



Newsletter - FEB/ MARCH 2019

The theme for this half-term is:

PEOPLE WHO HELP US

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

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

Term Dates 2018/19



SUMMER 2019

Inset (Closed): Tues 23rd April '19
TERM STARTS: Weds 24th April '19
Closed: Mon 6th May (Bank Holiday)
HALF-TERM: 27th - 31st May '19
TERM ENDS: Fri 19th July '19

AUTUMN 2019

Insets (Closed): 2nd & 3rd Sept '19
TERM STARTS: Weds 4th Sept '19
HALF-TERM: 28th - 1st Nov '19
TERM ENDS: 20th December '19

SPRING TERM

TERM ENDS: Fri 5th April '19

Letters and topics of the week:

w/c 25th Feb - j (*Doctors/ Nurses and Vets*)

w/c 4th March - z (*Fire*)

w/c 11th March - w (*Police*)

w/c 18th March- v (*The Street*)

w/c 25th March - x (*My Family*)

w/c 1st April - **Introduction to rhyme** (*Easter*)



Stay and Play week - w/c 11th March

We will be holding a Stay and Play week in the week commencing 11th March. There will be a sign-up sheet after half-term so you can sign up to spend time with your child and us all during an Ark session. If you bring your sibling with you please ensure you are responsible for them at all times.

Helpers needed

Parents/ carers/ relatives may enjoy coming in to help us for part, or all of a session - we can always keep you busy and you can see your child in their learning environment. Currently, we are looking for help with sewing pencil cases with our school leavers, and we are always welcome for help assisting with our Forest sessions, both at the woods and for those left behind in the hall. Please speak to Heather or Anna for more information.



Trip to Camberley Fire Station - Monday 4th March

We look forward to seeing many of you at Camberley Fire Station at 9.30am on Monday 4th March. If you are not attending this trip, please remember that **we are closed on this day**, due to all staff attending the trip. We will also not be returning to The Ark so there will be no lunch club on Monday 4th March.

Come Prepared

Please can all parents/ carers provide a carrier bag in your child's backpacks for dirty clothes. As always please remember to provide a change of clothes and underwear in case of accidents, or simply wet or dirty clothing through play. Please also remember to bring appropriate clothing for outside play (wet weather gear/ warm coat/ sun-hat) as our weather is changing constantly at the moment, but it won't keep us inside!

Accidents at home

If child has an accident at home or on way to Ark please ensure you inform a member of staff. We need to complete a form to confirm that it occurred outside our care. This is part of our safeguarding procedure.



World Book Day - 7th March 2019

We will be celebrating World Book Day on 7th March, where children will be invited to come to The Ark dressed up as their favourite book character. Please bring in their favourite book to share with their friends. (Forest Group: please wear costume under normal Forest clothes or bring costume to change into on their return.

We are also fortunate to have a local Usborne book seller, who will be doing a book sale on Friday 8th March. She will be selling the books from 12 noon (hopefully on the playground if the weather allows) so please feel free to come and browse before pick up. Keri will also accept the World Book Day £1 vouchers towards a book for your child, which every Ark child will receive on or after World Book Day. See some of her range of books at: <https://www.facebook.com/bradleybunchbooks/>. If you cannot be there on the day, Sarah should be able to place orders for you.

Samaritan's Purse

As part of our ongoing support of the Samaritan's Purse appeal we are collecting toothbrushes, (soft) pencil cases, and sunglasses for this half-term. All items need to be brand new, but can be bought from budget stores so do not need lots of money to be spent. Please bring them to The Ark and we will add it to the Crowthorne Baptist contributions. We will be preparing the shoeboxes for dispatch in October. For many children it may be the only Christmas present they receive so please help us make their Christmas great.

Reducing waste at The Ark Pre-school

In our efforts to reduce plastic - refilling soap at local hardware shop, recycling squeezers (cant remember the proper name) and using takeaway boxes to bring cooking home in. Please remind parents to wash this box and return it to The Ark during the next session their child is in.

We have bought plastic tubs, which will be named for each individual child. Every time we do any cooking, it will be sent home in this container to reduce our use of plastic bags. Please wash and return these at the next session. We are not charging for the first box, but we will charge 50p for a replacement box.

We are also working hard in all areas to reduce our disposable plastic and are now refilling our soap bottles, instead of buying new. The church are able to collect milk bottle tops (only milk) and trigger sprays for recycling. There are many other recycling points around Crowthorne for other plastics.

What can you do with your child to encourage them to recycle, and think about reducing plastic waste?



Dates for your diary:



- **4th March** - Trip to Camberley Fire Station. Meet at the fire station at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome.
- **7th March** - World Book Day
- **11th March** - Stay & Play week
- **2nd April** - Spring Visit to St Brendan's
- **16th April** - Offers for primary school places emailed to parents
- **20th June** - Summer visit to St Brendan's Care Home
- Summer Trip and Sports Day dates are to be confirmed
- **19th July** - AGM and Leavers' Assembly in the Baptist Church. Further details will follow.

Contact details.

If you need to speak to a member of staff urgently or calling if your child cannot attend, call the Ark setting on **07999 550674** between 9.15am - 12.15pm Mon - Fri. For any general enquiries, call Sarah Webb (administrator) on **07827 892397** or email admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk.