

MILESTONE NEWS

THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2017

Lyn Dance, Headteacher

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 8th December

Senior Department
Pantomime

Monday 11th December

Senior Department
Christmas Market

Tuesday 12th December

Middle Department
Christmas Performance

**Thursday 14th and
Friday 15th December**

Foundation Department
Christmas Market

**Wednesday 13th
December**

School Christmas Lunch

**Wednesday 20th
December**

Term 2 ends

Monday 8th January

Term 3 begins

INSET DAYS 2017/2018

Friday 5th January
Thursday 29th March
Friday 25th May



Many thanks to those of you who came into school for the recent Parents' Evening; it is always good to meet with parents and exchange information about our pupils.

Our Children in Need day was enjoyed by all involved and raised in excess of £430. The theme was spots and dots, Pudsey visited school, we held a cake morning and children enjoyed a special assembly in the afternoon. I am grateful to staff who

have worked hard with pupils to raise money, as well as to parents for their contributions and particular thanks must go to Colin and Hazel. There was a great atmosphere around school with many children and staff dressing for the occasion. It's a good way for our pupils to learn more about the wider world and the need to support other people.

The Christmas Market was a great success with over £1,600 being raised. The proceeds from the Market help to fund lots of pupil activities throughout the school, which could not otherwise be supported. There were lots of shopping opportunities, refresh-

ments, games and Father Christmas was very popular. Thank you to everyone who gives their time to make the Market a success - including our many 'customers'.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the various Christmas productions and events taking place at the school. Rehearsals for Christmas productions are already underway!



New Playground

We recently officially opened our new playground which was made possible by a £500,000 donation from the Pied Piper charity. The Mayor of Gloucester, councillor Steve Morgan opened the new playground and pupils at school were amongst the first to see the new area.



Headteacher Lyn Dance with Anam Saqib and Krystal Sparrow



Mayor of Gloucester, councillor Steve Morgan opens the new playground

On Your Mind

Helping young people in Gloucestershire to cope with life's ups and downs.

With the help of children, young people, their families and others, Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has written a five-year plan called 'Gloucestershire's Future in Mind'.

The aim of the plan is to try and make things better for children and young people with mental health problems in Gloucestershire.

They found that children and young people want to know what help and support is available to them locally and nationally. They want to know how they can help themselves and which websites they can

trust. That is why the CCG have created the 'On your mind' website.

The CCG hope that this website will mean that children, young people and their families are able to get help when they need it and also do things to make themselves stronger, so they are more able to cope when things are tough.





Please note that there are no wheelchair spaces left for this performance. However, if your child can transfer to a seat they may be able to accommodate them. Please check before you book.

EVERYMAN
THEATRE · CHELTENHAM

Dick
Whittington
and his Cat

RELAXED
PERFORMANCE

Why not join us for our Relaxed Performance on Wednesday 3rd January at 10.30am?

Relaxed Performances are open to everyone, however this performance of our Christmas show is suitable for children and adults with an Autism Spectrum Condition, sensory and communication disorders, those with learning disabilities and for school reception classes and families with young (pre-school) children.

We also encourage people with dementia and anyone who would prefer to enjoy live theatre in a more relaxed environment. There will be small changes to the production itself, with sound levels adapted and lights remaining on low in the auditorium during the performance and the atmosphere will be relaxed.

Audience members are welcome to come and go during the show and a designated 'chill-out' area will be provided for people to use.

Tickets are just £11.50 and carers go free! Call Sally-ann on 01242 695574 to book your tickets today!

Foundation News

The Foundation Department has welcomed several new members of staff to the department as well as new children to purple, orange, blue, yellow, white, green and Maroon group, they are all settling in well and enjoying life at The Milestone School.

Some classes have been out on trips with others planning to go out in the next couple of weeks.

- Mauve group enjoyed a sensory theatre experience
- Orange group visited Over farm and McDonald's
- Lilac group had a very creative visit to 'Dixie Dots' pottery painting
- White and Yellow groups visited a local garden centre to enjoy and experience their Christmas decorations,
- Mauve group are going to visit Cheltenham to see the Christmas decorations.

The department all took part in a bonfire and Diwali activity day. We all had a great time splashing and spraying paint to make a firework display.

We enjoyed our Harvest Festival and are now looking forward to our Christmas celebrations and Christmas Market on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December. To end our celebrations we are having a Christmas activity day on Tuesday 19th December.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you soon.



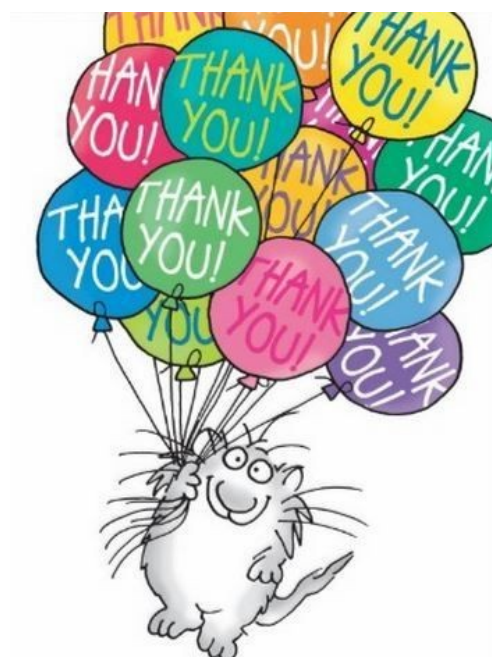
Friends 2017/2018 meeting dates for your diary

Friends meeting dates for 2017/2018 are shown below. The meetings will take place in the Headteacher's office starting at 10.45am and last for an hour. Please do come and join us.

- Tues 16th January 2018
- Tues 27th Feb 2018
- Tues 17th April 2018
- Tues 12th June 2018

Christmas Market

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Christmas Market last Saturday. We made over £1,600 which is a fantastic amount..



JOIN US FOR A TOUR

You are very welcome to join one of our regular school tours to find out more about us.

- 7th December 2017 at 11am
- 17th January 2018 at 10am
- 20th February 2018 at 1.30pm
- 15th March 2018 at 1.30pm
- 24th April 2018 at 10am
- 16th May 2018 at 10am
- 15th June 2018 at 10am
- 5th July at 2018 10am

Please contact us on the main school number, 01452 874000, to book a place. Please do come and join us.

Family Coffee Morning

There was a great turnout to our recent family coffee morning. We would like to thank Helen Smith and Stacey Rafferty who generously provided the refreshments. It proved so successful that they are already planning the next coffee morning.



Community Cafe

The cafe will be run by class S9 students in the cafe area of their classroom.

Cafe will be open from 1.30pm - 2.30pm on the following dates:

Dates for 2017/2018

- Monday 29th January 2018
- Friday 23rd February 2018
- Friday 23rd March 2018
- Friday 27th April 2018
- Friday 15th June 2018
- Friday 6th July 2018

Please note that the cafe previously advertised for December has been cancelled.

Infection Control

Take a look at the school website Parent Information page where you will find lots of information about common childhood infections including Chicken Pox, Head Lice, Norovirus and Measles. You will also find a link to the NHS website where you will find more detailed information.

School Uniform

If you have any school uniform in good condition that you would like to donate to the school we would be very grateful to receive it. Please send it in to your child's class.



Keep us up-to-date

Please let us know of any changes of details such as phone numbers, address etc. It is really important that we keep your details up-to-date in case of emergency.

Please ensure that there is always someone available at the end of the emergency contact numbers that you give us.

Social Networking

We would respectfully remind parents that if you take photographs during school events, these should not be posted on Facebook or other social networking sites, if they include children other than your own.

Late Arrivals

If you arrive late to school with your child please ensure that this is recorded in the 'late' book which is kept in Reception. It is really important, particularly for health and safety reasons, that we are aware you and your child are on site.

School Closures

You can find information about school closures on the school website:

www.themilestoneschool.co.uk. If schools are closed because of bad weather or an emergency you can also tune into local radio stations for news (Radio Gloucestershire and Heart FM) or access www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/radiostations.

Term Dates for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019

You can find these on the school website.

Pupil Illness and Absence

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child is off school sick by contacting us on 01452 874000.

If your child catches a cold or infection, please keep him or her off school to avoid the infection spreading to other children (and staff) in the class.

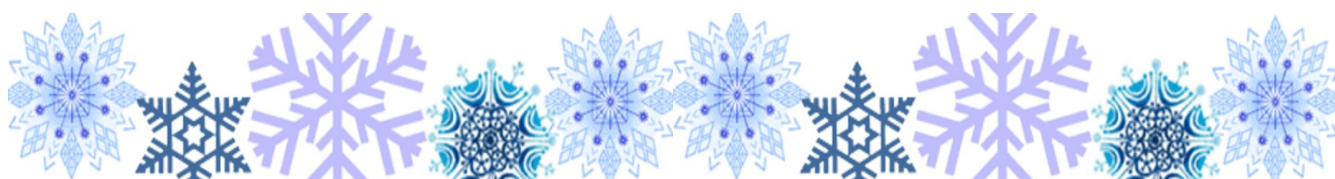
This is especially important when a child has a tummy bug such as vomiting or diarrhoea. In this case, children should be clear of symptoms for **48** hours before they return to school. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

If you plan to take your child out of school in term time please ask your child's class teacher for a permission form or you can download it from the school website.

This form should be completed and sent into school giving as much notice as you can. Lyn Dance, Headteacher will provide a written response to all requests.

School Website

Take a look at the school website for lots of really useful information at www.themilestoneschool.co.uk



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Next issue: Wed 20th December 2017 Deadline for articles: Mon 18th December 2017