

Headmaster's Report to the Managers of Horton in Ribblesdale  
Church of England School. July 1966.  
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" On the general condition of the school, the progress and on any special occurrence during the year."

The School Year began on the 6th September, 1965. 21 Infants - 19 Lower Juniors - 23 Upper Juniors were entered on the registers being a total of 63.

School Boiler. On Sunday 17th October a large hole appeared in the back section of the boiler. By the 22nd October a new boiler had been installed and an electric pump added to the system. The general standard of heating throughout the school has improved considerably, particularly early in the morning.

Nativity Play. The Upper Juniors produced a Nativity Play in Church on the 20th December, 1965. I was very pleased at the way in which the children performed this very simple but moving piece of worship.

Christmas Dinner. The Canteen Staff once again made an excellent Christmas Dinner for the children. With increasing numbers - all the children stay for dinner - there is much hard work for the Canteen Staff who continue to make meals of a very good quality.

Christmas Party. The School Party was held on the last day of term, 22nd December from 1.30 - 6.30 pm. The children were given an excellent tea made by the Staff and one or two parents. Games and film strips, songs and carols were the entertainment and each child was given a present before going home. The whole cost of the party was paid for out of school funds. The School Fund's source of income is a jumble sale usually held in October, the 22nd last year, when £36 was raised.

Student. In the Spring Term and at the request of Bingley Training College, one student carried out his second School Practice.

Thorne Selection Committee. The Headmaster has been elected onto the Thorne Scheme Panel which requires him to be absent from normal school duties for three or four days during the year.

School Trip. The School was closed on the 7th July for what seems to have become an annual affair. The Junior school children enjoyed a day out together, at the same time extending their experience and increasing knowledge. The trip included a visit to the White Scar Caves, Ingleton Falls, Skipton

Castle and the Swimming Baths. The cost of the trip was subsidised by the School funds.

School Visitors. We have had very few visitors to the School this year, but quite a number called in July 1965, including one of Her Majesties Inspectors who seemed favourably impressed with our school and joined in with the work of the children. It has given me great pleasure and encouragement to have our Vicar call regularly at school and join in our act of worship at the beginning of each Tuesday morning. I hope we shall be able to work out together a scheme of work in Religious Education suitable for the children and acceptable by modern standards.

Visit by Miss Gott - School Meals Organiser.

On the 22nd July Miss Gott suggested to me that we ought to try making use of Dining Room Assistants during the dinner hour, supervising the children in school and playground - in order to relieve pressure of work in the canteen. I agreed to this suggestion but made my feelings about this matter firmly understood, that extra help was needed in the canteen not in the dining rooms as all the teachers do voluntary duty each and every day and accept this without grumble and without reward. However this scheme may give my Staff the opportunity of a few minutes break and may also help a little with the canteen work, if suitable people apply for this work which is for only one hour per day and at the awkward time of 12 - 1 pm.

Annual Inspection of Religious Education.

On Wednesday 27th July, Canon Baker of Waddington carried out the duties of Inspector and visited each class in turn. His visit lasted about 2 hours. The regulations do not now require a written report to be made after each inspection and I have received no indication as to whether one will be made this time or not.

Prizes. Prizes were presented to the winners on the last day of term by our Vicar. The children and Staff are indeed grateful to the Managers for providing prizes. It is extremely difficult when looking at the efforts of children and remembering their inequalities of natural talent, to decide who is worthy and who is unworthy of a prize. However, I feel our present system gives every child a chance.

School Furniture. Because of the increase in the school population - we had 68 on roll in July and expect to have 75 after Christmas and possibly 80 by July 1967 - extra new desks have been delivered at the school. The classrooms and cupboards are overcrowded. We are already having to bring back into the classrooms old desks which ought to have been sold or destroyed, but fortunately were saved and stored. I have requested extra cupboard space from the Authority but there seems no hope of this being supplied in the near future.

School Television. In 1961 - 62 - 63, before the numbers on roll became large, I made use of a small number of T.V. broadcasts for schools by taking classes to watch at the School House. From my experience there the value of T.V. as a teaching instrument was clear and the Authority granted my request for the installation of a set at school, which has now been in use for one year. The value of a T.V.set in school is not in its indiscriminate use but in the realisation by experienced teachers that

- a - most children watch a good deal of television and as a result take in only part of what they have seen and that
- b - they must combat this rather passive observation by careful preparation and follow up work.

90% of programmes used in this school have been of great use and value to teachers and children.

Staff. I am happy to say that the relationships between members of staff have always been good and am well satisfied with all the work that has been done.

I sincerely hope that the Managers have found this report of interest and use. I should like to take this opportunity of inviting the Managers either as a body or as individuals to call in school whenever they may wish.