

JUNIOR MASTERMIND

Ten- and 11-year-olds dare to tread where many an adult has gone before, as they take their place in the Mastermind black chair to face questions from John Humphrys. Contestants pit their wits against the clock as they answer questions on subjects from the history of the Eurovision Song Contest to Albert Einstein, from Harry Potter to the works of Jane Austen.

Set to be every bit as challenging as the adult series, the tension mounts throughout five heats, with each contender battling for a place in the final and the ultimate accolade of Junior Mastermind 2004.



ALL ABOUT ME

Life has moved on for the Craddocks, as Jasper Carrott and Nina Wadia return in the third series of All About Me. Brummie Colin has left the building site and is now running his own architectural salvage business with his mate, Billy, while wife Rupinder is buying and selling Indian clothes from home, as well as taking care of the Craddock brood, which includes her disabled son, Raj, who now gives his own unique take on life, thanks to the arrival of his communication aid.

Colin's eldest son, Peter, is enjoying a gap year, travelling, while Sima has left school and is dealing with the grown-up trials and tribulations of life as a temp. Two new characters arrive in the shape of Charles and Miranda, the Craddocks's well meaning but painfully politically correct neighbours. What will they make of Colin and Rupinder's no-nonsense approach to life? Charles is played by Richard Lumsden and Miranda is played by Amanda Root.

FRENCH & SAUNDERS

Dawn French and Jennifer Saunders are causing havoc at BBC Television Centre with their first series in six years.

The comedy duo have infiltrated the building and even managed to acquire their own office. With only one parking space between them, a show to make, celebrity guests to cajole and a tough producer to please, Dawn and Jennifer are battling with security, propping up the tea bar and hunting the corridors, trying to acquire superstars for their show. With any luck, they may even find time to write it!

With a mixture of their unique brand of humour, spoofs and sketches, the show also includes Dawn and Jennifer's take on some recent blockbusters, including Cold Mountain, The Passion Of The Christ and Girl With A Pearl Earring.



FRIDAY NIGHT WITH JONATHAN ROSS

With his trademark blend of banter, humour and music, and his irreverent approach to the art of interviewing, Jonathan Ross is renowned for attracting an eclectic mix of A-list guests for music and chat that makes his Friday night show essential viewing.

Guests from the last series included: Charlize Theron, Ben Stiller, Morrissey, Will Young, Janet Jackson, Eddie Izzard, Gordon Ramsay, David Duchovny, Supergrass, The Streets, Omar Sharif, Franz Ferdinand and Jet.



WORLD SHUT YOUR MOUTH

An appetite for anarchy fuels the master prankster Dom Joly's travels as, armed with a passport and a suitcase full of prosthetics, he takes a surreal swipe at the irritating absurdities of life in the 21st century.

A human onion, a Columbian gigolo and Metal Man, a self-proclaimed superhero, are just some of the newly created characters, set to wreak havoc as they are unleashed onto an unsuspecting public. There's nowhere to hide from the cameras waiting to capture prank phone calls, public sketches and general mischief-making as World Shut Your Mouth witnesses the birth of a global nuisance.



THE CROUCHES

Life for an extended family living under one roof can never be simple, particularly in the Crouches household. The upbeat down-to-earth situation comedy about the trials and traumas of a family living in Walworth, London, is back later this year.

Bafta award-nominated producer Paulette Randall, whose credits include Desmonds, Porkpie and Kerching!, brings her wealth of experience to the second series, while Liselle Kayla heads up a new team of writers guaranteed to shake things up in the Crouches household. Liselle's credits include EastEnders, Rude Girls and Us Girls.



EYES DOWN

Hold onto your bingo cards – Ray's back from holiday and, despite sun, sea, sangria and a £2,000 windfall, courtesy of a punter, he's still as caustic as ever. But then he does have rather a lot to contend with...

While having to deal with unwanted attention from local gangsters targeting the bingo hall, and the amorous advances of horrendous regional manager Miss Grimes, Ray's staff are still as apathetic as usual. It seems as though Ray's numbers are up as Paul O'Grady returns as the savage-tongued bingo caller, whose house is most definitely not in order.

The cast also includes Sheridan Smith, Neil Fitzmaurice, Tony Maudsley, Edna Dore and Rosie Cavallero.

CARRIE AND BARRY

Neil Morrissey stars as part-time cabbie Barry, with Claire Rushbrook as his beautician wife Carrie, in this unapologetically rude comedy series. The couple find themselves grappling with the challenges of keeping the spice in their marriage and the fun in their day jobs – as well as dealing with Barry's teenage daughter, Sinead, from his disastrous first marriage.

Barry co-owns his black cab with his mate, Kirk (he does the night shift) (Mark Williams), and Michelle (Michelle Gomez) is Carrie's acid-tongued best friend and fellow beautician. Neil Morrissey is reunited with Beryl Vertue, Hartswood Films' writer Simon Nye and director Martin Dennis, the team behind Men Behaving Badly, which made Neil a household name.



HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU

Have I Got News For You returns for a new series to give its irreverent, outspoken and witty perspective on the subjects and people making the headlines. Each week, politicians, actors and comedians sit alongside the regulars joining in the fun while, at the same time, trying to dodge the embarrassing reminders of their own experiences in the media spotlight.

Team captains Paul Merton and Ian Hislop lead the assault. Trying, and no doubt failing, to exert control over the proceedings are guest hosts who take the hot seat on a weekly basis.

THE ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE 2004

Celebrities and artists from the worlds of music, television and entertainment gather at London's Coliseum for the prestigious annual Royal Variety Performance, in the presence of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales.

This year, the Coliseum celebrates its centenary and re-opens after undergoing a £41m restoration.

The Royal Variety Performance is a charity event in aid of the Entertainment Artist's Benevolent Fund.



MY DAD'S THE PRIME MINISTER

After celebrating a landslide victory in the children's press, as well as gaining a clear majority with the national media, the critically acclaimed My Dad's The Prime Minister returns to office for a second term. With a brand-new manifesto, Michael Phillip and his family are set to win over many more seats in the House.

However, despite Phillip's popularity in the polls, things aren't quite so positive at home. His kids find him a total embarrassment, his mother prefers his brother, Geoffrey, and though Phillip's spin-doctor may help his public image, Packer is certainly no vote-winner with the family.

My Dad's The Prime Minister takes a non-partisan look at the family life of an imaginary leader, told through the eyes of his children. Robert Bathurst and Joe Prospero return in the hugely popular comedy, written by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman.

