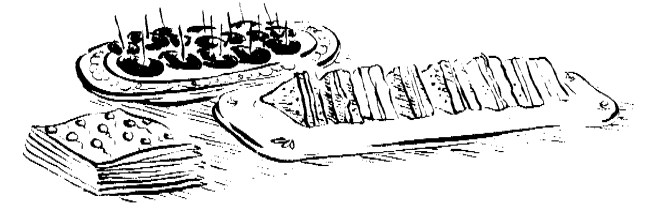




SUMMER

Long hot days and balmy nights, lazy mornings, bare feet and ice creams, sunshine and strawberries, Wimbledon – AND NO SCHOOL! That's why summer is the best time of all.



Picnics

While the weather is fine, any meal eaten outdoors, in the park, on a walk or just in the garden, will turn into a picnic. In the summer, all you have to do is lay a table or put a cloth or blanket on the ground in the garden, and mealtimes instantly become an exciting treat.

TIPS FOR PREPARING A PICNIC BASKET

- * Line your basket with a clean tablecloth, add cloth or paper napkins.
- * Fill some small glass bottles with lemonade/barley water/elderflower cordial and make stoppers out of rolled up pieces of clean paper. A little piece of tin foil with an elastic band around it also makes a good stopper.
- * Paper or plastic tumblers are better than glasses for picnics.
- * If you have plenty of napkins, plates are not necessary for picnicking, otherwise pack small plastic plates.
- * Pick a small posy of flowers and put it in a jam jar to decorate the picnic blanket.
- * Pack a plastic bag for rubbish.

PICNIC FOOD

- * add a little honey to cocktail sausages then cook till crisp in a slow oven
- * hard-boiled eggs or quails' eggs
- * cherry tomatoes
- * cucumber/carrot/celery sticks
- * chicken drumsticks
- * olives
- * hummus, taramasalata or tzatziki are always popular, with carrot sticks, baby sweetcorn or mangetout for dipping
- * something sweet never goes amiss