

Students, teachers and parents from Hornby Cooperative Nursery School toured Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital seeing first-hand the inner workings of the Pediatrics Ward, Emergency, Laboratory and X-Ray Departments. Nurse Myra Britton demonstrated the steps involved in preparing a plaster cast photo submitted for the youngsters.

# Missing children are not forgotten

By Cathy Vint Special

May 1 marked the kick-off date for Child Find's second annual month-long Green Ribbon of Hope campaign.

Recognized as a symbol to remember missing children and to seek their safe return, organizers hope the campaign will increase public awareness about National Missing Children's Day on May 25, and the missing children issue in Canada.

Barbara Snider, case administrator for Child Find's provincial head office, located in Oakville, says there weren't any statistics on missing children in Canada, or an organization of this type prior to 1983.

"In time of real personal turmoil, Child Find responds to parent's needs and directs them in the right pathway to get results," says Jackie Cutmore, executive director of Child Find Ontario.

The organization depends solely on corporate and private donations to carry out their mandate, and is assisted by companies like Josten's Photographers, which prints up posters of missing Canadian children for display at airports, and Rogers Cable, which publicizes pictures of missing children on the backs of billing envelopes.

Workers at Child Find not only aid in the location of missing children, but also promote prevention and awareness through educational material and fingerprinting sessions at local centres.

Snider says Child Find statistics show that the greatest percentage of missing children are runaways, the greatest percentage of abductions are parental abductions, and less than one per cent of all cases fall into the stranger abduction catego-

Although not every case has a happy ending, a recent investigation by Child Find reunited a mother and son after 11 years apart, resulting from a parental abduction which took the youngster to Australia.

An anonymous caller recognized the boy from a photo-aged

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26 Guelph Street Georgetown, Ont. enhanced shot in an airport. Over the following seven months, Child Find was able to assist in locating the youngster and reuniting him with his mother.

"The public are asked to pick up a green ribbon at any Toronto Dominion bank and wear it

throughout the month of May.

The concept of the Green Ribbon of Hope was originated by the students and faculty of Holy Cross Secondary School in St. Catharines following the abduction and subsequent murder of Kristen French and is used exclusively by Child Find.



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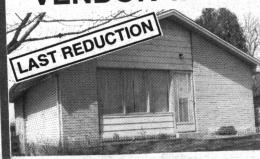
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