



Dear parents,

Welcome back to pre-school! We hope you have had a good half term holiday and are raring to go again. Our topic for this half term is Our Wonderful World and as you can see from the chart below we have lots of exciting activities planned around the theme of spring and creation.

<b>Week beginning.</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Letter, shape and colour</b>	<b>Notes.</b>
22nd Feb	Signs of spring. Light and dark.	S, A Black, and circle.	We will be making a dark room and playing with torches. Children may want to bring in a torch from home. On Tuesday and Friday afternoons we plan to go for a walk in the local area to look for signs of spring and to appreciate our wonderful World.
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Land, water and plants.	A, T Green and square.	Lots of planting this week! If you have any old tights at home they would be gratefully received. World book day on Thursday please come dressed as a book character. All children will receive free book tokens.
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Space.	T, I Sphere, silver	Astronauts, rockets, stars and planets! If you have any pictures of stars or planets at home your child is welcome to bring them in to show.
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Birds and fish	I, P rectangle, red	Bird watching trips in small groups will take place through out the week. If your child would like to bring toy binoculars feel free. Any parent help would be much appreciated. Let us know when you are available and we will organise a trip around you.
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Animals and people	P, N, blue, cone	Paula will be bringing in her puppy on Wednesday afternoon. Please let us know if your child has any allergies to animals. If you have a pet which you feel would be suitable to bring into pre-school please talk to member of staff
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter	O, c, triangle, yellow	We are planning an Easter eggstravaganza with an egg hunt, Easter bonnet parade, miniature garden making on Thursday morning. Parents and all preschool children are invited to join us from 10.30. We are closed on Good Friday and bank holiday Monday.

Children in the monkey room will loosely follow these themes but the planning for our youngest children is always much more linked to their interests.

It would be great if children could wear or bring something connected with our theme, colour or letter for us to talk about. Please put it in your child's family worker bag which are on the hooks at the far end of the hall.



Dear Parents/carers,

We hope you have had a wonderful half term break and are feeling refreshed and ready for another fun half term at pre-school. We have lots of great activities planned around the theme of Our Wonderful World. A special welcome to Amelia, Ashleigh, Kara, Phillippa and their families who will be joining us this half term.

### **Staffing changes.**

We wish to congratulate Nicola on being successful in her application as play leader at Noah's Ark pre-school in Cullompton. We are very sorry to see Nicola leave us but know she will be able to make a real difference to the families she will be working with in Cullompton, as she has done here at The Ark! We hope she will pop back in to see us all occasionally! We are very happy that Kim, Daisy and Judita will all be increasing the time they spend with us to cover Nicola's hours and that Diana will be taking over the role of special educational needs co-ordinator. Children in Nicola's family worker group have all been allocated to a new group and their new family worker will be introducing themselves to you this week. We said goodbye to Sarah Alfes at the end of last half term when she returned to Germany to complete her teaching qualification. She hopes to return to us when she has finished as she enjoyed her time here so much! We welcome Fern Harvey who will be starting a placement as a trainee Early Years Professional with us at the end of March.

### **World Book Day.**

We will be celebrating World book day by coming to pre-school dressed as a favourite book character on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Children will receive free book tokens on this day.

### **Uniform.**

We have recently put in another order for uniform which will be arriving soon. Sweatshirts are available at £8.00 and polo shirts for £5.00. We also have a selection of second hand uniform at £3.30 and £1.50 please ask if you are interested.

### **Parents Evening.**

We will be holding our termly parent consultation evening on Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the parent area for an appointment with your family worker. During this evening we will also have a display of early reading activities. Harri will be available to answer queries and for you to let us know of amendments to contact details etc.

We look forward to working with you and your child(ren) this half term.

With love from The Exwick Ark Team.

#### **Term Dates 2010:**

**Spring Term 2<sup>nd</sup> half:** 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> April inclusive.

**Easter holidays:** 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2010 to 8<sup>th</sup> April inclusive; Whole Nursery shut  
**Holiday club running** Friday 9<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> April inclusive

**Summer Term:** 19<sup>th</sup> April to 16<sup>th</sup> July

**Half Term:** Holidays: 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June - **Holiday club running** 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> June inclusive.

**School Summer Holidays:** we are open! Please book in advance for the sessions you want.

**Autumn Term:** 6<sup>th</sup> September- 17<sup>th</sup> December. Half term 25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> October

The Exwick Ark will be totally **shut**;  
3<sup>rd</sup> May, 31<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> August (Bank holidays).