



## Newsletter Autumn Term 2018

Welcome to the new children and families joining us this term. The children have settled well and enjoying the activities at Stepping Stones. Please remember our members of staff are always happy to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.

To further assist with communication, we have introduced note pads which are kept inside your child's drawer within the setting. A star on the signing out sheet will alert you to an entry made in the note pad. Information noted could be, for example, that your child's nappies need to be replenished or it may be that we want to share something amazing that your child has accomplished during the session. In other words, much the same as we've always done verbally but this way we can record that the information has reached you.

### Other new developments.

As many of you will know, the primary school has introduced a new system this term where the whole school sits for lunch at the same time. This is a very overwhelming environment for our little people to enter in to so therefore at the beginning of term we decided to hold our lunch session within pre-school. This new arrangement actually works very well for our children and staff alike and has many advantages, the main being that it is a much calmer lunchtime atmosphere for our little people and a great opportunity for social interaction between the children and Pre-school staff.



We continue to work with the Primary school to support a successful transition for pre-school children who will be moving up to the school and we're also in the process of developing links with the other local Primary schools that our 2018 leavers went into.

## Healthy packed lunch



Well done to all parents whose children have a packed lunch for providing such a varied and interesting array of healthy food items. If you get stuck for ideas for healthy alternatives, you may like to check out this link.

<https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/childhealth6-15/Pages/Lighterlunchboxes.aspx>

Did you know whole grapes are a dangerous choking hazard for babies, toddlers and young children?

Grapes should always be cut **lengthways**, so they can pass more easily through smaller throats. Cutting grapes width ways still leaves them big enough to block an airway and choke on. If you are still unsure, a member of staff will be happy to advise.



## Welly Bags



As you know, every child has a green co-op bag on their peg, labelled with their name.

On arrival at Pre-school we ask that you place your child's wellies, **(and any other items of outdoor clothing, e.g. hats, gloves etc)** in their labelled bags. If necessary, take the items home at the end of each session but please leave the bag on the peg.

Your child gains in confidence and independence when they can put on their own coat and wellies and it really helps them when everything they need is in one bag.

**Autumn half term finishes on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October and we will be back on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October.**

**The term will finish on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December with a Christmas party! Details will be given closer to the end of term.**

*Enjoy the rest of the Autumn term!*

*Anna, Craig and Elizabeth*