



Autumn 2018



Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of term 1 and what a busy term we've had. We welcomed several new children this September and said goodbye to all the Bluebirds who left in July and should now be settled into their new schools. We have had photos sent in by Parent/Carers of some of these children in their new school uniforms looking all grown up! Please take a look at our 'First Day at School Board' in the corridor outside the Ladybird playroom.

Topics

Children at Stepping Stones are encouraged to engage in a wide range of play experiences and activities so that they can access all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Within our Bluebird (Pre-school) sessions each term we provide a focus to support each child's growing independence in language and communication, physical development and personal social and emotional development.

The themes for this year's Topics are:

Term 1 – All About Me

Term 2 – Healthy Me

Term 3 – Animals I May See

Term 4 – Me Out and About

Term 5 – Me Joining In

Term 6 – Independent Me

Please look at the white boards outside the Playrooms to see the activities available for each session.

Reminders....

We all know how easy it is for things to be lost; in order to ensure that your child's possessions always find their way home please label them **all** clearly.



Outdoor play is an important part of your child's experience here at Stepping Stones which is enjoyed all year round whatever the weather. Please ensure that your child arrives at Stepping Stones with appropriate labelled clothing for that day.

'Tis the season of coughs and sneezes, along with all manor of other nasty little bugs and germs. If your child is sick and can't attend their session please contact the office to let us know as soon as possible. Also if your child has had sickness or diarrhoea please ensure they stay away for at least **48 hours** after their symptoms have gone.

If your child requires medication whilst in session this must have been agreed with the keyworkers or Judy. All medication must have the pharmacy label on the bottle or container/canister. Please ask your pharmacist to do this when they dispense the medication.

Wanted...

We are currently running low on spare socks for 3 – 4 year olds and would be grateful if anyone has any they can offer us to restock our supplies.



Garden SOS



During the summer holidays, on one of the hottest days of the year, a fabulous team from The Consortium worked tirelessly giving our garden area a complete facelift. It has made a huge difference to an area loved by the children and a big thank you goes out to all those involved.

We'd also like to say a big thank you to Sam Garfield who has kindly volunteered to keep our garden neat and tidy as well as planting and creating areas of interest for the children.

Italian Supper & Charity Auction

On **Friday 23rd November** we will be holding an Italian Supper and Charity Auction at **Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon.**



Tickets are a steal at only £10 per person and are available now from our office. Individual tickets or tables of 10 can be reserved. You can also contact us via phone, email or facebook (details further in the newsletter).

Please help us make this event a success and raise much needed funds for Stepping Stones by **booking your ticket now**. We are only partly funded by Wiltshire Council. Each year we have to raise in excess £50,000 in order to continue to provide our service to the children. We fundraise to pay for the extra therapy and support required for the children who attend Stepping Stones.

If you or anyone you know is able to donate an auction prize of any kind; Christmas Cake, Weekend Away, any signed or 'money can't buy' items would be great. Please contact **Sarah** in the office with any ideas.

Tapestry Online Learning Journal



By now most of you will be signed up to Tapestry and enjoying following your child's progress online. If you haven't yet signed up please complete a authorisation form and return to **Clair** in the office who will set up your account.

Please remember that Tapestry is a 2-way system and would really appreciate it if you hit the like button when you have viewed a post as well as adding any comments you may have.

Danone Family Christmas Party – Save the Date

Every year the lovely staff at Danone hosts a Children's Christmas Party for the children who attend Stepping Stones and their families. The year the party is on Friday 7th December 2018 10.30 – 12 pm. Further details to follow next term.



Dates for Your Diary Further details for all events below can be found on our website and social media.



Parents/Carers Session on Toilet Training: Friday 9th November 9:45 am at Stepping Stones. Limited places please let Debbie know if you would like to attend.

Barclays Quiz and Curry Night: Wednesday 14th November. 6:30 pm Trowbridge RFC. Teams of 4. Email Kelly Burge to book your place kelly.burge1@barclays.com

Kings Arms Quiz Nights: Monthly – next Quiz Sun 17th November, 7.30pm start £2 per person – max 8 per team.

Italian Supper & Charity Auction: Friday 23rd November. 7 pm Holy Trinity Church.

Danone Christmas Party: Friday 7th December. 10.30 am – 12 pm, Danone Office, Whitehorse Business Park, Trowbridge.

End of Term 1: Last session Wednesday 24th October

Start of Term 2: Monday 5th November – afternoon session only – we will be closed for the morning stay and play session due to staff training

End of Term 2, Christmas Holiday: Final children's session Thursday 20th December

Please find overleaf a copy of Wiltshire Council Term dates for 2018/2019. Please note however, Parents/Carers will be notified in advance of any dates the Setting will be closed for Staff Training. Dates for your Diaries are always regularly updated on our Website as well.

Please don't forget to regularly check our on-site Notice Board, our Facebook page and our new Website for regular News/Events... Please also remember to check above your child's peg for letters going home so you don't miss anything!!

 www.facebook.com/pages/Stepping-Stones-District-Specialist-Centre



[@SteppingStone15](https://twitter.com/SteppingStone15)

Website: www.steppingstonestrowbridge.co.uk

Tel: 01225 350004 / 3500015

Email: admin@steppingstonestrowbridge.co.uk

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2018-19

	August/September					October					November					
Monday		3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26
Tuesday		4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27
Wednesday		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28
Thursday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1		8	15	22	29	
Friday	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2		9	16	23	30	
Saturday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3		10	17	24		
Sunday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4		11	18	25		

	December					January					February						
Monday		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28			4	11	18	25
Tuesday		4	11	18	25	1		8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26
Wednesday		5	12	19	26	2		9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27
Thursday		6	13	20	27	3		10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28
Friday		7	14	21	28	4		11	18	25	1		8	15	22		
Saturday	1	8	15	22	29	5		12	19	26	2		9	16	23		
Sunday	2	9	16	23	30	6		13	20	27	3		10	17	24		

	March					April					May					
Monday		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27
Tuesday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28
Wednesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		1		8	15	22	29
Thursday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		2		9	16	23	30
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		3		10	17	24	31
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		4		11	18	25	
Sunday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		5		12	19	26	

	June					July					August/September						
Monday		3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26	2
Tuesday		4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27	3
Wednesday		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28	
Thursday		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1		8	15	22	29	
Friday		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2		9	16	23	30	
Saturday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3		10	17	24	31	
Sunday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4		11	18	25	1	

Bank and Public Holidays 2018/2019			
Christmas Day Holiday	25th December 2018	Term 1	38
Boxing Day Holiday	26th December 2018	Term 2	35
New Years Holiday	1st January 2019	Term 3	30
Good Friday	19th April 2019	Term 4	30
Easter Monday	22nd April 2019	Term 5	23
May Day Holiday	6th May 2019	Term 6	39
Spring Bank Holiday	27th May 2019	TOTAL	195
Summer Bank Holiday	26th August 2019		

5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.

Dates are correct at time of publication.