



Cooking up a feast!

By Rebecca Kellaway

Top celebrity chefs, including Nigella Lawson, have cooked up a fantastic new cookbook with the pupils of Holy Trinity School. Called *Feast*, the book features 64 pages of the youngsters' favourite recipes from around the world, alongside more from Rick Stein, Phil Vickery and Fern Britton and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall.

Head teacher Duncan Mills said, "The children have excelled themselves once again and we're extremely proud of what they've created. It's a really impressive cook book and I for one can't wait to go off and try some of the delicious recipes."

Children and parents challenged

A fund raising cookbook was the idea of the school's parents association, the HTSA, who set the pupils an Easter holiday challenge to write and illustrate their favourite recipe. Meanwhile the parents set off to find a publishing deal that would keep the book affordable and raise funds for the school at the same time, no easy feat.

Just when this looked impossible help came from the invaluable services of Kingswood Steele Printers in London and typesetters, AMA Dataset of Preston, Lancashire. Both companies work regularly for one of the mums at school and having heard of the project, generously volunteered their services for free.

Celebrity chefs support

Further boosts came when celebrity chefs Nigella Lawson, Rick Stein, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Phil Vickery and his TV presenter wife Fern Britton responded to a letter from the school asking for their support. Mr Mills said, "We're thrilled that these celebrity chefs decided to support our book by allowing us to include some of their own



As displayed in Muswell Hill Bookshop.

Photo by Erini Rodis

recipes. For the children to see their names in print next to such famous people is absolutely fantastic."

Four hundred copies have been printed, raising more than £2,000 towards school funds. *Feast* costs £5.95, order forms are available from the school office.

YOUNG ARCHER

Martin Junior School journey

In September forty Year 6 children spent a week at the Pestalozzi Village near Hastings. Despite the weather they had the time of their lives while learning about history, geography and their own powers of endurance.

The ten and eleven year olds have produced some marvellous writing about their experiences. Here is an outstanding example by Daniel.

Night Walk

I wasn't sure what to expect since I had never been on a night walk in the woods before. There was one thing I was sure about and that was it would be a brilliant walk and very exhilarating. I was told by Mr Pickering that it would be cold (he was right). Therefore, I wore my thickest fleece. I was sure there was a calamity in the making.

The wood was one of the most peculiar places I've ever been. In the day it would have been like any other wood but at night it seemed to have mutated into a realm of supernatural beings. There were young four-foot trees. Whenever you bumped into one of them you expected a slimy green crooked face that would be a fairytale like goblin snarling back at you. Huge tyrannical-looking trees loomed overhead like massive

giants. Everywhere you looked you expected a fairytale creature to stare back at you.

There came a rather steep hill that we walked down with tons, sorry, that's an understatement, millions of nettles. Though at night, where it was hard to see things, they became overgrown rats stuck in holes and viciously biting anything that crossed their path.

I have never been one for stars, though now I see why people like them so much. They were like hundreds of lights, some brighter than others, on a blue roof. Words fail what the shade of blue was. A French philosopher once said, "The sky is as blue as an orange." I have been puzzled by that for many years though now I know what he meant, he meant the colour of the sky is like no other (that's what I think anyway). I now know what the Plough looks like and I can identify the North Star.

To get back we had to pass a house and be quieter than the quietest mouse. When we got back we had to take our shoes off; the cleaners didn't want forty cold children with muddy shoes parading around the centre. When we got back James gave us a brief talk on the walk and Mr Pickering sent us off to get ready for bed. Then we had hot chocolate (I had none). In bed we were safe from the horrors that lurked outside (even Mr Pickering doesn't count as one of those!).

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

Having almost reached its fundraising target, the new extension is to be opened by The Bishop of London. Guests will be able to visit the library and pupils will receive a commemorative bookmark and release a celebratory balloon. Now money must be raised to buy more books.

The Book Fair, at which some parents bought books to donate to the new library, raised £839.27, of which nearly £444 commission will be used to buy non-fiction books for the library.

Two Year 6 pupils attended the press event launching the start of fund raising for the statue in memory of Spike Milligan. They met Spike's daughter Jane and celebrities who could tell them about his life. As well as interviewing others, the children themselves were interviewed by the media.

The Holy Trinity School Association held a coffee afternoon at which the School Cookbook was launched.

Martin Schools

Junior School staff and pupils are really buoyant following the publication of the Ofsted inspection report, which contained so much praise for the teaching and learning, attitudes and relationships prevalent there.

As usual, the Year 6 school journey was a great success, but this time there was a notable difference. The coach driver put pen to paper to sing the praises of the children and staff. To have such a letter is virtually unknown in school circles!

Year 5 visited the Thames Barrier and, amongst many other things, they learned about flooding, environmental problems, and wildlife and worked on testing the quality of water in a special classroom.

The Scholastic Bookfair raised a massive £1,030 – the best ever at Martin Junior School, helped along by great teas from the PTA.

The PTA also organised a fabulous evening of fun and food at a bingo event to raise funds for both schools.

In Martin Infant School parents have been involved in clearing out sheds as well as sorting the library and getting rid of old books. They are requesting donations of suitable new books or ones in good condition.

The school celebrated Black History month, which featured in assemblies as well as studies in the classroom.

Pupils with particular talents, good work or positive behaviour will be awarded 'pupil of the week' certificates in assembly.

Creative solutions to Christmas

Art Fairs are "definitely the coolest places to hang out this autumn" says *The Sunday Times*. Luckily for us locals we can tap into the zeitgeist, as the East Finchley Open (a group of visual artists and craftspeople) will be hosting their first ever Winter Arts Fair on Sunday 21 November, 10.30am-4pm, at Martin School, Plane Tree Walk, High Road, East Finchley.

Local artists will be selling ceramics, jewellery, photography, paintings, drawings, sculpture, hand-painted silk scarves, textiles, patchwork quilting, stained glass, stained glass mirrors, stitched creations and much more, all at affordable prices. Why not buy your family and friends original art and crafts for Christmas, Chanukah or other winter celebrations? Or just treat yourself! A local artist will be in situ for the day drawing portraits; a face-painter will be on hand to keep the children happy, and the Arts Café will keep you sustained while you browse, with tea, coffee paninis, croissant and cakes.

"The Winter Arts Fair is a new idea, and we're very excited by the prospect of having so many of our local artists and craftspeople gathered together under one roof," says Christine Watson, organiser of the event.

For further details please see www.eastfinchley.open.org.uk Local artists and craftspeople interested in a stall contact Christine Watson on 020 8883 4207, e-mail watson.latham@virgin.net.

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>