



YOUNG ARCHER



Brownie Hannah McShane presents Lawrie Chivers of the Traders Association with a cheque for £20
Photo by Maureen Antoinette

Helping Others

Every year girls in the 4th East Finchley Brownie Pack raise money to help pay for the Christmas lights which decorate the High Road. This is a nice way of being involved in the community and giving other people pleasure.

If you help other people in some way or know of children who do, please let the *YOUNG ARCHER* know so we can write about them too.

A Change of View

Children in Year 3 at Holy Trinity School have been studying the local environment. Their classroom looks out over the Stanley Road Playing Field. Here is what some of the seven and eight year olds wrote about it:

In our geography topic we have been thinking how we can improve our local area.

Some of us think we should make it into a football stadium but on the other hand we would like to make it great for everyone because it looks horrible!

By Ollie

In our geography topic we have been working on the Stanley Field. Right now it isn't being used the way it should. We want to change it. We thought about our ideas and there were so many that we only picked some. We thought of making a park, we also thought of making it for local wildlife. What do you think?

By Daniel

In our area it is quite hygienic but what really spoils it is the Stanley Field. At the moment it looks like a factory has been taken away. I have got an idea of what we could put there. We could have a butterfly park with a fountain, a bench, a

playground and some animals. It would need a lot of money but we would organise a fund raiser. It really spoils my day when I look out. I bet it spoils your day when you walk past. Think about it!

By Georgia

At the moment it is just a scruffy field. We could have a football pitch. Or a pond with swans. Even maybe an outside swimming pool. Maybe a park for big and little children as well. We could have somewhere to walk and to take dogs. We could have a water fountain and even a café. There could be a picnic area for the whole family.

By Johanna

In our lessons we have been learning about the area outside our window. We have all been thinking about changing things so they look better than now. It is just old, scruffy sand and a big fence. We see a lot of dogs and foxes.

What we want is a place

where people can relax and where children can play. If we have grass it will be just gorgeous and people can enjoy the space. There are other things you can build like maybe for animals that have nowhere to live. Maybe they can have a sign that says when you come in "Bring food for the animals."

By Saffron



The fountain that never was.
Photo by Diana Cormack

RSPCA News

An RSPCA Resolution for 2004: every pet owner to come to our clinic with their pet for micro-chipping. Only £10 to give you a better chance of finding your lost animal. Also, our dog neutering offer is still open for pensioners and all those on benefits. Price depends on the size of the dog – our vet will give you an estimate.

We are now refurbished and open Monday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 7.30pm in Park Road alongside the building works. We remind those entitled that the Harmsworth

Animal Hospital, 22 Sonderburg Road N7 in Finsbury Park, tel.020 7272 6214, is open 24 hours for emergencies and has clinics from Monday to Friday from 10am to 2.30pm.

Bring your pension or benefit book along.

Thanks to all who supported our Christmas Fair and a Happy New Year to you all and your pets.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

Seasonal Celebrations

The infant department put on a nativity performance while the junior department's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, written by the staff, was impressive.

Holy Trinity Church was packed with family and friends for the annual carol service. The children's singing is available on a CD being sold to raise money for the building fund.

The juniors had an end of term outing to the Phoenix cinema to see *Spy Kids Three*.

Fund Raising

Holy Trinity School Association's Christmas Fair made the amazing sum of £2613.

Carol singing at East Finchley tube station collected money towards the building of the new school extension.

Postal Scheme

Year 6 children operated their own postal scheme in a project run by the Barnet Education Business Partnership. They had to fill in application forms and have job interviews before setting up and running a successful system throughout the school.

Football

In its first league match the school beat St John's Whetstone 1-0.

Playing against schools from all over north London in the Spurs six-a-side tournament at White Hart Lane, Holy Trinity finished in second place.

Persil Stars

From now until June 2004 the school is collecting the stars appearing on Persil packs. They will be exchanged for art and craft materials to be used by the children. If you use these products, please collect the stars and send them to the school marked for the attention of Mrs Pothen.

Martin Schools

Christmas Shows

The infant school's seasonal production was extra special this year, in that the original story and music was written by music teacher Alan Gruner. Every child in the school took part.

The Globe Theatre Company came to delight the infant and nursery children with a performance of "Sleeping Beauty."

Art Project

The children were shown how to build a brick wall before they helped to construct a square planter in the playground. This will serve as a permanent reminder of the recent National Gallery project.

Artist in Residence

Sculptor David Aronsohn has been working with pupils on a project funded by the PTA. A display of their work will take place in the infant school hall in mid-January.

Martin Junior School

Christmas Bazaar

On 6 December the PTA organised a bazaar. The junior hall accommodated sideshows, stalls, competitions, crafts and games, while the infant hall became an international cafe and Father Christmas' grotto. Hundreds of children, family and friends had a great time; face-painting, making jewellery, wrapping presents, eating from a worldwide array of food, and listening to our own steel band. The day's profits were over £2,500

A Victorian Christmas

Year 4 took part, as Queen Victoria and Prince Albert introduced the audience to two Victorian families who experienced Christmas in very different ways. Children acted, danced and made music - all joining in with traditional Christmas carols. A group of children later shared their carols with others, singing for Age Concern at Oak Lane.

Visit to Southwark

Year 4 visited an old Victorian operating theatre to hear about gruesome amputations and surgery in past times. Next was a Victorian schoolroom situated in a room in Southwark Cathedral, where the children dressed up and had Victorian names. The Victorian teachers did not allow anyone to speak or even smile; lessons were boring and the classroom was bare.

Thames Barrier

Year 5, who are looking at water in their science and geography work, visited the Barrier, learning that there might be a massive tidal wave if the gates are raised too quickly. They noticed the pollution caused by litter thrown in the river. The children did water-sampling experiments in a special science laboratory in the Thames Barrier information centre.

Positively Mad!

The juniors spent half a day in accelerated learning workshops. They went crazy about learning throughout the day. The programme enabled them to develop techniques to improve their recall of facts in a novel and funny way, and helped them extend their knowledge of mind maps.

Charities

Children raised money for Barnado's. At the end of the Christmas performance, our "Victorian bailiffs" made a collection. When Barnado's collected the money in assembly, they were delighted and presented the school with a mascot. The next appeal was for the Meningitis Trust. Children were invited to attend annual Christmas lunch in seasonal costumes. Children donating received a "Monty the Duck" pin badge.