

Firm steps in to plug roof leaks

A SPECIAL school where plans for a rebuild were scrapped as part of Government cuts has had its leaking roof repaired free of charge.

The problem at the Appletongate site of the Newark Orchard School was so serious that pupils sometimes had to stop lessons to collect water that was dripping through the ceiling.

The school had been earmarked for a total rebuild under the Building Schools for the Future scheme but was hit by coalition government cuts.

After learning of the leaking roof, Mansfield-based building contractors ARG stepped in and offered to repair it for nothing.

The managing director of ARG, Mr Allan Gregory, said: "We have done work here before and we were alerted to the fact that they were suffering from severe roof leaks so we had a meeting and offered to do the repairs for free.

"It has survived the recent rainfall we have had so we are pleased about that.

"At least we have stopped the water now and other things can be planned around that.

"It just shows you that if those in the building trade do just one kind thing then it can make the world a better place."

The work took three days and would normally have cost around £2,000. The materi-

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als were supplied free of charge by Belzona of Harrogate.

The school's head, Mrs Margot Tyers, said: "It was a nightmare having leaks everywhere because it was disrupting the learning of the students.

"To have a watertight roof is a huge step towards making it a better place to be.

"There are still lots of things that need to be done, but it was a big bonus getting the phone call to say somebody was going to do this for us.

"I just want to say a big thank you because it has saved us a lot of money and it is really nice when people do things to help you out."

She said the school still needed work doing on the windows and smelly drains, but they were delighted to have solved the main problem.



THE managing director of ARG, Mr Allan Gregory, and Orchard School head Mrs Margot Tyers celebrate its roof repairs with pupils.

Court's say on UK creditors

THE recovery of £2m deposited by Newark and Sherwood District Council in an Icelandic bank shortly before it collapsed is waiting on a decision of the Icelandic courts.

The council cabinet was told on Thursday that a disagreement over the status of UK creditors was due before the courts this month.

The council made the deposit with Glitnir in 2008 for a fixed term of 364 days. The bank was highly rated by professional agencies but collapsed in the global economic crash.

The Local Government Association is working on behalf of councils to maximise recovery of the money and minimise costs to them.

It claims that UK public authorities rank as preferential creditors, but the Glitnir winding up board disagrees.

Preferential creditors should see the value of their assets recovered in full, whereas normal creditors receive considerably less.

So far the cost to the district council of trying to retrieve the money has been around £1,000.

On the run

RUNNERS of all abilities are invited to take part in Clumber Park's annual 10km run on September 26.

Entrants must be over 15 and must register online before Wednesday by going to www.onestepbeyond.org.uk