



The Fun Zone Newsletter September 2008

Welcome back to The Fun Zone and the start of a new academic year. A very warm welcome to all the new children who have just started and their parents/guardians.

Committee

A new committee was formed at the Annual General Meeting in July; thanks to Nicola Horlock for continuing in the role of Chairperson, Susannah De Ferry Foster for continuing in the Treasurer's role, and Cherise Sweatland for temporarily taking on the Secretary's position. Three members left the committee, and have been replaced by four new committee members. Photos of the new committee will soon be displayed in the foyer.

As you may already know, we have recently registered 'The Ark Child Okeford' as a company limited by guarantee, in order to protect committee members' personal financial liability, and we have now applied for the company to be registered as a new charity. Our aims have not changed; they continue to be to provide high quality childcare and education at affordable costs. We still need and greatly appreciate the support of all parents in our fundraising efforts.

After-School & Holiday Club Bookings

There are a few vacancies for Breakfast, After School and Holiday Clubs so please see Pauline or Maggie if you wish to book your child in for any of these sessions. Now that these sessions are filling up it is advisable to book regular sessions in advance. For regular bookings you are required to give one month's notice for holidays or cancellations. You may still book ad hoc sessions if spaces are available, but please note that from now on any ad hoc spaces booked but not taken will be charged for in full, unless cancelled more than 48 hours in advance.

Fire Procedure

In the event of a fire, the following emergency arrangements will be implemented: the children will be escorted out of the building to the fire assembly point which is the recreation field next to the school grounds. From here, parents will be contacted to collect their children. If the weather is unfavourable the children will be taken to the community centre next to the park and looked after by staff until collected.

Name tags

Please could you ensure that your children's possessions are **all named**, especially coats and bags. A name tag is preferred as hand-written names on clothes labels fade after washing.

Jumble Sale

Saturday 27th September 2008 from **12 noon – 2.00pm** at the Village Hall. Please leave donations of jumble at the hall from 10.00am on the morning.

Staffing Matters

We are pleased to report that Lucy, who works with the 5+ age group, is embarking on training to NVQ level 2.

Parking

A quick reminder that there are no parking spaces available in the school car park for parents between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm during school term-time. The disabled spaces may be used by parents who are dropping off or collecting only if they have a disabled or sick child or are themselves disabled.

We hope that your child has an enjoyable and fun-packed term at The Fun Zone. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Dates for your diary

The Ark is open all year round **except:**

All Bank Holidays

Christmas - closed on Wednesday 24th December 2008, and opening again Friday 2nd January 2009

Summer - Closed for one week; exact dates to be confirmed.

Term Time Dates

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September 2008 – Friday 19th December 2008

Half Term: Monday 27th October 2008 – Friday 31st October 2008 - Holiday Club at The Ark

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December 2008; Friday 2nd & Monday 5th January 2009 – Holiday Club at The Ark

Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January 2009 – Friday 3rd April 2009

Half Term: Monday 16th February 2009 – Friday 20th February 2009 - Holiday Club at The Ark

Monday 6th – Thursday 9th April 2009 & Tuesday 14th – Monday 20th April 2009 - Holiday Club at The Ark

Summer Term

Tuesday 21st April 2009 – Friday 17th July 2009

Monday 20th July 2009 – Friday 21st August 2009- Holiday Club at The Ark

Half Term: Tuesday 26th May 2009 – Friday 29th May 2009 - Holiday Club at The Ark

Other Events

Saturday 27th September 2008 from 12 noon – 2.00pm - Jumble Sale at Village Hall