



## YOUNG ARCHER

### Students sow seeds of a new garden

A team of six students from Bishop Douglass School in Hamilton Road, N2, created the winning design in a Royal Horticultural Society challenge to develop a new school or community garden.

The 12 to 14-year-olds worked alongside a landscape architect for 10 weeks to create an imaginative three-dimensional design, including plants with sensory, therapeutic and wildlife-friendly properties. They were competing against youngsters from 11 other schools across London, including The Compton School in North Finchley.

Teacher Dr Sue Williams

said: "What a transformation ten weeks can make! From very simple or no gardening knowledge, our six students have grown and developed in a wonderful way. Our mentor Dave Hine, a landscape architect at Thomson Ecology, passed over his enthusiasm and mastery to them. They are now so excited about design and growing, and can't wait to start putting their design into reality."



Design win: The Bishop Douglass garden team with their award

### Art fills space where Sainsbury's should be

Two years after taking over the High Road properties once occupied by the Mama Jack restaurant and Bike & Run, Sainsbury's still shows no signs of moving in. We recently reported that their plans for the adjoining shops on the corner of Leicester Road were being reviewed.

Thankfully, the blight of having these prime sites empty for so long is being partly fended off by the East Finchley Open Artists group who are using the windows as a pop-up art gallery for their latest collection, called 'Reflections'. Good for them, but when will Sainsbury's make a decision to open shop, or pass them on to someone who does want to trade in East Finchley?



### Prizes are a real winner

The Muswell Hill & Fortis Green Association, which represents over 750 residents, held a charity tombola at the Very Merry Muswell festival in St James's Square in early December, raising more than £450 for the Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen.

Spokesman George Danker said: "We were extremely lucky to have been given a fantastic range of generous donations from local shops and businesses who are our corporate members. We would like to thank everyone involved, but particularly our committee member Zoe Norfolk who came up with the idea and helped to make it such a success."

### 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)

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a *flourishing* social life.

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

New singers are always welcome.

Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,  
on 020 8883 9315

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>



Young voices: The Holy Trinity Choir sings at the school's fair. Photo James Vernon.

### Voices pure and clear

Beautiful young voices in the Holy Trinity Choir kept visitors entertained during the primary school's winter fair in December, which also featured gingerbread decorating, games and farm animals to pet. Stalls and refreshments at the fair raised more than £5,000, including a raffle with prizes donated by local sponsors Amici Delicatessen, A. Scott & Son, Campbell & Syme, Galaxy Drugstore, Jennie Mann, La Rugoletta, Nail Studio, Phoenix Cinema, Tomato Tutors and Tony's Continental.

### Sam is numero uno

Sam Gabriel, a Year 5 pupil at Coldfall Primary School in Muswell Hill, has become the country's Number One Ranked Player in U10's table tennis.

Sam started playing the sport in the playground at school before joining the after-school table tennis club and then moving on to Barnet Table Tennis Club. He has competed in four tournaments this season, winning one U11 and coming runner-up in another, as well as reaching the semi-finals of the U13 competition.

This has pushed his ranking to national number one in U10s. His aim is now to qualify to the National Championships in June and try to win and become the National Champion.

Mitchell Browning, PE teacher at Coldfall Primary, said: "We are all unbelievably proud of Sam for his hard work and commitment. We can't wait to see how he performs at the National Championships and will be cheering him on all the way."



Top spinner: Table tennis champ Sam Gabriel

### A welcome connection

By Sylvie Clarke

The Archer Academy has secured a partnership with the Wellcome Collection in Euston which will offer the secondary school in Eagans Place many learning opportunities for students in all year groups.

The Wellcome Trust run a wealth of imaginative free workshops and creative exhibitions and has an extensive library which will be available to Archer students. The Archer Academy will also be welcoming scientists, historians and psychology lecturers to the school to deliver bespoke workshops for students.