

Christmas Party – Kids Company



Tuesday 18th December 2007

“Santa Claus is comin’ to town...” sang the children from Nightingale School in Hackney as ‘Santa’ Nolan

Craig from Berenberg appeared from round the corner. Let me explain...on Tuesday 18th December 14 members of Berenberg

Bank spent the afternoon at a Primary School in East London to help host a Christmas Party for 194 pupils. The children were split into their respective classes after the lunch bell rang and had the next two hours to enjoy the festivities. Classrooms were made into activity centres, one even decorated as Santa’s Grotto. The children all had a chance to participate in two activities from cake making to party games, story corner and an arts workshop – there was certainly a lot to choose from! There was even a magician in one of the rooms!



Meanwhile, the main hall was transformed into a disco. Every class would be led into the hall for a short Christmas sing-song round the piano, played by Alexandra Roche, and then in to see Father Christmas to receive a small gift. The disco started shortly after and the children had a chance to get some food and their face painted if they so wished! Simona Chinosi and Catherine Ogden were expert face painters whilst elves Veronica Corsiero and Marion Roux made sure all the children received a present. Andrew McNally and Oliver Collin manned the food station.

All Berenberg and Kids Company staff entered into the spirit of Christmas by dressing up as elves, snowmen and we even had a not so red-nosed Rudolph! The children really seemed to enjoy the afternoon and the staff were particularly thrilled that the party was organised for the school. The children, aged 4 – 11, come from underprivileged backgrounds and are from one of the poorest estates in London. The Head teacher of the school, Catrina Tilbury, suggested that for many of the children, this may be the only Christmas celebration they will have and the only gift they could receive as their parents struggle to provide for their most basic needs.



Berenberg Participants:

Simona Chinosi, Simon Chisholm, Oliver Collin, Veronica Corsiero, Nolan Craig, Hamish Edsell, Ben Hutton, Andrew McNally, Natalie Meech, Catherine Ogden, Kieran O’Sullivan, Alexandra Roche, Marion Roux, Toby Woods

