

### White Court School Choir

I informed Mrs Deans the Head Teacher that today I was to see the BBC Singer, of world renown, at the Church of St. Alban, The Marta in Holborn. I can report that they lived up to expectations for a live performance on Radio 3. Their professionalism knew no bounds, they were word perfect and tuneful in everything they sang. A wonderful performance.

Before I set off for London I followed up an invitation I had received months ago to attend Tesco in Great Notley to hear some carols performed by pupils of the school. To my surprise, I found a group of pupils from year 3 to year 6 patiently waiting to be allowed on the premises. I was given a quick arithmetic lesson when I added some loose change to the 52p already in the bucket. I was impressed as to how many ways I was shown to calculate the total. Had the School sent along the wrong pupils, those good at maths. Well, I was wrong; half an hour of unbridled enjoyment for customers, parents, grandparents and of course me. Wonderful singing, excellent use of musical instruments and some beautiful outfits in keeping with the festive season. Some modern songs, the use of signing to accompany the singing all added to the enjoyment of the event. The soloists were excellent – to stand at the front before strangers and perform as they did, took courage and a professionalism beyond my expectation. Two eagle eyed Choristers at the front kept a watch on the bucket collection for Farleigh Hospice as well as singing beautifully.

Well, I must thank Miss Parish for her kind invitation, but I must say a big thank you to the Choir who, on balance outperformed the BBC Singers. As they appear on Radio 4 tomorrow I expect they will be looking over their shoulders to see an Elf or a Santa or someone with a Red Chimney on her head pushing them to one side to take centre stage for the BBC.

Well done the White Court Choir

Chris McCann

Chair of Governors

14 December 2016