

***Noah’s Ark Newsletter September 2016***

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a wonderful and relaxing holiday. We all look forward to a new, exciting academic year at Noah’s Ark and would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new parents and children starting this term. We hope that your child settles in quickly, but if you have any concerns about anything please talk to your key person or any other staff member.

Over the summer holiday the pre-school was decorated in mint green and also acquired a fantastic new sensory room. These projects have been made possible with the help of all involved in the fundraising events at Noah’s Ark.

**This term’s topic** is based around “Fantastic me” and is divided into themes such as “my *family”, “my home”, “my favourite toys/stories/rhymes”, “myself”.* We will be concentrating on numbers 1-10 and name recognition for the younger and new children. For the older children, we will be building on their knowledge of letters and sounds and number solving problems.

***Important Dates***

Dates such as term dates can be accessed on our Noah’s Ark website. We would, however, like to highlight the **New Parents Welcome Evening on 26th September 2016 at 7.30pm**.

**Noah’s Ark Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 10th October 2016 at 7.30,** an invitation will be sent nearer the time**.**

**Parents coffee morning and afternoon** – 21st October 2016.

More dates for the rest of the year will be added onto our website shortly.

***Staff news***

We welcome our new level 2 apprentice, Joe Weighill, who will be with us for one year. We hope that he will enjoy learning with us and the children!

We say goodbye to Rosy who has left Noah’s Ark at the beginning of the summer term for a new challenge.

**Parents’ notice board**

We have a parents’ notice board entitled “**what have you been doing**” next to the main door this can be used to tell us about your child’s special moments from home. Simply write down the information on a ‘post it note’ and stick it on the board. For example: “Klara learnt to swim.” We will use this information in our weekly planning or at group times.

**Security, children’s absences, clothing**

If you are unable to personally collect your child, please inform a member of staff and ensure that it is recorded on the chalk board in the lobby. Additionally, please ensure that if your representative is not known to us that they are aware of your security password as they will be asked.

Please note that the person manning the door needs to ensure the safe arrival and departure of children. If you have any news or information for us talk to the other staff members in the main room.

We encourage you to bring your child on a regular basis as it will help with settling-in and to prepare for school. Please inform us by phone if your child will be absent for any reason. It is our policy to refuse children who are ill, especially those with an infection, diarrhoea, vomiting and fever. If they have these symptoms please keep your child at home for 48 hours. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Please ensure that your child’s clothing is clearly labelled and supply some spare clothing and nappies/pull-ups in your child’s book bag. This is particularly important in case of accidents

**Other important information**

We have started your child’s “**Learning Journey**” book. This book will contain achievements of your child in the form of pictures, work and comments from your key person. We will also include your child’s “All about me” form, discussion sheets and other information in this book. If you still have your child’s yellow Learning Journey book at home please return it as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Library** – Noah’s Ark runs a weekly library on **Wednesdays**. The library starts back on Wednesday **21st September 2016**. Children are encouraged to select a book which they take home and return the following week.

Many thanks for reading our news.

Bettina Campion

Pre-school Manager