



Noah's Ark Newsletter September 2024

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to all of you to a new academic year here at our pre-school and our first newsletter.

At the beginning of this term there are many things to consider and events happening. First and foremost, we are here to help your children settle in to their new environment with the teachers and children. All children who have been with us before may also experience a period of adjustment with all the new children joining. We will work in partnership with you to help with any worries such as settling-in.

I would like to highlight our topics for this term as well as the two events planned before the half term. We are inviting parents to a short chat and play session on 1st October where you will be able to see the activities we plan and have a look around the pre-school with your children being present.

On 25th October we have a planned our traditional walk to the park in the morning with parent helpers present.

Our topic for this term is '**All about me**' supported through stories, nursery rhymes, colours, shapes and my family.

I hope that you and your child will enjoy our pre-school activities in the coming year and support all our events in great numbers.

Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Bettina Campion

Family photographs

Please supply us with a copy of your family photograph. The photos will be displayed at the pre-school and children will be encouraged to talk about them at register time. We hope that the family photos will make children feel comfortable in our environment.

HEYL Bronze award

We are pleased to announce that we received the **Healthy Early Years London Bronze Award** at the end of July 2024. The team have worked hard to achieve this.

Well done to everyone☺

In order to continue our quest for healthy Early Years, we will only offer healthy snacks, undertake daily exercises including running and reward healthy lunches for our lunch time children with a sticker.

Here are some links that may help you for toilet training, lunch portions at home and at pre-school and keeping your children healthy.

Toilet training:

[Potty training: how to start & best age to potty train - ERIC](#)

Lunch portions:

[Portion Size Guide for Adults and Children - Early Start Group](#)

Healthy Start:

[Parents | HENRY](#)

Key person working days

If you need to speak to your key person, here are our working days:

Bettina: **Mon-Wed and Fri** Theresa: **Mon-Tues and Thur-Fri**

Rosy **Mon to Thur** Nevila: **Mon to Thur** Soraia: **Thur-Fri**

Team news

We welcome Makey Guinnard who has joined us last week. She will be working with us on Wednesdays and Fridays. Makey has many years of experience of working with children in nurseries and pre-schools.

We also welcome Teresa Marshall, who will be working with us as bank staff. Teresa was previously a Reception class teacher.

Merdy Mercanda returns to Noah's Ark to complete her placement for her course. She will be with us on Mondays for the next 6 weeks.

We wish them all a happy time at Noah's Ark.

Do's and don'ts

Please ensure that you label your child's uniform and clothes with their names or even just their initials. Please also bring the red book bag every day to school. This will help build a routine. There are still plenty of pre-loved, clean jumpers to buy if you are interested. We also recommend clothes that are ideal for messy play.

We are a **nutfree** pre-school so please **no** peanut butter sandwiches or nut snacks for your child's lunch. Cakes, if brought in for birthday celebrations, should be nutfree too!

Please also ensure that your child's lunch time fruit is cut up in easily edible portions especially when giving them grapes. As we are promoting healthy lunches, we do not recommend crisps for a treat. We also encourage children to eat their main food before opening treat packages.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home. A child that is unwell will not enjoy playing and learning at Noah's Ark.

Thank you!☺

Stickers and Helping Hands

We award stickers for kind behaviour and other achievements. You may have seen your child come home with a helping hand sticker such as the monitor, café, sensory room or book bag helper. These small jobs are designed to get children involved and are part of our routines. We have designed these routines to help children become independent and confident. They also support our motto 'being kind and helpful'.

Dates for your diary

Chat and Play - 1st October 9.30am-10.15am and 1.30pm-2.15pm

Walk to the park - 25.10.23 at 9.30am, we will need parent helpers for this event to take place. Afternoon children can join with their parents on this walk.

Half term holidays- 28.10 until 01.11.24

Parents meetings - week beginning 11th November. Parents will be given a day and time in the afternoon on a sign-up sheet a week before the meeting.

Pyjama day - 20.11.24 - wear your favourite pyjamas on this day. A donation to support our fundraising will be appreciated.

Christmas jumper day - 9.12.24

Christmas singing - 13th December, details nearer the event.

Christmas party for children in the morning and afternoon - 10th December 2024

Last day of term - 13th December 2024