PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

This year's SATs results in both Key Stages 1 and 2 were outstanding.

Year 6 had wonderful weather for their school journey on the Isle of Wight but inclement weather did not prevent Year 5 having a good time at Moat Mount. Year 4 visited the Tower of London, Year 3 went to the Science Museum, Year 2 had a day in Brighton and reception children learned a lot at the London Aquarium.

The Summer BBQ, which included an Animal Road Show with snakes, frogs, iguanas and spiders, was very successful.

Children on the School Council attended the Ronald McDonald Charity presentation at their head office in the High Road and received a £1000 cheque for playground equipment.

School governor and parent Chris Hampson successfully completed a sponsored bike ride from London to Southend on one of our hottest Sundays, raising £540 for the school and £270 for the British Heart Foundation.

A building appeal with the aim of providing a library and science/ design and technology block plus extra space for teaching special needs has been launched.

(The Head of Governors at Holy Trinity is Sylvia Duthie. We apologise for calling her Sheila in last month's ARCHER!)

Martin Schools

In two architecture workshops, Years 5 and 6 built amazing structures out of cane and elastic bands. This was in conjunction with Barnet Education Business Partnership (see page 5), as was a new Maths Trail at the local fire station, devised by talented maths co-ordinator John Jackson. Year 3 followed this trail and also went to Kew Gardens as part of their science work.

Year 4 took part in Barnet's Road Safety Programme and they held a very successful Victorian Day. Year 5 went to St Albans for their study on Tudor monks and also followed the fire station Maths Trail. Year 6 enjoyed a day of citizenship training, a history trip to Hendon RAF museum and, a final treat, a trip to Whipsnade.

Several classes have seen Magic Lantern shows to complement the art curriculum and the whole school watched a wonderful performance of *Twelfth Night*.

Now back in action, the field was the scene of a particularly memorable event. Children from both schools stood within the shape of the Martin bird while aerial photos were taken from a helicopter. When it landed there was a special assembly given by the pilot and crew, before each class had their annual photograph taken.

The field was also the venue for Junior Sports Day. As well as athletics, the children have taken part in netball matches; the girls' cricket team was in an inter-borough *kwik cricket* tournament and the new after-school football club, where children from several schools receive expert coaching, is proving popular.

Two charity fund raising events took place. In *Miles and Miles*, sponsored participants walked on the school field to raise £200 for McMillan nurses, and the juniors wore something yellow and collected £225 in aid of the North London Hospice.

The PTA organised a Summer Fun Day on the field, attended by hundreds of children and adults, and made a fantastic £3,500. They also organised a Bingo Night, a Great Balloon Race and sold cakes and salads to raise funds for both schools.

The infant school enjoyed the visit of a travelling book fair. Nursery children went on a trip to the London Aquarium; reception children have visited Highgate Woods and Year 2 have been to Woodside Farm.

The annual International Lunch, where parents and staff in the infants provide food representative of many different countries, was again an enjoyable event.

THE ARCHER hopes teachers enjoy a happy and restful holiday.

YOUNG ARCHER

Games exchange at Holy Trinity School Photo by Diana Cormack

Playing the Game

By Diana Cormack

When I was about eleven years old I went to my friend's house for the day, which wasn't unusual. However, on that day something happened which I have never forgotten.

It started to rain, so we went indoors to play in her bedroom. But she shared it with a sister who was a couple of years older than us and she chucked us out.

"It's not fair," moaned my friend. "All my things are in there and we've got nothing to do."

The bedroom door opened.

"Here. Take this," said her sister, holding out a long, narrow box.

Old favourite

It turned out to be Monopoly, which I'd never heard of before, but as soon as we started playing I was hooked. I thought it was the best board game ever! We played for hours and hours. When I got home I couldn't wait to tell my brother and sisters about it.

Every birthday and Christmas I dropped hints to Mum and Dad about *Monopoly*, but I never got it. In those days it was quite expensive and my parents just couldn't afford it. Maybe I liked it because it gave you so much money! Anyway, I had to wait until I was grown up and then I bought it for myself.

The first version appeared in 1904. It was called *The Landlords' Game*, invented by a woman and why she invented it I do not know.

New inventions

But I do know that with all the different board games around today it must be really hard to think of something new. However, as part of their recent problem-solving week, children in Holy Trinity School had to make up their own games, many of which showed their interests, for example *Lost in Egypt* by Dani Ella Larimer, *The Lost Vikings* by Billy Hancock and Freddie Howard, *The Seasons* by Georgia Glick and Serhat Cosgun's *Fruit Game*. Albert Wood invented *The Secret Passages of Hogwarts* and Subomi Oguntoyinbo used his maths to make *All Sports*.

Both infants and juniors had a great time when they joined together to play each other's games.

Archer Bridge

By Mike Graham

One of the toughest events in the calendar is the Young Chelsea Marathon. This does not involve running 26 miles; indeed, most bridge players very rarely run for more than ten yards. Instead, it is a 24 hour bridge event. You start play at 2 pm on Saturday afternoon and finish, 165 boards later, at 2 pm on Sunday, having played through the night.

This year's event was, quixotically, played over the same weekend as the London Marathon. There were a large number of overseas players involved, and Erik Saelensminde and Odin Svensonn of Norway duly carried off the top prize. I was fortunate enough to play with David Burn, well known as a coach to England teams. We did not play particularly brilliantly and finished ninth, but we had rather poor luck with our slam bidding.This board did not help our cause:

Dealer South EW Game	♠ A73 ♥ KQ872 ♦ A108 ♣ AJ	
♠ Q1096 ♥ J1096 ♦ 3 ♣ Q1032	N W E S	♠ J84 ♥ 4 ♦ 9654 ♣ K8765
	♠ K52 ♥ A53 ♦ KQJ72 ♣ 94	

David and I sat North-South, and we were the only pair in the field to bid to Seven No-trump. Seven Hearts and Seven Diamonds were bid on a few occasions, but most pairs only bid to the six-level (and, inevitably, a few pairs stayed in game).

Grand slam scuppered

There are, in top tricks, two spades, one club, five diamonds, and three hearts. A 3-2 heart break (68%) will add two extra tricks, for a total of thirteen. These are good odds for a grand slam, and, playing pairs, you want to be in No-trump. Seven Hearts made would score 1510, but the No-trump grand slam would score 1520, for a better score. Not so on this occasion, however; the 4-1 heart split scuppered the grand slam, and we scored a joint bottom instead of a top. No justice!