



## Newsletter - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

The theme for this half-term is:

Tel: 07827 892397 (Enquiries)  
07999 550674 (During session)  
[www.thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk](http://www.thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk)



# CLOTHES

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

### Term Dates 2018/19

#### **AUTUMN 2018**

**TERM ENDS:** Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Dec '18

#### **SPRING 2019**

**Inset (Closed):** Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Jan '19  
**TERM STARTS:** Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Jan '19  
**HALF-TERM:** 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb '19  
**TERM ENDS:** Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April '19

#### **SUMMER 2019**

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

### Letters and topics of the week:

w/c 29<sup>th</sup> Oct - **k** (*Favourite Clothes*)

w/c 5<sup>th</sup> Nov - **e** (*Getting Dressed*)

w/c 12<sup>th</sup> Nov - **h** (*Shoes*)

w/c 19<sup>th</sup> Nov - **r** (*Clothes for different times of year*)

w/c 26<sup>th</sup> Nov - **m** (*Special Clothes*)

w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec - **d** (*Clothes worn in Bible times*)

w/c 10<sup>th</sup> Dec - **g** (*Christmas*)

w/c 17<sup>th</sup> Dec - **o** (*Christmas*)

### School Applications

All parents with children who will be 4 years by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 should have registered with Bracknell Forest for an application for a school place for September 2018. This registration triggers applications to be sent by email in November 2018. The deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and the offers are made on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

If you have any queries please look at: <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/starting-primary-school/how-do-i-apply>



### Stay and play week - w/c 19<sup>th</sup> November

During this week parents/ carers are invited in to see their child at play at The Ark. There will be a schedule on the red door after half-term, for you to sign up. This will be limited to 3 parents/ carers each morning. You are always welcome to come in any time to join in the fun or offer help - please speak to Heather to arrange this.

### Photographs - 26<sup>th</sup> November

Snappers Photography will be coming on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov to take individual photos of the children. These often make ideal Christmas presents and orders are returned in time for Christmas, although it does mean there will be a short window for orders to be returned. All Monday children will be photographed during the session. If your child is not normally at the Ark on this date, or you want to bring a sibling for a group photo, please come to the Baptist Church around 9.30am and we will take these photos on a first come, first serve basis.



### Clothing

As we get towards colder weather, please remember to always supply appropriate clothes for your child (along with spares) according to the weather, such as warm clothing, coats, hats and gloves. We ask for a pair of labelled Wellington Boots to be kept in The Ark so we can always play outside, whatever the weather.



## Christmas

ALL Ark children are invited to take part in both Christmas events:

- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December - 9.30am - Nativity Service in Baptist Church.**

We will shortly ask who will attend our nativity so we can allocate parts and give details of costumes needed (we have some we can supply). We will serve refreshments afterwards for parents and children. Tuesday children can return to The Ark to resume the session as normal afterwards.



- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December - 9.15am - 12 noon - Christmas Party in The Ark hall.**

**All children** are invited to the party, which will include a party entertainer, and some party food. You are invited to join us from 11.40am to see the children welcome a special festive visitor and receive a gift from him. In order to help cover costs we are asking for a £5 contribution for children. Parents can take children home at 12 noon.

## Local visits this term

We will visit St Brendan's Care Home on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. We will leave at 10.20am and arrive back in time for the end of the session. We will make Christmas decorations with the residents, and sing some songs to them.

We have been invited to Wildmoor Heath School to see their nativity dress rehearsal. This will take place after our nativity on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. We will leave The Ark around 10.30am and will arrive back by 12 noon.

If you would be able to help us walk the children there and back for either of these trips, please tell Heather.

## Parent/ Keyworker Consultation week - w/c 14<sup>th</sup> January

Another schedule to go up at the end of next half-term will be appointments to meet with your child's keyworker to follow their progress and development through this term. There will be appointments at beginning and end of sessions during this week. More details will follow for this later on in the term.

## Session prices for over 3 year olds from January 2019

All 3 year olds are eligible for the government grant of 15 hours free childcare at a registered setting. The government reviewed the costs to settings and the fees they pay and increased this two years ago. Since then, we have not increased our fees for anyone topping up this grant but we will increase the cost of a session to £14 from January 2019. The lunch club will remain at £4.50. This change only applies to parents who may for additional hours on top of the free 15 or 30 hours funding.

## 30 hours childcare applications

If you apply for 30 hours funding and receive a code, it must be provided to Sarah for verification. For January claims, it must be received by 18<sup>th</sup> December or it cannot be used until April. Please remember you must re-check codes every 3 months to keep receiving the funding.

Even though we are only open for a maximum of 18 hours each week, you can split 30 hours between more than one provider, such as another nursery or childminder (if they accept 30 hours funding).

## Dates for your diary:

- **W/C 19<sup>th</sup> November: Stay and Play Week**
- **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Visit to St Brendan's**
- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am Nativity Play - see above**
- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am Visit to see Nativity Dress Rehearsal at Wildmoor Heath School**
- **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December Christmas Party - see above**
- **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 4.30pm Christmas Carol Service -- for all ages.**
- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4.30pm Christingle Service - Crowthorne Baptist Church - a short service for all the family to enjoy carols, Christingles and the Christmas Story.**
- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am Celebration Service - Crowthorne Baptist Church**
- **W/C 14<sup>th</sup> January Parent/ Keyworker Consultations (sign-up sheet available nearer the time)**



## 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.

Email: [admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk](mailto:admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk)