

STEPPING STONES LATEST NEWSLETTER

14th September 2016

Dear parents,

We welcome you back to Stepping Stones after the summer break, and a big hello to lots of new little people. This half term we will be thinking about our ~~Favourite stories~~, such as Goldilocks and the three bears, The three little pigs, The Gruffalo, Red Riding Hood, Prince and Princess stories, Kipper the dog, Fergus the farmyard dog and any others that we fancy! During the term we will be talking about our **Grandparents**, and celebrating **National Grandparents Day**, with a coffee day in aid of McMillan nursing- further details will be posted on the easel displayed each day.

THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN is hugely important to us all; therefore please **keep gates securely fastened**. The school asks us on a regular basis, to mention that there should be no parking in the areas marked disabled, or zigzag lines surrounding the school car park.

We ask all parents to be aware, when making packed lunches, especially on a Monday and Wednesday, that one of our young children has an allergy to PEANUTS.

With our commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles, we ask that the daily drink that you provide for your child to access for themselves at any time is "water". We also provide a choice of milk or water with each mid session snack.

We stress the importance of regular attendance at Stepping Stones and ask that you contact us if your child is unwell, thus will be absent from the group. Please ensure that we have your most recent contact numbers, in case of any emergency.

Information for the parents of our older children:

If your child was born between **1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013**, you must apply for a school place by **15th January 2017**. You may do this on line at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions or ask for a booklet or application form at Stepping Stones.

In certain cases, according to individual family circumstances, some parents may claim additional funding for the group to improve your child's education: this is called **Pupil Premium**, and claimed via the Early Years funding application. Last term we were able to use this funding to arrange several visits around our local environment; a trip to the Avalon Theatre to share a wonderful interactive experience named "We're going on a Bear Hunt", and successful transition sessions into school. To know more about this, or if you have any ideas to share, please chat with the staff. We have also put a lot of time and effort into making Learning Together packs for your child to bring home each week, and hope that you find them enjoyable - don't let them become a chore, we want you to have fun with your child. The evaluation slips are important to us, but similarly we don't want to put you under any pressure. We are providing a new pack each week, preferably on a Tuesday, and remind you that they remain the property of Stepping Stones at all times.

Your child's Progress updates

We value your contribution to your child's "Learning Journey", which is available to you at any time; and look forward to sharing progress and successes with you; perhaps you would like to include some **WOW** stickers for achievements at home.

We will begin the process of two year old assessments for our new little people, as soon as they are settled, and will invite you to share them with us in due course.

The sharing of the reading books that we offer is another vital way of keeping in touch with

their progress, especially in the development of language and communication, so please remember to return their diaries and the book to exchange for another one.

* **Kidzone Breakfast Club** is held at Stepping Stones and available to 3-11 year old children from 8am to the beginning of the school day. Please enquire at Stepping Stones for further information.

* **Newlyn Nippers and Tiddlers** - provision for parents, babes and 1-2 year old children: meet on Fridays 9-15 to 10.30 am in the school hall. Come and join the fun in a relaxed atmosphere, share experiences, and exciting activities for little people.

**There will be a general meeting for the Nippers and Tiddlers club on this Friday
September 16th at 9.30 for interested families**

Further information is available on the web site below, and if you have any ideas that you would like to share with us, please do so, or email us, we would love to hear from you!

Half term will be from Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October, inclusive, until then we hope to share a fun filled Autumn!

Sue and Co