

# College plans to revamp playground



Elizabeth College students on the bumpy and gritty playground surface. The college has put in a planning application to resurface the area and put up green plastic-coated sports fencing. (Picture by Adrian Miller, 6910031)

ELIZABETH COLLEGE students would see their playground revamped and rejuvenated under proposals put forward by the school.

Brand-new Tarmac and new green plastic-coated sports fencing will be installed if plans are accepted, making the area smarter and less jarring on the eye, according to vice-principal (pastoral) Jon Shaw.

Mr Shaw said, however, that planning permission might take some time due to the historic nature of the building.

'The main building was opened in 1829, so the school carries a great deal of history. However, it is important that we modernise the area for the boys and the work is part of a series of improvements to our facilities. The changes are very much needed and we want an area that

## by Jessamy Baudains

[jbaudains@guernseypress.com](mailto:jbaudains@guernseypress.com)

will look smart, improve the overall facilities of the school and possess basic functionality.'

Mr Shaw said how, when Kenneth Brannagh came to the island scouting locations for the potential filming of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society* film, he wanted to shoot scenes in the school grounds but that 'the fence would have to go'.

'It's time, I think. The playground is becoming an eyesore and it looks tired.

'With these improvements, people can focus more on the beauty of the building rather than the jarring feature next to it.'

The current playground was erected in 1954 after the ground

covering a German bunker was flattened to create a tennis court.

However, with time the surrounding fences have become bent and rusty and the tarmac bumpy and gritty, something students said they found 'annoying' and somewhat painful when playing sports.

Year 8 student Harvey Adams, 13, said he found the gritty tarmac frustrating when he played hockey and that it made the ball bounce more than it should.

Fellow pupil Will Fyfe, 12, said he 'couldn't wait' to have a recreational area, if plans were accepted.

'Having it redone would make a huge difference because it can be painful if you fall when kicking a ball around.'

It is estimated the work will cost between £50-75,000 and it would be funded through donations.