

Young dancers are given the chance to join a magical Christmas ballet workshop

By Georgina Butler
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Aspiring young dancers are in for an early festive treat this month as English National Ballet are holding a Nutcracker-themed youth ballet session at Milton Keynes Theatre.

The creative ballet workshop is inspired by the classic Christmas masterpiece and will involve students learning extracts of choreography from the company's talented dance artists and exploring Tchaikovsky's glorious score.

Time will also be spent discovering how ballet dancers combine physical strength with dramatic presence and artistic expression.

Suitable for children aged 11 to 13, the session will be held from 9.30am until 11am on Saturday, November 26, at a cost of £12 per child.

A firm family favourite, Nutcracker is often the first ballet that children are given the opportunity to enjoy. Full of seasonal cheer, colourful characters and dynamic dancing, it is guaranteed to capture the imagination of audience members, young and old.

The enchanting story tells the tale of Clara, a little girl who receives a painted wooden nutcracker on Christmas Eve from a mysterious magician. When the clock strikes midnight, the nutcracker is transformed into a real soldier and battles with Clara against the Mouse King. Clara is then whisked off through a whirlwind of a snowstorm to a land where more adventures await.

English National Ballet's Nutcracker is at MK Theatre from November 23 to 26.

The company will host several events at MK Theatre throughout the run, suitable for



Students can take part in a ballet workshop



all ages. Visit www.atgtickets.com/venues/milton-keynes-theatre/ for more information.



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Food bank donations

Kind-hearted pupils are pleased that their harvest festival fun will help families in the new city. Summerfield School collected lots of packaged food for a special celebratory assembly and these donations will be given to MK Food Bank.

Pupils' fresh challenge

Teams of students from Milton Keynes College and Shenley Brook End School are putting their business skills into practice with a food chain's competition. Subway has set them the task of designing a new 6in sub and creating a marketing plan. Entries are being devised around the theme #LiveFresh. MK College business faculty member Frances Godfrey said: "It's great to have a real-life business case study for students to work through in an industry that is relevant to them and that they can understand and relate to."

St Paul's School students prove they are great with high scores and progress

By Georgina Butler
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St Paul's Catholic School students are celebrating the news that their school has attained an above average score in a measure of progress.

Progress 8 is an analysis of the improvement students make from Key Stage 2 SATs results to GCSE outcomes.

Having achieved a score of +0.17 (+0.29 adjusted to include all students) St Paul's has been placed within the top 20 per cent of all schools nationally for student progression.

This score – which is based on the grades for English, mathematics, three subjects from science, computer science, history, geography and modern languages and three other subjects – gives St Paul's the second highest Progress 8 score out of all the schools across Milton Keynes.

A further highlight from the provisional Department



St Paul's Catholic School pupils

for Education school league tables which published the Progress 8 scores was the con-

firmation that St Paul's has the best attendance figures in Milton Keynes with pupil

absences at just 3.9 per cent. Headteacher Jo-Anne Hoarty said: "We are delight-

ed with this news and it provides an excellent foundation for the future."

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| 11/03/2017 | Project Management - an Introduction
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