

At the heart of democracy

In March we reported Mike Freer's visit to Limespring School, opposite the tube station. Recently pupils from the school were able to visit him, now that he has been returned as an MP, in the Houses of Parliament.

The children have been studying Britain as a topic and have become very knowledgeable about democracy, the parliamentary system, the general election and political parties.

They got a chance to see it all in action on a tour of the House of Commons and the opulent House of Lords with a very knowledgeable tour guide before meeting Mr Freer in a lavish committee room overlooking the Thames, pictured below.

School principal Denise Drinkwater said: "We saw the highly decorative Queen's Robing Room and were shown a copy of the Magna Carta as well as where the suffragettes

handcuffed themselves to the grilles in the House of Commons lobby. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to relate all their learning to real life."

The children were also introduced to an SNP member of parliament who explained that in the Scottish Assembly they pressed a button to vote so he was finding the House of Commons "quite old fashioned and slow" in comparison.

Limespring School is a small, independent junior school next to Cherry Tree Wood for primary age children with specific learning differences. Class sizes are kept to a maximum of eight.



Mums Who Run

Jogging or running as part of a group has been shown to have great health benefits and helps to motivate runners to keep at it.

Mums Who Run meet fortnightly at 9.30am on Thursdays at Cherry Tree Wood and are looking for more ladies to join, and even to help 'run' the sessions on any preferred day by acting as a contact and having a simple route in mind. Support is provided. For more details, email sarahglennon7@gmail.com.

The Finchley Charities



Welfare Administration Assistant Required

Reporting to the Welfare & Sheltered Housing Manager 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday 9am 5pm Salary £18,000 p.a., reviewed annually

An excellent opportunity has arisen for an additional Welfare Administration Assistant to work closely with the Welfare & Sheltered Housing Manager at a local Almshouse charity based in Finchley N2. We deliver a high quality Sheltered Housing service to London Borough of Barnet residents that have a housing need. Our aim is to provide secure and comfortable accommodation in pleasant surroundings which enables residents to live independently. Candidates should possess good people skills, be computer literate, have previous administration experience and be able to handle resident/ applicant issues sensitively

Resident Sheltered Housing Officer

Wilmot Close, East Finchley, N2 8HP Required to join a team of 5 Sheltered Housing Officers, reporting to the Welfare & Sheltered Housing Manager

> Free accommodation - Permanent position 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday Salary £16,500 p.a., reviewed annually

An excellent opportunity has arisen for a Sheltered Housing Officer at a local Almshouse charity to deliver a high quality housing management service to our sheltered schemes. The main duties are to be responsible for the general welfare of the residents and the management and maintenance of the schemes. Our aim is to provide secure and comfortable accommodation in pleasant surroundings which enables residents to live independently. Candidates should have experience with older people, possess people skills and be able to handle resident issues with sensitivity and discretion.

For further information and an application pack, please call 020 8346 9464 or email amanda.peters@thefinchleycharities.org.

Closing date 27th July 2015



Emergency aid: Bishop Douglass pupils with their fundraising cheque.



Summer reading

Join the annual Summer Reading Challenge at East Finchley Library, part of a national campaign run by The Reading Agency, which encourages children aged four to 11 to read six books during their summer holidays.

Children of all reading abilities can read whatever they choose: stories, joke books, fact books, or even listen to audio books. It doesn't matter as long as they are borrowed from their local library.

The Summer Reading Challenge runs from Saturday 11 July to Saturday 5 September and the theme this year is 'Record Breakers'!

To join, pop into the local library and talk to a member of staff who will be happy to sign you up! You will need to be a member of the library, but it only takes a couple of minutes to join.

Earthquake emergency

Secondary school pupils in East Finchley have raised more than £2,400 to help victims of the series of earthquakes in Nepal at the end of April and start of May.

Students at Bishop Douglass High School raised £2,448 with activities such as cake sales and car washes; the money has been donated to Catholic aid agency CAFOD's Nepal Earthquake

More than eight million people were affected by two major earthquakes in the mountainous country, with over 8,000 people killed and 2.8 million forced to leave their homes.

CAFOD has provided food, shelter kits, and emergency supplies in seven of the worst-hit districts. Over £56 million has been donated to the appeal launched by the Disasters Emergency Committee, of which CAFOD is a member.

Practical love

Year 12 student Diana said: "When we saw the news we all wanted to do something, to get involved. As a school we sympathise and empathise with the people of Nepal.

"When we started fundraising we found that everyone at school was really keen to help. We organised car washes, cake sales and held collections in school to raise the money."

Dig up Stanley Field

One of the first community events at Stanley Field now that it is home to the Archer Academy's new campus will be a Big Dig gardening weekend on 5-6 September.

The Big Dig will start transforming the outdoor space around the new school building and community sports facilities ahead of their official opening.

You don't need to be a gardening expert or to bring any tools, although extras will be appreciated. All you need is some spare time, a pair of gardening gloves and a willingness to get stuck in.

Families are welcome and refreshments will be provided. Anyone interested in taking part in the dig is invited to email info@ thearcheracademy.org.uk



In and around East Finchley Check posters or eastfinchleyopen.org.uk for map of venues