

Discover some autumn treasures this half-term at the County Museum

Worcestershire County Council's County Museum will be offering youngsters and their families the chance to sample some autumn treasures later this month to help keep the half-term holiday blues at bay.

This season of change, vibrant colour, special foods and traditions make this a great time to visit the award-winning museum, set in the beautiful surroundings of the historic Hartlebury Castle.

There will be fun for all the family at the special event, which kicks off on Tuesday, October 27 and runs until October 30.

Visitors can have fun carving their own pumpkin, have a go at making an autumn scrapbook, scarecrow, puppet or seasonal mobile. Youngsters will also have the chance to create a pastel picture using nature as their inspiration or making a tasty treat to take home for their garden birds.

Throughout the week children will be able to follow a special Treasure Trail around the museum to help them learn about thousands of years of history.

On Friday, October 30, the focus will switch to the spooky goings-on of Halloween with treat bags and scary stick puppets.

The Castle Kitchen Café will be serving a range of tasty treats all week-long, including some autumn specials and spooky cakes. After lunch children can let off steam in the nature reserve where the trees are turning fantastic shades of red and gold.

For early Christmas shoppers the gift shop is well stocked with a range of unique cards, gifts and contemporary crafts. Activities take place daily from 10.30am until 4.30pm.

Rachel Robinson, Worcestershire County Council's Visitor Services Officer, said: "Our half-term craft activities are a great way to spend the holidays. There are fun and creative activities for all to enjoy and the pumpkin carving is always very popular.

"It really is beautiful here at Hartlebury Castle at this time of year and I'd like to invite everyone to come share the autumn treasures with us during the week."

Admission charges apply (£4 adults, £2 children & concessions, £10 family ticket) plus £1 per child for a day's activities and an additional charge for pumpkin carving. Visitors should call 01299 250416 for more information on the County Museum's daily programme.

The County Museum is situated off the A449, three miles south of Kidderminster. It encompasses a wide collection ranging from toys and domestic life, to archaeological finds, costume and transport. The County Museum and the Castle Kitchen Cafe are open to the public from Tuesday to Friday (10am until 5pm) and weekends and Bank Holiday Mondays (11am until 5pm).

Notes to Editors

Media Opportunity – Members of the media are invited for pictures/interviews on Tuesday, October 13, at 1pm at Worcestershire County Museum, Hartlebury Castle, Hartlebury, Near Kidderminster, DY11 7XZ. For more information or to confirm attendance please contact Rachel Robinson on 01299 250416.

Picture details - Attached are pictures of County Museum volunteer, Anna May Furness, 15, from Abberley, with some of the crafty items children can create at the museum during half term.

-ends-