



Newsletter

April/May 2025



The topic for this half term is:

Transport

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



Term Dates 2025/26



SUMMER 2025

TERM STARTS: Tues 22nd April

May bank holiday closure: Mon 5th May

Half term: 26th - 30th May

INSET: Mon 2nd June

TERM ENDS: Fri 18th July

AUTUMN 2025

TERM STARTS: Thurs 4th Sep

Half term: 27th Oct - 31st Oct

TERM ENDS: Fri 19th Dec
(Early close at 12pm)

SPRING 2026

TERM STARTS: Mon 5th Jan

Half term: 16th - 20th Feb

TERM ENDS: Fri 27th March

Letters and themes of the week:

Now that we have completed our letters, we are looking at rhyming sounds (Words that rhyme with...):

w/c 21st Apr – **rhyming poems** (Transport experiences)

w/c 28th Apr – **hat** (Road transport)

w/c 5th May – **pan** (Rail transport)

w/c 12th May – **hen** (Sea transport)

w/c 19th May – **mug** (Air transport)

Dates for your Diary

- Weeks of 12th & 19th May – Fun in the Forest taking place at Chaucer Woods (drop off and pick up at the Ark. Parent helpers needed please to walk to/from.)
- Thursday 19th June – South Hill Park trip
- Friday 4th July – Sports Day at Morgan Recreation Ground (picnic and time to socialise afterwards)
- Monday 7th July – Transition Talk on Zoom for parents of children going to school
- Friday 18th July – Leaver's Assembly
- Shine dates at CBC - 12th July, 1st Nov, 13th Dec

2023-24 Academic Year

Looking ahead to the new academic year, we want to give existing children the option to increase sessions before offers are made to new applications. If you would like to increase your child's sessions in September, please email Poppy before May half term - admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk.

A reminder that our notice period is half a term, otherwise payment will be due in lieu of notice.



Session Cost Increases

Our session prices will be increasing from September 2025. For 2 year olds, the cost will be £24 per session. For 3 and 4 year olds, it will be £20 per session. Lunch clubs will be £6.50.

Healthy Eating

We are required by Ofsted to ensure children are consuming healthy food for snacks and lunches.

We are also encouraging our families to be environmentally friendly (this is also an Ofsted requirement and aligns with new climate change policies) so we are aiming to have a “no rubbish” policy. Snack and lunches should therefore please be in a washable reusable container.

Please join with us in promoting healthy eating by ensuring your child’s snack is one cut up piece of fruit with the option of two crackers. Please no yoghurts, cakes or biscuits. Please see the example photos of a healthy snack and lunch suitable for children at the Ark.

For those staying for lunch club, a washable lunch box should contain 4 quartered sandwiches on brown/wholegrain bread which can be placed directly into the lunchbox (no foil or clingfilm). Alternatively children can have pasta. Other sections of a lunchbox may contain salad/vegetable sticks and cut up fruit. Please avoid anything in packaging including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits, cheese etc.

We reserve the right to send home any food that does not comply to our healthy eating policy.

We will also be revisiting what we are baking with the children at the Ark to ensure healthy foods are being promoted.



Fun in the Forest

As the weather (hopefully!) stays sunny and gets warmer this term, please note:

- Children should bring a sunhat for sunny days. Please apply sunscreen before dropping children off.
- Children should still wear long sleeves and trousers to protect from ticks and scratches.
- No sandals or crocs please – children should wear trainers (without laces) or wellies.

Please bring:

- Healthy lunch in a named plastic bag if staying for lunch club
- Any medication (inhaler, epi-pen etc) in a clearly named plastic bag
- Nappy, wipes and a nappy sack in a named plastic bag if not yet toilet trained
- Separate waterproof trousers and coat in wet weather (please NO all in one puddlesuits) and wellies if it is likely to be muddy



Ticks are most active from March to October – please check your child regularly, especially after Fun in the Forest sessions. Children should wear long sleeves and trousers and closed shoes (trainers or wellies) while in the woods to protect against ticks.

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.