June 2026 Newsletter

We hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter. As always if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 13th June – we will be selling refreshments between 2:00 and 5:00 at the Clipston Festival on the Recreational Field just outside the village. We will also have a tombola! This is a fun, family outing, so please come and find us! We will be in the pavilion selling refreshments.

Tuesday 16th June – is our Summer Activity Day and this year we are going to hold a session of Circus Skills for all the children in Clipston Village Hall! This session will take place in the morning and will be open to all children, whether they attend on a Tuesday or not. Please return your permission slip as soon as possible to ensure your child is included in this session.

Friday 19th June – at 9:00am Imogen Wright of Wright Studios, Market Harborough, is going to come in to take portrait and group photos of the children for us as a fundraising event. The photographs will be available to buy. This is open to all children. Please return your permission slip as soon as possible to ensure your child is included in this session.

29th June-5th July –The Early Years Alliance's National Week of Play – please use this link to sign up for this week-long event through free resources, blogs and virtual events for early years providers and families – explore the wonderful ways that books and stories can help feed children's imaginations and prime them for play.
Weblink: Play Week 2026: Books and beyond – bringing stories to life through imaginative play | www.eyalliance.org.uk

Friday 10th July – we will draw our Big Summer Raffle – prizes include a Booze Barrow worth over £350, vouchers for Avatar Dining, The Paint Pottle, The Bull's Head, and Welland Valley Feeds. Please see below for a list of prizes.

Friday 17th July is our End of Year Show and party. This is the final day of the academic year. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

Topics this month

This month our topics will include (but not be limited to): dinosaurs, books & stories, Father's Day, and the summer and our holidays.

Stepping Stones Pre-School Management Committee

As you may know Stepping Stones Pre-School is run by an elected Committee of volunteers, primarily parents with children currently attending the setting. This ensures that major decision-making is in the hands of the people who use and benefit from the setting. There are loads of ways you can contribute, and the brilliant thing is that you don't need any experience to make a real difference.

Our current Committee are:

- Andy Blake, Chair
- Rosie O'Connor, Treasurer
- Chloe Godsmark, Secretary
- Sorrel Gray
- Lily Faulkner
- Sean Faulkner
- Katelyn Williams

Our annual AGM, at which members will be elected, will take place in **September in Clipston Village Hall**. This will be a great opportunity to meet other parents, find out more about Stepping Stones, and see how you can get involved. Additionally, there will be a talk given by Miss Gallone, the Reception teacher at Clipston Primary School, about preparing children for the move to big school, which is highly informative in learning how you can help your child get ready in his/her preschool year.

Please see below for further information about the current Committee and the work they do, and please do not hesitate to ask if you would like further information on this. We are very grateful for any support you can give us, and it all goes back into Stepping Stones and therefore the children.

Sunshine and clothing…

As we are looking forward to some sunshine coming soon we'd like to be prepared. When it arrives…

- Please send your child with a sunhat with their name in
- Please apply suncream prior to arrival. We recommend the 'once a day' type. Please do not send suncream into the setting.
- Please send your child in closed-toe, supportive shoes suitable for running. Please **DO NOT** send your child to Stepping Stones in flip-flops, open-toe sandals, or Crocs please.
- Please ensure that girls in dresses have shorts or leggings on underneath to maintain their privacy.
- Please make sure your child's clothing and shoes are labelled with their name clearly.

Allergies

Please ensure your child's packed lunch does not contain NUTS. We currently have a number of children with severe nut allergies, so please, please be very careful what goes into your child's packed lunch. This includes cereal bars and chocolate spread that contains nuts. Many thanks.

Committee – what we do and how to get involved

The setting is run by Mona Zala, the Manager, and Kelle Coulthard, Deputy Manager, and the wonderful staff team.

Stepping Stones Pre-School is a registered charity, which is managed by a group of volunteers who form the Committee. We are legally required to have a management Committee, and without it the setting cannot legally operate. We rely heavily on, and are very grateful for, the goodwill and dedication of our volunteers.

There are lots of ways you can contribute to the Committee, and the great thing is you don't need any previous experience to make a difference. Research has shown clear benefits when parents are actively involved in their child's learning and development from an early age. Volunteering for your pre-school's Committee offers an ideal opportunity for you to become more involved, both actively and practically, in this aspect of your child's life. It will also make a real difference to how your child's setting is managed.

The Committee members are the charity Trustees of the Pre-School and together they are responsible for the overall management and smooth running of the pre-school.

Three essential Committee roles, which have to be filled each year (according to Charity Commission legislation) are Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. The charity must have a minimum of 5 Trustee volunteers in total. Other roles include Health & Safety, Safeguarding, and Staff Liaison.

In building new partnerships with other parents and professionals, the Committee come up with and implement new fundraising ideas, getting exciting plans off the ground.
Examples of things that we have been discussing in recent Committee meetings:

- Fundraising: Clipston Music Festival – discussing logistics for the day, in which the Committee and volunteers will be serving refreshments and providing other activities to raise money for the Pre-School
- Fundraising: the Summer Draw: collating the prizes, finalising and printing the raffle tickets, discussing advertising
- End of Year celebrations: finalising plans for the End of Year Show and Party

You will personally benefit from joining the Committee by meeting other parents, updating existing skills, and also learning new ones, as well as putting something positive back into your local community and supporting your child's development.

We are hoping to hold an informal get-together at the beginning of the September term, giving us all a chance to meet and chat. Please look out for further information.

If you feel unable to join the Committee but would like to participate in other ways, we welcome parents into the setting who can share their skills and expertise with the children. In the past this has included playing instruments, bringing in sheep, sharing aspects of other countries and cultures, or explaining jobs such as being a policeman. Please speak to a member of staff if you have any ideas you would like to share. You will be very, very welcome!

If you are interested in joining the Committee please email info@steppingstonesclipston.co.uk. If you have further questions or ideas please speak to a member of staff or an existing member of the Committee.

BIG SUMMER RAFFLE

PRIZES INCLUDE:

- A Booze Barrow worth over £350
- A voucher for Avatar Dining, Market Harborough
- A voucher for The Bull's Head Clipston
- A voucher for Barefoot Holistics
- A Rosie Paints ceramic
- Half a case of white wine, mixed
- A voucher for The Paint Pottle
- A voucher for Welland Valley Feeds
- A voucher for Harborough Leisure Centre
- A voucher for Savoy Cinema, Corby
- A voucher for Riverside Hub, Northampton
- A voucher for 4 bunches of locally grown flowers delivered
- by Greywalls Garden Flowers
- A voucher for a month's yoga membership at YOMI studio,
- East Farndon
- A voucher for Sheeda's Beauty Clinic
- A plant
- An indulgence goody bag
- A Gardener's goody bag
- Other goody bags for a toddler, a girl and a boy!

Tickets: £1 each

Worth over £350!!

PRIZE DRAW: Friday 10th July

Tickets can be purchased from Stepping Stones Pre-school or at Clipston Music Festival (13th June)

Tickets sold on behalf of Stepping Stones Pre-school (charity 1023443)

Contact info@steppingstonesclipston.co.uk or 01858525113

Clipston Music Festival

Sat. 13th June

2.30pm - 9.30pm

Clipston Playing Fields

Live Music - Local Bands

All day Bar Langton beer, Prosecco, wine

Evening BBQ provided by The Bulls Head

Afternoon Teas Homemade cakes, ices...

In aid of the Recreation Field Trust (CRFT) and other village charities