

**Extracts from  
The School Log Books**

**Prepared by**

**Sarah Bradley, August 2001**

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# Acknowledgements

I hope the contents will be of some interest to those who enjoy local history. It was difficult to decide what should be left out. The following extracts are really just a taster.

I am grateful to Bob Steward, Highland Council's Archivist, for allowing me access to the log books, and to his staff, particularly Fiona Macleod, for practical help.

Note - Italics were used when the entry is not a direct quotation from the log

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# Introduction

## 1873 Dec 26 - first entry

On Wednesday Mr Gunn Chairman of the School Board and Mr Scott, Clerk, were present to introduce Mr James H. Bisset, Certificated Teacher, Second Class, from Grandtully Public School. The remainder of the week occupied in ascertaining the progress of the pupils, in understanding the arrangement of Classes, ie. being Christmas week the attendance was not good.

## 1874 Jan 17

On Thursday the Senior Pupils had special drill in Arithmetic; on the same day there was no Geography taught, the Head-master being engaged in getting the ages of the pupils. A Latin class was also formed, Bryce's First Latin Book being used as the text-book.

## 1903 Sept 25 - Second Volume

The school was reopened after the Annual holidays on Tuesday the 22nd when the attendance was fair. James M C Duthie, Certificated Teacher late of Dounby Public School took charge of the school at the reopening when he was introduced by the Rev J Nicolson, Member of the School Board. Mr Maclellan, Timaru House, and Mr C Fraser, Clerk to the School Board were also present.

# SCHOOL BUILDING

## **1874 Jan 9**

Mr Gunn, Chairman of the School Board, visited the school on Thursday last about the insufficient accommodation for the Pupils.

## **1874 Jan 23**

On Tuesday owing to the insufficient accommodation in the school-room the pupils removed to the Established Church which is hitherto to be used as the place of instruction.

## **1874 Jan 30**

The work is much hampered in the church owing to the want of desks for writing.

## **1875 June 4**

On Friday the scholars removed from the church to the new school Buildings and there were some deviations from the Time Table ... On entering the New Buildings they were warned not to destroy or spoil the Desks.

## **1883 April 14**

school report draws attention to defective ventilation again

## **1903 Nov 13**

Alterations have been made to the shelter shed at the back of the school with the view to restarting the soup kitchen for the children. There is a danger of the higher roof depriving the class room of some of the light where it was rather dark before.

## **1903 Nov 20**

The alterations on the shelter shed have greatly improved what must formerly have been an insanitary spot.

## **1904 Nov 18**

The large room has now been divided by means of a moveable partition which is a great improvement as regards the working of the classes in the senior Division.

## **1905 Dec 22**

Inspector's report - "The alterations made by the Board have greatly improved the state of the school buildings. The ventilation of the southern portion of the main room is, however, very faulty; it may be that the air-outlets want looking to. Gravel is required in both play-grounds, and a window for light and ventilation in the south wall of the girls' offices. The earth used for the earth-closets is not very suitable for the purpose: daily visits by the cleaner should be the rule, as in Maryburgh Public School. The walls of the offices should be limewashed."

## **1911 April 14**

School gardening was begun this week, the ground having now been properly enclosed.

## **1911 Sept 22**

The new water closets have now been fitted into the offices.

**1917 Dec 11**

Inspector's report - "During rain the surface of the playground is so slippery as to be dangerous. It is understood that gravel can be readily obtained. If so, immediate steps should be taken to have the playground put in a safe condition."

**1920 July 16/Sept 7**

Electric Light was installed in school and schoolhouse.

**1922 Dec 30**

A system of hot water pipes was installed in the Infant Room during the past week.

**1923 May 3**

Inspector's report: "Since last inspection a hot water system of heating has been introduced into the Infant Classroom and the press accommodation of this room has been increased. In addition the breaking out of a doorway in the a-wall separating the two cloakrooms gives direct access to the playground from each of the upper rooms. These are distinct improvements."

**1926 Jan 14 HMI report**

"Very considerable improvements have recently been carried out on the school premises. The natural lighting has been greatly increased in the two main rooms by lowering the window sills, and both of these rooms are now heated by circulating hot water, as well as by open fires; the Headmaster's room has been provided with a direct exit to the cloakroom and entrance lobby, and all the classrooms have been varnished and distempered.

"It is also very satisfactory to report that retiring accommodation for the lady teachers has been erected."

**1928 Feb 17**

planting of spruce trees on Wednesday

**1928 Sept 7**

The school water supply which failed in June owing to the tank at the railway line being choked with weeds failed again this week.

**1929 Jan 4**

It was found impossible to use the Senior and Infant rooms as the supply of the hot water system was frozen.

**1931 March 6**

several burst pipes

**1933 Oct 17**

A lily pond in the School Garden was completed this week.

**1937 Aug 27**

Alterations effected during the summer holiday included:- lowering of windows in Senior Classroom; extensions of boys' porch; cement path in girls' playground; shelter shed in boys' playground.

**1939 Dec 8**

(after the accident on Oct 25) Work is proceeding at the entrances to the boys' and the girls' playgrounds, with the erection of crush barriers, and a cement path in the boys' playground.

**1940 April 12**

Crush barriers completed

**1941 March 14**

Masons began work this week on the construction of an Air Raid Shelter for 50 pupils. June 13 Finished

**1942 Feb 27**

purchase of two Aladdin heaters for the Infant Room - improved the temperature.

**1942 May 29**

erection of 2 additional air raid shelters

**1942 August 7**

Heating engineers, masons and joiners are busy on the new heating system but the school will be reopened on Tuesday.

**1942 Nov 27**

failure of radiators reported

**1946 April 17**

plans for school dining hall. New bath fitted in school house.

**1946 May 17**

alternative accommodation required for Upper Dochcarty Side School - taken over by another tenant.

**1947 Jan 10**

Before the school was opened a heavy coping stone was blown from the top of the building during the gale of Sunday night.

**1947 Oct 10**

Workmen began on Tuesday to take down the air raid shelter in the girls' playground so that an entrance can be made to the canteen site.

**1947 Dec 19**

new lavatories proposed

**1948 April 16**

Two masons were injured on Monday when the cement roof couples and standards of the canteen in course of construction at the back of the school collapsed.

**1949 Aug 26**

The school canteen was opened on Wednesday for the supply of lunches to the pupils.

## **SCHOOL MANAGERS / SCHOOL BOARD**

### **1878 14 June**

The Treasurer met to receive the fees of the pupils and the School Board had a meeting about defaulting parents when the Head-master had to attend.

### **1914 April 10**

Mr Donald Clark having retired, the School Board have appointed Mr Alex. Corbett, Achterneed as Compulsory Officer.

### **1914 May 1**

At a meeting of the School Board on Wednesday it was agreed to exempt one pupil from further attendance at school as she had attained the age of fourteen though the "fixed date" for leaving has not yet arrived.

### **1921 Dec 20**

Mr R. Munro appointed Compulsory Officer 1922

### **Feb 15**

He did not accept post - Mr Hector MacDonald, Strathpeffer appointed.

### **1946 ?**

the School Management Committee .... decided to increase the School Cleaner's salary from £48 to £65

## **ANNUAL GRANT**

### **1918 March 28**

Grants amounting to £104.19.1 have been allowed in respect of the School.

# ATTENDANCE

## **1874 March 13**

Attendance not so good this week owing to the severe snow storm.

## **1874 July 31**

On Friday two pupils who had absented themselves from the school the previous day were reprimanded and punished.

## **1874 Aug 14**

The attendance for this week was not so good owing to the weather being so rainy.

## **1874 Dec 4**

Owing to the snowy and stormy weather attendance for that day was very thin.

## **1875 June 4**

There has been also a good deal of unpunctuality in the children's coming to school in the morning throughout the week and from what can be gathered it seems that the parents are not free of blame in the matter as they keep them at home working or herding too late.

## **1875 July 9**

A market-day in Dingwall ... the consequence was that there was not such a good attendance as usual.

## **1875 July 23**

The attendance for this week has fallen very much the reason for which is that the farmers & crofters require the boys to do their field work and the parents in the Strath require their children to run messages.

## **1875 July 30**

On Monday afternoon the Senior Pupil-Teacher was absent with leave attending a Volunteer Inspection - a Corps of which he is a member.

## **1875 Oct 22**

Owing to potato-lifting in the district the average attendance this week was somewhat lower than usual. A few of the scholars were late in the morning in the beginning of the week and were punished by having to remain in school during the interval in the middle of the day.

## **1876 Jan 14**

On Wednesday the attendance was very thin owing to its being observed as the Old New Year's day. The school did not meet on Thursday - being observed as a partial fast-day in the neighbourhood.

## **1876 March 31**

A number of pupils having gone to assist in planting young trees on the Cromarty Estate.

## **1876 April 7**

"Many of the pupils being kept from school owing to an outbreak of Fever in the neighbourhood"

**April 10**

School closed due to fever and reopened on May 5 on recommendation of Dr Middleton, but thin attendance.

**1876 Nov 10**

School had been closed for five extra weeks according to medical advice.

**1876 Nov 24**

Thin attendance two or three cases of scarlatina in the district.

**1877 Feb 16**

Heavy snowstorm

**1877 Nov 2**

Harvest work and potato lifting

**1878 July 19**

Dingwall Cattle Show

**1878 Nov 2**

Owing to the road being flooded by the overflow of the Peffery

**1879 Aug 9**

Owing to its being a Railway Holiday, and also to the day being a hot day.

**1879 Dec 27**

Reduced by the Pepper market held in Dingwall.

**1880 July 10**

Sacramental Fast Days closed.

**July 17**

Numbers of the children kept at home to run messages at Strathpeffer, and some to assist in thinning turnips.

**1882 July 21**

Owing to Mr Moody, the American Evangelist preaching in Strathpeffer.

**1882 Dec 16**

Owing to the severe cold and an epidemic among the children (the Mumps) the attendance during the week was very low.

**1883 Jan 6**

A considerable number of the children are still absent owing to "Mumps" and "Hooping Cough."

**1892 Jan 8**

On Thursday the monitor Christina Macdonald was allowed home on account of the death of her grandfather. Today owing to the severe snow-storm the school did not meet. - no scholar putting in

an appearance. During the week owing to the stormy nature of the weather the attendance was meagre.

**1892 Jan 11**

Owing to the snow-storm and the prevalence of influenza there were only 23 pupils present and were dismissed for the day.

**1892 Jan 22**

Owing to the roads being still deep with snow, and the prevalence of influenza the attendance was but very fair.

**1892 Jan 29**

Today (Friday) only 30 children appeared at school. During the night the weather had been very stormy and the burns had overflowed and the roads in some places were one sheet of water. The feet of those who came to school were quite wet. They were therefore sent home about 10.20 a.m.

**1892 Nov 18**

The school did not meet on Tuesday - the Head-master having to attend at the Sheriff-court, Dingwall with the Register of attendance in the case of School Board prosecutions.

**1894 Jan 12**

The attendance owing to the Clerk - Mr Fraser - writing to the parents of children who did not attend improved towards the end of the week.

**1894 May 11**

The name of Margaret Grant who has received the school Board's permission to be beneficially employed, was taken off the attendance register and placed on the special register.

**1896 Jan 10**

A number of the boys had written permissions to get to a shinty match held at Castle Leod Park in the afternoon. A few who had not went with them.

**1896 May 15**

Pupils gone to sale of furniture - hours changed

**1896 Nov 6**

D.Clark the compulsory visited the school and received summons to deliver to parents to appear before the School Board.

**1896 Dec 18**

Catherine Mackay and Christina Macdonald attending Queen Scholarship Examination in Inverness

**1897 Dec 24**

Today the Head-master had to attend the Sheriff Court in Dingwall where a prosecution by the School Board against a parent took place.

**1898 June 23**

Small attendance ... Inspection of the Ross-shire Volunteer Battalion

**1899 May 12**

Donald Clark Compulsory Officer visited the school on Monday 8th May and received the list of absentees and told that an effort should be made to get into school those over 5 years of age.

**1901 June 28**

Donald Clark visited the school on Tuesday and brought the boy Alexander McIver who had been playing truant. He also visited the school on Wednesday to receive the list of absentees.

**1901 Dec 20**

Owing to the renewal of the snow-storm there were only 33 pupils present, and this not being 33 per cent of the number on the Roll, the attendance was cancelled.

**1903 Oct 23**

Average attendance for the week = 118. Percentage 90.8. Some of the older pupils were called home in the afternoon when the day was dry, to assist their parents with the harvest work which is in a very backward condition.

**1904 Feb 5**

The Compulsory Officer has been ordered to take up a census of children of school age in the district.

**1904 Nov 25**

Owing to the severity of the weather the attendance has been lower than any week for several years. Average 65. Percentage 48.

**1905 April 14**

Potato planting and sowing operations during the fine weather.

**1906 June 29**

A list of irregular attenders was forwarded to the Compulsory Officer today for enquiry into the causes of absence.

**1907 June 14**

A list of defaulters was sent to the Compulsory Officer today. The Golf Course is again beginning to attract the boys in spite of a promise from the Golf Club that no boys of school age would be employed during school hours.

**1916 Feb 29**

The average attendance for the year - 88.2 - is the lowest recorded in this school. This is due to 1) the smaller number of pupils over 14 now in attendance, these being required at home in the absence of older workers who are in active service; 2) the general decrease in population especially in the agricultural part of the district; and 3) the very unsettled and stormy weather since the beginning of December.

**1919 July 25**

The second quarter of the school year ended today with an average attendance of 97%.

**1919 Oct 17**

The highest weekly average percentage of attendance was recorded this week, an average of 99% being obtained. The Infant Department, having made a perfect attendance for three successive weeks, was allowed a half holiday today.

# CURRICULUM

## **1874 Feb 6**

On Monday the Higher Class pupils gave in a Composition Exercise which had been given out to them the previous week - the same Exercise being returned to them on Wednesday and any errors being pointed out to them by the Head-Master.

## **1874 Feb 27**

On Thursday the 3rd highest class commenced Grammar, which was taught orally in part of the time devoted to Reading.

## **1874 March 20**

The 3rd and 4th classes respectively had oral lessons on the Adjective after which they had to pick out the Adjectives in a part of their Reading lesson ... (absence of teacher due to illness no sewing lesson) instead of which the girls attended their Arithmetic Classes.

## **1874 March 27**

The 2nd highest class had an exercise in English Composition for the first time. A short story was read to them which they had to reproduce in their own words. The same class commenced Compound Addition.

## **1874 April 17**

On Friday the highest and second highest classes commenced Physical Geography which is to be taught orally and not from text-books.

## **1874 May 1**

Written examination on the reign of William IV

## **1874 May 8**

(pupils) at Dingwall attending a singing class ... new class book "The History of Scotland" for pupils in the IV Standard was introduced.

## **1874 May 22**

On Monday the home-work was not so well prepared as usual and the pupils who were unprepared were punished.

## **1874 June 26**

"My Fourth Book" - lately commenced

## **1874 July 3**

Commenced Compound Addition (Money)

## **1874 July 24**

Commenced English Literature - the poem for study being "The Deserted Village".

## **1874 Dec 18**

A new French class as well as a Latin class was formed this week.

**1875 March 20**

The highest class on Monday commenced History of Britain - taking the period required for the Fifth Standard from the accession of James I to the death of George III.

**1876 March 10**

The pupil-teacher commenced to learn Greek.

**1876 May 12**

The Illustrated English Reader"

**1876 May 26**

Free hand Drawing

**1876 June 23**

The Norse Song

**1876 July 28**

The Headmaster received the Map of Scotland and Sheet No 6 of Human Anatomy and Physiology

**1877 March 30**

Macmillan's Reading Book

**1877 Oct 26**

Schneider's First French Course

**1878 April 5**

Drawing examination 8 pupils had passed Excellent, 15 had shown proficiency and 43 had given satisfactory evidence of having been taught Drawing.

**1878 May 10**

Bryce's First Latin Reader

**1879 Feb 15**

Commenced a new History of Scotland (Nelson's, price 1/-)

**1880 June 19**

As the Reading of the highest class still continues in a low tone, each pupil made to go to the end of the School-room and read to the others who have their books closed and who must hear distinctly what is read, before the reader is allowed to take his or her place in the Class.

**1880 July 24**

The sixth stand having finished the Geography of England & Ireland commenced that of the Colonies and Dependencies.

**1882 Feb 17**

A new song in "The Silver Bells" a song-book newly introduced into the school.

**1882 March 17**

A new history (Collier's British History) which is intended to serve also as a Reading Book for the V and VI Standards was introduced.

**1883 May 12**

First Book of Euclid

**1883 August 11**

Mrs Telford, authoress of a book on needlework visited the school on Monday & Wednesday.

**1883 Oct 29**

British Reader

**1885 March 21**

Scott's "Lady of the Lake"

**1887 April 29**

New Arithmetics - McDougall's

**1891 July 3**

Geography of the Dominion of Canada

**1891 Sept 18**

Physical drill

**1895 May 24**

Boys taught science and girls taught sewing.

**1896 April 10**

Julius Caesar

**1896 May 15**

The pupils in Standards III & IV commenced in Elementary Science the study of the Flesh-eaters.

**1903 April 3**

Inspector's report New schemes for Nature Knowledge, Geography and History are to be submitted for approval.

**1905 Nov 10**

Class in Vocal Music was opened on Wednesday night of this week with a fair attendance.

**1911 April 14**

School gardening was begun this week, the ground having now been properly enclosed.

**1911 Oct 16**

Continuation classes under Division II of the code were opened in the school this evening when thirty five pupils were enrolled ...Classes are to be held in English and the Laws of Health on Monday evenings and in Arithmetic, including Mensuration and Book-keeping on Thursdays. On Thursday night another twelve pupils were enrolled.

**1912 Dec 20**

No cooking lesson was given this week owing to the oven plates in the stove being worn through.

**1913 Jan 13**

The school was visited today by Mr Mackie, County Organiser for the North of Scotland College of Agriculture, who inspected the School gardens.

**1918 March 8**

The first of a series of four weekly lectures and demonstrations was given in the school last night, the subject being War Time Cookery, Miss Campbell conducting the course. There were 21 students present.

**1918 Sept 13**

Practical Physics in Supplementary Classes commenced

**1918 Sept 20**

to wet for gardening but a lesson on Potato Disease.

**1929 Nov 29**

On Wednesday from 2.30 to 3 pm, the Advanced and Qualifying Classes received a Natural History Lesson on "Winter Sleep" by wireless from London. The pupils were keenly interested in the lesson which was very attractively given. They afterwards told what they had learned by writing a Composition on the subject.

**Dec 6**

the Advanced and Qualifying Classes received a Natural History lesson on "The Oak tree in Winter" by wireless from London.

**Dec 13**

"Holly and Mistletoe".

**1930 Jan 24**

The following Wireless Lessons are being taken each week from 2LO:

History (Seniors) on Mondays from 2.30 - 3.00;  
Folklore (Juniors) on Mondays from 3.5 - 3.20;  
Nature Study (Seniors) on Wednesdays from 2.30 - 2.55;  
Geography (Seniors) on Fridays from 3.00 - 3.20.

**1931 ?**

Miss Davidson, Drill Instructress, visited the school on Wednesday forenoon and spoke to all the classes on the care of hands, nose and hair.

**1933 Dec 15**

A commencement was made this week with Educational Handwork, including canvas work and card board work.

**1937 Sept 24**

The school was closed at 2.40 pm yesterday so as to allow the staff to see a display of Physical Education films in Dingwall Picture House and hear an address by Mr G.B.Cruikshank, Inspector of Physical Education. A commencement was made this week with three broadcast lessons, Science and Gardening, Nature Study, and Scottish History.

**1939 Feb 24**

A display of National Fitness films was shown to the pupils

**1939 March 10**

Miss Weir, of the Queen's Institute of Nursing, visited the school ... and spoke to the pupils on matters affecting the laws of health.

**1950 Jan 6**

Mr Iain Campbell, art organiser, visited the school yesterday, bringing with him Miss Harding who is to teach art in the school.

## **EVENTS; LOCAL, NATIONAL AND (sometimes) INTERNATIONAL**

### **1878 Oct 19**

Visit of Duke and Duchess of Sutherland

### **1881 Aug 13**

The scholars did not meet on Wednesday for school work, but merely met at school before marching up to Strathpeffer to be present at the opening of the Pavilion Hall by the Duchess of Sutherland.

### **1883 Jan 13**

A half-holiday was given on Thursday forenoon owing to the children being treated to a Soiree and Magic Lantern- Entertainment in the evening in the Pavilion, Strathpeffer

### **1884 Oct 18**

The school did not meet on Wednesday but was given as a holiday in consequence of a Demonstration in Dingwall in favour of the Franchise Bill.

### **1884 Oct 25**

School dismissed early in order that the children might attend at the Pavilion Strathpeffer at 4 p.m. to a treat given them by the Duchess of Sutherland.

### **1888 April 13**

The school met on Monday when there was a very poor attendance. The openings were from 10 to 12 and 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. This was done that the children might attend the funeral of one of their number who had died. Tuesday was observed as a holiday owing to the school being used as a polling-place.

### **1889 June 22**

On Tuesday afternoon a considerable number of the pupils left before the two hours expired to see a show of wild beasts in Strathpeffer.

### **1891 April 3**

On Thursday the scholars met at 9.30 a.m. and were dismissed at 2 p.m. owing to the laying of the foundation stone of the Episcopal Church to be erected at Strathpeffer.

### **1891 April 10**

The school did not meet on Monday owing to the Head-master being engaged ...? Enumerator in assisting to take the census of the district.

### **1893 June 9**

The scholars were dismissed at 3.30 p.m. in order to allow them visit a menagerie at Strathpeffer.

### **1893 June 30**

The school did not meet on Monday and Tuesday the Head-master being at the Volunteer Camp at Invergordon.

**1895 Dec 27**

On Thursday a half-holiday was given owing to the funeral of Mr Arthur R. Gunn, son of Mr Gunn, Chairman of the School Board of Fodderty.

**1896 Aug 7**

Holiday owing to Strathpeffer flower show

**1896 Aug 9**

Strathpeffer Railway holiday

**1897 June 25**

Tuesday of this week being the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Day was observed as a holiday when the young Countess of Cromarty entertained them to a treat.

**1898 May 27**

Holiday Queen's birthday

**1898 ?**

Scholars attending the Established Church Sunday school getting a treat got away early

**1898 July 22**

The school did not meet today owing to the Head-master being required to meet an official from the War Office on Volunteer finances.

**1899 May 12**

Thursday was observed as a holiday - the day being observed as a general holiday - the occasion being the presentation of addresses and gifts to Colonel Macdonald of London fame - a native of Ross-shire.

**1899 Oct 6**

On Monday afternoon singing was taken instead of sewing and Elementary Science in view of a treat to be given to the scholars on Wednesday on the occasion of the coming of age of the Countess of Cromartie.

**1900 June 1**

On Thursday morning a telegram came from Mr Arras, Edinburgh, stating that the British flag was waving over Pretoria and a holiday was accordingly given. This was found afterwards not to be correct.

**1900 June 22**

During this week the Head-master was absent attending the Volunteer camp at Fort George. The work was conducted by Miss Reid, assistant teacher and the pupil teachers.

**1900 Sept 14**

In order to enable the Head-master to attend the funeral of Mr A C Mackenzie, late Head-master of Maryburgh P. School who died suddenly at Dornie, the school was closed this afternoon.

**1900 Oct 22**

Owing to the marriage of Miss Gunn - the daughter of the Chairman of the School Board taking place tomorrow and Fast Day being on Thursday, the school was closed until Monday 29th Oct.

**1902 May 17**

Farm sale at Fodderty - school did not meet

**1902 ?**

On Thursday which was to have been the day of the Coronation a few of the boys absented themselves.

**1904 Dec 23**

The school did not open on Friday afternoon as the pupils were entertained by Major Blunt and the Countess of Cromarty on the occasion of the birth of an heir to the Cromarty estate.

**1905 Sept 22**

The Highland Mod was held in Dingwall - school closed

**1906 May 24**

This day being held as Victoria Day in Strathpeffer, the school was not opened.

**1907 May 24**

Yesterday Victoria Day

**1908 May 15**

Annual Spring Holiday in Strathpeffer.

**1909 May 20**

Annual "Empire Day" Holiday in Strathpeffer and district.

**1910 May 20**

On account of the commands of King George V in connection with the funeral of the late King Edward VII, the school was closed on Friday. Before dismissing the school on Thursday special reference was made to the cause of closing.

**1911 April 14**

School closed - headmaster enumerator in census

**1911 June 20**

Coronation Holidays - school closed.

**1912 Sept 27**

School closed Annual Gaelic Mod at Inverness

**1914 Jan 6**

On Wednesday afternoon the school was closed in order to allow the children to attend a treat and cinematograph show given by the Countess of Cromartie.

**1914 Sept 18**

The attendance since the reopening of the school has been much better than usual as the boys are not required in Strathpeffer, which, since the war broke out, has had a very poor "season".

**1914 Oct 9**

The Continuation Classes were reopened for the winter months ... Considering that fifteen members of last class are away with the Territorials etc. the attendance was very satisfactory.

**1915 Mar 26**

Headmaster at the funeral of W.Gunn Esq. for many years the Chairman of the School Board.  
School closed.

**1915 May 7**

Owing to the scarcity of labour several of the older boys are irregular as they are much needed at home while the spring work is urgent.

**1915**

The Headmaster, as Company Commandant of the Strathpeffer Volunteer Training Corps, was absent for an hour on Thursday afternoon when that body was inspected at Dingwall.

**1917 March 7**

Headmaster attending a meeting in Dingwall at which National Service was explained by Admiral Sir Arthur Farquhar.

**1919 July 10**

Owing to the funeral of the Rev. W. Fraser, Free Church Minister and for many years a member of Fodderty School Board, the school was closed today at 10'clock.

**1919 July 18**

In order to raise funds for the school children's treat in connection with the Peace celebrations a Concert is to be given in the school tonight.

**1919 Nov 11**

In accordance with the desire of the King, a short ceremony in observance of Armistice Day took place in the school today when occasion was taken to pay a tribute to the Glorious Dead. The ceremony concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

**1919 Dec 12**

School closed - polling station Parish Council Election

**1920 Nov 23**

Today the Infant Room was requisitioned in connection with the Local Veto Poll (Page 203)

**1921 June 23**

Mr Todd attended the funeral of Dr Duncan this afternoon.

**1921 Oct 14**

Mr Todd was present at the funeral of Mr Alexander Corbett, Compulsory Officer.

**1922 Feb 28**

The school was closed today on account of the marriage of Princess Mary.

**1923 May 25**

A lecture on "Alcohol versus Water" was given to all the pupils today by a representative of the Scottish Band of Hope Union.

**1925 Jan 19**

Funeral of Rev. Charles Robertson, Chairman of the Education Authority.

**1925 Oct 9**

A Lecture on Temperance by Mr Sutherland from the Band of Hope Union.

**1925**

School closed County Council election polling station

**1926 Jan 6**

The first of a series of Lectures on Poultry-keeping was given in the school tonight, the lecturer being Miss Bain from the College of Agriculture, Dingwall.

**1926 Nov**

1 Lectures on Bee-keeping in evenings

**1927 Jan 13**

At the request of the boys the school was closed today at 1.45 p.m. to permit of their seeing an important shinty match at Castle Leod.

**1928 Oct 5**

The school was closed this afternoon for the celebration of Viscount Tarbat's coming of age.

**1929 Sept 13**

Miss Pownall Wright, of the Scottish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, addressed the pupils for fifteen minutes this afternoon.

**1930 March 14**

In view of the Concert tonight in aid of the School Cocoa Fund the school was dismissed today at 2.30 p.m., in order to permit of children from a distance going home and returning in reasonable time.

**1930 Nov 14**

A mural tablet to the memory of the 44 former pupils of the school who fell in the Great War was unveiled in the school on Tuesday forenoon, Armistice Day. The Chair was taken by Colonel Blunt Mackenzie and the Memorial was unveiled by Mr W.T. Gunn.

**1931 April 3**

The annual Concert in aid of the School Cocoa Fund was held in the Victoria Hall tonight.

**1931 Nov 13**

Armistice Day was observed on 11th, the pupils taking part by wireless in the national service at the Cenotaph in London.

**1932 June 30**

On Wednesday 1st, a Mental Survey Test of all pupils born in 1921 was taken under conditions laid down by the Scottish Council for Research in Education.

**1932 Sept 23**

Wednesday afternoon was observed as a holiday in celebration of the Scott centenary. In the forenoon time was devoted to lessons on the life and work of Sir Walter Scott.

**1933 Feb 24**

Mr Todd attended the funeral of Lady Seaforth on Wednesday afternoon, 22nd.

**1933 March 31**

Rev. J G Nicolson distributed the Barley money in the School this afternoon.

**1933 Sept 1**

On Tuesday afternoon the school was visited by Dr Helen Keller, the deaf-blind American authoress, who was accompanied by her teacher, Mrs Macy, and her secretary, Miss Thomson. Dr Keller and "Teacher" addressed the pupils and demonstrated the manual alphabet.

**1934 Sept 28**

In connection with the Convention held at Strathpeffer this week, the Rev. L.P.Sheath, London, accompanied by the Rev. J.G. Nicolson and the Rev. J.Johnstone, visited the school on Tuesday morning and addressed the pupils.

Junior and Senior pupils assembled in the Senior Room on Wednesday afternoon and listened in to the launching of the "Queen Mary" at Clydebank.

**1934 Oct 5**

A lesson was given to the whole school today on the Golden Eagle which was killed on Knockfarrel yesterday.

**1934 Nov 30**

The school was closed yesterday on account of the wedding of the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina

**1935 May 6**

The school was closed today for the celebration of the King's Silver Jubilee. The children were entertained to tea and sports, and received medals.

**1935 Dec 20**

Mr Todd attended the funeral of Sir Hector Munro of Foulis

**1936 Jan 24**

A lecture on the habits, haunts and calls of wild birds was given on Monday afternoon, Jan 20th, by Mr A. Shaw, Inverness. A collection amounting to 11/8s (?), subscribed by pupils and teachers, was given to the lecturer.

**1936 Jan 24**

Suitable reference was made on Tuesday to the death of George V, and to the accession of Edward VIII.

**Jan 31**

The school was closed on Tuesday, 28th Jan, on account of the funeral of King George V.

**1936 March 20**

Miss Lowen, of the Aberdeen School of Domestic Science, gave the first of a series of Cookery lessons to W.R.I. members on Tuesday evening in the school.

**1936 March 27**

Major H? - lecture on kindness to animals SSPCA

**1937 May 11**

A muster of the pupils took place in the Boys' Playground this afternoon in front of a new flagpole gifted to the school by Lord Tarbat. The Union Jack, gifted by the Education Committee, was hoisted and saluted by the pupils who gave cheers for the donors of the gifts. Before being dismissed for three days Coronation holiday, the pupils were addressed by the headmaster. Cheers were given for the Royal Family.

**1937 Oct 8**

Lady Marjory Mackenzie of Gairloch and Mrs Leslie, organiser, Scottish League of Pity, Edinburgh, visited the school on Tuesday afternoon and addressed the pupils.

**Dec 17**

A collection of books, games and money was taken this week and sent to the Scottish Children's League of Pity in Edinburgh.

**1938 Jan 7**

Lord and Lady Tarbat visited the school on Wednesday and presented sweets and crackers to the pupils.

**1938 May 27**

Pupils attended a performance of the Children's Theatre in Dingwall

**1939 Feb 10**

The school was closed on Monday and Friday afternoons, 6th and 10th, to enable the staff to complete the house-to-house survey in connection with the Government Evacuation Scheme.

**1939 May 5**

Mr P.G.MacGregor, County Assessor, visited the school yesterday, in connection with arrangements for billeting evacuated school children in the neighbourhood.

**1939 May 19**

Extra time given to choral singing for the Mod in Dingwall. Choir of 25 pupils and one soloist.

**1939 Sept 1**

Air Raid Wardens distributed gas-masks in the school on three evenings this week.

**1939 Sept 8**

In accordance with instructions the school was closed all this week owing to the outbreak of war.

**1939 Sept 15**

The school was reopened this week and teachers and pupils carried their gas masks to and from school. Daily instruction was given in gas mask drill.

**1940 April 19**

Under the "Dig for Victory" campaign an additional part of the school garden has been taken in. It will be cropped with potatoes.

**1940 May 24**

Certificates were distributed today to all pupils who contributed to the Over Seas Empire Day collection for cigarettes for Servicemen.

**1940 May 31**

The older pupils undertook the first weekly effort in collecting waste paper etc, on Monday night. 27th May. A large quantity was collected.

**1940 June 21**

To prevent windows from splintering in the event of air raids the senior pupils began pasting strips of brown paper on the panes on Monday, 17th. The work was completed today.

**1940 June 21**

Mr W. Campbell, Conon, called today to make arrangements for emergency evacuation of adults from Dingwall.

**1940 Aug 9**

Mr J.W.M. Gunn, H.M.I.S. visited the school today to discuss whether it would be necessary to have trenches for the pupils.

**Sept 20**

Mr ...? Matheson, architect, visited the school this afternoon to arrange about trenches for the pupils.

**1940 Dec 6**

Mr T.A. McArthur, commander of Strathpeffer Home Guard, called at the school on Tuesday to ascertain if accommodation could be made available in the school for Home Guard training three evenings per week.

**Dec 13**

commenced training tonight in the Senior Room which has been blacked out for the purpose.

**1941 Feb 14**

Sgt. Duff, A.R.P.Office, Dingwall, gave a demonstration on lighting incendiary bombs on Wednesday afternoon.

**Feb 21**

Names of a school fire fighting party were sent to the Director of Education today.

**1941 Oct 10**

The pupils were taken to Strathpeffer on Wed. afternoon to see the Princess Royal inspecting the A.T.S.

**1941 Oct 24**

A Ministry of Information Film Van gave a demonstration to the pupils on Wednesday afternoon.

**1941 Nov 14**

Points Ration Books were prepared by the teachers and issued to the public this week. In all 566 books were issued.

**1942 Jan16**

Messrs W.Campbell, P.A. Officer, Conon; G.D.Macdonald, P.A. Officer, Dingwall; and J.Stewart, Housing Officer, Dingwall, visited the school to ascertain the amount of sleeping accommodation in the class-rooms in the event of the school being used as a Rest Centre.

**1942 May 15**

A special effort this week - Ross-shire Warship Week - resulted in the sum of almost £45 being contributed by members of the School Savings Association.

**1942 Sept 4**

The school was closed yesterday, Sept 3rd, for the National Day of Prayer.

**1942 Dec 11**

Time was taken on Mon. and Tues. for the boys to make wooden rifles for the Army Cadet Force.

**1943 May 21**

Each day this week time was devoted to checking and cutting out Reference Leaves from Ration Books at the request of the Food Office. The number dealt with was 850.

**1943 Dec 3**

A war-time cookery demonstration by an official from the Ministry of Information was given

**1945 March 16**

Boxes of toys, sent by children in American schools, were distributed among the pupils this week.

**1945 May 11**

To celebrate Victory in Europe the school was closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, 8th and 9th.

**1945 August 17**

To celebrate Victory over Japan the school was closed on Wednesday and Thursday, 15th and 16th August.

**1946 March 1**

Gifts of sweets from the British community in the Argentine were distributed to the pupils yesterday.

**1946 May 31**

Old ration books and identity cards were collected at the school this week. Clerks from the Food Office came today and prepared the new ration books which were later distributed by the pupils.

**1946 June 7**

Cards bearing a message from the King on Victory Day (June 8th) were issued to the pupils today.

**1946 June 14**

The pupils were entertained to sports at Castle Leod on Sat June 9th in celebration of victory.

**1946 Aug 23**

Mr Todd was at Dingwall on Wed. Aug 21st, from 11.30 till 1.00 pm being sworn in as a J.P.

**1947 Jan 10**

Mr Todd attended a meeting of the S.M.C.? at Dingwall.

**1947 Jan 31**

Mr Todd attended the wedding of Lord Tarbat at Tarbat House, Kildary on Thursday afternoon (31st).

**1947 Nov 21**

School closed 20 Nov - wedding of Princess Elizabeth

**1948**

Mr Gordon Gilmour from the Community Drama Association held a meeting in the school tonight for those interested in drama.

**1949 June 17**

Mr Barr, from the Scottish Band of hope Union, spoke to all the classes yesterday on "Healthy Living".

**1950 Feb 24**

School used yesterday as polling station for General Election.

**1950 May 12**

The additional plate for the School War Memorial, with the names of the two former pupils who fell in the last war, has arrived from Edinburgh and arrangements have been made for the unveiling on June 1.

**1950 June 2**

The school shinty team won the Ross-shire Camanachd Cup for the third year in succession in a tournament at Castle Leod last Saturday.

**1950 June 2**

The school choir conducted by Miss Sybil Mackay competed in Music Festival at Dingwall on Wednesday and were placed first.

**1950 June 2**

The Memorial to two former pupils, William Dempster and Kenneth Maclennan, who fell in the war was unveiled yesterday, June 1, by Mr William Dempster. Former pupils of the school attended the unveiling.

# HEALTH

## **1876 April 7**

"Many of the pupils being kept from school owing to an outbreak of Fever in the neighbourhood"

## **April 10**

school closed due to fever and reopened on May 5 on recommendation of Dr Middleton, but thin attendance

## **1876 Nov 24**

Thin attendance two or three cases of scarlatina in the district

## **1877 April 6**

owing to an outbreak of measles in the neighbourhood a number of children were kept at home.

## **April 12**

The measles has become an epidemic and on the recommendation of Dr Middleton the school was closed until the disease abates. Re-opened May 8

## **1877 June 23**

Colds

## **1882 Dec 16**

Owing to the severe cold and an epidemic among the children (the Mumps) the attendance during the week was very low.

## **1883 Jan 6**

A considerable number of the children are still absent owing to "Mumps" and "Whooping Cough."

## **1885 April 8**

the school was closed owing to the prevalence of measles in the district. Re-opened April 25

## **1887 April 8**

The school was closed all this week by order of the School Board owing to the prevalence of Whooping Cough in the district.

## **1890 Jan 31**

Influenza

## **1890 June 27**

Owing to a rumoured case of Diphtheria the attendance during the three last days of the week was very poor.

## **1891 Oct 30**

The attendance at school has been thin this week owing to an epidemic of colds with accompanying rash resembling measles, and potato lifting taking a number away from school.

**1891 June 5**

On Wednesday at mid-day a family at Brae reported that the measles had broke out in the house and the children - three of whom were at school were asked to remain at home in the meantime.

**July 17**

Low attendance due to measles in neighbourhood.

**1892 Jan 22**

Owing to the roads being still deep with snow, and the prevalence of influenza the attendance was but very fair.

**1892 Feb 5**

colds and influenza

**1892 Dec 23**

One pupil ill with typhoid fever

**1892 Dec 26**

The attendance still continuing thin owing to the case of typhoid fever.

**1893 Nov**

Mr C Fraser, Clerk of School Board - consultation with Head-master regarding cases of scarlatina in district.

**1893 Nov 21**

William Thompson visited - only 54 present in school owing to scarlatina

**1893 Dec 22**

The pupil-teacher Christina Macdonald - & the monitor Annie Mackenzie were absent through illness - scarlatina.

**1894 Oct 10**

Today (Wednesday) the school was closed with the Medical Officer of Health - Dr Bruce's - sanction owing to an outbreak of diphtheria in the district. The attendance was little more than half. One of the Pupil teachers was absent owing to her sister having diphtheria. Re-opened Oct 29

**1895 Nov 1**

Scare caused by an alleged outbreak of whooping cough

**Nov 8**

Severe colds

**1902 Dec 24**

Absentees owing to colds and influenza

**1903 Jan 9**

A letter was received from Mr Neil Campbell, Fodderty stating some of his children were bad with whooping cough and asking if he would send those who hadn't it. The Head-master replied that he thought it would be better not to send them in the meantime.

**1903 Jan 30**

A large number are out with whooping cough and colds.

**1904 Mar 25**

Mumps

**1904 April 8**

It appears that the mumps is spreading although some parents appear to be unwilling to admit that their children have caught the disease on account of the long absence from school that would have to follow. School closed April 18 - May 20?

**1904 July 22**

The percentage has fallen from 91 last week to 82.9 this week. The causes appear to be sicknesses among the younger pupils during the extremely hot weather and the heavy rain on Wednesday morning on which day the attendance was at its lowest.

**1905 Jan 20**

Mumps

**1905 Jan 27**

Epidemic of severe colds

**1905 May 5**

A case of measles is reported from the west end of the school district.

**1905 June 2**

There are reported cases of measles in four families and Dr Duncan has recommended that all scholars from these families should be excluded from school for a time as a means of stopping the spread of the epidemic.

**1905 June 8**

Dr Duncan, Medical Officer for the Parish orders that the school be shut for five weeks or longer

**1905 Dec 1**

Another family has been excluded from school owing to the measles

**1907 Feb 1 and March 1**

Influenza

**1907 Oct 4**

Whooping cough

**1907 Nov 22**

Adam Sutherland, Brae ... suffering from an infectious skin disease.

**1907 Nov 29**

Three girls have been excluded from school owing to suspected chicken-pox in the family.

**1908 Jan 10**

Two families are excluded from school one with German measles and the other with Whooping Cough.

**1908 Jan 17**

Three families are excluded from school one with German measles and the other two with Whooping Cough. Dr Bruce has ordered that all pupils suffering from or residing in a house where impetigo exists should be excluded from school. On account of this order about thirty children were ordered home, not to return till a medical certificate is produced.

**1908 Jan 24**

On Friday the school was closed at one o'clock to allow the school to be thoroughly disinfected.

**1908 Oct 27**

The school was re-opened today with a fair attendance. During the closure the school premises were thoroughly sprayed with "Thymo-cresol" and afterwards the floors and wood work were scrubbed. The WCs were limewashed.

**1909 June 8**

Whooping cough

**1909 June 21**

German measles

**1909 Nov 19**

One family of three has been excluded from school on account of an outbreak of Scarlet-fever. Other three families suffering from sore throats are also excluded as suspicious cases.

**1910 Jan 21**

Colds and influenza

**1910 July 1**

Epidemic of chickenpox

**1911 Feb 10**

Whooping cough, diphtheria and typhoid fever

**1911 June 30**

Severe epidemic of coughing

**1911 Dec 29**

Outbreak of Chicken Pox

**1912 Jan 3**

School disinfected

**1912**

Dr Middleton, Medical Inspector of School Children, inspected the children.

**1912 Sept 27**

Case of Scarlet fever at Achterneed.

**Oct 1**

School closed.

**Oct 3**

school disinfected by Mr Thomson Mackenzie, Sanitary Inspector for the district.

**1913 Jan 31**

Influenza

**1913 Sept 9**

Owing to the pollution of the Peffery by sewage from Strathpeffer, in the vicinity of the school, a number of parents have refused to send their children to school until the matter is remedied.

**1915 Jan 5**

Outbreak of measles.

**Jan 11 School**

closed for two weeks

**Jan 25**

School was reopened today with an attendance of 42 out of 123. Eighteen pupils are laid up with measles and several have got severe colds.

**Mar 12**

Measles and sore throats.

**1915 April 16**

Whooping cough

**1916 March 13**

Less than half the children on the roll were present today owing to an outbreak of diphtheria in Strathpeffer. Two members of one family have been removed to hospital while two families contain suspected cases.

**1916 March 14**

Seven children are now in the Fever Hospital, Dingwall, with diphtheria. Dr Bruce, Medical Officer of Health for the county has ordered the school to be closed for three weeks.

**1916 April 7**

Six children were removed to hospital with diphtheria. Five of these were from homes in which children who had had the disease returned from hospital the previous week.

**April 10**

School is to be closed for a further period of four weeks, until 8th May in order to prevent the spread of diphtheria and scarlet fever.

**May 8**

a few cases of Mumps.

**1916 June 30**

Mumps and gastric cold July 18 school closed for two and a half weeks owing to mumps

**1916 Sept 11**

The school was reopened today with an attendance of only 30. Shortly after the school was closed for mumps, an epidemic of diphtheria broke out in the district for the second time this year. One supplementary class pupil died and there are still a few cases in hospital. During the vacation the school and premises have been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected.

**1916 Nov 10**

Fresh cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever at Blairninich.

**1917 Jan 12**

Influenza

**1917 Nov 16**

Measles

**1918 March 29**

Serious epidemic of coughs and colds

**April 1**

epidemic of whooping cough. School closed 6 weeks

**June 4**

Two pupils removed to Dingwall Hospital with diphtheria

**June 6**

Two more School closed.

**June 24**

School disinfected.

**1918 July 8**

Scarlet fever

**1918 Sept 24**

Mr Todd taken to hospital suffering from diphtheria. School closed. Reopened Oct 21.

**Oct 28**

Mr Todd influenza.

**Nov 1**

Miss Rose influenza School closed.

**Nov 25**

As influenza is still raging in the neighbourhood it was impossible to reopen the school today

**1919 Feb 19**

Influenza and severe colds.

**1919 Dec 16**

Epidemic of chicken pox - school closed

**1920 Jan 9**

School disinfected during closure

**1920 Sept 9**

Owing to the outbreak of smallpox in the County Dr Brodie, School Medical Officer, arrived today and vaccinated 84 pupils.

**1921 March 1**

Mr Todd influenza

**1921 June 17**

Mr Sinclair, Dental Surgeon visited

**1921 Dec 16**

Epidemic of chicken-pox and impetigo

**1922 March 3**

Miss Mackintosh influenza

**1922 March 24**

whooping cough

**April 21**

school closed

**1922 June 26**

Mr Todd, suffering from sore throat, was unable to be at school today. Dr Philip, Executive Officer, and Dr Brodie, School Medical Officer, visited the school today with regard to the cleaning of a cesspool, to the condition of which may be attributed the sore throat referred to above.

**July 1**

Cesspool cleaned out today.

**1924 April 4**

Influenza and severe colds

**1925 Jan 30**

influenza

**Feb 3**

School closed

**1925 Feb 19**  
epidemic of measles

**1926 June 4**  
Miss Mackay influenza

**1926 Dec 20**  
Considerable amount of illness among the pupils mainly influenza and severe colds

**1927 Feb 2**  
Owing to illness Mr Todd is unable to be at school and has been medically advised to go South.  
Resumed April 11.

**1927 Feb 18**  
Influenza

**1928 March 28**  
Influenza

**1929 Jan 25**  
Mumps

**Feb 11**  
School closed for fortnight

**'Feb 25**  
closed for one more week

**1930 March 7**  
severe colds and whooping coughs

**1930 March 28**  
whooping cough and measles

**1930 Nov 28**  
Miss Rose - Impetigo contagioso

**1931 Feb 20**  
Influenza

**1931 April 10**  
Influenza and scarlet fever

**May 1**  
The school has been closed for five weeks outbreak of scarlet fever.

**1933 Feb 17**  
Influenza epidemic

**1933 Feb 24**

Influenza and mumps

**1934 June 1**

Disinfection of school to be arranged following two cases of scarlet fever.

**June 22**

Further cases/disinfection school closed

**1934 Dec 21**

A number of pupils, recommended by Dr Johnstone, went to Dingwall Academy on Tuesday forenoon to see Dr Campbell, eye specialist.

**1935 Jan 11**

influenza

**1935 March 8**

Miss Weir, of the Queen Alexandra Institute for Nurses, visited the school today and addressed the pupils on health matters.

**1935 March 8**

measles epidemic. School closed for one week.

**March 18 and 25**

closed for two further weeks.

**1936 Jan 10**

Whooping cough

**1936 Jan 31**

Whooping cough

**1936 Sept 11**

A commencement was made with the supply of milk to pupils on Wednesday, under the scheme of the Milk Marketing Board.

**Dec 12**

With the colder weather a number of pupils have found the milk supply at the lunch interval too cold. A commencement has accordingly been made with the issue of hot cocoa to all pupils wishing it.

**1937 Jan 29**

Influenza

**1937 Dec 17**

Scarlet fever - school closed/disinfected

**1938 Feb 18**

Mumps .. Most of the cases were in the Infant Room where only 13 pupils were present out of 42. School closed for 2 weeks.

**1939 Oct 6**

Chicken pox

**1940 Jan 12**

Outbreak of German measles and heavy colds

**1940 Feb 16**

Miss Beaton - German measles

**1940 April 5**

Measles and German measles

**1940 Sept 6**

Whooping cough

**1941 Feb 28**

Dr Lumsden, School Medical Officer, gave the pupils their first inoculation against diphtheria today.

**March 7**

Dr Lumsden, School Medical Officer, visited the school today and examined the condition of the pupils' hair.

**March 21**

Second inoculation against diphtheria.

**1941 March 21**

Owing to an outbreak of Paratyphoid B in the county the issue of milk to pupils has been temporarily discontinued.

**1942 Jan 1**

The district nurse called at the school yesterday in connection with the issue to children under two years of cod liver oil and fruit juices, a supply of which was brought to the school on Wed. from Dingwall Food Office.

**Jan 23**

Supplies of cod liver oil and orange juice were issued this week to children under two years.

**1943 Jan 29**

The issue of T.T. milk to the pupils at the forenoon interval was commenced on Monday. It is brought from Dingwall Dairy by bus at a daily charge of 8s? for delivery, sanctioned by Dr Thomson, Director of Education.

**1943 Feb 19**

Influenza and heavy colds

**1943 Feb 26**

Two pupils had scabies

**1943 August 27**

Dr Horne, M.O.H, carried out immunisations against diphtheria in the school on Wednesday afternoon. A Ministry of Information film was made of the proceedings.

**1943 Nov 19**

Mumps

**1943 Dec 10**

Influenza

**1944 Feb 17**

District Nurse examined hair She sent several pupils home to be cleaned.

**1945 May 25**

Measles

**1945 Oct 5**

Chicken-pox, scarlet fever and diphtheria.

**1946 Jan 25**

Influenza, heavy colds.

**1946 March 1**

Whooping cough

**1946 March 29**

A plague of rats about the school premises

**1948 Feb 13**

The case of a boy recommended on medical grounds for transference to Dingwall Academy where he might have the benefit of a mid-day meal.

**1948 Feb 20**

Mumps and chicken pox

**1949 Jan 21**

Two pupils having been taken to Invergordon Hospital with scarlet fever and one with suspected meningitis.

**1949 Feb 18**

Scarlet fever, influenza and sore throats.

**1949 March 11**

Mr Stewart, sanitary inspector, called on Wednesday in connection with rat infestation.

**May 27**

Two men from the Department of Agriculture, Inverness, who investigated the rat position around the school premises on Monday afternoon said that the rats were coming from the Strathpeffer Sump. They laid a quantity of poison.

**1949 June 17**  
Scarlet fever

# REPORTS BY HM INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS AND OTHERS

**1875 Feb 6**

School inspected by J.MacLeod?

**1875 March 19**

Report: "The work of the school has been for some time carried on in the Parish Church. The new school buildings are however nearly completed. Some allowance must be made at present for the order of the children because it is extremely difficult to preserve that quietness which is desirable everywhere, and possible with suitable arrangements of seats and desks, in a church crowded with seats and many of the benches so high as to conceal the faces of the children from the view of the Master."

Dan Scott, Clerk to School Board

**1876 March 19**

Inspector's Report: The School Premises are very commodious. The apparatus is very defective. New maps, Ball Frame, Clock and Coloured Pictures to hang upon the walls should be supplied without delay. The seats in the classroom should be provided with supports for the backs of the children and screens must be attached to the gable windows of the main room. The order is fair, but there were attempts at copying which if observed in future will endanger the grant for Discipline. ... Sewing is not much at present as a difficulty is experienced in inducing the girls to bring materials to School.

Daniel Scott, Clerk to School Board.

**1877 March 26**

A clock was recommended to be supplied last year, but the recommendation has not been attended to. Apparatus for giving lessons on Form and Colour and on Objects should be supplied without delay. A cupboard for keeping materials for Sewing and Knitting would be a convenience.

Danel Scott, Clerk to the School Board

**1878 Dec 12**

Visited school without notice. I found everything regular. The offices should be cleaner.?HMI

**Dec 27**

notice sent by the Scotch Education Department ... The offices are dirty and should have prompt attention.

**1879 March 1**

Payment of the grant for History and Geography has been recommended with difficulty; and in consequence of the persistently low tone in which the children read and answer questions, the

discipline grant is lower than last year. The irregularity of the attendance considerably impairs the efficiency of the school.

Daniel Scott

**1881 March 12**

The severe weather has considerably affected the condition of this school in addition to the irregular attendance of the Pupils, now apparently chronic.

Daniel Scott

**1882 Feb 24**

This school has very considerably improved since last Inspection ... The three higher Standards do Class subjects pretty well, read pretty well, shew a reasonable amount of intelligence and a very good knowledge of Arithmetic; they should improve in Grammar and Writing. Domestic Economy pretty good. Discipline good.

Daniel Scott

**1891 April 11**

The attendance is in many cases unduly irregular, and instances of illegal employment are not unknown. The Board should adopt much more stringent measures in dealing with defaulters. The teacher of the junior department works faithfully and to good purpose, but she had too much to do. More than one grant will be endangered by another year unless he is provided with adequate assistance. The younger children do not receive the attention they require and their attainments are very limited ... In the senior department much good work is done except in the Fourth Standard which appears to be rather a dull class ... The special grant under Article 19 A1 has been allowed with much hesitation. The Board should use every effort in their power to put a stop to illegal employment, and should resort to prosecutions of defaulters whenever occasion calls for it.

Daniel Scott, Clerk

**1892 May ?**

The behaviour of the children is on the whole commendable, but in the junior department there is some tendency to talkativeness. A serious effort should be made to get the children in the upper division to speak in a distinct and audible tone of voice.

Daniel Scott

**1893 April 24**

It must be gratifying to the Board to find that the vigour with which they have begun to enforce the compulsory clauses has already affected a marked improvement in the attendance ... In the senior department the scholars are not quite so well in hand as they might be ... Map drawing also deserves a word of praise. In most other respects there is room for improvement. Reading is very monotonous, and intelligent phrasing is seldom met with.

Daniel Scott

**1894 April 6**

Grammar is not very thorough, the answering being with many of the scholars a mere matter of guessing ... Needlework is entitled to a special word of praise.

Muir Fraser?

**1895 April 5**

Tone and discipline are better than in some former years. ...The children are bright and intelligent and interested in their work. Musical drill forms a pleasing feature of the training in this Department (Junior).

Munro Fraser?

**1898 May 6**

The Elementary free exercises of the upper division are well done, but the introduction of bar-bell Drill is recommended.

Munro Fraser?

**1899 March 9**

School inspected by Messrs D Munro Fraser and Murray

**1899 May 12**

The new supply of object lesson cards including historical cartoons, and the furnishing of the classrooms with clocks are noted with emphatic approval. ... Merit certificates are enclosed for J.Clark, MA Macdonald, H.Anderson and A.Nicol. Staff James H Bisset, Mary J Reid, Annie Mackenzie PT, Henrietta Fraser PT, Christina Mackenzie PT, Annie Sutherland PT

Munro Fraser, Clerk

**1900 April 29**

The school has made the usual progress. A pleasing feature in the lower school is the large amount of extra reading that is accomplished by the scholars ... On the occasion of a visit without notice the Boys' offices were found to be in a filthy condition. Merit Certificates are enclosed for M.Mackenzie, W.Macdonald, J.Macdonald, A.Matheson, M.Forsyth, J.Walker, H.Sutherland and W.Anderson.

Munro Fraser

**1902 May 10**

When pupils are working sums on their slates they should be so placed as to prevent intercommunication. Candidates presented for the Merit Certificate should understand thoroughly the meaning of percentages. Attention is called to the mediocre attainments of the pupil teachers in French.

Munro Fraser

**1905 April 23**

The floors of the classrooms which are washed only three times a year, are, with the exception of that of the infant room, moderately clean. Arrangements should be made for more frequent scrubbing. The back premises are dirty and untidy, and, owing to the huddling together of the buildings, there is insufficient air and light: the soup kitchen should be erected in another part of the playground. The offices constitute a nuisance and the pit is not often enough emptied: self flushing water closets should be constructed. The heating of the rooms is satisfactory. As regards ventilation, the lower sashes of the windows should be kept raised by means of close fitting ventilating boards and the ceiling ventilators in the main room should be hinged.

Inspected by JH Macdonald and Dr Bruce, Sanitary Officer for the County

**1906 Oct 23**

The following report by Rev. J. Macdonald M.A. on his visit to the school has just been received from the Association for the Inspection of Religious Knowledge:

"In this school the senior class showed great proficiency in Catechism questions from which were repeated by almost all without hesitation or mistake, and that when taken at random. Bible history was excellent and memory work very good, while the Infants gave ready answers to simple questions. On the whole the work has improved during the past two years and is now in quite a forward condition throughout the school."

**1907 April 5**

The heating of the school is far from satisfactory, the temperature on the day of inspection being but little over 40. Definite instructions should be given as to the hour when the fires are to be lighted. Parts of the wall of the main room are dirty.

**1919 May 31 (visit on 9th)**

The pupils as well as the teacher are to be congratulated upon the thoroughly satisfactory appearance of the School Garden. The development of the more severely educational aspects of the work will be watched with interest. ...

The state of the water closets renders them a danger to the health of the community. Immediate steps should be taken to ensure clear flushing. The walls should also be lime-washed.

**1921 July 29**

Inspector's report A Lang Esq. It should be added that, partly owing to the recent and relatively large increase in the School Roll, the number of scholars in charge of each of the Assistant Teachers is greater than is desirable, in view of the number of classes for which these teachers are responsible. If the increase referred to is likely to be maintained it would be well to appoint an additional teacher ...The school is now lit by electricity: this is a great boon.

**1921 Nov 3**

All the classes were examined this forenoon by Miss Bruce, Inspector of Physical Education to the Scottish Education Department.

**1921 Nov 30**

The school gardens in the area of this Authority have been classified and reported on by HM Inspector of Schools.

In making the classification of school gardens consideration has been given to arrangements of plots and of vegetables in the plots, to neatness and tidiness, methods of working and general appearance...

Fodderty Public School has been placed in Grade I. Particular mention is made of this garden. It is a model of arrangement and tidiness.

**1922 Jan 18**

Inspector of Cookery, Mrs Waldie

**1922 August 2**

Report on Religious Instruction

"The Psalms and Scripture passages had been carefully memorised and were recited accurately, distinctly and intelligently.

"The children had been well drilled in the Shorter Catechism. With the exception of the Commandments, possibly not much understanding was to be expected.

"The examination in Bible Knowledge elicited satisfactory evidence of thorough and effective instruction."

James Johnstone, Examiner 17.7.22

John G.Nicolson, Local Convener 17.7.22

**1922 Nov 3**

Report on School Garden by HM Inspector

A greater variety of crops might with advantage be introduced in some cases and name plates with the names of the varieties and dates of sowing might be more generally adopted. The cultural value of the various tools, the life history of plants, the root system and the function of the various parts are also points which should receive more attention. The records of work kept by the pupils take the form of notes dictated by the teachers, and little or no opportunity is given the pupils to record their own observations. The inclusion of an experimental plot would provide suitable material for the development of the subject; from such a plot useful information could be obtained regarding the future cropping of the garden. Tool sheds are often neglected, and little care apparently is taken of the tools which are usually thrown into a corner of the shed uncleaned.... This garden is being well developed and when the improvements are completed will be a credit to the Headmaster and the pupils.

**1925 April 25**

Inspector's report (visit April 16) The pupils of the Advanced Division are making satisfactory progress. They showed interest in Science, did exercises in Algebra and Arithmetic with

considerable success, and wrote pleasing English in their compositions, giving due heed to the orderly presentation of the subject. Their knowledge of History and Geography was not so good. Several of those who take French are finding difficulty with this language.

#### **1925 Dec 21**

Report on School Garden by HMI

Some protection is also required from the westerly winds, and a hedge of Douglas Firs should be planted on the west side.

#### **1930 March 14**

Report of HMI Session 1929-1930 It should be especially mentioned that, thanks to the enterprise of the headmaster who gives his pupils the benefit of his wireless set once a week, advantage is taken of the lessons broadcast to schools. From the response made to questions on what they had heard and from the exercises which they wrote after the lessons, it is evident that the pupils have not failed to profit by this method of instruction.

The planting of a large number of trees in the garden, and the covering of the walks with granite chips have greatly added to the amenity of the surroundings of the school.

#### **1932 Feb 5**

Inspector's Report Session 1931-1932 At all stages the work gives ample evidence of zealous and successful teaching. No other comment is called for.

#### **1932 Nov 4**

Report on religious instruction

Gaelic: - None

Singing: - Highly satisfactory. School is opened with praise and prayer.

Temperance: - The children had been impressed with the evils of intemperance.

John G. Nicolson, Local Convenor

#### **1934 May 4 HMI report (24 April)**

The school is one of the very few in the area to take the broadcast lessons, the headmaster's private set being used for this purpose. The school garden is well kept. The following report has been received from the North of Scotland College of Agriculture:

"The ambitious undertaking of the construction of a lily pond in this garden seemed a little beyond the capabilities of the pupils and master of a country school. The success of this lay-out and the pride and interest of the pupils of the whole school amply justify the undertaking. The garden, by the rotation of crops in plots of the natural orders; by the artistic lay-out, due to the lily pond, herbaceous borders, and rustic arches; and by the plots for the cultivation of the various fruits, fulfils all that could be looked for in a course of school gardening."

1936 Jan 17 HMI report

An excellent course of handwork is carried through, and is yielding gratifying results. Various media are employed, sea grass and card-board being used with success by the senior and advanced pupils.

### **1939 May 5 Inspector's Report**

In the Infant room, progress in the basic subjects is rapid and sound. The children are happy, frank and friendly; and are taught to speak clearly and to answer alertly... In the middle room the instruction is clearly earnest and well-directed ... Written work in arithmetic, dictation, transcription and composition is neat and attractive and of uniformly good type, while orally the response is, mainly, ready and intelligent and, in many cases, outstandingly well-informed ..In the main room ... the poems are suitable, varied, and well memorised, while a proportion of the abler pupils manifested satisfactory familiarity with the background and significance of the passages read and recited... Simple grammar is well understood, and penmanship in class exercises is clear, tidy, and legible. Spelling is sound ... A satisfactory knowledge of the geography and history professed was shown, and a considerable number of the pupils proved themselves reasonably well-informed upon present-day developments ... The garden is a great credit to the school and to the headmaster, who has spared no effort to make it a striking success. As to the entrance to the school playground abuts on to a busy main thoroughfare, a crush barrier of removable type should be provided at the gateway in the interests of the children's safety.

### **1940 July 19 Report on Religious Instruction Session 1939-1940**

In connection with the opening exercise of worship which was reverently gone through, I had the opportunity of observing that the entire school sang well and I took advantage of this in addressing the children on the subjects of Manners, Morals and Temperance, stressing the importance of this as a valuable preparation for life... I was gratified by the earnestness of the teachers and the headmaster, and felt that we in the churches should be grateful to them for the help given us in the moulding and building up of the character of our youth by the continued devotion to the duty of seeing to the Religious Instruction of our Young.

James Johnstone, Examiner

### **1941 Aug 8 Reports on Religious Instruction**

I had pleasure in examining the Infant Class ... I drew the attention of the children to the importance of cultivating good manners and avoiding drink and behaving themselves in goodly conduct that would secure for them the admiration of all grown-up people and would please the God who made them.

John Johnstone, Examiner, 23rd June 1941.

### **1942 July 17**

Inspector's report A more effective heating system is, however, badly needed; during the early spring months of the current year the morning temperatures in the Infant Room seldom exceeded 41 degrees F.

# HOLIDAYS

**1874 Aug 18 -**

Closed for summer holidays -Oct 16 on Monday reopened.

**1874 Nov 20 -**

On Thursday the School did not meet - that day being observed as a Thanks-giving Day for the Harvest.

**1874 Dec 24**

(No school on Dec 25 only and Jan 1)

**1881 July 23**

Holiday owing to the Highland games being held in the Strath.

**1882 Oct 21**

Friday was given as a holiday, the Headmaster having gone to the Ross-shire Rifle Association Meeting at Dingwall.

**1887**

Summer holiday from July 29 to Sept 12

**1889 July 5**

Tuesday was observed as a holiday on account of the inspection of the Ross-shire Volunteers of which the Head-master is a member.

## **PRIZE-GIVING**

### **1875 Aug 10**

The school was closed today for session 1874-75 by the annual examination at which were a number of visitors. There were 106 pupils present. The examination lasted nearly 3 hours and prizes were distributed to the most deserving pupils.

### **1891 Jan 2**

There was a short public examination along with Distribution of Prizes to the most successful pupils on Monday after which the school closed for the New Year holidays.

### **1899 Aug 10**

The school was closed today by an exhibition and distribution of prizes. Alex. Nicol won Mr Arras medal and four girls won the money prizes given by the Technical Education Committee of the County Council viz Margt Macdonald.

### **1915 July 16**

The school was closed today for the Summer Vacation. The pupils having resolved that the money usually expended in prizes, should be given to one or other of the War Relief Funds, there was no distribution of prizes.

### **1930 March 14**

Intimations has been received from the B.B.C. that a Class A Certificate has been awarded to Winnie Maclellan as a result of an examination in Nature Study held in December 1929.

### **1930 July 4**

Class A Certificates have been awarded to Annie Finlayson and Winnie Maclellan as a result of an Examination in Nature Study.

### **1930 July 11**

The school was closed today 11th July, when the annual distribution of prizes took place, the prizes being handed over by Mrs Bearn, Eaglestone. ... This afternoon a picnic was held in the School Garden.

### **1950 June 30**

The school prize giving took place today when the prizes were handed over by Dr Albert Gunn, who was a pupil here over sixty years ago.

## SCHOOL ROLL

1885 Feb 9	70
1885 Nov 4	1
1886 Feb 11	8 in large room and 76 in the smaller
1888 May 10	Senior division 28 boys 24 girls in afternoon
1888 July 17	Register called in presence of members of the Board. In the Senior division 26 boys, 31 girls In the junior 34 boys, 31 girls
1889	Infant Department 75, Senior Department 83.
1890	130 scholars present
1899 Dec 22	Inspection by D. Munro Fraser 64 boys 59 girls
1901	63 boys, 56 girls
1903 Oct 27	30 on roll
1916 June 9	The roll has increased to 100 but as the number of children who left the district is greater than the number that came, the roll of the school is likely to remain even less than it was last year.
1919 Sept 16	The school was reopened today with a roll of 106 pupils of whom 105 were present.
1931	Sept 4 roll 108. Miss Mackay has 40 pupils, Miss Rose 42 and Mr Todd 26.
1934	(Closed June 29) August 21 School reopened. Roll 96
1935 August 23	Roll of 107. August 30 Side school Roll 10.
1937	Roll 104
1938	Senior Room 26, Junior Room 39, Infant Room 39.
1943	Roll 105
1948 March 15	Ten more pupils from the Highland Hotel were admitted this week the roll now being 130.
1949 Aug 26	Reopened roll of 122

# TEACHING STAFF

## **1874- Jan 9**

Duncan Mackenzie formerly Pupil-Teacher in Jamestown school entered on his duties as P. Teacher in this school on Tuesday.

## **1874 Jan 23**

On Wednesday Mrs Hogarth entered on her duties as sewing mistress.

## **1874 Feb 13**

On Thursday Mr Beaton came to teach the children Music for one hour each week.

## **1874 May 29**

Monday afternoon was a half-holiday given after the Presentation to Mr Scott the late Teacher of the School.

## **1875 March 19**

Inspector's Report

School staff for the year -

James Bisset, Certificated Teacher of the Second Class,

Duncan McKenzie, Pupil-teacher of the 5th year,

William Shaw, Pupil-teacher,

Mrs Hogarth, Sewing Mistress.

## **1876 Jan 21**

Andrew Gillanders, a pupil-teacher from the Maryburgh Public School was all this week assisting in the work of the school.

## **1876 March 3**

Duncan McKenzie whose apprenticeship ended on the 31st January left to-day. He has been appointed Teacher of Achnasheen Public School.

## **1876 May 19**

Miss Ferguson began as assistant teacher. Mrs Hogarth left last week.

## **1882 May 26**

Miss Maggie Aldie Assistant Teacher

## **1884 Oct 4**

Miss Aldie -appointment under the London School Board

## **1884**

Miss J. Reid, Female Assistant

## **1885 Dec 26**

Lizzie Blackie temporary monitor

**1886 April 24**

School report - list of staff - James H. Bisset, Mary J. Reid, Lizzie Blackie.

**1887 May 13**

School report - L. Blackie removed from register of pupil teachers.

**1887 Dec 23**

George Mackay monitor

**1888 Dec 10**

Miss Isabella Jane Watson, ex-pupil teacher, Invergordon, became assistant

**1889 Oct 14**

Dolina McLeay monitor

**1891 May 1**

Catherine Mackay monitor - assisting Miss Reid

**1892**

Miss Reid absent due to the death of her mother

**1895**

Inspector's report -  
JH Bisset CM,  
Mary J Reid CM,  
Catherine Mackay PT,  
Christina Macdonald PT,  
Anne Mackenzie Monitor.

**1896 April 17**

Inspector's Report -  
JH Bisset, CM,  
Mary J Reid, CM,  
Catherine Mackay PT,  
Christina Macdonald PT  
Anne Mackenzie PT  
Etta Fraser PT

**1896 May 1**

Henrietta Fraser Monitor - preparation to be taken as PT

**1897 June 25**

Annie Sutherland monitor

**1899 June 22**

Margaret Anderson monitor

**1899 Sept 29**

Annie Mackenzie resigned as pupil teacher

**1901 April 20**

Miss Eliza Rennie Certificated Assistant Teacher commenced

**1901 May 1**

Inspector's report The Infant and Middle Divisions of the school have for several years under the charge of Miss Mary J Reid who has resigned her position after a long period of faithful energetic and most efficient service. Munro Fraser

**1901 Nov 29**

Christina Mackenzie pupil teacher left - period of apprenticeship expired.

**1901 Dec 6**

Margaret Corbet, Thomas R Mackenzie monitors

**1902**

Margaret Corbet commenced apprenticeship as pupil teacher

**1904**

Inspector's Report James M C Duthie, CT, Eliza Rennie, Maggie Anderson, PT, Maggie Corbett, PT, Annie Matheson, PT  
Munro Fraser

**1904 June 24 -**

Maggie Corbett has failed in her examinations at the end of the second year and is therefore no longer recognised as a pupil teacher

**July 8**

Annie Matheson takes her place

**1905 Jan 9**

Miss Campbell ex PT from Maryburgh Public School transferred and began work today.

**1906**

Inspector's report - teaching staff - James Duthie, Cert. Master, Christina Campbell, Margaret Anderson, Annie Matheson.

**1908 May 8**

Miss Matheson finished work

**1908 Sept 11**

Miss Anderson resigned - going to Aberdeen for a year's training. Left in Oct. Place taken by Miss A Matheson

**1909 Oct 8**

Miss Anderson appointed to staff at Tain Public School

**1909 Oct 27**

Miss Annie Mackintosh, Millnain, assisting

**1909 Nov 5**

Miss Audrey Macpherson, Certificated Teacher appointed

**1911 March 17**

Miss Audrey Macpherson left for Girls School, Beyrouth, replaced temporarily by Miss Mackintosh, Millnain.

**April 7**

Appointed Miss Rose, Lagganlia Public School

**1913 March 13**

Miss Maggie Rose, Redbank, to replace Miss Annie Rose who leaves in April

**1915 Sept 13**

Miss Campbell, Infant Mistress, as a member of the Local V.A.D. (?) has been appointed to the Military Hospital, Aberdeen. (Red Cross work - Inspector's Report Nov 5) Replaced temporarily by Miss Jessie Rose, M.A.

**1915 Oct 25**

Mrs Katherine Stirling began work - in charge of infants and juniors Class III

**1916**

Miss Christina R. Campbell, who since last September has been acting as nurse in the Red Cross Hospital, Aberdeen, today resumed her duties as infant mistress.

**1917 Sept 11**

Frank W. Todd formerly of Supplementary Department of High School, Hawick replaced Mr Duthie appointed Headmaster of Chapel Public School Kirkcaldy.

**1918 May 17**

Mrs Grigor commenced duty as school cleaner

**1920 May 28**

Miss Christina Campbell left to take up new post at Kinlochleven P. School, Argyllshire.

**May 31**

Miss Mary Mackintosh (Dingwall Academy) appointed Infant Mistress.

**1920 Sept 17**

Mrs McKenzie, Fodderty Farm, commenced duty as school cleaner yesterday.

**1922 Dec 22**

In view of her marriage Miss Mackintosh relinquished her duties as Infant Mistress today.

**1923 Jan 3**

Miss Violet J. Gunn replaced her.

**1925 Sept 8**

Miss Angusina A. Mackay, Invergordon, began after resignation of Miss Gunn

**1936 Sept 11**

Miss Margaret Cameron, Heights of Dochcarty, appointed to Upper Dochcarty Side School replacing Miss Macrae who resigned.

**1937 Sept 10**

On relinquishing her duties today after twelve years' service as Infant Teacher in this school, Miss Mackay was presented with gifts from the pupils on the occasion of her forthcoming marriage.

**1937 Sept 17**

Miss Jessie Campbell, from Kishorn P. School replaced Miss Mackay. On the occasion of Miss Mackay's wedding at Invergordon on Wednesday afternoon the school was dismissed at 1.30pm to permit of Miss Rose and Mr Todd to attend the ceremony.

**1939 May 26**

Mr Neil Gillies left. Replaced by Mr John Buchanan

**1939 June 29**

Miss Campbell, Infant Teacher left - presented with a canteen of cutlery by the teachers and pupils of the school in view of her approaching marriage.

**1939**

Miss Jessie A Beaton replaced Miss Campbell

**1940 March 1**

Miss Margaret Adam cleaner returned to work after illness

**1940 August 9**

Miss Jessie M. Pirrie, Delny, replaced Miss Beaton who resigned - approaching marriage.

**1942 Aug 14**

Miss Catherine Macdonald starts - Infants - replaces Miss Catherine Junor transferred to Avoch.

**1943 Feb 26**

Miss Margaret Adam retired from the post of school cleaner yesterday. She was presented with a wallet of notes from pupils and teachers.

**1943 April 2**

Mrs Macleannan, Millnain cleaner.

**Nov 26**

Mrs Macleannan gave up - taken over by Mrs Reid, Inchvannie, duties included milk and cocoa distribution.

**Dec 17**

Mrs Margaret Mackenzie, Keppoch Cottages took over.

**1943 Dec 17**

Mr Davidson, P.T.Instructor, having gone to the Army, drill was taken by class teachers.

**1944 March 10**

Miss Mary Mackenzie to assist Miss Macdonald in Infant Room.

**1948 Aug 27**

Miss Mary Mackenzie Replaced by Miss Rhoda Mackenzie from Munlochy School

**1950 Sept 8**

Mrs Matheson resigned -replaced by Mrs Edwards going to Fort George. Miss Rose, a delegate to the conference in Copenhagen of the Associated Country Women of the World.

# WEATHER

## **1875 Feb 26**

On Tuesday and Wednesday the pupils got away earlier owing to the severe cold in the church.

## **1882 Dec 9**

The school did not meet on Wednesday and Thursday owing to the severe snow-storm - the snow lying about 18 inches deep and drifted very considerably in some places near the school.

## **1883 Nov 17**

On Monday the mid-day interval was shortened from 1 to 1.30 p.m. thus allowing the children to get out at 3.30 p.m. and so to get home before it becomes too dark.

## **1888 Oct 6**

Owing to the cold and stormy nature of the weather the school fires were commenced on Wednesday.

## **1892 Jan 29**

Today (Friday) only 30 children appeared at school. During the night the weather had been very stormy and the burns had overflowed and the roads in some places were one sheet of water. The feet of those who came to school were quite wet. They were therefore sent home about 10.20 a.m.

## **1895 Jan 7**

Owing to the severe snowstorm not a single child came to school.

## **Jan 11**

Attendance low due to depth of snow and cold.

## **Jan 17**

School dismissed owing to majority having wet feet by trampling through the snow which was in a slushy state.

## **1895 Jan 18**

Owing to the state of the roads - they being blocked with snow and impassable on Thursday morning to foot passengers from Strathpeffer - the attendance is meagre.

## **1904 Nov 25**

The roads in the Heights are impassable for school children.

## **1909 March 8**

Only 22 pupils put in an appearance at school today. The day was very stormy there being a strong wind with frequent heavy showers of snow and sleet. Some of the roads in the higher parts are impassable.

## **1910 Jan 28**

All week the weather was very cold and the roads in the Heights were blocked with snow making it practically impossible for the younger children to attend school. On Friday the attendance was so small and the weather at mid-day so threatening that the school was dismissed at one o'clock.

**1916 Jan 10**

Owing to a fierce gale which has raged since yesterday only 73 pupils were present.

**1918 Jan 18**

According to the local Press the storm has been unequalled in severity and duration for the past twelve years. The attendance has suffered, the average for the week being 56.7%

**1926 Nov 22**

Extra time was devoted today to repairing damage caused by the flood in the School Garden.

**1927 Oct 7**

School garden flooded considerable damage.

**1941 Jan 17**

Owing to exceptionally severe weather the fires in Infant and Senior Rooms have been kept on day and night for the past three weeks.

**1944 Dec 15**

Owing to darkness in the mornings the school began at 10 am this week instead of 9.30 am.

**1945 Feb 9**

Deep snow still prevents many pupils from coming to school.

**1949 March 4**

Cracked window panes which were blown out by the gale on Feb 21 were replaced on Feb 26.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **1874 Feb 6**

The Board had appointed William Shaw at present a pupil in the school a Monitor under Section 2/4 of the Scotch Code.

### **1874 July 3**

On Monday the lessons were not so well got as they should be and those pupils who had thus failed were punished & reprimanded. Tuesday's lessons were a decided improvement on the previous day.

### **1874 Nov 20**

At 3 p.m.. a Blind lad read and wrought sums before the Pupils.

### **1875 March 5**

Two or three pupils were severely reprimanded on Tuesday for untruthfulness; and the occasion taken advantage of by the Head-master of impressing upon the scholars the necessity and the duty of telling the truth at all times, and the evil consequences of falsehood was pointed out to them.

### **1875 Nov 26**

On Thursday forenoon when the Head-master had to go out of school a few of the bigger boys annoyed the younger Pupil-teacher. These boys were punished for so doing and cautioned against repeating it in future.

### **1875 Dec 17**

On Thursday two boys who had misbehaved on the previous evening to some of the girls on their way home were rebuked for their misconduct.

### **1883 May 26**

The boys owing to a complaint handed in to the Head-master were warned against stone-throwing.

### **1886 June 5**

Lizzie Blackie, the Pupil Teacher, was absent on Thursday afternoon and all Friday. She had been spoken to rather sharply to by Miss Reid on Tuesday forenoon. On Tuesday the Head-master received a letter No 6 in Portfolio from Mr Arras, Member of the School Board relative to the absence of Lizzie Blackie from school. The letter was shown to Miss Reid who denied having used the words attributed to her and the Head-master on seeing Mr Blackie - Lizzie Blackie's father - learnt that Miss Reid had not been so cautious and discreet as she might have been in speaking to her before the pupils.

### **1887 Jan 22**

On Wednesday afternoon Miss Reid complained that a girl - Mary A. McKay - would not desist from talking after being told to do so and on the Head-master going to administer punishment she refused and was given the alternative of taking the punishment or of leaving the school, the latter of which she accepted. Next day - Thursday - she came asking admittance which was given on her taking the punishment.

### **1889 Feb 23**

On Friday Johanna Maclennan went out of school, because she was punished for disobedience.

**March 15**

On Wednesday afternoon Johanna Maclellan who refused to answer in the class, was expelled by the Headmaster.

**March 25**

The girl Johanna Maclellan who was expelled from school on Wednesday March 13th came back and after promising to obey in the future was allowed to take her place in school.

**1889 Dec 13**

The boy - John Grant - who had been playing truant - was punished on Tuesday when he returned to school.

**1890 Jan 20**

Miss Reid, Assistant teacher spoke in a disrespectful manner today to the Headmaster in the Large room - a number of the pupils being present.

**1890 March 14**

Dolina McLeay was found fault with for careless writing in her Home work exercise on Monday and that done for Tuesday showed no improvement.

**1895 Feb 22**

A complaint was received by the Head-master from a parent about a child being struck on the ear by Cath Mackay, Pupil teacher. The case was investigated by Head-master.

**1900**

On Wednesday the mid-day interval was curtailed by half an hour in order to permit Miss Reid to get away by the 4.15 p.m. train from Strathpeffer.

**1902 Aug 1**

The pupil teachers were late by 15 minutes on Monday and were sharply spoken to and were up to time during the remaining days of the week.

**1904 Mar 18**

Soup kitchen discontinued

**1907 Dec 6**

Soup kitchen to re-open

**1917 Mar 29**

The School Board, having received a communication from the Agricultural Organiser for the County in reference to increasing the food supply, have expressed the desire that the pupils should produce as large a supply as possible from the school gardens.

**1918 Jan 18**

Miss Campbell attended lectures and demonstrations on Food Economy in Inverness arranged by the Ministry of Food.

**1918 Feb 15**

Miss Littlejohn HMIS inquired if it was proposed to hold demonstrations on war-time cookery

**1918 Sept 5**

Mr Todd at Inverness - for medical examination - graded by the National Service Medical Board

**1922 Oct 2**

A Savings Association in connection with the School was begun today, 12 members being enrolled.

**1923 Nov 11**

The pupils are now served with cocoa at 1 p.m.

**1924 April 11**

The School Piano, with the permission of the School Management Committee, Achterneed Hall under the auspices of the Achterneed Literary Society.

**May 2**

The School Piano was lent tonight for a function under the auspices of the Strathpeffer Ex. Service Men's Club.

**1927 Nov 4**

On Monday 31st Oct. Miss Mackay went to the Upper Dochcarty Side School, taking a quantity of necessary material for infant work. The side school was opened on 24th Oct., with a roll of three pupils, the teacher being Miss Mary Macrae, Park Street, Dingwall.

**1927 Dec 2**

As from Monday 28th Nov., the pupils have been supplied with hot cocoa at 1 p.m., the dinner interval being now from 1-1.30 p.m. and the school dismissed at 3.30 p.m. to enable the children to reach home before darkness sets in.

**1938 Dec 9**

A number of pupils, at the request of their parents, are now permitted to leave school in order to catch the 3.20 pm bus.

**1938 Dec 23**

A collection for poor children was taken this week among the pupils,. It was handed for disbursement to the Inspector S.S.P.C.C.

**1939 August 1**

Headquarters --? 9th Royal Scots, encamped at Achterneed, were flooded out and, with the approval of the Director of Education, were billeted in the school tonight.

**1939 Oct 10**

A blanket knitted by the pupils from odd pieces of wool was completed and sent yesterday to the Admiralty Hospital, Invergordon.

**1939 Oct 10**

When the school was dismissed today at 4 p.m., Hamish Brown, Kinellan, a junior pupil, was knocked down by a motor-car on the road, opposite the boys' playground. Dr Macleod, Strathpeffer who was sent for, found that the boy had a fractured femur and had him removed by ambulance to the Ross Memorial Hospital, Dingwall. The headmaster informed the police and the Education Office of the occurrence.

**1939 Dec 1**

Mr J.W.M. Gunn, H.M.I.S. visited the school on Tuesday, Nov 28, and recommended that the afternoon session should terminate at 3 o'clock, in order to permit the school being cleaned before the commencement of the "black-out".

**1940 June 14**

A good response was made to the National Savings campaign, a large number of new pupil depositors being obtained. The total sum saved by the pupils since the inauguration of the School Savings Association now exceeds £1000.

**1940 Nov 22**

Vegetables from the school garden were sent on Wednesday to the canteen to be opened at Dingwall Academy.

**1941 Feb 14**

Dewar Aird, Infant Room pupil, sustained a broken collar bone when he was knocked down by a car at the entrance to the playground on Monday afternoon.

**1942 May 22**

Complaint - boy attending the side school had been assaulted by a man who lives there - investigation.

**May 29**

Mr Todd and Mr G.D. Macdonald went to the side school on Monday afternoon, saw the man who had interfered with a boy pupil and received an assurance that he would not take the law into his own hands again.

**1942 Oct 9**

Blankets, bedding etc for Rest Centre were delivered and stored in the Infant Room yesterday.

**1943 June 4**

Recommendation of pupils for Wellington boots to be issued by W.V.S. sent to Director of Education.

**1944 March 10**

Fourteen pairs of Wellington boots were received on Monday for issue to pupils with bad roads to school. The necessary coupons were collected and sent to W.V.S.

**1945 Sept 14**

A bus from Strathpeffer to the school now leaves at 9.30 am instead of 9.45.

**1947 April 3**

The Upper Dochcarty Side School, closed for a year owing to the premises being required by a new tenant, was reopened this week in a room rented from Mrs D. Mackenzie.

**1947 May 9**

By authority of the assistant director of education two German prisoners of war dug the school garden on Tues and Wed, May 6 and 7. This was found to be necessary as the senior boys are too few in number to do the work.

**1948 Feb 27**

There are now enrolled 18 children from the Highland Hotel which was taken over last September by the War Office for the housing of soldiers' families.

**1949 Jan 7**

The school was reopened on Tuesday when free transport was provided for the first time for pupils from the Heights.

**1950 Jan 20**

Mr McLintock, Depute Director of Education, called at the school on Wednesday and took the names and ages of three pupils (all from Highland Hotel) in the Infant Room with a view to their being taught by an Anglo-Indian teacher resident in the Hotel.

**Jan 27**

Infant class to be started there

**Feb 3**

The teacher Mrs Matheson, wife of the Quarter-master in the Families' camp - 12 pupils 3 from Fodderty, 6 Contin and 3 just beginning school.

## PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

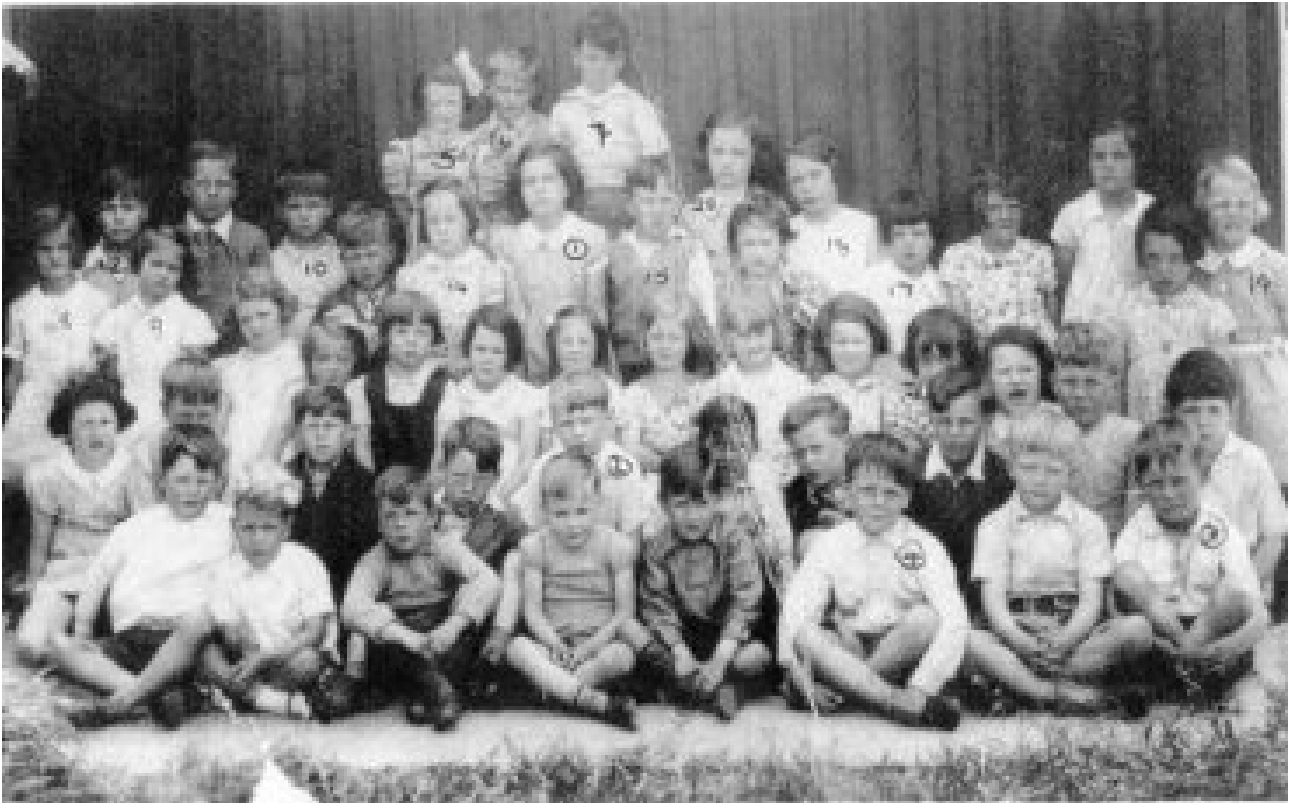
### School Photograph 1930



*Photo of staff, pupils and parents, 1930 -  
Mr and Mrs Todd are on the extreme left -*

*Extract from school log- 1917 Sept 11 Frank W. Todd formerly of Supplementary Department of High School, Hawick replaced Mr Duthie appointed Headmaster of Chapel Public School Kirkcaldy.*

## Class Photograph 1939



*Class Photograph 1939*

*1. Esther Watson 2. Don Armstrong 3. Paul Smith 4. Kenny Stewart 5. Helen Kennedy 6. Charlie Dempster 7. Philip Murchison 8. Dona McLennan ..9. Dorothy Bruce 10. Kenny Jochan 11. James Crombie 12. Billy McPherson 13. Jake Junor 14. Jean Urquhart 15. Sandy Storn 16. Sheena McKenzie 17. Sybil Sutherland 18. Nora Sutherland 19. Beth Laurance 20. Ishbel Grant 21. Donella Grant...1939*

## Class Photograph 1951 - Mr Todd with his senior class



*Back row, l-r: Alan Thomson, Derek Macdonald, Iain Ross, Robert Knox, Alan Oman, Benny Gess*

*Middle row, l-r: John Macgregor, Raymond MacAllister, Jack Sutherland, Neil Macdonald, John Maclellan, Arthur Anderson, Derek Grant, Scott Fairholm, Fraser Skea, John Neil MacQuarrie*

*Front row, l-r: Ruth Sturtevant, Jessie Maclellan, Gillian Mackenzie, Wilma Gunn, Christine MacClymont, Alison Reid, Helen Munro, F W Rodd, Margaret Chisholm, Catherine Arnott, Pauline Macdonald, Betty Coghill, Annette Hossack, Helen Urquhart, Freida Reedie, Pat Berry*

## The Boys with Eagle

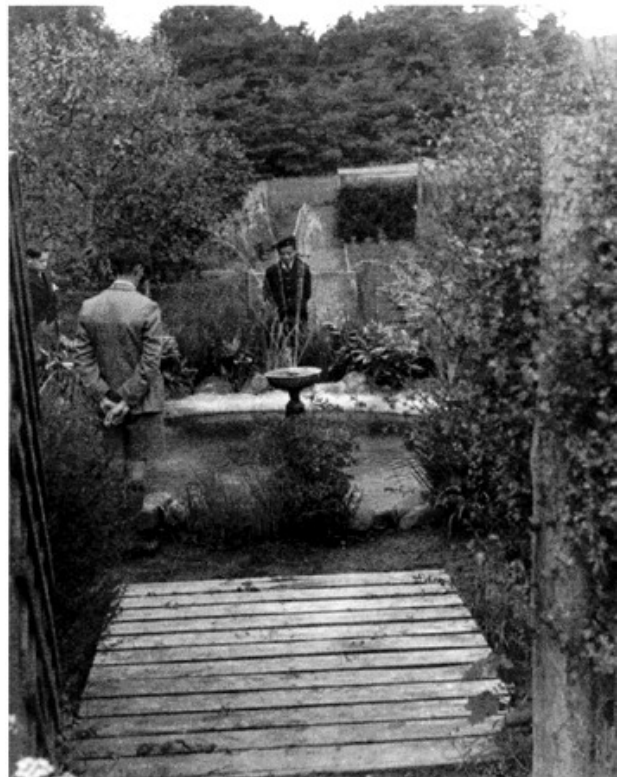


*Extract from school log - 1934 Oct 5 A lesson was given to the whole school today on the Golden Eagle which was killed on Knockfarrel yesterday.*

**The New Garden – 19?? -  
Photograph of School Garden (Possibly 1933)**



*These two photographs possibly refer to the following entry from the school log. - 1933 Oct 17 A lily pond in the School Garden was completed this week.*



*Photograph of school garden possibly in 1933*

# Caberfeidh Shinty Team

## Shinty Six in 1951



*Back - Neil Macdonald, Raymond MacAllister, Sandy MacGregor, Hamish Polson, John MacGregor, John Neil MacQuarrie -  
Winners of Hutchison Cup, 2nd June 1951*



*Caberfeidh Shinty Team*

## Caberfeidh Shinty Team with Earl



*Back - partly hidden Angus Mackay ( Strathpeffer Hotel ), Ali Mackay, ??; Donnie Forbes; John Mackenzie, Duncan Mackay; Willie Forbes; James Cameron; John Mackenzie; D MacLennan ( Timaru )  
Front - Pat MacKenzie, ??; Alick MacKenzie; John Corbett; Donald MacKay - boys  
Hon Walter MacKenzie, Earl of Cromarty*

## THE WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE



This plaque, shown here in the old Fodderty Primary School Entrance Hall in 1999, was relocated to the new Strathpeffer

P.S. in August 2000. See table on next page for information on what is written on the plaque

The following is a copy of the inscription on the plaque

## 1914 – 1918

### **TO THE GLORIOUS MEMORY OF THE OLD BOYS OF THIS SCHOOL WHO FELL IN THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM**

ALISTAIR ASHER	ALEX. INNES	KENNETH J. MACLEOD
LACHLAN BAIN	JAMES KEMP	GEORGE D. MACRAE
DAVID BRYDEN	ALISTAIR MACANDREW	ALEX. MATHESON
ALEX. CAMERON	JOHN MACCASKILL	WILLIAM MATHESON
KENNETH CAMERON	JAMES MACDONALD	ROBERT MUNRO
JOHN MCK. CAMERON	JOHN MACDONALD	PETER MURRAY
SIMON M. CAMPBELL	KENNETH D. MACDONALD	WILLIAM MURRAY
SWEETON CAMPBELL	FINLAY MACIVER	GEORGE ROSS
RODERICK CLUNAS	DONALD MACKAY	PETER SMITH
JOHN CORBETT	ARCHIBALD MACKENZIE	JACK SOUTER
WALTER CORBETT	JOHN R.MACKENZIE	ADAM SUTHERLAND
CHARLES DEMPSTER	KENNETH MACKENZIE	WILLIAM SUTHERLAND
JOHN DEMPSTER	THOMSON MACKENZIE	ANDREW TOLMIE
HUGH DEWAR	ANGUS MACLEOD	JOHN B. WALKER
JOHN DEWAR	DAVID MACLEOD	

## 1939 – 1945

WILLIAM JOHN DEMPSTER ----- KENNETH MACLENNAN

**THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD. AGE SHALL  
NOT WEARY THEM NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN. AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE  
SUN WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.**