



Newsletter - April 2015

Welcome to our new children; Mollie, Elsie, Sebastien, Jade, Edie and Cecily,

Closure for voting

The hall is being used for voting for the General Election, so we will be closed on Thursday May 7th. We will be using the day for all staff to complete our Food Hygiene training.

Parent questionnaire

Please find attached our annual questionnaire, we would be grateful if you could take the time to complete it, we will have paper copies in the hall if you need one!

Our questionnaire asks about ideas for our summer outing. In the past parent/Carers have attended and we have been on the train to Bradford on Avon or to Dyrham park. We are happy to do the same or have a change, but would prefer somewhere not too expensive!

Library dates

Because the open story time became too popular, we are no longer going to the library on Monday mornings. We have been offered our own session once a month, on the second Wednesday of every month, the first one being the 13th May.

Mondays

Our new Monday plan is to spend the morning visiting our allotment space at Monksdale Rd allotments. We are mainly digging, watering, planting and bug

hunting. It can get very muddy there so wellies (or not canvas shoes) are useful! Any plant donations would also be welcome!

Hall refurbishment

The hall is being refurbished during the summer holidays! The project is going to take 8 weeks, so our last day in the hall is Friday 3rd July, our last day of term is Wednesday 15th July. We will make a definite plan nearer the time. We may use space in the Church, Crypt (under the Church) or garden depending on the weather.

All of the groups who use the church have been asked to contribute 10% of the cost of the refurbishment (£6,500), we are having a committee meeting on Friday 1st May to discuss fundraising. If you have any ideas but cannot attend please let us know!

Photographer - Thursday 4th June

Our photographer will be visiting this day, if you wish to have photos with siblings please bring them at 9.30. You are welcome to have a photo even if it's not your normal day, she normally takes a group photo on that date.

End of term party

We are planning an end of term party on our last day, Wednesday 15th July, all welcome to attend even if it's not your last day.

Golden Rules

Whilst obviously toilet humour is highly amusing to all our children and we have been ignoring or trying to redirect "Poo poo" chat but it is escalating! This term we have decided to challenge this talk and have discussed at small group time our golden rules, including not using this language at pre-school.

You're not my best friend

Please find attached a copy of this terms story, we are trying to do lots of activities that encourage our children to think of others' feelings when they say things like "you're not my best friend" and "I don't want to play with you!" Your help talking to your children would be appreciated.

Additional funding to support your child's early learning

If your child is 3 or 4 they might be eligible for extra funding, we can use this money for services such as speech & language, extra staff or training. If you receive Income Support, or child tax credit with an income of less than £16,910 you may be entitled. Full details are on the noticeboard, please speak to a member of staff if you think you might be eligible for this funding.

Sainsbury's vouchers

Please carry on collecting for us, we are trying to get enough vouchers for a new CD player for the hall.

New arrival

Congratulations to Gaby and Craig on the safe arrival of baby brother Roux for Eden.

Dates for your diary

2014/2015 Term Dates	
Term 5	
Start:	Monday 13 th April 2015
Committee Meeting 12.30 – 1.30	Friday 1 st May 2015
Closed – Election day	Thursday May 7 th 2015
Library	Wednesday 13 th May 2015
Finish:	Friday 22 nd May 2015
Term 6	
Start:	Monday 1 st June 2015
Photographer	Thursday 4 th June 2015
Staff in-serviced day (pre-school closed)	Thursday 11 th June 2015
Summer Day out	
Summer Fair	
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

STEPPING STONES PARENT AND CHILD QUESTIONNAIRE

We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete the attached confidential and anonymous questionnaire. You and your child's views are really important to us and we would be very grateful if you could return this.

Thank you Nicky, Sara, Sue, Paige and Kirsty

1. My child enjoys coming to Stepping Stones Pre-School

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither Agree/Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

2. My child was helped to settle into Stepping Stones Pre-School

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither Agree/Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

3. Stepping Stones Pre-School is meeting the expectations I had for my child's pre-school education.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither Agree/Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

4. I would feel comfortable in approaching staff with questions, suggestions or a problem.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither Agree/Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

5. I receive enough information about my child's activities at Stepping Stones Pre-School?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither Agree/Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

6. I feel the parent volunteer rota is a good idea

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither Agree/Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

7. My child is safe and well cared for at Stepping Stones Pre-School

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither

- Agree/Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

8. I feel the children's behaviour is good at Stepping Stones Pre-School

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Agree/Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

9. I think Stepping Stones Pre-School is well led and managed.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither
- Agree/Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Parents Comments

10. In recent years we have been on a summer trip with parents and siblings attending, would you like to go out for the day again? The pre-school staff would not be able to take children but will attend. We are happy for parents to take their friends children.

- Yes
- No

11. If "Yes" would you like to

Go on a train to Bradford on Avon (£5.30 return adults - free for children)
 Go to Dyrham Park?(Adults £4.60 Children £2.30 or free to NT members, we would have to share lifts)
 Go to

Have you any suggestions for Stepping Stones future planning?

You're not my Best Friend!

One bright sunny morning in Fairyland Bluebell the Fairy flew to the park to find her friends.

First she went to the swings and saw Sunflower Fairy and Conker Fairy.

"Please can I play with you?" she asked her friends.

"No, No, No" said Sunflower, "Conker is my best friend, I don't want to play with you"

Bluebell felt very sad. She flew and she flew and she flew. But, little did she know she was being followed by a goblin, a green goblin, a mean goblin.

Next, she went to the slide and saw Dave Fairy and Bob Fairy.

"Please can I play with you?" she asked her friends.

"No, No, No" said Dave, "Bob is my best friend, I don't want to play with you"

Bluebell felt very sad. She flew and she flew and she flew. But, little did she know she was still being followed by a goblin, a green goblin, a mean goblin.

She sat down on a toadstool and cried and cried and cried.

Suddenly she noticed the green goblin, the mean goblin sneaking up on the fairies.

He crept, he crept and he crept. His warty hands snuck out to steal the fairies wands.

Bluebell felt very scared, but she called out in her loudest voice:

"Look out, Look out, Look out!" but they shouted back

"We don't want to play with you Bluebell, you're not our Best friend"

Even though they had hurt her feelings by being mean and unkind, Bluebell knew she had to warn her friends:

"Goblins about, Goblins about, Goblins about" She shouted

The fairies all picked up their wands and waved them, not once, not twice but three times.

"Goblins away, Goblins away, Goblins away"

In a bright blue flash the Goblins disappeared.

"Thank you, Thank you, Thank you" the fairies called.

In the end all the fairy friends played together and lived magically ever after.