

The 6<sup>th</sup> form Geographers had a day full of geographical experiences on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

They were very privileged to experience a day at the Olympic Delivery Authority as part of their Bridge to A2 Geography course on the 2012 Olympics. Two of the key aims of the Olympics are to ensure areas of East London, such as Newham, experience regeneration, whilst providing a lasting sporting legacy after the Games. We gained an insight into the whole planning process, sustainability issues and the role of the town planners. During the session on sustainability the girls worked in small groups to prepare superb presentations about what they think are fundamental aspects of planning for a sustainable Olympics. The highlight of the day was a guided tour around the Olympic site, where we saw demolition, soil cleaning and construction taking place. At the end of the day we then went to the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the Stratford shopping centre car park and enjoyed panoramic views across the whole Olympic site. The girls will use their learning to complete an extended essay on the topic.

After a full day of activities the Geographers were still going strong and we moved on to a Royal Geographical Society Lecture, held in the City. We were also joined by a small group of committed Year 11s! The event was chaired by BBC's Evan Davis, with panellists from the Environment Agency, the GLA and Willis Research Network. The discussion, "London Under Water", examined how current defence systems will cope with enhanced flood risk to the capital over the next 30 years. One JAGS girl asked a very interesting question to the panel regarding the role of insurers in the recovery following floods. The RGS lectures we attend are a great way for the girls to expand their geographic knowledge and learn from experts from a variety of related fields.



The 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the Stratford shopping centre car park, with the Olympic site behind us!

---