

extracts from the old School Log Books

“Rooms well filled and great satisfaction experienced”

1877 School opening and the problems with attendance and discipline.

April 24th

The schools were opened by Mr Steel, assisted by Mrs Steel certified mistress who accepted the temporary charge of the Infants Dept. The children sang a hymn and Mr Caple made an appropriate prayer, after which Mr W.Guy chairman of the Board- declared the schools open. Admitted 164.

May 15th

Total number admitted 208.

May 18th

Archibald and Edgar May asked leave of absence for the afternoon as their brother is leaving for Spain.

July 23rd

8d should be the charge for 3 children from a family whether any are over 14 or not, with an additional two-pence for each other child from the same family.

July 24th

Many children are kept from school on very frivolous pretexts. One or two prosecutions would probably remedy this.....If children found playing in the street, in the fields or on the beach were liable to be brought to school by the Board Officer, the disgrace would deter many from absence.

July 26th

About 20 girls absented themselves without leave, with no better object than to have a romp in the fields at ‘Pine Horn’ as they call it. These and similar regularities reduce the grant considerably.

September 4th

Events confirm my opinion that compulsion should be in reserve for irregular children..... Also that to have some person outside the school to bring in vagrants, idlers and those illegally employed would be an advantage.

September 13th

C. Connah having been invited by the Master to acknowledge his wrong-doing, and to give some promise that he would be guided and instructed as to the conduct he ought to pursue in relation to the Master in future – after having reasoned with him for more than 2 hours, and allowed him upwards of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour to consider what reply he should make- deliberately and without hesitation said he had done no wrong for which to apologise and that he would make no apology!

extracts from the old School Log Books

1878

May 21st

Mrs Thomas having sent a special request that the elder scholars ought attend her child's funeral at 4, by special permission of the Chairman, the school was dismissed at 3.

May 24th

Sent home Fred Honey to clean his boots this morning, he did not return. Sent to know the reason and the answer from his grandmother was "His boots are not worth cleaning- shall keep him home until his uncle arrives from sea and then bring him before the Board".

Thursday June 11th

Absences included "Joseph Honey 7, fell into the sea"

Averages for September 6th - 163.9

Thursday October 3rd - Board Day

Public Examinations; Rooms well filled and great satisfaction experienced- 79 of the children were presented with Certificates.

The girls' playground needs much to be done to it, in wet weather it is scarcely fit for the children to pass through.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1879

Thursday April 3rd: Board Day

Playground; cistern not complete. Have seen Mr Westaway 3 or 4 times and he has promised to attend to it. Inspectors are in the neighbourhood and if closets and playground seen by them, great fault will be found as I promised last examination day that it would be attended to.

July Board Day

Irregular children: Although the school has been open 420 times during the year ended June 30th 1879 the following children have not made their 230 times- hence no grant can be claimed.

1880

February 4th

Will the Board make a doorway in the wall between the wash house and the coal house? The smoke has been worse than ever lately.

September Board Day

Would it be well to make a collection towards obtaining a harmonium for the school?

In order to encourage 'regular attendance' the Master thinks a few inexpensive prizes might be given to the more regular ones.

Bye Laws and Illegal employment - The byelaws are defied and there are several cases of 'illegal employment'.

These children were taken from the school premises on Tuesday afternoon September 28th and kept from school till the following Monday when the Master sent them back as, from 'insults' offered by mother to various members of staff. The Master considered there was 'reasonable excuse' for not allowing them to attend until some decision has been arrived at by the Board.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1881

Board Day January

School very small during week commencing January 17th on account of the severity of the weather.

Infants and examination....on account of illness and the severity of the weather the attendance of many of the infants has been very irregular, so much so that unless their attendance be very regular from present time to June 30th, they will not have made sufficient (250) times for a Grant, which grant (8/-) will then be lost.

Averages week ending January 14th 150.6, Week ending January 21st 81.9

Board Day March

By referring to this book it will be seen that some of the children have been home week after week. Out of 119 (since Christmas) Bessie Waters has attended 8 times, Mary J Hambly has not attended at all ,, Louise Remick has been away 5 whole weeks, Francis Billing, employed by uncle 2 whole weeks, Thomas Oaten has been away for 4 whole weeks.

Bye Laws: does the Board understand that some alteration is required in the Bye Laws? For 1881, the age of total exemption is 14.

.

March – May admitted, Harry Bunt and Fletcher Sweet, Kate Long, Mary Cornelius and William Mitchell, Mary Hambly, Alma Prout, Laura Couch, Annie Rowe, Thomas Masters, George Richards, George Saundry, Jane Dixon, Walter Bate, Mary Honey, William Carthy, Thomas Bishop, F Mitchell, Jane Taylor, Elizabeth Mormon, John G.R.Brewer (Infants)

Board Day May

Board resolved that, on and after May 9th, all children from 3-5 be admitted free

Monday May 23rd

School as usual- rather small, especially in the 'upper part' of school, children preparing for 'Holicome'.

Thursday and Friday

'Holicome' - school closed on account of Feast.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1882

Monday January 9th

Re-opened school today after a fortnight vacation.

Admitted Mary McCarthy (Infant).

Board Day

W.Hawks (Clerk) visited school today.

Miss Lucock (Infant mistress) resigned today- Board advertised for successor to commence duties on February 6th. Very fair attendance during the week.

Monday February 6th

No successor to Miss Lucock having been appointed, Miss Bennett took charge of Infants Department assisted by Miss Steer- Miss Bennett's place in mixed Department supplied by Miss Hamnett.

Monday February 13th

Arrangement of School staff same as last week- Miss Steer, assisted by monitors, taking entire charge of sewing.

Friday May 12th

Mrs Trevan and Mrs Mitchell visited school this afternoon and remained during singing - having first examined needlework.

Monday May 15th

School very small this week- 'Holicome Feast of Port Isaac'

Thursday and Friday

School closed 'FEAST'

extracts from the old School Log Books

1883

Monday 13th to Friday 17th November

Very small school this week – early part of the week very stormy – country children kept on account of the weather. Latter part – large catches of herrings –several children assisting their parents.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1884 - *Measles epidemic*

Monday June 30th

School small. Many of the infants being at home with measles, several of the older girls assisting at home.

Monday July 4th

School still smaller. Measles spreading.

Friday July 11th

Dr Williams and Mr Hawke visited and decided to close the school at once, although 3 weeks earlier than at first proposed.

Monday August 11th

School reassembled this morning after a month's vacation. Dr Williams visited and decided that, although there were cases still of measles, it would be advisable to carry on the schools. Attendance very small – several of the scholars in the harvest fields.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1885

Monday May 11th

School very small this week especially in upper part – several of the elder scholars (girls) home assisting in ‘cleaning the house’.

Thursday and Friday - School closed – ‘Holicome’ Festival

Tuesday June 2nd

The following scheme was submitted for 1885-86:

St. 1 “Mary had a little lamb”

St. 2 “What makes the sparrow chirps”

St. 3 “Meddlesome Matty”

St. 4 “Graves of a household” and “Loss of the Royal George”

Sts 5,6 and 7 Trial scene in “The Merchant of Venice”.

Girls: Grammar and needlework.

Boys: Grammar and geography.

Monday November 9th

Attendance very slack this week. Large catches of herrings. Several of the upper children, especially the boys, employed either at home (curing) or on the beach among the boats assisting their relatives.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1886 - A Year of sickness

July 16th

School reopened after being closed for 5 weeks owing to the prevalency of scarlatina.

August 20th

More children unwell with scarlatina and sore throats. Several others at home harvesting.

November 3rd - School Inspection report “Reading ... often bungling and indistinct”

For the year ending April 30th 1886

In the mixed school the order is now very satisfactory and some improvements appear in the results of examination as compared to last year's figures. The general character of much of the elementary work is deplorably weak. Reading in the upper standards is often bungling and indistinct. Spelling is of very poor quality, especially in the second and fourth standards. Composition is extremely feeble in the fifth standard and arithmetic is unusually bad in all standards except the seventh ...

November 5th

Attendance very poor with 173 on the books, the average is only 115.4. Geography in the first class backward.

December 3rd

Attendance very fluctuating. Tuesday afternoon only 56 present, owing to the going out of the lifeboat to the rescue. Friday large catch of herrings. Children at home curing.

December 10th

Very small attendance owing to the heavy gales of wind and rain, also to colds and whooping cough.

December 17th

Much sickness amongst the children.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1887 - “School Fees a problem”

February 4th

Attendance better but still bad. On books 158. Average 119. St.III very backward. It is a class of unruly children. The children are generally very self-willed.

May 5th

HMI has altered the date of the inspection to the 18th owing to the 19th being ‘Holy Thursday’ (Gala Day here).

May 15th

Attendance irregular this week owing to the approach of ‘Holicome’. Several still at home sick. One boy who ought to be present at the examination gone to sea.

May 18th

School examined today by Mr Cowrie HMI. Holiday the remainder of the week.

May 27th

The Board commenced enforcing the payment of school fees. No child admitted without school money.

June 3rd

The enforcement of school fees is keeping away several children.

June 6th

Average for the week 136.2. No on books 190.

Had to send several home on Monday morning because they had no money.

June 17th

Attendance in the upper class very poor. *Several away at sea, others running the streets.*

July 22nd

Half holiday given on Wednesday afternoon - Band of Hope tea.

September 16th

Half day given on Wednesday for afternoon U.M.F.C Sunday School tea. Average for the week 142. Something takes place every week, on one day at least, to reduce the average.

September 23rd

Several of the bigger boys away helping to catch the mackerel. Several boys found playing truant this week. Their fathers are away and their mothers have no control

extracts from the old School Log Books

1888 - “Dull children”

January 20th

Small school this afternoon. Had arith. lesson instead of singing today. Had to send home one boy, Wm Rowe for bad conduct on Tuesday. I called on the parents and gave the reason. He has not been since.

February 3rd

Very poor school, numbers fluctuating considerably, especially among the girls. Took arith. instead of singing today. Very few children present this afternoon, most if the children attending the funeral of Ellen Udy, late monitress of this school.

March 30th

Holiday tomorrow, Good Friday. There are several children in nearly all classes who are so dull that they will not be able to do the year's work.

April 13th

School small and irregular owing to no fires in school and it being very cold.

April 27th

There are a goodly number of children very dull. Do what you will, they do not seem to learn.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1889 - "Parents have no control"

August 2nd

Fleta Remick came to school on Monday but on Tuesday morning she had to leave owing to illness. Considering the frequent illnesses she has been subject to of late - after a consultation with the Board and the parents - it was thought best for the school and for her, that her absence be prolonged to an indefinite period.

August 16th

Attendance not so good. Many of the boys harvesting whilst others are at sea. At a Board meeting on Monday Fleta Remick asked to be allowed to resume her duties, thinking her health permitted.

August 23rd

Several of the children harvesting still.

August 30th

School small. Children were away for no reason at all. Work going on well for those who have been present. Several boys found playing truant this week. The parents have no control over their children whatever

extracts from the old School Log Books

1890

March 7th

Better school this week but there are many children at home ill now.

March 14th

Better school than we have had for a long time.

Spelling the most backward subject of all.

March 21st

Numbers good until this afternoon when there were only 128 present. The Lifeboat going out was the cause. No singing this afternoon in consequence.

April 3rd

The work of this week has been very satisfactory. Holiday tomorrow -Good Friday. Two children left to go to America.

April 11th

Two or three children left school this week. They only came for the winter months.

July 4th

Several children away hay-making and others are at sea.

July 11th

Attendance smaller than ever. Children kept home for the most foolish things. Parents consider that after examination they can do as they like.

July 25th

Holiday given - 'Band of Hope' Tea. Martha Udy monitoress away from school this week ... ulcerated throat.

August 1st

Twice this week the attendance has been very small owing to amusements being held at Polzeath. Martha Udy returned to school on Monday.

September 1st

Re-opened school on Monday. The attendance for the first two days was satisfactory except for the Upper class. Some are still harvesting and others are blackberry picking and fishing.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1891 - Catastrophic storm

March 12th

Opened School. Register but only 76 present. Weather very severe, roads very slippery.

March 13th

No School. Weather very severe.

March 20th

Attendance very poor. Weather very much better but many of the children have lost relatives in the late storm and are kept home in consequence.

March 27th

Good Friday. School small and very irregular. Half Holiday given on Monday afternoon - Easter Monday.
Miss Pellow absent.

April 10th

Miss Pellow suffering from great deafness, ordered away on Wednesday by the doctor for a change of air. The order of work thereby being disturbed, no sewing this afternoon.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1894 - Typhoid Fever

February 23rd

Fewer children still at school this week. Many are suffering from influenza and others are kept away on account of the Typhoid Fever, the parents being afraid to send them. Frank Brewer, one of the Upper Class boys died this week from Typhoid Fever.

March 2nd

Seven cases of typhoid in the place, three are children belonging to the school.....The board met this afternoon and decided that in consequence of the small attendance of children, and on receipt of an order from Dr Mudge, the Medical Authority for this district, to close the school at once. The schools were therefore closed for a fortnight this afternoon.

March 22nd

School reopened on Monday morning but the attendance has been very poor indeed, the average being 95 out of 218 on the books. Several cases of Fever in the place still and the people are afraid to send their children. Another boy died last week.

April 6th

Several fresh cases this week.

April 13th

Children gradually coming back to school but there are several families now who are keeping their children searate. Fever still prevailing. Work very backward indeed.

April 20th

Two more cases of Fever amongst the children this week. Working under great difficulties.

April 27th

More children attending this week. Only 63% this month. Fever still prevailing and there are several cases of Measles.

May 2nd

Received notice of School Inspection today. Only a fair school, numbers gradually diminishing as 'Holicome' approaches. Holiday on Thursday and Friday.

May 11th

Another case of Typhoid Fever reported.

May 18th

Atendance fluctuating very much. Several attractions in the neighbourhood during the week. Examined all classes. Results not so good as last week. Several children gone to sea.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1904

October 14th

Several of the boys away from school tending on the herring boats.

November 4th

Fishing certificates granted to five boys, they have made the required number of attendances -300- exempting them from attending school until after Xmas according to the Bye-Laws.

November 17th

Fires lighted today, Thursday for the first time this winter.

November 18th

Very poor attendance. Many of the children are suffering from colds and others are illegally employed.

November 25th

Very heavy snow storm. Attendance seriously affected.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1905 - First school photograph?

March 10th

Many of the children still away through sickness. Children of the school photographed this week.

March 17th

The children are bettering and the attendance has been larger and more regular.

May 1st

Reorganised the school today:

VI & VII - The Master

VI & V - Miss Hettie Lang

IV - Sabery Gill

III - Eliza Morcom

II - Emily Old

I - Gareth May, Edgar Hambly

May 5th

The school was closed on Wednesday afternoon by Dr George, chairman of managers, out of respect for the late Mr Warwick Guy, who had been connected with school for a long period.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1906 - “Visitors!”

June 15th

Much better attendance. Pupil teachers still at Centre making up their time. Work not very satisfactory owing to being short-handed.

July 27th

Holiday given on Wednesday-St.James's Day.

The place is filling with visitors and the children are getting more irregular. Many of the children are kept to run errands.

August 3rd

Examined all classes in the 3 Rs. Very small school after Tuesday. Friday morning only 66 per cent present.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1907

March 22nd

Children working industriously and taking interest in their work. The attendance has been much more regular.

March 25th

School closed today. Room required as a Polling Station for the District Council Election.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1908 - 'The Quinsy'

February 27th

Circulars received today; School gardening, libraries, Miss Rowe's report on American Schools.

March 14th

The Master absent from Monday. Ill with Quinsy. The school left in charge of Miss Lang.

March 20th

The Master absent all week with Quinsy.

March 23rd

The Master returned to his duties this morning.

March 27th

The Master absent from school since Monday, had a return of the Quinsy.

April 3rd

The Master returned to his duties.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1910

March 22nd

A circular was received today stating that the Board of Education has filed the accommodation of this school at 180.

March 29th

Inspector Marshall of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children called to the school this afternoon to see the family of the Glover family. One boy (Alban) was found to be in such a dirty condition that the Inspector requested he might be sent home. His attendance was therefore cancelled

December 15th

School closed tomorrow used as Polling Station-General Election.

*The United Kingdom General Election of December 1910
was held from 3-19 December.*

*It was the last British election to be held over several days and
the last to be held prior to the First World War(1914–18).*

The Conservatives, led by Arthur Balfour with their Liberal Unionist allies, and the Liberal, led by HH Asquith, could not break the deadlock produced in the January General Election with the Conservatives again winning the largest number of votes. The Liberal Party under Asquith formed a government with the support of the Irish Nationalists. This was the last election in which the Liberals won the highest number of seats in the House of Commons.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1911 - "Attendance very poor"

January 13th

School re-opened on Monday morning. A good number turned up, but the gale of Wednesday and Thursday and the wreck at Port Quin made attendance very poor on these days.

April 3rd

School closed by Medical Officer of Health for 3 weeks, whooping cough. Mr Julyan sent to St Issey and Miss Lang to Bodmin Council School.

May 5th

School curriculum:

English, arithmetic, drawing, English, needlework, geography, history, singing, elementary science, physical training, recitation.

November 24th

Attendance a little better. Children away because of Diptheria have returned to school.

December 7th

Lifeboat gone to a vessel in distress, only 83 children present this afternoon 63%.

December 8th

Attendance greatly lessened by the launching of Lifeboat to a vessel in distress.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1912

May 10th

Attendance a little better. School closed next week for 'Holicome'.

May 31st

No school on Monday it being Bank Holiday. On Tuesday many were away attending Padstow Regatta. Attendance irregular.

June 12th

School closed tomorrow United Methodist Temperance Fete.

June 26th

School closed today Church Sunday School gone to Launceston.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1913

October 17th

Accommodation: Large room 104, Board room 32, No 1 classroom 33, Gallery classroom 21. Total 190

October 22nd

Fires lighted for the first time today.

November 6th

Cookery Inspector visited today.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1914 - A seemingly uneventful year with more interest in cookery than the outbreak of WW1

July 24th

Examined all classes and tabulated the results. Attendances fluctuating owing to picnics etc.

July 28th 1914 - the Outbreak of World War One

July 29th

Not working to timetable owing to the change of date for cookery classes.

October 2nd

Mr Batchelor HMI visited the school yesterday afternoon.

October 15th

That cookery was taken on Thursday afternoons slipped my memory, hence the alteration to the registers.

October 18th

Fires lighted today.

November 3rd

Two boys Leslie Keat and Alban Lobb left at 3.15 this afternoon to act as patients for Red X examination.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1915 - Changes of Headmaster

February 22nd

Telegram to Mr Yates, Education Secretary, Bodmin; *'Yates. Bodmin. Miss Parmer ill. Please send teacher for Tuesday morning. Knight.'*

February 23rd

Miss Terry, Bodmin Girls School, arrived this morning as "supply".

February 26th

Received letter from Admiralty commanding my presence at Devonport on Monday for Examination to enter the Royal Navy. Went to Bodmin to explain circumstances to Education Secretary. Day's holiday granted for 1st March.

March 22nd

Mr Martin, who has been Headmaster of this school for nearly 29 years has tendered resignation.

March 23rd

Quarterly Lifeboat practise. School open at 9 am and then allowed children to remain in playground until 9.20 am.

March 29th

P.J.Pethrick in charge from 2 pm. Delay caused by travelling. Needlework not taken owing to shortage of teachers.

April 8th

In accordance with instructions received from the county Education Board I took charge of this school today. Wm B Frayn (County Supply).

April 12th

I find it impossible to work by the timetable with the boys on Monday, Weds and Friday afternoons owing to the loss of the male assistant. I am the only male teacher left and consequently have to take the boys of all the standards (*classes*) together.

April 23rd

St.Georges Day; This day will be celebrated by a talk to the children on the privileges and duties as English children. The National Anthem will be sung.

May 18th

Took temporary charge. T.Bray Wadebridge.

May 25th

Took temporary charge. H.S.Bond Roche.

October 22nd

100 children on the roll.

November 4th

Received 8 cwts coal and 12 cwts coke

December 1st

(Headmaster) Left the school at 1.45 as I'm going to Bodmin to enlist in the army.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1916

March 23rd

Permission is granted to the (next) Head Teacher , Mr Thomas, to absent himself on 24th March for the purpose of enlisting in the Navy. 150 on roll.

July 19th

After opening the school this morning I left to take on military duties at Devenport. W.K. Thomas.

Took temporary charge of the school this morning. R.H.Close.

July 31st

Mr Spear absent-having to present himself to Bodmin Barracks today.

August 3rd

Mr Spear resumed his duties this morning, being exempt from military duties until he reaches the age of 19

extracts from the old School Log Books

1917 - War continues and Diptheria spreads

June 28th

84% On books 142- very wet on 2 successive days.

Closed school tonight (Thursday) as I have to attend at Barracks tomorrow for Medical Re-examination.

July 2nd

I was medically rejected again on Friday last. Decided to start War Savings Association in connexion with the school.

July 12th

Sent off Juvenile Employment cards for Jas. Honey, John Glover, Percy Kent, Leslie Keat, Ora Prout, Astley Prout, Eileen Courtenay.

October 29th

Commenced fires this morning.

November 9th

Mr Thomas lectured Upper School this morning (he being home on leave) – subject- “Naval Warfare”

December 12th

Visited by Dr Salmon MOH, who found several cases of Diptheria in the village and ordered me to close at once until after Xmas hols.

extracts from the old School Log Books

1918

January 7th

Closure continues until January 14th.

Staff at school for disinfection purposes.

January 10th

Closed until 21st.

January 15th

Closed until February 4th.