getting out of it works for you, just enjoy it and have fun.”

Generally, blond haired, blue-eyed children, especially boys, are in demand, but there is call for Eurasian children, too. Kukka would like more teenage models and boys above six years on her books. Keely says families are wanted "because it's easier for families to work together.



spare the rod?

A smack. A slap. A spank. A tap. A one-handed clap. There are lots of ways to describe the physical disciplining of children. But surely, whatever you call it, it can never be right to hit a child. Can it? asks *Rachel Kenney*.

When lots of us were young, being chased around the house by a slipper-wielding mum was par for the course. The constant threat, “Wait till your father gets home” hung heavy on plenty of otherwise play-filled days. And the wooden spoon sometimes took on a more sinister use than stirring the buttercream.

But over the past few decades, approaches to child discipline have shifted very firmly from stick to carrot. Smacking has been banned in many countries (including New Zealand, Germany and Sweden), and childcare experts have been lining up to tell us not to smack our misbehaving children. They say that, as well as being morally wrong and an abuse of the child’s rights, smacking doesn’t work as a way of modelling good behaviour. Some say that instead of teaching a child about right and wrong, it just breeds violence.

Just say no!

In her best-selling book *Your Baby & Child*, Penelope Leach tells us that smacking simply doesn’t work. She says, “Smacked children can never remember what they are smacked for. Pain and indignity make

them so angry that they go away seething with anger, rather than full of repentance.” Dr Sears, the popular American paediatrician and parenting guru echoes this message, saying, “Spanking doesn’t work for the child, for the parents, or for society.” And the latest phenomenon of the parenting world, Supernanny, favours techniques such as the naughty step – “a place of reflection where the child realises they’ve done something wrong” – rather than a smack. She says, “What does a clip around the ear solve? Nothing.”

Sociologist Murray Straus has studied smacking in the US for 40 years, and in his book *Beating the Devil Out of Them* says that smacking puts children at increased risk of a whole host of possible side effects when they grow up, such as increased aggression and depression. Not only that, but it is also damaging to family relationships. He says, “I suggest that each spanking chips away at the bond between parent and child.” His more recent research says that a child who is smacked up to three times a week will have a lower IQ than a child who is not smacked, due to psychological stress. He believes, “Ending corporal punishment is one of the most important steps to achieving a less violent world.”



GSIS Christmas Bazaar 2011

Saturday, November 26
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
11 Guilford Road, The Peak

Come Join Us for a Family Day of Fun and Xmas Shopping!

Visit Our New Games Alley with More Games and Prizes!

- Traditional German food and Xmas decorations
- Home baked goodies
- New toys and clothing
- German and English books
- Live music and much, much more...

As parking is extremely limited, there are two **Free Shuttle Buses** operating:

Bus #1 from Stanley (Beach Road) and Bus #2 from Cyberport Road and DB-Central Pier 3 starting at 9:15 a.m.

GSIS
BRITISH-BORNEO-GERMAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
GERMAN-CHINESE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Deep Clean your home



Mattress & Sofa Cleaning Service
床褥及沙發清潔



Air-conditioner Cleaning & Sanitizing
冷氣機清潔及消毒

Free on site estimate!!

Excellent performance in eliminating bacteria, virus, dust & allergens.

Protect your family from allergy like asthma, bronchitis, eczema, sneeze & itchy skin

Reduce the use of allergy medicines.

enquiry@johnson-group.com.hk

Hottest Services



Red Stain Removal
紅印清除



Carpet Cleaning
地毯清洗



Solutions For Allergy
過敏症改善方案



MITE CONTROL
蟲蟎防治

24813988 johnson-group.com.hk

JOHNSON GROUP

ENJOY FATHER & SON TIME ON THE WEEKENDS

WATCH SPORTS TOGETHER ON THE BIG SCREEN AT FRITES.

QUARRY BAY FRITES
BELGIUM ON TAP

Children's play area available

**RESERVATIONS WELCOME
PLEASE CALL: 2250 5188**

G/F Oxford House, TaiKoo Place, 979 King's Road, Island East (Entrance from Westlands Road)

FRITES
CENTRAL WANCHAI QUARRY BAY TAPEO TAPEO
SUI WAN HO

“A dangerous tool”

But dig a little deeper and some differing opinions appear. Research published last year suggested that smacking might not be such a completely unsuccessful technique after all. A study by Marjorie Gunnoe, a psychology professor at Calvin College in the US state of Michigan, found that children who were smacked up until the age of six did better at school and were more optimistic about their lives than those never hit by their parents. They were more likely to do voluntary work, and keener to go to university.

Professor Gunnoe said, “The claims made for not spanking children fail to hold up. They are not consistent with the data. I think of spanking as a dangerous tool, but there are times when there are jobs big enough for a dangerous tool. You just don’t use it for all your jobs.” However, Professor Gunnoe’s study also found that children who were still being smacked over the age of six started to show negative effects, such as being involved in more fights, and the longer a child was smacked, the more negative effects the child showed.

Someone else who feels that the anti-smacking theories need some balance is Aric Sigman, psychologist and author of *The Spoilt Generation*. He says, “... spanking is certainly not violence. It is almost always done with good intention: parents are not intending to hurt their own children, [but] merely to protect them. There is a marvelous Yiddish word that captures beautifully the essence of how the vast majority of the world’s parents really interpret so-called legalised violence towards our own children every day: a “*potch*”, which falls somewhere between a hard tap and a mild smack on the backside, hand-delivered out of love and concern over a child’s wellbeing.”

Who, me?

When asked, most parents I spoke to fell into the “Never smack” or the “Have smacked once or twice but don’t generally approve of it” camps – very few openly admit to smacking on a regular basis. However, someone must be doing it, as a Department of Health study in 1995 suggested that as many as 91 per cent of children in the UK had been smacked – and, shockingly, three-quarters of children had been smacked before the age of one. In the States, a 2008 survey showed that 77 per cent of men, and 65 per cent of women agreed that a child sometimes needs a “good, hard spanking.” A 2006 survey in Australia found that 69 per cent of people said it is sometimes necessary to smack a “naughty” child.

Research in this area is tricky and emotive. One stumbling block is the issue of the smack itself – most people would see a difference between a light tap that is meant to dissuade from immediate danger or correct out-of-control behaviour once or twice in a child’s life, and a hard slap that is intended to hurt or humiliate that is meted out on a regular basis. Some people would also differentiate between a smack that was intended to “discipline” a child, and one that was intended to punish. And is a slap across the legs for a toddler who can’t yet understand reason more or less justifiable than a slap

“

I think of spanking as a dangerous tool, but there are times when there are jobs big enough for a dangerous tool.

”





SOFIA K
STUDIO



Book a family photo shoot at your home or
location of your choice.
Santa hats optional!



This year why not send your friends and
family a holiday card to treasure?



sofia@sofiakstudio.com
+852 6051 5738

www.sofiakstudio.com

Professional printing service available for cards, calendars, and other personalised gifts



Now Open

Wednesday - Saturday
10h00 - 14h00

Unit 4, 12/F, Sungib Industrial Building, 53 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen
from Wednesday 9th November to Friday 23rd December



Shop Online www.attic-lifestyle.com



**Designed by parents.
for their kids... and yours!**

We watched our young kids trying hard to eat their food, chasing it around the plate or bowl, struggling to keep peas on forks and knocking their drinks over. We knew it was important for them to enjoy eating and to do this they needed the right tools for the job.

They needed well thought out products, designed specifically for their little fingers. The result was TUMTUM, a range of dining products developed to help children learn to feed themselves.



Big design for little fingers.

**BPA
free**



Tel: +852 2815 0585

Available from:

Bumps to Babies, Baby Homme, BIBIDADA, Little Whale,
Rainbow Care Centre, Toysland, www.bloomandgrowdirect.com



across the face for a teenager who can? There are many grey areas.

Breaking point

Julia Llewellyn Smith, writing in the British *Daily Mail* newspaper, recounts that she gave her nearly-three-year-old daughter her first (and only) smack after one particularly fraught morning of hair-pulling, breakfast-throwing and lunchbox emptying. Julia says, "Of course, beating a child is wrong ... To me, the idea of a slap that causes pain is unacceptable, but my smacks aren't hard enough to even sting – they merely jolt my children into stopping their bad behaviour." She adds, "I don't judge other parents who are honest – and brave – enough to admit that they slap, too, because as humans they have a breaking point that their children are uniquely gifted at finding." She says, "I don't consider smacking to be good discipline, but it is definitely better than no discipline at all."

One Hong Kong mum says, "I do occasionally give my son a smack – I'd say it happens about once a month. I think it can sometimes defuse a situation quickly, and we can all move on. But it is a last resort for particularly bad or dangerous behaviour."

Another Hong Kong mum says, "I think the decision whether to smack or not can depend on the child. My first child generally behaved well, and I never came close to smacking, and couldn't understand how anyone could even consider it. Then my second child came along – she was gorgeous, sparky and fun, but incredibly headstrong, and everything was a battle, from changing her nappy, to keeping the raincover down on the pushchair when it was lashing with rain.

"One particularly bad day, when she was nearly three, we were in the garden and she was pulling the heads off the flowers. I asked her not to do it time and time again. I tried distracting her. I tried moving her away. But eventually, when she just kept on doing it, in utter frustration, I smacked her. She just looked at me, full of defiance, and said, 'That didn't hurt!' I then felt so guilty about what I'd done that I apologised. So not only had I demeaned myself by smacking her, I was now showing her that I was weak, too, and that I wasn't this fountain-of-all-knowledge authority figure that she thought I was. I never did it again."

Escalation of hostilities

Some opponents of smacking fear that one smack may lead to another – and another – and may end up as the parent's only form of discipline. And the smacks may need to become more frequent and harder as the child becomes used to them, and the family can get locked into a cycle of violence.

One Hong Kong mum's experience bears this out. She says, "I remember smacking my son a few times when he was younger. The first few times I did it, he was a bit shocked so it jolted him out of his bad behaviour. But after a while it didn't seem to have any effect. It was when I caught myself going in to give him two smacks that I thought it had



“How many smacks would I have to give him to get it to work? And how hard?”



French Character Homes



Ski & Surf from this Elegant Chateau, situated one hour from both the Pyrenean Mountains and the Atlantic Coast.
Price €662,500 / HK\$7M



A Handsome Country Chateau situated north of Pau between the Pyrenean Mountains and the Atlantic Coast.
Price €750,000 / HK\$7.9M



A Charming 18C Farmhouse with Heated Swimming Pool and Successful Rental Income of 2,500€ per week in Peak Season.
Price €380,000 / HK\$4M



A Truly Charming Village House with Swimming Pool. Ideal All Year Round Holiday Home near the Coast and the Mountains.
Price €210,000 / HK\$2.2M

Tel: +33 (0)6 77 70 21 98 • Email: sales@frenchcharacterhomes.com
www.frenchcharacterhomes.com

Morningstar Preschool and Kindergarten

Learning through imagination, inquiry, integration and reflection



School Tours Available

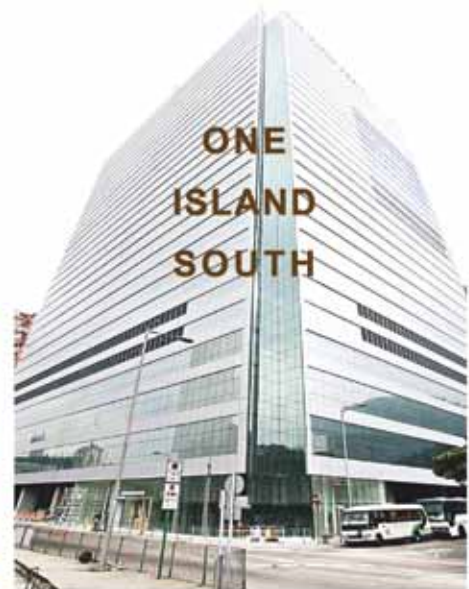
www.MorningstarSchools.com

Morningstar views children as capable learners whose ideas and thoughts are worthy of sharing.



Block H2, G/F, Chi Fu Fa Yuen, Pok Fu Lam, Hong Kong
p: +852 9736 5241 | e: info@MorningstarSchools.com

Celebrating our 3rd year,
**We've moved to
a Bigger Space!**



ONE
ISLAND
SOUTH



To all of our wonderful customers, we sincerely thank you for your support & trust in selecting our services over the past 3 years. We have immensely enjoyed working with each of you and look forward to seeing you and your little ones at our bigger & better location.

For new customers, we look forward to meeting you at our new space!


Shop 209-210 Retail Podium 2/F One Island South 2 Heung Yip Road Wong Chuk Hang
Mon- Sat 10-6pm Sun 11-6pm tel. 28680681 www.kidsbyredcabinet.com



to stop. How many smacks would I have to give him to get it to work? And how hard?"

Another way?

According to Murray Straus, smacking can never be a long-term strategy. He says, "Spanking becomes less and less effective over time, and when children get bigger, it becomes difficult or impossible." He says that most parents who choose not to smack don't just sit back and ignore their offspring's troublesome behaviour. Instead, they rely on a range of other strategies, such as explaining things to the child, setting clear standards and recognising and rewarding good behaviour. "There is no magic charm," he says. "It takes many interactions and many repetitions to bring up children."

Parenting is certainly no easy job, and choosing whether to smack is one of its most contentious issues. The debate is filled with conflicting reports and opposing ideologies: depending on who you believe, you can either spare the rod and spoil the child, or kill a child with kindness. Parents are categorised as passive or aggressive, woolly liberals or dedicated disciplinarians, hitters or huggers. But most parents fall somewhere in the middle, muddling through, trying their best, and hoping they are doing a good enough job of raising the next generation, whether, after careful consideration, they choose the carrot or the stick. 

Smack

verb; to hit someone or something forcefully with the flat inside part of your hand, producing a short loud noise, especially as a way of punishing a child



Insider's Design

Interior designer Emma Hann brings style to an inviting home with a lifelong love of interiors and by using textures and colours to display the objects she loves.

Australian-born interior designer Emma Hann (emhannid@gmail.com) has made a career out of creating beautiful spaces for other people. So when Emma and husband David had to find a new apartment suitable for their two active children, son Max, aged nine, and daughter Pippa, aged seven, neither wanted to compromise on furnishings and feel. "The apartment we found was light and bright with no highly glossed timber parquet flooring. We were lucky in a way as it had such a simple palette that it enabled me to create different pockets and keep things interesting, because I am always changing things around. My interiors are always evolving spaces," Emma says.





Effortless ease for an adventurous spirit was Emma's brief for son Max's room. Strong tones, simple lines and unique storage boxes and bins give him all the space he needs to keep his beloved surfboard, toys and treasures accessible and organised.





Emma wanted something girly and fun, yet simple and uncluttered for her daughter Pippa's room. Just the right amount of elegant, timeless fabrics has given the room a classic sensibility, while at the same time maintaining a natural and fun attitude.



HOME *sweet* HOME

Homes are archives of special memories, but as your family expands and your furniture disappears under the mound of toys and dress up, finding a new treasure chest of space in Hong Kong often becomes a necessity.

At Hong Kong Sotheby's International Realty we have a comprehensive selection of homes ranging from **\$40,000** per month upwards for rent and from **\$15M** upwards for sale, all carefully selected to meet our discerning customers' needs and requirements.

Our uniquely qualified team of agents understands the trials and tribulations of moving within Hong Kong first hand and speaks languages ranging from French, Spanish, German and Italian to Dutch, English and Chinese; we have an agent that can understand you and your family's needs in your language.

We provide an individualized service tailored to the needs of our clients, attending to every detail with an unflagging aesthetic sense, a genuine can-do attitude and a deep passion for our market, making the process of moving a simple one.

If 3 have now become 4 and you would like an extra bedroom, or if you need a new location because playgroup has become school, please do not hesitate to contact us with your home finding needs.

SUZANNA BOON

+852 6010 8980

suzanna.boon@hksothebysrealty.com

LETIZIA GARCIA CASALINO

+852 9343 2276

letizia.casalino@hksothebysrealty.com

Hong Kong

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

hksothebysrealty.com

SUITE 2001, THREE PACIFIC PLACE, 1 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, HONG KONG T +852 3108 2108 ENQUIRY@HKSOTHEBYSREALTY.COM

© 2011 Hong Kong Sotheby's International Realty (License No: C-040416). All rights reserved. Sotheby's International Realty® is a licensed trademark to Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates LLC. Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.




Emma's style is so carefully timeless yet boldly incorporates a dash of the unexpected. All the rooms are fresh and there is a seamless flow from one room to the next. Emma has no desire to simply isolate a room without considering the effect on the surrounding rooms. The children's rooms are practical and, at the same time, eclectic. She and her husband share a long-term view of their bedrooms: stylish, but most importantly, fun.

Emma always has a plan, but it's evolved from visits to far-flung places. Their home is filled with special books,

magazines and exquisite artworks. Throughout the home, all styles, from Asian to French and American, each have their unique moment. And, her attention to detail is evident through furniture Emma has had custom-made and hand-covered with sourced fabrics from Altfeld and Kinsan. Online shopping for good pieces has made it easier for her eclectic style to develop. Some of Emma's favourite interior shops are Manks, Aluminium, Ovo Studio and Artura Ficus.

Emma commissioned a white custom-built bookcase for her

living room so she could house all the books and curiosities from their travels. Try putting some of Emma's style in your home by mixing the shelves up with colour. Her secret is to go back and edit the shelves again and again when a look gets tired. "Colour blocking is one way to style your books and treasures. I feel sculpture and items you collect bring a different dimension to a space." Not only is Emma's keen understanding of colour pleasing to the eye, but it also makes a great conversation starter. 



mad about dad

Children love playtime with Dad, and here, *Playtimes* suits them up for an afternoon of intrepid inside fun. Take a look at a few of the latest and coolest clothes we chose for the occasion.

photography Michele Moutardier **words & styling** Ingrid Keneally
models Benjamin, Oliver, Nicholas and their dad Ian



Ian wears his own suit and tie. **Oliver** wears grey, black and white stripe long-sleeve t-shirt, \$200, Little Mercerie, with black denim jeans, \$1,050, Burberry. **Nicholas** wears classic blue check button-up shirt, \$1,100, with denim jeans, \$850, both from Burberry. **Benjamin** wears red polo t-shirt, \$550, and navy cord jeans, \$1,040, both from Burberry.



This page: **Benjamin** wears cotton hound's-tooth brown and cream sweater, \$750, Kico Kids, and navy cords, \$1,040, Burberry. **Oliver** wears check buttoned shirt, \$1,700, Burberry. Lego chess set, \$1,299, Brick Shop. Right page: **Benjamin** wears quilted patch Henley tee in amber, \$515, Kico Kids. Seedling paint your own solar powered plane, \$389, Hocusadabra or www.seedling.hk.



Nicholas wears indigo wool zip cardigan, \$1,400, and denim jeans, \$850, both from Burberry, and navy long-sleeve t-shirt, \$200, Little Mercerie.







Nicholas wears Huckleberry Lane play-set, \$294, Hip Little Bubba.
Oliver wears blue check pyjamas, \$250, Little Mercerie.



Nicholas wears No Added Sugar playsuit,
\$360, Hip Little Bubba.





Many companies move boxes. We move families.

It's all a matter of perception. Where most companies see trucks and boxes, we see people and their prized possessions. Last year alone we moved 20,000 families all over the globe.

And with 3,500 employees internationally, 1.3 million square feet of warehousing and more than 800 vehicles, we have the resources to provide the most personal service in the business.

International and domestic moving services.

Hong Kong, China, Singapore, India, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia



WRITER
RELOCATION

F2, 13/E, Gee Tung Cheong Ind Bldg, 4 Tung Yip Street, Chai Wan, Hong Kong
Tel: +852 2976 9940 Fax: +852 2976 9947 enquiry@writerrelocation.com
www.writerrelocation.com

Kokoon BEDS & BEDDING For Kids

**Solid Finnish Pine. Natural & Safe.
Flexible Modular System That Grows With Your Kids.**



**3,000 ft² Showroom
Dedicated to Children's Furniture**

TONTINE

Hypo-allergenic Quilts & Pillows for Kids

11F Horizon Plaza, Ap Lei Chau

Tel: 2518 8382

salespt@kokoonbeds.com



City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong
香港城市管樂團

Chief conductor: Juan Francisco Rivera
音樂總監：胡一非

The Snowman

& The Bear 「雪人」與「大熊」

Music by **Howard Blake**
Original stories by **Raymond Briggs**





"Go see The Snowman
and melt" *The Times*

Jacqueline Gourlay Grant narrator
Henry Coombs narrator
Colin Touchin guest conductor

10.12.2011
(Saturday) 2:30pm & 5pm
Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall

11.12.2011
(Sunday) 2:30pm
Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium

Narrated in English. Children aged two and under are not admitted.
This programme lasts 70 minutes with a 15-minute interval.

Tickets available from URB TIX
\$350 \$250 \$150

Discounts: 50% off for full-time students, senior citizens, Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients, people with disabilities and their accompanying minder.

Ticketing Enquiries:
2734 9009
Credit Card Telephone Booking:
2111 5999
Internet Booking:
www.urbtix.hk
Programme Enquiries:
2864 2156 / info@ccohk.com

Major Partner:
Aedas Architects

Event partners:




www.ccohk.com

City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong reserves the right to change the programme and the artists.

香港藝術發展局
Hong Kong Arts Development Council
The CCOHK is a charitable organization registered in Hong Kong.

Bringing Balloons to HK!



... Delivered to your door
**Registered now for
50% discount* !**

Discount code "grandopening11"

*** Terms and Conditions:**

1. Each customer can enjoy this offer once.
2. Use of this offer is subject to the terms and conditions of Balloonfish Co. Ltd. Please call our hotline for details.
3. In case of any dispute, the decision of Balloonfish Co. Ltd. shall be final.

www.balloonfish.com.hk



Be part of Hong Kong's most ambitious digital project!

We are looking for children aged 6-8 and 9-11 to participate in our product development campaign.

Primary Mandarin™ is a leading bilingual teaching solution to support primary school students learning Mandarin. 400,000 students are currently using our materials and we are now developing an online retail solution for children and parents to enjoy Primary Mandarin™ at home.

Focus groups will be organised in November and December. Participants receive a free set of Primary Mandarin™ Flashcards.

For more information, please contact Audrey Reisdorffer at audrey@ppp.com.hk or 2973 6281.

Hong Kong Adventist Academy

S 1-6
Through Train
Education



Classroom

Join us!
**International
Food & Fun Fair**

Venue: HK Adventist Academy
Date: 4 Dec, 2011 (Sunday)
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



HKAA
Primary Section

Free Parking
Available!

S 1-6

Address: 1111 Clear Water Bay Road, Sai Kung, N.T. Hong Kong
TEL: 2719-1668 URL: www.hkaa.edu.hk Em@il: info@hkaa.edu.hk

annabel karmel presents **dad's** in the kitchen

Learn to make these everyday favourites – with healthy and fresh ingredients – that the whole family will enjoy.



Chicken Satay Skewers

You could also make this dish with prawns (2 large raw prawns per skewer) or strips of beef.

Ingredients

2 chicken breasts

Wooden skewers

• For the marinade

Small piece of ginger, about ¼ tsp

1 clove garlic

Juice of a lime (set aside 1 tsp)

1 Tbsp soy sauce

1 Tbsp runny honey

1 Tbsp peanut butter (smooth)

• For the sauce

100g peanut butter (crunchy)

75ml coconut milk

75ml water

1 Tbsp sweet chilli sauce

1 tsp soy sauce

Method

- Soak the skewers in water for 30 minutes to stop them from going black when you grill them.
- Mix the marinade: Peel and grate the ginger, crush the garlic, and put in a bowl along with the lime juice, soy sauce, honey and peanut butter. Whisk together.
- Bash the chicken: Put the chicken breasts in a sealable plastic bag. Use a mallet or rolling pin to bash the chicken breasts until they are about ½ cm thick.
- Marinate the chicken: Slice each chicken breast into 5 strips and toss them into the marinade. Leave for 10 minutes. Wash your hands.
- Meanwhile, make the sauce: Put the peanut butter, coconut

milk, water, sweet chilli sauce and soy sauce in a small pan. Warm gently, stirring constantly until everything has melted. Simmer for 1 to 2 minutes until the sauce thickens. Remove from the heat, then stir in 1 tsp of the leftover lime juice and set aside.

- Thread and cook the chicken: Thread the chicken strips onto skewers and put on a foil-lined baking sheet. Wash your hands well. Grill for 5 minutes, then turn and grill for another 5 minutes until the chicken is cooked through.
- Dip the chicken in the sauce and enjoy.

Information

Suitable for freezing



Kaloo®



créations tendres et douces

Bedroom • Toy Collection • Baby Fashion • Babycare
Prince's Building, Shop 307 • (852) 2522 7770



Best Beefburger

These juicy beef burgers are made from lean minced beef flavoured with caramelised onion, thyme and soy sauce.

Ingredients

1 Tbsp olive oil
1 red onion, chopped
4 tsp soft light brown sugar
1 Tbsp balsamic vinegar
4 sprigs thyme (or ¼ tsp thyme leaves)
200g lean minced beef
45g fresh white breadcrumbs (2 slices, crusts removed)
1 egg yolk
2 Tbsp milk
1 tsp soy sauce
Sunflower oil (if frying)

Method

- Heat the oil and cook the onion very gently for 8 to 10 minutes until soft.

- Stir in the sugar and vinegar, increase the heat to medium and cook, stirring for 2 to 3 minutes until the onions have caramelised slightly and the sugar and vinegar have reduced to a thick syrup.
- Stir in the thyme.
- Transfer to a bowl and leave to cool.
- Add the remaining ingredients to the bowl and season to taste with salt and pepper. Mix until just combined and try not to overwork the mixture. (To check the seasoning, fry 1 tsp of the mixture in a small

- frying pan, cool and taste.)
- Divide into four equal portions, roll into balls, then flatten slightly into burger shapes approximately 1 cm thick. (Cover and chill until needed.)
- Shallow fry the burgers on low heat for 4 to 5 minutes per side. Alternatively, grill for 4 minutes on each side, but make sure the grill pan is one shelf down from the normal position or the outside will burn easily.

Information

Suitable for freezing



Tortilla Pizza Margherita

I love thin crust pizzas and wheat tortilla wraps make an ideal instant base, turning deliciously crisp in the oven. It is also ideal for smaller children who find the slimmer base easier to eat. Sometimes the air bubbles in the wrap puff up a bit as the pizza bakes, but they deflate as soon as they come out of the oven, so don't panic! You can use your favourite tomato sauce recipe or shop-bought sauce, or try my recipe for a speedy sauce.

Ingredients

1 wheat tortilla wrap
2 Tbsp tomato sauce
30g grated cheddar or mozzarella cheese

Method

- Preheat the oven to 200C/400F/Gas 6.
- Put the tortilla wrap on a baking sheet and spread the tomato sauce over it, sprinkle the cheese, and add any toppings that your child may like (see suggestions at right).
- Bake for 8 to 9 minutes, until the cheese has melted and the base is crisp.
- Cut into triangles and allow to cool slightly before serving.

Suggested Toppings

1 rasher of bacon cooked until crisp and crumbled
1 small slice ham cut into thin strips, or 1 slice of salami
2 to 3 black olives, cut into rings
1 cherry tomato, cut into rings
2 cubes drained canned pineapple, diced
1 Tbsp red pepper, diced
1 Tbsp canned sweetcorn, drained
1 spring onion, sliced
2 mushrooms, sliced and sautéed in a little oil
3 to 4 very thin slices of courgette, brushed with a little oil
1 Tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
2 sunblush tomatoes, cut into small pieces

Annabel's Quick Tomato Sauce

1 Tbsp olive oil
1 shallot, diced
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 14-ounce can diced tomatoes
1 tsp light brown sugar
1 Tbsp tomato ketchup
Salt and pepper, to season

Method

- Heat the oil in a large frying pan, and sauté the shallot and garlic for 2 minutes, stirring constantly.
- Add the remaining ingredients and bring to a boil, squashing the tomatoes with the back of a wooden spoon.
- Boil, stirring frequently for 15 minutes, or at least until the sauce has thickened.

PASTA MIO

The Original Pasta Bar

Saturdays and Sundays are Family Days at Pasta Mio!

Bring the kids down on the weekend and get a kid's meal for only \$28 with any purchase of a regular sized pasta. We have free coloring pages, balloons and games on offer!

\$20 off
any Family Pack
Combo Set
(Expires Nov. 30, 2011)



Pasta Parties!

Our Pasta boxes are perfect for office meetings, small or large parties, junk trips, kids parties, or large events.

Contact us for more details on 2530-2830

Name that pasta!

Bring this ad in and tell us the name of this type of pasta and get a free sample of our chocolate ravioli!



www.pastamio.net

Tel: 2530-2830, 27-29 Hollywood Road (entrance on Cochrane Street under the escalator)



Money can't buy Happiness...

But money can buy cupcakes and that's close enough to happiness!

Cupcake Cakes, Wedding Cupcakes, Kids Party packs

www.sprinklescupcakeco.com
for more information call 2517-7077

Chocolate Orange Brownies

Ingredients

225g butter
200g dark chocolate
270g soft light brown sugar
4 eggs
1 tsp pure vanilla extract
A large pinch of salt
Finely grated zest of one large orange
Juice of half an orange
110g plain flour
30g cocoa powder
1 tsp baking powder
100g white chocolate chips (or chopped white chocolate)

Method

- Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4.
- Line a 20 x 20cm (8 x 8in) square cake tin with baking parchment, with the parchment coming up the sides of the tin.
- Put the butter, chocolate and sugar in a large heatproof bowl and set it over (but not in) a saucepan of warm water. Let the butter and chocolate melt, stirring occasionally, then remove the bowl from the pan and set aside to cool.
- Whisk together the eggs, vanilla, salt, orange zest and juice until well combined.

- Whisk the egg mixture into the melted, cooled chocolate.
- Sift over the flour, cocoa and baking powder and fold in along with the white chocolate chips.
- Pour into the prepared tin and bake for 30 to 35 minutes: 30 minutes gives a very fudgy brownie – some liquid batter will cling to a skewer inserted in the centre. 35 minutes gives a slightly more cakey brownie – damp crumbs cling to a skewer inserted into the centre.
- Allow to cool completely in the tin before removing. Remove from the tin by pulling the sides using the overhanging parchment paper.
- Once cool, you can cut into squares.

Information

Makes 16 squares
Suitable for freezing



Annabel Karmel is the UK's best-selling author of books on baby and children's food and nutrition. Her new range of Disney snacks is available in Hong Kong at Toys"R"Us and ThreeSixty locations. To learn more about Annabel, visit www.annabelkarmel.com.

stockists

ATTIC LIFESTYLE | www.attic-lifestyle.com
Cityplaza2, 18 Taikoo Shing Road, Quarry Bay

2885 0331

BOOKAZINE | www.bookazine.com.hk

Basement, Canton House, 54-56 Queen's Road, Central
Shop 3022, Level 3, ifc mall, Central
Stall E and F, Discovery Bay Pier
Shop 309, Prince's Building, 10 Chater Road, Central
Shop 117, Shui On Centre, 6-8 Harbour Road, Wan Chai

2521 1649
2295 0056
2987 1373
2522 1785
2802 4932

BOOKLODGE | www.booklodge.com

BRICK SHOP | www.brickshop.com.hk

Shop 127, 1/F Sino Centre, No.582-592 Nathan Road, Mong Kok
1/F, 12 Matheson Street, Causeway Bay

2771 2226
2882 1284

BRAMBLE CORNER | www.bramblecorner.com

BUMPS TO BABES

Unit 2114-18, Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau
5/F, Pedder Building, 12 Pedder Street, Central

2552 5000
2522 7112

BURBERRY

2/F Caroline Centre, 28 Yun Ping Road, Causeway Bay

HIP LITTLE BUBBA | www.hiplittlebubba.com

HOCUSADABRA | www.hocusadabra.com

KIKO KIDS | www.kicokids.com

Also available at petit bazaar*

LITTLE MERCERIE | www.little-mercerie.com

PETIT BAZAAR*

9 Gough Street, Central
80 Queen's Road East, Wanchai

2544 2255
2528 0229

POLLUX BOOKS

Unit 2101, Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau
Shop 52, G/F Hong Kong Station, Central

2873 6962
2868 1498

THREESIXTY

3/F and 4/F, The Landmark, Central
Shop 1090, Elements, Union Square, Kowloon Station

9014 4463
2196 8066

TOYS CLUB | www.itoysclub.com

5/F, On Hing Building, 1 On Hing Terrace, Central
Unit 901, Horizon Plaza, 2 Lee Wing Street, Ap Lei Chau

2167 8484
2836 0875

TOYS'R'US

3/F Cityplaza, Taikoo Shing
Man Yee Building, 67 Queen's Road Central, Central
7/F, Windsor House, 311 Gloucester Road, Causeway Bay

2569 2388
2259 9166
2881 1728

*gorgeous ballerinas - boots & trainers -
school shoes - casual & classic moccasins -
first steps - super cute flats for mums to
match with their little ones*



"little shoes for little ones"

Piluca & Crispin
MADE IN SPAIN



21/F EIB Tower, 4-6 Morrison Hill Rd. Wanchai, Hong Kong
Tel: 3488 0334 - E-mail: piluca.crispin@gmail.com

Max and Mei meet the Dinosaur 麦思和美美遇见恐龙

Martha Keswick & Mariko Jesse

Children learning Mandarin Chinese will love the bilingual world of Max & Mei. Max & Mei are best friends who live next door to each other. Max is British, Mei is Chinese and they go everywhere together. After their encounters with the animals of the Chinese zodiac, the pair are off on another adventure. Max loves dinosaurs and can't wait to see some at the zoo, but Mei laughs and says they are not real... who will be proved right at the end of this tale? Available at Dymocks or

<http://shop.ppp.com.hk/>



“Without words,
without writing
and without books,
there would be no history,
there would be no humanity.”

Hermann Hesse, Swiss author

The Hong Kong Young Writers Awards 2012

P3, the publisher of *Playtimes* magazine, now invites schools to submit entries for the third annual HKYWA.

Thank you to all the schools that have already registered for HKYWA. To learn about becoming a sponsor of the HKYWA, please email hkywa2012@ppp.com.hk.

How to submit entries

Each school can select up to ten individual literary entries to be submitted to the judges. Primary divisions are allowed to submit up to five cover art entries.

After registration, schools should submit all literary entries electronically by uploading them onto www.ppp.com.hk/ojs, followed by a notification email with the entry form to hkywa2012@ppp.com.hk, by 6pm on 31 January 2012.

For cover art entries, schools must submit hard copies to:
Hong Kong Young Writers Awards 2012, PPP Company Limited, 20th Floor Carfield Commercial Building, 77 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong. We must receive the hard copy submissions of the cover art by 3 February 2012.

Sponsor



Event Sponsor



Organiser



distribution

GENERAL

Central/Mid-Levels/The Peak

- Annerley Community Midwifery Services
- Art N move
- AWA Hong Kong
- Balance Health
- Baron School of Music
- Bookazine
 - Canton House
 - Prince's Building
- Body Group
- Bumps to Babies
- Cake-A-Licious
- Canossa Hospital
- Citi Bank
- Dr Lucy Lord & Associates
- Dymocks Bookstores
 - Central Building
 - Lyndhurst Terrace
 - One ifc
 - The Peak
- Haircraft
- HK Institute of Languages
- HK Adventist Hospital
- Hong Kong Public Libraries
- Kate's Kids
- Kids' Gallery Co. Ltd
- O2 Hair Studio
- Matilda Child Development Centre
- Matilda Maternity
- Mothercare
 - Prince's Building
- Pret-a-Manger
 - Citibank Plaza
 - Lippo Centre
 - One ifc
- Rosarini
- R-kids
- Sense of Touch
- SPOT Physio
- The Body Buddies
- ThreeSixty
 - Landmark
- TOGS Unlimited
- Uncle Russ
 - Central Piers 3 & 6
- The Flying Pan
- Wellcome
 - Exchange Square
 - Seymour Terrace
 - Watford Road
- YWCA

Island South

- Anastassia's Arthouse
- Bumps to Babies
 - Horizon Plaza
- Club Bel-Air
- Flex
- Fusion Academy
- Hong Kong Parkview
- Kokoon
 - Horizon Plaza
- Mirth Ltd
- Southside Family Health Centre
- The Retreat
- Tree
 - Horizon Plaza
- Wellcome
 - Redhill Plaza
 - Repulse Bay
 - The Westwood
- Wisekids
 - Cyberport

Island East

- PapaMamaBabies
- QQ Club
- Thomson Reuters

Admiralty/Wanchai

- Bamboo Grove Clubhouse
- Bookazine
 - Shui On Centre
- Cosmos Bookstore

- Dymocks Bookstores
 - Harbour Centre
 - Hopwell Centre
 - Pret-a-Manger
 - Pacific Place
 - The Flying Pan
- ### Causeway Bay/Happy Valley
- Anastassia's Arthouse
 - Chocolatier Goossens
 - Dymocks
 - Happy Valley
 - I Love Kitchen
 - Movieland
 - Mothercare
 - Lee Gardens
 - My Musik Box
 - Rolly Pollies
 - Wellcome
 - Causeway Bay
 - Windsor House

Tsim Sha Tsui/Kowloon

- Bookazine
 - Nathan Road
- Cosmos Bookstore
- Early Learning Centre
 - Mega Box
- Edible Arrangements
- I Love Kitchen
 - K11
 - Mega Box
 - TST
- Kids' Gallery
 - Kowloon Tong
- Metro Books
 - Elements
- Mothercare
 - Mega Box
- Three Sixty
 - Elements
- Mothercare
 - Mega Box
- Wellcome
 - Yau Yat Chuen
- Wxy-shop

New Territories

- Anastassia's Art House
- Babushka
 - Sai Kung
- Chatter Box
 - Tai Po
 - Fanling
- Cru Bar & Grill
 - Sai Kung
- Flexa
 - Home Square Sha Tin
- Mothercare
 - Sha Tin
- The Studio
 - Sai Kung
- Wellcome
 - Palm Springs
 - Razor Hill
 - Sai Kung

Discovery Bay

- Discovery Bay Management Office
- Discovery Bay Villages
 - Chianti
 - Greenvale
 - Midvale
 - Neo Horizon
 - Parkridge
 - Siena 1
 - Siena 2
- Dymocks
 - Discovery Bay
- Fun to Read
- Island Health Family Practice
- Movement Improvement
- Movieland
- TOGS Unlimited
 - Discovery Bay
- Uncle Russ
 - Discovery Bay

SCHOOLS/PLAYGROUPS

Central/Mid-Levels/The Peak

- Baby Buddies
 - Sheung Wan
 - Carmel School
 - Casa dei Bambini
 - Sheung Wan
 - ESF International Kindergarten, Hillside
 - Highgate House School
 - The Peak
 - HKPPA Head Office
 - Panda Junction
 - Central
 - Sunshine House
 - The Peak
 - The Harbour School
 - The International Montessori School
 - The Peak Pre-School
 - Victoria (Belcher) Kindergarten
 - Woodland Montessori
 - Mid-Levels
 - Woodland Pre-School
 - The Peak
- ### Island South
- ESF Kennedy School
 - Hong Kong PIPS
 - Kellett School
 - Modern Montessori International
 - Montessori for Children
 - Morningstar School
 - Southside Kindergarten
 - Sunshine House International
 - Chi Fu
 - Pok Fu Lam Road
 - Tai Tam
 - The International Montessori School
 - Woodland Pre-Schools
 - Beachside
 - Harbourside
 - Montessori - Tai Tam
 - Montessori - Repulse Bay
 - Pok Fu Lam
 - TreeHouse

Island East

- ESF Quarry Bay School
- HKPPA Heng Fa Cheun Playgroups
- Kiangsu & Chekiang Primary School
- Play & Learn Education Centre

Admiralty/Wanchai

- JEMS
- Starters School
- Superchamp

Causeway Bay/Happy Valley

- Alison's Letterland
- Baby Buddies
 - Tin Hau
- Bambino English Playschool
- ESF Glenealy School
- Island Children's Montessori
- Starlit Learning Centre
- Sun Kids
- The International Montessori School
 - Tin Hau
- Victoria Educational Organisation
- Wembley International Kindergarten
- Woodland Pre-School
 - Happy Valley

Tsim Sha Tsui/Kowloon

- American International School
- Baby Buddies
 - Kowloon
- Deborah Educational Institute
- HKPPA Hilltots Pre-School Group
- Kowloon PIPS
- Little Academy
- Noble Place
- Yew Chung International School
- YMCA of HK International Kindergarten

New Territories

- Box Hill International Kindergartens
 - Ma On Shan

- Fo Tan
- Tsung Kwan O
- ESF Abacus International Kindergarten
- ESF Clearwater Bay School
- ESF International Kindergartens
 - Tsing Yi
 - Wu Kai Sha
- ESF Renaissance College
- ESF Shatin Junior School
- Garden House
- HKPPA Leapfrog Playgroups
- Jing Jing Kindergarten
- Learning Adventures
- Littleton Discovery Playgroup
- New Song Christian Kindergarten
- Norwegian International School
- Sai Kung International Pre-school
- The Woodland Sai Kung Pre-School
- Zebedee International Kindergarten

Lantau

- Discovery Bay International School
- Discovery Mind Kindergarten
 - Discovery Bay
 - Tung Chung
- Discovery Montessori School
- Little OWLS Kindergarten
 - Mui Wo
- Sunshine House
 - Discovery Bay
 - Tung Chung

China

- Zhuhai International School
 - Guangdong

Macau

- The International School of Macau

CLUBS

- Aberdeen Marina Club
- American Country Club
- Discovery Bay Residents' Club
- Gold Coast Yacht & Country Club
- Hebe Haven Yacht Club
- Hong Kong Cricket Club
- Hong Kong Football Club
- Kowloon Cricket Club
- Ladies Recreation Club
- Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club
- The Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club
- The HK Jockey Club - various locations
- United Services Recreation Club

REAL ESTATE & RELOCATION COMPANIES

- Allied Pickfords
- AGS Four Winds
- Colliers International
- CompassReal Estate
- Crown Relocation Services
- Executive Homes
- Habitat Property
- Home Solutions - Mui Wo
- Jones Lang La Salle
- Landscape Real Estate Services
- Paragon Relocation Company
- Pricoa Relocation Hong Kong
- Proway Limited
- Santa Fe Transport International
- Sallmanns Residential Limited

Macau

- Cuppa Coffee - Bakery & Coffee House
- Mandarin Oriental Macau
- Qube @ The Venetian
- Rocks Hotel
- Spa Philosophy
- The Landmark



ASIAN INSPIRED.....
FOR YOUR KIDS AND YOUR HOME TO WEAR
WWW.MANDARINSWING.COM



Home ideas for the whole family: contemporary and colorful.
Great birth gift and Christmas gift ideas.
Special promotion on mollaron-home.com



PapaMamaBabies
your one-stop shop for kids' wear,
shoes, educational toys and books
Free delivery service
Special discount to Playtimes readers.
30% OFF on purchase over \$300
on kids' wear and shoes
3520 2026
www.PapaMamaBabies.com



BeBe Goodies
Irresistible Baby Gifts In Town
www.bebegoodies.com

Celebrate your family
as a work of art

Stunning casts in
silver, bronze and
lead crystal.

Made in London
by the finest
English craftsmen.

Baby feet
and beyond.

call
9038 1658
or for inspiration visit
wrightsonandplatt.com



WRIGHTSON & PLATT
The Fine Art of Life Cast Sculpture

**WANT TO TEACH
CHILDREN YOGA?**

Get trained by the only
Certified Radiant Child Facilitator
in Hong Kong, Jenny Smith -
RYT and Founder of Gecko Yoga.

- Radiant Child Yoga
Teacher Training
- Kids yoga classes
- Yoga events
& workshops

www.geckoyoga.com
M +852 6973 1792 E info@geckoyoga.com



stylish kids' homewares &
decor



shop online at
www.tickitey-boo.com
TICKITEY-BOO

Want to reach over 50,000 affluent parents in Hong Kong?
Contact the **Playtimes** advertising team to find out how.
email: inquiries@ppp.com.hk

playtimes
your expert guide to family life



MyBambina.com
Award winning online store
International brands
for baby and children

MYBAMBINA.COM



NEW APPROACH TO HEALTHCARE
BodyTalk

Treating Acute and Chronic Health Problems

The revolutionary New Approach to Health Care
in over 56 countries.

BodyTalk is safe, non-invasive, effective therapy

Contact Us
Angie Tourani – Holistic Central

Tel : 2523 8044 Mobile : 8683 5765
URL : www.bodytalksystem.com.hk
E-mail : angie@bodytalksystem.com.hk



Expert-Transport & Relocations

Mover • Storage • Handyman

- International & Domestic Relocations
- Cargo Collection & Logistics Service
- Storage – Short & Long Term
- All Sorts of Handyman Work
- Professional Service at Lowest Rate

Tel: 2566 4799 | www.expertmover.hk



Free HK Delivery on
orders over \$500
(HK Island, Kowloon,
NT & SD)

hocusadabra
online bazaar for children

hocusadabra.com

Caring for your family,
home and the environment
is our business



Home + Green Cleaning

Home + Green Pest Management

Home + Solutions For Allergy

24813988
Johnson Group
Pest Specialist Ltd

www.johnson-group.com.hk
enquiry@johnson-group.com.hk

PROFESSIONAL WILLS
LIMITED



Have you left
anyone out of
your Will?

Tel: 2561-9031 www.profwills.com
Hong Kong's Premier Will Writing Service

Sweet Secrets

Children's Party

Essentially
Birthdays, Cake
& Party Fun!

Central T2545 8886
Causeway Bay T2575 6228
info@SweetSecrets.com.hk
www.SweetSecrets.com.hk

www.facebook.com/sweetsecretscakes

wellness & birth
pre & postnatal homecare



midwives
breastfeeding specialists
baby massage & more
phone 9022 1779
www.wellnessandbirth.com

大華風采
Learning Chinese Through Stories!
BETTER CHINESE

**Mandarin Workshops
in Causeway Bay**

Open House
on Nov 16, 17, 18, 19

FREE gift &
discount for
early birds

For details, visit:
www.betterchinese.com/hkafterschools.html



An engaging learning
experience...

2523-3899 S/F, Honest Motors Building, 9-11,
Leighton Road, Causeway Bay, H.K.
www.BetterChinese.com hk@betterchinese.com

FITNESS

where fitness meets life

We specialize in providing premier in-home and
onsite personal fitness training and coaching services.
We have over seventeen years experience in
one-on-one training.
We know what it takes to achieve your goals.
Our expertise: general fitness, Pilates,
balance & flow, Muay Thai boxing & yoga.

Book your **FREE** session now: 63879993
Office: 22594294
fitnessu@fitnessu.hk
www.fitnessu.hk



Fabric Fun

Experience **Fabric Design in Fabric
Art & Creative Sewing Classes!**

Carry home exclusively designed projects as
you learn different techniques. Classes
suitable for children age 3 & older.

Host a **Fabric Art Party!**
Guests create personal **Party favors.**
Theme selection available.

**Fabric Art something unique.
Always!**

Contact: Ms. Alfiya
Ph 92815290
E-mail: fabrifun@hotmail.com
www.wix.com/fabrifun/fun



Bambini-bag
Children's Designer Bean Bags
www.bambini-bag.com • 9847 1144 • 6775 7004

Little Montessorian®

Best Toys for kids!

The sole-distributor of "Little Montessorian" high quality Montessori and creative early education materials to schools & parents.

For more products: **Call: 3621-0010 / www.littlemontessorian.com**

CE Int'l Safty Standard * 100% Satisfaction Guarantee * Natural wood products * Fine Craftmanship

Geometric cabinet, Grading Color Set, Constructive triangles, Binomial Trinomial, Brown stairs, Sound bottles, Knobbed cylinders, Knobless cylinders, Mystery bag, Sensorial Exploration, Pink tower.

Complete Deelife

All Gingerbread House Kits
Pre-order from November 1st-25th to enjoy 15% off!



2/1 On Lan Centre, 11-15 On Lan Street, Central, HK Tel: 3167 7022
www.completeeelife.com

COOL TOYS FOR PARTY FUN!



★ TOY RENTAL ★
★ BOUNCY CASTLES ★
★ KIDS' BIRTHDAY PARTIES ★

TOY CLUB +852 8216-3870
www.hongkongtoyclub.com

KIDS LAND



Learn Mandarin with:
Mandarin Playgroup
Fun with Mandarin

www.kidslandhk.com • Tel: 6112-2675
Room 601, 6/F, 73 Wyndham Street, Central

Radhika Rao Photography



Mobile: 9416-0972
www.radhikarao.com

TOGS UNLIMITED

Fantastic line over-runs and samples from popular UK and US labels.

Sizes from preemies to toddlers.

Nursing and nappy changing facilities available!

522, Block C, DB Plaza Discovery Bay
Tel: +(852) 2987-0523
Closed Sundays & Public Holidays

8A Kimley Commercial Building
142-146 Queen's Road Central
Tel: +(852) 2333-7525
Closed Sundays & Public Holidays

tchmp@biznetvigator.com | www.togsunlimited.com

mandarin 多明頓 for munchkins

NOW IN CENTRAL & DISCOVERY BAY!

学玩

2011 Christmas Camp

Enrol Now!

Call: 2486-9062
77 Wyndham Street (North Plaza, D.B.)
www.mandarinformunchkins.com

inspire people management



Baby & Kids Models (Age: over 3 months - 15 years old)
Baby & Kid Products Image Representatives / Press Conferences / Photo Shooting for Newspaper and Magazine / TV Commercials
- Requirements: Cute / Smart / Active / Camera Face / Twins

Part-time Models (Age: 16 - 45 years old)
For Photo Shooting / Fitting Jobs / Fashion Shows / TV Commercials / Products Image Representatives / Event Promotions
- Requirements: Stylish / Cool / Smart / Elegant / Sweet / Camera Face

If you are interested, please contact Mui at 2388 1488 or email us for casting.
www.inspirepeople.com.hk info@inspirepeople.com.hk



Eco-friendly bamboo

babywear and feeding accessories
for mother and baby
www.bebe2be.com

bebe2be



Craft Box

Opening up a world of creative ideas for children

Craft Lessons at schools around Hong Kong

Craft Parties - a birthday experience with a difference!

9014 3262
www.craftbox.asia



Mandarin for Children

In-House
"Learn through Play" Playgroup
One-to-one Lesson
Intensive Speaking & Listening Lesson
Easter/Summer/Christmas Day Camp

Little Sun Mandarin Centre
www.littlesunmc.com Tel: 2123-2109
Email: info@littlesunmc.com

Halvorsen 34 For Sale

Based on Halvorsen's famously seaworthy Island Gypsy hull, "Beluga" is one of the best-specified examples of a Halvorsen Gourmet Cruiser anywhere in the world. A spacious, beautiful 3-year old boat with classic styling and efficient performance. Loads of extras and customised features. An absolute joy for short and multi-day family cruising. Carefully driven and well maintained.

- built 2008 • LOA 37' • Beam 12'
- Draft 4'1" • Cummins QSB 380 engine
- Asking HK\$2.4m or best offers

Please contact Mark on mobile 9879 9785 or email mhardy@pacificbasin.com

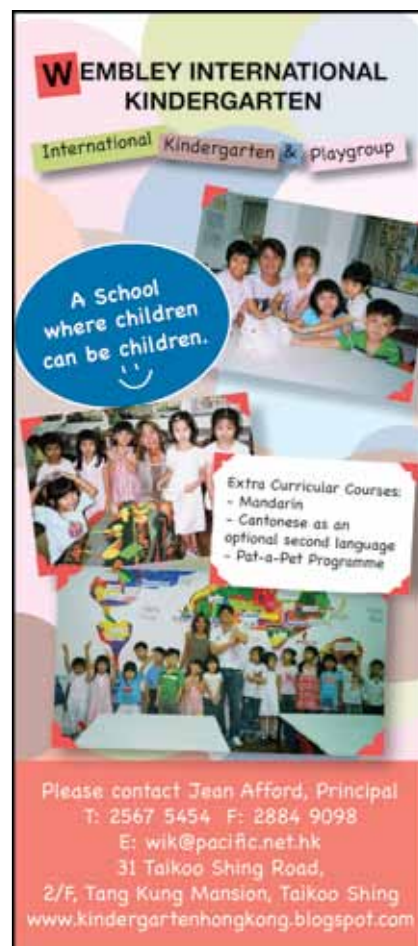



Get organised this year and choose from our fabulous Christmas range. All Christmas cards can be personalised.

www.cupcakedesigns.biz

It's the detail that counts.

cupcake designs.



WEMBLEY INTERNATIONAL KINDERGARTEN

International Kindergarten & playgroup

A School where children can be children.

Extra Curricular Courses:
- Mandarin
- Cantonese as an optional second language
- Pet-a-Pet Programme

Please contact Jean Afford, Principal
T: 2567 5454 F: 2884 9098
E: wik@pacific.net.hk
31 Taikoo Shing Road,
2/F, Tang Kung Mansion, Taikoo Shing
www.kindergartenhongkong.blogspot.com



florenda

Center Courses

- Mandarin Playgroup (Parent & child)
- Mandarin for children (3-6yrs)

My Home Mandarin Playgroup
新加坡中文學校

Home Immerse Prog. Homework Assistance
新普通话上门导师

普通话亲子班 儿童普通话班
最受欢迎的普通话导师
教室的价格, 有系统, 有趣, 吸引的教学方法

Call 8203 2883 | Wyndham Street
www.florenda.com.hk



iCARE Voice & Speech Therapy Centre

provides professional assessment and therapy to the clients, helping them to improve their communication skills and self-confidence, thus enhancing their quality of life.

Services provide for:

- Articulation Disorder
- Language Delay
- Voice Disorders
- Dysfluency
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Asperger Syndrome
- Swallowing Difficulties

consultation by appointment
Rm 903, Canton House,
54-56 Queen's Road Central,
Central, Hong Kong
Tel: 2868 1488
Website: www.icare.com.hk
Email: info@icare.com.hk

iCARE
Voice & Speech Therapy Centre



www.beestudio.hk

AT YOUR HOME & OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Bee Studio | New Born | Kids | Pregnancy | Family | enquires/appointment: 2570 1451



Healthy Humans HK

Keeping you Healthy in Hong Kong

A wide range of targeted, food based and scientifically advanced vitamins, supplements and natural healthcare products at affordable prices.

www.healthyhumanshk.com



Give your baby a head start

over 100 Activities & Games for 6 weeks up to 10 month old babies

PEKiP Created to:

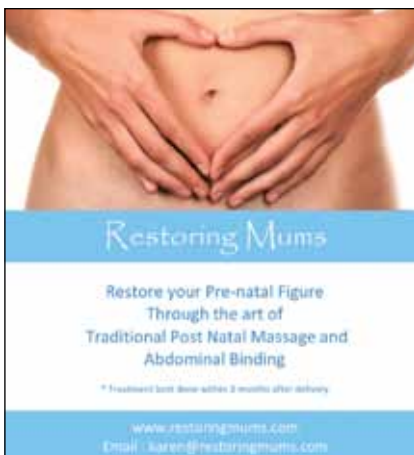
- Give baby the time to explore her world
- Discover their surroundings
- Grow at their own tempo
- Rest free to move without clothes and feel her environment
- Be rewarded with other babies, to observe, learn and evaluate
- Interact with the mother

NEW SESSION starts January 10, 2012

PEKiP The most valuable and educational child development programme in Hong Kong

Prepaid Period - Infant Programme PEKiP at 2573 6683

www.pekip.com.hk



Restoring Mums

Restore your Pre-natal Figure Through the art of Traditional Post Natal Massage and Abdominal Binding

* Treatment best done within 3 months after delivery

www.restoringmums.com
Email: karen@restoringmums.com



Truly Care
Pest Control Services

Professional Pest Control Services
100% Guarantee Services

2458 8378
email: info@trulycare.com.hk
www.trulycare.com.hk



Shadow Authentic personal moments in a sculpture.
塑下真实时刻 个人雕塑

Life Casting in Silver, Bronze, and more.
铸模存真 银、铜...

Contact: Shadow (852) 9150 4033
shadow@shadow.com.hk
www.shadow.com.hk

Jennifer Debow BA (Psych), BSW, BEd, Dip Ed
Educational Consultant

Looking for an international school for your child in Hong Kong?
Does your child have special needs that require unique and customized attention?

Canadian educated teacher and social worker with 17 years experience with International Schools in Hong Kong is able to help you with:

- Coaching to help your child get into his/her choice school.
- International school application enquiries.
- Assistance with transition from/to schools overseas.
- Coordinate and coach families and students with special needs.

phone: (+852) 9804 9475

e-mail: jennifer@debow.net



Dad, don't give him your name

Kids need to have their own monikers, argues father-of-three *Nury Vittachi*.

At the time of writing this column, police in New York are searching for a couple who reportedly snatched their children from social workers. The dad is called Nephra Payne and the kids, in order of age, are Nephra Payne, Nephra Payne, Nephra Payne, Nephra Payne, Nephra Payne, Nephra Payne, Nephra Payne and Nefertiti Payne. I know what you're thinking. What's up with Nefertiti, the youngest? Why isn't she cursed with the same dumb name as the rest of them? Hey, Dad, not fair.

The report in *The New York Times* did not specify why the children had been removed from their parents in the first place, but I suspect the charge should be a "serious lack of imagination."

This whole naming-kids-after-yourself thing worries me, although I have come to expect it from low-life individuals, such as criminals, delinquents and celebrities.

When Michael Jackson had a child and called him Michael Jackson, it was no surprise. But when his second child was also named Michael Jackson, it was a bit much – I mean, the poor kid was a GIRL, for a start. He then had a third child, whom he named Prince Michael Jackson. If he'd continued to have kids, no doubt they would be called King Michael Jackson, Emperor Michael Jackson, God Incarnate Michael Jackson, etc.

Every time I write anything negative about Michael Jackson I get a nasty letter from his fan, so let me add a disclaimer. I have ABSOLUTELY NOTHING against Michael Jackson, except for the fact that he was an evil, twisted, weirdo junkie who blew his children's inheritance on statues of himself.

But he's not the only self-obsessed celebrity. Boxer George Foreman couldn't bear the thought of any of his children not sharing in the glory of his name, so all five of his sons are called George Foreman. He also has a girl called George and another called Georgetta. WHY IS CURSING YOUR CHILD WITH A SILLY NAME NOT A CRIMINAL ACT?

Consider this: When a black girl won top marks at a


US high school this past summer, she was forced to share the title of valedictorian (meaning "top scorer") with a white girl. The tale of 18-year-old Kymberly, a student at McGehee High School in Arkansas was reported in the US press as a possible racism case. But if you actually read the press reports, you find that the student was impressive for another reason, too. Set aside the fact that she is an unwed teen mother. Her surname was Wimberley. Any child cursed with a mother dumb enough to send a child out into the world as Kymberly Wimberley is living life with a planet-sized disadvantage, that's for sure.

But, generally speaking, the whole process of naming offspring after their parents is a dad thing. There are millions of boys called Something Junior, but I've never heard of a single girl called Anything Junior. Girls escape this.

I think it's because dads are not into the whole baby thing until it actually happens. Then they are thunderstruck by the fact that they have produced a little boy who will carry on their genetic lineage, and thus give him their own name with Junior attached.

Four reasons not to do this:

1. It's a ridiculously egotistical move, like calling a person "Mini-Me".
2. To avoid confusion, people will have to call him Junior, which will sound dumb when he is an adult.
3. When he grows up to become a serial killer the press will camp outside your door.
4. If he's known as Junior, you become "Senior", which everyone knows is a polite word for "drooling old fossil".

Actually, come to think of it, dads who name their sons after them punish themselves. And this is particularly true for people who name all their children after themselves. Just think of the pain every time the phone rings in Nephra Payne's house and a voice asks: "Is Nephra there?". 

Nury Vittachi writes a regular humour column at www.mrjam.org.



Best children's books at lowest price

www.BOOKLODGE.com
Email: info@booklodge.com
Tel: 2142-3322



Receive a HK\$100 voucher for your first purchase!
 Quote Playtimes. Offer valid until 31st December 2011. Can be used on first purchase only.
 Cannot be used in conjunction with other sales and promotions.
 Valid for a minimum purchase amount of HK\$750.

Trendy & Sensible French chic

Shop online for a selection of the best
French kids fashion at attractive prices

www.little-parisians.com





WoodlandPre-Schools

For over 30 years Woodland has set the standard in Hong Kong for quality pre-school education. With ten schools, Woodland offers classes for children aged from twelve months to six years.



Seven of our pre-schools use 'Traditional' teaching methods in line with the UK National Curriculum's Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). These schools are fully accredited by the Pre-School Learning Alliance, London. Three of our pre-schools offer 'Montessori' teaching methods that are fully approved and accredited by the Montessori Centre International (London). At Woodlands we recognise the benefits to children of learning Mandarin, and offer the option of bilingual classes.

Tai Tam Montessori	Tel: 2525 1655
Repulse Bay Montessori	Tel: 2803 1885
Mid Levels Montessori	Tel: 2549 1211
The Peak	Tel: 2849 6192
Repulse Bay Beachside	Tel: 2812 0274

Happy Valley	Tel: 2575 0042
Pokfulam	Tel: 2551 7177
Harbourside (Aberdeen)	Tel: 2559 1377
Sai Kung	Tel: 2813 0290
Woodland Tree House (Pokfulam)	Tel: 2872 6138

www.woodlandschools.com