

Noah's Ark News

7th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have all been getting stuck in at the cooking table this week, making their own cucumber and lettuce sandwiches. They have used knives to spread butter and cut up the vegetables for their own sandwich. They were encouraged to share and cooperate when working with their small group. We hope you enjoyed sharing these sandwiches at home. Some children had the chance to plant some cabbages in the new planters outside the preschool on Wednesday. We are all hoping they will grow over the Summer holidays!



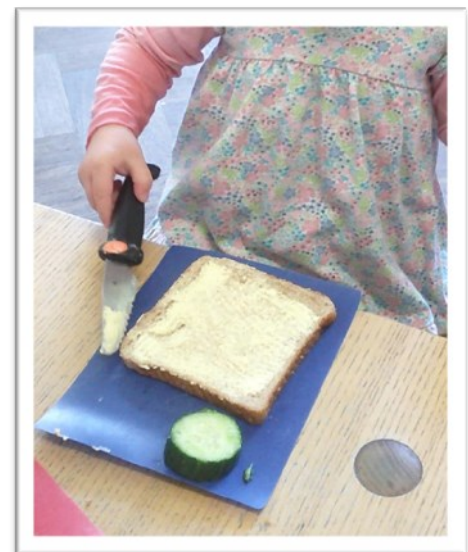
To support the idea of co-operation and sharing food, our Christian focus this week has been 'The Big Picnic', the bible story in which Jesus feeds 5000 people. It was wonderful to see everyone that came along to our **Summer Special** picnic on Monday afternoon. We welcomed children with their parents, grandparents and younger and older siblings. There were lots of familiar faces, the weather was kind to us and everybody had a really good time.



If you were unable to join us for the Summer Special and your child is leaving us at the end of the academic year, we hope you will be able to come to one of our **leaving ceremonies on Monday 17th or Tuesday 18th July at 2.30pm.**

The older children have been telling us all about their nerves and excitement at their settling in sessions at school this week. We have included some information about supporting your Preschool child with the **transition to Primary School** and a couple of ideas about activities that might be helpful and reassuring for them.

Have a lovely weekend,
The Noah's Ark Team



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Harry and the Dinosaurs go to School

Starting school is a big transition for both you and your child. However, for someone little with no pre-set ideas or knowledge about what 'school' is this could also be a bewildering concept for your child.

You can help your child to be excited, enthusiastic, curious and confident about starting school by reading books about starting school with them. Children have lots of transitions in their lives. Handling this transition to school sensitively will help your child to build resilience and to be ready to take on all that school has to offer.

Reading books together about starting school will allow your child the chance to start to form a picture about what school might be like and to ask you questions. Building your child's confidence and resilience in this way will help them to explore, access the activities on offer in school and find solutions. These are all the basic skills needed to learn.



Read the story with your child. Sometimes children will need a story reading more than once before they remember it all.

Activity 1:

Ask your child what their favourite part of the story was.

Ask them why they thought that Harry was sad or why the 'digger boy' was quiet. If they are not sure than you can make suggestions to start the conversation/idea sharing process.

Allow time for your child to share any feelings that they have about starting school – are they excited or worried?

Activity 2:

Talk to your child about how Harry and his Mum travelled to school.

Ask your child about how they think you will travel to school.

Plan a good time to practise your school journey with your child. Walk past the school and talk about the building (etc) with your child.

