

A Leading Edge school

Don't forget you can find school dates, pictures of school events, news and information about the classes on our website. The address is: [www.themilestoneschool.ik.org](http://www.themilestoneschool.ik.org)

# Milestones

Removing obstacles and enabling access to learning

9th March 2007

Spring Term Issue 3

# Newsletter



## Diary dates

Friends Quiz night	20th March
Break for Easter	4th April
Return to school for Term 5	19th April
Children's Fashion Show	27th April
Inset Day	3rd May
Public Holiday	7th May
Golf Day	20th May
Break for Half Term	25th May
Term 6 starts	4th June

## Message from Mrs Dance

The Irish night last Saturday was a huge success thanks to hard work from friends and the support of the local Irish community. The evening raised about £2,050. The Friends Association are buying two interactive plasma screens for the school for which we are very grateful.

At the time of writing, the Governors are waiting to hear what our budget allocation will be for the new financial year (from April 2007 to March 2008).

Following our successful Ofsted report in September, Governors have continued to try and work hard with the Local Authority in resolving the deficit brought about by under funding.

The Local Authority planned to set up a project group of external experts to come into school and advise on how savings could be made, but unfortunately this has not yet happened and Governors have received no response to requests for further information.

Other Local Authority finance staff who have scrutinised our expenditure have agreed that there is very little opportunity to make savings, while continuing to run the school in its present format.

The Governors would like to reassure parents that they will continue to work hard to ensure that pupils' needs are met and standards kept high, and hope that our level of funding will be more appropriate in future to enable the school to operate within budget.

# Stroud Autistic Support Group

## ANNUAL EVENING CONFERENCE

**'EFFECTIVE EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH ASD:  
RECENT GUIDANCE, STRATEGIES & RESOURCES'**



**STROUD  
AUTISTIC SUPPORT  
GROUP**

**GUEST SPEAKER: DR. GLENYS JONES  
ON**

**WEDNESDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2007 – 7.30-9.30pm**

**AT**

**STONEHOUSE COURT HOTEL (CAROLINE SUITE), STONEHOUSE, GLOS., GL10 3RA**

This session will consider the principles which underpin good practice in the education of children with ASD, whatever type of provision they receive, and will provide information on recent literature and resources.

Tickets: £5 - Parents/Carers/Students/Individuals with ASD  
£8 – Professionals/Paid Carers/Teaching Assistants

A booking slip needs to be completed in advance, together with payment .

Booking slips are available (to print) from [www.sasg.org.uk/ForthcomingEvents.htm](http://www.sasg.org.uk/ForthcomingEvents.htm) - 'Evening Conference' or can be requested from Amanda Jenkins, Tel. 01242 226356 or E-mail [Amanda-Jenkins@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Amanda-Jenkins@hotmail.co.uk).

## Friends News

As already mentioned by Mrs Dance, the Irish Evening was a great success with about £2,050 raised. We appreciate the fantastic support from the local Irish community.

Following the recent demonstration of the interactive whiteboard the Friends have agreed to fund two of these interactive plasma screens.

Future events:

20th March - Quiz night at the school, 7.30pm start, £5 per team of 5 people.

27th April - Children's Fashion Show at 7pm - a letter will be sent to parents asking for children to model clothes (aged 8 to 13).

20th May - Golf Day at Rodway Golf Course. More information to follow in the next newsletter.

22nd June - Mixed Blessings (pupils, staff and friends musical entertainment evening). Tickets £6.50 to include strawberries and cream.

Please put these dates in your diaries and come along to support us.

# Parent Workshops

We would like to invite you to the remaining Parent Workshops arranged until the Easter holidays, which are as follows.

Wednesday 14th March - Toilet Training with Chris Davies

Tuesday 20th March - Behaviour Strategies with Steve Whitaker - please note the different day.

Wednesday 28th March - ASD with Kirsten Harriss and Bev Murray

Friday 30th March - We invite you all to a coffee morning to raise funds for equipment for the department.

We hope to see as many of you as possible on Wednesday mornings at 10am in Pink classroom, except for Tuesday 20th March which will be in the atrium.

## Parent Assembly EY/KS1

An Early Years and Key Stage 1 parent assembly and coffee morning will be held on Friday 30 March at 10.30am in the Early Years Hall. Raffle, cakes and books will be available. Donations of cakes would be most welcome.

## Mothering Sunday

Early Years and Key Stage 1 have 'secret' Mothering Sunday presents available to buy for £3. Please let your child's class teachers know if you are interested in buying something to help raise funds for EY/KS1.

## The Transporters

Do you care for a child with autism between the ages of two and eight? The Transporters is a fun new animation series designed to help children with autism discover the world of emotions. The Transporters is being distributed FREE to families of children with autism between the ages of two and eight. The DVD will be sent out with a booklet and you can request a copy by logging on to the website at [www.transporters.tv](http://www.transporters.tv). The National Autistic Society (NAS) is funding the DVDs and you can get more information about the services they provide by calling their help line on 0845 070 4004, 10am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

## Red Nose Day

GO LARGE - We would like all pupils to either dress as an adult or wear the biggest, oversized, over the top clothes (e.g. Dad's shirt and tie etc.). Please remember the children should be safe in what they are wearing.

We are asking for a contribution towards Comic Relief.

Staff will be going large too!



In support of Comic Relief, registered with the Charity Commission no. 326568.

## INSET Days

### INSET Days – 2006/2007

The remaining Inset days for 2006/07 are shown below.

- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007 (Polling Day)
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2007

### INSET Days – 2007/2008

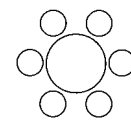
Inset days for 2007/08 are shown below.

- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2007
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2007
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 (Polling Day)
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2008
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2008

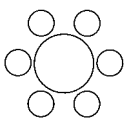
The school will be closed to pupils on the above dates.

## Raffle

Tickets are now available for the Easter Raffle. We would be really grateful to receive raffle prizes at the school as soon as possible. Many thanks.



**Milestone**  
Removing  
Obstacles and  
Enabling Access  
to Learning.



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## Fund Raising

Dominic Rees's Nan organised a charity skittles evening to raise money for equipment in 3RU. Sara Watters, Yasmin Page-Jones and John Terry joined in and a total of £215 was raised. A huge thank you from Mrs Russell to everyone who supported the evening.

## Governor Surgeries

Governors are keen to ensure that they are accessible to parents and staff, and available to answer questions or discuss problems. You are invited to complete and return the slip below, to the Clerk to the Governors at school.

+++++++cut here and return to Clerk to the Governors at school+++++++

I am / am not interested in attending a Governors surgery  
*[please delete as applicable]*

The most convenient time for me to attend school to meet a governor is:  
*[tick as many boxes as apply]*

during school time

after school

evenings

I would like to meet a governor  
*[tick one box only]*

once a term

once a year

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return this form.