



# Holy Trinity Wins Gold

By Diana Cormack

**Holy Trinity CE Primary School, Eagans Close, has received a prestigious award from Sport England, the country's leading strategic sports development agency. It is one of only 104 schools in the country to have been granted their top grading, the Activemark Gold Award.**

Activemark is a national accreditation programme which recognises schools that show a commitment to promoting the benefits of physical activity. To achieve an award, a school must offer a well-balanced physical educational programme, provide an environment that encourages physical activity and teach children the importance of staying active for life. Holy Trinity had to complete a very thorough assessment process. Inspectors looked at the many after-school sports clubs as well as normal games lessons and other sporting activities in which pupils are involved.

### Active life

Last month the school team were runners-up in the North Barnet Primary Schools Ath-

letics Competition held at the Cophthall Stadium, having won it for the past three years. Head teacher Duncan Mills, who also finds time to organise the event, runs the training for athletics after school. Other members of staff give of their time to run sports activities throughout the year which include successful football, netball and tag rugby teams as well as cricket, rounders and dance clubs.

The award is valid for three academic years, with some schools continuing to be monitored to support the development of the scheme and to ensure that standards are maintained. With their motto of High Standards Together, there is no doubt that Holy Trinity School will continue to try to maintain their position at the top.



Holy Trinity pupils in action Photo by courtesy of Holy Trinity School

# Scholarship Success

By Diana Cormack

**Whilst most of his Year 6 classmates at Our Lady of Lourdes RC School will be moving on to continue their education at local secondary schools, things will be very different for ten-year-old Bernard Chan. He will be leaving his home in Cleveland House, Oak Lane to board at a prep school near Ascot, which he will attend until the age of thirteen. Then he will take up the scholarship place that he has won to attend the prestigious Eton College.**

**Gifted and talented**  
At six years old Bernard

was a member of MENSA and his ability was recognised in school, where he was accelerated into the year ahead. Despite being a year younger than his classmates he gained places at both Latymer and Queen Elizabeth Boys' Schools last autumn.

In February he was short listed, along with six state-school pupils from other areas, for one of four free scholarships. After tests in English, mathematics and IQ he had to give a prepared speech on a chosen subject and be interviewed. Bernard came second overall. His accountant father and nurse mother were also interviewed. They have always encouraged their son in his studies, as well as his twelve-year-old sister Stephanie, who is a pupil at St Michael's Girls School.

Despite his schoolwork Bernard finds time to play both Western and Chinese chess. He

also enjoys football, rugby and has won medals at his swimming club. At the moment he wants to emulate other members of his family in Malaysia and become a doctor.

# The Business of Learning

By Diana Cormack

**Barnet Education Business Partnership was set up ten years ago with the aim of improving the motivation, qualifications and achievements of young people in the borough, thus helping them to realise their potential. By working with the local business community and giving a vocational input, the objective is to enhance the educational experiences of young people to improve their progression from education to work.**

So how does it work? Every year a local programme is produced, based on national and regional priorities. This year's objectives were *preparing young people for the world of work, raising achievement and enhancing employability skills*. Youngsters between the ages of five and nineteen were involved in and around their various places of learning. Some East Finchley parents might not be aware that their children in local primary and secondary schools have been benefiting from the Partnership. For example, pupils at Holy Trinity and Martin Schools have been involved in *Project Junior Reader* using business volunteers to engage pupils' interest in reading. *Water Works* to develop pupils' understanding of the importance of clean drinking water and math-

ematically based activities to extend numerical skills, which even included an educational visit to Tottenham Hotspurs Football Ground.

### Sharing skills

Christ's College, N2 has also been involved and it hosted the *Boys Branch Out* careers event where male pupils from eight Barnet secondary schools met representatives from the business community. Men with different and unusual jobs based on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) described their work. The aim of raising pupils' awareness of the diversity of career opportunities available through studying STEM subjects must have been achieved, for amongst the speakers were a male midwife, an executive chef and a crime

scene examiner!

The list of those involved in Barnet Educational Project ranges from local and national businesses to worldwide organisations. As well as giving them the chance to contribute something to the community, it also helps to develop their employees' skills as they coach young people. Feedback has been really good and volunteers, once they have done it, tend to get hooked.

But more are needed. If you would like to get yourself or your business involved or want more information contact Rubina Menghrani, Education Business Partnership, Mansorside Centre, Squires Lane, Finchley, N3 2AB, tel. 8349 2793, e-mail rubina.menghrani@barnet.gov.uk.

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