



Newsletter - September 2014

Welcome to Stepping Stones to all our new families and welcome back to all our "big" children. We are so impressed at how well all the children have settled and are making new friends.

1. Committee AGM Tuesday 16th September 12.30 - 1.30

Children welcome, please bring packed lunch!

Our current committee are stepping down on this date, and we need some parents/childminders/grandparents/friends to replace them!

As we are a charity we have to legally have a committee to open - without one we would have to close!

We have been very lucky to have a fantastic committee last year - so the jobs are all up to date and shouldn't be too time consuming. The main roles are:

Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Web site updater

Publicity/fundraising officer

We would be happy if anyone wants to share any roles. Please feel free to chat to any member of staff if you need any further information.

2. This terms story

Every term we use a story as a focus for our planning, this term our story is "Are you my mummy?" (a little like the Julia Donaldson story Monkey Puzzle) so we are finding out all about the children, what they look like, what they like and who their families are.

3. Sainsbury's Active Kids

Our New Mat stand has arrived which we purchased using our vouchers collected last year - so our Piano is now no longer needed.

Upright Piano free to a good home!! Needs to go in the next couple of weeks or we will freecycle it!

The church have a lovely rocking horse for sale only £10.00 - please ask if you would like to see it.

4. Sainsbury's Moorland Road

Good news! We have been nominated as our local Sainsbury's charity of the year - we will keep in touch with any plans they have.

5. Staff news

We are busy as normal with lots of us attending training:

Sara and Sue are attending a "new to two" toolkit training session to help us now we are able to accept two year funding.

Paige is continuing with her level three in childcare.

Nicky will be attending a two day paediatric first aid course (we are all qualified first aiders - we have to update our qualification every three years)

6. Parent Noticeboard/rota

Please remember to check the noticeboard for information, we always love having parent helpers, particularly on days when we are cooking or going for a walk. If your child is new it is best to let them settle for a few weeks before offering to help.

7. Reminders

Mondays' small group time is "Show and Tell" please send your child in with an item to talk about, this really help the children sit in a small group, take turns, listen and builds their confidence to talk in front of a group.

Family Photo - could we please have a family photo to put on our notice board.

8. Wows

Each child at Stepping Stones will have a learning journal for you to keep when they leave the setting, Please don't forget to send in any "Wows" from home which we read out at register and stick in their journals. Blanks are available in the entrance hall and I will attach one to this newsletter.

Dates for your diary

2014/2015 Term Dates	
Term 1	
Staff in-service day (pre-school closed)	Wednesday 3 rd September 2014
Start:	Thursday 4 th September 2014
Harvest Festival in Ascension Church	Thursday 9 th October 2014
Finish:	Wednesday 22 nd October 2014
Term 2	
Start:	Monday 3 rd November 2014
Staff in-service day (pre-school closed)	tbc
Finish and Christmas Party:	Tuesday 16 th December 2014
Term 3:	
Staff in-service day (pre-school closed)	Monday 5 th January 2015
Start:	Tuesday 6 th January 2015
Finish	Friday 13 th February 2015
Term 4:	
Start:	Monday 23 rd February 2015
Staff in-service day (pre-school closed)	tbc
Finish:	Friday 27 th March 2015
Term 5	
Start:	Monday 13 th April 2015
Finish:	Friday 22 nd May 2015
Term 6	
Start:	Monday 1 st June 2015
Staff in-serviced day (pre-school closed)	tbc
Finish and summer party	Wednesday 15 th July 2015
	Public Holidays 25 December 2014 – Christmas Day 26 December 2014 – Boxing Day 01 January 2015 – New Year's Holiday 03 April 2015 – Good Friday 06 April 2015 – Easter Monday 04 May 2015 – May Day Bank Holiday 25 May 2015 – Spring Bank Holiday