

Newsletter

February/March 2024

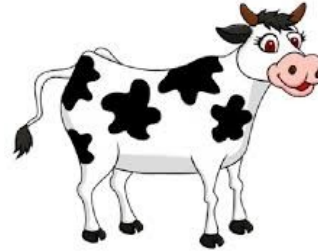


Tel: 07827 892397 (Enquiries)
07999 550674 (During session)
www.thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk

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

The topic for this half term is:

Animals and Minibeasts



Term Dates 2024

SPRING 2024

Half term: 12th - 16th Feb
TERM ENDS: Thurs 28th March

SUMMER 2024

TERM STARTS: Mon 15th Apr
Half term: 27th - 31st May
INSET: Mon 3rd June
TERM ENDS: Fri 12th July

Letters and themes of the week:

w/c 19th Feb – **b** (Farm Animals)
w/c 26th Feb – **j** (Pets)
w/c 4th Mar – **z** (Zoo Animals)
w/c 11th Mar – **w** (Minibeasts)
w/c 18th Mar – **v** (Easter)
w/c 25th Mar – **x** (Easter)

Dates for your Diary

- Fun In the Forest days (at Wellington) will continue on Mondays and Thursdays
 - Friday 23rd February - Visit to St Brendan's
 - Week of 4th March – World Book Week (library visit on 5th March)
 - Week of 11th March – Stay and Play week
 - Wednesday 20th March - Crowthorne Fire Station visit
- Summer term:
- 18th June – Sandhurst Park trip
 - 5th July – Sports Day at Morgan Recreation Ground (picnic and time to socialise afterwards)

Pets!

To fit with our topic this half term, we would love to show the children any pets you may have at home! If you have a pet you would be able to bring into the Ark to show the children in the week of 26th February, please let the staff know. Any pet food or equipment you may have would also be interesting to bring along.

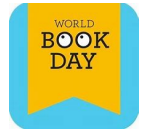


Snacks + lunch

A reminder that snacks should be healthy and not too big – a piece of fruit, some salad items or crackers etc. Please bring a snack in a small, named snack box or plastic bag (not a lunch box). Children who stay for lunch club on Mondays, please bring lunch in a plastic bag to the forest so the staff don't have too much to carry back! Thank you.

World Book Day/Week!

We will be celebrating World Book Day throughout the week of 4th March. World Book Day is officially on the Thursday when we'll be in the forest, so children are welcome to dress up as their favourite book character any day of that week!



Fire Station Visit

We have an exciting visit to Crowthorne Fire Station on Wednesday 20th March. If any parents are available to help us walk to the fire station and back, please let the staff or Poppy know.



Cooking

We often cook with the children, and they will bring home the food they have made in a named plastic box. Please do wash these out and return them to The Ark, otherwise they aren't to hand for the next time we cook.

Crowthorne Carnival 2024

Carnival week is 6th - 14th July with lots of events going on around Crowthorne. The theme this year is 'Surfing the Seven Seas.' The carnival procession and fete is happening on Saturday 6th July and there is an opportunity for the Ark to be involved in the procession. This would be organised by parents so if you would like to be involved, please let Poppy know (admin@thearkpreschoolcrowthorne.org.uk) so we can see if there is enough interest to have the Ark involved in the procession this year. There would need to be preparation beforehand in organising costumes, props and involvement on the day itself.

More information about the carnival can be found here:
<https://www.crowthornecarnival.org/home>.



Fun in the Forest

We will be continuing to enjoy the woods on Mondays and Thursdays. Please be prompt in dropping off as we will not be able to wait for a long time for children who are late. If you are going to be late please call the Ark staff on **07999 550674** (not the Admin number).

Children should bring:

- Waterproofs in wet weather (preferably coat and trousers) and wellies if it is likely to be muddy
- Sunhat for sunny days (suncream already applied before drop off)
- 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



Snacks and drinks will be provided, and staff will have spare changes of clothes in case of accidents. The children will spend the morning walking back to the Ark on the High Street – they will be able to enjoy the outdoors, see the woods in different seasons and will play games, sing and do counting activities during the morning.

Pick up will be as normal from the church on the High Street at 12.15pm. Children staying for lunch club will be collected from the church at 1.15pm as usual.

Absence of children

We require a phone call or a letter every day that your child cannot attend preschool. 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.

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.