



YOUNG ARCHER

School friends flourish thousands of miles apart

By Sarah Pascoe and Salma Sahal

At Martin Primary School, we have established a group of students from years five and six called Young Global Ambassadors, who volunteer their time to support local and global causes.

Our main focus this year has been a school in Kolhapur, India, called Tryamboli Vidyalaya. Four years ago Jane Conway, an ex-parent and governor of our school, travelled to India

and discovered this school. Although it was providing education for many of the village's children, she realised that much more could be done.

Last year she came to our

school to look for support in her work with the school and our Young Global Ambassadors sprang into action. We gave Jane some recordable postcards on which Year 1 had recorded messages for the children in Tryamboli Viyalaya to listen to. In return they recorded messages for us which the whole school managed to listen to.

Jane also took story sacks containing books and puppets, also used by our Reception children. Lastly, she took an activity which both our children in year 3 and the children in the Indian school completed.

During the summer term, the whole school dressed up in the colours of the Indian flag and recreated the Indian flag in the hall, raising £300.-

We also wrote to Macmillan publishers asking them to donate some books to the school. Not only did they send us the books, but Macmillan India hand-delivered English textbooks to the school.-

Next steps

Two of our teachers, Miss Glackin and Ms Taylor, are planning a trip to India in the New Year to see the school and meet the teachers and children. They hope to take more resources made by Martin Primary School children and staff and will discuss ways in which we can continue to work together. We are very excited for the future.



The Oak Lodge school shop in East End Road. Photo Mike Coles

A chance to experience working life

Nestled between Graham's the butchers and Scoff's cafe on East End Road, The Lodge is a classroom shop that has become a very special place indeed. It gives young people with complex needs such as autism, Down's Syndrome and rare genetic conditions the chance to develop workplace skills and to interact with residents and shoppers.

Students aged 11-13 from Oak Lodge Special School, in Heath View, N2, visit regularly with their teachers to develop their numeracy skills. Older students aged 14-19 make greetings cards during on-site workshops, while post-19 students come from the Oak Bridge site to sell plants they have grown with the help of Finchley Nurseries.

Set up and funded by parents from the school's Hearts

of Oak group, the Hadley Trust, Jesus Hospital and Finchley Charities, the project also offers ex-students placements to develop their retail skills and increase employability opportunities.

So pop in for cards and gifts, especially in the run up to Christmas. For more information phone the shop on 020 8444 5400 or the school on 020 8444 6711 or email info@oaklodge.barnet.sch.uk.



Friends on foot: Evie and her pals take a break at Tower Bridge

Landmark trek for footsore friends

By Evie Csáky

I celebrated my Bat Mitzvah at the end of the summer and I wanted to mark the occasion by helping people who are in real need, so I decided to go on a sponsored walk through central London with my friends. We walked 7km in total, along the South Bank, over Tower Bridge, past The Tower of London and on to the Bank of England.

We supported World Jewish Relief who help the refugees from Syria in the camps. I think it is so unfair that anyone should be put in the position of having to leave their home and I wanted to make a difference. Together my friends and I raised a whopping £1,300. I hope that this money helps lots of families.

Christmas fair

St Mary's Catholic Church at 279 High Road invites everyone to its Christmas Fair on Saturday 10 December from 12 noon to 3pm.

With Santa's grotto from 1pm to 2.30pm, children's activities, face painting, hot food, mulled wine, cakes galore, festive carols, local pottery, jewellery, books, toys and a whole range of tombolas, there's plenty to enjoy. All are welcome and, what's more, there's no entrance fee.

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Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.**
(Coffee served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

Join us
on Sunday 6 November at 6.30 p.m.
for "In Loving Remembrance"
Remembering a loved one, finding comfort, sharing peace
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Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy, on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir. Experienced singers are always welcome.

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