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The Archer

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Why we think East Finchley is the place to be

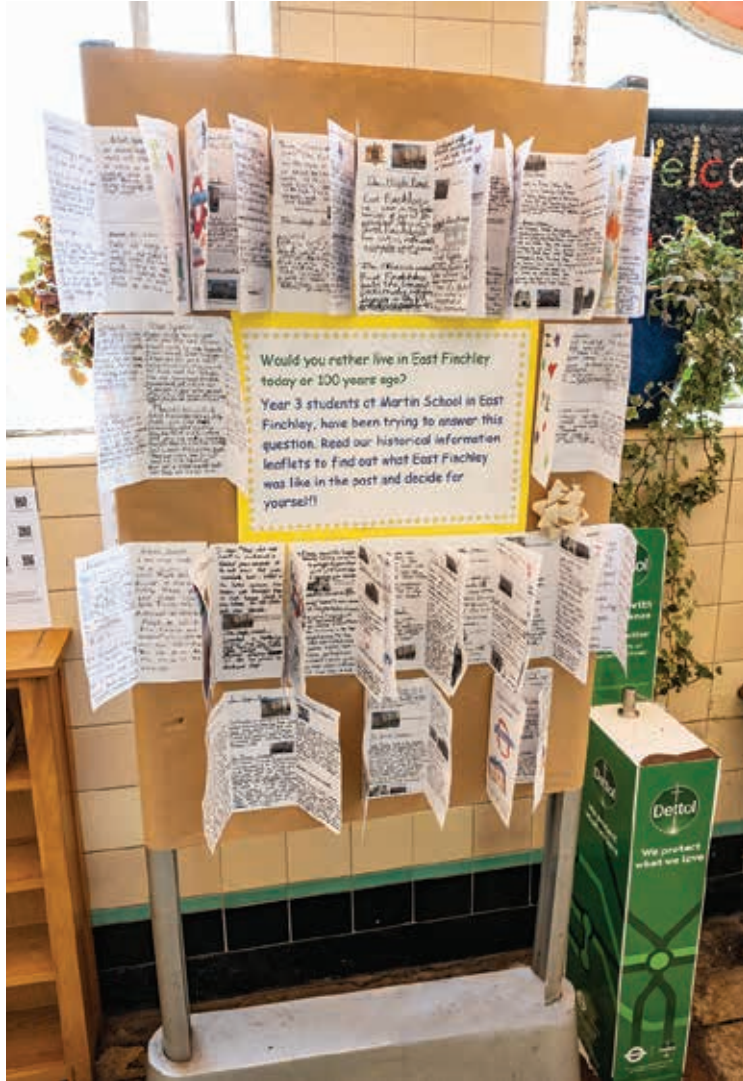
By Isobel Grant

Those passing through the entrance hall of East Finchley tube station in early December were greeted with a surprising and delightful sight. Three large display boards exhibited meticulously handwritten illustrated leaflets extolling the virtues of East Finchley.

Painstakingly produced by each of the Year 3 students at Martin Primary School, the leaflets posed the question "Would you rather live in East Finchley today or 100 years ago?" All the children, aged from seven to eight, penned their own individual leaflets, giving different accounts of a local history that stretches back to the early Middle Ages.

Their suggestions about modern-day elements of interest to be found in N2 included:

- "If you enjoy walking with your dog and following trails, come to the superb place called East Finchley. It has a cool park and a fantastic playground for kids and adults. You can run around the playground and get fresh air."
- "East Finchley has a well-equipped gym that can make you strong and fit."
- "Tony's Continental is a great place for you if you like prickly pears."



Handwritten: The best things about living in East Finchley according to pupils at Martin Primary School caught the attention of commuters at the tube station last month. Photos Mike Coles

The students were led on a walk around their local area to see the sights they had learned so much about during the autumn term and were particu-

larly delighted to be allowed into The Phoenix Cinema and shown how the projector works.

The highlight of their tour was meeting East Finchley's tube station manager and seeing their beautifully presented historical leaflets on display in the station's entrance hall, where they remained for a week.

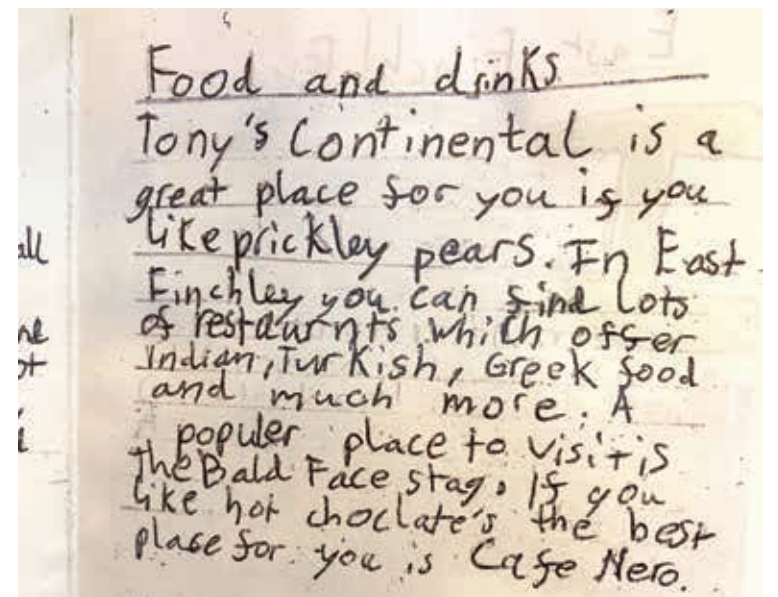
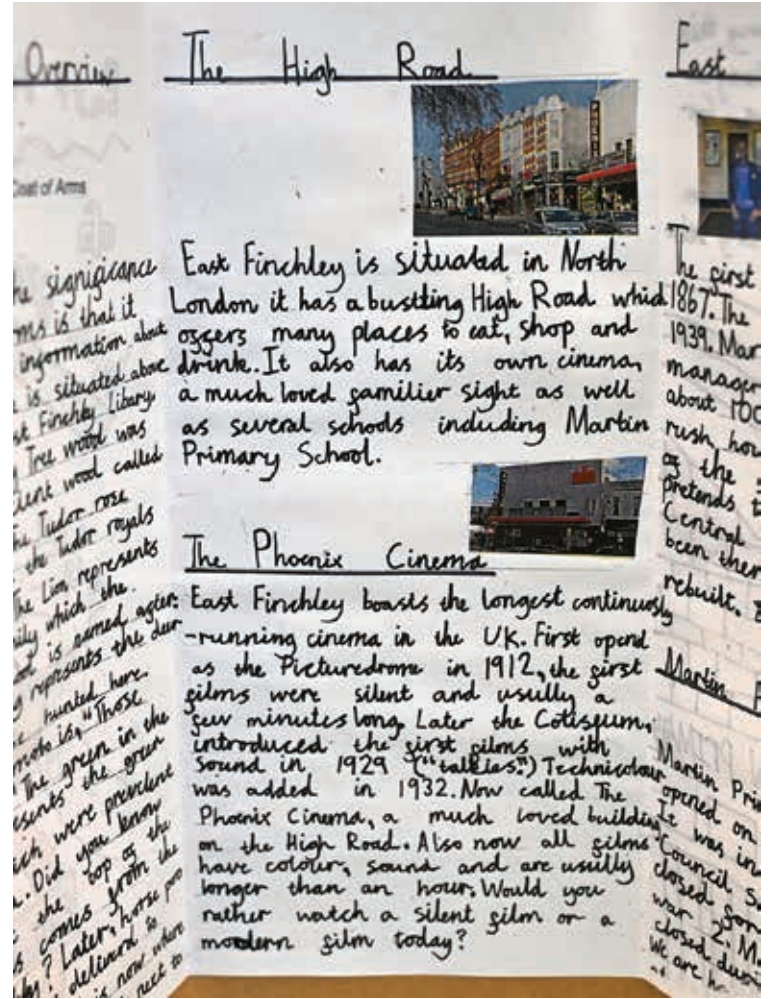
Credit where it's due

Class teacher Mrs Karen McDuling told *The Archer*: "Year 3 should feel proud of themselves, and credit should go to all the Year 3 teachers for inspiring the children to research, read and create information in this original way."

Dads five-a-side football

The East Finchley Dads five-a-side football group is looking for new players. They play at Power League, Colney Hatch Lane, N10 - opposite Tesco on the North Circular Road - every Wednesday at 7pm.

Aged between late 30s and early 50s, they say the standard is okay but definitely not scary. If you'd like to go along, contact Richard on 07973 444061.



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Coldfall calls for help

By David Melsome

The Friends of Coldfall Woods are appealing for more people to join their ranks to help safeguard this pocket of ancient woodland and the neighbouring playing fields.

There are plenty of projects that need people power to get up and running. For example, there are plans for a wildflower meadow on the fields which will need planting and protecting, and the water running through the woods needs monitoring to ensure it stays a healthy quality.

The Friends say they would welcome volunteers to work with Haringey Council on tree planting and on improving access points between the woods and the fields.

Organising walks, talks and

surveys and generally fundraising for items like information boards and a nature trail are all part of the Friends' activities too.

"As awareness of the enormous value of green spaces and natural environments to all of us increases so we as a community need to be fully engaged. We currently consist of a hard core of six! We do what we can but we need hands-on help," said the group. For more information, search Coldfall Woods on Facebook or visit coldfallwoods.co.uk