



The Ark Newsletter

September 2021

Staff News

We welcome Sarah, who has joined The Ark as our new After-school and Holiday Club assistant, and Jodie, who is completing her Level III apprenticeship with us in Pre-school.

Children's Activities



The children have been busy taking part in their own 'Mini Olympics'. They undertook various events from horse jumping to riding balance bikes around their own velodrome. The children recorded their scores and held a medal ceremony.



The Toddlers and Babies enjoying a 'Teddy Bears' picnic together .

Changes in September

From September we will be opening The Ark and Raft buildings to parents. Parents will then be able to bring their children in to their respective rooms at drop off times and hand over to their child's key worker. **As it no longer a requirement for face masks to be worn we would still request that parents wear a face covering when entering The Ark and Raft buildings.** At collection times your child will be brought out to you. If you require an in-depth handover about your child's day, please remember to arrive ten minutes before the session finishes. Staff finish work at 6pm.

If your personal details have changed recently e.g. new phone number or new address, please let us know as soon as possible. It is vital we hold up to date information for all contacts involving your child. In the event of an emergency, we must ensure we have the relevant contact numbers we need.

AGM

The AGM of The Ark's Trustees (informally known as the committee) will take place in the Ark at 7.30pm on Thursday 28th October. If you are interested in joining our team of parents and staff management of your child's childcare facility this is the ideal opportunity. Please speak to Sarah, Chloe or one of the current Trustees before the AGM.

Dates for your Diary

We will be hosting a stall at the **Heyday at Child Okeford Recreation Ground on Saturday 4th September.** Do you have an hour to spare to help run the stall? Any volunteers would be greatly appreciated - please speak to Sarah or Tash. Please come and support us at this events.

A photographer from concept photography will be attending the Ark on **Monday 20th September.** **If your child does not attend on a Monday and you would like them to have a photograph taken -please contact Sarah or Chloe to make an appointment.**

We are planning a **Family Tea Party on Saturday 2nd October.** As you may remember, we could not proceed with our family BBQ planned for Saturday 17th July as the full easement of coronavirus-related restrictions was postponed until 19th July. As an alternative we will be holding this social event for all the family, which is an opportunity for parents to get to know each other and staff, especially those whose children have only just started at The Ark. Further details will be published nearer the time.

Term Dates 2021/2022

Autumn Term 2021

Monday 6th September 2021 – Friday 17th December 2021

Half Term Holiday Club Monday 25th 2021 – Friday 29th October 2021 inclusive

Christmas Holiday Club Monday 20th December 2021 – Thursday 23rd December 2021;
Monday 3rd January 2022

Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4th January 2022 – Friday 8th April 2022

Half term Holiday Club Monday 21st February 2022 – Friday 25th February 2022 inclusive

Easter Holiday Club Monday 11th April 2022 – Thursday 14th April 2022;
Tuesday 19th April 2022 – Friday 22nd April 2022 inclusive

Summer Term 2022

Monday 25th April 2022 – Friday 22nd July 2022

Half term Holiday Club Monday 30th May 2022 – Wednesday 1st June 2022 inclusive.

N.B. Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd June 2022 are Bank Holidays due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Please remember that The Ark is closed for all Bank Holidays.

Thank you once again for your continued support and the understanding that you have shown in these challenging times. I hope that you and your family have had a good summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Sarah McNab

Nursery Manager