



Newsletter July 2021

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year – I cannot believe we are already in July! Although we have very nearly finished the year there is still some important information for you within this newsletter so, please read carefully. Thank you.

Clipston Primary new hours

Please note that the school day at Clipston Primary now finishes at 3.15pm, to try to alleviate parking issues, difficulties for parents collecting from both settings and crowding we have taken the decision to change our opening times. From 2nd September we will be open from 8.40am – 3.10pm, which will impact the sessions as follows:

Morning: 8.40am – 11.40pm
Lunch: 11.40am – 12.10pm
Afternoon: 12.10pm – 3.10pm

COVID-19

Please continue to follow the guidelines for drop-off and pick-up for the remainder of the term. It looks like there won't be any restrictions in September, however we will be conducting our own risk assessment in August and will let you know our new processes and procedures in due course.

End of Year Show

On our last day of this academic year is Tuesday 20th July, the children will perform their show 'Sleeping Beauty' which will be filmed and shared on Tapestry for you to watch. They are welcome to wear whatever they choose on the day, if your child wants to dress up as Spiderman or wear their favourite shorts it's all ok, it is their last day and we just want them all to enjoy it. We will be playing some party games in the afternoon, all children are invited to attend, please send your child with a packed lunch.

Forest School

We all enjoyed a wonderful last day at Forest school this week.

The final Forest School on July 15th will be held at the setting, so no need for usual Forest School clothing – although if it is wet please still send wellies (along with indoor shoes) as we may go on the field.

Fundraising Concert

We are delighted to announce that the fundraising concert on Saturday 3rd July was a big success and we raised a total of **£590** for Stepping Stones! Thank you so much to Carly and the committee for all their help. We hope you enjoyed the afternoon.

New Term

Our first day back for the new term will be Thursday 2nd September (no Forest School on this day).

Parent Survey

You all should have received an email from SurveyMonkey to complete our satisfaction questionnaire. Thank you to those of you who have completed it already. If you have not yet done so there is still time. Your feedback is very important to us so if you have not already completed it, I would be grateful if you could do so by Friday 16th July.

Photographs

A huge thank you to Lisa Mitchell for taking the amazing photographs of the children at Kelmarsh Hall, I know from the amount of orders we have received that lots of our parents loved them, all proceeds will go to Stepping Stones, thank you Lisa. If you do want to order and have not done so yet please do so by Friday 9th July.

Save the date!

Some dates for your diary for September:

- Clipston Festival 4th September (we will be asking for volunteers to serve teas and cake)
- Stepping Stones **social** at the Bulls Head, 16th September, from 7.30pm!
- Stepping Stones **AGM** 27th September at 8pm

Tapestry

After the last day of term when we upload the show, we will give access for all parents of the children who are leaving Stepping Stones the access to download their child's full learning journal if you wish, there are some lovely memories there.

Warmer weather

Just a reminder to send your child with a (named) sun hat if necessary as we do spend some time every day outside. Please also ensure that in warmer weather that any sun cream is applied by the parent or carer before your child arrives at Stepping Stones as we are unable to apply it here. We recommend using 'once-a-day' sun cream before your child arrives at the setting. Children's shoes should be closed toe and no open toe sandals, crocs or flipflops please.

Zero Waste Party Pack

We have a zero waste party pack available to hire through Stepping Stones! The party pack is hired out to local parents or carers and consists of everything needed to run a party with nothing ending up destined for landfill. It includes oilcloth tablecloths, paper decorations and banners, reusable tableware and cotton napkins. There are 36 sets of everything so plenty for a large party. The pack was set up with the kind support of a grant from Daventry District Council and since then has raised a much needed £300 for the Pre-school. The hire charge is a small donation of £10 which is actually cheaper than purchasing all the single use party items from a supermarket. The main benefit though is we estimate that 50 to 60 bin bags full of waste has been saved from landfill so far and counting!

***Finally, we would like to wish our leavers all the very best for starting ‘big school’ and look forward to seeing the children who are staying with us on their return in September.
Have a lovely summer break!***

Term Dates

Last day of summer term	Tuesday 20 th July
Summer holidays	Wednesday 21 st July – Wednesday 1 st September
Autumn term first half	Thursday 2nd Sept – Friday 22nd Oct 2021
Half term break	Monday 25th Oct – Monday 1st Nov 2021
Autumn term second half	Tuesday 2nd Nov – Friday 17th Dec 2021
Term break	Monday 20th Dec – Tuesday 4th Jan 2022
Spring term first half	Wednesday 5th Jan – Friday 11th Feb 2022
Half term break	Monday 14th Feb - Monday 21st Feb 2022

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