

While her husband negotiated diplomatic challenges at the Nato meeting, the US First Lady visited a Salvation Army centre in east London. Melania Trump met children from a nearby primary school, and helped pack Christmas presents. She also revealed her lack of familiarity with a staple of the British Christmas, the mince pie. There's flash photography in this report by our correspondent, Daniela Relph.

Traffic was stopped, the road closed. London E5 had a VIP visitor. The Salvation Army in Clapton was given just a few days' notice that Melania Trump was coming. The children of Baden Powell Primary School nearby were only told this morning who they were about to meet.

A church hall in East London is perhaps an unusual setting for a visit from an American First Lady. But this is safe territory for Melania Trump.

A Christian organisation and a global charity, the Salvation Army was seen as a good fit for today's event. Melania made Christmas decorations and chatted to the kids and their teachers. The talk was of Christmas in America, the journey to London and the Trump family - along with the odd revelation.

She's never had a mince pie, an English mince pie. She's never had a mince pie? I was like, "You need to try it, then!" Did she try one? She hasn't tried it yet but she's going to try it tonight. If you think about it, you're not really going to get a chance to see her again, so you have to kind of keep remembering.

The visit of the First Lady may have been a little unexpected for the Salvation Army, but will be a boost for their Christmas present appeal.

The Salvation Army has a lot of work in America, and I think Mrs Trump has seen our work there. But also the Salvation Army's home is the UK, and she really wanted to come and meet children.

The visit ended, of course, with a year five class photo - today with a special extra guest squeezed in - as this American First Lady got a taste of Christmas in the UK.

Daniela Relph, BBC News, Clapton, in East London.