

LOG
BOOK



1907

Jan 29th

Examined Registers & found them correct
Edward Threlfall

Later in the day the School was visited by
C. Blundell Esq., one of the managers.

Jan 31

S. II did a very good brushwork copy this afternoon
from a spray of natural privet.

Shrove Tuesday. Owing to regulation which requires
schools in this county to open 4.30 times per annum
no holiday was to be given to day. A storm of very
wet snow has however left the roads in such a bad state
that less than 100 children turned up at school.

Registers were not marked but work was continued as usual

Ash Wednesday. Secular work to day from
9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in morning session.

Those who wished went to church during
interval. Afternoon session as usual.

Inspection Thos. Hallam.

" 19th (2) Children with sore throats advised to stay at home
for a few days

" 20th To day is about the most wretched day we have had
all winter. It is blowing a hurricane & the rain is
mixed with cold sleet. 140 children are absent
so registers will not be marked.

- Feb. 26 Class Teachers commenced their mid-term examination today.
- Feb 28 Have allotted to each girl a small plot of the garden border round the school.
- Mar. 8th Received a "surprise" visit from the Area Visiting Committee including the Clerk and Miss Kate Flyley and two gentlemen. None of our own School managers were present.
- Mar 11th Mrs J. E. Tasker complained of being unwell, chiefly through a very bad throat. Advised her to see doctor.
- Mar. 12. Mrs Tasker did not put in an appearance but sent a doctor's certificate to say that she must have a few days in bed.
- March 20 Report received today per Miss Filda Blundell;
Copy of Report made by Mr. Irvine H.M.I.
Halsall. C.E. School. No. 248
After Visit of 14th Feb 1907

"The children are now housed under new and beautiful conditions. Having regard to the food work that was done in the old premises a hope may now be expressed that intelligent training suitable as a training for rural life may distinguish the future of the School in the highest degree. R.W. March 15/07.

Mar 21st Owing to three families of School children being affected with diphtheria the sanitary authorities sent a man today to 'spray' all the rooms in the School.

Mar 28th School closed to day for Easter Vacation
It being the end of the school year the summary registers were completed, form IX filled up & signed by the managers, and together with all other annual returns sent to the District Clerk.
Ap. 8th. Opened school after holiday. Several families are reported to be affected by diphtheria. Attendance very bad. Received notice of Diocesan Exam for May 3rd.

Ap. 9. Quite a number of children leave and are admitted after Easter Holidays. For this reason the old school year ending on March 31st was to be preferred to the new arrangement.

Ap. 10th School Gardening, although our scheme has not yet received the sanction of the Education Committee we commenced operations to day as this was absolutely necessary if we were not to be too late for this season. On Time Table read Gardening for Observation lesson for 14 bp boys.

each Wednesday afternoon. The Time Table will be altered later, when we get definite word about the Cookery Class.

An outbreak of Diphtheria is having a disastrous effect on the average attendance. Not only do the families affected stay at home but many children with ordinary sore throat have to be sent home as a precautionary measure.

Ap. 19th Have spent considerable time this week with S.T. as they are rather backward in their work.

Ap. 23. Received approval for expense of a Course in School Gardening.

May 3rd Diocesan Examination at 9 a.m. today. Report Rec'd next day. Presented in 3 groups. The examination commenced with a well-sung hymn & prayers & collected. The children were very orderly & reverent, & the collect was correctly said. Group 1. Children of 8 days upward were presented. They have been very well taught. Repetition was said with individual accuracy, & well understood. Catechism was known thoughtfully, explained, & gave book careful printed. Bible subjects are known with much power of quotation of text. Written work was neat & correct. Group 2. Children of 5 to 8 years were very brightly, & fluently repeated with individual accuracy & intelligence. Catechism was known with a few clear gaps of its meaning. Bible narratives have been very effectively prepared. Written work was very well done by group 2 & 3 infants, including new admissions formed this group. Hymns were nicely sung, & prayer was repeated with reverence. A good knowledge was shown of texts & commandments. Bible narratives have been carefully taught. Present 194. Average 212.

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May 9th The Infant Room is overcrowded at present several new infants having been admitted. This is the disadvantage of changing the school year ending from Easter to Midsummer. I have transferred six of the brightest scholars to 3rd I.

Ascension Day. Morning school today closes at 11 A.M. so that those children who wish may go to Church. (See Time Table.)

May 13th We have discontinued fires in the heating apparatus - The temperature registers 60° F. School closed a few minutes earlier tonight as the children were returning to school in the evening to take part in the Home Coming of Mr. & Mrs. Blundell of Haball House - (two of our school managers).

May 17th A little girl in the infant room was at school on Wednesday and taken to the Diphtheria Hospital on the following day. I have therefore given out a fresh stock of lead pencils etc for use in this class.

May 21. Whit-Monday Holiday.

" 22 It was very cold in school today and we had to light fires. Pipes not heated.

May 24th Empire Day. In accordance with instruction from the Lanc. Ed. Committee today was observed as Empire Day. The morning was devoted to special recapitulation of knowledge of the Empire. At 11.30 a.m. the whole school was paraded in the playground in the presence of the Rector, Canon Leigh, and Mr & Mrs C.L. Blundell, School managers. The union jack was built up from the flags of St George & Andrew & St Patrick. A large union jack, given by Canon Leigh, was next hoisted on a tall flag pole by the two oldest boys in school. It was saluted during the singing of the song "Flag of Britain." An excellent address was given by Canon Leigh and after the singing of the National Anthem the children were dismissed for a half holiday.

June 3rd. A very cold & stormy day. Had to light fire. 50 per cent of children absent. Registers not marked. Another family commenced with diphtheria.

June 6th. Another very wet day. Severe storms of rain between 8 & 9 A.M. this morning have kept 60 children away from school.

1907

- June 11th Infant Room. - The teacher of this class has now over 50 children in attendance, and cannot satisfactorily teach so many of varying ages. Have given what help is possible.
- June 17. A fresh case of Scarlet Fever at cottage close to school. Sent three children home with sore throat.
- June 19. Second case of Scarlet fever.
- June 20. Severe rain storms between 8 & 9 A.M. More than half children absent. Few wet; I dried in teachers room. 103 present. registers not marked. Expected more children in afternoon but a deluge during dinner hour prevented this.
- June 25th Two or three fresh cases of Scarlet Fever having arisen in St. III the Medical Officer called today and examined all the children in that class.
- June 28th Have spent much time this week in St. I room as progress has not been quite satisfactory.
- July 1st School closed for 6 weeks through Scarlet Fever by order of Dr Schopffield - medical officer of health.

- July 8th Although School was closed last week the teachers came as usual and spent the time in preparing schemes of work & for the coming new year.
- Aug 12th) Returned from holidays ready for work but received notice at the last minute that the medical officer required school to remain closed until Aug 26th
- Aug 26th Re-opened after a closure of 8 weeks
Sixteen children still in hospital.
William T. Wilson commenced work as a pupil teacher.
- Sept. 4th Commenced Cookery Course for 18 girls of the First Class.
- " 6th Rec'd visit of Attendance Officer.
- Sept. 10th Goods ordered 2 weeks ago from Philp have not yet arrived. S. M unable in consequence to start new books.
- Sept. 16th Whooping cough is prevalent amongst the children from Shirdley Hill district.
- Sept. 27th Allowed Mrs Tasker to leave school early so that she might visit the Royal Drawing Society's Exhibition at Southport

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Sept 30. Edward Olson returned to school after having had fever. After he had been in school half-an-hour his teacher discovered that his ear was discharging and so I sent him home immediately. I then wrote to inform the Medical Officer of Health of the circumstance.

Oct 7th Very many boys are absent helping in the potato fields. It has appeared in the newspaper report of the Otterville Dist. Education Com^{tee} meeting that in the Committee's opinion no proceedings would be taken against boys who stayed away for such a good reason.

Oct 9th Called the Registers & found them correctly marked. J. G. Leigh
(Manager)

Oct 16th Found that P.T. was suffering from eye trouble - He is unable to read or write at present.

Oct 17 Wet morning. Very poor attendance.
Oct 21 noticed skin peeling off the fingers of Annie Parker. Washed her hands in Codd's Fluid & sent her to District nurse.

30. x. 07 Suspension Thos. Hallam.

31. x. 07 A Case of measles at Ackers in Asmalls Lane
Other members of family sent home.
- Nov. 11th Mid term exams by class teachers completed
this week.
- Nov 12th Had visit from Medical Officer of Health
concerning a sudden outbreak of measles
in the infant room.
- Nov. 18th The estimates for the year commencing Mar 31. 1908
were sent to the District Committee as follows.
Fuel Light & Cleaning £70.
Furniture repairs £2. 13. 0
Books Stationery &c £37. 2. 0
Gear & Gear of premises - Nil.
- Nov 26 A severe storm of snow & sleet early
this morning - Only 90 scholars present.
Registers not marked. Work as usual.
- Dec 2nd Miss Flory Tasker will be absent this
week attending the Cert. Exam.
- Dec. 6th The gardening class has been suspended
until Feb 1st. The managers have applied
to the E. Authority for permission to continue a course
on similar line next year.

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Dec 20th I have just completed a ten days thorough examination of every subject in every standard and the disastrous effect of the 8 weeks closure and children's further absence caused by the Epidemic of Scarlet Fever has been revealed.

It is most noticeable in St^d I as the children were robbed of the very important last month in the infant room.

There is throughout the School a weakness in back work and this may be attributed to the fact that the last month of any year is mainly given up to recapitulation of the year's work & as this last month was lost through Closure the result was almost inevitable.

A further epidemic of measles during the last month has still further affected the School. The Second term's syllabus which should ^{be} commenced after the Christmas holidays will have to be postponed until the first term's work is more thoroughly known.

The class teacher are working hard to overcome the arrear.

School closes today until Jan 7th. 08.

Jan. 7th

School reopened to day after the Christmas Holidays.
The children assembled yesterday for a
Tea Party, Magic Lantern & Christmas Tree, kindly
given by Canon Leigh and C. L. Blundell, Esq.

Jan 10th

It seems as if we are unable to get a full
attendance this year. The summer was
spoilt through epidemic of Scarlet Fever, in the
autumn we had a severe outbreak of measles,
and now in the new year we have a good
number of children absent with Chicken Pox.

Jan 15th

Called the Register & found them
correctly marked S. G. Leigh (Manager)

Jan 20th

The First Class Girls were taken to the Dining Room
for "Cutting Out" and it was found very convenient at the
long tables.

Jan 24th

I have been suffering from a severe Influenza
cold and was unable to get to School before
10.30 A.M. this morning.

Jan 27

The "influenza" is attacking a large number
of scholars.

Jan 30

W. Wilson the P.T. is absent with Influenza cold.

Feb. 4th

Received a visit from the Attendee Officer.

"Despatched order to Phillips

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- Feb. 5th First lesson of the year on Gardening.
Planting of Current bushes. Pruning of gooseberry bushes.
- Feb 12th Completed Cookery Course for the top
18 girls, the area committee having decided
on the Short Course.
- Feb 19th Sent a fresh draft of 10 girls to Cookery Class. These
together with 8 girls sent from Hatchayne make
a new Cookery Class.
P.T. W. Wilson present to day after illness.
Total days absent = 5.
- Feb. 26th Gardening Class omitted on account of
exceedingly wet day.
- March 2nd Have sent names of 10 scholars who will take
the Merit Cert. Exam, and two names for
the Junior Scholarship. I had to tell
these children that they must take the Exam.
I left to decide for themselves only 3 were
willing to sit. Up to last week nothing
had been said about the Exam as I was
willing that no cramming should be commenced.
The question forces itself to the front now
however as to whether ~~they~~ the competitors
should not devote their whole time to subjects
in which they will be examined. We hope to avoid this.

- March 3rd Shrove Tuesday Half holiday. The Marquis de Casteja gave a treat to the children.
- Mar. 4th Ash Wednesday. As per note on Term Table the Regular work was commenced and registers marked at 9. A.M. At 11. A.M. the morning session closed so that those children who wished might go to the Service at Church at 11.15 A.M. Afternoon School as usual.
- Mar 9th Miss Florry Tasker, teacher of Std I, has received notice that she has passed the Cert: Exam.
- Mar. 13 Took Sts II + III in writing lesson with object of showing class teachers the use of cyclotype.
Had some difficulty with 3 girls - Mary & Kate Gibbons & Mary Freeman for taking some paints from another girl's box. Had to punish the girls and am sorry to say the parents complained of the punishment and tried to excuse the girls. Sent for the parents who after interview promised me to correct the children.
- Mar 23rd There are 50 children present in the infant room today and the work is too much for Miss Hill. Each year we realise how much better it was the old rule of year ending at Easter.

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March 31st The school year ended today. Before the staff went home all registers were totalled and checked with the summaries. Form I was completed. The epidemics of the past year have brought down the average attendance to 200·1 or only 85% of the average number on the Roll. Notwithstanding eight weeks closure by order of Medical Officer we have contrived to open school exactly 400 times.

March 9th Commenced the Term Examinations
It may be necessary during this examination to depart from the strict order of the Time Table.

March 16th Completed the term examinations, there is now some sign of recovery from the backward condition produced by the two epidemics of earlier part of year. Although there are yet several weaknesses there is ample evidence that each class teacher has worked hard during this term to make up lost ground.

School Closed until April 27th
for Easter Vacation

April 27th On Saturday last ten children sat for the Merit Certificate Examination. A glance at the questions set shows that they do not altogether cover the work done in school. The geography taught in this class has been "the Colonies", and the history taught has been connected with the acquisition of those colonies. The examination questions set were largely upon detailed knowledge of the county of Lancashire, a portion of fog not much taught in the upper part of this school. The girls also suffered in Arithmetic through the fact that instruction in mensuration and the metric system has been chiefly confined to the Boys' Special Wednesday Class.

If any considerable number of children have to be annually sent in for this examination our methods of instruction will have to be modified in a direction more allied to "coaching", method which in my opinion are not advantageous to the child except in so far as they enable him to better pass written examinations

57 1908.

Ap. 28th

Miss F. J. Tasker having passed the Certificate Exam notice has been rec'd from the Lanc. E.A. that after Aug 1st she will be paid the minimum salary of a Cert. Teacher during the such time as she retains her present post but will not be entitled to the annual increments due to those teachers who are appointed as Cert Teachers.

(162/8)-Tab. F.G.J.

Ap. 30

There was a heavy deluge of rain this morning & few children have turned up at school. Only 76 are present. The registers will not be marked but work will proceed as usual.

May 4th Diocesan Exam^{to} 9 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.

May 18th

The admission of several infants has added too much to the work of the Infant Teacher. The average attendance of the infants for last week was 60. I have as much as possible sent in the S.T. teacher to assist. On the two days on which the P.T. is at School he is now mainly with S.T. under my supervision, & this admits of the S.T. teaching going in to the Infant R.

May 21st After taking prayers and learning hymns to 9.20 A.M. the children were taken outside for the rest of the time usually devoted to religious instruction in order that they might take up their position & practice the National Anthem in the open air preparatory to tomorrow's Empire Day celebration. Whilst we were thus engaged Mr Hallam A.M.D. arrived at the School. He remained until 4.20 P.M.

May 22nd Morning Session - Secular work as usual.
 Afternoon Session - Special work throughout the school relative to Empire - Address on the flag by Canova Leigh - the drawing & building up of the Union Jack from its three constituent jacks, by all the scholars. - an address from C. L. Blundell Esq. on the use of our colonies, with interesting reminiscences of his colonial travels - the hoisting of the Union Jack in the playground & the singing of patriotic songs.

May 25th First day without fire

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May. 28 Secular work 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. Morning Session then closed as per time table or that those children who wished might attend the Ascension Day Service at Church. Afternoon session as usual.

May 29th A special science lesson was given this afternoon by Mr Cawshaw of the C.E.T.S. the subject being "The influence of alcohol on the muscles". The time taken would otherwise have been devoted to Drill & Silent Reading.

June. 8, 9, 10 Closed for Whitsuntide Holidays.

June 15th Mrs Blundell of Haleall House called at school and brought a doll and bed for use in the infants' room.

June. 17th Owing to the wet day the gardening lesson has been postponed until Friday afternoon. This has now happened two weeks in succession.

Copy of Report made by H.M.I. after visit on May 21.st

June 18th 08. "The number of infants has increased, and this class is now too large for a single teacher to manage."

Note: The Inf. Teacher has had assistance from upper department as often as possible. (See entry May 18).

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June 24th Two boys Thomas Higson and Thomas Wilson were sent in for the examination for County Scholarships and both have been successful in securing Scholarships of the value of not less than £7 a year for 4 years.

July 2 The local education committee have granted full time exemption to H. Mawdley, 13 years of age, in order that he might go to work on a canal boat. This is the first boy in my school for a period of nearly two years who has wished to leave school before 14 years of age.

July 7th There was a heavy shower this morning at 20 minutes to nine o'clock. Many children were caught in it and drenched and had to be sent home again. The marking of registers was postponed till 10 o'clock in order to give those who lived near time to get back to school again.

July 10th The cookery course taught at this school must finish before the holidays and it has been found necessary to put in an extra lesson. The girls were therefore sent to the Cookery class this afternoon. The gardening class postponed on account of rain last Wednesday was held today.