

# Kids' crusade to raise cash



**FUN RAISERS:** St Dunstan's pupils raised more than £4,000 for charity with a sponsored sporty day

By ZARA BISHOP

A CHARITY day held by pupils at a Catford college raised more than £4,000 for two good causes.

Tennis, cricket, in-line skating, cycling and walking backwards were just some of the sponsored activities undertaken by Years 7 and 8 pupils.

The event was held on the fields outside St Dunstan's College in Stanstead Road, Catford.

Proceeds from the event on

Saturday were divided between the Joe Homan Charitable Trust, which works with youngsters in India, and St Christopher's Hospice in Sydenham.

Lower school headteacher Simon Thorogood said: "We have been doing charity days for about 20 years now and must have raised more than £100,000.

"There were lots of parents there and each child raised between £25 and £30."

# Youngsters dig deep for charity

KIND-HEARTED youngsters from a Catford junior school have raised more than £4,000 for worthwhile charities, including Demelza House Children's Hospice.

Pupils, aged eight to 10 at St Dunstan's College junior school, raised the money through a number of activities, including a sponsored spellathon, a bring and buy sale for books and toys and a cake sale.

They also paid £1 to charity for the privilege of wearing their own clothes to school.

The charity morning raised a total of £4,500, of which £2,500 will go to the hospice in Sittingbourne and £1,000 each to

Mencap and the Blue Peter Appeal Fund.

The majority of the cash came from the spellathon in which youngsters were sponsored by their parents for every correct spelling and, surprisingly more than £1,000 came from the cake sale.

Headteacher John Gaskell said: "The children really got into the spirit of the charity morning and can be proud of the money they have raised for the three deserving charities.

"We hope their efforts will make the lives of many a little brighter."

News Shopper 20 March 2002

# Science week is off with a bang

YOUNGSTERS at a Catford school got an explosive look at science during a special programme of activities.

St Dunstan's College put together a science programme which included a visit from Professor Ivan Parkin and Dr Hogarth from The University College London's chemistry department, last Thursday.

The college's Great Hall became a science workshop and 90 Year 9 pupils and teachers watched experiments involving

oxygen and liquid nitrogen.

Head of science James Foster said: "Science Week is an important part of college life and the interactive programme of activities makes learning fun, interesting and highly enjoyable for the pupils.

Other activities included a talk on neuro-imaging from Goldsmiths College's Dr Alan Pickering and entertainment from the Quantum Theatre Company.

News Shopper 20 March 2002

# Outstanding examination successes

Pupils from Lewisham-based independent school St Dunstan's College were overjoyed with their GCSE passes, with 94% receiving grades between A and C.

Headmaster Ian Davies said: "These exceptional results are testament to the working partnership that our committed team of highly-qualified teaching staff enjoys with our hardworking pupils. Success at GCSE level gives our students a solid foundation to achieve excellence at A-level within our sixth form."

Meridian Line (Greenwich) October 2001



**GREAT ORATORS:** from left, Hanna Retallack, Adrian Benn and Emma Kerr

# Trio's talking point

SILVER-TONGUED pupils at a Catford school left the competition speechless when they sailed into the regional finals of a prestigious public speaking competition.

St Dunstan's College GCSE students Hanna Retallack, 16, Emma Kerr, 15, and 16-year-old Adrian Benn saw off challenges from teams from six other south

London schools at the event last Tuesday. Adrian chaired debates from Hanna about the apathy of the young and from Emma about Latin being a dead language, and the trio so impressed judges they were awarded their place in the London final, to be held at the end of February

## Photo round-up

# Guns, runs and tons of fun



**HOME MALONE, Alex Wood as Bugsy and Tajana Bunton-Williams as Talallah in the show**

TEACHERS at a Catford school have been watching their backs as pupils armed with splurge guns rehearse for a gangster musical. About 120 pupils from St Dunstan's College Junior School in Stanstead

Road are preparing for the opening night of Bugsy Malone, which is set in New York in the 1920s. But thankfully for the rest of the school, the guns are just props and are not filled with custard.

Performances are on July 2, 3, and 4 starting at 7pm. For more details, contact the college on 020-8516 7200.

*South London Press*  
2 July 2002

## Doing pop idols

PUPILS from a Catford school impersonated their pop idols and raised more than £1,500 for charity. Students at St Dunstan's College in Stanstead Road organised the concert which will benefit the Crisis charity which works for homeless people.

Parents, staff and pupils were entertained during two special performances. Everyone who attended the lunch time and evening events donated £1 to the charity's coffers.

The 10th annual Crisis concert included renditions of pop sensations including Robbie Williams, Britney Spears, Destiny's Child – and Madonna, as well as festive favourites including White Christmas and Let it Snow.

The aim was to raise £1,000 but the final figure was more than £1,500.

The concerts have raised £10,000 in the past 10 years.

*News Shopper 2 January 2001*

### £500 for kids' fund

CATFORD: Pupils from St Dunstan's College Junior School raised nearly £500 for Children in Need by wearing casual clothes. *South London Press 30 November 2001*

## College girls have Dun it!

NETBALLERS at St Dunstan's College have been celebrating a double success.

The senior girls from the independent school, won both the under-12 Lewisham and South-East Schools titles.

Eight teams from the Lewisham borough competed in the schools' League, which started in September, and St Dunstan's ended as champions after winning all their eight matches.

Tara Facey (Year 7) and Sam Holder (Year 8) were also voted 'Player of the League' in their respective age groups by all the other players.

In the South-East Schools' League, five other local teams - Blackheath High, Colfe's, FASH, Holy Trinity and St Thomas More - took part, but none could stop St Dunstan's, who won four and drew one of its games, from winning the double.

The victorious under-12 squad comprised: Emma Burnett (GK), Janine Robson (GD), Anna McDowell (WD), Anne Nelson (WD), Catherine Vileneau (WA), Alice Sperring (C), Tara Facey (GA) and Cecilia Stilwell (GS).

Coach Emma Hulls said: "The girls really deserve the success

they have achieved this season.

"They have all played outstanding netball on a regular basis against some tough opposition.

"We are obviously extremely proud of them and look forward to adding more trophies to the ever-growing display cabinet."

The under-12s concluded their season by finishing third in the Kent School League.

*News Shopper 22 May 2002*

**BALL GIRLS:**  
St Dunstan's College under-12 netball team celebrates its double success





**PHILOSOPHICAL:**  
Ben Jacob

Photo:  
SOPHIE JONES/  
7339/14/5

## 'I'm Potter stunt double'

EXCLUSIVE by MIKE PFLANZ

LOOK out for south London schoolboy Ben Jacobs who landed a last minute role in the smash hit film Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.

The 13-year-old starlet from Catford is the body and stunt double for the actor playing Harry Potter's archenemy Draco Malfoy. The St Dunstan's College student spent six months during filming working a couple of days a week, on call ready to jet off for location shoots anywhere from Newcastle to Oxford. Ben rubbed shoulders with Alan Rickman, Robbie Coltrane and of course the real stars Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint who play Harry, Hermione and Ron. Fresh from the recent premiere and cast and crew party, Ben told the *South London Press*: "Working on the set was really fun and everyone was treated as an equal. But it was really surreal going through lines with Alan Rickman or standing around the fire on a cold day's filming and big Bobbie Coltrane sits down in the chair and starts chatting." As a body double, Ben stood in for Draco actor Tom Felton when the film crew set up scenes and during actual filming when Draco was in the background.

Ben said: "I've seen the film - it's really fantastic - and in the

scene where Harry first puts on his hat, and the camera goes round him, I recognised myself on the right. You don't see very well, but it's definitely me."

Ben's mum put him in for auditions for the part, and he was chosen at the last minute. Ben said: "Just two days after my audition, a car came to take me to Heathrow to fly to Newcastle for filming.

"I was really shy at first because all the others were there and they all knew each other, but it was fine.

"When we were on set, we all sat around playing on the PlayStation between filming."

Ben, a student at St Dunstan's College in Stanstead Road, Catford, says he will not be committing to so much filming for a while now.

He said: "I have to work really hard on GCSEs now, acting's not a fulltime job and I need something else to fall back on."

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone opens at cinemas across south London on Friday, November 16.

## Fun-raising

STUDENTS at Catford's St Dunstan's College staged a concert to raise money for homeless charity Crisis.

A student band performed a live version of US band Limp Bizkit's song Faith.

Others created on-stage dance routines performed to chart-topping hits from So Solid Crew and Destiny's Child. Five lads even did a take-off of hit film The Full Monty.

The kids put on two shows, one at lunchtime for fellow pupils and an encore in the evening for par-

ents.

Earlier in the week, pupils played staff and parents' teams in rugby and netball matches to add to the total jackpot raised for Crisis, which has this year topped £1,000.

One physics teacher even agreed to have his head shaved for the good cause.

St Dunstan's has been raising money for the charity each Christmas for 10 years, and they have sung, danced, and rugby-tackled their; way to more than £10,000 in that time.

### Fashionable way to help charity

A FASHION show at a Catfox school raised more than £600 to help a charity for sick children.

The show at St Dunstan's College in Stanstead Road, Catford, raised the cash for The Rainbow Trust, which provides support for sick children with life threatening or terminal illnesses.

Fashion loving sixth formers

organised the event, supported by high street retailers including Bromley Brides, Ciro Citterio, Burtons and New Look.

Headmaster Ian Davies said: "Since September, pupils have been working hard and putting a lot of time, energy and effort into this fashion show to ensure its success."

*News Shopper*  
20 February 2002

## Biggin' it up, up and away TV'S TOM AND CLAIRE LAUNCH

AROUND 750 balloons were sent into the sky by pupils at St Dunstan's College on Lewisham last Friday.

The youngest pupil, four-year-old Gala Sofranac released the balloons with the help of Douglas Butt, 11, and special guest stars Tom McDermott and Claire Strutton, from the first series of Big Brother.

The helium balloons were sold for £1.50 each and the proceeds will go towards finding a new learning resource centre at the school.

Michelle Duncan, who works at

the school, said: "It was a really good day.

"We couldn't have asked for more balloons, it looked like a sea of Smarties.

"The new learning resource centre is an extension to the library and will be of great benefit to all the pupils at the school."

The balloon race kicked off the college's Golden Jubilee celebrations, which included a grand ball for more than 350 parents, staff and friends of the school.

*South London Press*  
Friday July 12.2002

