

18 May 2018

Flight themed family fun planned for half term

Aircraft Viewing and Uniforms

Date: 29 May - 1 June 2018

Time: 10.30am - 2.30pm

Cost: FREE

Virtual Reality Sessions

Date: 29 May and 31 May 2018

Time: 11.00am - 2.30pm

Cost: FREE

Spot the Slang Trail

Date: 26 May – 3 June

Time: 10am - 5pm

Cost: £1.00

May half term is almost upon us and during this school break the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford has planned a week of wartime nostalgia to keep the younger members of the family entertained.

Taking place from Saturday 26 May to Sunday 3 June, visitors are invited to take part in a number of fun flight themed activities, including donning wartime clothing and getting up close to two First World War aircraft, participating in a wartime virtual reality session and taking part in a Spot the Slang trail.

Families will be given an insight into life as an RAF pilot during the First World War with a rare chance to get a closer look inside the Sopwith Pup and Sopwith 1 1/2 Strutter. Not only can families get up close to these wartime aircraft, they will also be able to look at and try on clothing and uniform from the era – perfect for an unusual family photo, so don't forget to bring your camera! This aircraft viewing and uniform experience will take place from Tuesday 29 May until Friday 1 June between 10.30am and 2.30pm and is FREE of charge.

A First World War virtual reality experience being delivered by Tablet Academy will enable visitors to step back in time and immerse themselves into the early days of the RAF through an augmented world. These free drop in sessions last approximately five minutes and are packed with First World War aircraft and content, guaranteed to ignite the imagination of not just the youngsters, but all generations of the family! Sessions will take place in the Museum's War in the Air hangar on 29 and 31 May between 11.00am and 2.30pm.

Sticking with the First World War theme, children will be challenged to find all of the hidden wartime slang words, concealed in and around the Museum's First World War in the Air exhibition. The First World War brought together service personnel from different countries and backgrounds and slang words were often used to help people describe their experiences. By following the 'Spot the Slang' trail, youngsters will discover the meanings behind a selection of First World War slang terms including 'Ace', 'Basket Case' and 'Whizzbang', some of which are still used today. So, if you have any eagle-eyed children in your family and are up for the challenge, pick up your trail from the Visitor Centre on arrival at the Museum for just £1.00.

Children taking part in the trail can also enter into a competition to WIN a First World War prize bundle from the RAF Museum shop worth over £35! To enter the competition all you need to do is hit 'Like' on the RAF Museum Cosford Facebook page and follow the instructions on the back page of your trail sheet. Entry into the competition is free and the winner will be announced on Facebook in June.

Plus, there's plenty more to keep families entertained during the half term week - learn if you have what it takes to be a pilot in Fun 'n' Flight which is packed with hands on excitement. Whether you're learning how

to fly a Spitfire, investigating air flow with 'The Blower' or guiding a Hercules to a drop zone you will be learning and having fun. Or, why not let your imagination take flight on board the Museum's 4D Experience which combines cutting-edge 3D computer animation with the added fourth dimension of special environmental effects. Experience the thrill of flying in formation with the world famous aerobatic display team the Red Arrows in the new 4D ride.

PLUS...in addition to the half term activities, visitors will also have the exciting opportunity to climb on board the **Hawker Siddeley Nimrod R.1 XV249** during daily tours running from 26-31 May. Tickets are available to purchase online via the Museums website www.rafmuseum.org/cosford or on the day, subject to availability.

The Museum is open daily from 10am - 5pm and entry is FREE. For more information visit: www.rafmuseum.org/cosford

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

- The First World War in the Air Exhibition at Cosford was made possible through funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and with support from BAE Systems.



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- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at: <http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org