

## In Brief

### Police warning to youths causing trouble at school

**STAMFORD BRIDGE:** Police have vowed to crack down on youths causing annoyance in the evenings in the village.

Pocklington Neighbourhood Policing Team has received reports of youngsters gathering and causing problems in the grounds of Stamford Bridge Infants' School and in the playground next to the British Legion Club.

One youth has been interviewed in connection with a disturbance at the school.

Police patrolled the area last month and promise to continue checking the area in June.

Trouble-makers are warned they may face an £80 penalty notices for disorder.

To report any anti social behaviour, call Humberside Police on 0845 6060222.

### Drama group 50 years on

**BROUGH:** An amateur dramatics group based in Brough is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

The Petuaria Players will mark the milestone with an entertaining murder mystery evening, which includes a three-course meal.

It takes place on Saturday, June 25 from 7pm at Brough Village Hall, Elloughton Road, Brough.

There are limited tickets available, at a cost of £25 each.

Participants can bring their own drinks to the evening.

To book, call 01482 666908. For more information about the group, visit [www.petuariaplayers.co.uk](http://www.petuariaplayers.co.uk)

### School's spelling success

**HORNSEA:** Hornsea School And Language College pupils have got through to the grand final of a national spelling competition.

The team is one of just 11 to get through out of more than 1,200 schools who entered the 2011 Times Spelling Bee.

The youngsters beat off tough competition from ten schools at a regional heat in Sheffield.

The Hornsea team – consisting of Harry Garland, 12, Joe Bolton, 11, and Jack Farmer, 12, with Harvey Acklan, 12, as a reserve – will compete at the final at the O2 in London on Thursday, June 23.

Jemma Shaw, a teacher at the school, said: "I think the boys have done an amazing job and I'm really proud of them."

# A wave of relaxation in the Dolphin Dome

## E YORKS: Project creates underwater world for disabled children



**VIRTUAL WORLD:** Harrison Moore, 3, relaxing.

### Creating calming effect for kids

THE Dolphin Dome is completely dry. It provides artificial dolphin-assisted therapy through interactions and audio visual media, including a film created specifically for the project.

The dome allows the child or adult to escape into the virtual world of the dolphin without distraction.

Dolphin soft toys and a cushion have been placed inside the dome to enhance the experience. The dome has internal blue illumination to create an underwater sensation and calming effect.

The sessions in the Dolphin Dome are free. Anyone who would like more information, or to book a session before the end of July, can call the Echoes Foundation on 01482 505589.

For further details about the Dolphin Dome, visit [www.thedolphindome.com](http://www.thedolphindome.com)

### InShort

The Dolphin Dome, which simulates swimming with dolphins, is at Spire Hull And East Riding Hospital in Anlaby until the end of July.

by **Katy Wood**  
Health Reporter

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**CHILDREN with disabilities are being given the chance to experience the soothing qualities of swimming with dolphins.**

The Dolphin Dome was the brainchild of Paul Obernay, of Preston, who designed and created it for use in clinics, schools, special needs centres, play groups, hospitals and GP surgeries.

Filled with blue light, footage of dolphins swimming in the wild is played inside the dome, accompanied by soothing music.

Mr Obernay, who said the dome is a world first, filmed dolphins in the wild in the Bahamas specifically for the project.

Now, the dome is in place at Spire Hull And East Riding Hospital in Anlaby until the end of July.

Mr Obernay aims to show that families may not need to raise thousands of pounds for their children to swim with dolphins in captivity abroad.

He said: "For most people, swimming with dolphins is a once-in-a-lifetime experience and is not repeated, primarily due to cost.

"It's also really upsetting for a family when they take a child on a dolphin therapy programme and nothing changes.

"Some children respond well, but some don't.

"Expectations are so high.

"The response to the dome has been very good."

Mr Obernay, a self-employed consultant who specialises in underwater robotics, said swimming with dolphins makes people happy and has a positive effect.

He said this can be achieved artificially through the Dolphin Dome.

"By proving we can achieve this, it means we can no longer justify keeping dolphins cap-



**CHILLED OUT:** Nigel and Sarah Collier with their son Joel Collier, 9, inside the Dolphin Dome.

tive for such purposes," said Mr Obernay.

"We don't fully understand why there is a human and dolphin connection.

"There is just something that makes us so happy.

"We know people find this happy place when they are with dolphins.

"If we can achieve the same end result through artificial means, we can repeat it on a long-term basis."

Sessions in the Dolphin Dome are being coordinated by the Echoes Foundation, which helps families with children who have special and additional needs.

Tina Moore, 40, of Hessle, took her son Harrison, 3, who has the developmental disability autism, to the dome.

She said: "It's a sensory experience and he loves being in it.

"I go in with him. It's really relaxing and chills you out."

Nigel and Sarah Collier, of Kirk Ella, said their son, Joel, 9, loved the Dolphin Dome experience.

Joel has cerebral palsy and needs 24-hour care.

Sarah, 41, said: "It's fabulous.

"It's so difficult to find activities for children like Joel and find things that are accessible and affordable."

The dome was previously placed at Frederick Holmes School in Inglemire Lane, north Hull, before moving to Spire Hull And East Riding Hospital.

Claire Stockton, founder of the Echoes Foundation, said: "We would like to see more families come and take advantage of the dome while it is here.

"It does not matter if they are not a member of the Echoes Foundation."

## Construction of academy under way

**HULL:** Work has started on above ground construction at Hull's Northern Academy.

The steel structure of the school is going up at Princess Elizabeth Playing fields.

The academy is expected to open in September 2012.

Paul Clegg, assistant head of service for

Building Schools For The Future, said: "It's fantastic to see the preparatory work under way at Princess Elizabeth Playing Fields. It is a huge investment in the area and will provide a wonderful new resource located in the heart of the community.

"It will feature

science and edible gardens, a green roof and a 'winter garden', dining space, theatre space, drama and dance studios, fitness suite and a four court sports hall."

The academy will replace Sir Henry Cooper School and will have places for 1,250 pupils.



**FOUNDATIONS:** Steel being put into place.

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