

It's time to PARTY!

Primary Times' guide on how to host your child's perfect birthday party, without breaking the bank



As the madness of Christmas and New Year has worn off and the January blues have subsided, February is the perfect time to begin thinking about your child's perfect birthday party. Primary Times has compiled a guide on how to host your child's ultimate birthday bash, whilst remaining under budget and stress free throughout the whole process. To begin, tell your child it's time to start planning the big day. No doubt you will be met with tons of ideas and it's your job to steer them in a way that is both realistic and affordable, but also plenty of fun for all. The first step to party planning is to choose the venue for where this party will be held. If you're happy inviting all your children's friends into your home, then this will be a great money-saver. For some of us however, this isn't an option. In this case, try shopping around to find what works best for you and your little one. Appropriate venues can include a whole multitude of options, from your local village hall, to soft play centres, swimming pools, cinemas, sports pitches, or restaurants. Ask these individual venues whether they have any package deals available for

children's party hire. With costs in mind, when booking a venue consider partnering up with another school parent to host a joint birthday party for your children. This will allow for just as much fun, whilst cutting the costs down by half. Guest list numbers will greatly depend on the venue you choose, but with another parent on board, it will allow you to be a bit more flexible with your pennies. Once all of this is decided, you can begin to think about the fun details of the day. The food, for example, can be a great way for your child to get involved in the party planning. If your party is self-catered, consider the different foods you will lay out for your guests. You can't go wrong with rustling up a selection of sandwiches, mini pizzas, veggies with dips or cocktail sausages. If you're looking for a theme, an International themed menu is a great way of encouraging the children to try different foods from around the world, whilst having fun at the same time. Indian samosas, Mexican nachos, Chinese spring rolls and American hotdogs are some of our favourite dishes of the day. As for games, there are a whole host of different options that will keep the children happy and keep your costs low. Some of our favourites include the old classics of pass the parcel, musical chairs, and pin the tail on the donkey. Alternatively, for a more modern party game, a piñata is becoming

an increasing favourite amongst children. They are available at most major UK supermarkets, and are sure to keep the kids laughing for ages as they eagerly try and retrieve the treats inside. Finally, before children leave a birthday party, they are usually expected to take a party bag home with them. Rather than the classic cellophane bag filled with sweets, balloons, and pencils, there are several alternatives which will keep your party guests smiling, without costing a fortune. Some of our favourites include a small children's story book, a packet of seeds for children to grow their own vegetables, or some home-baked treats wrapped up with a bow.

The Party Checklist

- Invitations
- Party Venue
- Games
- Cake
- Food & Drink
- Decorations
- Music
- Camera
- Party bags
- Thank you notes

It's time to PARTY!

From entertainers to venues, we have lots of new, stress-free ideas for making your child's day extra special!...

Rope Runners

The original and biggest high ropes in Essex includes two and a half hours of fun for anyone aged 8+ and includes the Climbing Wall and Big Zip. The continuous safety system means you don't have to worry about the safety of your own or other people's children. Don't fancy ropes? Choose instead from It's My Party - Get Me Out of Here, a Bushcraft Party for the next generation of budding Bear Grylls, or an Army Style Assault Course Party for a different challenge. Dedicated party leaders will ensure your group all have a great time. Rope Runners is situated at the Secret Nuclear Bunker at Kelvedon Hatch, near Brentwood in Essex. For more information call 01277 364470 or visit www.roperunners.co.uk



Pirates Bay Adventure Golf

What a great day out with family or friends! Pirates Bay Adventure Golf in Promenade Park, Maldon features a beautifully landscaped adventure golf course with waterfalls, talking pirates, exploding canons, sharks and crocs and a pirate ship where you can all come aboard! All clubs and equipment are supplied; no pre-booking is necessary and if you're 3 to 93 you will enjoy a great family friendly experience with wonderful memories to share! After your game, there are freshly cooked meals and snacks, drinks and ice-cream and a delightfully decked terrace up high overlooking

the course. Get down and experience all the fun! You'll be hooked!

Check out the birthday party options too, ranging from £9 per child. Let Pirates Bay do all the work for you including party bags, invites, certificates, catering and an exclusive party room. Why not have it in the evening and test your game under floodlights?

For more information, call 01621 854095 or go to www.piratesbaymaldon.co.uk. Exclusive hire and corporate packages also available.



10% off birthday party packages for 10 or more kids when you quote code PTimes10% when booking (Expires 31.10.19)

For ages 8+

HIGH ROPES PARTY

- ROPES COURSE PARTY
- SHARP SHOOTING SHOWDOWN
- IT'S MY PARTY - GET ME OUT OF HERE!
- ASSAULT COURSE PARTY
- HIGH ROPES AND SHARP SHOOTING COMBO
- BUSHCRAFT PARTY

All parties can be booked via www.roperunners.co.uk or by calling 01277 364470

Based at the Secret Nuclear Bunker, Ongar Road, Kelvedon Hatch. Find us on Twitter & Facebook

Pop Goes the Party

At Pop Goes the Party, you can treat your little one to the ultimate pop star experience! Your superstar, and up to seven of their friends, can record two of their favourite songs in the professional recording studio, situated in rural Braintree. Every child receives a CD of their recordings and VIP pass, creating lasting memories of their special day! Your guests record their songs with the friendly host and professional music producer who are DBS checked and experienced in working with children. They have a huge catalogue of songs, spanning many genres to choose from. They organise party games or a production tutorial as part of your party package. You can also opt to add on a fabulous photo shoot and even record your very own music video! Packages are designed to suit a variety of preferences and budgets, so why not get in touch to find out more? Visit www.poggoesthepartyuk.com or call 01245 360111 for more information.



Bricks 4 Kidz

Give your child the best birthday party on the block! Using theme-based project kits, kids play and learn using LEGO® Brick model plans that are like no other, designed just for Bricks 4 Kidz®, and reinforce S.T.E.M. based principles. Sit back and relax while they encourage the kids to tap into their potential by sparking their curiosity and creativity, while having a great time creating awesome builds. Call Nicky on 07496 808377 or visit www.bricks4kidz.co.uk/essex



Off Road Kids

Off Road Kids is a new off-road driving experience for children aged 3 to 10. Kids drive tough lookalike mini-Landrovers and complete a range of challenges. For younger children, simply enjoy driving around the farm and tackle various obstacles; for those aged 5 and older, paintball shooting at static targets can be included. Children love the off-road driving experiences, and Off Road Kids now offer the opportunity for private drives, private events and parties.

To enquire about a birthday party or private drive, please email info@offroadkids.co.uk or call on 0737 832 0495

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Our fun packed parties continue to be a huge hit!

Lots of LEGO® models to build including Technic, 3D and Mosaics - each party can be themed to your choice.

T: 07496 808377 W: bricks4kidz.co.uk/essex

Suitable for Ages 5-10

POP GOES THE PARTY

THE ULTIMATE POPSTAR EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR FUTURE STARS!

RECORD your very own single! SHOOT your very own music video!

PARTY at a real recording studio! DANCE like you've never danced before!

FROM JUST £90!!

CONTACT US NOW!

www.poggoesthepartyuk.com 01245360111 info@poggoesthepartyuk.com

OFFROADKIDS.CO.UK

Outdoor landrover driving adventures for kids aged 3+

Birthday Party driving adventures!

Chelmsford Equestrian Centre, Carlton Farm, Beehive Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8RL

NEW ATTRACTION!

PIRATES BAY Adventure Golf

19 HOLE PIRATE THEMED ADVENTURE GOLF COURSE

- Landscaped adventure golf course with waterfalls, talking pirates, exploding canons, sharks and more!
- Floodlit and open 'til late!

Birthday party packages from just £9 per child! Please see website for more details

Tickets*

- Pirates £7.50
- Buccaneers £5.50
- Family £22.00

*Pirates are ages 14+. Buccaneers are aged 5-13. Discounts for seniors & under 5s

10% off a birthday party package with 10 or more children. Quote code PTimes10% when booking. Expires 31.10.19

www.piratesbaymaldon.co.uk Promenade Park, Maldon, CM9 5JQ | 01621 854095

It's time to PARTY!

Royal Gunpowder Mills

Royal Gunpowder Mills offers a fantastic party experience for children. Meet Professor Nitrate & crew as they guide you on a day full of super cool science and experimental fun! As part of your party at the Royal Gunpowder Mills you will receive the following...

- Your own party room to decorate as you wish
- Your very own birthday party leader
- VIP seating at Professor Nitrate's Science Show
- A cold buffet selection consisting of sandwiches, crisps, sweets, fruit, cake and juice
- A military truck tour taking you into the parts of the site that are top secret!
- Your own VIP Rocket Making or Slime Making session



Pricing for birthday parties is £18 per child. The birthday party program runs within the school holiday events. For full details visit www.royalgunpowdermills.com/birthday-parties or email birthdayparties@royalgunpowdermills.com for further information.



Audley End Miniature Railway

Enjoy your child's birthday party at the Audley End Miniature Railway. Choose between an exciting Train Party which includes a 1.5 mile train ride through estate woodland and a complimentary driver's hat and whistle for the birthday child or an Enchanted Fairy Walk Party which includes a magical walk to find the fairies and elves in their fairy houses. Both include private party enclosures that are wet weather proof and

have seating. All children will also receive a complimentary ticket to use at the Railway at a later date, excluding special events. Additional attractions such as a bouncy castle, swing boats and roundabout are also available. Party food packages can also be tailored to your needs. For more information or to book a party please ring 01799 510726, visit www.audley-end-railway.co.uk or email karen@aemr.co.uk

NOW OPEN 1066 Adventure Golf at Golf World Stansted!

1066 Adventure golf is a great day out for all the family as well as being a fun and educational experience, but did you know Adventure Golf course is open for any occasion? They are now offering 1066 Adventure Golf Parties! Have the best time playing 18 holes of Adventure Golf and follow on with a buffet in the private function room! They offer Footgolf parties as well as golf parties and even have prizes included!

If golf isn't your thing, then why not hire out the function room for a disco, a bounce party or a craft party, as well as soft play for the younger ones.

Please get in touch if any of these exciting parties interest you at Leanne@golfworldstansted.co.uk or 01279 812865. All welcome! No need to be a member.



Party with the Luxurious Glitterati



The Essex based glitter bar and team are here to bring the sparkle! They have an amazing selection of 100% biodegradable eco glitter, and they will come armed with enough glitz and dazzle to make sure your kid's party is one to remember. They have a range of glitter bar party packages available, perfect for both boys and girls. Glitter is a fantastic alternative option to traditional face painting, as it takes half the time! Visit www.luxuriousglitter.co.uk for more info and to book.

Jesters Theatre Academy

Jesters provide party entertainment for birthdays/hen/stag/seasonal or bespoke. They offer professional, reliable, fun and friendly party entertainment. There's a big selection of party packages for you to choose from to ensure that you have the best party you can imagine. Choose from Play Sessions, Story Sessions, Themes (such as Frozen, and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory), Pop Video, Character Parties (entertainer comes dressed as your chosen character) or Dance Parties. They can even create the perfect bespoke party for you! Facepainter and Glitter Tattoos available also! All the party entertainers are performers and are full of energy, friendly and bubbly! They are all DBS checked. Jesters have public liability insurance. Visit www.jesterstheatreacademy.com or call 01206 524115 for more details.



Luxurious
Hire our Eco-Glitter Bar
Want to make their party really memorable?
Hire our glitter bar and team and we'll bring the sparkle! With our amazing selection of 100% biodegradable eco-glitter, we'll come armed with enough glitz and dazzle to make your child's party an event to remember!
@luxurious_glitter
@luxuriousglitter
www.luxuriousglitter.co.uk



Want a recording party?

Studio 6 Music is pleased to offer a range of party packages suitable for all ages and abilities. Bring your friends and family to record songs of your choice in their air-conditioned, purpose built recording studio. The qualified and friendly staff will ensure everything runs smoothly from the moment you arrive, starting with vocal warm ups in Studio 2 before your recording experience and then finishing off with crafting a cover for your CD before food and playback of your music! Studio 6 Music is located in Crittall Place, Witham, a few minutes drive off the A12 between Chelmsford and Colchester. They would be delighted to offer you a tour to show you all Studio 6 Music has to offer. Contact 01376 517856, info@studio6music.com or visit www.studio6music.com

Jesters PARTIES
WWW.JESTERSTHEATREACADEMY.COM
JESTERSPARTIES 01206 524 115

Do you want a **STUDIO PARTY?**
Studio 6 Music
Witham CM8 3DR | 01376 517856
info@studio6music.com | www.studio6music.com



Looking to hold a fun & exciting party for your child?

GOLF PARTIES

ADVENTURE GOLF

FOOTGOLF
Function room also available for discos, bounce, craft & soft play parties.

Golf World Stansted, Hall Road, Nr Stansted Airport, Essex CM 22 6FL | 01279 812 865 | leanne@golfworldstansted.co.uk

It's time to PARTY!



Leisure World Colchester

When kids are having fun, they aren't quiet about it – they shout, laugh and jump around. That's why birthday parties at Leisure World are LOUD! Get in the game with team fun at a Sports Party, with skills, drills and mini matches in your favourite sport. Or dive into a Splash Time Party package, rushing down the flumes, giggling through the rapids and dodging the waves in the Leisure Pool with all your friends – you'll have a whale of a time!

Try Bubble Football Parties - the high-

energy, super-fun version of the game whilst wearing giant soft bubble suits. Your little one can enjoy interacting with the inflatable octopus in the Aqua Splat Party in the Teaching Pool. Soft Play Parties with bouncy castles and assault courses are available at Leisure World Tiptree and Leisure World Highwoods, as are Sports Parties.

Check out further details and prices for all party packages at www.colchesterleisureworld.co.uk/birthday



Laser Mayhem parties

Why not try Mini Paintball?

Laser Mayhem's new low impact paintballing is perfect for birthdays and special events for 8-13yrs.

Battle around Russian tanks, planes, and armoured personnel carriers, just like Call of Duty, with the latest low impact paintball equipment. All-inclusive packages include body armour, gloves, full head shield, goggles, and two hours of fully supervised action, playing 5-7 games with all your paintballs included.

Plus, they also offer outdoor laser tag from 6yrs. A variety of outdoor

laser tag equipment with awesome M9 pistols, submachine guns and assault rifles with scopes are perfect for every age, with even bigger guns for adults. With 9 specially designed different playing fields, full of land rovers, helicopters, armoured personal carriers, planes, forts, Russian battle tanks and much more. Another option is archery tag, suitable from age 10+. Includes equipment, two hours of fun, tutorial, target practice, arrow catching and the hunger games experience. For more information visit www.laser-mayhem.co.uk

The Clay Cottage

The Clay Cottage offers a great party for any age as well as hosting hen do's, baby showers and family gatherings. There's always something to celebrate at The Clay Cottage with a wide selection of ceramics to choose from for all occasions. They have a new bigger, brighter studio with plenty of party painting options between £7.50 and £12.50 fully inclusive with free parking and complimentary refreshments. Clay Cottage parties are creative and fun, whilst relaxing for parents! For more information call 01268 786162 or visit www.claycottage.co.uk



CLAY COTTAGE



Children's Parties
After School Art Club
Holiday Workshops
Pop-in-and-paint
Potter's Wheel

Plus: Adult Classes, Ladies' Nights, Afternoon Teas and Hen Parties!
Lubbards Farm, Hullbridge Road, Rayleigh, Essex S56 9QG (Sat Nav. S56 9QW)
01268 786162

www.claycottage.co.uk

Little Scrummers Rugby

Would your child love a rugby themed party? Little Scrummers come to your venue and provide a 60 minute fun, exciting and sporty party where the birthday boy/girl and their friends play rugby themed games, win prizes, have a lot of laughs and are left happy having had their 'best party ever'! The parties are for children of all ages and are totally non-contact. Parties are available in all of the areas Little Scrummers operate clubs

in and can travel further afield too. Parties include: • A 60 minute rugby games session • Professional tutors • A personalised trophy for the birthday boy/girl • Rugby themed game prizes • Medals & stickers for all the children attending the party • Print@Home personalised invitations. For more information about Little Scrummers Rugby visit www.littlescrummers.com or call 0330 088 1172.



Nuclear Races Wild Forest Obstacle Activity Centre

Let the adventure begin at Nuclear Races Wild Forest Obstacle Activity Centre! Birthday parties to remember where all muddy little dare-devils have the best time! 90 minutes of wild fun, games, team and individual challenges on loads of obstacles, set on a fast and twisted forest wonderland. Then it's time to pump those legs and get your jumping shoes on for #lovemud, water, high and long jump in the 32 revamped mega Jumps Course. Hot outdoor showers and changing rooms are available at the end of the party and each child receives an achievement certificate. Stay on and hire the party room - there are a number of options for party food and they also offer party bags. For more details call 07970 739037, email sam@nuclear-races.co.uk or visit www.wild-forest.co.uk



THE BIRTHDAY PARTY TO BEAT IN 2019
NO ONE GETS OUT CLEAN
ALL MUDDY LITTLE DARE-DEVILS HAVE THE BEST TIME!

LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN AT AWARD WINNING NUCLEAR RACES OBSTACLE COURSES

ALL AGES 6+

CAR PARKING - HUB - TOILETS - HOT SHOWERS
DBS CHECKED | COMPREHENSIVE RISK ASSESSMENT | FULLY QUALIFIED HOSTS

CONTACT sam@nuclear-races.co.uk
www.wild-forest.co.uk
07970 739037

[f](https://www.facebook.com/nuclearwildforest) [i](https://www.instagram.com/nuclearwildforest) [t](https://www.twitter.com/nuclearwildforest)
@NUCLEARWILDFOREST

PARTIES AT MAYHEM

MINI PAINTBALL
OUTDOOR LASER TAG

BIRTHDAYS
DAYS OUT
SPECIAL EVENTS

MINI PAINTBALL
BATTLEFIELD MAYHEM
FOR KIDS, 8-13 YEARS OLD

01708 688517 **WWW.LASER-MAYHEM.CO.UK**