



October 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 6th October is our first Stay and Play session from 9:00 to 10:00. See below for further details.

Wednesday 15th October is our second Stay and Play session from 9:00 to 10:00. See below for further details.

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.

Annual General Meeting – new Management Committee

The Stepping Stones Pre-School Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 25th September. It was very well-attended. Thank you to everyone who came along. The Minutes are available upon request.

As part of the meeting we voted for our new Management Committee. Thank you to everyone who stepped forward to help us.

Our Committee is as follows:

Andy Blake – Chair

Chloe Godsmark -Secretary

Sorrell Gray – Staff Liaison

Lily Faulkner - Safeguarding

Sean Faulkner – Health & Safety

Rosie O'Connor - Treasurer

Katelyn Williams

School applications

A reminder to apply for your child's primary school place before 15th January 2026 for a September 2026 start.

Click on this link for further information and to complete your application: [Apply for a primary school place - GOV.UK](#)

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

Topics this month

This month we're focussing our activities around Autumn and Harvest Festival. Halloween and Diwali both take place towards the end of the month so the children will also have the opportunity to participate in activities related to these two festivals in the weeks beforehand.

Christmas cards

Please don't buy your Christmas cards too early!

We are in the process of making Christmas cards with all the children. We will be sending them to Dandy Arthouse, a printing company, and by November you will have the option to purchase professionally-printed cards and gifts 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.

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.

Family board

In our Butterfly Room we have a family board where we display photos of our current children with their families. If you have not already done so, please bring in one or two photos of your family for the display. You can email them to us if that's easier, and we can print them out. Thank you in advance.

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.

Stay and Play

Our next Stay and Play sessions are:

- Monday 6th October 9:00-10:00

- Wednesday 15th October 9:00-10:00

No need to book, just come along and let your child(ren) show you what they like to do here at Stepping Stones!

If you are really keen to come to a Stay and Play session and these times/days don't suit you, then please email us, and we will organise something with you directly.

Term dates

Autumn term first half	Tuesday 2 nd September – Friday 24 th October 2025
Half term break	Monday 27 th October – Monday 3 rd November 2025
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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