

# NOTICEBOARD

## A new science resource website from the ASE

From January 2007, two existing science resource websites supporting education will be combined under ASE management. The website [www.schoolscience.co.uk](http://www.schoolscience.co.uk), that is sponsored by industrial partners and provides free on-line resources, will merge with the ASE's [www.scienceonestop.com](http://www.scienceonestop.com), the information resources directory, to provide an enhanced resources site, simply called [www.schoolscience.co.uk](http://www.schoolscience.co.uk) and managed and administered by ASE. This site will be free for all users and aims to provide a comprehensive directory of resources, information and contacts for teachers and learners of science everywhere.

As well as free and downloadable curriculum resources, the site will also contain information about educational competitions and awards, a full contacts directory, showcase items from educational publishers and suppliers, links to other sites, and *Kitpot*, the popular scheme to distribute free equipment, apparatus and publications.

Open to everyone involved in teaching science, the site will also include value-added elements for ASE members only. If you have anything of a practical nature that you would like to share and feel would make a useful contribution to the site, then please contact Rebecca Dixon-Watmough, the **schoolscience** Manager, on 01254 247764 or [rebecca@ase.org.uk](mailto:rebecca@ase.org.uk)

## Equipment funding offer

The Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector (BMCS) of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Industrial Technology Forum is inviting bids for small sums of money (typically £50–£500) for enhanced equipment to help promote chemistry or science and its understanding at all levels within schools. Applications should outline the equipment sought, cost and who will benefit on one side of A4. The application should indicate why the purchase of such equipment cannot be met from current school funding. Requests for equipment that will be shared between several schools in an area are also welcomed.

All applications should be sent to Dr H. C. Hailes, Department of Chemistry, University College London, 20 Gordon Street, WC1H 0AJ, or preferably by email to [h.c.hailes@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:h.c.hailes@ucl.ac.uk). See <http://www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/InterestGroups/BMCS/ESG.asp> for further information.

## BBC jam for 7–9 science –

[www.bbc.co.uk/jam](http://www.bbc.co.uk/jam)

BBC jam is a new broadband learning service for 5–16 year-olds. The science content for 7–9 year-olds provides online trading cards to encourage collaboration and interaction. Whilst learning about forces and motion, materials and living things, children collect trading cards as they work through the content, slowly building up a full set of cards displaying scientific facts. Children can also play three interactive science games. *Build it yourself*, using a physics engine, allows learners to see how altering an object's properties will affect its performance. In *Bugout* they can explore effective sorting skills through a tropical rainforest. *Meelyo* is a character in a platform game where children must change the material he is made of in order to keep him alive in a number of different locations. This is aimed at enhancing knowledge of materials by demonstrating what happens to them under different conditions.

## Teachers of primary science awards 2007

Every year the Institute of Physics seeks teachers who, by their outstanding practice in the classroom, have raised the status of physics and science in schools – teachers who have inspired children and other staff. If you know someone whom you think deserves recognition, then the IoP wants to hear from you. Nominations are now being requested for the awards for 2007; forms are available online at <http://teachingphysics.iop.org>

For more information contact [gita.tailor@iop.org](mailto:gita.tailor@iop.org)

## Recycling resources

### Aluminium can recycling

A learning resource from aluminium can recycler Novelis was recently launched in Liverpool. The *'Think Cans Educrate'* is made from aluminium and contains learning props to help bring recycling alive in the classroom. The *Educrate* is shared between schools in Liverpool, spending two weeks at each school. The aim is to raise awareness of recycling among primary school children, by linking it to core subjects in the National Curriculum, including science, design technology and geography. Children can play a *'Think Cans'* quiz, explore recycling fact and fiction and learn all about the three Rs: reduce, re-use, recycle.

Although *Think Cans* is currently being piloted in Liverpool, the free resources are available to teachers nationwide through the website: [www.thinkcans.com](http://www.thinkcans.com).



Children from Sacred Heart RC Primary School, Warrington at the launch

### Corus recycling website

Corus has redesigned and re-launched its educational online resource, the *Steel Can Recycling Information Bureau* – [www.scrib.org](http://www.scrib.org). The website contains information on steel-packaging recycling and new educational resources, providing an online source of information on steel-packaging recycling for teachers and children. With facts and figures on steel packaging recycling, as well as an interactive quiz and an animated film describing the recycling process, the website explains what happens to steel cans when they are recycled and why it is so important to increase steel-packaging recycling. The resources for teachers include classroom activity sheets, lesson plans, and fact sheets, all of which are free to download and link steel and recycling directly to a number of areas of the National Curriculum. The activity sheets and teacher's notes are also available in Welsh.

As part of the launch, Corus is running a poster competition for primary school children about recycling in and around the home (closing date 20 October). Primary school children will be in with a chance to win a can crusher for their school. Further details can be found at [www.scrib.org/competitions](http://www.scrib.org/competitions).