

Plaything

What's new in the world of children

A toast to the mothers

It's our month, mamas – Mother's Day is here again. Who doesn't love breakfast in bed, handmade cards and extra cuddles? Make it a special day by starting a new tradition at home – whether it's taking a silly family photo, watching your favourite childhood movie together, or curling up for a delicious team nap. Togetherness is what it's all about (but we won't tell if you sneak away for a well-deserved massage either).



Mother loves...

Calgary Avansino, wellbeing expert and contributing editor, *Vogue*

YOU'RE PREGNANT WITH YOUR THIRD CHILD – WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR THIS MOTHER'S DAY? This will be the first Mother's Day that I am a mother of three – I hadn't thought about that. Most importantly, I want to be home from the hospital safely with a robust little boy who is hopefully feeding well by then. That and the adorable cards my girls always make with misspelled words of love!

HOW ARE YOU APPROACHING CHILDBIRTH THIRD TIME AROUND? I'm so curious to see this little soul is who has chosen us to share life with and I'm very intrigued about having my first son – all new to me. I'm excited to breastfeed again too – that bond is so incredible – I know it's not a passion shared by all, but I enjoy every snuggle.

WHAT'S YOUR NUTRITIONAL TIP FOR PREGNANCY AND POST-NATAL MOTHERS?

Give in to your pregnancy completely and succumb to all the changes that creating a new life brings. Pregnancy is literally like being possessed by a different soul – you want to eat different things, do different things and act different ways. Don't fight it for one minute – just surrender your control to the amazing process and try to enjoy the magic of it all.

I say, always listen to your body and give it what it's asking for... within reason.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR ABSOLUTE MATERNITY LIFELINE? My bathtub – it's the only place I feel light and ache-free.

WHAT ARE THE THINGS YOU WANT TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN BEFORE YOUR THIRD CHILD IS BORN? Give them as much undivided attention as I can before I am distracted by cries, feeding and nappies. I treasure my one-on-one time, even if it's just a solo school pick-up. I have consciously booked in a lot of fun outings because I know those excursions won't be as easy very soon.

WHAT WILL YOU BE BRINGING THE BABY HOME IN? I've had my hospital bags packed for ages! I've planned an adorable outfit sent to me by a friend, but to be honest I'll feel pleased if he's in something clean that roughly fits.

WHAT'S YOUR MOST PRECIOUS MATERNAL KEEPSAKE? Definitely the notes my kids leave for me from time-to-time. Sometimes they are little apology notes for being naughty, sometimes they just say "I love you Mummy" and sometimes they are completely unintelligible, but I love the thought that goes into each of them madly.



PHOTOGRAPH: MINI PREEN · PREENBYTHORNTONBREGAZZI.COM · FLORENCE FINBURGH PHOTOGRAPHY · LEONIE FREEMAN

Playtime pieces

Some of our favourite playful products from the Playtime tradeshow last month

Swing ball

The aptly named FAB design has play at its heart with these swings which can be attached to the ceiling inside or out! €129 fabdesign.fr



Betta bottles

These Japanese designer bottles from Doctor Betta are unique. Each glass bottle (hygienic and durable) is made one at a time, shaped for the perfect liquid delivery for the baby, to help avoid all too common gas and earache. Available on amazon.co.uk

Simple as...

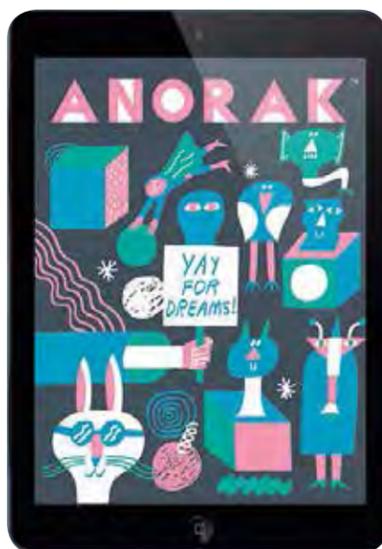
We adore the attention to detail from colourful skater brand ABC123, down to the thumbholes in the cuffs of the hoodies. Our favourite piece to come is this orange raincoat, but you'll have to wait until autumn to get your mitts on it. abc123me.com





BETTER THAN FLOWERS

Inspired by the heaps of flowers she received after giving birth, Steph Douglas decided it was time for a change. Her brainchild, Don't Buy Her Flowers, creates brilliant care packages for mothers postpartum. The options include everything from sweets and glossy magazines to massage oil and wine – you can even add COOK prepared food vouchers for an extra special treat. “Flowers are a go-to gift for new mothers, and yet it’s another thing to care for when you’re possibly feeling a bit spent,” Douglas says. “Giving new mums some TLC is really important.” From £21, dontbuyherflowers.com



TABLET TIME

Anorak Magazine's first digital edition is out, packed with the same fun, educational features as the paper quarterly. For ages six and up, £2.99 on iTunes

FRANCESCA FOUNDER OF CAKE OF DREAMS, 34, AND INDIANA (LEFT), CAKEOFDREAMS.CO.UK

I'd describe my look as **part jester, part magpie**. Nostalgic, eclectic and sparkly. I have a lovely friend who sells **vintage clothes** and puts together selections for me to browse, or she has sale parties at her home with lots of prosecco – I always find things that make me feel glamorous. For basics, it's **American Apparel** – I'm obsessed with their bodysuits and over-the-knee socks. **Topshop** for party dresses and cheap jeans.

My kidswear favourites are Mini Magpie, Monster Vintage Kids, What Mother Made and I can't get enough of **Bobo Choses**.

GET THE LOOK

Buy, commission or even learn to make your own woollen onesie's at minimagpie.com, from **£30**



REAL STYLE

Kirsti Hadley and Emi Ozmen, founders of madlife.co.uk, talk to two mothers each with their own distinct style and little mini-mes

MAHDIS MARKETING DIRECTOR, 32, AND EVY (RIGHT)

I would describe how I like to dress as **street style**. I tend to mix old with new, and I love a simple black dress with a hint of gold or silver.

I like to throw **animal print** in there sometimes, followed by floral dresses. It all depends on my mood. My favourite brand of all time is without a doubt **Acne**. Everyday clothes come from **Weekday – Carin Wester**. I also have a new love for **Ganni** and **Opening Ceremony**.

The leopard print leggings we are both wearing here are from another new haunt, The Wee Department Store.

GET THE LOOK

Little and large leopard print leggings from theweedepartmentstore.co.uk **£42.95 / £26.50**



FASHION DYNASTY

Now a mother herself, Margherita Maccapani Missoni launches her first children's collection this month. Beautiful fabrics in colourful prints, the Margherita label is sure to foster a new generation of Missoni lovers. Available exclusively at yoox.com.



Happy birthday, Miffy!

Doesn't she look great for her age? Miffy marks her 60th anniversary this year, and Steiff is out with a limited-edition Miffy to celebrate. £169, steiff.com

The **Smallish Design Awards 2015** are now open, so head to our website to enter online. Winning brands will gain the ultimate recognition for style, innovation and design in a busy parenting market. Winners will feature in an awards special issue as well as online and in social media. Categories include babygear, fashion, interiors, toys, books, travel and lifestyle.

This year our panel of choosy independent judges will be assessing the categories to bring you the winners worthy of a *Smallish* accolade. Brands will be invited to an exclusive event later in the summer to coincide with the announcement of the winners. Head to smallishmagazine.com for more information on how to enter.

**Smallish
DESIGN
AWARDS
2015
Winner**

*Mamas and Papas,
winner of the boys
fashion high street
award 2014*

