

## **THE JOSEPH ROWNTREE NEW SCHOOL PROJECT UP-DATE FEBRUARY 2010**



At the beginning of November the Project Team celebrated the imminent opening of the new school with a Ceremony at the entrance to the new school where a time capsule has been buried. The Year 11 students filled their time capsule with examples from their school life in the existing school, and were assisted by the Building Contractor in placing the time capsule under a slab in the paving at the main entrance to the school building.

The Project Team and some members of the School Design Team also attended a Partnership for Schools Excellence in Building Schools for the Future Ceremony in London during November where The Joseph Rowntree new school project won a major national award for the 'Most Versatile Learning Environment'. This award is for the many different types of spaces that have been provided in the new building and the different learning styles that can be accommodated within spaces such as; the traditional classrooms, lecture theatre, practical spaces and vocational training for the 14-19 Diplomas, facilities for outdoor learning, quiet rooms for small groups, internal breakout spaces for learning and socialising etc. Many of the categories awarded a 'highly commended' as well as the winning prize, but this was not

the case with this category where The Joseph Rowntree School was judged to be a clear winner. A fantastic achievement and this shows the high standard of the build – well done to everyone involved.

The external façade of the building is now complete, specialist feature stairs have been installed, fixed and loose furniture are currently being delivered and installed on site. Decoration works are progressing in all areas. Other works ongoing include specialist sports equipment installation and kitchen equipment installation.

Over the last term the Project Team have focused discussion with the School Design Team on decant of the existing school and handover of the new school building. Particularly

- Obtaining clarification on the both smaller and larger decant items to be transferred to the new school, the extent of items the school will be selling and those that will be disposed of prior to handover of the new school.
- Addressing any management issues the school face in relation to access to the new building during phase 2 of the construction process.
- Development of a training programme for support staff and teaching staff and students across the school. This will be further developed throughout January.

Power to the building is almost complete and is going live in line with the requirements of the ICT Contractors installation programme of works, who started on site on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

The ICT Contractor will focus initially on network configuration and server build on site which will be complete shortly. Desktop equipment roll out has begun and will be ongoing until the beginning of February.

As advertised by the school in the Press and the Christmas Newsletter, two 'last look' open days have been organized for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010. This is for ex-students and members of the public to visit the school before it closes, and will include a chance to view archive footage, walk around the school and sign the alumni book.

## **Preparation for Phase 2**

The existing school will close to students and staff on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010. Staff will return to the new school on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 at 9am, and will spend the week unpacking and training on all the new equipment and facilities in the new school; Students will return on a phased basis from Monday 1 March 2010.

The decant process of the existing school will begin on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February, the decant contractor will move all the equipment and materials that have been packed over to the new school throughout that week.

The school are endeavouring to sell as much as possible of the unwanted equipment and furniture in the existing school, you can look at the list of sale items on the web link now created on the school website. This can be

collected from the existing school at the beginning of week commencing 22 February 2010. Any remaining equipment and furniture will be disposed of and taken away for recycling at the end of that week.

Services are being terminated and cut off in the existing school in week commencing 1 March 2010 and the building will be formally handed over to Carillion for demolition on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

If you have any issues or complaints please forward them by email to:

[oneschoolpathfinder@york.gov.uk](mailto:oneschoolpathfinder@york.gov.uk)

Alternatively you can contact the Carillion Site Manager, Matt Patton on:  
07803 261 656