



## November Newsletter 2024

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

### Dates for your diary

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – we have Animals in Need coming to visit at 1:00pm. Any child who does not normally attend on a Wednesday may attend the session with a parent/carer. If you have not done so, please return your permission form in order to ensure your child can participate in this event.

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November** is the week of BBC Children in Need culminating in Pudsey Day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Please see further information below regarding the activities we are planning.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November** is our Fundraising Coffee Morning in the newly refurbished Clipston Village Hall from 10:00-12:00. Lots of lovely refreshments will be for sale so please do come and join us! Please see the poster below.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November** – Sorrel Gray will kindly be bringing in 3 labrador puppies for the children to meet. Any child who does not normally attend on a Monday may attend the session with a parent/carer.

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** – we have invited Revd Tom Grant, Clipston's new vicar, to come to talk to the children about the Christmas story.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December** is our Wreath-making Evening fundraising event. More information to follow!

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** is our Christmas Window Trail around the village. More information to follow!

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** is our final day of term, and we will be performing our Nativity Show in Clipston Village Hall. Full details will be provided nearer the time.

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### Topics this month

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

Children are welcome to bring in a relevant book/toy from home that they would like to share with the other children.

### **BBC Children in Need**

This year Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November is Pudsey Day for BBC Children in Need. We will be planning activities all week from crafting to dancing! To make sure that all the children can feel involved with the fun we invite them to come to Stepping Stones in different colours each day as follows:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November: Yellow and brown  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November: Pink and purple  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November: Red and orange  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November: Green and blue  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November: Rainbow colours!

A donation of £1 is recommended and will be sent on to the BBC Children in Need fundraising

### **Christmas show**

Our Nativity show will take place at Clipston Village Hall at 10.30am on Friday 20th 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.

After the show the Committee will be organising party games and children should bring a party packed lunch. Each child should have an adult (parent / carer) stay with them and supervise them as the staff team will not be at the party. Teas and cakes will be on sale for adults. Children should be taken home by their appropriate adult after the party. If your child usually attends Stepping Stones on a Friday afternoon and this is a problem, please speak to Shelley asap. You will receive an individual letter about your child's part and appropriate outfit next week.

### **Parent Survey**

Thank you to everyone who returned their Parent Survey. We have been delighted with the results and are collating all the information you have given us, which will be reported on more fully in our December newsletter. For those who have not returned them yet please do so as soon as possible so that your feedback can be taken into account. We can provide a new copy of the survey for anyone who needs a replacement copy. Please also remember that we have a Suggestions Box for anyone who'd like to make any additional feedback at any other time.

### **Dance Lessons**

We are organising for Amy from Miss Amy's Dance Academy to come in on a voluntary basis to work with the children. The first session will take place in December. More details to follow.

### **School applications**

A reminder to apply for your child's primary school place on the gov.uk website. Applications close on the 15<sup>th</sup> 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, so 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.

### **Spratton Hall and Maidwell Hall events**

Please see below for two posters about a Pre-Prep Discovery Day at Spratton Hall on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November and a Winter Wonderland Walk to visit Father Christmas at Maidwell Hall on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### **Easyfundraising**

Please remember to use Easyfundraising when you do your online shopping this year, especially with Christmas shopping beginning. Over 7,500 brands such as ASDA, eBay, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, Argos, Expedia, Tesco, Morrisons, TUI, and M&S, will donate to Stepping Stones Pre-school for FREE when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations really help us and all you have to do is register to use it, and then Easyfundraising will do all the hard work! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/steppingstonespsclipston>

### **Term dates**

Autumn term second half	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
Christmas break	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025
Spring term first half	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Spring half term	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Spring term second half	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Easter break	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025
Summer term first half	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025
Summer half term	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Summer term second half	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025

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Registered Charity No. 1023443



Join us for

# COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 16th November

10am to 12 noon

Clipston Village Hall

Come and enjoy Tea, Coffee & Yummy  
cakes with all proceeds going to support  
Stepping Stones Pre-school

Cash and card accepted

# PRE-PREP DISCOVERY DAY



Friday 15th November 2pm - 3pm

Children aged 2 to 4 and their parents are welcome to stay,  
play and explore our Pre-Prep Department

**Email [registrar@sprattonhall.com](mailto:registrar@sprattonhall.com) to book,  
spaces are limited and fill up fast**

## Winter Woodland Walk to visit Father Christmas

in the magical grounds of Maidwell Hall

**SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER 2024**

2.00pm to 5.00pm - various time slots available

£12 per child

Price includes a present from Father Christmas,  
refreshments by the fire and Christmas crafts



BOOK HERE

Tickets from [ticketsource.co.uk/maidwellhall](https://ticketsource.co.uk/maidwellhall)

Maidwell Hall is a registered charity, number 1147280. Any funds raised will be used towards school projects

### MAIDWELL HALL

[enquiries@maidwellhall.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@maidwellhall.co.uk)

[www.maidwellhall.co.uk](http://www.maidwellhall.co.uk)

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