



# Newsletter

## November/December 2020

The theme for this half term is:  
**Clothes**

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

[www.thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk](http://www.thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk)

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

### Welcome Back

We hope you have had a lovely half term break. A special welcome to our new children and parents.

### Term Dates 2020/21

#### AUTUMN 2020

**TERM STARTS:** Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep

**HALF-TERM:** 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Oct

**TERM ENDS:** Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec

(The Ark will close at midday after the Christmas party)

#### SPRING 2021

**TERM STARTS:** Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Jan

**HALF-TERM:** 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Feb

**TERM ENDS:** Thur 1<sup>st</sup> Apr

#### SUMMER 2021

**TERM STARTS:** Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Apr

**Closed:** Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> May

(Bank Holiday)

**HALF-TERM:**

**TERM ENDS:** Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Jul

### Letters and themes of the week:

w/c 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – **k** (Favourite clothes)

w/c 9<sup>th</sup> Nov – **e** (Getting dressed)

w/c 16<sup>th</sup> Nov – **h** (Shoes)

w/c 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov – **r** (Clothes for different times of year)

w/c 30<sup>th</sup> Nov – **m** (Special clothes)

w/c 7<sup>th</sup> Dec – **d** (Clothes worn in Bible times)

w/c 14<sup>th</sup> Dec - **g** (Christmas)

### 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**) 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.

### Clothing

This half term we will be reverting to our old timetable, and will be going for our walk straight after drop off. We would therefore appreciate if children were dropped off in their waterproofs (coat and trousers is preferable to all in one suits for toileting) and wellies. After the walk we will go inside for craft, singing, stories and play so please send your child with a pair of clean indoor shoes, slippers or non-slip socks to wear in the Lodge.



### Covid

Just a reminder that no one displaying any symptoms of Covid should come to The Ark, or on to the Wellington site. If someone in your household does display symptoms or has a test for Covid, please do let us know so we can inform the relevant authorities.

### Christmas



We will be holding our usual Christmas party on the last day of term. Unfortunately we will not be able to invite parents to join in with the end of it as usual, but we will endeavour to share some of the fun and celebrations with you on Tapestry.

**All children are invited** to attend the session, even if they don't usually come on a Friday. We will provide them with a Christmas snack to enjoy, there will be party games, and a gift each from Father Christmas. We ask for a donation of £5 per child, which covers the associated costs. If your child is in receipt of EYPP funding, please note that the donation will be covered by this.

## Snacks

All children need to bring their own snack (in a named bag) and named water bottle. If snacks can be sent in a sealed plastic bag, named with permanent marker, we will send these home at the end of the session so they can be reused. This is easier than a lunchbox for the children to carry when we go for picnics. Water bottles should contain water only (not squash or fizzy) and snacks should be healthy – a piece of fruit, some salad items, raisins or crackers etc.

## Books and Electricals

If you are having a pre-Christmas clear out, we'd appreciate donations of picture books in good condition suitable for 2-4 year olds. We would love to have some new stories to share with the children at The Ark.



We also can use electrical items that no longer work in our ICT learning – the children enjoy taking them apart with screwdrivers, exploring the insides and investigating the components. If you have any old electrical goods waiting to go to the tip, please speak to the staff at The Ark to see if we can use them!

## Christmas Cards

Thank you to everyone who ordered Christmas cards and gifts with their child's artwork on. These will be arriving later in the term and sent home with your child. This does raise valuable funds for The Ark so we do appreciate your orders!

## Amazon Smile

We are now registered with Amazon Smile – you can select us as your charity to support, and when you shop (using the link [smile.amazon.co.uk/](https://smile.amazon.co.uk/)) we will receive a percentage of your spending, at no cost to you. This money will help us buy new resources, toys and books for the children so we would really appreciate your support.



## Parent Representatives

We are grateful to Kristie Williams (George's mum) and Millie Foyle (Toby's mum) for taking on the role of parent representatives on the committee. You are welcome to pass them any feedback or suggestions that they can take to the committee meetings.

## Contact Details

For any general enquiries, email Naomi Page (administrator) at [admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk](mailto: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.