

Who is who in the ROS film from the sixties?



The temporary school building at the M.H. Tromplaan consists of only 6 wooden classrooms at the start of 1956: one room for the principal, a teacher's room that has room for some 10 colleagues, and a work space for the janitor. A few years later, two small wings are added as well as a gymnastics hall that equally serves as an auditorium. The janitor, Mr Wolthaus, opens the school gate and the students enter the grounds by

bike or on foot. Principal Naeff stands prominently at the entrance of the school to confront those who arrive late. Jaap Kool has to write down his name and come to school early the next morning. We witness a number of teachers in front of class: Nieboer (English), Frieling (History), Cortel (Latin and Greek), Hoekman (Chemistry), Vlam (Physics and vice-principal), Wessel (Gymnastics). The janitor delivers coffee in the teacher's room, in which we encounter Van Dormolen (Maths), Slegtenhorst (Biology), Kok (Arts), De Kler (French), Vrijburg (Maths), Veltman (French), Van den Haak (Maths) en Mrs Röhner, the principal's secretary. Some other teachers are visible: Van Eerd (Latin and Greek) en Van Dormolen who is in conversation with Boon (Dutch) while the principal is on the telephone. Jan Karel Querido is standing and waiting as he has been 'expelled from class'. Later we see him smoking and reading the Roskam, the students' magazine. Liesbeth Muller is typing some copy for the Roskam on the typewriter. The school proposes a project focusing on the work of the police, organised by among others Koos Schaberg and Kees van der Vijver, who is set to join the police academy after his HBS graduation. Principal Naeff and administrator Oosthoek, who has his office in Wassenaar, are working hard on the plans for the new school building. Jan Michiel Hoenderdaal is sitting in the middle of the meadow where the new school will be constructed. At the ceremony for the first foundation pole in 1966 are present:

the architect Bleeker, president of the board Van Driel who is speaking, mayor Du Boeuff in the pile driver. Students are marching from the old school to the building site. The principal lays the first stone; at the end of 1967 he also lays the stone that marks the



highest point in the new building. Two students: Frank Nortier (who has not continued his 'film career') and Margreet van Marle (on her nice shoes) are walking across the building site like promising young actors. They talk to the building inspectors and then they are busy working out an article on the typewriter. The houses at the Homeruslaan, our new neighbours, have also been built already. When the construction of the school has advanced considerably, we see the two teachers Kok drinking coffee and Wessel drumming away. At the end of 1968 the new school is officially opened.

Administrator Arie Oosthoek, at a very advanced age, writes to me in a letter in 2002 that he considers the realisation of this building his 'life's work' and that principal Jan

Naeff has told him that his time at the Rijnlands (1957–1970) were the best days of his life. In the hallway by the physics classrooms, in the 'east corner', a plaque has been installed with the name of A.P. Oosthoek, administrator.

Harm Bosscher, Maths teacher and vice-principal, 1958-1977