



Newsletter November 2021

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, if after reading it you have any further questions, please email preschool1@clipston.northants.sch.uk and we will do our best to answer.

Applying for Primary School

For children due to start school in September 2022 the deadline for applications is 15th January 2022 at 5pm - please do not miss the deadline as it could mean you do not get the school of your choice, even if you are in catchment.

Parents of summer born children can apply to delay their child's start, if you are considering this please speak to us as there is lots of information available and you would need to begin the process much earlier.

Christmas

Our Christmas plans are well underway. Please note the following dates for your diary:



3rd December – Nativity Show

6th – 10th December – Christmas Jumpers

10th December – Christmas Raffle Draw

15th December – Christmas Party

Christmas cards

Our nativity show will take place at Clipston Village Hall at 10.30am on [Friday 3rd December](#). All children will be allocated 2 adult tickets per child to come along and watch the show (younger siblings may also attend). 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. During the event windows will be open to allow ventilation so please dress appropriately. You will receive an individual letter about your child's part and appropriate outfit next week.

To enable all children to take part in Christmas Jumper day we will be hosting Christmas jumper week! Children are encouraged to come to Stepping Stones in Christmas jumpers [week commencing 6th December](#) and we will be collecting money for the Save the Children charity, recommended donation of £1 for the week. We will be teaching the children about the Save the Children charity and how not all children are as fortunate as them.

Stepping Stones Committee are launching a Christmas raffle, there are some amazing prizes! Tickets will be available from all committee members from 15th November – all proceeds will go to Stepping Stones Pre-school so please support us by buying tickets yourselves and promoting them to friends and family. The raffle will be drawn on [Friday 10th December](#).

We will be hosting a Christmas party for the children on [Wednesday 15th December](#). Children can dress in their favourite party or dressing up outfit (no paint that day!). Children who usually attend all day on a Wednesday will stay all day. Children who do not usually attend on a Wednesday are invited to attend from 9am – 12.10pm. All children are invited to bring a special packed lunch. I will send out a reminder nearer the time with any additional information, in the meanwhile if you have any questions please ask.

All children have made an individual Christmas card design, we are sending them to a professional printing company. Within the coming 2 weeks you will receive a copy of your child's card with their name on it and will be able to order cards designed by your child to send this Christmas, so if you haven't bought your cards yet maybe wait to see your child's design. Full details, including how to order will be sent out with the printed design. The printing company will donate a percentage of the profits to Stepping Stones so please do purchase them if you like what you see.

It is a busy time with lots going on so please do ask if you have any questions about any of the above. Thank you.

COVID-19

We are following the latest government guidance which can be found on the webpage:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-years-and-childcare-closures/actions-for-early-years-and-childcare-providers-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>

We understand the rules now, however if a member of your household does have coronavirus, we would urge you to consider keeping your child at home even after a negative PCR test as we are a small group who do not socially distance and with vulnerable members. I am sure you appreciate we would all be at high risk of spreading this nasty illness if it were to get in so to keep each other as safe as possible please take extra precautions where possible.

E-safety

We hope you are enjoying seeing the photographs of your children on tapestry playing with other children within the setting. Please respect the privacy of all our families and ensure these photographs remain within your family group and are not shared on social media.

Outdoors

We can certainly say the cold weather has arrived! Please ensure your child comes with appropriate coat, shoes or wellies for playing outdoors in all weathers as well as gloves and a hat, with their name in. We will continue to make full use of our outdoor space daily.

Reports

The team have been busy writing reports for all children who started at Stepping Stones before October 2021, your child's report will be available to view on Tapestry by Monday 8th November. Please do read the report, add comments and sign, it is really important to us that we know you have read the report and to gain your feedback. Once you have read the report, if you would like an appointment to discuss your child with their key worker please let us know and we will organise this.

Term dates

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
Spring term second half	Tuesday 22nd Feb - Friday 1st April
Term break	Monday 4th April - Monday 18th April
Summer term first half	Tuesday 19th April – Thursday 26th May
Half term break	Friday 27th May – Friday 3rd June
Summer term second half	Monday 6th June – Friday 22nd July

High Street, Clipston, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 9RU
01858 525113 preschool1@clipston.northants.sch.uk

Registered Charity No. 1023443



Laugh Out Loud Theatre presents

TREASURE ISLAND

A swashbuckling traditional family pantomime



CLIPSTON VILLAGE HALL,
SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 2PM AND 5PM

ALL SEATS £10

TICKETS SOLD IN AID OF
VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT
AND AVAILABLE FROM FAYE TAN:
01858 525275 - 07725 427311

FAYE@OLDRECTORY.UK.NET