

St Andrew's Time Machine - fact sheet



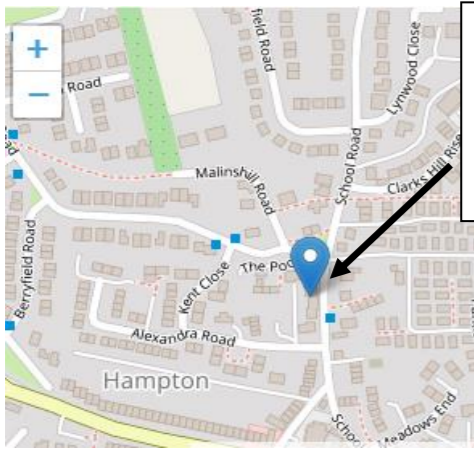
This used to be part of the school field.



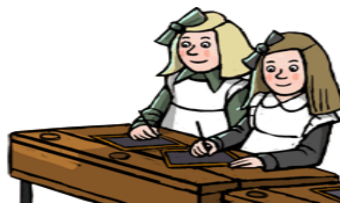
Year 3 and after school club were in these porta cabins.



The first law said children had to stay at school until they were at least 12 years old. After that, children from poor families usually had to leave and go out to work. The school leaving age was raised in 1918, the last year of the war. All children then had to stay at school until they were at least 14.



Our school used to be in School Road before it moved to Maryman's Road in the late 1970's



Pupils learning to write used a slate with a squeaky, chalky 'slate pencil'. The writing came out white against the dark background. Children spat on the slate to rub out any mistakes they had made. Older children wrote in exercise books known as 'copybooks'. They used wooden pens with metal points (or 'nibs') which they dipped again and again into inkwells made of china. An inkwell was a little pot of ink that hung in a hole cut in the desk. It was tricky to write neat, joined-up handwriting without making smudges or blots!

Children learned reading, spelling, handwriting and arithmetic (mathematics). They were also taught history and geography. But the way they were taught was very different from today.

The teacher wrote the lesson on the blackboard, using chalk. The children were expected to copy the lesson then memorise it. Pupils would chant their lesson out loud, word for word, from memory. Children who made mistakes in their copying or chanting faced strict punishments.



A classroom during World War One was bare and simple. There were just a few books, as most learning was done straight from the blackboard. There was no carpet. On the walls there might be just a map of the world, showing the British Empire shaded in pink or red, and portraits of King George V and Queen Mary.

Teachers were formal and stern. They punished bad behaviour very strictly. Children often sat in silence for their lessons, with their hands behind their backs to keep them out of mischief.

If children were late for lessons, they got a rap on the knuckles with a wooden ruler. If they were caught talking, they often had to stay after school and write out one hundred times: 'I must not chatter in lesson time.'

Dinners were solid and *stodgy*. Children might get pea soup and bread baked in *dripping*, followed by fruit pudding. For the poorest children, it was the only daily meal they had.

Modern classrooms are very different to how they used to be. There is a lot more technology used.



Pupils had PE lessons known as 'drill'. Girls and boys marched on the spot and did simple stretches. To build up strength they swung large wooden clubs around. In some schools boys were also given boxing lessons.



Children of different ages sat together in lessons. Often there were as many as 60 children in one class. If the school was large, boys and girls would be taught separately.



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St Andrew's Time Machine is a project that aims to help children understand the importance of time and how to use it wisely.

The project is a collaboration between St Andrew's Primary School and the local community.

The project is designed to be fun and interactive, with a focus on learning through play.

The project is open to all children in the school, and is a great opportunity for them to learn and grow.

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