



Older People Active Lives

'Back to School' Special



WELCOME TO THE OPAL BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL...

Many thanks for your contributions to this week's special supplement. We hope you enjoy the memories of school days gone by and also have fun guessing who is who in our Organiser's Guess Who Quiz! We've also put together an 11+ quiz as well as a school yard games Wordsearch. We hope you enjoy...



JACQUELINE REMEMBERS

'We had to obtain the uniform from the store Bon Marche in Liverpool which entailed a special expedition across the Mersey from Wirral. Quite an adventure in 1951/2. As you can see from my photo, the philosophy was to purchase a size larger than required! It would last some time whilst growing into it and then become a little small before qualifying for a new set!!!! In all my years at primary and secondary school I only lost one item of school uniform. This was my gloves on my very first day of school. It made a lasting impression on me!!!'

Margaret played & enjoyed rounders and hopscotch. She remembers that she got the stick twice for talking in class!!!



Giulio remembers - We sat at individual lid topped desks facing the front and Mr Heath's way of maintaining discipline was by making those who couldn't behave sit at the front.

Giulio recalls PE and ball games were in the playground; if not, in the main hall. There were no school meals, he went home for lunch; which was a half a mile walk. The teachers had theirs in the staff room and a boy in the top class shopped for them. He remember getting St Ivel cheese and plain biscuits.



Richard remembers the hot milk at break time if the bottles had been left outside in the summer!

JANE RECALLS -

'My strongest memories are of what was a tiny village school where the infants were housed in a small church hall and the Juniors in a typical two room school built of stone with high ceilings and outside toilets. Juniors tramped down to the infants school for lunch which was brought in ready cooked [invariably over-cooked!]. I can even now smell and taste the fatty lamb, the lumpy custard and the luke warm milk you were given at break time. No wonder I veer toward vegetarianism and can't drink milk!'

The puddings were dominated by every form of rice you can imaginesago, tapioca, semolina, rice pudding...usually with a dollop of jam added!



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The trend for uniforms started with prep schools back in the 1920s, with smart styles and school colours. Other schools began adopting the idea of a uniform, but usually less formal, with plain blazers and less colourful styles. Primary school boys often wore shorts all year round and a school cap remained an item for the boys until the late 1960s when its popularity started to wane. As well as the cap falling out of favour, skirt lengths got shorter and trousers rather than shorts became more popular.

By the eighties, shirts became polo shirts, and school jumpers became sweatshirts, and girls started to have the choice of skirts or trousers. In more recent years, parents are more likely to buy school uniforms from the supermarket than department stores or a specialist shop and they are made of materials that are easy to wash and wear – some not even needing ironing!

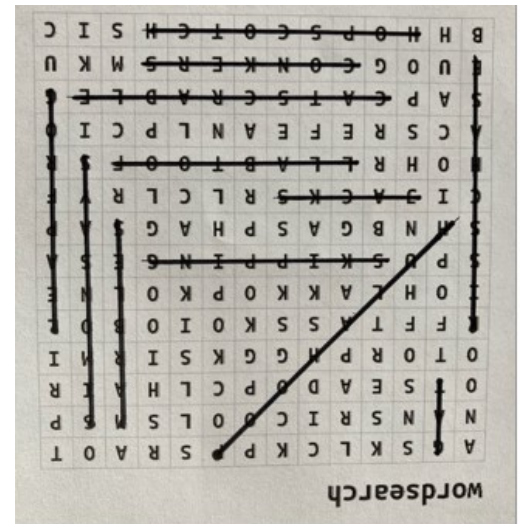


PLAYGROUND WORDSEARCH



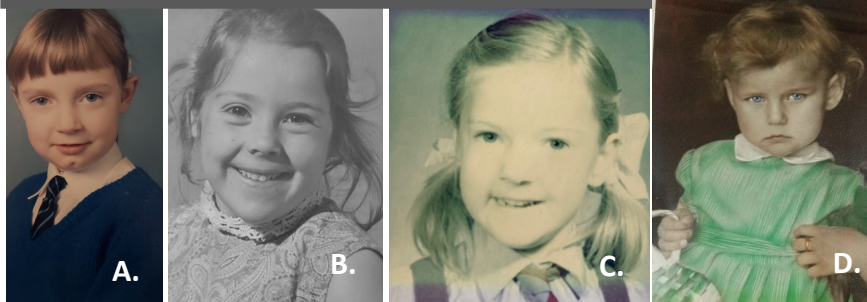
Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1>

MARBLES
TAG
FOOTBALL
JACKS
HULAHOOP
CONKERS
LEAPFROG
SIMONSAYS
SKIPPING
HOPSCOTCH
KISSCHASE
CATSCRADLE



Organisers : a. Zoe b. Sam c. Julie d. Brenda
Arithmetic a) 60 miles
written e) loose
General English a) fare b) confident c) dye d)

CAN YOU IDENTIFY SOME OF OUR OPAL ORGANISERS?



DID YOU SIT THE '11 PLUS'?

The very name still deeply divides opinion. For some, the Eleven-Plus exams, which determined whether a child would go to a grammar school or the academically inferior secondary modern, set the educational benchmark. For others, they were hated symbols of a segregated, two-tier schooling system.

Why not try these questions taken from papers in the 1940s and 50s (published in Daily Mail 1/7/2008) :-

General English

Choose the correct word from those in brackets:

- She gave the (fare, fair) to the conductor.
- I am (confidant, confident) of success.
- Why does she (die, dye) her hair?
- His sister has (wrote, written) him a letter.
- The screw fell off because it was (lose, loose).

Arithmetic

An aeroplane uses 100 gallons of petrol for a flight of 150 miles. How far could it fly using 40 gallons?



EXAMS

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Think about me, not my age

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PO Box 161, Whitchurch, SY13 9BG
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