

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday 16 September 2021

All brakes off for Formula Fun fortnight!



A fortnight of 'Formula Fun' go kart building excitement will kick off in The Regent's Park this weekend, where the charity London Play is staging the first in a series of pop-up events for children across central London this summer.

Part of the Mayor of London's 'Let's Do London' campaign, the Formula Fun fortnight will see teams of children at work in 19 central city locations, building and decorating their own go karts. They will be competing not only on speed, but also on WOW factor; with plans for spectacular themes set to reflect some of London's most popular and iconic attractions.

The launch event at The Regent's Park will feature two teams of children building karts on the theme of woodland fairies and Shakespeare, in homage to the park's famous outdoor theatre. Themes for subsequent events include Carnival Fun, the London Eye, St Paul's Cathedral and the London Aquarium; as well as Elephants and Castles; famous London Markets and British Royalty.

Teams of super-keen children have been selected and are already busily dreaming and planning their karts. Not all the build sites will be open for the public to watch the karts take shape; but the completed karts will take a lap or two of honour around their surrounding neighbourhoods. Locals, visitors, shoppers and workers are being encouraged to come out and watch the mini-parades to show their support for children who have had their opportunities to play and socialise with friends seriously limited during the pandemic.

London Play director Paul Hocker said:

"Childhood summers are precious, creating golden memories that last a lifetime. After the challenges these kids have faced over the last year and a half, they deserve a summer to remember and that is what our Formula Fun events are all about. We hope local communities and local businesses show their support and celebrate the reopening of our wonderful city and the creativity of the capital's youngsters."

The final event will be a four-kart spectacle staged at Spitalfields Market on Sunday 5 September – offering an exciting day out for families. Formula Fun: 'A la Karte' will see children decorating their karts on the themes of supporting local eateries: Crosstown Doughnuts, Brother Marcus (Middle Eastern), Players Social (Pizza) and The Duck Truck. It should be a 'quacker'!

For full event schedule see over. For press enquiries and photos of the events email info@londonplay.org.uk.

Let's Do London: Formula Fun events

Locations shaded green indicate where spectators are welcome! The laps of honour are for all to come and see the completed karts and cheer on the children.

Date	Team name	Theme	Build location	Lap of honour (approx. 2.15-2.45pm)
Sat 21 August 10am-3pm	Regent's Park (x2)	Woodland fairy/Shakespeare	Near Gloucester Gate playground NW1	Races @ 2.30pm
Sun 22 August 10am-3pm	Borough Market	London Markets	Mint Street Park, 14 Weller St, London SE1	Borough Market
Mon 23 August 10am-3pm	Three Corners (x2)	Carnival Fun	Three Corners Adventure Playground	Exmouth Market
Tue 24 August 10am-3pm	Mint Street	London Eye	Mint St Adventure Playground	Borough Market
Tue 24 August 10am-3pm	Camden	Camden Landmarks	Castlehaven Community Association	Castlehaven Park, NW1
Wed 25 August 10am-3pm	Wallside	St Paul's Cathedral	Monkwell Square, Wallside EC2	Monkwell Square, EC2
Wed 25 August 10am-3pm	Crumbles	British Royalty	Crumbles Castle Adventure Playground	Caledonian Road, N1
Thu 26 August 10am-3pm	Ellen Brown	Carnival Fun	Ellen Brown Adventure Playground	Spa Gardens SE1
Thu 26 August 10am-3pm	Toffee Park	London Summer Fun	Toffee Park Adventure Playground	Whitecross Street, N1
Fri 27 August 10am-3pm	Living Space	Under the Sea	Living Space Waterloo Adventure Playground	London Aquarium, SE1
Fri 27 August 10am-3pm	Barnard	Dragons/St George	Barnard Adventure Playground	Copenhagen Street, N1
Sat 28 August	Brakes on for Bank Holiday 😊			
Sun 29 August				
Mon 30 August				
Tue 31 August 10am-3pm	London Transport	London Transport	Outside London Transport Museum, WC2E	Covent Garden Piazza
Wed 01 Sept 10am-3pm	Barbican	Barbican	Outside Barbican Centre tbc	Around Barbican
Wed 01 Sept 10am-3pm	Brick Lane	Bengali Culture	Old Castle St, E1	Brick Lane
Thu 02 Sept 12pm-6pm	Triangle	Global Oval	Triangle Adventure Playground	Ashmole St SW8 (5pm)
Thu 02 Sept 10am-3pm	Elephant & Castle	Elephants and Castles	Sansom Street, SE5	D'Eynsford Estate SE5
Fri 03 Sept 10am-3pm	Spa Fields	London Markets	Spa Fields Playground, EC1R	Exmouth Market
Sat 04 Sept 10am-3pm	Rochester Sq Play St	London theme	Rochester Square, NW1	Rochester Square
Sun 05 Sept 12pm-4pm	A la Karte Grand Finale!	4 x food-themed karts	Spitalfields Market, Bishops Square E1 6AA	Races @3.30pm

Key
Spectators welcome here
Public space, small local event
No access for spectators

Notes to editors

1. London Play is a small charity that strives to ensure that every child in London has the freedom and opportunity to play outside every day, near where they live. We promote children's right to play, campaign for more and improved out-of-school play services for London's 1.8m children and young people, and support play providers in the capital. We also directly provide more play opportunities for children by supporting groups to develop play streets, building nature play areas and running events.
2. The Formula Fun events are funded by the Mayor of London as part of the £6m Let's Do London campaign to encourage Londoners and visitors back into central London. There will be 19 events staged on central London streets, estates, adventure playgrounds and parks with London Play's kart crew providing all the materials, tools and technical support needed for teams of children to build and decorate their very own go kart in four hours or less. The full schedule of events is available on London Play's website.
3. Thanks to all our funders which in addition to the Mayor of London include The National Lottery Community Fund, The Royal Parks, Worshipful Company of Playing Card Makers and Henry Surtees Foundation.

www.londonplay.org.uk
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