



An exploratory dive of Formentera's marine depths and the natural treasures that teem within—plus a lesson about the invaluable posidonia seagrass—was an honour reserved for the pupils of the primary school in el Pilar de la Mola. As part of World Environment Day, Formentera has embarked on a plan to send 120 local students on snorkel tours of Ses Salines park.

Besides diving, Formentera youth will get a look at “El primer viatge” (The maiden journey). It's the latest instalment of a collection entitled “Els secrets i les aventures de Posi” (The secrets and adventures of Posi), which began with last year's “Posi té un do” (Posi's gift). Led by the professional staff of Vell Marí dive centre, the initiative is powered by Fundació La Caixa (€2,635), the Formentera Council (€1,700) and a three euro contribution from each participant. Each pupil will take home a copy of the storybook.

Future excursions are planned for June 8, 9 and 12. The activity is an offshoot of “Save Posidonia Project”, a Council-backed initiative to spread awareness about the important role played by the native seagrass. Posidonia, an underwater plant species and classified World Heritage Site, faces threats in the form of improper anchoring, untreated sewage spills and climate change, among other perils.

Tour of reforested area of Espalmador

When a carelessly tossed flare sparked a blaze on Espalmador last year, the Balearic ministry of environment responded with reforestation efforts. Now, guided tours offer a close-up look of the island's rehabilitated areas.

On Sunday, June 11, a public tour will set out from the western dock of la Savina harbour, next to the port building. Barca Bahia has offered up its resources so that anyone interested in discovering Espalmador can join in.

Starting out at 11.45am, the tour's guides pledge to have passengers back by 4.15pm and to la Savina by 5.00pm. For their part, organisers of Qué Celeste Festival will host their own event: a

Formentera celebrates World Environment Day with diving tours of posidonia meadows

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talk about the dangers posed by rubbish in the sea followed by a short beach cleanup. Visit the Office of Environment in Sant Ferran or contact the office by telephone (971321210) or e-mail (mediambient@conselldeformentera.cat

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