



YOUNG ARCHER



Well read: Coldfall Year 3 pupils Amelia, Isaac, Isobel and Noah.

Books that mirror the world for children

By Josie Dobrin

Approximately 3,200 new children's books are published in the UK every year. Did you know that fewer than 100 of these feature black characters and that fewer than 70 will feature Asian characters?

Coldfall Primary School has tried to address the disproportionate representation by working in partnership with the Muswell Hill Children's Bookshop to purchase new books for their class libraries that better represent their diverse community.

Amongst the selection are adventure stories that feature lead characters from Jamaica like *Big City Butter Finger* by Bob Cattell and non-fiction titles that celebrate the achieve-

ments of black women like *Little People, Big Dreams: Maya Angelou*.

Deputy headteacher Ewan Marshall says: "This issue of diverse representation is so important because children's books can act like both mirrors and windows on the world. Mirrors in that they can reflect children's own lives, and windows in that they can give children a chance to learn about someone else's life."

Now is the time to take action to tackle climate change

In February, a mass protest against the effects of climate change was conducted by more than 70,000 children across the country. Bella, a Year 9 student at the Archer Academy in East Finchley, reports on how her school took part.

The protests were urging the government to do more about how we tackle climate change and make everyone aware of the impacts it could have not only on us but for future generations. This is an issue that affects everyone and one where we should all fight for action to be taken. It should be our priority, not something that is left behind.

This movement is inspired by a phenomenal 16-year-old named Greta, who held a solo protest outside Sweden's parliament last August. She summed up nicely why I think as a school we should show our support when she said: "You don't have to school strike; it's your own choice. But why should we be studying for a future that may soon be no more?"

Ideas for action

At the Archer Academy, we supported the campaign at school by holding workshops during the day and we had a message board outside where students could jot down ideas. I feel as though this topic

should be addressed more in schools.

All of us would benefit from learning more about how we can make small changes which are easy to do. For example, you could switch your web browser to Ecosia; it works in the same

way as Google but for every 45 searches it plants a tree. It has recently surpassed a milestone of planting over 50 million trees. We are also planning to hold a recycled uniform sale and are thinking of other ways we can all help with climate change.



Acting up: Archer Academy students celebrate their win at the Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Festival.

Dream drama

Congratulations to all the drama students from The Archer Academy who early in March won the Welwyn Garden City Youth Drama Festival for the fourth year running.

They performed Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and swept the board by winning first place and also winning a technical award for their

performance. Head of Drama Anja Rodford was also given an award for her direction of the piece and for 'all aspects of vision in creativity'.

Girls sing out

Girls at Christ's College Finchley had a sing-through of a charity song to mark International Women's Day in March, pictured. The song is raising money for charities which give more girls access to education.

Pupils at the secondary school off East End Road, which accepted girls into its youngest year for the first time last September, performed *Twenty-First Century Woman* in the company of Emma Kershaw, one of its original singers.

Choir mistress Ms Dean said she was especially pleased that some of the school's boys came to listen and asked whether they could join in when they repeated the song. Christ's College has plans to put together a singing project for girls and boys next term.



Dip the pond at the pasture

Everyone is welcome to come along to Long Lane Pasture, opposite the fire station in Long Lane, on Saturday 13 April from 10am to midday for a free pond-dipping day.

There are likely to be plenty of tadpoles, newts, rams horn snails and other aquatic wildlife to discover. Nets, trays and identification charts will be available.

FUN and MUSIC for BABIES and TODDLERS in N2 on **TUESDAYS** and **THURSDAYS** at 10am



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LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT
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<https://www.facebook.com/SteppingStonesEastFinchley>
or text 07836 284538

Welcome to Probus!

Convivial Probus Lunch Club with talks for semi- or fully-retired PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS men and women on third Wednesday each month at Stephens House East End Road N3 3QE. Next meeting 17 April Lucy Whitaker, Senior Curator of Paintings, talks about the Royal Collection and her recent exhibition on Canaletto and the Art of Venice.

Reduced sub for new members. Contact Eric (8449 0566).

**All Saints' Church, Durham Road,
East Finchley
Church of England**

Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m.

Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.
(11.00 a.m. on Wednesdays)

(Coffee served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

Holy Week Services:

14 April - Palm Sunday - 10.00 a.m.

Solemn Mass with Blessing of Palms and Procession

18 April - Maundy Thursday - 8.00 p.m.

Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Watch until
Midnight

19 April - Good Friday - 3.00 p.m.

Sung Celebration of the Lord's Passion

20 April - Holy Saturday - 8.00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil

21 April - Easter Day - 10.00 a.m.

Parish Mass of Easter Day

*All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an
enthusiastic choir.*

New singers are always welcome.

For more details, contact the Vicar,
Fr Christopher Hardy, on 020 8883 9315
<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>