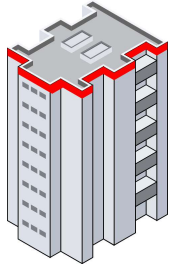




Newsletter

April/May 2024



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 2024/5

SUMMER 2024

TERM STARTS: Mon 15th Apr
Half term: 27th - 31st May
INSET: Mon 3rd June
TERM ENDS: Fri 12th July

AUTUMN 2024

TERM STARTS: Wed 4th Sep
Half term: 28th Oct - 1st Nov
TERM ENDS: Fri 20th Dec
(Early close at 12pm)

SPRING 2025

TERM STARTS: Mon 6th Jan
Half term: 17th - 21st Feb
TERM ENDS: Fri 4th Apr

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 15th Apr – **y** (My home)
w/c 22nd Apr – **hat** (My home)
w/c 29th Apr – **pan** (Things in the home)
w/c 6th May – **hen** (Types of houses)
w/c 13th May – **mug** (Fairy tale homes)
w/c 20th May – **tree** (Homes around the world)

Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 18th June – Sandhurst Park trip
- Friday 5th July – Sports Day at Morgan Recreation Ground (picnic and time to socialise afterwards)
- Saturday 6th July – Crowthorne Carnival
- Friday 12th July – Leaver's Assembly

Session Cost Increases

Our session prices will be increasing from September 2024. For 2 year olds, it will be £21 per session. For 3 and 4 year olds, it will be £18 per session. Lunch clubs will still be £6.

Parent Help on Mondays

We would really appreciate any help walking the children back from Wellington college on Mondays this term. If any parents are able to help, please speak to the staff. We would ask volunteers to meet us at the pavilion just inside the Byron Drive entrance at 11:25 to walk back to the church.



Fun in the Forest

As the weather (hopefully!) improves this term, please note:

- Children should bring a sunhat for sunny days. Please apply suncream before dropping children off.
- Children should still wear long sleeves and trousers to protect from ticks and scratches.
- No sandals or clogs please – children should wear trainers (without laces) or wellies.



Please bring:

- 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
- Waterproofs in wet weather (preferably coat and trousers) and wellies if it is likely to be muddy

Snacks and drinks will be provided, and staff will have spare changes of clothes in case of accidents.

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).

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.

Ticks

Ticks are most active from March to October – please check your child regularly, especially after Fun in the Forest sessions. Children should wear long sleeves and trousers and closed shoes (trainers or wellies) while in the woods to protect against ticks.

Parent Representatives

We are grateful to Roula (Christy's mum) and Laura (Oliver's mum) for being the parent representatives on our committee. You are welcome to pass them any feedback or suggestions that they can take to the committee meetings.

Roula 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.

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.

2023-25 Academic Year

Looking ahead to the new academic year, we want to give existing children the option to increase sessions before offers are made to new applications. If you would like to increase your child's sessions in September, please email Naomi (admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk) before half term.

A reminder that our notice period is half a term, otherwise payment will be due in lieu of notice.

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.