



Newsletter - JUNE/ JULY 2017

The theme for this half-term is:

HOLIDAYS

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

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

TERM DATES:

Summer Term 2017:

We close for our Summer Break on Thursday 20th July 2017 at 12.15pm.

2017/18

Autumn Term 2017:

RE-OPENS: Wednesday 6th September - Tuesday 19th December 2017

(Half-Term Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2017)

Spring term 2018

RE-OPEN FOR CHILDREN: Wednesday 3rd January 2018 - Thursday 29th March 2018

(Half-Term Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2018)

Summer term 2018

CLOSED FOR INSET: Tuesday 17th April 2018

RE-OPEN FOR CHILDREN: Wednesday 18th April 2018 - Friday 20th July 2018

Closed for Bank Holiday Monday - Monday 7th May 2018

(Half-term: - Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June 2018)

During this half-term we continue to look at rhyming words.

Words that rhyme with:

w/c 5th June - TREE (*Holiday Memories*)

w/c 12th June - COT (*Planning a Holiday*)

w/c 19th June - KIT (*Packing for a holiday*)

w/c 26th June - PIG (*Holiday Homes*)

w/c 3rd July - TRAIN (*Holiday Fun - 1*)

w/c 10th July - CAKE (*Holiday Fun - 2*)

w/c 17th July - BOOK (*Summer Holidays*)

Applying to school

If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014, believe it or not, they will be ready for school in September 2018. If you live in Bracknell Forest, you need to register your child now so you can be sent an application pack in October, in order to apply for the school(s) of your choice. There will be information sessions around Bracknell Forest in October 2017, and the deadline for applications is January 2018, with allocations of place made in April 2018. Hopefully this prepares you for the process ahead but please see the Bracknell Forest website for more details: <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/primaryschooladmissions> or you can ask Sarah for further information.



New School

coming half-term we will be preparing your children for their departure to school. This includes inviting their class teacher to come in and meet the children in The Ark. There will also be a parent talk to give information about our preparation, and your role in preparing the children (and yourselves) for this big change.

This



Fees Increase

We are giving notice of increase in our fees from September 2017. Fees for children under 3 years will be £15 per session, and children over 3 years (and topping up funded hours) will be charged at £13 per session. Lunch clubs will be £4.50 each. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Sarah.



Co-op Community Fund - 3 months left to raise funds for us!

The Ark is a nominated charity for the Co-op Community Fund until October. There is still time to direct money from the fund to us by becoming a member and logging onto the community fund to ask for your contribution to be given to us directly. Anyone without a charity of choice still gives to the fund, but it is split 3 ways, so we would appreciate you choosing to support The Ark.

Staffing in September

We welcomed Helen Hulatt to our team this term, with her pre-school and nursery nurse background. She will be with us for two mornings next term and we hope Sumita is fully recovered to return two mornings a week. The rest of the team remains unchanged next year.

LittleKickers

Little Kickers run football sessions for young children. They are coming in to do a workshop with the children on Wednesday 5th July from 9.30-10.30am. Children who don't normally attend this day can join the workshop if an adult stays with them for the session (about an hour). For more info: <http://www.littlekickers.co.uk/>



Socks

We would be grateful for donations of boys and girls socks for our spare clothes box as the supplies have all gone. Thank-you

30 hours funding

Parents who have children of 3/4 years from September 2017 did you know that you need to apply for eligibility to 'Tax-Free Childcare' and the 30-hours scheme? If this is not done by 31st August you cannot claim until the Spring term in January. If you are eligible you are given a number which must be given to us to set you up with the funding. The site to access this check is: <https://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator>. Whilst we cannot offer the full 30 hours, it can be split between other providers in order to help keep your costs down. We will offer a maximum of 18 hours, including the 3 lunch clubs.

Summer Weather

In the hope that the summer term will actually bring summer weather, please can we remind parents to include a hat and a change of clothes (in the event of clothes getting wet with water play) in their bags. Please also apply sun-cream to your child before dropping them at The Ark.



Dates for your diary:



- **Sports Day/ Picnic - Fri 23rd June - from 11am at Morgan Rec.** ALL Ark children and ALL parents/ carers welcome. Please stay at the Rec. for a (bring your own) picnic afterwards. We will also hold a fund raising event at our Sports Day see attached details.
- **Transition talk - Mon 26th June in the Baptist Church - 9.30am.** ALL parents/ Carers are welcome to our annual transition talk, where Heather will give advice on preparing your child (and YOU) for the next step.
- **Little Kickers Workshop - Weds 5th July at 9.30am.** Little Kickers will do a workshop with the children in the playground, and all parents/ carers are welcome to watch.
- **Summer Trip to Sandhurst Park - Thurs 6th July - 9.30am.** More details to follow but there will be no return to The Ark after the trip.
- **Parent/ Keyworker consultations - week commencing 10th July.**
- **AGM - Fri 14th July 11.45 - 12.15pm - Baptist Church** - ALL parents/ carers are welcome to this.
- **Leavers Assembly - Thursday 20th July at 12.00 noon** in Baptist Church. All parents are welcome but it is particularly for parents of our children leaving us for school. Bring your tissues!! The Ark will close for the Summer after this assembly at 12.15pm.

Contact details.

For any general enquiries, call Sarah Webb (administrator) on [07827 892397](tel:07827892397). 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](tel:07999550674) between 9.15am - 12.15pm Mon - Fri. You can also email on admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk.