



PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

The second week of the new academic year brought Ofsted inspectors to the school under the new style short notice inspection system.

Spanish lessons are now on the curriculum for all junior classes.

A secure cycle store funded by Transport for London has been installed, with storage for ten cycles and ten cycle helmets. This will be used by children who have completed cycle training and bike safety checks.

Clubs available this term include art, dance, homework, ICT, science, football, rugby, multi-sports, tennis and performing arts. Money raised for Oxfam by selling cakes has been used to purchase a donkey, plant 25 trees and buy a desk and chair for communities in the developing world.

Martin Schools

Children at Martin Junior School have been signing up or auditioning for the various extra activities on offer, ranging from French, football and gymnastics to choir and orchestra.

Some of Year 6 spent the annual School Journey at Marchants Hill in Surrey and others remained in London, where they learned a great deal about their capital city. Thanks go to all those who worked so hard fund raising to ensure this could take place.

Many infants at Martin School are proudly wearing the new school uniform of a sky-blue T-shirt. This, along with a dark blue one for PE, will be compulsory in January. One advantage is that it makes the children easily identifiable on school outings and when attending functions with other schools.

The PTA is to finance the construction of an infant allotment on the school field. Each class will be able to grow vegetables, herbs and even flowers, bringing fresh food alive in an exciting and educational way.

The PTA is also active in giving the nursery outdoor classroom a facelift and in helping to buy more books for the classrooms.

The anonymous Good Samaritan

By Betti Blatman

When an elderly resident from Cecilia Close suddenly became ill in the sub-Post Office in East End Road, she was given a seat by the shopkeeper but it was a young schoolboy nearby who made her day.

The pupil, either from Bishop Douglass or Christ's College School, asked if he could help her. He offered to contact somebody for her and was extremely kind and helpful. He asked if she'd like a drink of water and insisted on paying for the bottled water.

Unfortunately at the time she forgot to ask the pupil's name. The incident happened on Monday 11 September and she was so impressed with his kindness that she has contacted *THE ARCHER* to thank him through our pages.

**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>

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

Remembering the Big Friendly Giant

By Daphne Chamberlain

Readers of all ages celebrated the first Roald Dahl Day last month. Rachel Reilly, East Finchley Children's Librarian, read extracts from his books to visiting school classes, and organised 'Enormous Crocodile' model-making for the under-fives.

Sophie Dahl's granddad would have been 90 on 13 September. Long before J.K. Rowling, this very tall, very controversial wartime pilot, born in Wales to Norwegian parents, made books fun for even the most reluctant reader, even if many adults disapproved at first.

Storytelling at its best

Rachel tells me that the magic is still working today. "I'm constantly replacing Roald Dahl books at the library, so they are still immensely popular. I'm certain that his appeal will continue indefinitely, and his stories will remain a perennial favourite here at East Finchley and in all libraries. They are timeless and unique.

"He's one of my favourite children's writers, because he simply knew how to write for children. It's storytelling at its best. Dahl's stories seem to have no other agenda than to revel in the imagination, to entertain, and to bring surprise, humour and wonderment to the reader. They are also perfect for reading aloud, and so they are a parent's, teacher's and librarian's dream.

"Children are always enthusing about Dahl's characters when they return his books. Who could forget the BFG, the Oompa-Loompas or Veruca Salt? His books have given thousands of people very fond memories of their childhood reading."

Rachel's favourite Roald Dahl book? "Mmm, tricky question. I think I would have to say 'Matilda', as Dahl really celebrates the joys and benefits of reading in her character. There's

Mission possible

By Sheila Armstrong

The summer holiday reading scheme at East Finchley children's library was a great success. Around 250 local children took part in the scheme, which entailed them reading up to six books over the summer holidays. The theme this year was spies and secret agents, tying in with the release of the film *Stormbreaker*, based on Anthony Horowitz's bestselling novel about reluctant teenage spy Alex Rider.

The children who completed the Reading Mission will be presented with their certificates and medals on 16 October at the library.



also a very kindly librarian in the story, so naturally that won me over too!"

Personally, I have a soft spot for 'Danny, Champion

of the World', still chuckle over 'Revolting Rhymes', and can't get some of his adult short stories out of my mind. How about you?

about you?

YOUNG ARCHER

The London Group

While some of Martin Junior School's Year 6 children went to Marchants Hill in Surrey for the annual school journey, those who did not had a special week organised by Mr Pickering and Mrs Gibeon learning about our great city of London. Here is a letter they wrote to their fellow pupils in the countryside:

Dear Friends in 6G and 6J,

On Monday morning when you guys were on the coach, we were off to London. We left school at 9.30 and got to the train station around 9.50. On the journey there we all got some newspapers and we played sudoku.

The first building we saw was a gigantic black skyscraper. We were all astonished at the height of it and wondered how long it took to build it. Then we had to follow a yellow line to guide us to the museum. When we went in we saw a massive trophy. We wanted to take it back to school, but it was too heavy. In the museum we saw lots of things from 2000 years ago. We thought it was fascinating. In the museum the boys found computers and on the computers they all found a little clip about a man called Little Titch who had long shoes and did lots of tricks.

On arrival at St Paul's Cathedral we were so stunned! It looked like a modern building and we expected it to be an ancient building considering its age. At lunchtime, Fahim threw a croissant. When he turned around, all the pigeons had flown over to eat it and most of us were annoyed with the pigeons. When we had finished lunch we crossed the Millennium Bridge and saw a remake of the Globe theatre, and Mr Pickering took pictures of it. When we were walking past, a man invited us in to show us what it was like a long time ago. We were amazed by the facts he told us about the poor people and the rich people; for example, poor people used to stand up and chuck apples, and rich people sat and were sheltered from the rain and poor people would have to get wet.

After that we headed back to the train station and on the way we saw Drake's ship, the Golden Hind. It was amazing. We continued our journey and we saw another cathedral. Some of us were tired and others just wanted to play football. When we finally got to the station we had to go down some steps. Joshua and Tawab said: "What happened to the good old escalators?"

From the London Group

P.S. Thank goodness for modern technology or we would have to write with feather pens. Missing you guys.