

SCOTT Darrington was the inspiration behind a charity concert held at the Castle School in Donnington.

The event was organised by Scott's brother Tom and his friend Josh Smith, both students at Newbury's Trinity School. They raised £626 which will go

towards improving the access to the recreational areas and grounds of Castle School.

Pictured presenting the cheque to Ola White, Deputy Head of Castle School, are Tom (left) and Josh (right), surrounded by members of the Darrington family and brother Scott (centre).



Story comp's your big chance to show you've got the 'write' stuff

IN BRIEF

Warning to raiders

RAIDERS who escaped with welding equipment from a Padworth Common barn have been warned that it could blow up and kill them.

The burglars smashed a lock on the door of the barn in Rectory Road between July 12 and took the welding kit and a saw bench.

But neighbourhood police officer PC Matthew Allen said: "We would warn people not to use the welding equipment because it is faulty and could cause serious injury."

PC Allen wants anyone who spotted



Cash bash: Children of St Martin's C of E Primary School using their new school bank with governor Jenny Henley.

Lesson guaranteed to generate interest!

YOUNGSTERS at St Martin's Primary School at East Woodhay

Schools. The school bank aims to teach

transactions during published opening hours, and receive

THE Thatcham Writers, affiliated to the National Association of Writers' Groups, is looking for entries for its Short Story Competition, to be judged by local author Leslie Wilson, as part of Thatcham's Festival of Arts and Leisure.

The task is to write 1,000 to 1,500 words in any genre starting from the imaginary newspaper headline: **Strange lights have been seen over the lake at Thatcham Discovery Centre.**

The prize is a book token worth £25 to be presented by the Mayor of Thatcham on Thursday, October 11, at a special Festival event featuring The Thatcham Writers, PALS, and U3A Readers in Thatcham Methodist Church.

Leslie Wilson's novel for teenagers, *Last Train from Kummendorf*, was shortlisted for The Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and the Branford Boase Award.

One of her short stories, *Cherry Strudel*, appears in an anthology of stories about asylum seeking children, *Give Me Shelter*, published by Frances Lincoln.

The competition's closing date is September 14.

Copies of the competition rules and an entry form are available from either Thatcham Town Council Offices or www.thatchamwriters.co.uk

● **Contact** 01635 860132, 07932 121147 or 01635 863592