



■ Pupils at Keir Hardie School take part in a performance during an assembly to mark the school's relocation

Celebrations of school's move attract big crowds

Assembly to bid farewell to old site has to be staged twice

Not one but two emotional assemblies allowed staff, parents and students to join former pupils, teachers and governors in bidding farewell to a school's old site.

So many people wanted to be part of the goodbye to Keir Hardie School's original location in Edwin Street, Canning Town, that the assembly had to be held twice. Health and safety consid-

erations prevented the large number of people being accommodated in the hall at the same time.

Comperes

Year 6 children acted as comperes and each year group performed a special song during last week's assembly ahead of the move to the new building in Robertson Road three days later.

Simon Bond, a teaching assistant, said: "The assembly was held to celebrate and reminisce about all the great moments we have had in the 'Old Keir Hardie' but also to focus on the fantastic opportunities which are in front of us."

Headteacher Violet Otieno encouraged everyone to look forward to the move, adding: "Essentially, we are moving

into an empty shell, but it is we, the pupils, staff, families and local community, who will give it soul".

The school has moved as part of the regeneration in Canning Town. Its new building includes a rooftop play area with a running track and a school square.

Kier Hardie's old single-storey building was built in the late Forties.