

EMBO SCHOOL LOG BOOK 1863 – 1873

July 1863 – June 1873

“Extract from revised code.”

July 1st – Lessons given according to the time table, children made the usual progress. The pupil teachers at their posts in time.

Oct 26th – A visit from Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland. The duchess inspected the sewing upon arriving, her grace expressed herself very much pleased with what she both saw and heard and wished me to vie her a list of the most deserving pupils, the list was forwarded through the school manager Mr Peacock (?)

Nov 4th – Dornoch Market – holiday.

Nov 12th – Thanksgiving day.

Nov 13th - Preaching sacrament

Nov 16th – Preaching sacrament

25th Dec – normal school day.

Jan 11 – 15 (1864) New Year holidays – old style.

Jan 18th – All who couyld write were made to give an account of the New Year. The pupil teachers heard accounts from those who could not write.

July 1st – Pupil Teachers give lessons based upon the first three standards. The teacher attended the examination of the Dornoch Free Church School by Jas Sempall Esq, HMI.

Nov 1st – Usual forenoon exercises. A visit from the Duchess of Sutherland heard the children on bible lesson selected by her Grace.

Nov 15th – Recapitulation of last month’s exercises in accordance with the requirements of the Revised Code – first three standards.

Nov 17th – Thanksgiving day for the late abundant harvest and preparatory to the administration of the Lord’s Supper on the following Sabbath.

Dec 14th – Mr Neil Parish, Teacher, called for some statistics respecting evidence for the Royal Commission on Education.

PRESENT – 32 ON ROLL – 81

1865 – 24th April – School Staff: Teacher – William Ross, Mark Ross Certificated Teacher of the 3rd Class, S Sutherland pupil teacher of the 4th year., J Sutherland, pupil teacher of the 4th year., Mrs Ross – Sewing Mistress.

(SIGNED: James Scagall or Scayall?)

July 3rd – Both PT in school, PT (D) in time. Other rather behind hours which regard to make an unfavourable entry viz – that both do not come up to the letter of their indenture.

Oct 19th 1865. Had a note that Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland proposed visiting the school today. Children drilled in expectation. The Duke and Duchess arrived at 3.10pm Children examined in bible history, reading and geography (local). The noble visitors expressed their satisfaction, first verbally 2nd by presenting each of the young children with sweets and the rest with a suitable book of an instructive nature. Her Grace, to express her satisfaction, furthermore presented the teacher a handsome and beautiful gift of a copy of Y Cawker's "Morning Pantheon"? with the following inscription in her own handwriting:

"William Ross from the Duchess Countess in remembrance of her satisfaction in her visits to the school. Embo 19th Oct 1865"

Dec 15th – I find the pupil teachers of late generally unprepared with their ordinary lessons. I can attribute it to nothing except the indifference and dislike to the task.

March 19th Rev Mr Kennedy who heard the class and gave general exercises.

July 3rd. School regularly taught. Children making the usual progress. Preparation for the "Herring" and hoeing telling on the attendance.

April 5th 1866. School examined and inspected. Present 30 boys and 20 girls under Mark ~Ross CT of the 3rd Class, Mrs Ross Sewing Mistress. JAMES SCOUGAL

REPORT:

The general spirit of the school is much improved since my last visit. The teacher seems to be now involving himself heartily to his work and the results in increased zeal and diligence are evident. Arithmetic is still the weaker point. Reading is much better than last year.

April 4th 1868

School examined and inspected. Present 21 boys and 19 girls under William R Ross CT OF Third degree, Mrs Ross, Sewing Mistress (James Scougal)

REPORT:

The result of exams are decidedly better than last year and the school is in a very fair state of order and instruction. There were several scholars absent on the day of the visit being engaged in potato planting but the average seems to be diminishing every year. (Signed Jos Peacock, School Manager)

1888 April 13th Change of books (reading) W Cullocks series to Charles Narrataiv e Series of Standardised Reading Books.

1869 – May 10th Clashmore Market – holiday in pm.

April 1st 1870 – New Teacher – Mr Davidson

Nov 1872 – Teacher – D Matheson

ADMISSION REGISTER EMBO SCHOOL

ARCHIVES REF; CS 5/5/13e

Signed: Alexander Sutherland
1893: John Moyes

LOG BOOK 1863 – 1958

1873-1900 ARCHIVES REF CS 5/5/136

1.12.1873 Sacramental holidays

1874 School Examined: 45 Boys 19 girls

Teacher: Donald Matheson	Class Teacher
Mrs Matheson	Sewing Mistress
J Macleod HMI	

14.4.1875

School inspected: 47 boys 20 girls

Donald Matheson Class Teacher
H Ross Pupil Teacher of 1st Year.
Mrs Matheson Sewing Mistress
J Macleod HMI

1876 May 8th A holiday today for the Clashmore Market

1877 Sep 7th Holiday on Thursday because of the flower show and ex-president Grant's visit to Dornoch.

20th Oct 1898

Miss Mary Matheson, lately of BALVRAID public school started work as assistant from this morning.

1899 29th Nov

Attendance;: 68 Boys and 62 girls

27.2.05 The use of the new drill syllabus has been now introduced into the school. Exercises with dumb bells and Indian clubs have been retained in junior and senior divisions.

1908

17th June. Miss Strathern, Junior Assistant was grossly insubordinate today, answering "I will not" to a simple request made by the Head Master in the presence of one of the staff. She afterwards demitted duty. The matter was reported to the Board.

21st June. Miss Strathern resumed duty.
1908.

24th Feb. Miss Annie Grant took up duty to assist in the Infant Room.

30th Sep. Thomas Mackay, Junior Class returned to school today after having been 14.5 weeks carrying golf clubs on Dornoch Links.

17th Nov. A deduction has been ordered under Article 32© for insufficient staff throughout the year.

1910

24th June. 10 boys from the junior dept along with senior boys went for swimming lessons at 12 o'clock.

9 Sep. Nearly all of the children have now got books.

1912. 24.4. Classes dismissed in the afternoon 15 minutes early than time table to allow children to attend presentation of reward for heroism to Mr Wm Cumming by the Marchioness of Stafford.

1915.

14.6 All boys over 14 have been taken from school to caddy on the Dornoch Golf Course.

1937.

31st March. Took up duties today. Fairly good start made with work. Attendance in all classes very good. Wm M Calder.

LOG BOOK EMBO SCHOOL 1900 – 1945 Archives Ref: CS 5/5/13c

“DORNOCH EMBO PUBLIC SCHOOL JULY 1900 – AUGUST 1945

Front Page: John Mackintosh – Correspondent (Not HT-SB member?)

School Dimensions:

1. Schoolroom 33' long, 15' wide, 16' high
2. Classroom 27' 8" long, 17' 8" wide, 14' 6" high
3. New School Room 29' long, 17' 8" wide, 14' 6" high

1900

5.7.00 - Visited the school in the forenoon and found attendance registers correctly marked. Present 97. Signed: William Gordon, Member of School Board.

15.10.00 Visited Embo School today, teachers at their posts and registers correctly marked.

25.10.00 Visited the school in the afternoon and found attendance registers correctly marked. Present: 65 boys – 55 girls. Signed: D.M GRANT Chairman SB, William Gordon and George MacIntosh.

15th/16th Nov School closed – communion

VISITS BY COMPULSORY OFFICER (26.10, 23.11, 6.12, 20.12 ETC)

21st Dec School closed today, Head Master and Female assistance at the drawing class for teachers in the Golspie Public School.

21st Dec: Staff: Andrew Sutherland, Jessie Skinner, Chrissie Moyes (Head Master's daughter?) (H,M and Miss Matheson being at the drawing class.)

1901

9th Jan Miss Bessie Ross started as Infant Mistress

11th Jan Miss Jessie Skinner left this evening.

18th Jan Miss M.K. Matheson Having been appointed teacher in Rearquhar School left this evening to begin her new duties on Monday 21st Jan.

1st April Head Master having been appointed as enumerator for the checking of the census, was absent today.

17th May Boats leaving for Shetland, school closed for the day.

24th May School visited this day by Hugh Gunn Esq, HMI.
13th/14th June School closed for Sacramental Fast Day holidays.
17th June School closed for Sacramental Fast Day holidays

Staff: Head Master – John Moyes, Bessie Ross CA, Infant Mistress, Helen Strathern,
(Art 79© assistant).

8th May School closed as boats were off to the West Coast fishing.

2nd Sep School reopened after the vacation. In the absence of Mr Moyes, Head Teacher, through illness, Mr Moore, HT Domoch took charge of the school. No present 128.

Each pupil was presented with a coronation medal and a new sixpence. Signed D.M. Grant, Ch School Board.

1902

16th Sep. Mr William R Landles took charge of the school.

26th Sep Average attendance: Boys 70, Girls 52.

1903

10th March New infant mistress – Miss Mary Catherine Donald.

27th March Average attendance for the week 114 - 83.8 %, % in the senior classes 76%.

(concern over irregular attendance of the seniors, eg 15.5 03 – 37% absence

1st Sep Jam es George Phimister – Head Teacher, Margaret M Cameron – Infant Dept).

(NEW TONE!!) — Comment by researcher!!

17TH May 36 children were absent today most of them idling about the ferry seeing the boats off to the West Coast.

1904

17th May Scale drawing and sewing discontinued due to poor light.

1905

27th Jan Considerable falling off in the attendance this week owing to commencement of flounder fishing.