



# Newsletter

## September/October 2020

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

The theme for this half term is:  
**Growing - Babies/Me**

### Welcome Back

We hope you have enjoyed the summer holiday and are looking forward to another year of fun and learning. 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)

#### 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:** 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> May

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

### Letters and themes of the week:

w/c 7<sup>th</sup> Sep – s (Babies)

w/c 14<sup>th</sup> Sep – a (Babies)

w/c 21<sup>st</sup> Sep – t (Food)

w/c 28<sup>th</sup> Sep – i (Toddlers)

w/c 5<sup>th</sup> Oct – p (Me)

w/c 12<sup>th</sup> Oct – n (Me)

w/c 19<sup>th</sup> Oct - c (Adults)

### 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

We will be spending as much of our time as possible outside so please remember to always supply appropriate clothes for your child (along with spares) according to the weather. We play outside in all weathers, so we ask for a pair of labelled wellington boots to be kept in The Ark. Please bring warm clothing, coats, hats and gloves as we get to Autumn/Winter.



### Snacks

All children will need to bring their own snack (in a named bag) and named water bottle until further notice. 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 – fruit, salad items, raisins, crackers etc.

### 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.

## **Policies**

Each year our policies are reviewed and updated. Due to legislative changes there have been some updates this year and this is being completed at this time. We require all parents to read the policies annually and to sign to confirm that they have been read and understood. Forms will be in the baskets within the next week or two, and we would be grateful if you could read the policies online, or sign out a hard copy, and sign the form asap.

## **Uniform**

Our Ark uniform, with our logo, is available to purchase. We can order T-shirts and sweatshirts in either navy or turquoise. We can send pictures of examples and currently do have some second hand uniform available at lower prices. Please contact Naomi (admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk) if you would like to place an order.

## **Early Years Pupil Premium**

The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) is an additional grant available to the childcare provider your child attends for their Free Entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds. Childcare providers will use EYPP to improve facilities, equipment and learning experiences which will benefit the growth and development of your child. If you believe you may meet the eligibility criteria please email Naomi so we can submit an application.

## **Harvest**

Sadly we will be unable to hold our usual Harvest assembly this year, however the staff will celebrate it with the children. A decision has not yet been made about the Christmas play – we will of course let you know as soon as possible if we are able to hold one this year.

## **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 07999550674 between 9.15am – 12.15pm Mon – Fri.