



APRIL 2008



## NEWS LETTER



### Drip, drip, drop little April Showers!

### APRIL HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

Mums'  
Night  
Out  
Thursday  
17th  
April

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WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY



Wednesday  
23rd April

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*Dear Mums & Dads,*

I hope you all had a happy Easter and that you remembered to put your clocks forward on Sunday evening? The clocks going forward really means it's official - Spring is here!

However, April is well known for its 'April Showers'. April is the month with the most rainfall recordings. So don't put the welly boots away just yet!



Abigail has just turned two, and I had promised myself to start potty training her from two. The song 'drip drip drop little April showers' has taken on a new meaning to me over the past few days. This is due to the fact that for the few successful times she has made it to the

potty in time, she has been so ecstatic that her hands go in to the potty and proceed to spray the contents all over the place! Hence - drip drip drop! As you all know - all you can do is clap and tell them how clever they are whilst running around the house trying to clean it all up.

I imagine lots of you will be planning to take this task on during the warmer months, so I would like to wish you good luck and to any of you who have mastered the art of potty training, I call upon you for useful potty training tips.



Hope you enjoy this month's newsletter. Look forward to your tip's for the May issue.

**Gill**



- 2nd Mikolaj Roman Trzaska
- 2nd William Tomaszewski
- 3rd Cristina Calcara
- 3rd Evangeline Charlie
- 3rd Walker Everitt
- 5th Filip Rulkowska
- 6th Elena Davies
- 13th Sara Calabrese
- 14th Family Harvey baby due
- 15th Maksymillian Sala
- 15th Hugo Fahrenholz
- 16th Livya Rot
- 16th Joel Alsterlind
- 16th Stephanie Wiatr
- 18th Wiene van Scherpenzeel
- 19th Krishan Hofheiz
- 19th Krishan Ahuja
- 20th Florence Schneck
- 21st Felix Haarpainter
- 23rd Filip Nordstrom
- 25th Paul Victor
- 25th Emily Cross
- 25th Milosz Pasterska
- 26th Hania Lokwenc
- 26th Rebecca Majosi
- 27th Gabriella Hooper Stein
- 29th Kristijan Trajcevska
- 30th Jonas Steglich

# Watch your back! April Fools' Day!



The fools' day is known as Pryma Aprylis in Polish.



If you have not been already, why not visit the Warsaw Rising Museum. The Museum commemorates the 1944 uprising.

Located on Ul. Grzybowska 79.  
Website [www.1944.pl](http://www.1944.pl)

There is even a children's area called 'The Little Insurgent's Room'. Here children can play with replica toys and learn history with educational puzzles

April Fools' Day is a 'for fun only' celebration that is observed on the first day of April in many countries around the world - Poland also recognizes this day. It's not a holiday, just an occasion for children and grown up's to play pranks on each other. Some children are allowed to go to school in fancy dress.



There are a lot of theories and speculation as to why or when the first 'Fools' Day' was established. The closest point in time that can be pinpointed as the

beginning of this tradition was in 1582 in France.

One theory, as to the arrival of the April Fool was that until 1581 the New Year was celebrated for 8 days. This started on March 25th and culminated on April 1st. In 1582 under the rule of Charles IX the Gregorian calendar was introduced and the New Year Day was moved to January 1st.

I like this theory, because as you can imagine, in those days communication was slow and information travelled by foot.



Many people received the information, that the New Year and the calendar had changed, years later.

Others who were stubborn, decided to retain the New Year on April 1st and refused to accept the new calendar. These people were labeled 'fools' by the general public and jokes were played on them. This harassment evolved, over time, into a tradition of prank playing and eventually spread to other countries like England and Scotland in the 18th century. It was later introduced to the American colonies. If you have Scottish friend's, watch out! They celebrate April Fools' for TWO days. The second day is devoted to pranks involving certain regions of the body. It is called 'Taily Day'

## The Ghetto Uprising - 19th April 1943

On Saturday 19th April the 65th anniversary of the 'Ghetto Uprising' in Warsaw will be celebrated. This event is to remember the Jewish heroes who rose up against the German invasion in 1943, not to be confused with the 1944 uprising by the non-Jewish Poles in Warsaw.

The ghetto was established by the Germans in Warsaw in 1940. It was home to +/- 400,000 Jews. Due to the mass deportation of

Jews to the Nazi death camps and also famine, disease and the inhuman conditions in the overcrowded ghetto district, the population continued to decrease.

The April 1943 uprising was an attempt to resist the annihilation of the ghetto population by the Nazi forces.

It was the first resistance of it's kind in the occupied countries of Europe.

Several hundred participants of the uprising and other residents of War-

saw fought against 4000 German soldiers who had artillery and armor.

As a result of this resistance the ghetto was burned down and the ruins blown up. About 7000 Jews were killed and 50,000 were transported to the Treblinka death camp. This was to be the beginning of resistance and the build up to the end of World War II that came in 1945.

Warsaw commemorates this day by laying flowers at the monument for the 'Ghetto Heroes' This monument is on the square between Ul. Karmelicka and Ul. Zamenhofska.

Please see Host dates below. For all other scheduled M&T activities please check out the M&T website. [www.mumsandtots.com](http://www.mumsandtots.com)

# APRIL 2008



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1 Fools' Day	2 Anniversary John Paul II	3	4	5	6
7 World Health Day	8	9	10	11	12	13 Concert for Children
14	15	16	17 Mums Night Out	18	19 Ghetto Uprising Anniversary	20
21	22 Earth Day	23 World Book Day	24	25	26	27
28 CANX Tennis Tournament	29	30	1st MAY Polish Holiday	2nd MAY	3rd MAY Polish Holiday	4th MAY

## Schedule of Events

IF YOU HAVE ANY DATES OF INTEREST FOR THE M&T CALENDAR PLEASE LET ME KNOW .

1st April Fools' Day

2nd The 3rd Anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul II

Jana Pawa will be streaming with grave lights and flowers on this day.

7th World Health Day

13th Warsaw Philharmonic Concert for Children (see recommendation)

17th Mums' Night Out

19th 65th Ghetto Uprising Anniversary

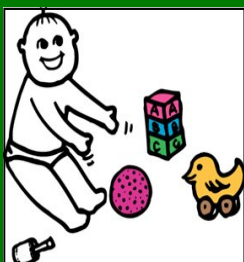
22nd Earth Day. The United Nations inspire us to be aware of and appreciate the earths environment.

23rd World Book Day. Symbolic day for world literature. On the same day and decade, Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died.

28th J&S WTA Tennis CANCELLED

1st May Holiday

3rd May Holiday



Please consider hosting a M&T group. Its always less work and more fun than you think :-)

[www.mumsandtots.com](http://www.mumsandtots.com) for all other fun activities

MONDAY  
TODDLER GROUP  
7th 14th 21st & 28th

HOSTs  
NEEDED for  
all of the  
above dates.  
Please contact  
Katia if you  
are able to  
host in April

THURSDAY  
MINI MUSIC  
3rd Lisa Karpinska  
10th Catherine Long  
17th Janice Mills  
24th Marie Fahrenholz  
1st May No Group

FRIDAY  
MUMS & BUMPS  
4th Mariselle Fettke  
11th Eithne Gibbons  
18th Alia Radford  
25th Janice Mills  
2nd Malgosia Tarnowska



# MUMS' NIGHT OUT



Dear Ladies,  
Hope you have all had a happy Easter.  
Sorry for the delay in informing you of the next night out, I am presently in Canada visiting my family, and enjoying tons of snow.  
The April Mums Night Out will take place

on **Thursday 17th**, at the restaurant **Vis a Vis**, in Ursynow. They specialise in Polish and Mediterranean delicacies.

**Where:** Vis a Vis, Al. Ken 95, near Pasaz Ursynowski, there's a Polbank on the corner. Metro Stoklosy.

Near the junction with Ul. Herbsta Stani Isawa.

**When:** Thursday April 17, 20.00

**A la carte.**

**RSVP by Tuesday 15th April**  
[mcmeunier72@hotmail.com](mailto:mcmeunier72@hotmail.com)

**A bientôt,**

**Marie F.**

## WEEKEND GETAWAY - KRAKOW

Ok, so every time we say a quick weekend away, we always end up saying 'Krakow' !



Well that's just because it has something for everyone. It oozes history for all ages to absorb, it's easy to get about, beautiful architecture, a great Castle with river surroundings and hotels and restaurants to suit all budgets. What more could we want for a spring break! If you go in April try to combine it with the following event:

### 33rd Krakow Theatrical Reminiscenes

April 24th - 27th 2008

This is one of the oldest theatre festivals in Poland. It has been organized since 1975 and is well known in Poland and abroad. It attracts theatre buff's from all over the world. For more details on this traditional cultural event, for all the family to enjoy, go to the website. It is also in English. [www.reminiscencje.pl](http://www.reminiscencje.pl)

### Other Event:

April 2nd - A concert will be held on this day in Krakow to commemorate the 3rd anniversary of the death of Polish Pope John Paul II.

### Krakow Hotel Tip:

\$\$ Hotel Elector, Ul. Szpitalna 28, [www.hotelelektor.com.pl](http://www.hotelelektor.com.pl) tel: 012 4232317

Great Location close to Old Town Square. Suites are a bit dated but very spacious.

\$\$\$ Hotel Copernicus, Ul. Kanonicza 16, tel: 012 4243400

A beautiful exclusive hotel located very close to Wawel Castle, also has a well respected Restaurant and an indoor pool.



### Krakow Child Friendly Restaurant:

An excellent pizzeria in the centre of the old town of Krakow. Pizzeria Trzy Papryczki, on the road to the castle. Ul. Poselka 17. If you are lucky with the weather they may have their garden open. Usually the garden opens early summer. [www.trzypapryczki.pl](http://www.trzypapryczki.pl)

Useful Website: [www.cracowonline.com](http://www.cracowonline.com)



# APRIL TOP TIPS



Each month it would be really nice to have a top book, top recipe a top shop and a top web tip. Please send me any details of a good book worth recommending, a website or your favourite shop or recipe. So get shopping, surfing, reading and cooking :-)

## Morning/Day Trip:

The Warsaw University Botanical Gardens. Ujazdowski 4, near Lazienki Park.

The garden opens from April to October, 10.00-19.00. Entrance is +/- z.l.4.50. There are over 7000 plants and flowers to admire, smell and photograph. Children can enjoy seeing nature grow before their very eyes. A worth while visit for all on a jolly spring day.

## Sunday Morning - Warsaw Philharmonic - Concert for Children

The Warsaw Philharmonic organizes lots of events that can entertain the children too. All the Sunday performances start at 11.00am and tend to go on for a few hours. There is usually a refreshment pause for you to depart early if it's a bit too much. The dates in April are as follows:

Sunday 13th - Concert Hall

Sunday 20th - Concert Hall

Sunday 27th - Chamber Music Hall

For more details on how to get tickets (it can get very busy if you go on the day. Best to get tickets in advance) check the website.

[www.filharmonia.pl](http://www.filharmonia.pl) or tel. Booking office: 022 5517130

Youth and Children's Concert Info: [filh-edu@filharmonia.pl](mailto:filh-edu@filharmonia.pl) or 022 5517136

## RECIPE: Spring Ingredients to look out for:

- Asparagus
- Lamb
- Rhubarb - Why not make a Rhubarb Bellini :-)



300g Rhubarb, 75g Sugar, one bottle of bubbly (champagne or fizzy equivalent)

Cook the rhubarb chunks with a little water and the sugar. Put in the blender to create a smooth puree. When cool, pour the mixture into 6 champagne flutes and then add the bubbly. A great aperitif - Cheers.

For a Kids' version, add fizzy water or lemonade instead of champagne.

## Cooking Classes for Mum & Dad

Lost for inspiration as for what to cook day in day out? Why not try English speaking cooking classes with Chef Kurt Scheller: Visit his website for more details on how to become a kitchen Goddess or God!

[www.kurtschelleracademy.com.pl](http://www.kurtschelleracademy.com.pl)

PS: Don't forget that the 'Little Chef' does cooking classes for grown up's too!

## Don't want to cook!

Get a take-away or get it delivered to your home. Try either of these websites to experience some of the best restaurants in Warsaw in the comfort of your own home.

[www.glodni.pl](http://www.glodni.pl)

[www.roomservice.pl](http://www.roomservice.pl) or call 022 651 90 03

# MUMS' & DADS' RECOMMENDATIONS

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This page is now dedicated to 'Recommendations' made by YOU.

If you have found the perfect playgroup for your child, let me know, I can pass it on. If the food /service was fantastic at a special Restaurant, let me know, or if your Hairdresser/manicurist speaks English let me know. Do you have the best handyman in the world, let us know. Basically any secrets you have to make our decisions here easier - LET ME KNOW !

If you wish to privately sell, buy or rent any personal items etc. Please make use of the Mums and Tots website, [www.mumsandtots.com](http://www.mumsandtots.com) click 'classifieds'. There are always good offers from other mums etc. Cars for sale, houses for rent and recommendations for babysitters' or housekeepers.

If you are looking for something specific it is also a good place to put a request.

## Children's Book



On Wednesday 23rd April it is World book day. I can highly recommend buying and reading your child

'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson

It is a rhyming book, which is great to help children to get interested in books. It has lovely illustrations by Alex Scheffler and it is lots of fun to read. Abigail thoroughly enjoys.

ISBN 0 333 71092 4

## CHILD FRIENDLY DENTIST

Thank you to Alia Radford for this very useful tip.

'My dentist also specializes in children's dentistry. She is very caring and attentive and speaks very good English. She work's at Enelmed centre in Blue City on Wednesday and Friday morning. From May she will also work on Thursday afternoons. On other days' she works in the Arkadia clinic and another shopping centre clinic. Her name is Marta Do-browolska"

book an appointment by calling:

tel: 9527 or check the website:

[www.enel.pl/en](http://www.enel.pl/en)



## Anyone for Tennis?



Sorry not this year!

The J&S WTA Warsaw Tennis tournament has been cancelled due to the busy schedule of the tournament around the world. For more information contact:: email [office@jandscup.pl](mailto:office@jandscup.pl)



WHERE KIDS COOK IN WARSAW!

Looking for an original and super fun birthday party idea for your child (and maybe yourself too)? The choice is no longer a wrecked house or inside playgrounds!

How about a Little Chef Cooking Birthday Party!

Children ages 4-16 cook delicious food, sweet or savory, learn lots and have an amazing time.

To reserve call Katia at +48 501 09 3691 or email [littlechef@littlechef.nazwa.pl](mailto:littlechef@littlechef.nazwa.pl)

[www.littlechef.pl](http://www.littlechef.pl)

