

BROUGHTON *Spurtle*

Inside
your local
High
School

Free No 26

May 1996

CONGRATULATIONS!

Happy Birthday, Broughton Primary School, which this month celebrates one hundred years of standing at the corner where Broughton Road meets East Claremont Street. The official birthday is not until September 8 but the summer term gives more scope for displays, demonstrations of old fashioned teaching and traditional playground games - remember diabolo, whips, peeries and peevers? - which form a week of festivities, starting on 13 May, open to all former pupils, parents and friends.

The school's story blows the dust off decades of memories (writing on slates, war-time evacuation, free school milk) and there are plenty of surprises. When Broughton Elementary School opened in 1896 it was surrounded by dairy farms and vegetable nurseries. McDonald Road was just a lane and the headmaster was worried about the heavy traffic as cyclists pedalled past the school. Now the school plans to prepare for the 21st century by digging up the concrete playground to plant trees, grass and maybe vegetables too.

All this and much more is recorded in a special centenary book, *Broughton Primary 100*, drawn from painstakingly handwritten entries in the school log, dusty copies of Edinburgh School Board committee minutes, and hundreds of letters and old class photographs sent in by former pupils. The book is available from the school. Telephone 556 7028.



"Drummond is a very special school"

Lord Provost Eric Milligan, opening the new Drummond Community Theatre on 26th April.



"Drummond is the place where anything is possible."

Annie Scanlon, School librarian.

"Drummond's a good place to work - the people are pleasant."

Jessie Hadden, Reprographics.

"When a friend asked me to accompany her to watch her daughter perform as part of her Standard Grade Music I was surprised and pleased to be entertained by a magnificent display of young talent."

Madelienne Miller, parent.



"I'm really positive and excited about the Home Economics department. It has changed dramatically over the last two years - it raises the expectations of the students."

Anne Mackinness, teacher.



"Drummond is on my doorstep, the tuition is excellent and the creche is wonderful - it's half the reason I come here!"

Jill Cameron, adult student.

"Excellent Music Department. Excellent parent contact. In a small school you can really get to know the staff."

Louise Martin, parent.



"I come all the way from Morningside to my woodwork class - the scope to make whatever you want is enormous."

Lucy O'Riordan, adult student.



"I love the yoga class, it's very relaxing and beneficial. If I don't come, I miss it terribly."

Fay Bell, adult student.

I really value my colleagues at Drummond and I'm proud of their commitment to the School's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Tim Puntis, teacher.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Gordon McCathie was recently capped for Scotland in fencing.
- Dawn Exley is one of four finalists in this year's Fringe Festival poster competition - out of 3,500 entries. She may yet be the outright winner. Drummond Art department has previously twice sent in the winning design.
- Anna Duffy won a scholarship from the Virtuosi Society, who were suitably impressed by her portfolio after Drummond Art department had submitted her name to them. She travelled to Paris, studied paintings and wrote a report for the Society.
- First class Honours degrees in Art, Sociology and Geography (followed by postgraduate work at Cambridge University) - students from Drummond continue to win academic distinction. Other degree subjects mentioned when **Spurtle** spoke to Drummond staff recently included Archaeology, Astro-Physics, Medicine, Marine Biology, Scottish Literature and Psychology.
- Young folk from Drummond go out into a difficult world and succeed in a wide variety of careers. A quick chat with a few parents came up with the following examples: actuary, optician, care worker, car mechanic, male nurse, travel consultant, "computer nerd", graphic designer, bookseller, fashion designer, scientific researcher, stationer, fabric shop owner, newspaper reporter, Reuters correspondent in Beijing, and world bowls champion Richard Corsie. Good luck to those leaving School in 1996!
- A Drummond trio were British Schools' Aerobic Champions in 1992.
- Drummond Community Theatre was officially opened by the Lord Provost on 26th April this year. Drummond staff had the vision for this conversion of a decrepit old lecture hall, and then went out and won the necessary funding from several sources. With its high-standard lighting and sound systems it's likely to be much in demand by Edinburgh and visiting theatre groups, particularly at Festival time. But it should be a valuable resource for primary schools and other local community groups too.
- The Drummond Game for Equality was developed as a means of building awareness amongst students at the School, and originally played with DIY bits of cardboard. But now it's been professionally produced and is available nationally.

"Drummond has a dedicated and caring staff, and a strong and healthy School Board and PTA."

Frank McGrail, Headteacher.



"I wanted to do a History Higher, and Drummond is so convenient and the creche is one of the few that will take very young children and babies."

Joy Buchanan, adult student



"I've always wanted to learn music, and wish there had been chances like this when I was at school. I like the teacher and enjoy the company."

Peter Stevenson, adult student

"Drummond is a friendly place."

Kenny Finlayson, janitor.

"Parents can go in any time - you're made very welcome, you don't feel you're intruding. And I like the way Outdoor Education is really encouraged."

Kath Borthwick, parent.



"There's always something extra going on, because it's a community school. Often things you wouldn't have at most other schools."

Elaine Kelly, teacher.

SCHOOL CAMPS

Drummond is committed to residential as part of the outdoor education and social education curriculums. The experience of residential helps students to achieve in ways not always available to them through the academic curriculum and helps build social skills, responsibility, confidence and relationships with other students and staff. It's also great fun! This session S1, S2 and S3 will be at Rowardennan, on Loch Lomond, Coldingham on the Berwickshire coast and Melrose in the Borders. At camp they will have an opportunity to canoe, gorge walk, visit deserted islands, take part in a smuggling adventure, mountain biking, making their own meals and washing dishes!

DEAP

(Drummond Environmental Action for the Planet)

This session will include a joint trip to West Lothian by the student environment group DEAP and Northfield Academy School. The group will visit the Birkhill Fireclay Mine to see a fossil forest over 300 million years old, camp in Muiravon Country Park and look at the Jupiter Wildlife Centre in Grangemouth. This visit is a 'get to know you' trip for students going on an environmental trip to the south of France later this year.

PEOPLES EXHIBITION

From October 1996 to January 1997 The City Arts Centre will host an exhibition on the Peoples of Edinburgh. This exhibition will explore where the people of Edinburgh came from, why they came here and what they have given to Edinburgh to make it the exciting multicultural city it is today. Drummond is at the centre of the city and is enthusiastically supporting this exhibition. On the second floor of the centre Drummond will be putting on a display about the school and visitors will be given the chance to play the Drummond Game which was developed to teach students about equality.

SCOTTISH WEEK

At the end of November last year Drummond celebrated "the rich historical and multicultural heritage of Scotland. A week-long programme of events included storytelling workshops, projects on multicultural Edinburgh, a debate on Scotland's constitutional future, walks and talks for adults and an evening of song and dancing.

In previous years the Drummond festivals group have chosen a variety of festivals to celebrate within the School - Chinese New Year, Eid, Christmas, Diwali and a Caribbean Carnival.

DAYTIME CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Nearly 600 adult students are attending 45 daytime classes at present. Subjects include foreign languages, computers, media studies, parenting teenagers, woodwork and yoga. Students work at their own pace, so there's no need to worry about previous ability or experience.

Contact the School's Community Education office for details - phone 557 1490.

ADULTS AND YOUNG FOLK LEARNING TOGETHER

Adults wanting to study for academic qualifications can attend normal school classes in some subjects, along with senior pupils - under an arrangement called 'Infill'.

Or there are classes run separately for adults in the evenings, as part of the further education provision throughout Edinburgh.

So let's use Drummond, and support it. One of the best ways of doing this is to make sure all our young folk choose our local high school for their secondary education!

DECISION ON MARKET

It has been decided that there will not be an outdoor Saturday market in Drummond Community High's playground. We understand that one will be tried at Towerbank Primary, on a pilot basis.

Our thanks again to all who discussed this issue with us in our door-to-door survey, and helped us to add to the picture of local feelings about the proposed market in the survey report published in last month's **Spurtle**.

FUTURE OF CHURCH WORRIES LOCALS

The church building in Broughton Place is now owned by private developers, who used it as a licensed Fringe venue during last Festival. Some local residents are worried that there will be moves to extend this type of use, and at other times of the year - adversely affecting their quality of life.

They were canvassing their neighbours as we went to press, with a view to organising opposition to future planning applications by the developers.

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If you'd like to help write, produce or distribute the **SPURTLÉ** please contact us as soon as possible! We publish about once a month.

BROUGHTON BOOKS in Broughton Place are our "postbox". You can put a letter addressed to us through their letter box at any time OR
PHONE - 556 7928 or 556 0903

Contributors to this issue:

John Dickie, Tim Puntis, Tom and Dougal Perman, Fay Young, Annie Scanlon, Jane Meagher, Julie Devereaux.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon to Fri 13th-17th May
Visitor Centre Open at Broughton Primary School, during school hours. All former pupils, teachers and visitors welcome! Take a guided tour of the school, and spend your money on souvenirs available in our gift shop.

Saturday 18th May Open Day and Yard Party for Edinburgh Direct Aid, Beaverbank Place, 12noon to 4.30pm. Three bands, beer and wine bar, refreshments and barbeque, stalls and TV for those who must watch the Cup Final!

Wednesday 22nd May
Bellevue and Claremont Residents Association AGM, Drummond Community High School, 7pm. Speakers: Councillor Margaret McGregor on the new City of Edinburgh Council, and a team from the City Development Department (formerly Transportation) who will speak on traffic problems and remedies in our area.

Thursday 30th May Open Day at the Stafford Centre, 103 Broughton Street, 3-7pm. All welcome. Drop in, see the Centre and meet the staff and users.

WOODCRAFT SUPPLIES

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556 9672



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