

SCHOOL DAY MEMORIES: SCHOOL LOG BOOKS

A school's Log Book recorded the day to day activities of the whole school as well as general attendance. It was kept by the teacher or Headteacher of the school. They also recorded information about life in the local community such as the weather, harvest time (these often affected the attendance of the children at school) and also national events. These are some examples from School Log Books from schools round the Lochaber area and which are held at the Lochaber Archive Centre in Fort William (part of the Highland Archive Service).



This photograph is of a class with their teacher at Fort William Public or Higher Grade School from c1904.

(GB3218/CI/L/5/3/138e)

This first extract is from the Glenfinnan School Log Book 1933-1967 (GB3218/CI/L/5/3/142c). It is dated 22nd December 1944 and mentions that the children had been taken to Fort William to see the film 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarves' and that afterwards the School was closed for the Christmas holidays.

Supply of caal (2 tons) deliveris Oct. 31st Nov. 32 another shild absent for want of Jootwear - weeks attendance 84:64 Nov. 10th. Weeks attendance - 84.6% · 17th 78.4% 24. 11. 44. School children mailed Sy. Mardand weeks attendance 84:6%. 15/12/44 Attendance for week - 81.5%. 22/12/44 . Nouble marked today Chilonew Fort William to 1.00

"Snowhile and the Seven A courts". School closed for Christmas vacation Percentage of attendance has been very low this term owing to one child being absent all term suffering from imperioo - and and a family attending badly owing b defficulty in obtaining suitable footwear.





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This extract is from the Kinlochleven School Log Book from 1919-1951 (GB3218/CA/ L/5/3/12a). The entry is dated from 7th May 1945 and reads '… Telegram received postponing the Post Qual. Exam for a week owing to imminence of Victory in Europe. It was announced on the wireless at 9pm that the War was over and a two day's holiday was proclaimed.'

I may. " " " Roll 223. Prin 92.8 9 Sec. 88.67 School. 91.39 2nd - & thay This walt returned to duty. Yelegram received posts oning the 7th may. Post. Qual. Exam. for a week owing to immenence of Nictory in Europe. It was announced on the wieless -at qpm. that the War was over andatwo days hotiday was proclaimed. V.E. Day. The school opened at 9:30 am, for a service 8th may.

This final extract is from the School Log Book for Bunavullin School, which was on the Morvern Peninsula. An entry for 4th June 1953 describes how on Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation Day, 2nd June 1953, the children were presented with souvenir mugs which were filled with sweets and a Sports Day was held for all the Morvern Schools (GB3218/CA/L/5/3/20b).

241 3 holidays for the boronation of the, Majesty aneen Elizabeth. June A. School ne. opened today. On Coronation Day, June 2nd, the Souvenir mugo gifted by the Education anthonety the school children, were distributed the sports field at Lochaline, where sports were held for the morvern schools. The morver Connation fund Committee had filled the mugo with sweets.



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