

More Recent Special Occasions, Events and Initiatives.



This picture shows parents in the Infant classroom following the class' Open Assembly. Once or twice a term each class presented an Assembly in the school hall to which the parents and friends of the children in that class were invited. The parents then went back to the classroom with the children to look at their work. This was not intended as an opportunity for a discussion about progress with the teacher, but purely an opportunity for children to show off what they had been doing in class to their parents.

Open evenings were held in the Autumn and Summer terms when parents had an allotted time to speak to the teacher about progress and any topic to do with the welfare of their child. The first Open Assembly was held on 30th April 1968.



This picture shows children during the presentation, by Mr Tony Stevens, Chairman of Governors, at the school Sports Day held annually in late June on the ground on which the school now stands. The Sports Day was a mixture of novelty races, flat races and shuttle relays. Long jump, high jump and throwing events were held prior to the actual day, but points scored for these events were added to the overall totals achieved by the four teams. The blackboard leaning against the fence showed the points achieved by each team as the event progressed. A loud speaker system was set up to announce the results after each race. The Mums and Dads races were never short of entrants and keenly contested.

This field was large enough for two football pitches parallel with the road and was first used for that purpose in September 1976. From 1982 to 1991 the Smiths Crisps 6-a-side football tournament was held on the field. Having two pitches close together made it an ideal venue.

CHARMOUTH SCHOOL SPORTS DAY – THURSDAY JUNE 29th 1978 AT 1.30 pm

PRESENTATION BY MRS N. E. RAMM, CORRESPONDENT TO THE MANAGERS

HOUSE CAPTAINS

BLUE: Paul Miller Naomi Raikes GREEN: Allan Dampier Tracey Brown RED: Paul Hansford Amanda Hendrick YELLOW: Steven Day Michelle Garrett

POINTS: 4 for 1st 3 for 2nd 2 for 3rd 1 for 4th Double points for relays

BLUE GREEN RED YELLOW

Event 1: Flat Race 4th Year Boys.

Steven Larcombe Allan Dampier
Paul Miller Stephen Krywald

Paul Hansford Steven Day
John Williams Anthony Rowse

Event 2: Flat Race 4th Year Girls

Naomi Raikes Tracey Brown
Andrea Smart Virginia Barnes

Amanda Hendrick Sara Cormack
Janice Matthews Michelle Garrett

Event 3: Flat Race 3rd Year Boys

Andrew Day Julian Foster
Andrew Knight Paul Tunstall

Richard King Paul White
Darren Willetts Simon Lake

Event 4: Flat Race 3rd Year Girls

Rosalie Miller Katie Bentley
Micaela Healy Fiona Knapman

Sally Peach Sharon Smith
Susan Lote Donna Cozens

Event 5: Bean Bag Race Infant 2 Girls

Nicola Dann Lisa Craddock
Michelle Bowditch Katherine Smith

Margaret White Michelle Knapman
Catriona Cater Alicia King

Event 6: Egg & Spoon Race Infant 2 Boys

Philip Meadley Martin Hughes
Tony Broadhurst Derek Powell

Daniel Saphorghen Paul Matteson
Tristan Harris Andrew Thomas

Event 7: Backwards Race Infant 2 Girls

Sarah Harris Emma Goodwin
Paula Edwards Sarah Bearpark

Samantha Barron Sara Martinson
Rosemary Legg Ruth Saphorghen

Event 8: Skittle Race Infant 2 Boys

Darren Smith Frankie Gerschweiler
Kevin Bearpark Peter Wojcik

Philip Barnes Hugh Matthews
Jason Trevett Richard Poulton

Event 9: Hoop Race Infant 2 Boys & Girls

Charles Raikes Paula Garcia
Maria Norman Sandra Lacey

Jacqueline Poulton Elizabeth Tunstall
Julia Eaton Stuart Chiplin

Event 10: Flat Race 2nd Year Boys

Martin Nutkins Jonathan Hansford
John Cormack Lee Norman

Matthew Howarth Alan Owen
Steven White Verdun Trott

Event 11: Flat Race 2nd Year Girls

Alison Stevens Jackie Critchard
Jenny Watts Michaela Bearpark

Melanie Legg Jane Gollop
Alison Chiplin

Event 12: Ball Race Infant 1 Boys & Girls

Phillipa Forsey Karen Thomas
Simon Hughes Simon Emmett

Claire Aston Polly Duplock
Oliver Larcombe Adam Tait

Event 13: Monkey Race Infant 1 Boys & Girls

Susan Legg Rebecca Barron
Jeb Christy James Holmes

Helen Peach Joanna Weir-Jeffrey
Richard Broadribb John Hooper

Event 14: Carrying Balls Race Infant 1 Boys & Girls

Nyasha Mudakwanie Tracey Prosser
Paul Hill Sean Gillings

Sarah House Georgina Bearpark
David Cormack Oliver Raikes

Event 15: Fancy Dress Race Infant 1 Boys & Girls

Claire Banting Ben Morgan-Smith
Sarah Matteson Kieron Harris

Sharon Aburrow Sara Bentley
Robert Martinson Kip Hansford

Event 16: Flat Race 1st Year Boys

Paul Eaton Andrew Lote
Steven Broadhurst James Reeves

Martin Conerney Gary Smith
Charles Wilson Mark Matteson

Event 17: Flat Race 1st Year Girls

Joy Aston Kelly Spurdle
Helen MacNair Zoe Cozens

Vicki Holmes Rosalyn Day
Juliette Wheeler Trina Aburrow

Event 18: Bean Bag Race Junior 3 Boys & Girls

Paul Miller Allan Dampier
Naomi Raikes Virginia Barnes

Paul Hansford Rosemary Goodden
Amanda Hendrick Anthony Rowse

Event 19: Bean Bag Race Junior 3 Boys & Girls

Steven Larcombe Tracey Brown
Julia Marsh Gregory Gibbs

John Williams Sara Cormack
Janice Matthews Paul Norman

Event 20: Sack Race Junior 3 Boys & Girls

Jane Broadribb Barry Watts
Andrea Smart Michelle Hopkins

Jonathan Warner Steven Day
Lisbet Shears Michelle Garrett

Event 21: Stepping Race Junior 3 Boys & Girls

Mervyn Bearpark Stephen Krywald
Timothy Holmes Virginia Barnes

Jonathan Smith Jamie Waterson
Janice Matthews Steven Reeves

Event 22: Flat Race Upper Infant Boys

Philip Meadley	Martin Hughes
Stuart Chiplin	Frankie Gerschweiler

Event 23: Flat Race Upper Infant Girls

Sarah Harris	Paula Garcia
Paula Edwards	Katherine Smith

Event 24: Dressing Up race Junior 2 Boys & Girls

Clare Matthews	Jonathan Hansford
Linda Broadribb	Fiona Knapman

Event 25: Potato & Spoon Race Junior 2 Girls

Michaela Healy	Marilyn Smart
Rosalie Miller	Katie Bentley

Event 26: Obstacle Race Junior 2 Boys

Andrew Knight	Julian Foster
Andrew Day	Paul Tunstall

Event 27: Bean Bag Race Junior 2 Girls

Susan Lacey	Kerry Roche
Alison Stevens	Susan Hooper

Event 28: Backward Running Race Junior 2 Boys & Girls

Clare Matthews	Fiona Knapman
Alan House	Paul Tunstall

Event 29: Flat Race Middle Infant Boys

Darren Smith	Peter Wojcik
Tony Broadhurst	Ben Morgan-Smith

Event 30: Flat Race Middle Infant girls

Michelle Knapman	Lisa Craddock
Sara Bearpark	Emma Goodwin

Event 31: Skipping Race Junior 1 Girls

Joy Aston	Jacky Critchard
Jenny Watts	Michaela Bearpark

Event 32: Hoop & Ball Race Junior 1 Girls

Helen MacNair	Zoe Cozens
Helen Smith	Kelly Spurdle

Event 33: Hoop & Ball Race Junior 1 Boys

Martin Nutkins	Andrew Lote
John Cormack	James Reeves

Event 34: Sack Race junior 1 Boys

Paul Eaton	Lee Norman
Steven Broadhurst	Rob Francis

Event 35: Skipping Race Junior 1 Girls

Helen Smith	Heather Fry
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Event 36: Flat Race Lower Infant Boys

Simon Hughes	Sean Gillings
Paul Hill	Kieron Harris

Event 37: Flat Race Lower Infant Girls

Susan Legg	Karen Thomas
Claire Banting	Tracey Prosser

Tristan Harris
Jason Trevett

Hugh Matthews
Paul Matteson

Samantha Barron
Jacky Poulton

Elizabeth Tunstall
Sara Martinson

Richard King
Lee Holmes

Simon Lake
Donna Cozens

Susan Lote
Alison Chiplin

Helen Wood
Kim Bateman

Richard King
Darren Willetts

Paul White
Alan Owen

Melanie Legg
Sally Peach

Jane Gollop
Nichola Meadley

Wendy Critchard
Darren Willetts

Helen Wood
Simon Lake

Daniel Saphorghan
Oliver Larcombe

Richard Poulton
John Hooper

Catriona Cater
Julia Eaton

Ruth Saphorghan
Alicia King

Lisa Emmett
Vicki Holmes

Michelle Banting
Claire Walker

Nicola Pye
Juliette Wheeler

Trina Aburrow
Rosalyn Day

Martin Conerney
Charles Wilson

Gary Smith
Mark Matteson

Matthew Howarth
Steven White

Verdun Trott
Alexander Cater

Nicola Pye

Trina Aburrow

David Cormack
Richard Broadribb

Adam Tait
Oliver Raikes

Sarah House
Sharon Aburrow

Polly Duplock
Joanna Weir-Jeffrey

Event 38: Toddlers' Race**Event 39: Mothers' Race****Event 40: Fathers' Race****Event 41: Shuttle Relay Race Junior Boys**

Martin Nutkins	Jonathan Hansford
John Cormack	Lee Norman
Paul Eaton	Andrew Lote
Steven Broadhurst	James Reeves

Event 42: Shuttle Relay Race Junior Girls

Alison Stevens	Jacky Critchard
Jenny Watts	Michaela Bearpark
Joy Aston	Kelly Spurdle
Helen MacNair	Zoe Cozens

Event 43: Shuttle Relay Race Senior Boys

Steven Larcombe	Allan Dampier
Paul Miller	Stephen Krywald
Andrew Day	Julian Foster
Andrew Knight	Paul Tunstall

Event 44: Shuttle Relay Race Senior Girls

Naomi Raikes	Tracey Brown
Andrea Smart	Virginia Barnes
Rosalie Miller	Katie Bentley
Michaela Healy	Fiona Knapman

Matthew Howarth
Steven White
Martin Conerney
Charles Wilson

Alan Owen
Verdun Trott
Gary Smith
Mark Matteson

Melanie Legg
Alison Chiplin
Vicki Holmes
Juliette Wheeler

Jane Gollop
Claire Walker
Rosalyn Day
Trina Aburrow

Paul Hansford
John Williams
Richard King
Darren Willetts

Steven Day
Anthony Rowse
Paul White
Simon Lake

Amanda Hendrick
Janice Matthews
Sally Peach
Susan Lote

Sara Cormack
Michelle Garrett
Sharon Smith
Donna Cozens

The programme followed a similar format each year, the flat races and relays remained the same, but the novelty races varied.

Prior to this space being available the village playing field had been used for Sports Days and football. In 1933 the Sports Day was held in the evening. It was also used again during the time when the new school was being built as seen below. The cub hut is in the background.



The picture below shows the award winners from the Sports Day of June 1981 with their trophies presented by the Chairman of the Governors, Mr Norman Sturgess. There were four teams, Blue, Green, Red and Yellow. The children were put in a team when they started in the Infant class and remained in that team throughout their time in the school.



Back row: Sarah Harris, Rosalyn Day, Helen Smith, Mr Sturgess, Steven Broadhurst, Gary Smith, Kevin Butler
 Front Row: Ruth Saphorghnan, Georgina Bearpark, Karen Thomas, Paul Hill, Keiron Harris, Tony Broadhurst.

On 17th July 1976 the first School Fete was held in the school grounds. £280 was raised.

These became very popular events and many activities were held at the Fetes over the years often beginning with a children's Fancy Dress Parade. (Below) Other activities included a Kennel Club approved Dog Show, an inter pub Tug of War, a children's Magic Show, a Punch and Judy Show, Tombola as well as games, competitions and various stalls.

Refreshments and ice creams were served throughout the afternoon



For the first few years much ingenuity and imagination was used by parents in the making of the costumes for their children and initially there were separate classes for younger and older children. Gradually, however, the numbers of children entering dwindled and unfortunately that part of the fete was dropped.



The school has its own Maypole and for several years the children, trained by Mrs Jackie Bollen, gave a display at the Summer Fete. Here they are practising, soon after moving into the new school, for the 1993 fete.

From 1983 a Fun Run for families and a Challenge for serious runners was introduced as part of the fete. The route of the Fun Run and Challenge went from the school, down Wesley Close to the main road, along the main road as far as Sonebarrow Hill. At the top of the hill the Fun Runners turned right to the cliff and then down the hill overlooking the sea and back up Lower Sea Lane to the school. The Challenge went on from the top of Stonebarrow Hill to the top of Golden Cap and then followed the coastal path down to Lower Sea Lane and back to the school. As is illustrated in the picture there were many different classes which were all awarded trophies. As well as the many trophies everyone who took part and completed the course was given a medal. Serious runners from all over the country came to take part in the Challenge and most brought their families with them which added considerably to the number attending the Fete.

The races were the idea of Mr Martin Young who organised that part of the event. Much extra help was needed for stewards around the course to direct participants, water stations and the recording of the results. All this increased the income from the day's event and by the time it moved to the new building over £3000 was being added to the PTA funds on Fete Day.



On 17th October 1977 the first four day visit to London began. This was originally a joint venture with Symondsbury School. Those children from Years 5 & 6 who wished to take part spent three nights in a London hotel and visited many of the famous landmarks in the capital. They also had a conducted tour of the Houses of Lords and Commons, watched the Changing of the Guard from inside the railings of Buckingham Palace, had a trip on a Thames launch from Westminster Bridge to The Tower and went to a West End Show. These trips took place every other year and the first visit cost £34 per child. It was quite noticeably more tiring for the younger group due to the exciting, long days and their lack of sleep.

The photo below shows the group in the coach ready to leave for their trip in October 1981.



This picture shows some of the children at Windsor Castle which was visited on the way to London. Some groups called in at Beaulieu Motor Museum on the outward journey and some went to Hampton Court Palace. One unfortunate child became lost in the maze, at Hampton Court, until one of the boys volunteered to escort her out.



As prices increased the length of the visit was cut to three days to make it more affordable to all parents.

The pictures below show the children outside Number 10, Downing Street. Permission had to be obtained from the police to enter Downing Street. The middle picture shows the group on the steps at the entrance to the House of Lords under the Victoria Tower. The trip around the Houses of Parliament was organised by the local Member of Parliament, who also arranged for several guides to show the children around in small groups. The third picture is of the children having their packed lunch in the Education area of the Natural History and Science Museums.



The PTA held many money raising events to support the school. One of these was the annual Jumble Sale, the first of which was held on 4th March 1978 when £132 was raised. As seen in the next photo a vast amount of clothing was brought into school by the children. This created a problem of disposing of what was left after the event. For many years a Mr Steptoe from Crewkerne took away a van load. He only paid a couple of pounds, but saved the worry of having to dispose of unwanted clothing.

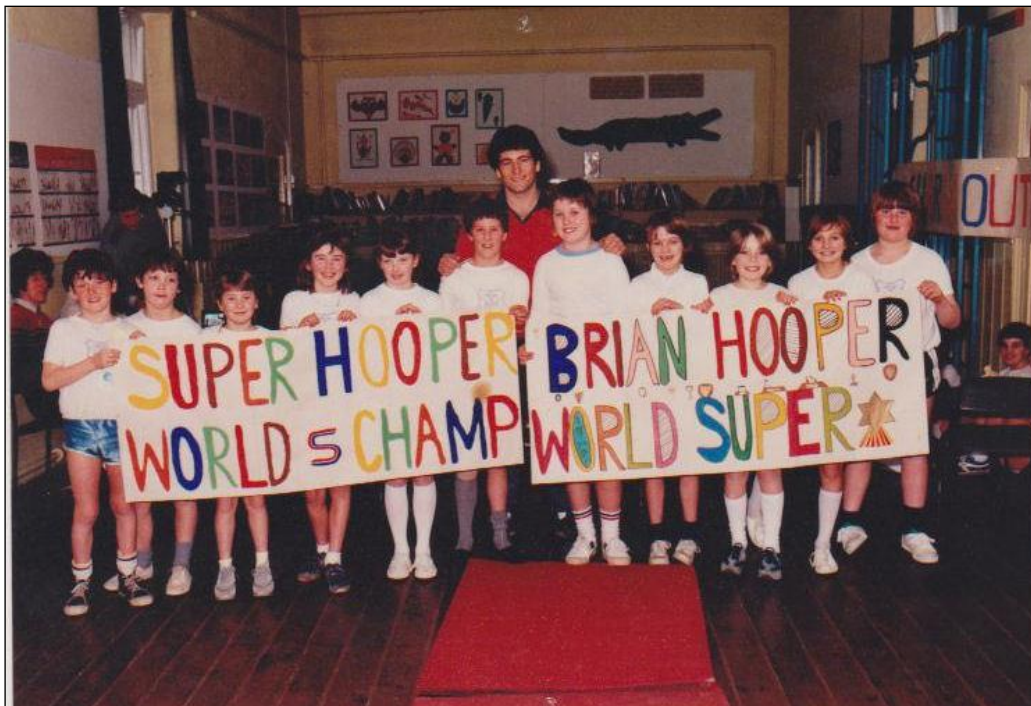
Later, in an attempt to encourage people to take more clothes, the PTA tried selling bin liners for £1 and allowing people to fill them with clothing. It never ceased to amaze how much some members of the public were able to cram into one bag! Eventually, due to the amount people were willing to pay reasonable amounts for items it ceased to be a viable event.

As well as the mountain of clothes there was also a stall selling White Elephant which was against the rear wall of the hall.



Brian Hooper was the UK's top pole vaulter from 1974 to 1980, competing in two Olympic Games and two European Athletics Championships. He also won six Superstar events including one world title.

'Superstars' was a televised all round sports competition for elite athletes. On 27th February 1984 he came to the school for a Super Schools Event.



This picture shows Brian Hooper with a group of Year 6 boys and girls, after they had successfully completed their exercises. On the first occasion the school was the one which raised most money per pupil since Super School began.

On the day, all pupils were photographed individually with Brian Hooper and took part in four simple gymnastic exercises for which they had previously obtained sponsors. Afterwards there was a question and answer session with Brian Hooper. In subsequent Super School Events the superstars were Sharon Davies, the Olympic swimmer, a gymnast and a long jumper.

The picture below shows an occasion when the event was held in the Summer and took place outside



On 17th November 1984 the first Christmas Bazaar and Coffee Morning was held in the school hall. Christmas gifts, wrapping paper, cards and craft items were on sale with Father Christmas in attendance.

This proved a very popular PTA event and the first occasion raised over £200. Tables were borrowed from the Village Hall opposite. In subsequent years it continued to attract good crowds on a Saturday morning.



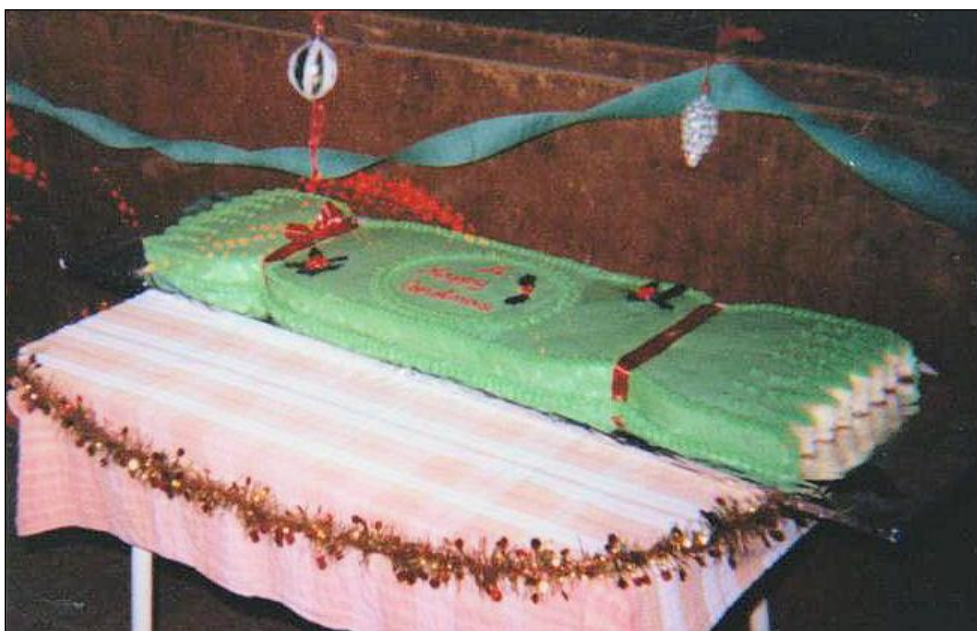
Another popular event was the Christmas Bingo held on a Friday evening at the end of November. This was primarily to raise money for the children's Christmas Parties which were held on the last Thursday of the Christmas Term. The Bingo was always well attended. Initially all the prizes were Christmas puddings, but later a variety of prizes were bought and many donated.

For the Bingo it was a tradition that all members of the PTA committee provided a dozen mince pies which were served with tea or coffee half way through the evening.

On the party afternoon the children changed into party clothes and played games in their classrooms before going over to the village hall where some of the parents had prepared a party tea. The younger children were provided with fancy hats, but the older children made their own in the classroom as in the photograph.



Later the children had games in their classroom, followed by cartoon films on video in the hall while parents came into the classrooms and assisted the staff in the preparation the party food. After the film the children returned to their classrooms and devoured the food. Father Christmas distributed gifts to all the Infant children.



This is one of the huge cakes made by Mrs Peach when the party tea was held in the village hall. It was large enough for every child to have a piece.

On 9th February 1981 an Under 5's group was started in the school hall taken initially by three parent volunteers. This was held on a Monday afternoon from 1.0pm to 3.0pm and enabled the children, due to start school during the following year, to come into school to become accustomed to the surroundings. The Reception Class teacher also spent a little time each afternoon so that she got to know the children and, more importantly they knew her.

This activity proved very successful and was later taken over by an ancillary member of staff assisted by volunteers. Much specialist apparatus was purchased by the PTA and stored in the school kitchen when it was no longer needed to serve school dinners.

Sometimes the children from the top class came in, during their playtime to spend time with little ones.



The photo below shows the children ready to be collected by parents at the end of the session and gives an indication of the number of children attending. The member of staff in charge, in the photo below, was Mrs Vivien Smith.



At the end of each Christmas term the whole school took part in a major production. This took place in the Church Hall opposite the school. A pantomime, story or theme formed the backbone of the show coordinated by a teacher. Each class took a specific part of the story enabling them to rehearse separately and the principal parts were taken by the older children working initially through the Drama Club. Holding the event in the Church Hall made full rehearsals difficult, particularly as the stage had to be enlarged for the event and as the hall was used for other activities such as badminton. It was sometimes necessary to erect the stage several times in the week leading up to the show. A matinee and two evening shows were performed.

This picture shows the whole cast of the 1977 production, Peter Pan. The school had some costumes, and gradually built up quite a wardrobe, but most of the costumes for each production were provided by the parents from instructions and suggestions from the teachers.

Each production relied quite heavily on music for singing and dancing and in this picture the orchestra can be seen on the left hand side at the front. The orchestra was made up of recorder players, glockenspiels and various percussion instruments accompanied by first, Mr Don Harris and later by Mr Paul Curtis, on the piano. Also at the front are acting boxes which formed a separate stage for parts of the play.



The orchestra.

In 1980 a new method of presentation was tried, acting 'in the round'. All the action took place on the floor of the hall with the audience at the back of the hall, the front and on the stage. This made it much easier from the point of view of not having to continually extend the stage and it also meant that the audience was nearer the action, some seated on the stage.



There was also a larger orchestra for this production, 'Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish'. However the parents did not seem to take to this new approach and so the 1981 production, The Nativity, returned to the traditional format.



On 21st December 1977 the school had held its first Carol Service in the Parish Church.

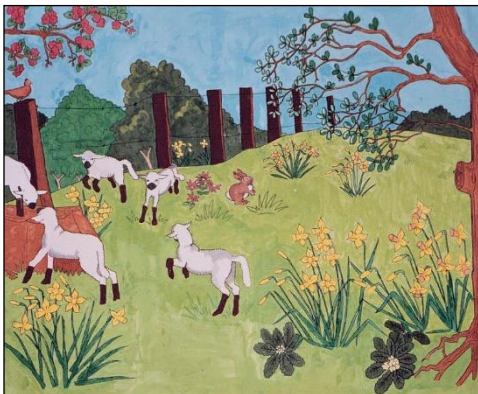
This service, held on the last day of the Christmas term, began with the first verse of Away in a Manger as a solo by one of the older children. Each class sang a carol of their choice, the Christmas story was read by the children, one from each class, there were congregational carols and a short talk by the Vicar. The service concluded with the last two verses of Away in a Manger.

The basic format for the service was always the same with different children and different music. A list of each year's readers was kept so that all children who wished would hopefully have a chance to read before they left the school.

Unfortunately in 1981, due to staff sickness, it was not possible to hold a Carol Service in the church. It was, therefore, decided to put on The Nativity as the Christmas Production in the Village Hall. On the next page is a scene from that production and the whole cast for the finale. There are far fewer children in the later picture as the numbers on roll were falling in the early eighties.



The scenery was usually painted by members of staff assisted by the children except, in 1989 when the production was The Four Seasons. For this Mrs Beverley Shaw painted four beautiful pictures photographed below.



Christmas Productions, involving the whole school, all held in the Church Hall (now the St. Andrew's Community Hall); with afternoon and evening performances.

1975 A Christmas Happening.
1976 Carol Service.
1977 Peter Pan.
1978 The Pied Piper.
1979 Sleeping Beauty.
1980 Dinosaurs and all that Rubbish.
1981 The Nativity.
1982 The Grass is Greener.
1983 The Four Seasons.
1984 Sam's Magic Toy Shop.
1985 Granny's Christmas Treat.
1986 The Magic Snowflake.
1987 The Wizard of Oz.
1988 Cinderella.
1989 The Pied Piper.
1990 A King Forever - The Nativity.
1991 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.
1992 A Christmas Variety Show.

The school was fortunate in having teachers who were also first class musicians, firstly Mr Don Harris followed by Mr Paul Curtis. This was a tremendous plus when putting on major productions, which were all heavily dependant on music.

Another major production was put on each Easter, held in the school hall as an Open Assembly. This was either a play of the Easter story, a series of songs telling the story with mime or a play which was based in some aspect of Easter, performed by one class.



The above picture shows a scene from the Easter Story as portrayed by the top class with Gary Smith playing the part of Jesus.

The third important production of the year was a play put on by the Year 6 children for their Leavers' Concert. The play lasting about half an hour was performed in front of the leavers' parents, the Governors, the local vicar and a special invited guest. Below is a list of the guest speakers and the plays performed between 1978 and 1992.

CLEANING QUEEN

Polly Duplock

CLEANING KING

Kieron Harris

GENERAL CLEANERS

Simon Hughes, David Cormack, Paul Hill, Simon Emmett, Oliver Raikes, Steve Minchin, David Hawtin, Edward Bragg, Claire Banting, Sarah Matteson, Sharon Aburrow, Sara Bentley, Joanna Weir-Jeffrey, Phillipa Forsey, Georgina Bearpark.

TOWN CRIER

Andrew Thomas

TOWNS FOLK

Philip Meadley, Stuart Chiplin, Charles Raikes, Rosalyn Day, Katherine Smith, Sandra Lacey, Helen Smith, Nicola Dann

TRADES PEOPLE

Mark Matteson, Kevin Bearpark, Martin Hughes, Hugh Matthews, Derek Powell, Jason Trevett, Philip Harkins, Nicholas Richards.

We would like to thank all parents for their help in providing the costumes for the children.

The Staff and pupils wish you all a happy Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

CHARMOUTH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Presents

SLEEPING BEAUTY

in the

Church Hall

on

Friday December 14th at 7.00p.m.

Admission by Programme only Price 15p.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

SCENE 1. The Palace of King Edmund and Queen Greselda on their wedding day. Envoys from other Kingdoms come to pay their respects.

SCENE 2. A year later in a wood near the Palace where Queen Greselda meets the animals.

SCENE 3. A further year later, the christening of Princess Beauty at the Palace. The fairies endow the Princess with gifts.

SCENE 4. On the Princess' 15th birthday the Palace cleaners discuss their problems. Final arrangements are being made for the birthday party.

SCENE 5. In the forest the Bad Fairy casts a spell aided by her evil helpers.

SCENE 6. At a fair near the Palace grounds, the Princess is persuaded by the Bad Fairy to buy a Spinning Wheel.

SCENE 7. The Palace one hundred years later.

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Sleeping Beauty ..	.. Trina Aburrow
Prince Charming ..	.. Charles Wilson
Prince Charming's Friend	Steven White
King Edmund ..	.. John Cormack
Queen Greselda ..	.. Kerry Richards
Chancellor ..	.. Verdun Trott
Guard ..	.. Martin Conerney
Injured Deer ..	.. Michaela Bearpark
Bad Fairy ..	.. Michelle Banting
Envoys ..	.. Paul Eaton, Matthew Howarth
Ambassadors ..	.. Steven Broadhurst, Gary Smith
Gypsies ..	.. Helen Macnair, Samantha Barron, Heather Fry, Kelly Spurdle, Lisa Emmett
Entertainers ..	.. Nichola Pye, Juliette Wheeler
Ladies in Waiting..	.. Andrea Twigg, Jennifer Watts, Joanne Darke, Jane Gollop, Marisa Lennon, Vicki Holmes
Servant ..	.. Alexander Cater
Guests at Palace ..	.. Lorraine Willetts, Martin Nutkins, Alan Owen, Ian Snellgrove, Peter Hill.

MUSICIANS

Alison Chiplin, Jackie Critchard, Claire Walker, Rosemary Legg, Sarah Harris, Jackie Poulton, Joy Aston, Samantha Barron, Zoe Cozens, Melanie Legg, Alison Stevens, Paula Edwards, Jonathan Hansford, Lee Norman.

THE WOODLAND ANIMALS

Deer - Tina Richards, Clare Morgan-Smith, Donna Edwards
Bears - Anita Smith, Sean Gillings, John Luxton
Wolves - Tomas Marks, Anthony Greenwood, Luke Larcombe
Rabbits- Catherine Poulton, Joanne Craddock, Janina Wojcik
Mice - Tracy Prosser, David Bentley, Jack Duplock
Birds - Helen Peach, Jennifer White, Elizabeth Greenwood

WOODLAND FAIRIES

Lisa Craddock, Ruth Saphorghan, Sara Martinson

BLUEBELL FAIRIES

Julia Eaton, Sarah Twigg, Sarah Bearpark.

MEADOW FAIRIES

Margaret White, Maria Norman, Claire Aston

SEA FAIRIES

Michelle Knapman, Catriona Cater, Michelle Bowditch

SNOW FAIRIES

Emma Goodwin, Rebecca Barron, Alicia King

WITCHES

Tristan Harris, Pieter Wojcik

HOEGOBELINS

Paul Matteson, Phillip Barnes, Mark Tarry, Darren Smith, Richard Poulton, Tony Broadhurst, Kip Hansford, Oliver Larcombe, Ben Morgan-Smith, Robert Martinson, James Holmes, Daniel Saphorghan

All children leaving the school will be given a book in recognition of the sincere efforts they have made during their stay here and with the School's best wishes for their future.

CHARMOUTH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

LEAVERS CONCERT

Michelle Hopkins, Michelle Garrett, Andrea Smart,
Jane Broadribb, Amanda Hendrick, Lisbet Shears,
Sara Cormack, Tracey Brown, Janice Matthews,
Naomi Raikes, Julia Marsh, Virginia Barnes,
Rosemary Goodden.

ON

THURSDAY, JULY 20th

at 2.00 pm

Steven Larcombe, Allan Dampier, Paul Hansford,
Jamie Waterson, Paul Miller, Gregory Gibbs,
Steven Reeves, Jonathan Warner, Stephen Krywald,
Mervyn Bearpark, Jonathan Smith, John Williams,
Timothy Holmes, Steven Day, Barry Watts,
Anthony Rowse, Paul Norman.

SPECIAL GUEST

MRS J SPICER

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION - Mr Broadhurst

THE MAGIC FRUIT - A Light Opera by David Lord

- 1 The Three Castle Visits
- 2 Inside the Castle
- 3 The Woods
- 4 The Castle
- 5 The Prince Leaves

CHARACTERS

Narrator	Anthony Rowse
The Prince	Jonathan Warner
The King	Mervyn Bearpark
The Queen	Rosemary Goodden
The Ugly Princess	Paul Hansford
The President	Gregory Gibbs
A Lady-in-Waiting	Amanda Hendrick
A Soldier	Tracey Brown
Princesses	Michelle Hopkins
	Sara Cormack
Maids	Virginia Barnes
	Julia Marsh
	Janice Matthews

MUSICIANS

Lisbet Shears, Jane Broadribb, Andrea Smart, Naomi Raikes,
Allan Dampier, Steven Day, Jonathan Smith, Timothy Holmes,
Fiona Knapman, Marilyn Smart, Helen Wood, Susan Lote.

RECORDER PIECES

Robin Adair, The British Grenadiers, Over the Hills and
Far Away.

PRESENTATIONS BY MRS J SPICER

Vote of thanks proposed by Mr D Dampier

HYMN - "One More Step"

One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I learn,
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you.

CHORUS: And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corners of the world I turn,
More and more about the world I learn,
All the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough.
Leap and sing in all I do
Keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
You are younger than the life in me.
Even old and ever new
Keep me travelling along with you.

PRAYERS - Rev R Raikes

THE SCHOOL PRAYER

This is our school
May we live happily together,
May our school be full of joy
May love dwell here among us every day.
Love of one another
Love of people everywhere,
Love of life itself.
And love of God.
Let us remember
That as many hands build a house,
So every child can make this school
A lovely place.
Amen.

BLESSING.

<u>Leavers' Concerts.</u>		<u>Special Guests</u>	<u>Number of Leavers.</u>
1978	The Magic Fruit.	Mrs H. Spicer.	30
1979	The Silver Penny and The Apricot Tree.	Sir John Colfox	28
1980	The Midnight Thief.	Mrs P.J. Edwards.	19
1981	The Happy Prince.	Major J.E. Nutall.	26
1982	The Moonrakers.	Admiral Sir John Hamilton GBE	22
1983	Oliver.	Vice Admiral Sir William Crawford KBE, CB, DSC	22
1984	Robin Hood.	The Lady Digby DL	23
1985	Little Lord Fauntleroy	Vice Admiral Sir Fitzroy Talbot KBE, CB, DSO, DL	11
1986	The Happy Prince.	Lt-Col C.H. Gibson	17
1987	Noah's Wonderful Ark.	Mrs O.E.S.I. Hole OBE	17
1988	Annie.	Rear Admiral G. I. Pritchard CB	25
1989	Oliver.	Mr P.W. Allsebrook CBE, DL	25
1990	Robin Hood.	Mr T.B. Pearn OBE, MC	33
1991	Noah's Wonderful Ark	Mr E.W. Ludlow, High Sheriff of Dorset.	19
1992	Murder on the Axminster Continental Express.	Major General P.H. Benson CBE	34



This picture, from the local newspaper, shows some of the characters from the last Leavers' Concert put on in the old building. The play was the idea of the children developed at the Youth Club in Wootton Fitzpaine based on Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express. Their play included all popular sleuths from fiction.

A railway carriage was constructed by one of the parents at the end of the hall where all the action took place. The Year 5 children provided the choir to give backing to the singing and to show them what had to look forward to the following year when it was their turn.

The Leavers' Concert was designed to be a really special occasion to mark the great contribution each child had made towards the life of the school. It began with the play, followed by a brief talk by the special guest who then made the presentations.

All children who were leaving received an Observers Book of their own choice, and a Bible, given by the parish church. Cups and trophies were also presented to the winners of the various awards, academic, sporting, music and art. The event concluded with prayers, including the school prayer, lead by the vicar and the singing of the hymn 'One more step along the world I go'. There were then light refreshments for all in the classroom.

The first Leavers' Concert was to have had Sir James Spicer, the local MP as special guest, but he was tied up with Parliamentary business at the time and so his wife filled in for him.

The strong music tradition, already mentioned, played a big part in the activities of the school. As well as teaching children to play the recorder, outside musicians came into school to give tuition in string, wind and brass instruments, violin tuition had started as early as July 1965. The school built up its own stock of musical instruments which were hired out for a minimal charge. These extra lessons were paid for by the parents.

There was an annual Music Festival for all the primary schools in the Bridport and Lyme Regis areas held at Colfox School, Bridport. Each school provided 20 performers who sang various songs and there were some pieces played on recorders. The whole event was under the direction of Mr John Staff, the County Music Adviser accompanied by Mr John Tallon, Head Teacher of Symondsburry School.

Eventually as the Festival became bigger and more popular the Lyme Regis area primary schools had their own festival at the Woodroffe School. Charmouth played a big part in this event as it was mainly organised by Mr Paul Curtis, the school's music teacher. Children also took part in other instrumental concerts held at Colfox and Beaminster Schools and some children were involved with the Dorset Youth Orchestra. Groups of children also sang to the old people at the Elms and at other village events at Christmas.

On 7th July 1992 the school held its own Musical Evening at which all who had been having individual music tuition played a small piece on their own instrument and then played together forming our own school orchestra. This event continued into the new school under the guidance of Mr Curtis.

On 15th January 1991 the first session of Booked by Dorset began. This was a series of reading games played by the Infant children with their parents in the hall. Any children whose parent could not attend would either join another group or play with a member of staff or other volunteer helpers. Initially most of the games were made in sessions when parents were asked to come and help make them. The sessions took place in the TV room. An advisor came from county to give guidance and supply kits and other materials.



Being a seaside resort the school attached particular importance to teaching the children to swim. It was felt that the younger they learnt the better and various swimming pools were tried, but the one used most belonged to Mrs Lawrence, a former schools inspector. Mrs Mallabone, the Head of Infants, had a loyal band of parents helpers who came to school on Thursday mornings and accompanied the children to the pool, going in the water with them to give them confidence. The children soon grew in skill and confidence in the water.



At the older end of the school on 2nd June 1987 the Year 6 children lead by Mrs Kathy Foot did an exchange trip with children from Montgomery Combined School in Exeter. They spent four days in Exeter and slept on the school premises. This gave the Charmouth children an idea of city life and those from the city an opportunity to sample life in the country.

This lead later to the Year 6 Activities Weeks beginning in May 1991 when Mr Mark Stratta took the Year 6 children from school and walked them up across Stonebarrow and down to St Gabriels. He was assisted by a team from the Outdoor Education Centre at Weymouth and Mrs Mandy Wiscombe. They carried everything they would need with them, (clothes, food, sleeping bags etc.) This they found very hard because they had had no prior training. They carried out several trust and team building exercises and cooked their food on meths stoves. In the evening, after they had done the washing up, they had story telling around the camp fire before retiring to their sleeping bags inside 'crackly orange survival bags' provided by the Outdoor Centre. The toilet was on a trailer loaned by one of the parents. The punishment for any unacceptable behaviour was the threat of having to empty the chemical toilet!

Mrs Wiscombe took over the event from Mr Stratta and there were a few changes. The children only took with them their packed lunches on the way to St Gabriels and they carried out orienteering exercises in groups on the way to the camp site. All the gear and food was transported in the Education Centre Van. Meals were still cooked on stoves, but meals had been pre-planned in the classroom the previous week, and washing up was done in communal bowls. Tents were provided by the Centre and the children learnt how to put them up and then share them. To encourage the group to speed up on the way home there was a promise of a barbecue and ice cream when they reached the beach. Mrs Wiscombe was assisted by parent helpers.

If the weather was unsuitable for outdoor camping the children were taken to the Outdoor Centre at Weymouth where they could do rock climbing among other things. They also went to the Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne. Here they did cob wall building and grinding corn to make bread which they then ate. There was also blacksmithing and an ancient round house for story telling. All these activities proved to be a high light for many children lucky enough to be involved and one of the best things they remembered about school, along with the London visit. The Activity Week is yet another example of dedicated teachers giving their own time to provide wonderful experiences for the children in their care.

Reading was a big priority for the school, as with all primary schools, and the school was most fortunate to have exceptional Heads of Infants in the old building who started the children on the road to literacy.

One initiative, started on 2nd November 1976 to help the older children with their reading, was the introduction of Listeners' Groups. Parents and friends of the school, many who were pensioners, but interested in children, were each allocated a small group of children. They came into school for the last lesson in the afternoon once a week, either Wednesday or Friday, and heard the children read. The sessions took place in the television room and the listeners heard the children read and discussed with them what they were reading. A bond was formed with the children that they enjoyed and it also benefitted their reading progress. If, for some reason the adult could not attend, the children just remained in the classroom in the normal way. This was also a useful because the Listeners would report back to the teacher if they felt any child was having difficulties.

Another reading scheme, begun in the late 1970s by Mr John Foot, was the 'Home reading scheme'. It was piloted with the older children and it entailed each child taking home their reading book in the normal way, but they also took home a small notebook. Parents were asked to sign in the notebook to show that they had heard their child read. For every five signatures the children received a credit, and small prizes were awarded at the end of each term. It was realised that this system was open to abuse if parents signed when they hadn't heard their child read, but this must have been a very small minority, if any, because the improvement shown in children's reading, when tested at the end of the first year, was astounding, and the scheme was therefore adopted by all the junior classes.

Charmouth as a village was fortunate to have its own policeman, Constable Monty Harris, who lived in a Police House, situated near the fire station. In June 1977 Constable Harris started Cycling Proficiency sessions with the older children to train them how to use their bicycles safely on the road. This was particularly important in Charmouth which has such heavy traffic during the Summer months, mainly when the children are on holiday and likely to be using the bicycles.

At the end of the training sessions, some held on the road and some on the playground, an external assessor came into school to examine the children. Those able to pass the test, and there was nearly always a 100% success rate, were awarded a National Cycling Proficiency Certificate and Badge, presented either in an Open Assembly or at the Leavers' Concert. The Cycling Proficiency Test Scheme was run by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.(RoSPA)

The PTA held its inaugural meeting on 19th November 1975. There was a committee made up of interested parents with a secretary and treasurer. The chairman of the committee was the Head Teacher. Originally the AGM was held in January, but from 1980 it was held in September to tie in with the school year. Two or three meetings were held each term depending on forthcoming events. On the build up to the Summer Fete more meetings were necessary.

The PTA held many social events which were not intended to raise money raising, but just to give an opportunity for parents, teachers and children to get together. One of the most popular of these was a farm evening at Higher Abbott Wootton Farm, Whitchurch, the home of Mr Tony Stevens. Mr Stevens was treasurer of the PTA for many years and also a school manager/governor, serving for several as Chairman. Visitors were taken around the 250 acre farm on tractors and trailers, stopping at different points around the farm to learn about the different aspects of farming and to enjoy the beautiful views of West Dorset.



On this occasion in May 1980, 160 attended the evening filling 5 trailers. Extra trailers had to be brought in from neighbouring farms. After the tour of the farm everyone enjoyed a ploughmans supper provided by Mr & Mrs Stevens. The parents enjoyed cider and the children fresh milk. This picture shows the group preparing to set off. Mr Stevens is in the cap; also attending was the local vicar, the Rev Robert Raikes, who was Vice Chairman of the Managers and had four children at the school, and Mr John Broadhurst, the Head Teacher.



On a subsequent farm evening at Abbotts Wootton in May 1982 the tour around the farm was followed by hot dogs served by parents, for which there was a small charge. Sadly, due to health and safety and the cost of public liability insurance such an event would not now be possible as the trailers were all open and some of the fields are very steep. On one occasion one of the trailers slid slowly down a field and finished up at right angles to the gate it was supposed to be going through. Fortunately no-one was hurt and the children, not realising the possible danger, thought it was great fun.

One similar event, which was just as enjoyable, was held at another farm, Upcot Farm, Morcombelake, the home of Mr and Mrs Smith. Mrs Smith had a long association with the school, first having two boys at the school and as a Manager and classroom helper. She was then appointed as a welfare assistant for an individual child and later as an ancillary in the Reception Class taking over from Mrs Murial Edwards who had worked at the school for 28 years. Upcot Farm is owned by the National Trust and has beautiful views across Golden Cap and the lovely Dorset coast.

The evening consisted of a walk around the farm followed by a barbecue and the picture shows some of the eager children being served over one of the farm's trailers. This picture was taken in June 1983 and the PTA held similar events in May 1985 and June 1989.



Upcot Farm was also the venue for several class visits by the Infant classes. The children were taken around the farm and spent time with the various animals learning how they are cared for. They were always made very welcome by Mr and Mrs Smith.

The PTA organised several other outdoor events which were purely for enjoyment. There was a nature quiz around the lanes of Wootton Fitzpaine where children competed in teams identifying various wild flowers and plants.

Treasure Hunts around Charmouth Village proved very popular. A sheet of clues, written by Mrs Ann Peach, took the contestants around different parts of the village in a circular route, starting and finishing at the school where light refreshments were waiting while the winner was decided.

Being a combined school it was important to have events around the area and Barn Dances were held in Whitchurch and Wootton Village Halls and one was actually held in a large barn at Befferlands Farm, the home of Mr and Mrs Andrews, which is between Charmouth and Whitchurch. At all PTA events parents and friends came willingly into Charmouth to take part, but it did not work so well the other way around.

In the school itself the Beetle Drives were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed, with some amazingly imaginative beetles designed by the participants, both adult and children. Prizes were awarded for the most original designs as well as the highest, and lowest, scores.

Quiz Evenings were tried, but were not quite so popular or well attended. People are often seem worried by the possibility of showing their ignorance.

The school supported several charity events, most notably Comic Relief, or Red Nose Day. Here, in February 1983, Mr Paul Curtis is being sponsored to have his beard removed delicately by Miss Judith Reed, supervised by Anna Wiscombe, Mrs Mallabone, Zoe Buttlng, Matthew Carey, Jo Bloxham, Clare Phillips and all suitably dressed and made up as clowns.

In 1993 £451 was raised for good causes. This included £235 to the Somalia Appeal, £37 to the Blue Peter River Blindness Appeal, £49 to Save the Children, £54 to Dr Barnardos and £25 to Global Care for Africa in Crisis. As well as this the pupils collected warm clothing for the Oxfam Bosnia Appeal.



School club activities were open to the older children, Years 4 onwards. That decision was mainly made because of numbers involved, but also, as they were mostly after school, it would make it a long day for the younger children. The following clubs were held after school: football, netball, drama, gymnastics, rounders, short tennis, cricket, swimming, art, orchestra and athletics.

A stamp club for Year 6 children was taken by Mr Don Dampier, who was Chairman of the Managers, in the early 1980s and recorders groups were held at lunchtimes. With the exception of the stamp club all these were taken voluntarily by members of the teaching staff in their own time. The school was very fortunate to have dedicated teachers who were willing to provide these extra curricula activities. It often gave some children who were not particularly academically inclined the opportunity to shine. The school worked on the basis that the more activities there were the more likely it was that all children would find something they enjoyed and were good at.

The school enjoyed considerable success in the sporting field both locally and at county level. The girls won the local netball tournament on a number of occasions and once finished runner up at the county finals in Weymouth. The boys won the Randall Shield, the Smiths Crisp Tournament, held for many years on out two pitches where the school is now situated and the Kenway Cup, an eleven a side tournament for all primary schools in the area.

Success was also achieved in the Short Tennis Tournament, and the boys and girls teams were winners in the area athletics tournament at different times.

Alison Chiplin achieved a top award in an assessment scheme run by the Sunday Times in conjunction with the Amateur Gymnastic Association in January 1980. (See picture on the next page.

After any sporting event, win or lose, a member of the team would give a report on the event at the following morning's Assembly. This task was shared around during the season, organised by the captain of the team. This would enable the whole school to take pride in the achievements of their fellow pupils and also learn to lose in an honourable way. The teacher involved would be present to give back up and support to the 'reporter'.

If certificates had been awarded they would also be presented at the Assembly.



This picture of Alison Chiplin with her gym teacher, Miss Eleanor Ackroyd, who had been Head of PE at Colfox School, appeared in the local newspaper in January 1980. The material badge is similar to the one awarded to Alison.

There were badges awarded, starting at Grade 4, as the children progressed through the scheme. Every child achieved at least Grade 4, but Alison Chiplin, and later Joanne Craddock were the only ones to achieve Grade 1.

The gym club, for Year 6 pupils only, had been made possible by a grant of £700 made by Dorset Education Committee which enabled the school to purchase portable and fixed climbing frames, vaulting boxes and mats.



A few boys were chosen each year for the joint West Dorset football team. Exceptional children were selected by each school and the team chosen at a practice session before the first match. Paul Eaton is 4th from the left at the back and Steven Broadhurst is 2nd from the right in the front. They came up against teams from Poole and Bournemouth and lost their matches fairly heavily, but it was useful experience for them.

The teams usually played home and away so quite a few matches were held throughout the season. This joint team ceased to function soon after this photo was taken because of the practicality of getting the team together on a Saturday morning when children and staff became involved in so many activities.



1979 Thorncombe Netball Trophy winners.

Back row: Clare Matthews, Miss Rosemary Giles, teacher in charge of netball, Sally Peach, (Captain), Michelle Knapman, Mr Leonard Starkey, retired Head of Burton Bradstock School,

Front row: Rosalie Miller, Donna Cozens. Michaela Healy.



1981 West Dorset Champions and runners up in the County Finals at Weymouth to Hill View School, Bournemouth

Back row: Claire Walker, Samantha Barron, Miss Giles, Sarah Harris,

Front row: Heather Fry, Vicki Holmes, (Captain), Rosalyn Day, Trina Aburrow.



1983 Winners of the Randall Shield.

A seven a side competition held annually at Colfox School, Bridport.

Back row: James Gorfin, Paul Hill, Geoffrey Bulgin, Jonathan Butler.

Front row: Richard Poulton, Daniel Saphorghnan, Tony Broadhurst, (Captain) Darren Smith.



1989 Winners of the Brian Newbery Shield.

A seven a side tournament held annually at Charmouth. The Smiths Crisps competition.

Back row: Jimmy Cook, Oliver Fortescue, Simon Forsey, Adam Clark.

Front row: David Young, Alex Brooks, (Captain) William Parker, Robert Wickes.

These are just a few of the football and netball tournament winners, successful thanks to the devotion and enthusiasm of their teachers and support of their parents.

The boys' pictures show them with their certificates awarded for West Dorset Schools Events.



This 1987 team was a hugely successful side. They won the Kenway Cup open to all primary schools in the area and also the West Dorset Smiths Crisps Tournament, locally the Newbery Shield. The team were then runners up in the Dorset County section of that competition at Wareham.

They are pictured here with Sharron Davies MBE, Double Gold Medallist at the Commonwealth Games and Silver Medallist at the Olympic Games in Moscow. She was at the school as the celebrity for the Superschools Event. She kindly agreed to be photographed with the winning football team.

Back row: Scott Colbert, Robert Pitt, Cian Pettitt, David Young, Sharron Davies, Paul Chapman, Oliver Fortescue, Simon Forsey.

Front row: Alex Brooks, William Parker, Jamie Clark, Mathew Curtis, (Captain) Stewart Hunt, Jimmy Cook.



With the number of trophies won by teams and individuals increasing it was decided to have a special trophy cabinet made which was put on the wall in the centre of the hall. The Sports Day Shield and individual cups and shields presented at the Leavers' Concert were also kept in the cabinet. Several trophies were donated for specific academic or sporting excellence.