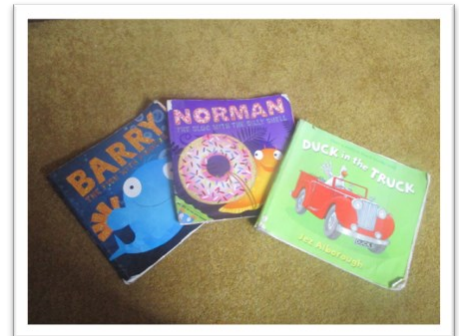


Noah's Ark News

14th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a lovely week at Preschool despite the changeable weather! The older children that will be going to school in September have been choosing their favourite books to be shared at Thinking Times. The clay table has been really popular with the children using brushes and tools to practise their fine motor skills.



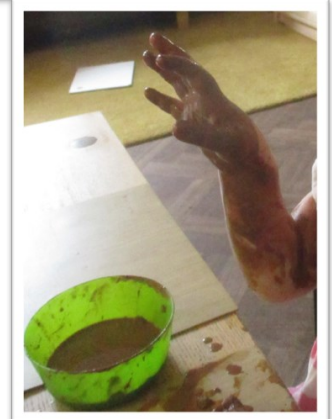
We hope the Summer holidays will bring warm, dry weather for all our families. There are some ideas of things that are going on in Bristol over the holidays attached to this newsletter. If we do get the odd rainy day, here is the recipe we use to make playdough at Noah's Ark which you may find useful:

Ingredients:

2 cups plain flour
½ cup of salt
2 tablespoons cooking oil
2 tablespoons cream of tartar
1 ½ cups boiling water
Colouring

Method:

Mix dry ingredients in a bowl.
Ask grown up to add water.
Keep mixing until it looks like dough.
Knead play dough until it is smooth and soft.



We are looking forward to seeing families for our Leaving Ceremonies on either Monday 17th or Tuesday 18th July.

A Reminder that we will be closed for Inset Days on **Friday 21st July, Friday 1st September and Monday 4th September**. We will look forward to welcoming families back to Preschool on **Tuesday 5th September**.

Have a great weekend,
The Noah's Ark Team.



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Your Holiday Hub - feeding hungry kids

'Your Holiday Hub' is Bristol's branding of the Government's Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme. Started in 2018 arguably in response to footballer Marcus Rashford's outspoken attack on the government's plans not to provide support for Free Schools Meals (FSM) children during school holidays, YHH has an annual budget of £1.8m to support Bristol providers to offer a healthy meal and a minimum of 4 hours activities to eligible FSM children during 9 weeks of the Easter, Summer and Xmas holidays. At present the funding continues to 2025.



During the Easter holidays over 3,500 children in Bristol benefitted from the programme, taking up over 7,500 daily places. In Summer 2022 Bristol had one of the highest national take up of places by SEND children, over Easter 2023 this was 22.5% of the total. Aside from a healthy meal, children are given access to a huge range of enriching activities, sports and outings.

This summer more than 60 different providers will be delivering YHH funded activities, ffi:

<https://www.yourholidayhubbristol.co.uk/>

Summer Bristol – Unicornfest

What is it? It's a magical trail around Bristol landmarks and selected locations in the Southwest. Use the app to find locations of these magnificently painted mythical creatures.

The main unicorns have been painted by local artists but in addition local schools are painting foals. Finding them will add fun to a walk or free day out.

Bristol Unicorn Festival:

theunicornfest.co.uk

Why? Its part of 650th anniversary celebrations for Bristol. The unicorn has been a symbol of Bristol since the 16th century when its symbolism of virtue was combined with a desire for industry. This summer the unicorn could be a symbol for unity or uniqueness of Bristol. Have a go at creating your own Bristol values.



Do the trail or check out the education pack for activity ideas. The pack is produced by Bridging Histories which has lots of ideas about talking to families about their history and community history: Unicornfest | Bridging Histories

Unicornfest is also raising funds for Leukaemia Care.

It's Playday!

National Playday 2023 takes place on Wednesday 2nd August and this year's theme is 'Playing On A Shoestring – making every day an adventure'.



Free fun at Bristol Libraries

Parents, pop into your local library this summer and join in with their fantastic free activities. Your child could join in the Summer Reading Challenge 2023, "Ready, Set, Read". It begins on the 8th July.

If you have under 5's in the autumn check-out your local library for Story time or Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions. While you are there you could even borrow a book for yourself! Baby bounce and rhyme and storytime sessions (bristol.gov.uk).