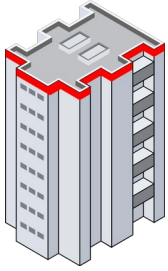




Newsletter

April/May 2022



The topic for this half term is:
Homes

Tel: 07827 892397 (Enquiries)
07999 550674 (During session)

www.thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk

The Ark Pre-School,
Crowthorne Baptist Church,
144 High Street,
Crowthorne,
Berks,
RG45 7AT



Term Dates 2022

SUMMER 2022

TERM STARTS: Tue 19th Apr
May bank holiday: Mon 2nd May
Half term: 30th May-3rd June
INSET day: Mon 6th June
TERM ENDS: Thur 21st July

AUTUMN 2022

TERM STARTS: Mon 5th Sep
Half term: 24th-28th Oct
TERM ENDS: Fri 16th Dec
(Early close at 12pm)

SPRING 2023

TERM STARTS: Tue 3rd Jan
Half term: 13-17th Feb
TERM ENDS: Fri 31st Mar

Letters/rhyming sounds and themes of the week:

As we have completed the alphabet in the first week of this half term, we are moving on to rhyming sounds.

w/c 19th Apr – **y** (My home)
w/c 25th Apr – **hat** (My home)
w/c 2nd May – **pan** (Things in the home)
w/c 9th May – **hen** (Types of houses)
w/c 16th May – **mug** (Fairy tale homes)
w/c 23rd May – **tree** (Homes around the world)

Dates for your Diary

- Fun in the Forest days (at Wellington) will continue on Tuesday and Thursday in the Spring term
- Date TBC - Crowthorne Fire Station visit
- Thursday 23rd June – Sandhurst Park trip
- Saturday 9th – Monday 11th July – Crowthorne Flower Festival
- Friday 15th July – Sports Day at Morgan Recreation Ground
- Thursday 21st July 11.45am-12.15pm – Leavers' Assembly in the Hub (Ark hall)

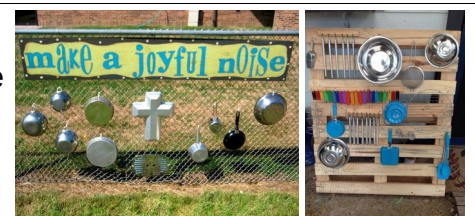
Parent Help

If any parents are able to help with walking the children back from Wellington college on the following Tuesdays, please speak to Heather or Anna. We ask volunteers to meet us at the back entrance at 11:30 to walk back to the church.

- 3rd and 10th May
- 7th and 14th June
- 5th and 12th July

Pots, Pans and Utensils

We are planning to utilise the outside space at The Ark by attaching some "musical" noise making items to the fence. If you have any old saucepans, utensils, or xylophones in the next couple of months, we would appreciate donations.



Fun in the Forest

We will be enjoying the woods on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term. Please be prompt in dropping off as we will not be able to wait for a long time for children who are late. If you are going to be late please call the Ark staff on **07999 550674** (not the Admin number).

Children should bring:

- Waterproofs in wet weather (preferably coat and trousers) and wellies if it is likely to be muddy
- Sunhat for sunny days (suncream already applied before drop off)
- Healthy lunch in a named plastic bag if staying for lunch club
- Any medication (inhaler, epi-pen etc) in a clearly named plastic bag
- Nappy, wipes and a nappy sack in a named plastic bag if not yet toilet trained



Snacks and drinks will be provided, and staff will have spare changes of clothes in case of accidents. The children will spend the morning walking back to the Ark on the High Street – they will be able to enjoy the outdoors, see the woods in different seasons and will play games, sing and do counting activities during the morning.

Pick up will be as normal from the church on the High Street at 12.15pm. Children staying for lunch club will be collected from the church at 1.15pm as usual.



Cooking

We often cook with the children, and they will bring home the food they have made in a named plastic box. Please do wash these out and return them to The Ark, so that they are to hand for the next time we cook.



Parent Representatives

We are grateful to Millie (Toby's mum) and Laura (Archie's mum) for being the parent representatives on our management committee. You are welcome to pass them any feedback or suggestions that they can take to the committee meetings. Millie and Laura have also set up a WhatsApp group for parents and carers which you are warmly invited to join. Please speak with them or email Naomi for the link.

Session Cost Increases

Due to increased costs over the last few years our committee have agreed to increase session prices over the next two years as follows:

From September 2022

session prices will be:

2 year old session - £18

3 and 4 year old session - £16

Lunch clubs - £5.50

From September 2023

session prices will be:

2 year old session - £19

3 and 4 year old session - £17

Lunch clubs - £6

Absence of children

We require a phone call or a letter every day that your child cannot attend preschool. The local authority has asked us to keep this information, so please support us in this.

Please phone THE ARK number (**07999 550674**) not the admin number, if your child is absent that day. If you know in advance of an absence, or if it is for a longer period of time we require a letter please.

We reserve the right to contact parents if your child is absent and we have had no contact.

Ticks

Ticks are most active from March to October – please check your child regularly, especially after Fun in the Forest sessions. NHS advice is to wear long sleeves and trousers while in the woods to protect against ticks.

Contact Details

For any general enquiries, email Naomi Page (Administrator) at admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk or call on 07827 892397. If you need to speak to a member of staff urgently, or your child cannot attend, call the Ark setting on 07999 550674 between 9.15am – 12.15pm Mon – Fri.