



Newsletter - JUNE/ JULY 2018

The theme for this half-term is:

WATER

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 Dates:

Close for Summer Holiday on Friday 20th July 2018 at 12.15pm

2018-19 Term Dates (Provisional)

Autumn Term 2018: (INSET - Tuesday 4th September)

Term starts **Wednesday 5th September - Friday 21st December**

Half term - 22nd - 26th October

Spring Term 2019: (INSET - Monday 7th January 2019)

Term starts **Tuesday 8th January - Friday 5th April**

Half term - 18th - 22nd Feb

Summer Term 2019: (INSET - Tuesday 23rd April)

Term starts **Wednesday 24th April - Fri 19th July**

Half term - 27th - 31st May; Closed for Bank Holiday Mon 6th May

We continue to look at rhyming sounds:

w/c 4th June - **DOG** (*Water in the home*)

w/c 11th June - **PIG** (*Water to make plants grow*)

w/c 18th June - **SIT** (*The Weather - 1*)

w/c 25th June - **TRAIN** (*The Weather -2*)

w/c 2nd July **CAKE** (*Holidays by the sea*)

w/c 9th July - **BOOK** (*Safety near the Water*)

w/c 16th July - **BALL** (*Water around the World*)

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulations have now become law. We are updating our Data Protection Policy and shall send this to you in the next week or so. We have also sent everyone our Privacy Notice electronically. If you require a hard copy, or did not receive this, please do contact Sarah Webb.

We can continue to add you to the mailing list for the generic email on a weekly basis if we have an email to grant us consent. If you have not done this and are missing the reminders, please email admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk.

Notice of increase in fees from September 2018

For any families staying on at The Ark next academic year we will be increasing fees for 2 year olds to £16 per session from September '18. We have now had a rise for 3 year olds' funding with the government grant. To bring our private funding in line with this, from January '19, we will now increase our fee for children over 3 years to £14 per session (from the full half-term following a child's 3rd birthday). Lunch club remains at £4.50 per club.

Transition to school

- We have now invited reception teachers from those classes that our Ark children will transition to, in to see the children in their familiar setting and speak to their keyworkers.
- An additional transition meeting has been booked for an evening to assist those working parents who cannot make a morning meeting. These will be on Monday 25th June at 8pm or Tuesday 26th June at 9.30am and both meetings will be in the Baptist Church. We hope that parents of school leavers can attend one of these.



Shoes

Wherever possible, please avoid sending your child to The Ark in lace-up shoes. This becomes extremely time consuming for staff and limits the independence of children in our care.

School Entry for September 2019

If your child is going to be 4 by 31st August 2019, then they will be eligible to start school in September 2019. The application process starts now for Bracknell Forest Residents. You need to register your child at <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/primaryschooladmissions> so they can send you an email for school applications in November. These must be submitted by mid-January 2019 and you will have an offer for a school place in mid-April 2019.



30 hours' Free Childcare

If your child is turning 3 before 31st August 2018 you will be eligible for universal funding of 15 hours free childcare. You may also be eligible for 30 hours free childcare but you must apply for this. The deadline for this is 31st August but please apply as soon as possible so we can process it before the end of term.

See <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow> for 30 hours. We must obtain the 30 hours' code and verify it before the deadline in order to claim your free hours for you. Due to the summer break we would ask these are with us by Fri 12th July. These 30 hours can be shared across two settings (i.e. The Ark and another pre-school or a childminder). Please contact Sarah if you have queries or want more information. Please remember that if you have a code, **you must check this every 3 months** to maintain eligibility.



Crowthorne Carnival

The Ark procession entry is Vile Victorians. Please come along to our work party at The Ark hall on Saturday 23rd June at 10am until 12/1pm (depending on how it goes). This gives us another week to finish off if needed before the procession on 7th July. Costume ideas will go out in the next week .



Sports Day

Please return the reply slip from letters sent before half-term so we can make plans for this day. All Ark children are welcome to join us but we ask for adults to join us at The Rec. or arrange for another adult to be responsible for their child. Toilets are available at The Morgan Centre but children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Sponsorship forms have been issued for our sponsored 'marathon' around the field. This is our only fundraising activity all year so we do ask for your support.



Summer Weather

We hope that this sunny weather continues for the rest of this half-term, but can please remember to include a hat and change of clothes (in the event of clothes getting wet with water play) in their bags. Please apply sun-cream to your child before they come to pre-school.



Dates for your diary: (Some are provisional but we will inform of any changes):

- **Sports Day/ Picnic** - Fri 22nd June at Morgan Rec. ALL Ark children and ALL parents/ carers welcome. Please stay at the Rec. for a (bring your own) picnic afterwards.
- **Transition talks** - Mon 25th June at 8pm AND Tues 26th June at 9.30am in the Baptist Church. ALL parents/ Carers are welcome to our annual talk where Heather will help give you advice on how to support your child (and YOU) as you all prepare for this next step in their education. Note additional evening talk this year.
- **Parent/ Keyworker consultations** - week commencing 2nd July.
- **Summer Trip to South Hill Park** - Thursday 12th July - 9.30am. More details to follow but there will be no return to The Ark after the trip.
- **ARK AGM** - Friday 20th July at 11.15am in the Baptist Church - all are encouraged to attend.
- **Leaver's Assembly** - Friday 20th July at 11.45am in the Baptist Church - All are welcome to the assembly and we hope ALL Ark children going to 'Big School' can attend this.
- **20th Birthday Celebrations** - We are marking our 20th Birthday at the church service on Sunday 2nd September at 10.30am, and our party is on Saturday 8th September 3-5pm. Please book these dates as we would love you to join us.

Contact details.

For any general enquiries, call Sarah Webb (administrator) on [07827 892397](tel:07827892397) or email: admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk

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.

