

Christmas Party – with 120 Kids Company children!



Thursday 11th December 2008

A hoard of Berenbergers dressed as elves, angels, snowmen and even a Santa gathered at St Mary's Primary School in Stoke Newington. This could only mean one thing...it was the BerenbergKids Annual Christmas Party! As last year, the party was held for Primary School children at one of the 33 inner-city London schools which the Kids Company work closely with. 120 children aged between four and seven assembled excitedly around the windows of one of the classrooms, while the room was blacked out and decorated to resemble Santa's grotto. The break time bell rang and the children raced eagerly into their classrooms, impatient to begin the various activities that lay ahead of them. Each classroom was set-up with different festivities and over the next four hours, all year groups were taken in turn to each station.



Let the games begin! Berenbergers assisted the children in making Christmas cards, joined in many a party game and even held a dance competition! Not forgetting to mention the Christmas story time and face painting too – there certainly were a lot of fairies, tigers and even Batman characters! Santa's Grotto was a hive of activity, with more games, such as musical statues and musical bumps with our resident Santa, Berenberg's Nolan Craig, taking centre stage. Children left the Grotto with a small gift from Santa and feeling definitely more refreshed after having had their fill of cookies and crisps! At 3.15pm the bell rang once again and it was time for the children to leave...and for us to tidy up!

Fun was had by all, with the children chatting away animatedly about their day, what their favourite activity was and the presents they received; cars for the boys and wands for the girls. The teachers explained that due to the underprivileged backgrounds of the pupils, this is possibly the only Christmas they are likely to have. The Kids Company's aim is to make every child feel valued and cared for and hopefully this party went some way to helping them achieve their goal.



For further information on the Kids Company's Christmas and volunteer days:

<http://www.kidsco.org.uk/>

Berenberg Participants:

Chris Armstrong, Nina Buechs, Simona Chinosi, Simon Chisholm, Oliver Collin, Laura Cooper, Nolan Craig, Angela D'Orazio, Hamish Edsell, Andrew McNally, Natalie Meech, Kieran O'Sullivan, Marion Roux, Luca Vicentini, Toby Woods

