



WHAT'S ON

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Child star wins TV drama work

By Hilary Porter

BUDDING actress Yvette Earley has landed a role in a national TV drama series.

The seven-year-old St Katharine's School pupil appears in the top rating ITV police drama *The Bill* tomorrow night as a child accident victim, a part she won after attending only her second television audition.

Yvette was sent along for the audition by Swish of the Curtain Drama School in Southbourne, where she has been having lessons in drama and elocution since she was five.

Mum Katrina Earley - a dance teacher at the Beaufort Community Centre, who also teaches Yvette dancing - says the family will be glued to their TV screens at their Southbourne home, but she is also dreading watching it.

For Yvette plays a mischievous seven-year-old girl who receives a bike for her birthday and decides to go out for a ride in the middle of the night, with tragic consequences.

It was filmed in South Wimbledon on *The Bill's* purpose-built site.

Katrina said: "It's been a really exciting experience for her and they really looked after her and all the cast were so friendly. A lot of the filming involved her lying in the road in her pyjamas and it was bitterly cold so they kept her wrapped in blankets between shots and let her sit in the police car, and in some of the shots they used a dummy. I don't know if we will see anything of the accident - I'm not sure if I will be watching that bit."

The episode was filmed just a couple of weeks ago and Yvette - who was delighted to have members of the cast sign her script - has become a bit of a star among her classmates.

Not only did her school teacher ask her to tell the class all about her experience but many of the pupils asked her for her autograph.

Katrina said: "She's been practising her autograph since then and now definitely wants to be an actress. It was certainly amazing when she got the part - it's nudged the door open a little bit!"



SUCCESS: Yvette Earley, aged seven, who has landed a part in *The Bill*