

Newton-in-Cartmel School



1875 Newton-in-Cartmel National School was built by public subscription and opened with one teacher and 11 children on 11 Jan 1875. It closed on 25 March 1970 with 2 teachers and 25 children.¹

A Church Day School at Newton was built by subscription in 1874 at a cost of £600. Church services are held in the schoolroom.²

w/e 15/1. Newton Mixed School was opened on Monday January 11 on which day I (Elizabeth Rigg) commenced my duties as schoolmistress. During the week I examined the children and found them very backward especially in arithmetic.³

1876 w/e 24/3. The 2nd standard commenced writing their home lessons in exercise copy books instead of on slates.

w/e 27/8. Average attendance 58 – the greatest since the school has been opened.

1877 w/e 27/8. Mrs Susan West took charge of the school as mistress.

1878 w/e 22/3. The children are tired of keeping the school clean; the little ones are very willing but are not strong enough to sweep.

w/e 29/4. Miss Mary Emma Smith took charge of the school as mistress in the place of Mrs West who left on 18 April.

1879 w/e 3/4. “Some lavatory facilities should be provided” – Inspector’s report.

w/e 13/6. Received wash-hand basins & other utensils for the washing of children’s hands.

¹ Entry in Kendal Record Office register.

² Kirby, R.H. & others, eds. 1892. The Rural Deanery of Cartmel ... Ulverston: Atkinson. p.51.

³ This and all subsequent items from the school log books.

- 1882 Concert at Newton-in-Cartmel School Room. Miss Smith schoolmistress. “to assist in paying off the debt incurred on behalf of the Sunday Evening Services held there”.⁴
- w/e 12/5. On Monday Miss A M Shaw commenced her duties as assistant mistress.
- w/e 1/12. Miss Shaw resigns her post as assistant mistress today.
- 1883 w/e 12/1. Miss M A Suart entered upon her duties as assistant mistress.
- w/e 24/8. In consequence of the builders disturbing the wall of the schoolroom in building the classroom the children are to have holiday next week.
- w/e 7/9. I commenced duties as mistress. I find the attainments of the standards throughout very poor, the reading especially very indistinct. Martha Johnson.
- 1898 w/e 4/1. At a meeting of the managers ... it was proposed and seconded and unanimously agreed to that whereas no school house or house rent free is provided for the head teacher & taking into consideration the valuable services rendered by Mrs Johnson to the school during a period of 15 years her salary be increased by nine pounds p.a. to be paid in quarterly instalments the first to become due on 31 March 1898. H A Ransome, H Hibbert, W Walker, T Jackson.
- 1932 A presentation took place in the Newton-in-Cartmel C.E. School last Thursday, to Miss Mabel Thompson, who received a leather handbag from the school children. Miss Margaret Thompson handed over the gift in a speech “With love and best wishes from the school children, Miss Brandreth, and the Vicar of the Parish.” Miss Thompson heartily thanked all the children for the gift, after which the Vicar, the Rev F.A.W. Kilbey made a short speech. He remarked on the excellent way in which Miss Thompson had carried out her duties as infant teacher during the nine years she had been at Newton. – Miss Thompson was educated at the Lancaster Girls’ Grammar School, and the post as infant teacher at Newton, under Miss M. Brandreth, head mistress, was her first appointment. She began her new duties as infant teacher at Priest Hutton School, near Carnforth, on Tuesday.⁵

⁴ Grange Visitor, 23 February 1882

⁵ Westmorland Gazette, 5 November 1932, p.11