

Stepping Stones Newsletter



Dates for your diary:

Monday 18th-Friday 22nd – Half term holidays

5th – Chinese New Year

14th – Valentine's Day



Welcome to the February newsletter.

The staff here at Stepping Stones are looking forward to a great 2019 and we have many plans for improvement for the coming year, including a new 'Green Agenda', substantial staff training and internal development programs and an action plan for improvements to the setting.

I will of course keep you up to date about any changes and as always my door is always open for any questions or comments you may have.

**GREEN
AGENDA**

Green Agenda

Domalo Childcare is making 2019 our 'Go Green, Green Agenda' year for changes.

One major change is that the children will now have a potty train within our Toddler room with our highly trained staff, thus reducing our impact on the amount of nappies disposed of every year. Currently around 8 million nappies are sent to landfill in the UK every day!

Policy of the Month

This month's policy is 'Safeguarding'

This centres on practitioners creating an environment in which all children are safe from harm.

The Manager and staff are trained to look for hazards, complete risk assessments, ensure confidentiality is maintained and much more. Please talk to a member of staff if you would like to know more about how we keep your child safe.

Employee of the Month

We are very happy to announce that the winner of January's Employee of the month is...

NATALIE MELLOR! – Toddler Room

Some comments made by colleagues:
'She has a fantastic bond with the children''

'She always has the children's best interest at heart!'

'She is so fun to work with!'



Can we please remind ALL parents to not let any other parent into the nursery as you are leaving. Please let a member of staff do this.

Our Current Themes and Activities

The theme for the spring term is 'All About Me'. This important topic helps your child to understand who they are, where they have come from, what they are made of and about the people around them.

Some activities the children will be taking part in include:

- ✓ All About Me books
- ✓ Doctors role play and how to keep healthy
- ✓ Celebrating diverse cultures
- ✓ Mirror play and much, much more!



Anna's Advice

Toilet Training

As part of our 'Green Agenda' we will now be toilet training children in our Toddler Room.

Here are a few tips to help you get through this training period.

- ✓ Keep it simple. Start by getting them familiar with the toilet. Talk about what it is and what it's used for.
- ✓ Remember LOTS of praise – Reward charts always work!
- ✓ Make it part of your daily routine. Toilet, wash hands, brush teeth, get dressed. Even if they don't do anything it's important to stick with this.
- ✓ Ask the staff! They do this regularly and are happy to discuss any difficulties or struggles to help achieve our goal, they can also provide a factsheet for you with lots of helpful tips.

Parents Project

We are officially making this month 'Fun with Food February'!

We will be helping the children explore textures, tastes and cooking through messy play.

What can you do at home? Have some messy fun! Create a farmyard with Weetabix, A swamp with baked beans, squidgy spaghetti worms or pictures with pasta. PLEASE don't forget to take lots of pictures and share them on Tapestry!



Family



If you haven't already done so please could you log on to Family and update your child's profile page. This is vital and ensures that we have the most up to date information about who's collecting, what allergies they have and much more. Please also bear in mind that all communications take place through Family with regular updates on the news feed about important events within the nursery.

Staff Training this Month:

As part of our new year plans, the staff have all undergone Safeguarding, First Aid, British Values and FGM training. They will be furthering their knowledge base by completing the following courses this month:

- ✓ Children's Mental Health
- ✓ Motivating Boys in Early Years
- ✓ Child Protection
- ✓ The Prevent Duty



Tapestry



Please don't forget to log into Tapestry when you can to see updates on your child's development through observations. Please also share with us any activities you do at home or out and about or as part of the Parents Project!