

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

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



The topic for this half term is:





Term Dates 2023-24

Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely half term break. This is an exciting term ahead as we approach Christmas and especially as our theme this half term is Parties!

AUTUMN 2023

Half term: 23rd-27th Oct **TERM ENDS:** Fri 15th Dec (Early close at 12pm)

SPRING 2024

TERM STARTS: Tue 2nd Jan Half term: 12-16th Feb **TERM ENDS:** Thur 28th Mar

SUMMER 2024

TERM STARTS: Mon 15th April

May bank holiday closure: Mon 6th May

Half term: 27th - 31st May INSET: Mon 3rd June TERM ENDS: Fri 12th July

Letters and themes of the week:

 $w/c 30^{th} Oct - k (Birthday party preparations)$ w/c 6th Nov – **e** (Birthday party preparations) $w/c 13^{th} Nov - h$ (Birthday party celebrations)

 $w/c 20^{th} Nov - r (Birthday party celebrations)$

w/c 27th Nov – **m** (Other celebrations)

 $w/c 4^{th} Dec - d (Christmas preparations)$

w/c 11th Dec – (Christmas celebrations)

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) will continue on Mondays and Thursdays in the Autumn term. We will pause these sessions for December and January to allow time for our Christmas activities and our keyworker consultations. The last day in the forest this term will be Thursday 30th November.
- w/c 13th November Stay and Play Week
- Tuesday 12th December 9:30am Nativity (All children and parents)
- Friday 15th December Christmas Party (All children)
- w/c 8th and 15th 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 soon.

• Tuesday 12th 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 be given 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. Tuesday children will return to The Ark to resume the
session as normal afterwards.



Friday 15th 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 for the end of term.

Parent – Keyworker Consultations – w/c 8th and 15th 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

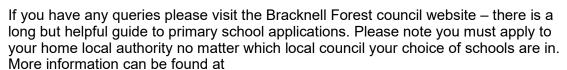
As the weather becomes colder, please ensure that your child has appropriate warm clothing (coats, hats, gloves). Full waterproofs and wellies are also a good idea on Mondays and Thursdays this term for Fun in the Forest days as the children like to splash in puddles and climb on wet logs.

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.

School Entry – September 2024

All parents with children who were born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 will be able to apply for a school place to start school in September 2024. Applications open on 5th November 2023 and the deadline for applications is 15th January 2024. Offers will be made on 16th April 2024.

Schools are holding open mornings throughout this term – please check individual school websites for more information and to book open days.



https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/starting-primary-school/



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 Poppy Brown (Administrator) at 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.