



# Bishop opens library extension

By John Dearing

Thursday 21 October 2004 was an auspicious day for Holy Trinity School, as The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dr. Richard Chartres, the Bishop of London, visited the school to open their new library extension.

The celebrations started with a reception for the Bishop, attended by Duncan Mills, the headteacher, Mrs Sylvia Duthie, chair of the board of governors, many of the school staff and governors, and other distinguished local people involved with the school, including Carolyn Pickles, Councillor Alison Moore, and Father Christopher Hardy of All Saints' Church.

The guests were given a tour of the school, and the new library extension which includes a new room for the headteacher, a new office and an extended staff room.

## Special assembly

A special school assembly was conducted in the presence of the Bishop, looking most impressive in his full formal regalia. He gave the address, applauding the singing, and speaking on the topic of listening as a means of personal development. He said that he had last visited the school in 1997 for the 150-year anniversary, and noted how much the school has changed in appearance. He remarked on what a happy place the school is and how cheered he was by its spirit.

The Bishop then presented commemorative leather bookmarks to representative pupils, and the medal of St. Paul to Duncan Mills, the head teacher.

The guests repaired to the



The Bishop of London visits Holy Trinity School. Photo by John Dearing

playground to enjoy the pleasant autumnal sunshine, while each pupil in the school was given a balloon inflated with helium, and tagged with their name. This was a lengthy process, enlivened by the Bishop, a tall man, giving an impromptu demonstration of retrieving prematurely-released balloons from the top of the playground fence!

## Balloons

When the whole school was finally present, the Bishop led a countdown, at the end of which all the balloons were released at once. A cloud of balloons was seen, rising rapidly and drifting east past the tower blocks of Prospect Ring.

Finally, the company gathered around the school entrance. The Bishop said a special prayer, in Greek, and cut the ceremonial ribbon.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

### Holy Trinity

After five years, headteacher Duncan Mills is moving on to a bigger school. From Easter he will be leading Holly Park School, Friern Barnet.

The new school library is up and

### Martin Schools

Class 4S visited Finchley Fire Station Maths Trail in Long Lane where they investigated the use of maths used by the fire-fighters in everyday life.

The infants made special displays during their Divali and Eid celebrations. They also commemorated Remembrance Day.

The Infant School will have many exciting off-National Cur-

riculum activities in a day devoted to Speaking and Listening.

A very successful meeting of the new school council discussed pupil of the week awards and the class representatives also suggested special monthly lunches when the staff could wait on them.

Both school heads, Maggie Driscoll and Kevin Anscomb, paid tribute to the wonderful work done by the PTA.

# YOUNG ARCHER Christmas Crackers

A sweet-maker called Tom Smith invented the Christmas cracker in 1847.

He got the idea when he was sitting in front of his fireplace watching the yule log burning. As it crackled in the heat, small sparks jumped out, but they didn't hurt anyone.

A strip of very thin card – the snap – runs through a cracker. It

is coated round the middle with a chemical compound. When the snap is pulled at each end, it breaks in the middle. This creates enough friction to heat the chemical, causing a tiny explosion.

There is a cardboard tube alongside the snap. It gives the

cracker its shape and usually contains a party hat, a small gift and a motto or joke. The tube protects them when the snap explodes.

However, there is no protection against the terrible jokes some crackers contain.

# Scribbles celebrates 6 months

By Helen Drake



Jill Hallums (centre) with staff and children at Scribbles nursery. Photo by Helen Drake

Staff at Scribbles nursery on Hertford Road, are celebrating their first six months of business. Opening on 1 June this year, in what was the old Salvation Army church hall, Scribbles has proved tremendously popular with local parents, who particularly like its location in the heart of East Finchley. Jill Hallum, Director, said "It is lovely to see Scribbles full of life, and we are all very excited about the future".

Jill, and her husband Jason, decided to set up Scribbles when they found it difficult to find childcare locally for their own pre-school children. When they saw that the old Salvation Army hall was up for sale, they could see its potential immediately.

To get the conversion done in the best way possible, they found an architect who had had experience of designing a nursery. She remodelled the building to create a second floor in the roof space and to retain some of the character of the original building, Jill and Jason recycled as much of the timber and bricks as possible. Readers who remember the old Salvation Army building will be amazed by its transformation into a contemporary, light-filled space.

## Child centred

Scribbles offers full day care for children aged from 6 months to 5 years. Jill says, "Our aim is to make learning fun. We have a child-centred approach to ensure that each child is treated as an individual, to promote the development of their emotional, intellectual and social needs. Activities for the children are planned in line with government directives, and pre-school children are offered special activities such as Drama and French."

Parents can contact Scribbles through their website, [www.scribblesnursery.co.uk](http://www.scribblesnursery.co.uk) or by e-mail [enquiries@scribblesnursery.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@scribblesnursery.co.uk) or by phone 020 8883 8546. Once individuals receive a copy of the

Scribbles brochure, they can then arrange to visit the nursery before deciding whether to register. There is a registration form in the brochure. Currently there is a waiting list for most age groups.

## East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2

Sundays at 11.00 am and 6.30 pm

For more information  
please contact the Church Office  
Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)

Visitors always welcome

All Saints' Church,  
Durham Road, East Finchley  
Church of England

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.  
Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.  
Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life.  
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,  
on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.  
Experienced singers are always welcome.  
Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>