

Kids Club 2007

Want a school holiday filled with action, excitement and adventure? Need some ideas to help your tots to teens beat holiday boredom? Then you've come to the right place. *Lauren Gordon* looks into summer activities for DB kids

With six to eight weeks holiday ahead, your kids are probably going to need more than play dates and family outings to keep them occupied. Fortunately, whether they are interested in sport, art, drama, music, cooking or even movie-making, there is plenty on offer to keep them engaged this summer.

The long vacation is a great opportunity for kids of all ages to learn something new and meet new friends at the same time. So read on to discover over 25 fun courses (most of them right here in DB) for your toddlers, tweens and teens.

The idea is to help you provide your kids with a rewarding summer experience and a balanced schedule of exciting activities, that nurture the mind, body and spirit.

Getting out and active

After being cooped up in a classroom, the summer holidays are a great opportunity for children to get outside, get active and do some sports.

Advantage Sports' four football camps run from 9am to 12pm during the weeks of July 9, July 16, August 13 and August 20. Classes for five to seven year olds are held at the

basketball court in Club Siena; older kids meet at the Discovery Bay Island School (DBIS) basketball court. Fees are \$1,100. For further details, contact Greg Ewins on 2987 4274 or email info@dbdragons.com.

Throughout the summer, coaches at the DB Residents Club (DBRC) and DB Marina Club are holding tennis camps each weekday morning. At both venues, kids are separated into groups depending on their age and level of experience. For more information call the DBRC on 2987 7381, DB Marina Club on 2987 9591.

Aquagym is holding its regular afternoon swimming classes at the DBRC and Marina Club all summer, plus 10-day intensive swimming camps at the DBRC. These morning camps include a junior lifesaving course for children aged nine and up (\$2,000), "Deep Sea Adventure" for children aged three and up (\$1,350) and a freestyle workshop, for children over five (\$1,800). You can call Aquagym on 2914 0658 or email info@aquagym.com.hk.

The five-day Quicksilver Treasure Island surf camps, at Pui O Beach on south Lantau, are for kids aged five to 13, and comprise surf lessons with professional instructors, information

on ocean safety, and a range of outdoor adventure activities run by a group from North America called Camp Adventure. The camp fee is \$2,400. Three-day "Pirates" overnight camps are also on offer for children aged eight to 13 (\$2,100). Check the website at www.treasureislandhk.com or call 2984 8711.

Club Siena's "Superkid Adventure Camp", for kids aged four to 12, is packed with fun outdoor activities, and costs \$1,680 per person. For further details call 3568 9109.

Devotees of Multi-sport will be disappointed to hear that it will not be holding classes in DB this summer. However, it's running programmes in gymnastics, trampolining, basketball, swimming and more, on Hong Kong-side. Call 2540 1257 or email admin@multi-sport.com.hk for a list of local venues.

Nurturing children's creative talents

An indoor, air-conditioned activity can be very welcome in the heat and rain of summer — think arts and crafts, and cooking (or both at the same time).

Both Artworks Studio (call 2987 1040) and Treasure House (call 2987 4217) in the plaza are offering special art classes for children aged three through to teens. Fees depend on the type of class and length of course.

Art teacher Judyanna Li is giving Chinese painting classes at Club Siena every Thursday in August from 3pm to 4.30pm. The four sessions cost \$700 for children and \$1,200 for children accompanied by an adult. Li's summer course at the DB Alliance Church Community Centre runs Tuesday and Thursday mornings from August 7 to 30, for children aged five to 15 — \$680 for members and \$720 for non-members. You can call her on 9452 9987.

DB chef Philippe Moriau, of Chef Pour Toi in the plaza, is running cooking

courses for kids in July. The one-and-a-half hour classes start at 1pm or 4pm, with children grouped according to their age (five to six years, seven to nine years and 10 to 12 years). The monthly fee of \$600 includes all ingredients. Contact Philippe at 2987 5797 or email chef@chefpourtoi.com.

For a delicious and creative summer activity, sign up for Complete Deelite's "Kids Edible Art Camps", in either DB or Central. The three-day camp teaches children to create decorative snacks and treats with cookies, cupcakes and candy. Mums are welcome to join and the cost per child is \$1,000. For the summer schedule, contact jaye@completedeelite.com or call 2987 2269.

All the summer's a stage

Give your budding thespians a head-start, with summer courses run by Faust in Central, Kowloon and Clearwater Bay. The week-long courses are divided by age group, and cater for children aged five to 16. For morning or afternoon sessions, the weekly registration fee is \$2,080. For weekly, creative writing and playwriting courses, the fee is \$2,250. For more details, call 2547 9114 or email info@faustworld.com.

Five-day, four-night film school summer camps in Lantau immerse students — aged 11 to 14 (juniors) and 15 to 18 (seniors) — in a hands-on film shoot on location at Pui O Beach. Everyone has the chance to direct, edit, produce and act in a short film recorded on DVD. The curriculum also includes Film Criticism, Film Appreciation and Film History. Log onto www.filmshoolhongkong.com or call 2987 6656.

