

Meoble School

Fort William Archives GB3218/C1/6/5/3/125

1929 (page 1)

- September 4 "Christina Macpherson (Cert. Teacher) commenced duties today. Roll 6 boys, 2 girls"
- October 21 "Received from Miss Shaw, Morar, former supervisor of this school HMT report for session 1928-29. "This small school has been conducted with marked diligence and the majority of the children are well abreast of requirements. A new building has recently been provided by the Authority and next session the school will function as a public school in charge of a certificated teacher"
- November 20 "Alistair and Angus Macdonell have been kept at home today to lift potatoes."

1930 (page 5)

- June 21 "School open on Saturday".
- September 2 "5 boys, 2 girls. Doual McDonell has left to attend Fort William Higher Grade School".
- November 13 "Owing to overflowing of river due to very heavy rainfall, I had to let the children home early".

1931 (page 8)

- April 14 "Mary Macdonald **Inverosce (?)** admitted".
- April 24 "Ranald Macdonald Meoble Forest was admitted. 6 boys, 3 girls".
- September 28 "Margaret Macdonald who is suffering from Psoriasis is unable to attend school for two months".
- July 3 "Received 2 Tons coals".

1932 (page 15)

- May 26 "Children's Sports held at Morar. Children of this school also attended".
- October 7 "School closed to-day with Manager's permission – teacher wishing to attend Gaelic Mod at Fort William".

1933 (page 22)

- January 13 "Margaret Macdonald Inverosie admitted. 11 on roll"
- May 26 "Dr Fraser School medical officer visited school today".
- September 1 "James Craig admitted. 7 boys and 5 girls".
- September 5 "Alistair MacDouall kept at home".
- December 14 "James Craig did not come to school"

1934 (page 28)

1935 (page 34)

- September 2 "Ronald E Macdonald having won a bursary is now attending Fort William Secondary School. Isobel Macdonald has also left school having attained school-leaving age. 11 on roll, 6 boys and 5 girls. Miss F. Macdonell student from Notre Dame Training College, Donahill, Glasgow is continuing her teaching practice."

1936 (page 40)

- April 14 "James Craig returns after absence of 3 months."
- July 8 "Dr Fraser School Medical Officer examined children today."
- September 1 Roll 10.

1937 (Page 47)

- March 13 "Kept school to-day (Saturday) to make up for attendances lost during Influenza epidemic".
April 7 "Ishbel McDonald admitted".
May 12 "School closed to-day for three days in honour of the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Children are joining in the sports held at Morar with the pupils of Mallaig and district schools".
September 1 "Roll 4 boys, 6 girls".
November 9 "James Craig, Jessie Craig, Ishbel MacDonald excluded for one week to prevent spread of Impetigo.

1939 (page 62)

- January 9 "Marion B McDonald admitted. 7 girls, 4 boys".
April 28 "Donald MacDonald absent – potato planting".

1940 (page 72)

- June 14 "National Savings Group begun".
August 27 2 boys, 8 girls.

1941 (Page 80)

- January 17 "James and Jessie Craig have left school to-day. Roll 6 girls, 1 boy".
January 22 "School closed for 3 days. Death of teacher's father".
September 5 "Jean and Neil Macdonald absent – hay making".
October 24-28 "Mid-term Holiday – School closed".

1942 (page 87)

- September 1 "Roll 6 girls, 1 boy. Anne MacDonald Inverosie admitted".

1943 (page 95)

- August 24 1 boy, 6 girls.

1944 (page 103)

- August 29 "Ishbel Macdonald has left this school to attend Mallaig Secondary School. Roll 5".
October 6 "Marion Macdonald absent suffering from asthma".
November 16 "Ms Harvey the school dentist visited school today".

1945 (page 110)

- January 8 "Christine E. Macdonald, Inverosie admitted. Roll 6".
April 23 "School did not re-open after Easter Holidays owing to death of teacher's brother while home on leave".
May 11 "Bursary Control Examination to-day. Mrs John Macdonald, Inverosie acted as supervisor".
May 8,9 "School closed – to celebrate victorious end of the European Campaign".
June 9 "Dr. Fraser M.O.H. visited school to-day and examined children".
August 8 "Flora Macdonald has left to attend Fort William Secondary School".

1946 (page 118)

- April 4 "Visited Kyles Morar Side School to-day".
August 27 "Donald J. MacDonald admitted. Roll 6".

1947 (page 126)

- January 10 "School reopened today 10th instead of the 7th owing to storm and the boat unable to get down".

- September 2 "HMI Report. Oral response from the oldest pupils was keen and pleasant. They had enjoyed the novel studied during the session and would benefit by the widening of their reading if a supply of books could be sent regularly to their remote school. They had not received much instruction in sewing owing to lack of material and there were no facilities for the teaching of cookery".
- October 29 "Mr. Cummings, assistant Director of Education and Rev. Monsignor Canon MacNeil visited school to-day".

1948 (page 137)

- January 7 "Roll 4. Jessie Ann and Marion B. Macdonald have left to attend Fort William Secondary School".
- April 26 "Half-holiday to-day to celebrate Their Majesties' Silver Wedding".
- May 23 "Two fire buckets received this week from Mr A. MacTavish, Ironmonger, Inverness".
- April 25 "Roll 4, all girls".
- November 3 "School closed at 3.30 as children were leaving at 5p.m. to attend Miss MacPherson's presentation in Morar".
- November 8 "Received wool from Inverness to-day".

1949 (page 146)

- March 24 "Mary Beaton ill - sent home at 1.30 p.m.".
- June 10 Mary Beaton left school today. The family are leaving the district".
- August 24 Roll 3.
- September 26 "School is now being held in neighbouring house because of the painting and redecoration taking place".
- October 13 "Ellen Gillies absent today - mother unwell".

1950 (page 156)

- January 9 "Mary Margaret Gillies admitted today".
- March 27 "Received school milk - 3 tins".
- May 22 "Roberta and Sandra MacLean have left this school - family have gone elsewhere. Roll now 4".
- September 27 "A kettle arrived from the School Meals Organiser".

1951 (page 165)

1952 (page 170)

- October 1 "Fr. Macdougall (deputising for Canon MacNeill) visited school. He questioned pupils in Catechism".

1953 (page 176)

- January 23 "Received a permit (EA2/SA2//a/sb) for sugar from Inverness Food Office".
- February 9 "I was unable to take school today as the boat could not get down to Morar to pick me up".
- February 10 "Received 1 ton of coal today".
- February 16 "Two pupils enrolled today – Morag and Mary Macdonald, bringing school roll to 5 (five)".
- April 17 "I collected the Ration Books from the local residents and these will be sent by registered post to the Food Office, Inverness, on Saturday 18th April to be exchanged for a new issue".
- May 25 "The souvenir mugs for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth arrived today".
- May 29 "The Coronation Mugs were presented to the pupils this afternoon. School closes today for three days in honour of the Coronation on the 2nd June 1953 of Her

- Majesty Queen Elizabeth. The children of this school will attend the Sports and Celebrations at Morar on Coronation Day”.
- September 21 “Martha MacGeoch Barr and James Robert Whitfield Barr admitted. Roll 6, 4 girls and 2 boys”.
- November 13 “Martha and James Barr have now been absent for the whole week. No certificates have been sent in by their parents. The excuse given by their father (verbally) is that they have gone to Glasgow for a holiday. Mrs Barr, the school cleaner, was shown on the Monthly Report as having gone on holiday on the 7th November”.
- November 20 “The year’s supply of fuel was delivered today : 1 ton coke, 1 ton coal (app). I am making enquiries about the loss of the coal”.
- November 27 “I have now received information relating to Martha MacGeoch Barr. She started to attend St. Mark’s Primary School, Carntyre, Glasgow, on 16th November 1953. James Barr is also staying in Glasgow and is unlikely to be returning to this school”.
- December 18 “Mary and Mary Marion Macdonald are absent again today. Excuse ‘Helping with packing and cleaning house for their forthcoming removal”’.
- December 21 Roll 2.

1954 (page 194)

- January 25 “No opening today. I was held up at Morar owing to the stormy weather”.
- February 16 “Murdena M. and Joan M. Macdonald enrolled today. Roll 4”.
- February 22 “Mrs Macdonald ‘Inverorie’ took up duties as School Cleaner today”.
- March 15 “A piano tuner visited the school today and attended to the small piano”.
- May 31 “Two pupils admitted today – Murdo and Samual Cameron MacLennan. Roll, 3 girls and 3 boys”.
- June 17 “The sum of 15/- (fifteen shillings) was contributed by the pupils and staff to the Greek Earthquake Fund”.

1955 (page 204)

1956 (page 215)

- March 19 “Today, being St. Joseph’s and a Holy Day of Obligation, this school was closed”.
- June 29 “The return of Boarded Out children has been sent to the County Clerk - nil”.
- November 9 “The childrens’ entries for the painting competition run by Fry’s of Bristol were sent off today. Subject : Jungle Scene”.
- December 19 “The estate boat services did not operate on Sunday (16th December) because of gales. Therefore I was unable to open school on Monday 17th”.

1957 (page 225)

- March 1 Roll 8.
- October 5 “All the pupils (and the teacher) had been given an invitation to board one of Her Majesty’s Fishing Protection vessels, HMS Wave, by the commander Captain Baillie (?). All took advantage of the invitation – except those suffering from influenza – (although it was Saturday) and were excellently entertained by the ship’s company”.
- November 25 “Six tins of dried milk have been received today and reconstituted milk will be available to the pupils from henceforth or according to taste”.

1958

- February 3 “Six tins of dried milk received today”.
- March 11 “Samuel MacLennan is absent with, in the absence of any medical opinion, his usual imaginary and recurrent pains”.

- March 13 "Samuel MacLennan is again absent with the 'good reason' that the estate boat did not call for him".
- March 14 "The four MacGregors were removed from the roll today as their parents have taken up an appointment in Kincaig".
- May 2 "It is now obvious that Samuel MacLennan played truant yesterday. He left home willingly for school but appears to have changed his mind on the boat journey towards it and after landing in Meoble he retraced his steps through heath and heather, bog and bracken, and after being lost and searched for by his father, mother, shepherds, stalkers and others, he was found at home much the worse for his hike, at 9.30 p.m. drinking tea and listening to the noisy blast from Radio Luxemburg. He has been kept off school today to recover from his fatigue.
- May 12 "Samuel MacLennan has resumed attending school today".
- May 15 "Tomorrow, Friday 16th May, I am closing the school so that I can attend Canon John MacNeill's funeral in Morar".
- May 28 "Samuel C. MacLennan refused to board the school boat and ran off home".
- August 26 "Samuel MacLennan now attending Mallaig Junior Secondary School".
- September 15 "Admitted today Marylene Cameron Lawrie, Elizabeth Anne Munro and Iain Munro. Roll 3 girls, 2 boys".
- October 6 "Notice appeared in the Scotsman, that the deer forest of ?lestile and Lettermoran is for sale".
- November 19 "Three men from the County Architects Department today had a look at the water supply and buildings with a view to install lavatories to replace the antediluvian ones now in existence".
- December 22 "Due to the inept planning of this morning's boat runs, I was unable to reach school in time to take the morning periods. The opening lost by this **essey(?)** in inexpert planning by this estate's management will, on instructions from the Director of Education, be made good during the course of the school year".

1959 (page 259)

- June 2 "On account of some muddled planning over boat runs, I was unable to be back to reopen school this morning. However, Miss J? (Janice?) de Ferranti gave the children some lessons in the morning".

1960 (page 271)

- January 5 "Anne C. White and William White have left. Roll 2".
- September 6 "I closed the school today so that I could attend Canon Dominic MacKellaig's funeral".
- September 30 "Again owing to an alteration in the boat timetable no pupils turned up for school".
- October 10 "The fire was lit for the first time this session".
- December 5 "I was unable to take school today as there was no boat run to bring me back to Meoble yesterday. The storm was blamed – conveniently".

1961 (page 282)

- January 31 "Again there have been no classes because the estate boat left Morar yesterday without waiting for me or informing me of the time of departure".
- May 29 "As from today there are no children attending school. The two on roll are leaving for Argyll this afternoon

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