

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)

# Milestone

Removing obstacles and enabling access to learning

16th February 2007

Spring

## Newsletter



### Diary dates

Break for half term	16th February
Return to school for Term 4	26th February
Irish Music evening	3rd March
Governors' Meeting	6th March
'Where Next' evening	6th March
Friends Quiz night	20th March
Break for Easter	4th April
Return to school for Term 5	19th April
Children's Fashion Show	27th April

### Message from Mrs Dance

Hopefully this newsletter comes to you as winter retreats and the disruption the snow caused has finished. I thank you for your understanding regarding the necessary one-day school closure. I would like to take the opportunity to highlight to parents/friends what a fantastic job the Milestone School Friends Association are doing in raising funds for ICT equipment. Each class now has a digital camera and Friends are funding the purchase of the first much-needed Interactive Touch Screen Plasma TV. Please do support their fund raising events if you can. The Irish evening on March 3<sup>rd</sup> should be excellent fun. In addition to organising events, members of the Association work quietly in the background gaining funding from charities and companies. Stephen Dinning recently submitted a bid and hosted a visit for Zurich Insurance Company, which resulted in a donation of £2,800. Please do let us know if you have any fundraising contacts.

I hope that the half term holiday goes well for you all.



## Day for Carers

Please come and join the fun on Saturday 17 February from 10.30am to 4pm at Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road, Churchdown. A day of information, therapies and fun with free lunch and refreshments. Please contact Alison Osbourne on 01452 872240 to book your place.

## Sainsbury Vouchers

The Sainsbury voucher scheme has restarted and we would appreciate you sending your vouchers into school. Please ask friends and family to let you have their vouchers as we make excellent use of the sports and computer equipment we get from these schemes. The Tesco voucher scheme is due to restart in March.

## face2face

Face 2 Face offers emotional support to parents of children who have been newly recognised as having a special need or disability. As a parent of a disabled child, you have something unique to offer. Because of your own experiences you can empathise with new parents and help them to make positive adjustments to the news of their child's disability. Many parents find it invaluable to have another parent to talk to who can understand and listen. If you would like further information or are interested in becoming a volunteer befriender please contact Juliet Blackburn on 0844 8009189 or e-mail [Juliet.blackburn@scope.org.uk](mailto:Juliet.blackburn@scope.org.uk). As a volunteer befriender you will receive all the training and support you need to be comfortable in your role. Become a volunteer befriender and enjoy the satisfaction of giving parents of disabled children the support they need.

Visit the website [www.face2facenetwork.org.uk](http://www.face2facenetwork.org.uk)

## Irish Music and Dance

Friends of The Milestone School  
Invite you to an evening of  
Irish Music and Dance

On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7:30pm

In the main hall at The Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester

Music to entertain you from Irish band "Life O' Reilly"

Dance Display by local Irish Dance School

Traditional Irish supper to be served on night with vegetarian option

Raffle and Licensed Bar all evening!!

Tickets are £10 each

***All proceeds raised from event will go to The Milestone School***

# The National Autistic Society

A regional convention will take place on Thursday 15 March 2007 from 10.30am to 3pm in Bristol. Topics to be discussed include "Better Services for People with Autism", The "In Control" Initiative and Examples of Good Practice. The event is free and lunch will be provided but there will be a £20 charge made for anyone booking a place and then not attending. To book a place please contact Sarah Belsten on 0117 9748415 or e-mail [sarah.belsten@nas.org.uk](mailto:sarah.belsten@nas.org.uk). Places will be limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

The National Autistic Society - Registered Charity Number 269425

## Parent Workshops

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

Wednesday 28 February - Dental Hygiene with Gill Bethell

Wednesday 7 March - Switches and Communication Aids with Amanda Attwood

Wednesday 14 March - Toilet Training with Chris Davies

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

Wednesday 28 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 20 March which will be in the atrium.

Please come along - you'll be most welcome.

## Family Recipe Book

The IntoPlay nursery based in Paygrove Lane is compiling a recipe book which will be sold to raise funds for a number of local childcare facilities. Some of the money raised through the sale of this book will be donated to The Milestone School. Nursery staff are inviting you to send in your family's favourite recipe(s) which will be included in the recipe book. They also hope to have a sponsor who will print and publish the book and the net proceeds will be divided between the local childcare settings they have chosen to support during 2007.

You can send your recipes into school or drop them into the IntoPlay Nursery at Paygrove Lane in Longlevens. If you want any more information please contact IntoPlay on 01452 380662. Recipes should be sent in by the end of April 2007.

## 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

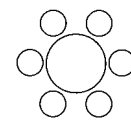
Inset days for 2007/08 are shown below.

- 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

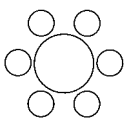
The school will be closed to pupils on the above dates.

## 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.



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## Fundraising

The amount raised for the Children's Society through our Christingle envelopes doubled this year to £174.70 (last year £87.71)  
We raised £320.71 for Children in Need.

Thank You.

## 'Where Next' Evening

The 'Where Next' event will take place on Tuesday 6th March from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Main Hall. This is open to all Keystage 3 and 4 parents and pupils. Invitations will be sent out to come along and explore post 16 options. Refreshments will be available.

## Friends News

Friends are currently raising money for ICT equipment and have also recently provided Sensory Room equipment and subsidised the trip to London to see the Lion King.

A reminder about the following events organised by The Friends.

3rd March - Irish Music evening with bar

20th March - Quiz night at the school

27th April - Children's Fashion Show (with Milestone pupils modelling clothes)

22nd June - Mixed Blessings (pupils, staff and friends musical entertainment evening)

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