



# Newsletter

## November/December 2022

The topic 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



### Term Dates 2022-23

#### Welcome!

We hope you had a lovely half term break. This is an exciting term as we approach Christmas - a special welcome to our new children and parents.

#### AUTUMN 2022

**Half term:** 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Oct  
**TERM ENDS:** Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Dec  
(Early close at 12pm)

#### SPRING 2023

**TERM STARTS:** Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan  
**Half term:** 13-17<sup>th</sup> Feb  
**TERM ENDS:** Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Mar

#### SUMMER 2023

**TERM STARTS:** Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Apr  
**May Bank Holiday closure:** Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May  
**Half term:** 29<sup>th</sup> May-2<sup>nd</sup> June  
**TERM ENDS:** Tue 18<sup>th</sup> July

#### Letters and themes of the week:

w/c 31<sup>st</sup> Oct – k (Favourite clothes)  
w/c 7<sup>th</sup> Nov – e (Getting dressed)  
w/c 14<sup>th</sup> Nov – h (Shoes)  
w/c 21<sup>st</sup> Nov – r (Clothes for different times of year)  
w/c 29<sup>th</sup> Nov – m (Special clothes)  
w/c 5<sup>th</sup> Dec – d (Clothes in Bible times)  
w/c 12<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**) not the admin number, 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.

#### Dates for your Diary

- Fun in the Forest days (at Wellington) continues on Mondays and Thursday in the Autumn term. We will pause these sessions from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 27<sup>th</sup> January to allow time for our Christmas activities and our keyworker consultation.
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 9:30am - Nativity (All children and parents)
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party (All children)
- w/c 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January - Keyworker consultations



#### 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!

## Christmas events

ALL Ark children are invited to take part in both Christmas events. Letters will be sent home with more details in the next few weeks.

- **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am – Nativity Service in the Baptist Church**

Parts have been allocated for the nativity play, so please let us know if your child will not be able to attend. Details will give details of costumes needed and we will send out words and song lyrics so the children can practice at home if they'd like to. We will serve refreshments afterwards for parents and children. Monday children will return to The Ark to resume the session as normal afterwards.

- **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – 9.15am-12pm – Christmas Party in The Ark hall**

All children are invited to the party, which will include party games and a festive snack during the morning. Parents/carers are invited to join us from 11:30am to see the children welcome a special festive visitor and receive a gift from him. In order to help cover costs we ask for a £5 contribution per child. Parents can take children home at 12 noon.



## Parent – Keyworker Consultations – w/c 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January

A schedule will be put out at the beginning of the Spring term so you can sign up for an appointment to meet with your child's keyworker. This is an opportunity to follow their progress and development. There will be appointments at the beginning and end of sessions during these two weeks.



## Clothing

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure that your child has appropriate warm clothing (coats, hats, gloves). Full waterproofs and wellies are also a good idea on Mondays and Thursdays this term as the children like to splash in puddles and climb on wet logs.

Next term our Fun in the Forest days will be on Tuesday and Friday.

If the weather is very unpleasant, we will walk straight back to The Ark. In the case of extremely severe weather we will text to let you know to drop off to The Ark instead but generally we will aim to continue with the planned sessions even in the winter months.

Painting – We try to put aprons on the children but sometimes they refuse or we don't get to them before they start painting. Please dress your child in old clothes or at least not their best clothes for The Ark to avoid special clothes being spoilt!

## School Entry – September 2023

All parents with children who were born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 (living in Bracknell Forest) will be able to apply for a school place from 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 for your child to start school in September 2023. The deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Offers will be made on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023. If you have any queries please visit:

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/s tarting-primary-school/>



## Electricals

If you are having a pre-Christmas clear out, we'd appreciate donations of electrical items that no longer work for use 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!

## Facebook

We post regular updates and photos to our Facebook page – please do join us by searching for @ArkPreschoolCrowthorne and liking the page.



## 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.