



YOUNG ARCHER

Cricket, Lovely Cricket

The cricket season is about to begin and some boys and girls at Martin Junior School will be more than ready for it. They attended training sessions given by professional players at the Middlesex Academy on East End Road as part of the *Awards for All* programme. This built up their playing skills as well as their team spirit. Here is what two of the pupils thought about it:

Cricket at Middlesex was fantastic. The cricket coaches were really skilful and they gave us a lot of confidence and support. They taught us a great deal about cricket and taught us step-by-step bowling and batting. Altogether we had eight sessions, two hours

each, and all of us really enjoyed playing cricket at the Middlesex.

When the cricket coaches told us that we were going to play a cricket tournament against three different schools, which were Bell Lane, Chalgrove and St Theresa's, we

became very nervous. When we reached the tournament our hearts were beating so fast, but we did fantastically well. We came second in the first match and third in the second match. However, we would have been even happier if we had come first in both matches.

By Hiren Vadhavania and Marcus Cara



Martin School Year 6 Cricket Team. Photo courtesy of Martin School.

Do be Silly!

By Diana Cormack

Having had a morning of silliness on April Fools Day, let's have a look at some silly poems written by children in Year 5 at Holy Trinity School. We call them 'limericks' but nobody really knows why. Some people think that they started off in the county of Limerick in Ireland. They were originally called nonsense verse and the nursery rhyme *Hickory, Dickory, Dock* is supposed to be one of the first to be written. But they are not easy to write because they have to follow a set pattern of beats in the five lines and rhyme in their own special way. Can you work out what that is when you read them?

Freddy Fear

There was a young man name of Fred,
And Freddy still slept with his ted.
A bad film made him scream
While eating some ice-cream
And he ended up wetting the bed.

By Oliver Glick aged 10

Flower Power

There was a boy that came from Leeds
Who swallowed a packet of seeds.
The beautiful flowers
Came out in big showers
They were roses and daisies and trees.

By Albert Wood aged 9

Fire! Fire!

A lazy young lad name of Dyer
Was just the most terrible liar.
He sat all day asleep
It made the people weep
Then he was burned by the fire.

By Goda Greivyte aged 10

Ham

There once was a big fat pink pig
Who had a terrible name Fig.
He was turned into ham
By his mean master Sam
And was decorated with twigs.

By Eric Hu aged 10

Missed Kiss

There was a girl her name was Cis
Who hated getting a large kiss
A weird boy tried a smooch
She got her mad dog Pooch
He bit so much the weird boy missed!

By Cecily King aged 9

Messy Jessie

There was a young girl called Jessie
Who was really rather messy.
She was stuck in the muck
She had really bad luck
And called "Help!" to her Aunt Bessie.

By Catherine Gibbons aged 9

April Antics

By Daphne Chamberlain

On 10 April 1843, eight labourers in Tufnell Park dug up two jars containing nearly 400 gold sovereigns. No sooner had they shared them out between themselves than Mr Tufnell, Lord of the Manor, claimed the lot as treasure-trove. Enter a Clerkenwell brass-founder, who was able to prove that the money was actually his. Nine months before, he had buried it "under a temporary mental delusion".

Things like that don't happen every year, but the first Friday in April used to be an annual conference date for all witches in Scotland.

In 16th century France, April Fools' Day (or All Fools' Day) was the start of a week's holiday with present giving. (Hopefully, treats rather than tricks.)

Nearer home, in 19th century Lancashire, 30 April

was known as Mischief Night. Shop signboards were mixed up, and young people left plants or flowers outside each other's houses. The mischief in the last bit was the rhyming meaning to these gifts; e.g. something with a thorn meant scorn.

April is a funny month...

Acknowledgements to Forgotten English (ISBN 0-7649-0792-1)

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

The annual Book Week was a huge success. The children produced their own books on a wide range of subjects, and an after school Book Fair raised well over £1,000, of which 55% will go towards new books for the school.

The School Association held a quiz and auction night to raise money for school funds. Items available included a signed England football, a DVD player, health club memberships, tickets for family days out, signed photographs of Ms Dynamite and Lennox Lewis and restaurant vouchers.

Great Ormond Street Hospital wrote to thank the school for its "fantastic achievement" in raising £700 from the Christmas production of Peter Pan. As requested, the donation was forwarded to the Peter Pan Ward of the children's hospital, which celebrated its 150th birthday last year.

Thirty-two children took part in the Barnet Music Festival at the Peele Centre, Colindale.

Year 5 visited the London Planetarium. They answered questions very well and their behaviour was a credit to the school.

Reception class went to the London Aquarium as part of their project on water.

Both the football and netball teams are doing well this season.

Martin Schools

Everyone enjoyed Multi-Cultural Week, which was a great success. Junior school children were able to take part in Indian sweet-making, origami and hair-braiding. For one day the whole school experienced African drumming workshops, learning a song, performing a dance, using the drums and dancing in traditional Nigerian costume.

For World Book day, children who speak more than one language read stories in languages they speak at home.

Both schools held a very successful International Evening with food from all around the world available. Parents, children and staff were entertained by Year 5 steel band players giving their first public performance, and two other children played the tabla drums.

On UNICEF's Day of Change there was a non-uniform-day with a difference. Juniors thought up amazing creative hairstyles using wigs, spray, gel, strange colours, plaits and anything else they could think of to look wonderful (or weird!). As well as having great fun, they raised £146 for children in Cambodia and Tanzania on the theme of building peace.

The junior school's bid to the John Lyons Trust has been successful and the playground committee will be able to go ahead with more exciting playground developments.

Infant school pupils have also been raising money. For Red Nose Day they wore the colour red and had a Big Hair Do along with a voluntary contribution of 20p or more.

Visitors to the school that week included the Japan Festival Education Trust, Indriyasha Das from the Bhaktivedanta Manor Temple and Monika Wengraf-Hewit who brought along lots of beautiful works of art from Africa.