Lochailort School

Fort William Archives (November 2010, October 2011, GCB). CI/L/5/3/66a

1902 (page 1)

May 20	"Commenced May 20th 1902. Number present 9. Signed by Elizabeth Mackay".
May 23	"Examined the children with a view to clacification and found them very backward".
September 26	"School opened after six weeks holidays. 8 present. 2 have left."
October 3	"Mr Blackburn, Chairman if School Board visited the school today".
October 17	"Miss Mackay, Teacher Glenuig P. School visited today".
November 8	"Tuesday was a holiday, the children being entertained at Inverailort House".

1903

December 4	"Mr Nicolson, Member of School Board visited the school this week, examined the Scholars and gave prizes".

1904 (page 22)

July 1	"The number on Roll is reduced to 3".

1905 (page 34)

January 20	"The children from Allisary are not making progress on account of irregularity".
May 9	"Did not open School today as some of the parents have kept their children for fear of infection from Measles".

1906

January 26	Roll 9.
February 16	"The school was opened only one day this week on account of the snow-strom".
June 1	Roll 12.

1907

June 9	"Roll 19. Five absent with Whooping-Cough".
November 10	Inspectors Roport. "Epidemic sickness has interupted the work in Lochailort Sub-School".

1908 (page 70)

February 21	Roll 16.

1909

June 21	Roll 19.
December 8	"Mr Nicholson of Arisaig visited the school today and presented prizes to the scholars after examining them".

1911

February 10	"Six children laid up with influenza".
June 25	"Re-opened school today after Coronation Week".

1912 (page 136)

July 12	Roll 19.
September 9	"The Lochailort School with its Roll of 19 is very well taught and as the building and equipment are also satisfactory it should now be raised to the Status of a Public School".
November 15	"Mrs Nicholson of Arisaig and party examined the Pupils and gave handsome prises to deserving competitors. Register 21".

1913

February	Influenza epidemic.
November 14	"Change in Time-table – School dismissed at 3.30 for the winter months".

1914

June 2	"The Meoble Side School has been placed under your supervision. The teacher's name is Miss C. Macdonald". Register 23.

1915

March 15	"The pupils from Inverailort could not turn out as the River was in flood and covered the road".
June 2	"Average attendance 21. Number on register 22".
July 19	"Closed on account of measles in the district".

1916 (page 189)

June 30	"The summer holidays are fixed to extend from 28th July to 15th September."
October 27	"The disorganisation of the Railway has had a bad effect on the work of the school, chiefly in the preparation of home lessons, the pupils having to do work usually done by their parents".
November 30	"Gave the pupils a half-holiday to enable them to attend their annual treat at Inverailort Castle".
December 18	"Could not open the school today on account of smoke. Roll15."

1917 (page 203)

February 15	"Was obliged to dismiss the school on account of smoke from the vent".
March 14	""Miss Ann Macpherson began duty as temporary teacher during the teacher's illness".

1918 (page 215)

January 7	"Did not open school today as no pupils attended owing to the heavy snow-storm."
January 18	"The school was closed this week on account of the severe storm."
September 5	"Christine Scott has received the Merit Certificate".
November 29	"4 pupils have removed from the district this week. The number on the roll is reduced to 13".
December 20	"Could not open the school today on account of smoke from the chimney".

1919 (page 227)

January 6	"Essan and Rannochan Art.19. D.(a) school opened on this date. Miss S. MacDonald appointed teacher of both schools".
February 2	"School closed by order of the medical Officer on account of influenza".
March 3	"Reopened the school today. 6 present. Roll 15".
May 23	"Closed the school for 4 weeks from this date by order of the Medical Officer on account of whooping cough".
October 10	"On three days of this week the school was dismissed at 2pm on account of cold, the school coal not being delivered".

1920 (page 236)

June 18	Roll 20
November 9	"Gave the scholars a holiday by order to attend the ceremony of the unvieling of the war Memorial".

1921 (page 245)

February 2	"Visited the School on this date, examined the Register and found the same correct. I organised with the teacher regarding the Scheme of Work for teaching Gaelic".
December 16	"Mrs Cameron-Head Inverailort Castle gifted a supply of cocoa and milk to the scholars".

1922 (page 255)

February 28 "Closed the school for children's holiday in honour of the Marriage of the Princess Mary".

September 19 "Took up duty today as mistress of this school. I found 15 present out of 17 on roal. K. Nicolson".

September 29 "Admtted Angus Macnaighton this week. Hitherto he attended school at Arisaig".

October 24 "Dr Gordon Lang visited the school and at his request a half holiday was given".

September 26 "As no smoke escapes through the chimney the room was full of smoke. I accordingly took the Seniors & Juniors out for a Nature Knowledge lesson to the wood after the dinner interval".

1923 (page 263)

January 26 "Received medical certificates for James Macmillan and Charles Macpherson".

January 31 "I visited Roshven Side School yesterday afternoon. Found two dhildren present".

April 25 "I have been asked by the S.H. to give a holiday tomorrow on the occasion of the marriage of the Duke of York".

May 23 "Tomorrow being Empire Day, a holiday has been granted."

June 15 "Lizzie Robertson has been absent all week through ill health".

October 5 "Gave up duties of interim teacher Lochailort M (?) C. Cameron"

October 8 "Began work today. J. Fraser".

November 20 "Visited Roshven Side School today".

1924 (page 272)

January 14 "Opened school today after Christmas holidays which were extended owing to illness of teacher. Agnes M. Murray M.A.

February 4 Finished temporary relief work. Agnes M. Murray M.A.

Febraury 5 "Took up duty as temporary teacher. Joan Fraser.
"Finished temporary relief work. Joan Fraser.

February 11 "C. Nicolson resumed".

April 1 "James & Hector Henderson returned to school today".

April 14 "Temporary teacher M.C. Cameron".

April 29 "Admitted Hughina Gillies. Birth 2/9/17. Signed A E Cassels. Temporary relief teacher. Left May 29".

June 2 "Adam MacPherson admitted. Roll 21".

September 29 "HMI Report: During the past year the staff underwent change nine times, involving the arrival and departure of apparently seven different teachers".

1925 (page 281)

January 23 Roll 16.

April 2 "Miss Thomson, Physical Instructress visited the school today and gave the children Physical Exercises".

November 27 "There is now a new Map of Scotland in this school".

December 4 "Elisabeth Macdonald 17/11/12 added to roll.
Jean Macdonald 12/2/15 added to roll.

1926 (page 288)

September 14 Roll 11.

1927 (page296)

January 14 "Permission was given to closed school today as Sir Arthur Nicolson gave the children a treat in Arisaig".

January 28 "Gave up duty in this school today. R Cameron."

February 1 "Ina M. Ross took up duty. Roll 9."

March 11 "Williamina Cameron 17/9/20 admitted. Came from Ba;;achulish School".

March 21 "Mr Inglis, school dentist visited".
Letter from Tulloch Farm, Arisaig 1/12/53 to certify that Mona Howis Inverailort is unable to attend school at present. Signed by N (?) O Redger, MBChB.
June 6 "I visited the school today and gave religious instruction to the R.C. Children. F.B. Meflymont (?).
July 1 "The new water drainage system has now been introduced to school offices".
September 16 9 on role.
October 4 "Miss Calder, Relief Teacher came to assist here today".
October 5 "Prizes and sweets have been presented to children by Miss Hare and a treat has been given by the Countess Stradbroke".
October 26 "Miss Caldes who has been assisting leaves today".
December 3 "Miss McCredie came to assist while awaiting boat for Glenuig".
December 7 "Miss McCredie left today for Glenuig School".
December 14 "The sschhol has now been provided with a portable wash-basin".

1929 (page 317)
January 18 "No pupils appeared the whole of this week – all suffering from influenza".
April 15 Roll 19
May 21 "Mrs Doncaster visited school today and brought a supply of cocoa and sugar for the children's lunch".
July 19 "I gave up duty in this school today. J.M. Ross"
September 10 "School opens. M MacKenzie Teacher"
November 1 "To-day being a Roman Catholic holiday of Obligation".
November 8 "James D. MacKeller & May Docherty back to school".

1930 (page 326)
March 19 "Holiday – Roman Catholic Holiday of Obligation"

1931 (page 335)
January 19 "The new scheme of intervals has been adopted today".
October 9 "Winnie, Angus and Ewen Cameron absent".
October 21 "Miss Mary Anderson, Relief Teacher leaves November 13".
November 16 "Christine MacPhee takes up duty. Roll 8".

1932 (page346)
January 7 "James Holliday MacGregor admitted".
January 25 "Nurse Hewitson today".
September 1 "Ian & Ronald Macdonald from Polnish admitted. Also Annie & Sarah Macdonald".
September 21 "The Education Committee granted a half holiday this afternoon to mark the centenary of Sir Walter Scott".
December 5 "Charles Gordon Kennedy a new scholar today. Roll 10.

1933 (page 359)
January 12 Miss M. Brown relieving Miss Macphee who is suffering from influenza".

1934 (page 367)

1935 (page372)
November 6 "Today is a holiday in honour of the Duke of Gloucester and Lady ? Scott's Wedding".
December 5 "HMI Report. Gaelic reading is fluent and clear".

1936 (page 378)
January 28 "Funeral of George V – holiday given".
February 24 "James MacFall left for Helensburgh 22/2/36"
November 2 "Medical certificate for Mary P. Wocharty today".

November ? "Sarah MacDonald scalled her right foot badly".

1937 (page 384)
September 1 "5 on role. John Ewen MacNaughton admitted today".

1938 (page390)
January 5 Roll 7.
April 21 "The two Montgomery children left the district last Wednesday".
May 27 "Miss Ashley-Nicholson visited school today".
October 17 "Annie MacMillan is on a holiday with her guardian at present".
December 2 "Annie MacMillan has been removed today to Stobhill Hospital Glasgow. There are now only 2 pupils on the roll".

1939 (page 394)
April 18 "Sarah MacKay and Marion Josephine MacPherson admitted. Roll 5".
September 29 "Gas masks have been distributed to the people of the district at this school this afternoon"
October 9 "Robert Alexander Robertson from Stronafian Public School Ormidole, Argyll today

1940 (page 401)
January 4 "Mary Martin left the district 23rd December 1939. Roll 4."
June 17 "Visit David Howat".
September 9 "Admitted Annie Hunter (born 19/8/32) from Eastbank Academy, Shettleston, Glasgow today".

1941 (page 405)
April 21 "Admitted 2 infants – one an evacuee from Glasgow, John MacPherson (born 4/9/37) – the other a local child (Ronald Hugh MacPherson born 23/3/36".
April 22 "Admitted 10 evacuees accomodated at Lochailort Hotel today. Roll 19".
May 19 "The first injection for the protection of Diphtheria was administered by Dr Macdonald Arisaig to the school children today".
June 16 "The second injection for Diphtheria".
June 25 "John MacPherson an ecacuee left for Glasgow toda".
October 3 HMI Report. "By the addition of 11 children from Glasgow the roll rose in Spring to 18. To judge from their appearance and behaviour and by their own statements, the incomers are happy and contented and thoroughly enjoy their new environment".
November 7 "Sheila Baxter, Glasgow Evacuee left Lochailort. She is not coming back any more".

1942 (page 410)
April 14 "William John MacRae admitted. Roll 13".
June 1 "I have received permission from Mr David Howat, director of education, to attend Mr F.S. Cameron-Head's wedding at Fort Augustus on 9th June inst."
July 14 "The Rev. Mr Logan Arisaig, visited school today and examined children in Religious Instruction".
November 30 John Alfred Lewis (10/2/32) admitted. He lives at Glenmammie".

1943 (page 415)
January 12 "Admitted Dougald MacDonald from Helensburgh today".
January 18 "Admitted Anthony John Gillies today. He lives at Polnish and attended Tomacharrich P School before he came to this district".
April 2 "Received small box of thimbles etc from Young & Chapman, Inverness, today".
August 24 Roll 12.
October 19 "Closed school for potato-lifting today".

1944 (page 419)
January 21 "Derek Dillon left for England today".

February 21 "Admitted today a Glasgow Boarded out child Priscilla Smith born 28/6/36."
April 18 Roll 18.
August 29 Roll 10.
September 1 "Ann Hardy admitted today (5/4/36).
September 23 "Ann Hardy left for England today."

1945 (page 423)
January 8 9 present.
April 23 "Admitted Ronald MacPherson born 31/8/40".
May 8 "VE Day – Public Holiday" VE = Victory in Europe.
August 28 Roll 12.
September 1 "VE Day – holiday"

1946 (Page 416)
August 27 "Admitted Anne Fiona MacNaughton today. Roll 12"
September 9 "Admitted Jean Catherine Margaret Gray. Roll 13".

1947 (page 431)
June 2 Took up duties today in place of Miss MacPhee. H MacDonald"
June 4 "Dental treatment today of Priscilla Smith and Ranald Hugh MacPherson".
June 26 "Visit by a French lady Madamoiselle Le Bleuvennae who gave children a talk on the customs of France. She also sang for them."
July 7 "School picnic at Inverailort Castle".
September 1 "Roll 14. Admitted Rosemary MacBeth, Raymond MacPherson, John Sinclair."
October 17 "I gave up duty in this school today. H. MacDonald."
October 20 "I have resumed work today. C. MacPhee."
November 29 "Holiday given for Princess Elizabeth's Wedding".
December 8 "Admitted George Alexander Hugh Cameron from Glenborrodale today. 8 years of age. Roll 14".

1948 (page 440)
February 26 "Miss McPhee took ill on 21st February and the school has been closed until today when I reported for duty during her absence. Mary McLellan".
March 10 "Mrs Cameron-Head visited".
March 11 "I took up duty today. Al. MacDonald".
April 4 "First school meals given by Miss Walker".
April 14 "First School Meals given by Miss Walker. The dining assistant was present to finish the washing up etc for the day. The school dentist arrived the same day and attended to some of the children in the teacher's house".
April 15 "School photos were taken in the morning by Mr Sinclair".
April 26 "James MacLean, Director of Education, visited".
May 31 "Nurse MacIsaac visited the school today and examined children."
June 17 "Dr MacKinnon SMO visited and examined Raymond MacPherson – also all the children's heads".
June 30 "The children attended the School Sports at Arisaig today. They had their lunch at St Mary's School. Through the kindness of Mrs Cameron-Head they were taken by car to and from Arisaig. Marian E.C. MacRae and June Fiona MacNaughton have gone on holiday and will be absent for 6 days."
July 5 "Nurse MacIsaac attended to Iain MacBeth's sore knee. He has been absent all last week".
August 25 "I took up duty in this school today. 13 children present out of the 14. Christina MacPherson".
September 3 "Fiona MacNaughton is still absent – her mother being in hospital".

October 21 "Miss Walker, Assistant Schools Meals Organiser visited the school at dinner hour and helped to serve meals".
November 15 "Admitted Peter Forbes aged 6." He left school January 21st.

1949 (page 449)
January 6 "Church Holiday – school closed".
April 18 13 present.
June 16 Church Holiday.
June 22 "Examined Catholic children in religious knowledge. D MacKellaig."
August 25 "Marjory MacPherson, Marian MacRae and William J. MacRae are now attending Fort William Secondary School".
September 9 "Prescilla Smith suffering from infectious throat has been exempted for 3 weeks by order of Dr MacIntosh".
September 27 "Violet MacIntyre now attending St Mary's Arisaig".

1950 (page 455)
January 5 "Donald MacBeth and Alistair MacPherson admitted. Fiona MacNaughton has left this school owing to the death of her mother. She has gone to live with friends". pp457-461. HMI Report. "The school floor space is restricted and the surface of the playground is generally soft. Instruction in physical education is not easy to carry out. There is no shelter shed. The heating stove was out of commission owing to a broken chimney; a small oil stove was an unsatisfactory substitute. A fitment for one electric light has been installed and it is expected that current will soon be available. There is only one easel blackboard." "The roll of 16 includes four boarded-out children."
May 26 "One new pupil Susan Richardson. Roll 17."
August 23 "Rebecca Julian MacRae admitted. Roll 17. Jean Grey now attending Fort William Secondary School".
September 8 "Rebecca MacRae, The Inn, comes to school in the mornings only".
October 20 "Simona Howie absent this week".
December 15 "Parcel of sweets received this week from D.G. Maurice, Esq., Tanganyika Food for Britain Fund, P.O. Box 234, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanganyika, to be distributed amongst the children".
December 20 Roll 20.

1951 (page 466)
January 4 "Admitted one new pupil, Tearlach R. MacMillan – an Infant".
January 15 "Visited school and examined Catholic children in Religious Knowledge. Dominic MacKillaig".
June 31 "Schools Sports at Arisaig".
August 29 "Harold Small, 7 admitted. Prescilla Smith left school having attained school leaving age".
November 1 "Olive Ross admitted".

1952 (page 471)
January 3 "William Roderick Johnstone from Rannachan absent this week as no transport has been arranged for them yet".
January 11 "Miss Logan comes every week on Wednesdays to give Religious Instructions to Protestant children".

1953 (page 478)
January 6 "The Johnstone children from Rannachan were absent today owing to icy roads".
March 3 "Promotion Examination supervised by Mrs MacRae, Glenshean. Pupils present were Dunriona (?) MacMillan, Jasmene MacMillan and Ronald MacPherson".
April 14 Roll 17.
May 29 "Three days holidays granted on the occasion of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth".

June 4 "Coronation mugs were presented to the children on Coronation Day when they were invited to lunch and games by Mr & Mrs Cameron-Head of Inverailort Castle".
August 25 Roll 14.
December 7 "Mr Souter, the County Music Organiser, visited school to-day".

1954 (page 485)
March 15 "HMI Report. Part of the playground has been recently resurfaced but access to the lavatories is still by way of stepping stones or marshy ground".
March 17 "Mr R Macdonald, assistant Director of Education visited school today".
April 14 14 pupils.
May 7 "Mr Lawson, Deputy Department of Education, visited school today."
May 25 "This afternoon the children attended the Children's Theatre in Glenfinnan. It was a grand performance and greatly enjoyed by the children. Mrs Cameron-Head very kindly paid their train fares."
August 25 "11 pupils present. Admitted Flora Johnstone and Charles Ross. Susan and Alexander Richardson left the district."

1955 (page 492)
January 14 Roll 12
March 3 "This afternoon the children were taken to a Puppet Theatre at Glenfinnan. It was greatly enjoyed by the children".
April 1 "Rebecca MacRae has returned to Tomnacross J.S. School, Beauly".
August 24 Roll 11.
August 29 "Rebecca J. MacRae admitted".
November 14 "Nurse Macdonald, new district nurse, visited school and examined the children."
December 14 "Dr L.M. Watson, Medical Lecturer of the Scottish Council for Health and Education, visited today. She gave a talk on general health subjects".

1956 (page 498-501)
February 28 "Intelligence Test for PVI and PVII. In the afternoon Olive Ross, Donald MacBeth, Roderick Johnstone and Alistair MacPherson sat the first part of the Promotion Test".
March 9 "Being a Roman Catholic Holiday of Obligation, a holiday was given".
April 16 "Visit of District Nurse. Alistair MacPherson sent home. Ring worm suspected".
May 28 "The Johnstone family have left the district – three pupils now on the roll".
June 29 "Closed the school today for Summer Holidays".

This is the last entry to the school log book.