

Learning Activity

This resource provides learning activities for your students using People's Collection Wales. It can also be used as a template for creating your own activities using the People's Collection Wales website.



Progression Step

3



Subject

Using Archives to Explore Local History



Title

On Your Doorstep—School Log Books

Using archives to explore local history



Author

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales and the following local archives: Gwent Archives; Pembrokeshire Archives; Anglesey Archives; Wrexham Archives and Local Studies Services.

Using Archives to Explore Local History - School Log Books

This resource explores how you can investigate the history of your locality using school log books as a type of source found in local and national archives or record offices in Wales. It forms part of a series forming the basic building blocks for finding out about local history.

The resource is intended as a guide for teachers, helping them to use primary sources in the classroom. The resource can also help teachers work with their local archive to locate similar sources for their own locality. It aims to introduce teachers and students to the types of archival sources used for local history and to familiarise them with the form, appearance and content of the sources.

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books - Learning Objectives

Learners will understand:

- The role of the archives in providing important historical sources.
- The role of using school log books as a type of historical source.
- What life was like in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in their own locality compared to other localities across Wales.

Learners will be able to:

Subject Curriculum—History

- Use a range of sources, including ICT, to search for information.
- Ask and answer relevant questions about the past.
- Identify differences between ways of life at different times.
- Identify the ways in which the past is represented and interpreted.
- Select, record and organise historical information.
- Communicate ideas, opinions and conclusions with increasing independence in a variety of ways.
- Plan the investigative approach to be used, suggesting how to find relevant information

Literacy Framework

- Use a range of appropriate reading strategies to make sense of texts.
- Carry out research to develop a full understanding.
- Organise and analysis relevant information.
- Discuss the viewpoints /ideas of others to reach an agreement.
- Contribute to discussions and presentations.
- Identify main ideas, events and supporting details.
- Use a structure that is appropriate to the purpose and focus of the task.
- Use language that is appropriate to the writing.

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books - Skills focus

Skills Focus

Thinking

- Asking questions.
- Activating prior knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Gathering information.
- Determining the process/method and strategy.
- Considering evidence, information and ideas.

Communication

- Developing and presenting information and ideas.
- Locating, selecting and using information using reading strategies.
- Organising ideas and information.
- Writing accurately.
- Communicating information.

ICT

- Finding and developing information and ideas.
- Creating and presenting information and ideas.

On Your Doorstep - Introductory Text

Introduction

This resource forms part of a series of eight. Each resource in the series introduces a different type of historical source. The types of historical sources introduced in this resource are typically what you might look at during a local history project and they are all available from local archives.

The different types of sources introduced are:

- The Census
- Tithe and Ordnance Survey Maps
- School Log Books**
- Photographs
- Parish Registers – baptisms and deaths
- Trade Directories
- Sales Catalogues
- Newspapers

The exemplar historical sources in each resource come from four localities across Wales: Holyhead, Blaenavon, Saundersfoot and Wrexham. They cover the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Using these as examples, it is possible to explore, make connections and comparisons, ask and answer questions, discover landscapes and people, and the links between them.

There is a short film introducing archives and for each type of source there is an additional short film explaining the type of source and how we can use it to find out more about local history. A transcript of the films and thumbnail images are included in the **teachers' notes**. The full size images are available by following the links to the People's Collection Wales website.

Each resource in the series has several **online tasks** for pupils which use the sources from the four localities. These sources can be viewed online at the People's Collection Wales website by following the links on the pupil task sheets. There are also **additional activities** that suggest ways in which pupils could use sources from local archives to investigate local history on their doorstep. These additional activities enable pupils to compare and contrast their own locality with those across Wales. There is a contact list for local and national archives throughout Wales at the end of the teachers' notes.

[View the film - The Archive and the Archivist](#)

On Your Doorstep - Introductory Film - School Log Books

This is a short filmed introduction with an archivist explaining school log books as a type of source and how we can use them to find out more about local history.

[School Log Books | Peoples Collection Wales](#)

Looking at Archives — School Log Books



Using school log books

This resource explores how you can investigate the history of your locality using school log books. There are four examples of school log books*:

- **Ysgol y Parc, Holyhead.** Example of a log book dated 15 March – 16 April 1897.
- **National School (Mixed), Blaenavon.** Example of a log book dated 15 July – 2 September 1887. Eventually this became known as *St Peter's County Voluntary Junior/Infants School*.
- **British School, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire.** Example of a log book entry and the rules for the year dated 1897
- **Cefn Mawr Infant School, Wrexham.** Examples from two log books dated the 17 March – 19 May 1882 and 17 April – 1 May 1896.

**Transcripts to the log books are available at the back of the teachers' notes where a link to view the transcripts online at People's Collection Wales is also provided.*

Schools have had to keep detailed records since 1863 and some may have even earlier ones. The four log books here cover the years 1870 to 1897.

School log books were like a daily diary or journal kept by the head teacher. In the log book important events in the daily life of the school were recorded. These included the visits of the inspectors, governors or other visitors, new members of staff and staff leaving, attendance numbers and reasons for low attendance such as illnesses and epidemics, extreme weather and seasonal events such as the harvest. Celebrations of local and national events were also recorded. The training and examination of Pupil Teachers (PTs) and Monitors were recorded and sometimes pupils' names were noted if they had an accident, serious illness, were punished or passed examinations. While the log books tend to focus mostly on the day to day workings of the school, they also at times record the local events and circumstances which affected the running of the school.

During the tasks, use the links to the collections on the People's Collection Wales website to look at all the school log books online. Comparing the school log books gives a lot of useful information about similarities and differences in various parts of Wales in the late nineteenth century.

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books / Task 1

What can school log books tell us about the subjects taught in school in the late nineteenth century?

Study the school log books from the collection below.

Here are some questions to help you with your task.

Look at the original pages of the school log books. See how much you can read of the original handwriting. Can you transcribe part of a page of the school log books? How does this compare to the original transcription, also shown in the collection?

What makes it more challenging or different from modern handwriting?

Make a list of subjects taught. Do they differ between localities?

Collections for Task 1

[Link to collection on People's Collection Wales](#)

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books / Task 2

What can school log books tell us about illness and epidemics in the late nineteenth century?

Study the school log books from the collection below.

Here are some questions to help you with your task.

Can you find any examples of illness or epidemics in the school log books?

What is an epidemic? What can you find out about scarlet fever and diphtheria?

How do they make you ill?

Would children need to stay away from school if they had these illnesses in their family? What evidence is there for children staying away from school?

Collection for Task 2

[Link to collection on People's Collection Wales](#)

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books / Task 3

What can school log books tell us about school attendance in the late nineteenth century?

Study the school log books from the collection below.

Here are some questions to help you with your task.

Why might children not attend school? Can you find examples of children being absent from school? What are the reasons?

Can you find evidence to support the view that attendance was considered as very important in the late nineteenth century?

What reasons did children have for leaving school?

Collection for Task 3

[Link to collection on People's Collection Wales](#)

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books / Task 4

What can school log books tell us about school rules and discipline in the late nineteenth century?

Study the school log books from the collection below.

Here are some questions to help you with your task.

Read the school rules for Saundersfoot in 1870 aloud. What rules would still be relevant today? Which ones would not?

How were children disciplined?

Draw up a list of any evidence you can find of school rules and school discipline in each of the school log books.

Collection for Task 4

[Link to collection on People's Collection Wales](#)

On Your Doorstep - School Log Books / Task 5

What can school log books tell us about daily life in the late nineteenth century?

Study the school log books from the collection below.

Here are some questions to help you with your task.

Can you find evidence of the effect of poverty on pupils?

What sorts of clues are there in the log books about daily life and conditions in the local area?

What sorts of local events, holidays and celebrations can you discover from the log books?

Collection for Task 5

[Link to collection on People's Collection Wales](#)

Well done you have finished your tasks and you have collected lots of information using school log books

Now it's over to you to find out more.

These examples give us some idea of how school log books can be used to find out more about our local areas. Reading more, for example over a year or comparing a certain month over several years, might tell us more.

Not all school log books have survived. Some have been lost or destroyed, some are still kept in schools and some have been given to local archives. You can ask the archivist to show you school log books for your local area, even, if you are lucky, books from your school, especially if it was a school in the nineteenth century.

What new questions would you like answers to?

You can do more research online, at archives, local record offices and museums.

Find your local archive or record office @ <http://www.archiveswales.org.uk/>

Find your local museum @ <http://www.culture24.org.uk/places+to+go/wales>

The National Library of Wales @ <http://www.llgc.org.uk>

People's Collection Wales @ www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales @ <http://www.rcahmw.gov.uk>

Coflein @ <http://www.coflein.gov.uk/>

Additional Activities - Subjects Taught

Using school log books from your local archives compare how the subjects taught in your local area differ from that of the other localities during the late nineteenth century.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Discussion

Look at the school log books from your local area during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. What are the main subjects taught? How do these differ from those taught today? Does this surprise you?

Looking at subjects taught in schools in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century - object lessons

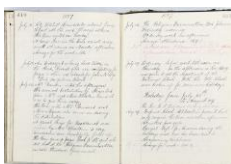
Object lessons were very popular in the late nineteenth century. One school log book mentions three: The Rabbit, The Coal Mine and The House. These lessons were focused on the object (for example a rabbit) and everything that could be taught about a rabbit. Think about all the subjects you could cover in an object lesson and then create an object lesson that you could teach to the class!

Discussion topics might include the following information:

- Why the object was chosen.
- How the lesson could be structured.
- How long would the lesson be?
- Sources for research.

Ideas for further follow on activities:

- Look at the school log books from the [School Log Books Collection](#). What evidence is there that boys and girls were not all taught the same subjects?
- Is there any evidence to suggest that education was free in the late nineteenth century?



Additional Activities - Illness and Epidemics

Using school log books from your local archives compare how illness and epidemics in your local area differ from that of the other localities during the late nineteenth century.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Discussion

Look at the school log books from your local archives during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

What are the main types of illness and epidemics? How does this differ from the other localities? How does it compare to today?

Looking at illness and epidemics in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century - controlling illness and epidemics

How were illness and epidemics treated? After studying the school log books from the archive, each pupil or group of pupils researches an illness or epidemic. They can look at the treatments patients could expect to receive and compare this with the health care of today.

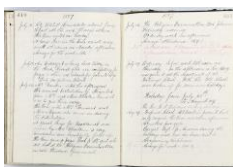
Discussion topics might include the following information:

- Patient treatments - how easy it was to access a doctor and medical treatments
- Were hospitals common?
- Was health care free?
- How common were the epidemics?
- How many people died in the epidemics?

Ideas for further follow on activities:

- Pupils can research local hospitals. When were they built? How many patients do they treat? How would this have compared to hospitals in the past?
- What are the statistics in Wales now for what were the most common illnesses, for example, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough. How does this compare to the rest of the UK, Europe and the world. Why are these illnesses no longer as common in Wales?

A link to a document reviewing the history of hospitals - 50 years of the NHS in Wales is available in the teachers' notes.



Additional Activities - School Attendance

Using school log books from your local archives compare how school attendance in your local area differs from that of the other localities during the late nineteenth century?

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Discussion

Look at the school log books from your local archives during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. How does school attendance differ from the other localities? Are the reasons for absence from school the same in all the localities?

Looking at school attendance in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century - writing a school log book

After studying the school log books carefully, each pupil or group of pupils writes a school log book for a chosen period based on their class. They should also include any absences and the reasons why and any whole school events which are taking place.

Pupils might include the following information in their school log book:

- The name of the school and the class.
- What information should be included daily in the log book, for example, numbers in attendance, any events which are happening and may influence attendance, weather reports, and illness occurring within the class.
- Additional information which may be included, for example, visitors to the schools.

Ideas for further follow on activities:

- Carry out a study of your class for school attendance. Do you think school attendance is as high now as it was in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century? Why is this?
- What influences school attendance now? How does this differ from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century?



Additional Activities - School Rules and Discipline

Using school log books from your local archives compare how school rules and discipline in your local area differs from that of the other localities during the late nineteenth century.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Discussion

Look at the school log books from your local archives during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Is there any evidence of school rules and school discipline? From the school log books make a list of any evidence of school rules and discipline. How do these differ from the other localities? How do they compare to today?

Looking at school rules and discipline in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century - writing classroom and school rules

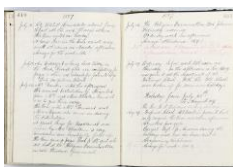
Each group of pupils writes a set of classroom rules and school rules, outlining rules that they would like to see. They then compare and discuss these rules in a whole class discussion and a new set of classroom rules is drawn up and also a list of rules they feel are important to the whole school.

Discussion topics might include the following information:

- Why they feel the rules are important?
- How would they feel if people broke the rules?
- What are the consequences when the rules are broken?
- What happens when the rules are kept?

Ideas for further follow on activities:

- Were school days the same length as they are today? What evidence can you find for the times when school started and finished? How does this compare to schools today?
- Can you find any similarities between the way schools were then and your experience of school today?



Additional Activities - Daily Life

Using school log books from your local archives compare how daily life in your local area differs from the other localities during the late nineteenth century?

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Discussion

Look at school log books from your local archives during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. What do they tell us about daily life? How does this differ from the other localities? How does it differ from today? How would the establishment of the school have influenced daily life?

Looking at local schools in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century - history of our school

The pupils, in groups, research the history of their school, drawing on the different types of sources available to them including maps, photographs and local and online archives.

The pupils might include the following information:

- Has the name of the school changed?
- When was the school built?
- How was the building of the school paid for and by whom?
- How has the school changed over time?

Ideas for further follow on activities:

- Look at the school log books from the local archive. Is there any evidence for the size of the school? How you think schools have changed?
- Look at the school log book for Saundersfoot from the [School Log Books Collection](#). A boy in Saundersfoot has an accident in the playground. Why? What actions did the school take? What would happen in schools if this happened today?

Showcase your research as a school collection on the People's Collection Wales website.

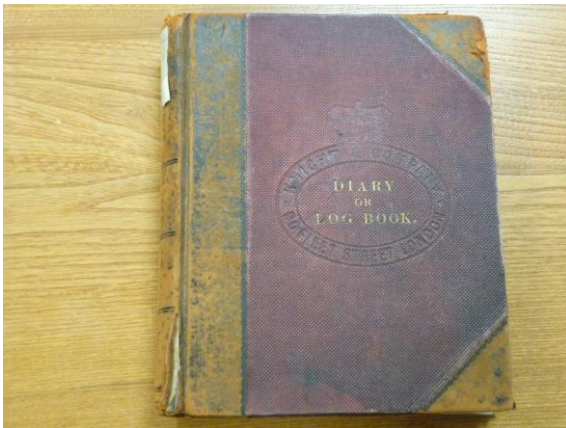


School log books can give us useful information about our local area and help us to create a picture of the past.

The following is the film transcript detailing the use of school log books, using one locality as an example.

School log book transcripts for Saundersfoot are available at the end of these notes.

“School reopened after being closed for a period of 7 weeks owing to measles” This was written in a school log book in Holyhead in January 1897. All the schools in Holyhead town had been closed due to the outbreak, and even after opening children from affected households were sent home.



So what is a school log book?

It is very similar to a diary in that the writer records any interesting information that occurs during the week in the school. Schools that were paid for by the government had to keep a record of what happened in the school.

So what information can we get from a school log book? Not all log books have the same information. Some simply record the day to day running of the school, others hold interesting information regarding pupils and their lives. Most will contain information about attendance and local events.

The information that can be gathered about children's attendance can be very interesting in learning about the wider traditions of the community itself. Quite often the attendance in rural schools would drop significantly during harvesting as the children were required to help their families at home. The weather is very often recorded as having an effect on pupil's attendance, for example during particularly bad snow showers the school can be closed. In the Ysgol y Parc log book that we have here there were a few drill sessions cancelled as the "wind was too boisterous". We can all remember having a day off due to the snow or more recently perhaps your school was closed due to flooding. All those types of incidents would have been recorded in the log book. Good weather could also affect attendance if work was needed on the farm or at home.

If we look at the entry for March 22nd on the following page, a shipwreck at Penrhos feilw, which is near the school, has affected the numbers. *The Editor* was a cargo ship sailing from Brazil to Liverpool and carrying cotton and sugar. Anglesey is notorious for shipwrecks and many people went down to the seaside to see the wrecks and sometimes to see what was washed ashore from them.

Transcripts for the school log books

Transcripts are available for the following:

British School, Saundersfoot: pages 268, 277 and 278; and School Rules pages 5, 6,7 and 8.

National School Blaenavon: pages 410 and 411.

Ysgol Y Parc, Holyhead: pages 113 and 114.

Cefn Mawr Infant School, Wrexham: pages 85 and 86; and pages 357 and 358.

The transcripts and corresponding school log book entries can be viewed online in the School Log Book Collection:

School Log Book Transcripts

Transcript for School Log Book - British School, Saundersfoot

Transcription for School Log Book – British School, Saundersfoot

SSR/1/69/1 Page 268

Page 268

10	Thos. Morgan fell on his forehead before 10 o'clock to day playing at leapfrog in the playground. He did not speak and was allowed to remain where he was by the other lads who did not think he was seriously hurt, there being no mark on him. At 1.30 Thos Hughes (Monitor) saw him and immediately fetched Dr Allen who had him removed to his own house. He has not spoken yet (4 o'clock)
16	During the dinner hour, the Scholars were divided into four groups and photographed

Transcripts for School Log Book - British School, Saundersfoot.

Transcript of School Log Book – British School, Saundersfoot

SSR/1/69/1 Pages 277 & 278

Page 277

13	Alma Hare still unwell. Scholars admitted at 1.30 dismissed at 4 o'clock
19	Alma Hare still unwell. Mr Griffiths visited
20	Mr Griffiths informed me of the Examination of P.T's at Narberth 24 th of this month
26	Rev. Geo. Baucroft + Mr Griffiths visited
30	Alma Hare, though very much better is still to [sic] unwell to be at School
May 3	Alma Hare came to school again to day. Mr Griffiths visited.
5	Mr Griffiths visited
6	D ^o , Do
10	Dr Evans has allowed the Simpsons to come to school again. The only case of small pox in the neighbour [sic] is Mr Scourfield, the husband of the woman that died about 2 ½ miles away

Page 278

	Examination May 13 th 1880 Extra Subjects Boys:- Grammar & Geography Girls:- Grammar & Needlework.	
	List of tunes	
20/6/79	Jack Frost	No. 17
23/7/79	Good-bye, Old Schoolroom	No. 21
10/11/79	The Mouse	No. 23
6/2/80	Well Spent Days	No. 13
	Infant Songs	
22/6/77	To the Fields	No. 8
10/1/79	Be in Time	No. 18
19/10/77	School	No. 16
22/5/79	The Merry School Boy	No. 1

Transcripts for School Log Book - British School, Saundersfoot.

Transcript School Log Book Rules – British School, Saundersfoot

SSR/1/69/1 Pages 5 & 6

Rules

Page 5

1. Boys to enter School by the Right-hand Gate and Door, (looking from the Ridgeway), and play in the Right-hand Play-ground.
Girls on the opposite side.
2. To be in the Play-grounds, and (unless it Rains) stand in a Line near the Hedge at the side, morning and afternoon, when the Second Bell rings.
Morning Bell to ring, from September to April, at 9.15 + 9.25
“ “ “ “ “ March to October, “ 8.45 + 8.55
Afternoon Bell to ring at 1.45 and 1.55

Page 6

3. To come to, and go from School, without quarrelling and contention; and, on leaving School, to make haste home.
4. To attend School with hands and faces Clean, and hair neatly combed.
5. To be promptly obedient to orders, without impertinence.
6. To be silent during Lesson-time, and whenever The Master calls for silence.
7. Not to hand on the Gates, Doors; or Hat-pegs.
8. Not to climb the Walls, or injure the Hedges.
9. Not to throw stones, sticks, or mud, on or near the school premises.
Broken panes to be paid for.
10. Not to curse, or swear, or use bad words:
Nor call ill names in or about the school.

Transcripts for School Log Book - British School, Saundersfoot.

Transcript School Log Book Rules - British School, Saundersfoot

SSR/1/69/1 Pages 7 & 8

Page 7

11. Not to chalk, ink, or pencil-mark Walls, Doors, or Desks, either in the School, Classroom, or Closets.
12. Not to ink, or pencil-mark, or tear, any of the school books, pictures, placards, or maps: nor turn down the corners of the books. Any article wilfully damaged, to be paid for.
13. Not to cut names or marks in the Wood-work, nor stand on the Forms or Seats. No knife to be used. Pencil to be pointed before School begins.
14. Not to keep hands in pockets.
15. Not to spit on the Floor, or throw upon it scraps of waste and dirty paper.
16. Not to copy from each other during Class time; nor assist each other, unless ordered to do so.

Page 8

17. Not to touch the Fires, unless ordered to do so.
18. Not to carry home anything belonging to the school, without the permission of the Master.

Saundersfoot B.S., January, 1870.

Transcript for School Log Book - National School, Blaenavon - page 410

Transcript for School Log Book - National School, Blaenavon

Page 410

410

1887

- July 15. Lily Witchell (Candidate) absent from School all the week through illness. The Vicar visited on Tuesday. A large fair in the town caused a very small attendance on Monday afternoon. Average for the week = 156.
- July 18. An Eisteddfod is being held today in the Park. Several girls are competing for prizes & others are absent for parents to go. Only 120 girls in School.
- July 22. M^r Dowden visited this afternoon. The annual Distribution of Prizes took place. M^{rs} and Miss Wharton came at 3.30 to give them away. The Vicar with M^{rs} Kenward and Miss Mynors also came in during the distribution. A special Prize for Needlework was given by M^{rs} Wharton – a very handsome case beautifully fitted up. The Vicar gave a prize book to the girl who did best at the Religious Examination, in each Standard – four in all.

Transcript for the School Log Book - National School, Blaenavon - page 411

Transcript for School Log Book - National School, Blaenavon

Page 411

1887

411

- July 22. The Religious Examination took place on Wednesday morning.
Ordinary work in afternoon.
Average attendance = 149:1
- “ 25. Called over & examined the Registers & found them correct: J.R. Leigh
- July 29. Ordinary School work till noon on Thursday. In the afternoon a Tea Party was given to all the departments of the National School. With this the Schools were broken up for summer holidays.
- Holidays from July 28th
to August 29.
The Rev. R.P. Hill died during holidays.
- Aug 29. Reopened School. All teachers present, but only 130 girls. The Vicar visited in afternoon. Admitted four girls.
One girl left for America during the holidays, and one has been sent to Abergavenny Workhouse.
- Sep 2. Average for week = 140.9

Transcript for School Log Book - Ysgol Y Parc, Holyhead - page 113

Holyhead - Transcript of School Log Book – Ysgol Y Parc

Page 113

113
1897

March 15 Mon School visited in the morning by Mr Treflyn Jones,
to Attendance Officer who inquired after certain irregular attendants.

March 19 Physical Drill from 10.15 to 10.45 a.m.

Tues O.P

Wed Physical Drill from 10.15 to 10.45 . Object lesson on
The Rabbit given to std iii + on Coal Mine to std i.

Thurs O.P

Frid School dismissed at 4.15 pm. Attendance thin

Average for week 119.

March 22 Mon The weather being extremely boisterous no drill was given
to today. There being a ship wrecked (The Editor) at Penrhos Feilw

March 26 early this morning the attendance in the afternoon is affected
much.

Tues O.P

Wed The Drill Inspector has not turned up this morning:

At 10.25 am Mr Roberts M.A. H.M.I. visited school
without notice. He remained in school morning + afternoon.

H.M
Inspector's
Visit He examined std i in Geography. Spelling – Word building
+ Arith e. Std ii in Poetry Grammer, Dictation. Std iii
in Reading + Geography. Std v in Comp n + Reading
Std vi in Reading (King Lear) + Words (Black Board). P. Teaching
was heard in Reading.

Average for the week 128

Transcript for School Log Book - Ysgol Y Parc, Holyhead – page 114

Holyhead - Transcript of School Log Book – Ysgol Y Parc

Page 114

1897		114
March 29 to April 2	<p><u>Mon</u> Oscar Hewitt (monitor) at home ill this week. Special lesson given to Std ii by the Head Teacher on Theory of Long Multiplication: also to std i in the theory of Calculation. <u>Tues</u> Drill taken this morning instead of Monday. <u>Wed</u> Drill from 10.15 to 10.45 am <u>Thurs</u> O.P <u>Frid</u> O.P</p>	Average for the week – 118
April 5 to April 9	<p><u>Mon</u> Lesson on <u>Ocean Currents</u> to std xi + xii + in Geog to Std ii <u>Tues</u> Register tested by Mr W.D Jones Chairman of the Board who reported that all were marked and found correct. <u>Wed</u> Drill from 10.15 to 9.45. Ordinary meeting of the <u>Thurs</u> O.P School Board. Application made to the Board <u>Frid</u> Drill from 10.15 to 9.45. Singing in the afternoon. from 3.30 to 4.15.</p>	Average for the week 113
April 12 to April 16	<p><u>Mon</u> This being the day for Clapping for Easter eggs the attendance is somewhat thin in the morning <u>Tues</u> Attendance improved. Drill in the morning Object Lesson given to std ii on the House <u>Wed</u> Physical Drill in the morning <u>Thurs</u> O.P Good Friday Holiday</p>	

Transcripts for School Log Book– Cefn Mawr Infant School, Wrexham pages 85 and 86

Transcription of the Log Book of Cefn Mawr Infant School 1874-1904 (ref SR 1)

1882 Page 85 & 86 – Social information -Includes information about illness prevalent at the time; fact that pupils paid fees to the Board for attendance and miners being on strike affecting the ability to pay the fee; punishment for being late.

<p>85</p> <p>1882 March 17th</p> <p>March 24th</p> <p>March 31st</p> <p>April 6th</p> <p>April 14th April 17th</p> <p>April 24th</p>	<p>T. D. Jones Esqr [Esquire]. Called on Wednesday afternoon. Made out a list of absentees for Mr. Pritchard on that day. Average attendance for the week 139.2</p> <p>The Rev. J. Brownson Crewe and Mr. Davies Manchester paid a visit to the school on Monday. Was absent during the remainder of the week owing to illness. Miss Peake managed during my absence in a satisfactory manner.</p> <p>Was away from school owing to illness all this week. The average for the week has improved 142.2.</p> <p>Returned to school on Monday. School closes to-day (Thursday) for Easter Holidays one week. Average attendance for the past week 143.7</p> <p>Easter Holidays</p> <p>Re-opened school to-day after the Easter Holidays, the attendance very poor</p> <p>Made out a list of absentees on Tuesday the attendance during the past week has been very low, owing to Scarlet</p>
<p>April 30th</p> <p>May 5th</p> <p>May 12th</p> <p>May 19th</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">86</p> <p>Fever and Diptheria being very prevalent. Average attendance 118.1</p> <p>Excused E. M. Peake's lessons this week on account of illness. The attendance has improved. The average being 141. End of the quarter, average attendance 133.5. Ordinary progress</p> <p>The attendance has been lower this week owing to much sickness being about. The fees too have been very low owing to the strike among the colliers. Both teachers and scholars have worked well during the past week. Made out a table of work for each class for the month of May.</p> <p>Examined the different classes this week, and found an improvement. Made out a list of absentees for Mr Pritchard. L. L. Archer absent this afternoon (Friday)</p> <p>Average attendance for the past week 138.8</p> <p>Admitted three new scholars this week. The older has not been good, so have had to keep the children in later on that account.</p> <p>Caned several scholars for coming to school late. Average attendance 142.3</p>

Transcripts for School Log Book– Cefn Mawr Infant School, Wrexham pages 357 and 358

1896 Page 357 & 358 – social information about children taking their father's dinners to them at work; subjects being taught in the school at that time

<p>357 1896</p> <p>April 17th April 23rd “ 24th</p> <p>April 28th</p> <p>April 29th</p>	<p>Acrefair School. The children had become brighter & better scholars & so their loss is a loss to the credit of the school & teachers.</p> <p>Average attendances for the week 141.8</p> <p>A Holiday given today on account of an election taking place in the schools.</p> <p>Mr J Denbigh Jones. Clerk to the Board visited the school this morning. Find from Mr Pritchard's list, the absentee visitor, that I have lost again one boy & one girl who have gone to Acrefair School. S. A. Jones has not been but 2 days in school during the last fortnight. Had a medical certificate from her doctor saying she suffered from Neuralgic Pain.</p> <p>Admitted two girls today. Miss Jones Girl's Mistress brought them, as she found they could not follow 1st Standard work.</p> <p>Some of the children come to school late in the afternoon following owing to the</p>
<p>1896</p> <p>May 1st</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">358</p> <p>oldest children taking their fathers' dinners to Penybont. The little ones accompanying them. Some of their mothers, again, are very late getting their children's dinners ready.</p> <p>Average attendances for the week 156.1.</p> <p>The school was examined this week being the end of the 2nd Quarter of the school year.</p> <p><u>Results</u> :- <u>1stClass</u>. Reading quietly improving. Examined up to Page 50 in their Books. Two of the best boys of their class have left during this Quarter. Gave hints to the teacher how to get the children to read with expression.</p> <p><u>Writing</u> For the last few weeks, have put the teachers of this class to the third, taking the class myself in writing. Have recalled better writing & cleaner slates. The teacher of this class is not careful enough & watchful of small faults. <u>Menl:Arith</u> [Mental Arithmetic] Good.</p> <p>Slate Arith [Arithmetic] Gave them a catchy little sum in subtraction with the result that about half the class got it wrong. The addition was correctly done by all the class save one boy & one girl. Told teacher to give her class more Std Arith [Standard Arithmetic] than she does, using Balls for aids in counting.</p>

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The National Library of Wales @ <http://www.llgc.org.uk>

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