



BACK TO SCHOOL!



The Ark Pre-School
Bromley, Kent

September,
2019

Newsletter

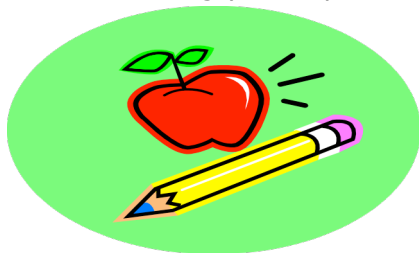
Welcome to all new and existing families to the autumn term. We hope that you have all had an enjoyable summer.

For those parents who have children starting with us this term, your child will have an allocated key-person who you can speak to if you have any concerns or queries about your child's learning and development. Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's key-person at any time. Partnership working is *extremely* important to your child's learning and development so we encourage you to keep us as informed as you can. Your child's key-person will be responsible for keeping you informed about their learning and development and from time to time provide you with advice about how you can help support your child with a particular area at home.

For those parents whose children are returning from last year, your child's key-person will remain the same unless this was Della. Deidre will now be their key-person.

Staff

Welcome to our new Practitioner Elenor, we look forwards to having you as part of our team.



Also, we sadly have had to say goodbye to Della who has worked for the Ark Pre-school for many years and will be missed by all. We wish her the very best in her retirement!

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities:

If you have a concern about your child relating to SEND, please talk to our Senco **Kezi Williams**.

All other staff information can be found on our notice board and on the website.

School term dates

These are displayed on the notice board and our website, hard copies are also available if needed. Please note that our last day of this half term is **Friday 18th October**. We will be CLOSED for 1 week and return on **Monday 28th October**.

Government Funding

Just a reminder for working parents that we are still offering places for 30 hour funding. You can check if you are eligible by visiting bromley.gov.uk or search 'childcare choices'. There is also information regarding this on our notice board.

If you wish to take your child away for longer than 3 weeks, the Government funding will stop and you will have to pay fees to keep the place.

ALL parents:

Please remember to label all of your children's clothes, shoes, lunch boxes, snack boxes, water bottles and bags.

Fees:

If you pay fees, these still have to be paid even if your child is absent through illness, holidays or days off.

Please ensure that you bring / collect your child to / from pre-school on time each session they attend to avoid being charged. If you are going to be **late** or need to collect your child **early (before the session ends)**, please give us sufficient notice and / or arrange for someone else to collect your child if possible.

If you arrive early to collect your child, please wait until the session end time before pressing the bell and your child will be brought to the door. Thankyou.

Reminders for parents

Suitable weather clothing / shoes

Please ensure that your child is brought to pre-school in appropriate clothing and foot-wear. Open-toe sandals and flip-flops are not advised as a health and safety precaution.

When necessary, sun hats should be worn and sun-cream should be applied before bringing your child to pre-school with a named bottle left in your child's bag, should we need to top up in the hotter weather.

Healthy eating

We encourage packed lunches (and snacks) to contain a healthy range of foods that your child likes to eat. We do not advise sweets, cakes or chocolate during the school day. Please remember that we operate a **'nut free zone'** policy and you must not provide any foods in packed lunches that contain nuts. This includes nutty spreads such as Nutella or peanut butter.

Parents providing snacks

Please can you place your child's snack inside the red crate, as the trolley is just for the children's lunch boxes.

Absence

If your child needs to be absent from pre-school for *any* reason, please let us know by telephoning or sending us an email before their session is due to start.

If your child is absent due to sickness or diarrhea, you will need to keep them at home for **48 hours** from the last episode.

If your child has a temperature (fever over 37), they cannot return to pre-school until they have been fever free (un-medicated) for at least **24 hours**.

Polite request

If parents need to speak to Penny (Manager) around lunch time, please can you pass a message on via the Practitioner on the door; or email Penny at ark@ark-preschool.co.uk

Upcoming Events / Dates for diary

McMillan coffee morning

We will be having a McMillan coffee morning for parents to attend on Tuesday 24th September (TTBC). This is a good opportunity to meet with other parents and of course have a nice hot drink and a slice of cake!

'Pebbles' Parent and Baby / Toddler group

This runs every Monday and Tuesday between 10am and 12pm in our BCC church and is for babies and young children aged 0-5.

Christmas Nativity

This will take place on Friday 13th December (TTBC).

Christmas Party

This will include a show / play from an external entertainer and will be held towards the end of the winter term (DTBC).

Safeguarding

If you require someone else to collect your child from pre-school, please let us know in advance. Please also provide us with as much information as you can i.e. a password, name and photo of the person collecting and ask them to state the password when collecting and bring ID if possible. Our designated Safeguarding Lead is **Michaela Ryan**.

Parking reminder

Please remember not to park in the car park unless you have a special agreement with the pre-school Manager and Church.

