



TERM DATES

**Spring Term 1 2023 – Monday 9th January
- Friday 10th February**

**Half Term - Monday 13th February - Friday
17th February**

**Spring Term 2 – Monday 20th February -
Friday 31st March**

**Easter Holidays – Monday 3rd April –
Friday 14th April**

**Summer Term 1 – Monday 17th April -
Friday 26th May
(Bank Holidays – May 1st & 8th May – King
Charles' Coronation)**



The children have all settled back in well after the Christmas break and we have welcomed some new children who have also settled in really well.

DO YOU HAVE A SKILL OR JOB THAT WILL SUPPORT OUR CHARITY? If you feel you have a skill, trade or work for a company that will help us in any way, please let us know or speak to your child's key person.



STEPPING STONES 2023 DINNER DANCE

Stepping Stones will be holding our annual Dinner and Dance on **Saturday 15th July 2023** 18:30-12 midnight at: Wivenhoe House Hotel, Wivenhoe Park, Park Rd, Colchester, CO4 3FA.

Tickets priced at £55 per person which include a 3 course meal and disco, are now on sale. This year we are offering a payment plan with online payments made directly to our bank account. If you would like to attend, please email – tia.steppingstonesfundraising@gmail.com

We also have a wonderful raffle that will be drawn on the evening. If you wish to donate anything or know a company that would be willing let Tia know.



Appropriate clothing.

Can we please ask that you send your child into nursery in appropriate clothing i.e., coats/jackets, waterproof clothing, hats and gloves closed in shoes/wellies etc for the weather.

Please can we ask that **all** clothing and any other items such as lunch boxes and drinks bottles coming into nursery **are clearly named.**

CAR PARK NEXT TO NURSERY

We would like to let you know that the car park located next to the nursery is for Wilson Marriage centre staff only with the exception of parents dropping off or collecting their children with **physical difficulties only**. All other parents are asked to park in the lower car park and walk their children within the **YELLOW WALKING PATH LINE** for safety.



OUR CURRICULUM

We have recently changed our curriculum so we have even more focus on the prime areas of learning; Personal, Social and Emotional development, Communication and Language development and Physical development.

Each term we will focus on one area;

Spring term – Communication and language

Summer term – Physical development

Autumn term – Personal, Social and Emotional development

Most children will be taking part in daily small group activities where we will focus on that area of development (this term is Communication and Language).

We plan our activities based on children's interests and next steps (what we are currently working on to develop) and we offer a wide range of activities.

Within our curriculum we will also be including the following;

- Colour monster
(a book about emotions, visited every term)
- Chinese New Year
- Eid
- Querks
- Halloween
- Diwali
- Easter
- Growing
- School Readiness
- Fireworks
- Christmas

If there are any other celebrations/festivals that you celebrate as a family, please let us know and we would be more than happy to fit it in our curriculum.

We will continue to share with you some of the children's learning through tapestry and encourage you to share with us anything they get up to at home.



HEALTHY EATING

At Stepping Stones Play and Learn group we promote healthy eating with our children and families. At snack time the children will be offered milk or water alongside a healthy snack. This will help the children with their oral health as well as their wellbeing.

Please avoid putting in sweets and chocolate in your child's lunchbox. Please could all children have a lunchbox to help them recognise their lunches.

Please cut up GRAPE – LENGTH WAYS because they are a choking hazard.

POPCORN is also a choking hazard so can we ask that this is NOT put in lunch boxes anymore.

SICKNESS/ILLNESS POLICY

Please could parents' **telephone before 9.30am** if their child is unable to come in due to sickness etc as this really helps us with arranging staffing.

Our telephone No: 01206 860467 has a 24-hour answer machine.

Please try **NOT** to leave messages on Facebook as we do not always get to these until much later.

If your child experiences any form of sickness or diarrhoea it is essential you keep them at **home for a full 48 hours after the last episode** to prevent infections spreading to other children and families.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook page : Stepping Stones Play and Learn Group

Instagram: stepping_stones_play

Twitter: @SteppingPlay