

London South East Children's University June 2025 Challenges

Did you know that it is a very special year with lots of celebrations taking place? It is the 60th anniversary of Bexley becoming a London borough, the centenary of Danson Park, the 500th anniversary of the dissolution of Lesnes Abbey and the 160th birthday of Crossness Pumping Station!



Each of the challenges this month link to these celebrations, which you can find on the next few pages...

You can choose to complete as many of these challenges as you wish – simply email your evidence (a photo is absolutely fine!) to Kate at BexleyCU@LSEAT.org.uk and she will send you your stamp code!

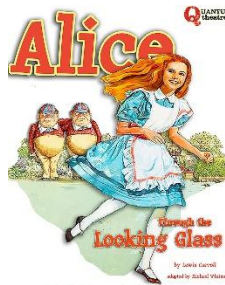
Challenge 1

Bexley turns 60!



There are lots of events and celebrations taking place across the Borough and across the year to celebrate 60 years of Bexley becoming a London Borough. These include plays, picnics, markets, showcases and concerts, many of which are free or low cost. There is even a “Bexley’s Got Talent” being led by Theatre Box (one of our amazing Learning Destinations) – you can find out more here:

<https://www.facebook.com/BexleyGotTalent/>



For this challenge, I would like you to attend one of these events and write a review about it!

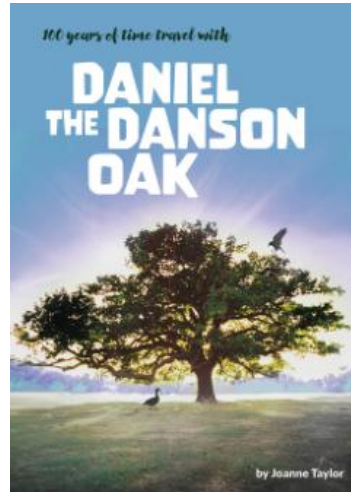
You can find details of all the events on this website: <https://www.bexley.gov.uk/discover-bexley/celebrating-bexley/events#june-events>

You can also find a template for a cultural experience on our Google Drive via this link:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KxebDCNynME3tldtByJ9iq34VRI0cR35VJ7izNnE--g/edit?usp=drive_link

Challenge 2

Danson Park

Danson Park turns 100 this year and one of our local residents, Joanne Taylor, wrote a story about the large oak tree that sits within the park! You can read the story here: <https://www.bexley.gov.uk/discover-bexley/visitor-attractions/danson-house-and-park/daniel-the-danson-oak>



For this challenge, I would like you to write your own story about something linked to Danson Park. You could write a story about the lake, the house, the park or even take inspiration from Joanne and write about the oak tree! The choice is yours!



Challenge 3

Crossness Pumping Station



Crossness Pumping Station is an amazing place in Thamesmead where you can find out all about the sewage system created by Sir Joseph Bazalgette in 1865! If you haven't visited, we would highly recommend a visit on one of their open days! You can find out more on their website <https://crossness.org.uk/>



Your challenge is to visit the Toilet Timeline website and answer the questions below! I hope you enjoy finding out about the history of toilets! You can find the answers via the link below (or in-person if you are able to visit Crossness on one of their open days)

<https://www.toilet-timeline.org/>

1. Which toilet is your favourite and why?
2. What is the name of the earliest water closet?
3. How much did it cost to use the first pay-as-you-go toilet?
4. When was the first toilet lock created?
5. What colour was the most popular bathroom in the 1920s?
6. Design a toilet for the future! What do you think they will look like in 100 years' time?

Challenge 4

Lesnes Abbey



Lesnes Abbey is a unique site in Thamesmead which offers 88 hectares of ancient woodland, a park and a ruined abbey. They are one of our Learning Destinations and offer a wide range of activities, workshops and often host events (such as our Family Fun Day, which is taking place on Sunday 13th July 2025!).

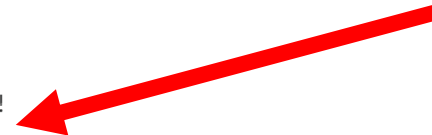


For this challenge, we would like you to complete the booklet which was created especially for Children's University! You can download the booklet via: <https://www.lesnesabbeywoods.org/downloadable-resources/> then scroll down until you see this:

Lesnes Abbey Children's University activity sheet

Activities to help children explore the site and learn as they go!

Download



It would be best for you to visit so that you can answer the questions and there are lots of ways of getting there as it is close to Abbey Wood station as well as lots of bus routes. It is free and lots of great areas (including a play area) for you to explore!

You can also find out more about what is on offer at Lesnes Abbey via <https://www.lesnesabbeywoods.org/explore/>