



GLENN COPUS

## 600 school children dig deep for fun in Hyde Park

SIX hundred London schoolchildren gathered to plant 60,000 daffodil bulbs in Hyde Park this week.

The initiative is run by the Royal Parks Foundation, the charity which protects the capital's eight royal parks. Funds were raised by parents and children from five schools. Sara Lom, chief executive

of The Royal Parks Foundation, said: "We're thrilled with the fundraising activity because park budgets have been cut by 25 per cent over four years."

Among them were 160 children aged between five and 11 from Francis Holland School who planted daffodils along the Serpentine, pictured. The bulbs

were paid for with the £35,000 the independent school had raised. Headmistress Lucy Elphinstone said: "Some children often walk through a park without even really connecting with nature so we wanted to give them a chance to learn about it. We also wanted to leave some sort of legacy."

Sian Boyle