



Young hands get busy at the Holy Trinity craft stall.
Photo by John Lawrence

Presents of mind

Everyone loves a handmade gift, particularly if it is practical as well as good looking. The craft room was one of the main attractions at the Holy Trinity School Christmas Fair on 5 December. Children decorated mouse mats, made mobiles and jazzed up recycled cans to make pen pots. Year 6 girls demonstrated their talents by sewing Christmas stockings and hand covering buttons with beautiful unique fabrics.

The Christmas Fair is a firm date in the school's diary and Holy Trinity are proud of the wide variety of stalls, all run by parents, staff and the children, that make the fair so successful every year.

There was the excellent food stall, featuring dishes from several nations, as well as book, tombola, and cake stalls. This year there were fossils for sale, a Secret Present room, the raffle, face painting and prize jars created by the children themselves.

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PARENT & BABY/CHILD ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Coffee & Kids, Fri 9.15-11.15, Green Man Ctr. Rachel 8343 6147.
- ❖ Dads' Club: Get-togethers for dads looking after young children in East Finchley. Adam 07957 441435.
- ❖ EF National Childbirth Trust contact Ruby Yang or Patrizia Canwell at eastfinchleynct@googlemail.com
- ❖ Parent & Toddler Group, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ Stepping Stones, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

Pupils find out about each other

By Charlotte Carey and Genevieve Watson

Year 5 Holy Trinity School

Pupils from Kerem Jewish School visited Holy Trinity School late last year as part of our shared futures project.

Our school, Holy Trinity, is a Church of England school where all the children learn about Christianity, have assemblies, and visit our own church for special occasions such as harvest, Christmas and Easter services.

We have been paired with Kerem Jewish School in Norrice Lea, N2, to help us learn about their fascinating religion. One Friday morning, in our pairs, we discussed what we had in common and played some exciting games to help us get to know each other. After our enjoyable break with Kerem, we did some more activities with our pairs.

Before Kerem came, the whole class were jumping up and down with excitement though we were really nervous because we had never seen them before. At first we were anxious, but after a while we settled down and were very happy to have met our Kerem friends.

We're really looking forward to visiting their school. They have a synagogue attached to their school and we're excited to have a guided tour around it.

YOUNG ARCHER

New play area: users report back

We reported in November on the opening of new play facilities and a skate park on Muswell Hill Playing Fields, at the rear of Coldfall Wood. Jake McConnell went to find out how they have gone down with the young people using them.

What do you think about this new play area?

Iris, 12: It's good they made a skate park here because there isn't one close by. The play park's good because the apparatus is fun, and not just for younger children. The rides are really good.

Willem, 15: I think it's a good area for a large range of age groups.

What is your favourite apparatus in the play park?

Iris: The zip-wire, you can go really fast.

Emily, 12: The big swing.

Frankie, 12: I love the big spinny table.

If you could change this area what would you change?

Iris: The skate park could have a mini-ramp and a bowl.

Emily: It could have more space to play in.

Austin, 15: I would make the skate park bigger because there is a lot of empty space that could be used.

Willem: Fill in the grass with concrete in the centre of the skate park and extend it.

How would you rate this play area out of 10?

Iris: Nine; Emily: Seven; Frankie: Nine; Austin: Nine; Willem: Seven.



Young ones can enjoy music and play at the Stepping Stones group.

Extra session for young music group

Stepping Stones is a music group with a difference. Established over five years ago by three local mums, Sonia Lapwood, Karen Roberts and Jo Girling, the group entertains children under three at the East Finchley Baptist Church on Creighton Avenue every Tuesday morning during term time.

Babies and toddlers enjoy live music, particularly the flute and guitar, and can join in themselves with instruments to bang and shake. Parachute games and bubbles add to the fun, with a snack and a story to finish the session.

Stepping Stones has become so popular that a second session has been added at 11am, with the first continuing at 10am. All new children are welcome to the group. You can drop in any Tuesday morning with no need to pre-book.

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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.

(Refreshments are served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

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>