

# R.A.W



Hello

Welcome to the first RAW newsletter for 2009.

The RAW group hope that you have had a really good 2008 and would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy new year and a great 2009.

2008 was a very busy year with lots of fun activities at Randall's Farm and the Kempston outdoor centre. We had a really great summer event and a very successful Achievement awards evening.

Sharon will be planning lots more exciting things for 2009 so keep in touch with her to find out more.

The Glitz and Glamour Awards evening was held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008 to celebrate your success's



We would like to say 'well done' to all of you who were nominated for an award this year. It was great to see so many of you attending the 5<sup>th</sup> annual awards evening, we hope you enjoyed it. Everyone of you was a winner when we celebrated your achievements at an evening of glitz and glamour at Bedford Civic Theatre. This years Achievement Awards marked the personal and educational success of 165 of you.



Those who attended were presented with a certificate and gift vouchers in front of an audience of family, friends, councillors and staff. Each of you were nominated by your social worker for a wide range of achievements such as gaining good results or 100% attendance at school, overcoming adversity, sporting excellence or learning to speak English. Young people are involved in planning the gala event, which gets bigger and better each time. This year the Rights and Wrongs (RAW) group helped plan the evening, design the invitations and the certificates. The evening commenced with an amazing dance performance from the cool dance troupe Urban Funkee Munkees. Adrian our resident DJ once again got everyone dancing and we had a fabulous evening. One of you who received an award, said *'it was a hundred times better to come and receive it not just have it in the post'*.

The R.A.W members cutting the awards cake for 2008



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Winter  
2009



A poem from one of us



I have a Dog called Rocky.  
 I have a dog called Rocky who  
 hates to be told what to do.  
 He hates the newspaper,  
 He loves to eat shoes,  
 But hates the news,  
 We all love him,  
 Though he can be bad,  
 But after all he is a lad,  
 If you met him,  
 He might bark at you,  
 But after all you do look like a loo,  
 Rocky oh Rocky,  
 What are you doing there,  
 You silly little bear.  
 He hates to be told what to do,  
 So if he doesn't like you,  
 You better shoo.

Amy Cooper

If you have any stories poems or pictures you would like to have published in this newsletter or on our web-site RAW4US.co.uk please contact Sharon.



## We want your views !!!

In Bedfordshire we are always looking at ways to improve our services to you. Therefore we need to hear your opinions. In order for your views to be heard by Social Care Manager's & Councillors each local authority has to set up a 'children in care council'. In order to start this process Sharon needs to know your thoughts & views about what you think a CICC could do for you. Please can you answer the questions below and either give them to your Social Worker or e-mail [sharon.buckley@bedscc.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.buckley@bedscc.gov.uk) you will be entered into a prize draw for the opportunity to win a voucher.

Thank you



Full Name .....

Do you think the Children in Care Council (CICC) should be... (please tick boxes)

- 1) one CICC for all of Bedfordshire?   
 or one CICC for North Beds and one CICC for Mid / South Beds?
- 2) one CICC for all ages?   
 or one CICC for 8 - 12 year olds one CICC for 13 - 19 year olds?
- 3) If you could have one promise made to you by Social Services as a Looked After Child, what would it be? The promise I would like Social Services to make to me is .....
- 4) We are looking for young people to help us make your views, opinions and ideas for change happen. Would you be interested in joining the CICC? Yes  No

Thank you for filling this in! If you've got more ideas for promises, then get