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Headteacher Steve Hilborne and pupils celebrate Manorside Primary's outstanding Ofsted report.

Manorside's school report

Last month Manorside Primary School in Squires Lane, N3, was awarded an outstanding rating by Ofsted in every single category. Staff, children and parents were delighted as all of them work together to ensure that the school is "the caring learning environment" that Ofsted identified in its report.

The report said: "The pupils gain greatly in self-confidence because the school promotes their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development extremely well." A well above average proportion of the pupils at Manorside come from minority ethnic backgrounds and from families where English is spoken as an additional language, and this did not go

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unnoticed. Here Manorside was praised for its diversity.

Head teacher Steve Hilborne was very pleased with the outcome of the inspection. He said: "This just confirms what we already knew. Our teachers and children are outstanding. The staff work incredibly hard to bring out the best in the children, and in turn they fulfil their potential."



Checkmate! The Martin School under-9 chess team

Nice moves, lads **By Michelle Imber**

Congratulations to the Martin School under-9 chess team who took part in the recent Chess Jamboree. It was a very tough event with 18 schools from five different London boroughs competing.

Martin School played some great chess and finished in 2nd place, ahead of some of the best school chess teams in the country.

People power pays off for Walksafe

By Harriet Connides and Emily Burnham Local road safety group Walksafe N2 held a celebratory walk in' on their new zebra crossing at the junction of the High Road and **Creighton Avenue.**

We are so pleased that our journey to school is safer and less stressful," says mother-of-two and Walksafe member Jayne Lobley. "The zebra crossing is a huge improvement,

though we will monitor the degree to which cars still speed around the corner of Creighton Avenue".

Campaigners are looking forward to the imminent installation of a 20mph speed limit on Church Lane with two vehicle-activated signs, which record vehicle speed. It remains to be seen whether the new pedestrian island on Church Lane at the junction with East End Road resolves all issues at this location, as some drivers remain unaware that the road is two-way here.

An additional demand was a three-way traffic light at the junction of the High Road and Church Lane. The Council would not support this, but Councillor Graham Old, Chair of the Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Committee, agreed to review the junction next autumn. Walksafe is appealing to residents to email details of dangerous incidents to Cllr Old and to copy the email to walksafen2@ yahoo.co.uk.

Facebook spreads the word

A number of people have raised concerns with Walksafe about pedestrian safety in other locations. The group have posted some tips on their Facebook page.

Safer walking: Walksafe campaigners celebrate the new Creighton Avenue crossing. Photo by Erini Rodis

"We want to share what we have learned through our campaign and to provide inspiration to others who want to bring about changes in their area,' says member Karen Pepper.

The campaign group said it would like to thank everyone who provided support over the past year including our local councillors and THE ARCHER.

Holiday family appeal

A Spanish family who contacted The Archer via our **Facebook page (TheArch**erN2) is appealing for a host to help them enjoy another visit to London this summer.

Maria Hidalgo Mateos and her two daughters aged 13 and eight, last stayed with a family in Creighton Avenue and would like to return to anywhere in East Finchley in the last week of July and the first week of August.

They are particularly keen to find a host with a coeliac member, as Maria's youngest daughter is coeliac herself.

Maria says she is able to give references from her last visit. If you can help, contact her on mariahidalgomateos@ gmail.com

Youth music prize

Youth Music Centre is holding its third annual concerto prize at Union Church Weston Park, Crouch End on 20 April between 2pm and 10pm. Many talented young musicians will give their best in front of a panel of distinguished adjudicators.

Summer festival... can you help?

A reminder that East **Finchley's summer festival** will take place this year on Sunday 23 June in Cherry Tree Wood.

The organisers of the festival have managed to keep it a free event for over 35 years. It has never been grant aided by Barnet Council and is run entirely by local volunteers. They are still actively seeking people to help with publicity, press and marketing.

On the day, at least 50 volunteers are needed to sell raffle tickets, steward the event or help in the bar. If you can spare some time over the next couple of months or an hour during the day on 23 June and make a contribution to the success of the festival, ring 07983 360 834 or email: eastfinchleyfestival@ gmail.com

PARENT & BABY/ **CHILD ACTIVITIES**

⊙ Baby & U baby massage. Contact Ruth at babymassagewithruth@ gmail.com, www.facebook.com/babyandubabymassage • Bringing up Baby. Screenings of the latest films for parents with babies. Phoenix Cinema. Wednesdays 11am. Box office 020 8444 6789. • Dads' Club: Get-togethers for dads looking after young children in East Finchley. Adam 07957 441435. ⊙ EF National Childbirth Trust contact Ruby Yang or Patrizia Canwell at eastfinchlevnct@googlemail.com ⊙ Newstead Parent & Toddler Group, Thurs 9-12-30, Green Man Ctr. Sajni 8359 3460. • Parent & Toddler Group, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276 • Phoenix Cinema activities, Bringing up baby screenings, Weds, 11am; Kids Club, Sat, 12pm; Toddler Time, Tues, 11am. Full details from box office on 020 8444 6789.

The team won 20 out of their 24 games finishing only two points behind the winners and are now becoming a recognised force in school chess events.

Our photo shows the team: back row, Rees Lyon, Louis Girling, Jake Imber, Joe Collinge, Kiran Jackson, Sahr Kamanda, and front row Eric Dyer, Arun and Raul Kapoor-Parsons.

A friendly welcome awaits you

EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 (opp. Creighton Ave.) www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk tel: 0208 346 1700

Sunday service at 10.30 a.m. With Crèche and Young Church

Worship	Music	Social events	Wheelchair friendly
e-mail: info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk			Room hire tel:020 8444 9887

The event aims to bring the chance to play with an orchestra to students at a radically early stage in their musical lives. Each age group will produce a winner who will play a movement of their concerto with one of the very able YMC orchestras on 12 May at 6pm in HGS Free Church, Central Square in Hampstead Garden Suburb.

This year there will be representatives of the double bass classes giving us a taste of the famous bass solo of Saint Saens's Carnival of the Animals. Famous concertos and double concertos by Bach, Vivaldi and Boccherini alongside works by Böhm, Bartok and many other exciting composers will be performed. Entry to both events is free.

Learn Circus Skills

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www.AirborneCircus.com

020 8123 6261

- Stepping Stones, interactive play session for under 3s. Karen 07957 278860.
- Teddy Bears' Music, singing for 0-3s in Holy Trinity Church, N2; Thursdays 9.45am & 10.45am. Liz 07836 284538.