

School Teachers

1743 -1976



The first schoolmaster, so far as we know, was John Gardner, who remained in the post for 30 years. Another long-serving early master was Richard Perkes, who served from 1786-1823.

After that date we begin to learn of female teachers too: Thomas Welton 1823-1842 was joined by his wife Mary, though her salary was three-quarters of his! Charles Gray was variously assisted by his daughters Jane and Esther, and Edwin Ison was helped by his sister Emily.

When the logbook begins in 1863 we see for the first time the existence of separate 'schools' for boys and girls: Nathaniel Tompkins is partnered by Emily Hitch.

Many headteachers stayed for just a short time between 1873 and 1893, when William (Billy) Wells took over, remaining until 1932. He was succeeded by Messrs. Cattell, Smith, Grant and finally Mr. Black who had the sad task of closing the school in 1976.