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April 2015 No. 256 **20p**
ISSN 1361-3952 where sold

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



On your marks: Martin Offiah proves he's still quick off the mark.

Rugby superstar shows his pace

Rugby superstar Martin Offiah came to Christ's College Finchley on Friday 27 February to offer inspiration and insight into what it takes to be a professional sportsman.

The former Wigan and London Broncos player delivered a motivating assembly to Years 9 and 10 on the theme of 'having high aspirations' before embarking on a tour of the school buildings and facilities. He then delivered an action

packed rugby session to a very lucky Year 9 class, who thoroughly enjoyed this once in a lifetime experience.

Martin 'Chariots' Offiah showed he still has some of his trademark blistering pace in a game of Bulldogs at the end of the session. Two of the school's budding rugby players, Will Prior and Elliot Gold, described it as "awesome".

Primary school bids to expand

Coldfall Primary School in Muswell Hill is making a bid to increase its intake of pupils by more than 60% to help with the demand for primary school places in the area.

Coldfall claims it could accommodate more children on its site off Coppetts Road, N10, which borders the ancient woodland of Coldfall Wood.

The proposal would take the school from being a three-form entry with 680 pupils to a five-form entry school. The school's submission to Haringey Council says extra places would meet demand from local

families for places.

Coldfall, rated as 'outstanding' by Ofsted, would accommodate more pupils by renovating its existing buildings and adding a purpose-built new structure within the current school grounds. The timescales are still unclear, but plans could be implemented by 2019.

Evelyn Davies, Head Teacher at Coldfall Primary School, said: "All children should be able to go to a local school that provides an excellent education. I believe Coldfall has the capacity, and therefore the duty, to offer this to more children."

Unsung heroes

Two East Finchley residents have been named as Civic Award winners in the 15th annual ceremony run by Barnet Council to celebrate unsung heroes.

Mary O'Toole was recognised for her outstanding contribution to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and Richard King was recognised for his outstanding leadership at the East Finchley Allotment Society.

The special ceremony, held at Hendon Town Hall on 17 March, rec-

ognised 46 nominees for their hard work and commitment to their community. The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Hugh Rayner, said: "The Civic Awards Ceremony is a chance for us to express how grateful we are to these selfless residents who give their time to causes which enrich so many lives in Barnet."

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A beer with your pizza?

Barnet councillors have granted Pizza Hut at 70 High Road an alcohol licence and extended opening hours. This will allow the outlet to deliver food and drink from 10am to 5am seven days a week. Previously the take-away was open from 11.30am to 11pm Monday to Wednesday, closing at midnight the rest of the week.

Conditions were attached restricting delivery to drivers aged 21 and over. This was in response to concerns raised by the Metropolitan Police who also had fears regarding the targeting of deliverers who could be carrying alcohol.

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