



# The Ark Newsletter

February 2012

Welcome back to all parents after Half-term

**Parent/Keyworker Appointments** It is not too late to arrange a daytime appointment with your child's keyworker if you were unable to do so during week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012. Please speak to your child's keyworker to arrange a convenient time.

- **Incubation & Hatching of chickens' eggs** This has been arranged so that the chicks will hatch shortly before Easter. No doubt the children - and staff - will enjoy watching the chicks hatch and grow as much as they did last year. If you would like any of the chicks when they are ready to leave please let Pauline or Maggie know.
- **Forthcoming events**
  - Easter Draw - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March.** We are holding an Easter raffle of chocolate goodies and will be selling tickets nearer the time. Any donations of chocolatey items would be most gratefully received - please give them to Pauline or Maggie by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Thank you.
  - Jumble sale - Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2012 Child Okeford Village Hall.** Please leave any jumble outside the hall from 10.00am on the morning.
  - Bag2school collection - Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** We will issue bags to all parents for clothes, shoes, hats and bedding shortly after the Easter Holidays .
  - Family BBQ.** Our popular annual summer BBQ will take place on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2012.** Please put this date in your diary! More information will be given nearer the time.
- **Committee Changes** We say goodbye and a huge thank you to Nicola Horlock who has given up the role of Chairperson after five years in the post, and seven years on the committee. Our new Chairperson is **Emma Reach** who was previously the Secretary. We will confirm the new Secretary at our next committee meeting in March. We also say goodbye and thank you to Cherise Sweatland who has also resigned from the committee nearly five years. If there are any mums or dads amongst you who are interested in joining the committee, please speak with Pauline, Maggie or Emma Reach to find out more.
- **Food Hygiene** We are pleased to report that following a recent inspection of The Ark's premises by the Environmental Health Department of North Dorset District Council, we have been awarded the highest rating (5) in the new National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme which is being introduced in May 2012. This means that conditions are very good.
- **Head Lice** One of our parents has recently found head lice in her child's hair, so we would like to remind all parents to be vigilant and check their children's hair carefully on a very regular basis as they are so easily transferred from child to child.
- **Calling All Parents!** Do any of you have a talent, skill or professional knowledge you could share with the children. This could be musical or practical; perhaps bringing in a guitar and singing, maybe a vet could come and talk with photos or even a live animal. Please talk to Pauline or another member of staff if you think you could contribute in this way.

## Dates for your diary

- The Ark is open all year round **except all Bank Holidays** and at **Christmas** we will close from **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2012 to Tuesday January 1<sup>st</sup> 2013**

### Term Dates

- **Spring Term** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012
- **Half Term Holiday Club** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012 to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012
- **Easter Holiday Club** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012 to Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012  
(Closed Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2012 & Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2012)
- **Summer Term** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2012 to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2012
- **Half Term Holiday Club** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
(Closed Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 & Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012)
- **Summer Holiday Club** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012 to Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012  
(Closed Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2012)