



Councillor Hillan visits and sees children working on a mosaic for a new garden

Piece Work

As a starting point for a new garden in their field, pupils at Holy Trinity School, Eagan's Close, made a mosaic. Each class was able to vote to choose the theme and Noah's Ark won. The children from nursery through to Year 6 were involved in putting the pieces together over a period of three days.

During that time Councillor Lynne Hillan, Barnet Borough Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Lifelong Learning, visited the school and is pictured watching them at work.

YOUNG ARCHER

School Journey Success

Children in Martin Junior School start their final year with a school journey to the Pestalozzi Village (once a very famous place) near Hastings. During that week the ten and eleven-year-olds learn a lot about themselves and how to get on with others as well as educational things. Here are some of their thoughts before and after the visit.

School Journey 2003

We go on School Journey to get to know everyone better including the teachers and to stay for a week away from home. We go to have new experiences, to visit places and to make new friends.

We stay in a place called Pestalozzi Village which was built in 1957 for children from poor countries like Africa, Asia and Tibet to be educated and stay in. But now mainly teenagers come.

I hope that I will come away

from School Journey with some good memories. I also hope it will be good fun and I'll have some good experiences.

By Alice Pearson

Reflections on School Journey

I think School Journey is a once in a lifetime experience. The people at Pestalozzi were really nice and calm. The food there is great.

Monday we spent a long time on the coach but got off at Bodiam Castle. Tuesday we went for a seven-mile hike. On Wednesday we went to Pevensey Castle. My friend Alice had a great interest in stone fireplaces. I learned from my experiences that it's OK when you're away from your family for a week. Some of my best memories are going to the battlefield in Hast-

ings with Mr Pickering talking to us in such detail about the Battle of Hastings.

I really enjoyed it because it was really, really fun.

By Oliver Harrison

School Journey

School Journey was a fun experience that I will never forget. Pestalozzi Village was very hospitable and very friendly.

I will always remember going to Drusilla's Zoo. It was also fun to see the castles and the Battle of Hastings. I now know more historical facts and more things about a castle. I have also learned that everyone has a different view. I will probably never go on a trip like this again but I have really enjoyed going on Year 6 School Journey.

By Emily Goshorn

Jokes

Pat: On our last school trip the bus got a puncture.

Chris: How did it happen?

Pat: There was a fork in the road.

Mum: Did you enjoy your school trip?

Alex: Oh yes. We're going again tomorrow.

Mum: Why?

Alex: Search party.

Bill: Did you go on the school trip?

Sid: Yeah.

Bill: What was the best bit?

Sid: Going home!

Award for Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity School are to receive recognition for the high standards achieved by the children in the form of a *Quality Mark* from the Basic Skills Council. The award recognises achievement in the basic skills required for numeracy and literacy.

The work of the school was assessed against ten standards in areas such as supporting children who are underachieving, working with parents and planning for

continuous improvement.

Visit

Later in the term a representative of the Basic Skills Council will be visiting the school to present the award.

Helping Themselves?

By Diana Cormack

Britain is probably the country with the most charity shops on its streets, with millions of pounds being raised each year. Some people often have personal reasons for choosing a particular charity to donate their goods to, while others may be inspired by whatever bag or leaflet happens to come through the letterbox. But most do care that their cast off clothing or unused gifts and houseware will actually benefit a needy cause.

Not a charity

However, East Finchley was recently leafleted by a company, the like of which has featured in a TV report pointing out that people were being misled. Their advice was to read the wording very carefully, for the small print can often reveal that you are not dealing with a charity. Although mention may be made of the third world and garments being "sold and worn again" it appears that this is a profit-making scheme (some might say scam) and that the organisers are only in it to help themselves.

So before you let them have the shirt off your back, don't read just the large red and black print, concentrate on the rest. It may be that you don't much care what happens to your things. On the other hand, you might feel that a genuine charity appeal is more deserving.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

The successful start to the academic year was underlined with national accreditation when the school received the Basic Skills Award.

Two new class teachers, Miss Kirk and Miss Stevenson, and a part-time music specialist Mr Mycroft, have been welcomed to the school. Two harvest assemblies resulted in a substantial collection of food which was donated to the Homeless Trust in North Finchley.

Some children who need extra help are now receiving valuable support from two volunteer reading helpers. Many Barnet schools are finding that VRHs can make a significant difference to a child's progress. If you could commit to short sessions a couple of times a week, phone 7372 7523 between 9am - 5pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for details.

The new outdoor classroom for the reception class is now complete and is proving popular throughout the infant department.

Planning permission to build an extension at the front of the school to house a library and special needs area has been applied for.

Martin Schools

Both schools are taking part in the annual National Gallery project *Take One Picture*.

This year British schools have been asked to focus on *The Stonemason's Yard* by Canaletto. Each class has selected a different aspect of the painting and produced work encompassing the entire curriculum.

A gazebo with landscaped seating area has been built on the playing field to be used as an outdoor classroom for science observation, nature studies and artwork.

Martin Junior School held the first part of its biannual Book Fair. In conjunction with Scholastic Books, the staff and PTA raised double the usual amount, with total sales being over £1200. This means that they can choose over £600 worth of books for the school.

Sport has kicked off with not only lunchtime and after school football clubs, but also training from experts in lesson time. Coaches from Spurs spent one week training Years 3 and 4, have spent three mornings with Year 5 and a weekly slot with Year 6 to improve their football skills.

Year 6 stayed at the Pestalozzi Village in Sedlesham near Hastings for the annual school journey (see *YOUNG ARCHER*). As well as learning the skills of living away from home, children experienced history and geography at first hand. They produced wonderful writing and art work based on their visit.

The Infant School has an allotment where work will be supervised and maintained by caretaker John Mitchell. Children will be able to grow flowers from seed, transplant sunflowers and beans from pots in the classroom and observe the cycle of growing vegetables throughout the year.

Two of the balloons in last term's Great Balloon Race touched down in Belgium!

Nursery children were able to inspect a fire engine when the Fire Department came to visit.

The usual spectacular firework display will take place on the school field on Wednesday 5 November. Food will be on sale. For further details and tickets phone 8883 7404 or 8883 1455.

A date for your diary - Christmas Bazaar Saturday 6 December 12noon-3pm