



Newsletter February 2023

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to talk to us.

Breaking news!!

Our next fundraising event is the Easter Egg Hunt around Clipston on Sunday 26th March, please see the poster for information on how to book your place – it is sure to be a fun morning, please do spread the word to family and friends. We look forward to seeing you there.

A colorful poster for an Easter Egg Hunt. At the top, it says "STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL" in green. Below that, "EASTER EGG HUNT" is written in large, bold, green letters. In the center, a pink rabbit is sitting in a wicker basket filled with colorful Easter eggs. To the left of the basket, a white starburst contains the text "£2.50 PER CHILD". To the right, another white starburst contains "TEA, COFFEE & CAKE & CHOCOLATE!". Below the basket, the date "SUNDAY 26TH MARCH" and time "10:00-12:00" are written in yellow. The location "CLIPSTON VILLAGE HALL" is also in yellow. Below that, it says "SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN UP TO 10 YRS OLD" and "EVERYONE WELCOME!" in green. At the bottom, contact information is provided: "TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT ROSIE O'CONNOR ON ROSIE.OC@OUTLOOK.COM OR 07870665284". The background is light blue with white clouds and green bushes at the bottom.

STEPPING STONES PRE-SCHOOL
EASTER EGG HUNT

£2.50 PER CHILD

TEA, COFFEE & CAKE & CHOCOLATE!

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10:00-12:00
CLIPSTON VILLAGE HALL
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Cost of living price increase

As you can see from our newsletters the committee are working very hard on fundraising events to reduce the need to increase fees but unfortunately this will not fill the gap left by the recent increase of minimum wage.

We have taken the decision not to increase ANY compulsory charges and are instead increasing the voluntary contribution only, by 50p per day.

As from the 1st April 2023, the voluntary contribution will increase from £1.50 per day to £2 per day.

Thank you for all your support, we could not continue to provide the level of service and care we do without it.

Amazon

Thank you to everyone who has supported us by signing up and making purchases through the Amazon smile initiative, it has brought in a welcome contribution over the past years. Unfortunately, it seems that even huge companies like Amazon are feeling the financial pressure as they have announced that as of 20th February the Amazon Smile charity contributions will cease.

Handwashing

I understand that in a busy household that children often take themselves off to wash hands before food or after the toilet but we have noticed a significant decline in the children's handwashing. We would be really grateful if you could do some supervised handwashing at home, we are doing it at Stepping Stones but hope that a consistent approach across all their environments will become a lifelong habit. Thank you

Sessions

We are now open on a Thursday at the setting as well as at Forest school, there are available spaces, let us know if you want to send your child on a Thursday "at the setting".

After half term you will receive a letter to book the sessions you want for the summer term (sorry, we are only half way through and I am already talking about the final term), please return the completed form by 9th March to enable me to plan staffing and fulfil your requests, we are very busy on most days now but will do our best to give you what you want.

Dates for your diary

Monday 19th June 2023 - annual trip to Kelmarsh Hall

Friday 21st July 2023 - end of year show and party

Lambing event

On 4th February 2023 we held a “Lambing event” – another super fundraising event organised and hosted by Louise and Did Gowling. It was so lovely to see the newborn lambs, and surprise calves! and an incredible opportunity for the children of Stepping Stones to see a real working farm – we all thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you very much Louise and Did.



Term dates

Half term break	Monday 13 th February 2023 – Monday 20 th February 2023
Spring term second half	Tuesday 21 st February 2023 – Friday 31 st March 2023
Easter break	Monday 3 rd April – Friday 14 th April 2023
Summer term first half	Monday 17 th April – Thursday 25 th May 2023
Half term break	Friday 26 th May – Friday 2 nd June 2023
Summer term second half	Monday 5 th June – Friday 21 July 2023
Summer break	Monday 24 th July – Monday 4 th September 2023
Autumn term first half	Tuesday 5 th September – Friday 20 th October
Half term break	Monday 23 rd October – Monday 30 th October 2023
Autumn term second half	Tuesday 31 st October – Wednesday 20 th December 2023