

Stepping Stones Pre-School

Time is just flying this half term! We are all having a great time, and as the build up to Christmas begins there is lots going on at Stepping Stones Pre-School...

Ill children & absence...

If your child is unwell and or not attending Pre-School for any other reason, please call us on 02083902494 or send an email to inform us of your child's absence. Reminder... if your child has had sickness or diarrhoea they cannot come to Pre-School for 48hours after the last bout of illness. If your child has been prescribed an antibiotic, we ask that you keep them at home for the first 48 hours of the course. If your child has a fever &/or you have administered calpol/nurofen at home, please do not send them to Pre-School, this is to prevent the spread of infection. Please call or email on **each** day of absence. Thank you.



Staff news...

Over the next 3 Friday's (20th, 27th & 4th) we have Chelsea coming to trial with us at Stepping Stones. Chelsea is taking part in the 'steps to employment' programme with Kingston Adult Education & is interested in getting in early years education, please help us to make her feel welcome.

Toddler time...

The purpose of Toddler Time will be to see how your child interacts at Stepping Stones, see the kind of small group work your child usually takes part in with us and get to know other parents. The play session will be led by your child's Key Person, this will last around 15-20minutes, afterwards you can stay and have a coffee and a chat with other parents until collection time. The next Toddler Time will be week commencing 7th December, please sign up to come along closer to the time.

Autumn interest table...

Thank you for bringing things in to add to our Autumn interest table, please do continue to bring items in you find on your way to Pre-school to help us learn about the seasons. As we move closer towards Winter and Christmas, we will change the table. Please help us learn about how you celebrate Christmas within your own culture by bringing in items for our interest table.

Coats and wellies... As the weather begins to change, please ensure that you provide a warm and **waterproof** coat for your child and a pair of wellington boots- perfect for splashing in those Autumn puddles!

Thank you/reminders & requests

Welcome sign...

There is a notice in the annexe for creating a 'welcome' sign together, if you speak another language, please tell us what it is ☺ so that we can all contribute to the welcome sign.

Tissues...

As the sniffles increase, we are running low on tissues! Please could you bring some in to try and help keep the germs at bay!

Thank you!

To all those who joined us on our Welly Walk, and helping to collect some lovely Autumn things on our Treasure Hunt.

Drop off time...

AM Session-please ensure you arrive by 9.10am at the latest. This is to ensure that the session is not disrupted. Thank you.



Dates for your diary...

Coffee morning...

Unfortunately we have had to reschedule our coffee morning (again!) due to staffing levels, apologies for any inconvenience this has caused. The new date will be: **Tuesday 24th November 8.45am-11.45am.**

End of term...

Our last day of term is Thursday 17th December. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 5th January.



Stepping Stones Christmas Party!



When: Thursday 17th December

Time: 11am (prompt)-11.45am

What to wear: Fancy dress or your favourite party outfit!

Who: Everyone! Parents and children are all invited. If Thursday is your usual day then you can drop off as usual & parents can come back at 10.50am if they wish. If Thursday is not your usual day then we request that parents stay with children for the duration of the party and arrive at 10.50am.

Toddler Time...

Our Autumn Term Toddler Time will be happening week commencing 7th December.



A focus on child development... How does the Stepping Stones routine support your child's learning?

Did you know...?

We are continually observing your children's learning and interests.

The staff team meet every week to collate observations and plan for children individually according to their age & stage.

How can you help?: You can help us by telling us what you have observed at home, write your wow moments on our **WOW board** (in our annexe) and we will use your observations to feed into your children's next steps.



How does the daily routine support my child's learning?...

***Self registration:** (helps children learn a sense of belonging to 'school' boosting their self esteem, and therefore desire to learn)

***Hello time:** (children say hello to their teachers and their friends, and get told what they will be learning today, so children understand the purpose of activities/experiences on offer and access them with purpose and understanding)

***Snack time:** (social eating, where lots of learning takes place: counting children, cutting fruit in half, learning who brought what and what favourite things we have ☺, independence is fostered to help children for when they will eat independently at school, children put their own cup and plate in the washing up bowl and help to wash up, making them responsible for their own things and making a positive contribution to their school)

***Child led play:** (being able to play with another child or alongside another child helps children to learn social skills and gives them the opportunity test out their ideas without an adult always being present, independent learning supports a school class environment e.g. getting used to having 1 teacher rather than lots!)

***Teacher Led:** an indoor and an outdoor activity each day led by a teacher (helps children to learn that an adult can further their learning, helps children to see their teacher as a partner in their learning and not only a 'care giver'), 'special time' (small focussed group learning, to help with social skills, idea building, a chance to learn in a quieter environment, and build confidence to speak in a large group)

As you have read-we have created our routine to support your children in their current learning, & through their school life. I hope this has been useful, let me or your child's key person know if you'd like further information on how we can support your child's learning now & into the future.

Curriculum-EYFS

What we're learning at Stepping Stones...

Theme: All about me

Personal, Social and Emotional development	Communication & Language
<p>We have been learning that some things are ours, some things are shared, and some things belong to others through playing with ride on trikes & turn taking games.</p> <p> Play sharing games with your child, encourage them to let you have a turn with favourite toys.</p>	<p>We have been learning new words, establishing Stepping Stones rules, the returning children are acting as role models and the new children are learning from their friends.</p> <p>Talk about their time at Pre-School & let us know what they have said! </p>
Physical development	Literacy
<p>Children have been pouring their own drinks at snack time.</p> <p> Let your child have a go at pouring their own drink at home... and even yours 😊.</p>	<p>We have been experimenting with different kinds of mark making tools, for example mud & sticks, paint brushes & water.</p> <p>Do some drawing with bubbles and the side of the bath tub. </p>
Mathematics	Understanding the world
<p>We have been looking at shapes & sizes and learning new vocabulary.</p> <p> Line up your families shoes and talk about the different sizes.</p>	<p>We have been exploring favourite kinds of small world play.</p> <p>Play with your child and see if they will re-in act a Pre-School scenario or tell stories about places you have been together. </p>
Expressive Arts and Design	<p> = Ideas for learning you can extend at home</p>
<p>Children have had the opportunity to role play in our home corner doing cooking or looking after dolly.</p> <p> Let them help you make tea or set the table so that they can re-in-act real life in their role play.</p>	

*Best wishes,
Sarah & the Stepping Stones Team*