



November 2025 Newsletter

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

Dates for your diary

Monday 10th November - we have a representative from the charity Animals in Need visiting.

Wednesday 12th and Friday 14th November – pyjama days at Stepping Stones Pre-School for Pudsey, the culmination of BBC Children in Need week. Please see further information below.

Thursday 27th November – is our wreath-making evening fundraising event at La Fête Fleurie in Sibbertoft. The event is nearly sold out. Please ask us or see our Facebook page for details of how to book tickets.

Wednesday 3rd December – we have invited Rev. Tom Grant to speak to the children about the Nativity story.

Friday 19th December is our final day of term, and we will be performing our Nativity play at Clipston Village Hall. Full details will be provided nearer the time.

Topics this month

This month our topics will include Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Children in Need, Animals, Pirates & Princesses, and St Andrew's Day.

Christmas cards

Please buy lots of Stepping Stones Pre-School Christmas cards designed by your child!

The **deadline for orders is 16th November**.

You will have been given the proof of your child's Christmas card and you now have the option to purchase professionally-printed cards with your child's unique picture on. The printing company will donate 10% of all purchases to Stepping Stones, so not only will you get some fantastic products, you will also be supporting our fundraising efforts.

BBC Children in Need

This year Friday 14th November is Pudsey Day for BBC Children in Need.

We will be planning activities all week from crafting to dancing, but on Wednesday (12th) and Friday (14th) we invite the children to come in wearing their pyjamas (if they would like to).

A donation of £1 is recommended and will be sent directly to the BBC Children in Need fundraiser.

Wrap-around care survey

Thank you to everyone who sent back their completed forms. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough interest in extending our hours each day to be able to justify the cost of staffing. We are, however, going to look further into opening Stepping Stones up on a Thursday to non-Forest School children.

Christmas show

Our Nativity show will take place at Clipston Village Hall at 10.30am on Friday 19th December. All children are invited to take part in the show, and rehearsals have begun!

Children who do not usually attend Stepping Stones on a Friday should be brought directly to the village hall for a 10.30am start. The event will last for 30 minutes approximately.

You will receive an individual letter with further information, including your child's part and appropriate outfit in the coming weeks.

Packed lunches

In order to avoid choking, please can you make sure that if you include cut fruit and/or vegetables in your child's packed lunch that you cut them lengthways into sticks, or (with small rounded items like grapes or cherry tomatoes) please cut them into quarters in line with the new guidance from the Early Years Alliance.

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.

School applications

A reminder to apply for your child's primary school place on the gov.uk website. Applications close on the 15th January 2025 for a September 2025 start.

If you need any help with your application, please just ask.

Outdoors

We will continue to make full use of our outdoor space daily. Please ensure your child comes with appropriate shoes and waterproof coat to play outdoors in all weathers. As the weather gets colder, please also send your child with a NAMED hat and gloves. We recommend cheap supermarket gloves which are thin, so easy to play in, but if they get mucky or lost it's not a disaster.

Term dates

Autumn term second half	Tuesday 4 th November – Friday 19 th December 2025
Christmas break	Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January 2026
Spring term first half	Monday 5 th January – Friday 13 th February 2026
Spring half term	Monday 16 th February – Monday 23 rd February 2026
Spring term second half	Monday 24 th February – Friday 27 th March 2026

Easter break	Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April 2026
Summer term first half	Monday 13 th April – Thursday 21 st May 2026
Summer half term	Friday 22 nd May – Friday 29 th May 2026
Summer term second half	Monday 1 st June – Friday 17 th July 2026

Noteable dates

Teacher training days: Monday 1st September, Monday 3rd November, Monday 23rd February, Friday 22nd May, Monday 20th July

Bank holidays: Thursday 25th December, Friday 26th December, Thursday 1st January, Friday 3rd April, Monday 6th April, Monday 4th May, Monday 25th May

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