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**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

School Inspectors Report More Good Progress	1
External Exams	2
Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip	3
FORS Quiz Night	4
Netball District Tournament	5
Year 12 Travel and Tourism Trip	6
Safe Routes into School	7

Road School Sports College

Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 273

25TH MARCH 2011

School Inspectors Report More Good Progress at Road

I am delighted to be able to share the findings of the most recent inspection by HMI. The progress outlined in the report is testament to the hard work of all members of our school community, teachers, support staff, parents, governors, our partner school, local authority and of course the students! A full copy of the report can be found on the school website but I have provided a summary below.

Behaviour

The inspectors were very positive about the improvements in behaviour of students. They described the school as a calm working environment. Behaviour issues are now restricted to a few isolated areas, all of which the leadership of the school are both aware of and taking appropriate action in response to.

Effectiveness of Provision

Lessons were seen to provide stimulating activities with a good mix between teacher talk, group work and independent learning. As behaviour has improved teachers have been more willing to take risks and try out new teaching methods. Assessment information is now used much more effectively and students are increasingly aware of their levels. Science was mentioned specifically as an area of significant improvement. A minority of lessons still remain which are too teacher led leading to some boredom. The school is aware of where these are and is providing the necessary support and challenge to the staff.

Leadership and Management

The inspectors spoke highly about the positive ethos and clear strategic direction of the school. Partnership work with both Kingsbrook and the local authority gained praise and were recognised as having a significant impact. Governors were seen to have grown in their role and have made some difficult decisions in relation to amalgamation and the consequences of a falling roll.

The inspectors were able to report good or at least satisfactory progress in all of the areas. They left us with two new targets which will be monitored when they return again in June.

- **Ensure that teachers give more opportunities to students to take responsibility for their learning by ensuring they can work independently and make informed choices about their work.**
- **Ensure that the monitoring of teaching and learning by middle leaders is consistently rigorous and accurate so that it leads to teaching that is always at least satisfactory.**

If you would like to discuss the report or any aspect of it, then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school or come along to the Open Evening on Thursday 7th April in the sixth form block.

Mr. Nelson

External Exams: May and June 2011

Students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 have now been issued with their provisional timetables for the written exams in the external summer exam series. These exams start w/c 9th May 2011 and run through to the end of June 2011. Any omissions or queries should have been notified to the Data Office.

A final timetable will be issued to the students after the Easter holidays, confirming the examination venue and their individual seat number. Students with exams scheduled at the same time will have their timetable adjusted in accordance with Exam Board regulations.

School and Police Working Together

We are very fortunate to have a very positive relationship with our local police force. Over the past few months, we have supporting each other on a number of occasions including:

- 1) Our staff have identified students seen stealing on CCTV
- 2) The police have visited the site to remove students who have been excluded
- 3) We share information about potential issues in the local community and school.

This work is central to the ethos of the school and places it at the heart of the community. Students need to be aware that this partnership exists and it will be used to ensure that we have the best possible environment, both within and beyond the school.

Mr. Nelson

Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip to the North Norfolk Coast and Norwich



On Friday 11th March, after an incredibly busy OfSTED week, the year 12 geographers set off for two days of fieldwork in North Norfolk to support their AS course. As we left the village of Roade, the sun sparkled and students enthusiastically discussed the fieldwork they would undertake along the coastline and in Norwich, only to succumb to snoozing as we drove through the increasingly flat terrain of Cambridgeshire. However, with the first sight of the sea at Cromer, and the thought of “fish ‘n’ chips” on the pier, everybody was awake and ready to go.

The students visited four places along the Norfolk Coast, Cromer, West Runton, Sheringham and Cley-next-the-Sea, to investigate the coastal processes at work and the risk of both flooding and erosion. They sketched, interviewed locals and undertook a wide range of fieldwork to find out the threats to the coastline and how they are being managed.

In the evening, after an incredibly filling three course meal in the Youth Hostel, the students analysed all their results and presented their findings in the creepy Chapel Classroom, under the critical eye of Mr. Nelson and his young son!

On Saturday morning, the group walked into Sheringham to investigate the impact of tourism on the town and how it has managed to “rebrand” itself and attract tourists in the face of strong competition from foreign resorts. With the bustle of the farmers’ market and a Steam train rally, it was an ideal opportunity for Aldmar and Josh to show off their interviewing skills with members of the public, usually, but not always, with good results.



The final leg of the fieldwork was a visit to Norwich to look at the rebranding of the city. Mrs. Lea and I managed to test our geographical skills by successfully negotiating the one-way system of Norwich without ‘sat-nav’ and arrive at the riverside development alongside Carrow Road football ground. From here, the group walked through the historic city of Norwich looking at the ways in which the city has been regenerated since the 1980’s decline of industry and growth of out-of-town-shopping centres. Students were able to assess the relative attraction of historic and cultural sites like the castle, cathedral, market place, and Royale Arcade, alongside the more modern shopping centres and visitor attractions like The Forum, Castle Mall and Chapelfields Centre.

After a wide range of fieldwork, many miles of walking along the River Wensum and a little retail therapy, the group drove back to Roade. Hopefully, the fieldwork will be used to good effect in the May exam to build on the excellent results from the January module.

I would just like to say thank you to all the students who participated, for their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour throughout, and to Mrs. Lea and Mr. Nelson for giving up their time at the end of such a busy week in school.

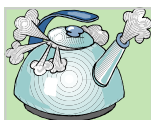
Alison Scanlan

Subject Leader for Geography/Travel and Tourism

PARENT PIT STOP

EVERY **THURSDAY 15:30—17:00**

HELD IN THE REWARDS ROOM, THROUGH THE MAIN SCHOOL LIBRARY



Drop in for a drink and a chat

We are here to offer support and a listening ear for parents, grandparents and carers of students at Roade School Sports College

Contact:

S. Ackerley— sackerley@roadeschool.northants.sch.uk

D. Norton— dnorton@roadeschool.northants.sch.uk

Tel: 01604 862125 (ext: 145)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

GCSE P.E. PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS WILL BE TAKING PLACE ON TUESDAY 26th, WEDNESDAY 27th AND THURSDAY 28th APRIL.

STUDENTS WILL NEED TO BE PRESENT IN SCHOOL.

THESE EXAMINATIONS ARE WORTH 60% OF THE OVER-ALL FINAL GRADE

A Message from Welfare

Please could all year 8 girls remember that your final HPV vaccination is due on **Monday 4th April.**

Please ensure you eat breakfast before you come to school.

Thank you!

Where?
Roade School
Post-16 Library

When?
Friday 6 May, 7pm

How Much?
£2 per person
Maximum 6 per team

Licensed bar
Tickets available
from Reception

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A reminder that the closing date for the Roade and Kingsbrook Amalgamation Consultation period has been changed from Wednesday 4th May to Monday 25th April.

DATES TO REMEMBER

THURSDAY 7th APRIL - SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR EASTER

FRIDAY 8th APRIL - TRAINING DAY

TUESDAY 26th APRIL - STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Netball District Tournament 2nd March 2011

TEAM

Sasha Atlas	Olivia Garrard	Lucy Hibberd
Allanah Parker	Eden Brown (captain)	Lucy Cubitt
Martha Manktelow (captain)	Nia Owens	Harri Owens

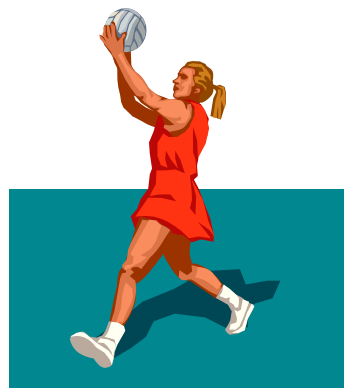
On the 2nd March, the year 7 and 8 netball team went to the netball district tournament. The team's first game was against Champion and the team all knew this was going to be a tough first game. The team played our best throughout the game, taking a while to get into it. At half time, we were 3-0 down and the team got ready for the next half. The score only got worse as we ended up losing 6-0 but the team kept our hopes up because we might still get in the top 3 as there were 7 teams playing.

The teams next opponents were Moulton and the team had just got into game rhythm. The first half was quite hectic running back and forth so at half time the score was 2-2 but it was going to improve. The team played extremely well in the next half pulling 2 nets in the bag and conceding none, leaving the score as 4-2 and the team were all very pleased. Then the team had a match off and got ready for the semi-final against Guilsborough, who had won their pool and we had been runners up in ours.

Guilsborough were another tough game and we knew they were a hard opposition as they had won their pool but we played our very best and held them back for as long as we could, leaving the score at half time 2-1 to them. It ended up, after playing a very good game, that we lost 6-1 but we knew we had tried our best and no one could ask for more.

The team now had a match against Sponne but because of the cold weather conditions, they forfeited so we ended up joint 3rd.

Everyone played their part and the captains did well to look after the team. The team all contributed to our 1 win and we are all quite pleased that we came 3rd even though we would have liked to have come first. However, we were against tough oppositions and played very well considering we had not played as a full team for a while.



Mrs. C. Tuplin

Year 12 Travel and Tourism Visit to the Hilton Hotel, Northampton



In February, the Applied Travel and Tourism 'AS' group visited the Hilton Hotel, Northampton, to learn about training, induction and customer care in the Hotel Industry. The PA to the manager, Kay Jackson, very kindly hosted the group for the afternoon. The students were treated as regular "customers" of the Hilton and were welcomed with a wide range of refreshments before the work began. Students were booked into one of the conference rooms and Kay presented a power point to outline the detailed training and induction requirements of all employees at the Hilton Hotel. This was followed by the opportunity for questions and then a series of interactive role plays where the students had to solve various problems of potential customers at the hotel. The group were then taken on a tour of the hotel to identify the different departments and the range of employees who work at the hotel.

The students are now using this information along with their own research to complete their Portfolio on 'A People Industry'. Hopefully, this link between Roade School and The Hilton can be continued and developed in future years and I would like to say a big thank you to Kay Jackson for all her help and support.

Alison Scanlan

Subject Leader Geography/Travel and Tourism

TESCO VOUCHER COMPETITION

Roade School Sports College will be running an inter-form competition to see who can collect the most Tesco Computer for Schools vouchers.

The form with the most vouchers will win a prize!

Please remember to write your child's name and form on the back of the vouchers and send into Student Services.

Many thanks and good luck!

Contact us!

Road School Sports College
Stratford Road, Roade, Northampton
NN7 2LP

Phone: 01604 862125

Fax: 01604 863912

Email: roadschool@btconnect.com

Web: www.roadschool.northants.sch.uk

Any Student Absence, call the Absence Reporting line on
01604 864042 before 9am or email

attendance@roadschool.northants.sch.uk



If you have any general comments or
feedback, please contact us at

comments@roadschool.northants.sch.uk

Want to receive text alerts?

**Please contact 01604 862125 with your
mobile information**

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

If you are interested in receiving this newsletter
by email, please contact the school at
roadschool@btconnect.com or ring 01604
862125 with your email details

Keep up-to-date with all the latest news on the Road School website:

www.roadschool.northants.sch.uk

Safe Routes to School

Mopeds and motorbikes

We recently had an accident involving a motor bike and a pedestrian at the back gates. Fortunately, the student involved escaped with relatively minor injuries. To reduce the possibility of this happening again, we would like to stress the following rules:

- Only students with a permit may bring a vehicle onto the school site. These can be acquired from Mr Ashby the Site Manager. Students with vehicles on the school site without a permit will have action taken against them.
- Student vehicles must ONLY enter and access the school from the BACK gate. All students driving cars to school, must park in the BACK car park only.
- Mopeds must be parked by the Post 16 office.

Pedestrian Access to the School

All pedestrian access to the school must be by the back gate. The front gate is for vehicle access only.

Parents Dropping Off

It is crucial that parents use common sense and are careful in the car park at the start and end of school. Staff will be joined by members of the local police force over the next few weeks to help ensure that parents do observe the traffic regulations.

We actively encourage parents to look for car sharing opportunities to reduce the amount of cars coming to and from school.

Mr. Nelson