

## WIZARD ART WORK AT BANCROFTS

TWO Bancroft's Prep School friends have achieved first and third places in a nationwide children's art competition run by Random House books in partnership with the Times' Young Times. The task was to design a cover for a new edition of L Frank Baum's classic *The Wizard of Oz* with judges including authors Jacqueline Wilson and Louise Yates. Jacqueline Wilson said, 'The standard was very high and several of the illustrations were truly breathtaking.'



Alina Schumacher, aged nine of Chigwell and Millie Woods, aged ten of Buckhurst Hill, were inspired to enter the competition by English Teacher Kevin Gallagher, however the panel of judges were unaware that the children attended the same school when making their decision.

Alina counts *The Wizard of Oz* as one of her favourites and hopes to write her own classic one day. As well as the excitement of seeing her work in print, Alina also receives £100 worth of books from Random House Children's Books and Millie £30 worth of books. The new edition will be available from 3rd November.

This is the fourth year the competition has run and Bancroft's pupils have previously enjoyed considerable success, Harry Jones won the first competition to design a cover for *Wind in the Willows* and last year Amrita Robertson was placed third with her design for *The Secret Garden*.

## ST AUBYN'S PLAY THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

FOOTBALLERS from years four and five of St Aubyn's school had the amazing opportunity to attend the Fulham FC football academy on 12th November, with the aim of developing their own perceptions and ability.

The group of boys played the Fulham U9's in a series of 15 minute high tempo games, playing a variety of positions with each 15 minute game separated by a debriefing and coaching period so that focus was on 'how' they played as a team not the goals scored. By the final game they had stopped chasing the ball and begun to play better football. Fulham proved a very tactical side constantly trying to outwit the St Aubyn's team and watching them proved similar to a complex game of chess where players positioned themselves strategically for an effect that became apparent much later.

The day was much enjoyed by all and coaches were impressed by the way the boys were able to adjust to a much more academic way of play that called on them to think about what they did and anticipate what might happen.



## NORMANHURST IS SEEING STARS

STARLIGHT children's charity, which grants wishes for seriously ill children visited Normanhurst School in North Chingford on 15th November to receive a cheque for £1,119.

The money was raised by the children in a number of ways including a sponsored walk, cake sale, and a non-uniform day. Jo Castleton, a representative from the Starlight Foundation attended a special assembly lead by head girl Isobel Barry, where she told the pupils about children in hospital who benefit from visits by magicians and face painters, a touring pantomime, extra toys and games and special wishes such as going to meet the team at Manchester United or going on a shopping trip with Gok Wan. All of these things are made possible by donations and fundraising much of which comes from schools.

Normanhurst is a keen supporter of charities and arranges a number of events each year. Charities coordinator Judith Reeve said: 'It is really important for our pupils to hear first-hand how their efforts at fundraising go towards making life a little better for other children who are not as fortunate.'

