

FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN

The Dandelion Drop

• S E E D S O F S U P P O R T •

ISSUE 45

Welcome to the Dandelion Drop fortnightly bulletin! Whether your school has a large or small Armed Forces community, there's always something useful for both primary and secondary settings.

[Feedback is always welcome, please use this form.](#)



DANDELION PROJECT NEW MERCHANDISE

Milne's High School Pupils



SCIP ALLIANCE EVENT

Impact Centre Listening Tour



DANDELION PROJECT OUT IN SCHOOLS

St Gerardine Primary School



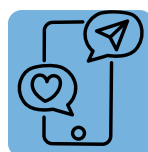
MAX'S BIG MOVE

Forces Children Scotland Resources



NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE WINNERS

West End Primary School



SHARED FROM SOCIALS

Information for Families & the Community

DANDELION PROJECT NEW MERCHANDISE

Milne's High School



Pupils from Milne's High School collaborated with Hannah from the Dandelion Project to think of merchandise ideas that would appeal to a varied age group.

A variety of ideas were proposed, including lanyards, towels, and even sleeping bags! After evaluating these options, we engaged in a discussion to determine the most suitable type of merchandise for use around Moray. Ultimately, buckets and spades emerged as a clear favourite, leading us to select them as one of our final choices.

Thank you to the pupils at Milne's High for their wonderful ideas. Keep a look out for Bucket and Spades coming soon!



SCiP ALLIANCE EVENT

Impact Centre Listening Tour



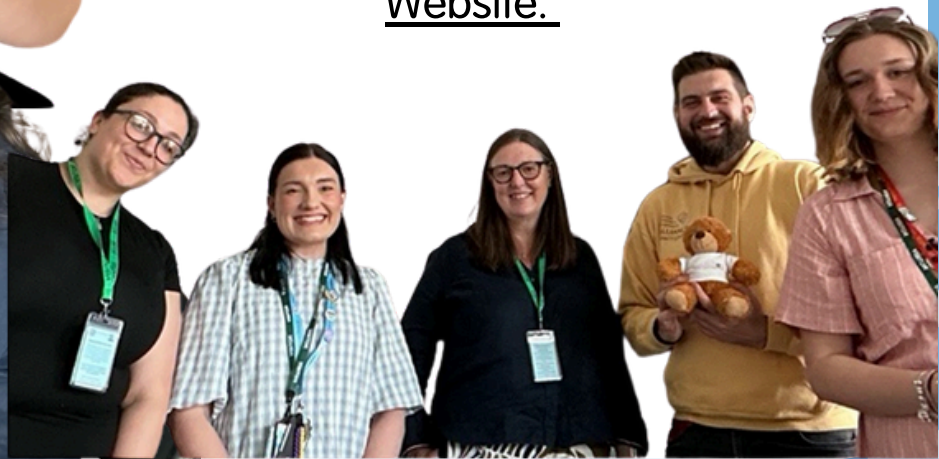
The SCiP Alliance Impact Centre Listening Tour visited Lossiemouth High School on Friday 29 May from 11:00-13:00.

Led by Dr Liam Satchell from SCiP Alliance, the Listening Tour provided an opportunity for voices and perspectives to be heard on what works for Service children. The discussions had formed part of a nationwide conversation.

The SCiP Alliance Impact Centre seeks input from individuals engaged with service children regarding effective strategies that foster meaningful change. The focus group session held on Friday was predominantly attended by professionals from the education sector.

In-depth discussions were conducted regarding the effective practices within schools, including those in further and higher education, as well as identifying areas for potential improvement.

Any feedback forms part of the Landscape of Evidence Needs for the Sector (LENS) Programme. To find out more, head to the [SCiP Alliance Impact Centre Listening Tour Website.](#)



DANDELION PROJECT OUT IN SCHOOLS

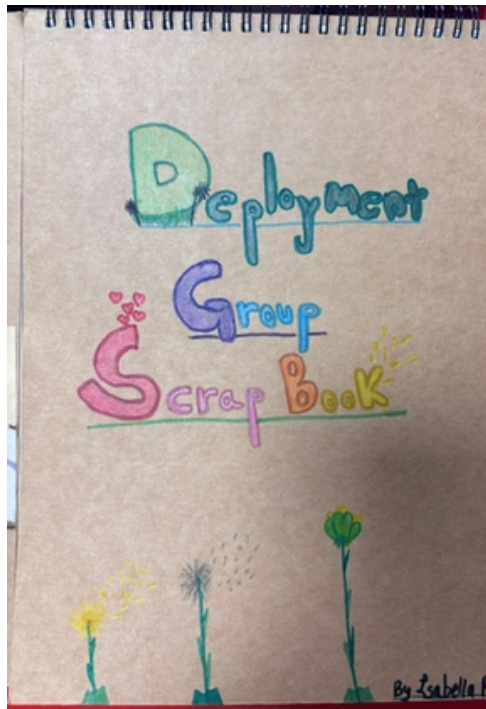
St Gerardine Primary School

Hannah from the Dandelion Project was kindly invited to St Gerardine for a coffee afternoon to meet Mrs Hosking and Mrs Wakeford and parents for some coffee and delicious freshly baked scones. What a lovely treat!

The display featured scrapbooks dedicated to each year group of the Dandelions.



These scrapbooks showcased photographs of the children, along with highlights of the engaging activities they participate in during group sessions and check-ins with Mrs. Hosking and Mrs. Wakeford.



Mrs. Hosking introduced Hannah to the remarkable display created by the dandelions. This room featured a cosy corner, an array of accessible games, and a dedicated learning space, all contributing to a welcoming atmosphere.

Emily and Bella showed Hannah photographs documenting their activities on the group iPad. Naturally, the Dandelion Bear made an appearance as well!



Max's Big Move

Written with children and young people from armed forces families

Illustrated by Catherine Lindow



Max's Big Move is a supportive resource and story from Forces Children Scotland designed to help children navigate the challenges of moving home, school or community as part of service life.

The story was co-created with Armed Forces children from Leuchars Primary School.

Through Max's story, the book encourages children to explore their feelings, build emotional resilience, and develop coping strategies around change and transition.

The resource is ideal for practitioners working with Armed Forces children in primary school and early years settings. It can be used in one-to-one or group settings to open conversations, support wellbeing, and strengthen understanding of the unique experiences faced by serving families.

To access the book and accompanying resources, follow the link directly to the Forces Children Scotland website.

NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE WINNERS



Amelie and Polly produced an impressive and visually striking piece of artwork inspired by "Winds of Change." Their exceptional creativity caught the attention of Never Such Innocence, resulting in their recognition as one of the competition winners. As a reward, they have been invited to London to showcase their work!

West End Primary School

In April, as part of the Month of the Military Child celebrations, Never Such Innocence practitioners made a visit to West End Primary on their final day in Moray.

Practitioners Stuart and Hernan worked with P6 and P7 pupils. Both classes had the opportunity to participate in poetry and art workshops.

The theme for this year's Month of the Military Child celebrations was 'Winds of Change'.



Our Team

Anne-Marie Ballantyne
Chair & Fundraising Coordinator

Kelly Roe
Volunteer Coordinator

Jordan Gelsthorpe
Fundraiser

Stephen Neill
Community Champion

Grace Taylor
Social Media and IT Champion

Rachel Cromack
Fundraising Volunteer

"SSAFA understands that behind every uniform is a person. We are here for that person and their family – anytime they need us, for as long as it takes."



SSAFA Service
Community Team -
Moray



ssafa_lossie

Get In Touch

If you need help or just someone to talk to, reach out today.

Our services are free, confidential and non-judgmental.

- **Forcesline (Helpline):**
0800 260 6767
*Free and confidential.
Open Mon-Fri 0900-1700.*
- **Direct Base Support:**
Reach the local SSAFA team by calling **01343 817076** or **03000 111 723**.
- **24/7 Helpline:**
For urgent support outside normal hours, contact the RAF PS&SWS at **0800 058 4690**.
- **In-Person:**
Visit the St Aidan's Community Support Centre on station.
- **Digital Messaging:**
You can message the team via WhatsApp at **+44 203 769 0808**.
- **Our Moray SCT E-mail:**
Moray.SCT@ssafa.org.uk



Service Community Team
MORAY



Who We Help

We are here for the entire "Forces Family". If you have completed at least one day of paid service, you are eligible for support. This includes:

- **Serving Personnel:**
Regulars and Reserves in the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, British Army and Royal Air Force.
- **Veterans:**
Anyone who has served including those who did National Service.
- **Families:**
Spouses, partners and dependent children.
- **Bereaved Families:**
Support for those who have lost a loved one in or after service.



How We Can Support You

Life can be complex and the transition to civilian life isn't always easy. SSAFA provides practical, emotional and financial support tailored to your needs:

- **Financial Assistance:**
Help with debt, emergency grants for essential household items or disability equipment.
- **Mental Wellbeing:**
Support for PTSD, depression and the stresses of military life.
- **Housing Advice:**
Guidance on homelessness, housing options and modifications for wounded personnel.
- **Transition Mentoring:**
One-to-one support for those leaving the military to help them adjust to civilian careers and life.
- **Specialist Services:**
Including the Military Wives Choirs, support for the Gurkha community and groups for families of the wounded or bereaved.



How You Can Help

SSAFA relies on the generosity of the public to continue its mission.

- **Volunteer:**
Become a caseworker, a mentor or help with local events.
- **Donate:**
Even a small amount makes a difference.
 - £10 helps keep Forcesline open.
 - £20 provides training for a volunteer caseworker.
- **Fundraise:**
Take part in an event or host your own to support our 140+ years of service.



The Weekend Club

First meet Sunday 29 Mar 26 1400-1600

Then every Sunday 1400-1600

@The Accommodation Hub

At a loose end on the weekend? Looking for a relaxing way to spend a Sunday afternoon? Looking for a chat in a friendly, safe space? ☺

Come along to the weekend club!

- ✓ Meet new people
- ✓ Have a break from your room
- ✓ Make use of the free brew kits and facilities
- ✓ Lots of puzzles, books and games available
- ✓ Get creative using the art, drawing, colouring, crochet, origami and many other craft supplies available

Engage in group activities, get peer to peer support, find out what's going on at RAF Lossiemouth or what things you can get involved in - or just come along and do your own thing while making use of the space and facilities available!

Drop in anytime between **1400-1600** on a **Sunday**

Want to donate supplies to the Weekend Club or have ideas for what you would like to add, or just want to get involved with supporting the weekend club? That's fantastic news, just drop an email to jennifer.gaskell101@mod.gov.uk or Stephen.neill@volunteers.ssafa.org.uk



ssafa | the
Armed Forces
charity



SHARED FROM SOCIALS

Information for Families & The Community



RAF LOSSIEMOUTH DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT EVENTS

APRIL TO AUGUST 2026

Supporting Individual, family & community resilience to enable Team Lossie to deliver on ops



FILM & FOOD

A chance to loose yourself in a good movie and enjoy a tasty meal afterwards, all on us!

7TH JUNE 2026 / 13:00—17:00 / VUE, INVERNESS



NEW! JEWELLERY MAKING CLASS (ADULTS ONLY) **NEW!**

Connect and socialise while you create something truly special to take home.

20TH JUNE 2026 / 09:00—14:00 / ST AIDAN'S CENTRE, RAF LOSSIEMOUTH



JACOBITE CRUISE

Immerse yourself on a relaxing Cruise along Loch Ness with a stop off at Urquhart Castle!

27TH JUNE 2026 / 08:00—15:00 / LOCH NESS



STREET FOOD SATURDAY (USA)

Street Food Saturday is going stateside! Join us for good food and outdoor games!

4TH JULY 2026 / 16:00—18:00 / ST AIDAN'S CENTRE

Open to all Team Lossie families with a loved one deployed on operations or exercise away from home for more than 7 days.

SHARED FROM SOCIALS

RAF LOSSIEMOUTH DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT EVENTS APRIL TO AUGUST 2026

Supporting Individual, family & community resilience to enable Team Lossie to deliver on ops



HIGHLAND WILDLIFE PARK

Explore this gateway to the natural world and discover over 250 rare animals!

8TH JULY 2026 / 10:30 - 13:30 / HIGHLAND WILDLIFE PARK



NEW!! RUDE SCIENCE NEW!!

A high-explosive family show that makes science fun with spectacular experiments and bizarre props.

15TH JULY 2026 / 10:00—17:00 / EDEN COURT, INVERNESS



COOKERY CLASS & OAKWOOD (ADULTS ONLY)

Calling all foodies! Don't miss this chance to put your culinary skills to the test and make something tasty to take home!

22ND JULY 2026 / 18:00—20:00 / OAKWOOD COOKERY SCHOOL, ELGIN



BFF PANTO BUS PRESENTS GOLDILOCKS

The BFF panto will be returning to RAF Lossiemouth! Timings to be confirmed closer to the date.

8TH AUGUST 2026 / TBC / OFFICER'S MESS, RAF LOSSIEMOUTH



OPERATION MINCEMEAT

For historic the fast-paced, hilarious and unbelievable true story of the twisted secret mission that helped win World war II.

12TH AUGUST 2026 / 12:00—18:30 / HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, ABERDEEN



SUNDAY LUNCH

Join us for a two course Sunday lunch with child friendly options available.

23RD AUGUST 2026 / 13:00—15:30 / WOSM, RAF LOSSIEMOUTH



FIJIAN COOKING NIGHT (ADULTS ONLY)

Enjoy a night discovering international cuisine with our amazing chef Ratu!

26TH AUGUST 2026 / 18:00—20:00 / ST AIDAN'S CENTRE, RAF LOSSIEMOUTH

Did you know we provide transport for many of our events?
Pick ups from around the SFA patches

SHARED FROM SOCIALS



CAFFEINE & CRUMBS

Our monthly opportunity to connect & catch up over a cuppa & cake. Children welcome. & no need to prebook though if you have any food allergies let us know in advance.

LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH



LOSSIE LOOK & LUNCH

This is your monthly chance to see behind the scenes, visit a frontline Squadron & enjoy a relaxed lunch with us. It's informal, it's fun & it's most of all friendly way to meet others. Kids welcome.

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

AND OF COURSE, DON'T FORGET...



OPERATION SNUGGLE

Book your appointment before departure & create a special memory with your children. Op SNUGGLE is a lasting cuddle buddy to help keep you connected with your child even though you may be many miles away. Create a new toy for each deployment.



DEPLOYMENT RESOURCE PACKS

Pop into St Aidan's and pick up a personalised pack containing useful information and activities to help keep the little people occupied. No children? Don't worry! We have adult packs too.



CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL SCHEME

The formal scheme kicks in on JPA at 120 days but if your OH is away between 93 & 119 days, RAF Lossiemouth has special permission to help with costs. Email the team to find out more.



LOSSIE HOOT... READ 'OWL ABOUT IT!

Receive 'Hoots' straight to your inbox by signing up to get our email updates. Simple as ABC—Announcements, Base Updates and Community Info. Scan the QR code to register or email us for the link.



Events may have max limits due to venue, activity or our available staffing. If the event is fully booked please ask to go on the wait list as we often have cancellations. We will send you an email approx. 1 week out to confirm you are still coming & a text reminder the day before.

Finally..whilst we will always be on hand to help out, children do remain your responsibility throughout!!!

SHARED FROM SOCIALS



RAF Lossiemouth Community Support Team

Weekly Offer

Monday

AM Lossie Lowdown - CommSpt Updates
AM Toddler Bloom* - St As
EVE Airplay Lossie @ Lossie (P5)

Tuesday

AM Mummy Yoga* (Elgin)
PM Ben Club (P1-4) (Elgin)
EVE FAB @ Airplay Lossie (P6-7)(Elgin)

Wednesday

AM Waddle Toddle with Earthtime (St A)
EVE JYC Airplay Lossie (Elgin)

Thursday

PM Sweaty Mamas* (St A)
PM Ben Club (P1-4)(Elgin)
EVE NKA Airplay Lossie (S1-6)(Elgin)

Monthly Offer

Daily

Community Support Facebook
Advice & Signposting to other agencies
Open door drop in @ St. Aidan's

TLC*

Third Wednesday of the month

Deployment Support

Sunday Lunch*	Pre- Deployment Briefs
Adults Only event*	Recall Days
Family event*	Family Resources
Day Trip*	Teen-only Time*

Caffeine & Crumbs

Last Thursday of the month

Lossie Hoots

Announcements. Base Updates. Community Information. Straight to your inbox

 LOS-CommunitySupport@mod.gov.uk
* Must be pre-booked as spaces are limited

Supporting individual, family & community resilience to enable Team Lossie to deliver on ops

RAF Lossiemouth Community Support Team

Key Dates - April to August

01/04 - DSP - Bowling & Softplay*
09/04 - DSP - Innoflate Inverness*
11/04 - DSP - Easter Bonanza
16/04 - New Sweaty Mama @Lossie block
24/04 - DSP Adults Only - Sip & Paint*
30/04 - Caffeine & Crumbs
10/05 - DSP - Pet & Play
17/05 - DSP - Sunday Lunch
20/05 - May TLC
20/05 - DSP Adults Only - Marine Wildlife Adventure*
28/05 - Caffeine & Crumbs
07/06 - DSP - Film & Food*
17/06 - June TLC
20/06 - DSP Adults Only - Jewellery Making*
25/06 - Caffeine & Crumbs
27/06 - DSP - Jacobite Cruise*

* Must be pre-booked as spaces are limited

Block Class Bookings



From Jan 26 a small donation to the Lossie Hoot Community Fund will be required to secure your spot. This fund is used to pay for our wider community support offer including the home bakes at Caffeine & Crumbs so it's a good cause!



This is to stop people booking spots & not turning up which not only wastes money but stops others from participating if there is a waiting list.

Very important small print: if this donation is a barrier to you participating please speak to one of the team - we want to ensure people actually come, not make it difficult for those who really want to come.

Help With Travel Costs



Deployed between 93 to 119 days? Get in touch before your family travel!



Team Lossie Connect (TLC)



Newly arrived?

- Join our monthly opportunity to get to know Team Lossie.
- Tour the base finding out what you can access!
- Child friendly & bring your partner!



Away on Training Course Over 21 Days?

Your family can now access Op SNUGGLE & DSP Sunday Lunches & Adults Only activities



 LOS-CommunitySupport@mod.gov.uk

 [RAF Lossiemouth Community Support](#)

SHARED FROM SOCIALS



RAF Lossiemouth

THE COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM PRESENTS

CAFFEINE & CRUMBS

OUR MONTHLY ONE STOP CUPPA, CAKE & CHAT.

LAST THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH
9AM - 11AM



THE CIRCLE (AIRPLAY),
MYRESIDE CIRCLE

SHARED FROM SOCIALS

Army Welfare Service

Information for Families & the Community



Kinloss Barracks Community Centre/AWS



Community Coffee Mornings

EVERY MONDAY
10 - 12 A.M.

Pop along for a brew, make new friends
and catch up with old ones.



Babies and kids welcome.



HONEY TOTS

Parents and Toddlers Group

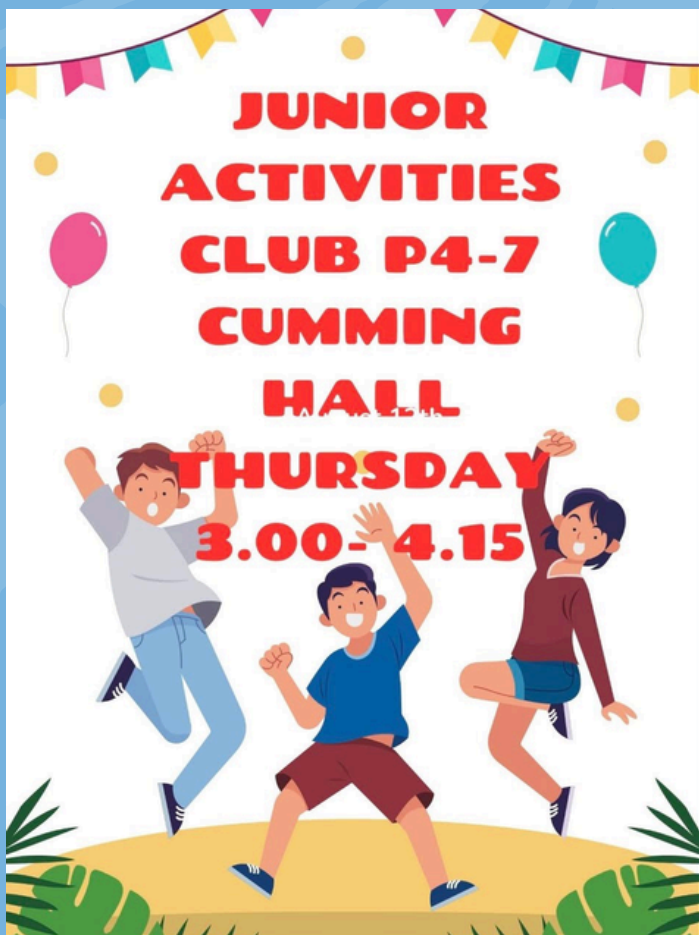
Come along and join us for a fun filled morning at Honey Tots.

Every Wednesday and Friday

0930 - 1130

@ Community Centre/AWS

A safe space for parents and toddlers to take part in fun activities together and socialise with other families.



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES CLUB P4-7 CUMMING HALL THURSDAY 3.00-4.15



Community Support



Dandelion Juniors

Every Thursday @ Cumming Hall

P4 – P7 children welcome

15:00 – 16:15 hrs

Join us for crafts and games after school on a Thursday from 8th January.



50p Admission

For further information and booking please contact the Community Development Worker Mags at Margaret.Duncan115@mod.gov.uk or 07795831169

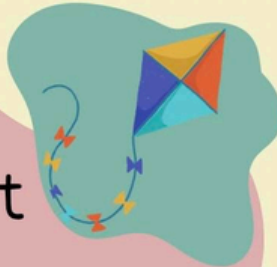
SHARED FROM SOCIALS



Information for Families & the Community

ASN Parent Support Group

Kinloss 39 Regiment



Every Thursday
09:30 till 11:30

Location: AWS
building

Contact:
Amy: 07575436665
Caz: 07428220320
or message us on
Facebook



Lunchtime Walk
Thursdays 12.00
Meet at Cummming Hall

SHARED FROM SOCIALS



Information for Families & the Community

Family Fun Days!

Every Friday from 17 April 2026
Until 25 Sep 2026

Timings: 1500 - 1800

Location: Cumming Hall

Bouncy Castles, Soft Play,
Jenga, Board Games



Please bring your children along, there are activities for all ages! Use this time to socialize with other families and support each other. Hope to see all there!

39 Weekly Calendar

Monday

Bloom toddler classes
2-3pm
3-4pm
KCh

Cubs (age 8-10.5)
6.15-7.45pm
SH

Book Club
7-9pm
CH

Tuesday

Spouses PT
6-7pm
39 Gym

Lisa's Yoga
6.30-7.30pm
KCh

Explorers (age 14-18)
7.30-9.30pm
SH

Wednesday

Honey Tots (Age 0-5) (AWS)
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Beavers (age 6-8)
5.30-6.30pm
SH

Military Wives Choir
7-9pm
CH

Scouts (age 10.5-14)
7.15-9pm
SH

Thursday

ASN Group
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC
Health Visitor Clinic
11-12pm
CH

Walk & Talk
12.00pm
Meet @ CH
Junior Club P4-P7
3-4.14pm
CH

Martial arts (age 3 up) check website for age group timings
4.30-6.30pm
CH

Brownies
5.30-7pm
KCh

Spouses PT
6-7pm
39 GYM

Table Top Games
7pm - late
CH

Friday

Honey Tots (Age 0-5)
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Saturday

Seniors day out (Age 12 and Up)
Monthly
day activities

Sunday

Messy church
2nd sunday monthly
12-2pm
KCh

Building key

AWS CC - Army Welfare Service Community Centre (accommodation side of camp)
SH - Scout Hut (next to Cumming Hall)
CH - Cumming Hall
39 Gym - Gym building on accommodation side of camp
KCh - Kinloss Church Church Hall

Useful Contacts

AWS Margaret.duncan115@mod.gov.uk
Military Wives Choir
kinloss@militarywiveschoirs.org
Wives PT Tyla.turner476@mod.gov.uk
Scouts/ Beavers/ Cubs
www.morayscouts.org.uk
Brownies kinlossbrownies@hotmail.com
Book Club
boundbyimagination@outlook.com
Lisa's Yoga 07901 788 357
ASN group 07575 436 665 / 07428 220 320
Messy Church kinlossbcf@gmail.com
Sansum Martial Arts 07775 918 079
www.sansummartialarts.com
Bloom Toddler Classes
bloomtoddlerclasses.com/county-moray

Spring Events 2026 Easter

Programme highlighted in green

February

7th Feb, Saturday
Go Karts 11+ (Booking)
1-4pm
meet@CH

8th Feb, Sunday
Messy Church
12-2pm
KCh

16th Feb, Monday
Stay & Play
Picnic/ burgers £1
11-12pm
AWS CC (Booking)

17th Feb, Tuesday
Crafts 5+ £1
1.30-3.30pm
AWS CC (Booking)

24th Feb, Monday
Deployment Briefing
6pm
CH

March

8th Mar, Sunday
Messy Church
12-2pm
KCh

Date TBC
Bingo/ Quiz night

30th Mar, Monday
Bushcraft 8+ £2
10-12.15pm & 12.45-3pm
Outfit Moray (Book)

Stay & Play
Picnic/ Burgers £1
11-2pm
AWS CC (Book)

31st Mar, Tuesday
Family afternoon £4
1-4pm (Book)
Innoflate Inverness

April

1st April, Wed
Honey Tots £1
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Crafts £1
1-3pm
AWS CC

2nd April, Thur
ASN group
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Multi-Sport5+ £1
1-3pm
AWS CC (BOOK)

3rd April, Friday
Honey Tots £1
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Teen Bowling £2
1-4pm
Elgin (Book)

6th April, Monday
Crate Climbing 8+ £2
10-12.15pm or
13.45-3pm
Outfit Moray (Book)

7th April, Tuesday
Family afternoon £2
1-4pm
Infinity Trampoline Park
Inverness (Book)

8th April, Wed
Honey Tots £1
9.30-11.30am
aws cc

Multi-sports 5+ £1
1-3pm
AWS cc (Book)

9th April, Thursday
ASN group
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Crafts £1
1-3pm
AWS CC

10th April, Friday
Honey Tots/
Messy Play £1
9.30-11.30am
AWS CC

Teen Afternoon £4
1-4pm
Ice Skating (Book)

12th April, Sunday
Messy Church
12-2pm
KCh

19th April, Sunday
Sunday Lunch & Easter Egg
Hunt (Book)
12.30-4pm
Junior Ranks mess

May

10th May, Sunday
Messy Church
12-2pm
KCh

31st May, Sunday
Sunday Lunch (Book)
Junior Ranks mess

June

14th June, Sunday
Messy Church
12-2pm
KCh

28th June, Sunday
Sunday Lunch (Book)
Junior Ranks mess



For information about booking events, useful regimental contacts & community updates please join our Facebook group.

QUICK LINKS



GUIDE FOR PARENTS



ARMED FORCES PARENTAL ABSENCE FROM HOME



MORAY COUNCIL'S ARMED FORCES FAMILIES RESOURCE HUB



2026

June

ARMED FORCES DAY,
ALL DAY
SAT 27 JUNE

STAY CONNECTED

The Dandelion Drop
FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN
• SEEDS OF SUPPORT •

[click to subscribe](#)



Hannah Fyfe
Education Support Officer



DandelionProject@moray.gov.uk



[Dandelion Project Moray](#)



moray.gov.uk/ArmedForcesFamilies

Scan the QR code to visit
the Dandelion Project's
Linktree for useful links.



Supported by:

THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT FUND TRUST
Funded by HM Government



In partnership with:

ROYAL AIR FORCE LOSSIEMOUTH



39 ENGINEER REGIMENT KINLOSS