

Extracts from School Log Books (1893-1899)

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Editor's notes (italics) are inserted by the transcriber. An ellipsis (...) indicates partial extract).

I have tried to maintain the form of written notes – no attempt has been made to correct spelling or capitalisation. A query (?) indicates doubtful interpretation of a difficult hand.

This Log Book has no Frontpiece except that Page "AB" carries the usual room dimensions beneath the number 12426 (again, presumably the school No.):

Length of School-room	–	45	ft.	1	in
Breadth	"	"	"	20	" –
Height	"	"	"	10	" 3
				ft	
Length of Class-room		16	"		
Breadth	"	"	"	10	"
Height	"	"	"	10	" 3in.

Beneath which is written: Drawing number 11260

No inserts to rest of 'lettered' pages. Log book entries proper begin on Page 1 : June 5th. 1893 :

5 Jun 1893 Attendance with one or two exceptions good. H.Gant Stan.VI absent a fortnight at work.

7 Jun 1893 Received new Drawing Slates for Infants and Stan.I. Average for the week 76.8

12-16 Jun 1893 ... The boys in the Upper Standards are kept at home to work in the fields. ...

28 Jun 1893 ... The Infant Class owing to the excessive heat have not done their work well. ...

3-7 Jul 1893 Attendance very poor in the Upper Standards boys being at work on the farms. One girl, E.Spencer absent 4 weeks (Stan V) ...

6 Jul 1893 Thursday. A day's holiday on account of the Royal Marriage.

7 Jul 1893 Attendance very poor. Children have done a very bad day's work. Drawing has been very inferior. The boys hands are so dirty that they have to be washed two and three times a day. ...

10-14 Jul 1893 ... Many boys absent at work in the fields.

17 Jul 1893 Attendance very moderate owing to the older boys who are in the Choir going to Bridlington for their annual trip. M.Murdoch absent all day having gone to Bridlington with the Choir. ...

2 Aug 1893 A Day's holiday on account of the Clarborough Show.

4 Aug 1893 Broke up for the Harvest Holidays one month. Received 4 new desks for the Infants. ...

2 Sep 1893 Gladstone's second Irish Home Rule Bill approved by House of Commons.

9 Sep 1893 House of Lords rejects Home Rule Bill.

15 Sep 1893 S.Johnston and W.Mitchell left today their parents having left Welham. W.Booth Stan.V has been absent since (*unfinished sentence*) ...

18 Sep 1893 A days holiday, having to attend the funeral of my husband's mother. ...

20 Sep 1893 ... Arithmetic requires most diligent attention, Children do not use their reasoning faculties. Problems are a failure in every Standard although the greatest care is taken with them.

27 Sep 1893 Wednesday. School closed for the day the room being required for the Harvest Thanksgiving.

4 Oct 1893 Wednesday. School visited by Mr Birks and Mr Ogle two members of the Board to inspect the new desks. The new Infant desks were used for the first time to-day,. Have placed them for the present in the large room.

11 Oct 1893 School visited by the Attendance Officer. Several boys at work, potato-picking who ought to be at school.

14 Oct 1893 Saturday. M.Murdock attended the Exam. Of pupil-teachers at Retford, 2nd year papers. Agnes Murdock (*or Murdoch – difficult hand*) Candidates Papers at the same time and place. ...

7 Nov 1893 Tuesday. Annual Audit. Children had the day's holiday.

8 Nov 1893 Punished A.Anderson for disobedience. ...

20-24 Nov 1893 ... Agnes Murdock mistress absent the whole week sick.

8 Dec 1893 ... Children have been very disorderly in the Lower Standards. Have punished J.Marriott several times for copying. ...

30 Nov 1893 Royal charter incorporates 3 Welsh colleges to form the University of Wales.

13 Dec 1893 ... Agnes Murdock the mistress still absent sick. ...

1 Jan 1894 First use of Manchester Ship Canal – official opening by Queen Victoria on 21 May.

2 Jan 1894 Reopened School after the Christmas Holidays. School visited by the Revd.F.Barnes. Received notice that the Drawing Exam. Had been altered from Jan 26 to Jan 3rd.

3 Jan 1894 Drawing Examination commenced 1.15 P.M. Registers not marked. Revd. F.Barnes present. ...

25 Jan 1894 ... The composition in Stan.V with the exception of the girls has been wretched. Although the greatest pains have been bestowed on this Standard in writing, no improvement is visible. The boys have been most irregular during the year. ...

2 Feb 1894 Received result of the Drawing Exam. (*Science & Art Department*) which has been marked "Good".

16 Feb 1894 School closed today owing to the room being cleaned ready for the Exam. Feb 19th. ...

19 Feb 1894 School examined by the Revd. C.Sewell and B.Webster Esq. 51 examined in the Standards and 26 infants. Total 77. Members of the Board present Mr Birks and the Revd. F.Barnes. The Board closed the school for the remainder of the week – owing to the Mistress having sustained an injury to her foot by two of the boys treading on it.

26 Feb 1894 Reopened School – Arranged the children in their Standards. Admitted L.Briggs, R.A.Briggs, E.Bartle. Infants. Gave Arithmetic lessons to all the Standard Children.

1 Mar 1894 Local Government Act establishes parish councils; women given equal rites to men as voters and candidates for council elections.

7 Mar 1894 ... Standard I children are very bad talkers, a great deal of time is taken up in making them pronounce their words properly. ...

12 Mar 1894 Readmitted Annie Aukland. 12 children presented in Stan.IV. 10 passed in all three subjects 1 failed in writing and 1 in arithmetic.

20 Mar 1894 Tuesday. Diocesan Inspection conducted by the Revd. S.Berry – present W.Birks Esq. Miss Garland Revd. F.Barnes. Number examined 69 Registers not marked.

3 Apr 1894 The Report received from the Clerk from the Education Department. M.Murdock Pupil Teacher passed fairly. A Murdock is now recognised under Article 33 of the Code. Object lesson to the Infants on “The Elephant”. Average for the week 74.

11 Apr 1894 Budget of Sir William Harcourt initiates death duties.

3 May 1894 ... Stan.I are not very quick at Arithmetic. To improve the Writing in this Stan. The Royal Writing sheets are now being used. ... At a Meeting of the Board it was decided to give Whit Monday only as a holiday instead of a week as usual. ...

Report

Mixed School

“Very creditable work is now done in this school, writing in the first and fifth Standards being, however, only fair and Mental Arithmetic moderate. The pieces recited were accurate, but showed poor intelligence and insufficient study, and the higher Grammar was imperfect. Singing has improved. Needlework is good, and good order prevails.”

Infants Class. “The Infants” Class is in good order and taught with diligence and fair success. Singing should improve. The mistress should be in closer communication with the Teacher as to the details of her work.”

M.Murdock has passed fairly, A Murdock is recognised under Article 33 of the Code.

(signed) Fred W.Wells.

16 May 1894 ... 9 children in the School have not made a single attendance. 3 others have only made two. ...

21 May 1894 The Board engaged A.Murdock as Monitress subject to a months notice. ...

25 Jun 1894 Monday. Holiday. Clarborough Feast.

2 Jul 1894 Monday. M.Murdock Pupil Teacher absent having gone with the Choir Trip to Scarborough. Attendance very moderate owing to the boys going to Scarborough. ...

9-13 Jul 1894 Attendance poor the whole week. Stan.II have attended badly. Nearly all Stan.VI boys at work in the hay-field. ... F.Bartle Stan.VI absent 3 weeks. A.Bowman Stan VI absent 4 weeks. ...

27 Jul 1894 Friday. A.Murdock absent this afternoon ill. Several children absent pea-pulling. 64 only were marked. ...

6-10 Aug 1894 ... Alexander Bowman Stan.VI & E.Spencer the former absent 6 weeks the latter a month. Several children have been kept at home while their mothers have gone out to work. The Infants have done all their quiet work in the large room. Singing has been taken by the Mistress, also Word-building and Object lessons.

17 Sep 1894 Reopened School after the Harvest Holidays. Attendance wretched the whole week. ...

19 Sep 1894 Wednesday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. A.Bowman, E.Spencer Stan.VI E.Nicholls Stan II have not made a single attendance this quarter. Several children absent gleaning potato-picking &c. ...

24 Sep 1894 Monday. Only 9 children marked in Stan.IV V & VI instead of 20.

26 Sep 1894 ... Work in the Standards has been badly done especially Arithmetic both mental and Slate work. Children are very careless in setting down their sums. ...

2 Oct 1894 The Attendance was wretched 51 present in the morning and 26 in the afternoon. Today being Retford Fair the children absented themselves to attend. The Board did not give a holiday. ...

8-12 Oct 1894 Attendance improved with the exception of Standard II. A.Bowman Stan.VI returned to school absent since June 15th George Eason returned to school absent since Sep.17. Arithmetic lessons have been given to all the Standards.

13 Oct 1894 Pupil Teacher and Monitress attended the Pupil Teacher’s Exam. at Retford. Object lesson to the Infants on The Cabbage. Average for the week 67.3

15 Oct 1894 Captain Alfred Dreyfus arrested in Paris on false charge of spying.

15 Oct 1894 Monday. Meeting of the Board held in the School; in order that the members might examine the School premises, It was decided to thoroughly clean the School, and ceiling during the Christmas Holidays.

1 Nov 1894 J.Marriott punished for telling untruths and copying.

19-23 Nov 1894 Attendance good the whole week. E.Spencer Stan.VI returned to School after an absence of 14 weeks.

Next two entries appear in this order:

22 Nov 1894 School visited by B.Webster Esq – H.M.I. who tested the registers.

20 Nov 1894 School visited by the Revd. F.Barnes. Punished J.Marriott and S.Mitchell for telling untruths. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Gooseberry". Average for the week 77.6

7 Dec 1894 ... The attendance throughout the year I the upper Standards has been so bad that satisfactory results are impossible. The boys are at work during the summer and begin to come again about 3 months before the Exam. ... the Mistress has taken the Infants in Singing, Drill &c. ...

17 Dec 1894 A day's holiday the room being required as a polling place for the Parish Council.

21 Dec 1894 ... Broke up for the Christmas Holidays duties to be resumed Jan 7th 1895. The Board have given a fortnight so as to enable them to have the School thoroughly cleaned and whitewashed. ...

7 Jan 1895 Reopened School after the Christmas Holidays.

11 Jan 1895 ... The School has been thoroughly cleaned and painted during the Christmas Holidays. ...

25 Jan 1895 The Drawing Examination took place. Conducted by Colonel Sandford – from 9 to 10.30. M.Murdock was examined in Freehand. Mr Spencer one of the Members of the Board was present. 25 names were on the schedule 23 were examined. 2 boys in Standard I Albert Schofield (who was sick) and J.Chapman (whose mother declined to allow him to be examined) were absent. ...

14 Feb 1895 *The Importance of Being Earnest (Oscar Wilde)* first performed at St.James's Theatre, London.

11 Feb 1895 School visited by Mr Ogle who brought an oil stove and ordered the lamps to be lighted owing to the coldness of the room.

19 Feb 1895 School examined by Rev.E.Sewell and R.Webster. 76 present 3 absentees. Revd. F.Barnes was present.

21 Feb 1895 Received the special Drawing Certificate from the Science and Art (Department). ...

28 Feb 1895 School visited by the Revd. F.Barnes. A half holiday in the afternoon, the room being required by the County Council. ... Children are not careful enough in working their sums. ...

14 Mar 1895 Admitted H.Anderson Infant. The following children have left the School owing to their parents leaving the village. A.Bowman, H.Bowman, J.Bowman & E.Bowman. ...

18 Mar 1895 Only 53 children marked this afternoon. Many having gone to Retford races. Received notice that the Annual Report had arrived. It is impossible to secure satisfactory results in the Higher Standards, owing to irregular attendance. The children are absent all the Summer at work, and only return a month or two before the Examination, a years work cannot be done in that short time.

21 Mar 1895 Punished S.Mitchell for kicking P.Murdoch in the face. ...

Report:

Mixed School. "Reading was good except in the third standard, where spelling too was weak. The composition and Arithmetic of the upper standards were unsatisfactory. The Class work was much more evenly successful, English and Needlework being extremely good and History a new subject very fair. Very diligent drilling rather than intelligent teaching is the mark of this school."

Infant's Class. "The Infants are carefully taught; but there is a singular lack of animation in the Teacher which is reflected in the slow intelligence of the children."

M.Murdock has passed fairly; but should attend to Grammar and Geography. A.Murdock is not qualified by attainment for admission to a shortened term of apprenticeship.
(signed) Fred W.Wells.

4 Apr 1895 ... A.Groves, A.Chambers have left this week.

22 Apr 1895 Reopened School after Easter Holidays. Many children in the Upper Standards at work potato planting. Admitted A.Jackson, A.Dawson & M.Bingham.

24 Apr 1895 J.Wilkinson an infant taken to the Cottage Hospital suffering from the effects of a fall from a grass roller. Received the Diocesan Inspector's report which was very satisfactory. Work throughout the School has been very unsatisfactory. Children are very irregular staying at home for the most trivial things. ...

29 Apr – 3 May 1895 Attendance fair. Stan.III have attended best. Many children in the Upper Standards at work planting potatoes. The children in the Lower Standards are kept at home to nurse while their parents go to work – Good progress cannot be made with the present irregular attendance.

1 May 1895 The pupil-teachers were not satisfactory with their lessons.

24 May 1895 ... E.Briggs Stan.I has made 21 attendances out of 40. A. Briggs Stan.IV has made 20 out of 40. both are kept at home to nurse.

12 Jun 1895 Wednesday. ... The Infant class have not worked well. John Wilkinson an infant in the Infant Class died in Retford Hospital from internal injuries. Writing in the Infant Class requires great attention.

17 Jun 1895 Monday. Both pupil-teachers absent to-day; they having gone to Skegness with the Choir. Only two boys present in the Upper Standards.

24 Jun 1895 Monday. Holiday the whole day, it being Claborough Feast.

25-27 Jun 1895 ... Attendance very poor in the Upper Standards. Children are at work in the hayfields. Others are kept at home while their parents go to work. ...

1-5 Jul 1895 The boys in the Upper Standards have attended badly all the week, one day one boy only was marked. Children are kept at home to nurse while their parents go out to work.

17 Jul 1895 Wednesday. School closed, being required for a Polling Station. ...

23 Jul 1895 Drilled the children in the playground, the room being too close and hot. ...

24 Jul 1895 Punished J.Marriott & C.Anderson for copying. All the Varied Occupations of the Infant Class have been done in the large room. History has only been fairly done.

29 Jul – 2 Aug 1895 Attendance very poor in the Upper Standards and Stan.III. Work in all the Standards shows improvement, weak points being Mental Arithmetic and Spelling which was bad in the Second Standard. Better work ought to have been done in the Infant Class considering the time and attention they receive. The drills and marching have been taken in the playground the whole week owing to the closeness of the room. Drawing in the Infant Class was only fair.

6-8 Aug 1895 ... Marching and drills have again been taken in the playground.

9 Aug 1895 G.Green Stan.IV left. His parents having left the village. ...

10 Aug 1895 General election results: Conservatives (340), Liberal Unionists (71), Liberals (177), Irish Party (82). Conservative majority = 152.

16 Aug 1895 Broke up for Harvest Holidays 1 month. Duties to be resumed September 16th. Object lesson to the Infants on "Spoons" Average for the week 55.8

16 Sep 1895 School reopened after the Harvest Holidays. Only 58 present both morning and afternoon.

25 Sep 1895 Wednesday. A days holiday the School being required for the Harvest Festival. The Infant class owing to the great heat of the room have not done their work very well. Drawing requires great attention.

6 Oct 1895 Henry Wood conducts the first Promenade Concert at Queen's Hall, London.

18 Oct 1895 John Spencer and John Stevenson left the School today to go to the Wesleyan School at Retford. J.Stevenson Stan.VII J.Stevenson Stan.V both have attended irregularly especially the latter who has only made 27 attendances out of a possible 76. ...

28 Oct – 1 Nov 1895 ... E.Stamp Stan.III & G.Stamp, Stan.II are not to attend School until after Christmas by orders of a medical man.

29-31 Oct 1895 School visited by the Revd. F.Barnes on both dates. Arithmetic has been better this week in all Standards. Lessons are given on the Black-board. Problems are now the least satisfactory – these are being explained daily. Children work them well on the board, but do not work them alone correctly – this is owing to a want of thought.

31 Oct 1895 Received notice of the Audit. Nov.20th. Punished J.Marriott and S.Mitchell for copying. ...

11-15 Nov 1895 Attendance improved. C.Anderson E.Stamp. G.Stamp still absent ill. ...

20 Nov 1895 School closed, it being the Annual Audit at the Union Retford. ...

25-29 Nov 1895 Attendance wretched throughout the week. Stan.III & IV are the worst. ... Work in the Infant Class has not been done as well as usual. Discipline in this class must be improved. Children are very restless when in the large room. Teacher is not strict enough. ...

5 Dec 1895 Several children absent though (*sic*) the stormy weather.

20 Dec 1895 Broke up for the Christmas Holidays. ...

30 Dec 1895 Reopened School after Christmas Holidays. ...

1 Jan 1896 A days holiday, it being New Years Day. ...

4-5 Jan 1896 [Anti-German demonstrations in Britain reflecting rising tensions between these nations.](#)

24 Jan 1896 ... R.Hurst still absent sick. ...

31 Jan 1896 The last day of the School year. Registers closed. Received notice of the Exam. Feb. 14. School visited by Mr Spencer one of the Members of the Board who examined the back premises. Revised object lessons to the Infants. Average for the week 60.4

6 Mar 1896 ... 22 absent suffering from Mumps. ...

9-13 Mar 1896 ... 24 children absent suffering from Mumps. ...

17 Apr 1896 Received intelligence of the death of the Revd. G.Sewell Her M.Inspector. ...

27 Apr 1896 R.A.Hurst returned to school after an absence from illness since Dec 16th 1895.

30 Apr 1896 Mary Murdock left the School to day Her engagement with the Board terminating on that date.

May 1896 [Daily Mail goes on sale \(cover price = ½d\)](#)

8 May 1896 Friday. School closed this afternoon owing to the sudden death of my Sister at Matlock Bath; and my having to go there. The Board closed the School till Wednesday in order that I might attend the funeral. Average for the week 56.6

29 May 1896 [James Connolly founds Irish Socialist Republican Party.](#)

22-26 Jun 1896 Attendance poor the whole week. Two wet days. Children who live a long way from School do not come in wet weather.

24 Jun 1896 A day's holiday. Clarborough Feast. ...

30 Jun 1896 Admitted C.Jones, F.Jones, P.Jones & D.Jones. They are all very backward.

6-10 Jul 1896 ... Several children are employed by Market Gardeners to pick fruit.

1 Sep 1896 Sent E.Wilkinson and M.Bingham home, there were covered with sores and are not in a fit state to attend school.

2 Sep 1896 A day's holiday it being the Annual Flower Show. The Attendance has been wretched the whole week. ...

23 Sep 1896 ... The girls did the same lessons as the boys this afternoon instead of needlework. ...

Oct 1896 [First Olympiad of modern times held in Athens.](#)

28 Sep – 2 Oct 1896 Attendance moderate. Children at work potato-picking. ...

12 Oct 1896 Annie Saul began duties to-day; she has been engaged as an Additional Teacher by the Board, she has come a month on trial. She was 18 years old, Sep 8th 1896.

6 Nov 1896 Annie Saul left today, she having completed her month on trial. She finds the distance too far to walk and her parents require her services at home. ...

20 Jan 1897 A day's holiday. Mr Thorold one of the Members of the Board gave a tea and entertainment to the Children and Parents. ...

1 Feb 1897 Commenced new registers.

15 Feb 1897 [British detachments among international force sent to Crete to support Greek insurrection against Turkish rule.](#)

19 Feb 1897 Opened School at 8.30. Examination conducted by J.Davies Esq. And B.Webster Esq. 67 were examined. 3 absent A.Anderson, Standard VI and two Infants. Sickness was the cause of their absence. ...

22 Feb 1897 Placed Children in their proper Standard.

12 Mar 1897 C.Anderson left today be being 13.

Report of Examination 1897:

"The written Arithmetic has distinctly improved and is now quite satisfactory, except in the second Standard where notation was very faulty. Reading was fluent but should be more intelligent, and the Composition and Handwriting of the Upper Standards should have more attention. History has improved but the class work generally is too mechanically prepared, the answering lacking thoughtfulness. The Infants are indifferently taught – the Pupil Teacher should not teach out of sight of the Mistress. A shall expect improvement in this part of the School"

Signed Fred W.Well Clerk of the Board

*An inserted slip of paper between the next pair of pages carries the words: CLERK
F.W.Wells Solicitor*

23 Mar 1897 A Day's holiday it being Retford Fair.

29 Mar 1897 Received notice that there will be no Examination in 1898 the School being under Article 84 (b).

26 Apr 1897 Reopened School after the Easter Holidays. E.Nicholls Stan.V is unable to attend school owing to an accident to her knee. She is unable to walk. ...

29 Apr 1897 Diocesan Examination conducted by Mr.Ross. Registers not marked 64 present. ...

3 May 1897 Quarterly Examination. Examined the whole school in their work as far as they had gone. ...

10-14 May 1897 Admitted L.Durham and F.Durham from Little Gringley. They have never been to school before. L.Durham is 5½ years and F.Durham 7. Have put F.Durham in the Infant class.

20 May 1897 ... The boys work Mental Arithmetic better than the girls. ...

3 Jun 1897 School visited by B.Webster Esq who remained until 12.45. This being the First visit under Article 84 (b). The lessons went on as usual, no alteration of Time-table. The Inspector advised the grouping of Standards I & II for History – this has been done.

...

3 Jun 1897 Inspection (1) Art. 84(b)

1. School was not opened until 9.15 owing to the late arrival of the Mistress.
2. The Boys' offices are not clean – the lobby and yard leading to Girls' offices untidily kept. The blind in the Infants' room cannot be raised. There are too many loose stones & bricks in the playground.
3. More cupboard accommodation appears to be needed.

Signed ??? Webster. Sub-Inspector.

10 Jun 1897 ... Drill has been taken in the playground – the school being so close and hot. ...

18 Jun 1897 It was decided by the board to give a week's holiday during Jubilee week, the room being required for dinner and tea on June 22nd

22 Jun 1897 [Queen Victoria celebrates her Golden Jubilee.](#)

28 Jun – 2 Jul 1897 Attendance fairly good. Several children absent gathering fruit.

Jul 1896 [Light Locomotives on Highways Act repeals red warning flag legislation of 1865.](#)

13 Jul 1897 Held the quarterly Exam – of the Standard Children. Arithmetic in the lower Standards was not satisfactory. Several Children absent. Recitations were good. English satisfactory. History in the Upper Standards was good.

10+12 Aug 1897 School visited by Revd. S.D.Kennedy on both dates (*almost a weekly feature*).

12 Aug 1897 Revd.S.Kennedy examined the Pupil Teacher and the Candidate in their work; and also their note and lesson books.

Aug-Sep 1897 [Campaign along India's north-west frontier against Afghans. Lieutenant Winston Churchill mentioned in despatches while serving with the Malakand field force.](#)

16 Sep 1897 School visited by the Revd.L.D.Roworth. The Pupil Teacher has given lessons from the B.B. to all the Standards. A.E. & E.Schofield have left the school their parents having removed to Retford. ...

18 Oct 1897 A cupboard was received today. Have taken Stan.I in Reading. Children do not read with care and intelligence.

22 Oct 1897 A Mudock & M.E.Staniland absent this afternoon having to go to Retford to recite, read and take their needlework specimens to H.M.I. B.Webster Esq. Average for the week 65.3

15-19 Nov 1897 Attendance fair. Several children still absent sick. A & E.Hargill Infant Class still absent, since Aug 10th. They have been ill with measles.

17 Nov 1897 Frances Bartle Stan.IV detained after School she having been stealing money from home and giving it to girls in the same class. The matter has been brought before Members of the Board.

29 Nov 1897 The school was visited by Mr.Finch H.M.I. who remained the whole afternoon. Several children absent through illness and bad weather. The Inspector took the subjects that were not taken at the previous visit. Lessons on problems by the Mistress have been given to all the Standards/ Reading in all classes requires careful attention, Children read without expression.

21 Jan 1898 Drawing Inspection. J.H.Cook S+A dept.

28 Jan 1898 J.Rogers Stanard VII left. J.Anderson & H.Anderson left. Their parents have gone to live in Surrey. Object lessons have been revised. Average for the week 67

2 Feb 1898 ... The Infant Class has been rearranged and children promoted. Drill requires attention in this class. ...

14-18 Feb 1898 Attendance excellent (*a first?*) One boy absent the whole week tenting (???) crows.

21-25 Feb 1898 Attendance very good. Two absent the whole week. Admitted E & C.Staniland. F.Jones Stan.IV absent since Feb. 10th at work.

7-11 Mar 1898 ... Received notice of the Diocesan Exam. Mar 28.

23 Mar 1898 A days holiday it being Retford Fair.

28 Mar 1898 The Diocesan Exam. did not take place owing to the illness of the Inspector.

5 May 1898 Called the attention of the board to the state of the playground. Mr Webster expressed a wish that it should be done at once. ...

12 May 1898 The death took place of Mr Spencer a Member of the School Board.

13 May 1898 [Chamberlain's Birmingham speech urging better Anglo-American relations and need for Britain to emerge from isolation by seeking allies.](#)

23-26 May 1898 Attendance moderate. Several Children at work planting celery.

6 Jun 1898 Owing to the death of my Father, School was not opened today.

7 Jun 1898 Reopened school after the Whitsuntide Holidays. Admitted S.Mullins. School visited by the Rev. S.Kennedy.

8 Jun 1898 School visited by Mr.Thorold.

9 Jun 1898 Britain obtains 99 year lease of 376 square miles of Chinese territory north of Kowloon (Hong Kong).

24 Jun 1898 Friday. Today being Clarborough Feast a days holiday was given. ...

30 Jun 1898 The playground has been commenced, the Children play in the orchard while the work is being done. ...

4-8 Jul 1898 A decrease in the attendance in the upper Standards. Boys work in Hayfield and gathering fruit. It would be better if the Board would divide the holidays giving a fortnight now and a fortnight at Harvest.

8 Jul 1898 The playground has been finished this week. Children are not allowed to play in it until the granite (*surely asphalt ?*) is set.

11-15 Jul 1898 Attendance wretched the whole week. All the boys with the exception of 4 in the Upper Standards at work in the hayfields.

28 Jul 1898 Sent E.Elston home – Her brother having the scarlet fever.

29 Jul 1898 Broke up for the Harvest Holidays. Duties to be resumed Aug.29.

12 Aug 1898 Irish Local Government Act establishes elected county and district councils.

12-16 Sep 1898 Attendance improved. Admitted S.Dawson & G.Stevenson (Infants). ...

23 Sep 1898 Punished P.Jones for using bad words, also J.Marriott for rudeness to this Teacher. Average for the week. 64.2

12 Oct 1898 ... Drawing shows improvement in the Infant class. Stan. III require attention in Freehand, Curves are badly done. ...

24-28 Oct 1898 ... Admitted M.Baines.

14 Nov 1898 Received 6 new desks. The Infant have been taken in Number by the Mistress on Thursday & Friday. Punished several children for being rude to their Teacher.

...

23 Dec 1898 At a Meeting of the board the Lavatory was ordered to be done at once. Also the School to be well cleaned out during the Holidays.

10 Jan 1899 Two children came in too late to be marked.

11 Jan 1899 ... The Infant Class have worked fairly well – Singing has been too loud. ...

31 Jan 1899 Agnes Murdock completed her apprenticeship today. At a Meeting of the Board it was decided to retain her services for 3 months.

1 Feb 1899 Commenced new registers. School visited by Mr.Thorold. Placed the children in their Standards. ...

20 Mar 1899 Chamberlain advice to Kruger regarding civil rites to foreign workers ('Uitlanders') in Transvaal.

16 Apr 1899 Petition from 21,000 British Uitlanders seeking British protection received in London.

27 Mar 1899 Agnes Murdock heard the result of the Scholarship Exam. She has failed.

28 Apr 1899 Agnes Murdock left the School. She having been appointed Assistant (Article 68) at Caunton Newark.

Report 3 May 1899

Visit of Inspection. Registers should be closed at 1.40 – they were in course of being marked when I entered at 1.45, therefore the attendance must be cancelled but the meeting be counted as an opening of the school. *Signed B (???) Webster.*

19 Jun 1899 Samuel Mullins, Stan.III sent home suffering from ringworms.

7 Jul 1899 School visited by Revd.Rowley. Punished P.Jones & P.Thackery for dirty writing. ...

18 Jul 1899 Transvaal offers rights to Uitlanders of 7 years' residence.

27 Jul 1899 Chamberlain demands fuller concessions by Kruger.

14 Jul 1899 Punished A.Chambers for copying. G & E.Elston played truant today. ...

4 Aug 1899 Completed Log Book.