



# The Ark Preschool Newsletter

September Term 2021



Welcome to all new and existing families to the autumn term. We hope that you all had a good summer break. It is lovely to be back at preschool, the children are settling nicely into the new term and new friendships are being made. Firstly we would like to update you on the staff changes at The Ark. We have had to say goodbye to some longstanding staff members including Penny, Kezi and Kayla, they have been at the Ark for several years now and after much soul searching felt it was time to spread their wings to enable them expand on their knowledge and experience; all 3 of them have found roles supporting children with needs in different primary schools and we wish them all the very best in their new roles. Penny will continue to support the team from a distance as we move forward and be a part of the church. Martine too is moving to a preschool closer to home and is tutoring private French language classes. Nicola who supported one of our children for their transfer to school last term has also started her new appointment in a primary school. We will miss them all. We now would like to warmly welcome the following staff who we already over the moon with: Arzu Subasi our Manager and Safeguarding Lead, Silbia Oliver-Lopaz our Senco and Leanne Rogers our Inclusion and Support Worker. Our new members come with a wealth of experience and are full of fresh and enthusiastic ideas. We are very excited to have them on board and know you will all love them too: Dee and Linda will be sharing the role of Deputy Manager although currently Linda is at home following ankle surgery, we wish her a speedy recovery.

**New parents** your child will be allocated a key worker and you will soon receive an email asking you to login to your EYlog account – this is your child's learning journey. Please do not hesitate to speak to your keyworker or any member of staff regarding your child, working in partnership with parents is very important to us. If you are unsure who your child's keyworker is please ask any member of staff.

## Important Dates

Half term 18<sup>th</sup> October – 29<sup>th</sup> October

End of Term 17 December

First day of term Tues 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

To find out if your child is eligible for free childcare visit [www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare)

## Special Events/Activities/News

Over this term some of our activities will involve making new friends, looking at the changing seasons, Diwali and Christmas.

## Reminders

If your child cannot attend preschool please email or phone us to let us know the reason, we need to keep a record of all absences by law.

**Please keep your child home if they are unwell**

If your child or anyone in your household has covid symptoms you can order a PCR test from [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)

Please remember your child may get messy and we also plan to go out in all weathers if possible, so please supply your child with suitable clothing, outerwear and shoes and also provide a bag containing a change of clothes and if your child is in nappies provide fresh nappies and wipes. Please also name all possessions this will help prevent items being mislaid.

Children's own toys are precious to them, we know they like the idea of bringing them in but please keep them out of preschool where there is a possibility of toys being mislaid or spoiled.

**Your child's safety is very important to us... Please do not park your car in our car park or use the car park to drop off or pick up your child at any time as this puts other children, parents and staff at risk. Free parking is available at Waitrose for 1 1/2 hours. If you have a disability please speak to our manager.**

**Finally – Please can all parents/carers regularly check and read emails we send out so that you can keep up with important information.**

Many Thanks and Best Wishes for a happy term from The Ark Team

