



Newsletter - October 2014

A big thank you to Emily (Elliot's mum) for setting up our new Facebook and Twitter accounts. Please have a look and "like" them!

<https://www.facebook.com/steppingstonesbath>

https://twitter.com/Stepping_Bath

1. Committee News

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent committee meeting. I am pleased to confirm that the following mums have stepped up to fill these roles:

Chair	Juliet Johnson (Ellie's mum)
Secretary	Lea Billimore (India's mum)
Treasurer	Trudy Peters (Maisy's mum)
Web site updater	Claire Shelswell (Madoc's mum)
Publicity/fundraising officer	Emily Cooper (Elliot's mum)

If you have any problems that you feel you can't talk to staff about, please do speak to a committee member, their pictures will be on the website and noticeboard shortly.

2. In the news

Please have a look in this weeks Evening Chronicle. Our children are sitting with our local councillor (June Player) who gave us money for new mats last year.

3. Wet weather

Thanks to everyone who has been sending their children in wellies. In the winter our garden gets really muddy. We do try and still use it all through the winter. If you are able to put a change of shoes in a bag, we will change the children when they get back to the hall as wellies are hard to play indoors in and the floor then gets very muddy.

4. Help Needed

We have started planning our Christmas Craft Afternoon on Friday 5th December 3.30 - 5.30.

We would really like a Santa's Grotto but need a volunteer to be Santa! We can borrow a suit.

Could you also collect empty jam jars with the labels removed.

We will have a coffee morning next term to make some craft activities - all helpers welcome!

5. Staff news

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

Sara and Sue have attended the new to two training,

Paige is continuing with her level three in childcare.

Nicky has attended 3 of the 4 first aid sessions.

6. Session charges

We have been looking at how much we are charging for our sessions and we would like to increase the amount we are charging from after the Easter holidays (term 5 & 6) We are planning on charging £3.55 per hour which will take us in line with the money we receive from B&NES. This will be for children who are already three. We are still discussing how much to charge for 2 year olds.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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)	Thursday 13 th November 2014
Cooking workshop 11.30 – 12.30	11 th November 2014
Committee meeting	11 th November 2014
Christmas Craft Afternoon	5 th December 3.30 – 5.30
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)	Thursday 12 th March 2015
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)	Thursday 11 th June 2015
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