



Newsletter

June/July 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:
Water



Term Dates 2024/25

SUMMER 2024

Half term: 27th - 31st May

INSET: Mon 3rd June

TERM ENDS: Fri 12th July

AUTUMN 2024

TERM STARTS: Wed 4th Sep

Half term: 28th Oct - 1st Nov

TERM ENDS: Fri 20th Dec
(Early close at 12pm)

SPRING 2025

TERM STARTS: Mon 6th Jan

Half term: 17th - 21st Feb

TERM ENDS: Fri 4th Apr

Rhyming sounds and themes of the week:

w/c 3rd June – **dog** (Water in the home)
w/c 10th June – **pig** (Water to make plants grow)
w/c 17th June – **sit** (The weather)
w/c 24th June – **ball** (The weather)
w/c 1st July – **cake** (Holidays by the sea)
w/c 8th July – **book** (Safety near water)



Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 18th June – Sandhurst Park trip
- Monday 24th June – 8pm – Transition Talk on zoom for parents of children moving up to school
- w/c 24th June and w/c 1st July – Keyworker meetings
- Tuesday 25th June – St Brendan's visit
- Thursday 4th July – 8pm - AGM at Crowthorne Baptist Church
- Friday 5th July – Sports Day at Morgan Recreation Ground (picnic and time to socialise afterwards)
- Saturday 6th July – Crowthorne Carnival
- Friday 12th July – Leaver's Assembly

Parent-Keyworker Consultations

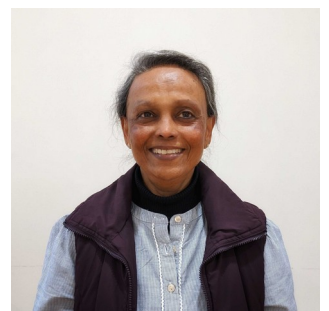
We will be holding meetings in the weeks commencing 24th June and 1st July. A sign up sheet will be available the week or two before.

AGM and Goodbye to Sumita

After 25 years at The Ark, Sumita is leaving us at the end of this term to enjoy retirement with her husband Jivan. Sumita will be very much missed and we wish her all the best for the future.

Please join us on the 4th July at Crowthorne Baptist Church. As part of our AGM we will have the chance to say goodbye to Sumita and thank her for being such a wonderful part of The Ark.

Sumita's keychildren will be transferred to other members of the team, and parents will be emailed about this later in the half term.



Preparing for School

This term we are working hard to prepare our older children for school. Throughout the children's time at The Ark we work with the children to help them develop skills and independence for school.

This term we are also...

- Giving them the chance to try on school uniforms
- Liaising with schools to share information
- Holding a transition talk for parents, so you know how best to support your child:
Monday 24th June at 8pm on Zoom – parents will be emailed with a link to join this call
- Celebrating their time at The Ark and their new adventure with our Leavers' Assembly on 12th July (all leavers and parents of leavers welcome – if your child is not usually in on a Friday please bring them at 11:40 for the assembly at 11:45)



Sandhurst Park – Tuesday 18th June

We will be visiting Sandhurst Park for our annual summer outing on Tuesday 18th June. Letters and permission forms should have come home with your child - if you have not yet had this please let Naomi know. Replies are due back by Monday 10th June. The staff will run activities and games to help us enjoy the park. This trip is open to all children who attend The Ark, and also to siblings. Parents or another carer are required to accompany their child/children and will be responsible for them for the entire trip.

Sports Day and Marathon – 11am Friday 5th July

Our Sports Day will be held at the Morgan Recreation Ground. ALL Ark children are invited to take part in our Sports Day - those who do not normally attend on a Friday should meet us at the Morgan Recreation Ground at 11am and will be under parental responsibility at all times.

We will also be holding our sponsored "marathon" to raise funds for The Ark. Previous gifts from parents and fundraised monies have paid for the resources the children benefit from now, so please give as generously as you can!

Session Cost Increases

Our session prices will be increasing from September 2024. For 2 year olds, it will be £21 per session. For 3 and 4 year olds, it will be £18 per session. Lunch clubs will still be £6.

Returners in September

Any requests for changes of session in September should have been sent to Naomi by now. All requests have been honoured. If you plan to change your child's attendance pattern in any way and have not yet told Naomi please let her know NOW. Please also advise if you would like to plan ahead for changes later in the year. **A reminder that our notice period is half a term, otherwise payment will be due in lieu of notice.**

Parent Representatives



We are grateful to Roula (Christy's mum) and Laura (Oliver's mum) for being the parent representatives on our committee this last year.

You are welcome to pass them any feedback or suggestions that they can take to the committee meetings.

Roula and Laura have also set up a WhatsApp group for parents and carers which you are warmly invited to join. Please speak with them or email Naomi for the link.

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.

Contact Details

For any general enquiries, email Naomi Page (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.