



Stepping Stones

Newsletter

Summer 2018



Welcome to our Summer Newsletter

It's been a busy term so far and we have been able to offer more children places than ever before by opening a new Bumblebee session on Thursday afternoon.

With the end of term fast approaching we will be sad to say goodbye to all the children who will be leaving us to move on to exciting new things at their various schools and we look forward to seeing those 'first day at new school' photos!

Reminders....



As we are enjoying this spell of lovely weather, we are trying to use the outside play area and garden as much as possible. Please would you send in a **named sunhat** for your child and **apply sunscreen** before arriving at Stepping Stones. For children in Bluebirds if you feel your child will need a further application of sun screen during the day, please send this in—**named**—and we will require signed authorisation allowing us to apply it.

Can we please remind all parents/carers that children must be collected promptly at the end of each session. Parents/Carers dropping off and collecting children by car, please note the 5mph speed limit for the safety of all children and adults. Please also remember that the car park has a one way system and you should enter the car park at the furthest gate away from our building. Please do not drive up and park along the side of the school in front of Little Shoots.

Revised Privacy Notice

At Stepping Stones we take your privacy seriously and are committed to ensuring that your personal data is protected in accordance with data protection laws and used in line with your expectations. Our revised Privacy Notice explains what personal data we collect, why we collect it and how we use it. It also explains the control you have over the personal data we hold and the procedures we have in place to protect it. You will shortly, if not already have received a copy of this. You can also find it on our website or outside Debbie's office.

Website

The eagle eyed amongst you may have noticed we have a new website. We are now able to edit this website ourselves which means we can offer more up to date information. We have added some new sections we hope will be useful to you such as dates for your diary and term dates. Alongside Facebook and Twitter this is the best way of keeping in touch with what is happening here at Stepping Stones. If you have any suggestions for the website please let us. You can find us here at www.steppingstonestrowbridge.co.uk.



Tapestry Online Learning Journal

We have been using the Tapestry Online Learning Journal system for a while now. For those Parent/Carers who have been accessing the service, it appears to have been working very well. We would welcome feedback from all Parent/Carers so please look out for the Tapestry Feedback form which will be sent out after the half term break. We would encourage all Parent/Carers to register with Tapestry if you have not already done so, so that we can share with you observations and photographs of your child's time with us at Stepping Stones. Please acknowledge you have seen each post by 'liking' the page. Parent/Carers are also able to upload observations and photographs from home to share with us. If you would like help registering please contact **Clair** in the office who will be happy to help.



For those of you who have children leaving us in July we will be downloading a completed version of your child's Learning Journal when we get back in September. You will be notified when this is available to download from your Tapestry Online Account. If you have any problems downloading this we are happy to transfer it for you, just bring in a USB memory stick to the office.

Management Committee



Stepping Stones is a charity run by a Management Committee made up of parents/carer's and voluntary professionals and friends of our organisation. To ensure Stepping Stones properly reflects the views and needs of all the parents/carers who use our service we are looking to recruit new members onto our management Committee.

If you value the service Stepping Stones provides, want to understand better how the organisation is run, have ideas on how we can develop future services for children with special needs and their families, have time to attend meetings held once every 6-8 weeks, here at Stepping Stones. (Usually on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm) and if you would like to find out more about joining the Committee, please speak to Debbie or Barbara. **No previous experience is required.** Minutes of our meetings are always available to view outside Debbie's office or in the Stepping Stones office.

We Need You

You may or may not know, that Stepping Stones is only partly funded by Wiltshire Council. Each year we have to raise in excess of £50,000 in order to continue to provide our service to the children. We DO NOT charge Parent/Carers for any of the sessions. We fundraise to pay for extra Speech and Language Therapy sessions as well as the support required for the children who attend Stepping Stones. We are a registered Charity, no. 1012556.

Do you, or someone in your family, work for an Organisation who provide Local Community Grants? Does that Organisation provide opportunities to match fund local fundraising projects or provide staff volunteer opportunities? If so, please kindly consider us as we are ALWAYS looking for opportunities to raise valuable funds for Stepping Stones.

We appreciate that all of our Parent/Carers have extremely busy lives, however, we are ALWAYS looking for volunteers/helpers to attend/support our in-house fundraising events. Likewise, we are ALWAYS grateful for donations of unwanted gifts for raffle prizes!! The easiest way to support us is by joining our **100 Club** at just £1 per month with a cash prize to be won at every monthly draw. Or if you are feeling ambitious you could organise your own event, cake sale, sponsored walk; we are grateful for any contribution you can offer. Speak to **Sarah**, our Fundraising Co-ordinator for help with organising your event. Sarah works on Mon/Friday mornings.



Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting takes place here on Tuesday 3rd July. It would be lovely for as many of you as possible to join us; whilst we appreciate it is often difficult to arrange child care for your little ones we feel it is an excellent opportunity to find out more about us and to chat informally with members of staff. Refreshments will be available from 6:30 pm and also after the formal meeting which starts at 7:15 pm.

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



Kings Arms Quiz Nights: Monthly – next Quiz Sun 10th June, 7.30pm start £2 per person – max 8 per team.

Stepping Stones AGM: Tues 3rd July from 6:30 pm

Tribe at Rood Rampage: Sunday 15th July from 10:20 am

George's Marvellous Bike Ride: Sunday 2nd September, Bradford on Avon

End of Term 5: Last session Friday 25th May

Start of Term 6: First session Monday 4th June – afternoon session only – we will be closed for the morning stay and play session due to staff training

End of Term 6: Final children's session Friday 20th July *

We will be starting back Term 1 of our 2018/2019 Term on Tues 4th September

Please find attached 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.

Notes for Leavers

*We will be saying goodbye to our Bluebird Pre-schoolers on Wednesday 18th /Thursday 19th July.

If you won't be here for this last week of term please let your Keyworker know so we can make sure we have everything ready for your child to take home on their last day with us.

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

| | 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.