



The Ark Newsletter

SUMMER 2022

Staff

We have successfully recruited a Childcare assistant to work alongside Bekki the toddler room, Emma who has settled into her role really well. Alanna will be starting her level 2 apprenticeship with us in September.

Children's Activities

We have had a lovely summer with our preschoolers and have enjoyed every moment before having to say goodbye to our school leavers. We were lucky enough this year to be able to have our graduation party at nursery. It was a wonderful morning enjoyed by the children and staff alike, and we will miss the children and their families. We wish our school leavers the best of luck at big school.

The children have loved watching the apples fall from the trees in the garden. They have let their imaginations run wild; the children have been collecting up the apples for 'cooking' in the mud kitchen. They have made apple pies, juice, soups and lots more exciting creations. They have also set up various obstacle courses in the garden; this allows the children to move their bodies in a variety of ways as well as promoting their critical thinking, encouraging them to think about their path and obstacles blocking their route.





Breakfast and after school Clubs

From September both Breakfast Club and the After-school Club are very busy and for this reason we are grouping the children who attend by age. Reception and Year 1 children will remain in the main Ark building and Years 2 to 6 children are now based in The Raft. All school children will attend the Raft during the school holidays.

Packed Lunch – For children who do not eat a hot nursery lunch, the option of bringing in a packed lunch is available. When choosing items for your child's lunch box please be mindful of our Nutrition Policy which requests that parents support us in our healthy eating aims when providing packed lunches. Food such as crisps, chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks should be avoided, as should any other foods with high levels of additives/colourings as some children are highly sensitive to these ingredients which can severely affect their behaviour and /or make them sick. Food with a nut content should also be avoided as children with severe allergy to nuts can suffer extreme reactions even via indirect contact. Fruit or vegetable and dairy snacks are encouraged,

Sun cream and sunhats – All parents must have signed the sun cream permission on their child's admission form to enable The Ark staff to apply sun cream to their child. Without this permission your child will not be able to enjoy our outside space during the hottest times of day. We have nursery sun cream, but if you prefer and/or your child has sensitive skin, you may provide your own cream to be handed to a member staff when you drop off your child. Please clearly label your sun cream with your child's name and the expiry date of the cream. All children also need to bring a sunhat in to nursery (again clearly labelled with their name).

Tapestry Tash is responsible for our Nursery online learning journal, Tapestry. Should you have any queries or questions please direct them to Tash. It is really lovely if parents add comments or pictures on to Tapestry, activities you have shared or enjoyed together, special events or milestone firsts. This enables your key worker to share with your child and initiate conversation between home and nursery.

Illness Guidelines

Please do not bring your child if he/she is unwell and/or has had a temperature above normal within the last 24 hours.

Sickness or diarrhea – no attendance until 48 hours has passed since the last attack.

High temperature – no attendance until a normal temperature **without medication** for 24 hours

If your child has been prescribed an antibiotic they have **not** had before – he/she should not attend until 24 hours after the first dose was administered to ensure there is no allergic reaction.

Please could all parents sign and return their child's emergency medication form. Staff can only administer a non-prescription medication whilst awaiting collection from nursery. In addition to this authorisation telephone permission will always be sought from a parent /carer at the time to ascertain when, if at all, medication was last given

Dates for your diary

Concept Photography – Monday 19th September from 8am

**Jumble sale – Saturday 24th September 11am-1pm at Child Okeford Village Hall
Any donations of Jumble can be dropped off at The Ark or on the day at the village hall**

Autumn Term 2022

Monday 5th September – Friday 16th December

Half –term and Holiday Club Monday 24th October- Friday 28th October

Inset/ Holiday club day Monday 31st October

Spring term 2023

Tuesday 3rd January - Friday 31st March

Half-term and Holiday Club Monday 13th February –Friday 17th February

Inset/ Holiday club day Friday 10th February

Sarah McNab

Nursery Manager

