

Interview with Michael Greene

I started Junior Infants in September 1953. I walked and cycled to school, it was about 1km to get to and from school. We spent 5 and a half hours in school. We learned Gaeilge, English, maths, history and geography. We had six books. We wrote with pencils and a fountain pen using the nib and ink.

There were two classrooms in the school, outside toilets, a cloakroom and a football field. The school was heated with turf. For lunch we had sandwiches. We played football, rounders and hurling at break time.

Ms. Kelly and Mr. O'Rourke were the teachers. The teachers were very pleasant. There were about 25 to 30 children in the classroom.

My favourite memory was the excitement of getting our summer holidays.

*By Lauren Colleran
(Grandchild)*



Michael with his grandchildren Lauren and Daniel

Interview with Michael Harte

Our father drove us to school in his car. We walked home with the other boys and girls. The school was about a mile from our house. I was in school for approximately six hours.

We learned Gaeilge, English, maths, religion and art. We did a small amount of history and geography. I think we had six books and a few copies. We wrote mainly in pencil. We used chalk on the blackboard.

We didn't have a school uniform and could wear our own clothes. I brought my school bag, pencil case, copies, lunchbox and coat to school. The school was heated with oil. We played gaelic football, soccer and catch during breaktime.

There were two classrooms and a porch where the children had their lunch. We brought a flask of tea and homemade sandwiches with ham, jam, banana or cheese.

Mrs. Flynn and Mrs. Callaghan were my teachers. Mrs. Callaghan taught the children in the junior room. Mrs. Flynn taught the children in the senior room. The teachers were very nice. There were about 20 children in the classroom.



Michael with his children Aisling and Aaron.

We celebrated Christmas and Halloween at school. At Christmas time, we made Christmas cards. We made masks at Halloween.

My favourite memory was playing for the Threen football team against Tarmon, Cloonbonniffe and Granlahan schools. I enjoyed school because it was a nice small school with small classes and nice people.

By Aisling and Aaron Harte (Children)

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*By Aisling and Aaron Harte (Daughter and Son)
4th and 5th class*

Interview with PJ Harte

I travelled to school in my Dad's car. It took less than a mile to get to school. I was in school for five and a half hours.

We learned Gaeilge, English, maths, history, geography and religion. I think we had seven books and seven copies. I wrote with a pencil and pen.

We didn't have a school uniform and could wear our own clothes. I brought my school bag and coat to school. The school was heated with oil. For lunch, we had a sandwich and a drink. We played tag along with hide and seek during breaktime.

There were two classrooms, toilets and a community room in the school. Mrs. Flynn and Mrs. Callaghan were my teachers. They were nice, friendly teachers. There were about 29 children in the classroom.

I enjoyed school because I got to play with my friends and learn new subjects.



*By Rebecca Harte (Daughter)
4th class*

Interview with Dermot Joyce

I started Junior Infants in September 1980. I lived about 1 mile from school. My dad brought me to school in the car every day. We spent six hours at school. We learned Gaeilge, English, maths, history and geography. We had about five books. We wrote with pencils.

There were two classrooms in the school and a hallway in the school. There was electricity, heating and outdoor toilets in the school. I wore a jumper and trousers mostly as there was no school uniform. The school was heated with oil. There were radiators in the classrooms. For lunch I had a cheese or ham sandwich with a flask of tea. We played skipping, football, basketball and catch outside.

Ms. Callaghan and Ms. Flynn were the teachers. The teachers were lovely. There were approximately 20 pupils in the classroom.

My favourite memory of school is making my first Holy Communion. I enjoyed school because we spent lots of time playing outside.



Dermot with his sons Diarmuid and Oisín.

By Diarmuid Joyce (Son)

Interview with Mary Connelly nee Lyons

I walked to school, it was about 200m to get to and from school. I wore a knitted skirt or dress to school. We spent 5 and a half hours in school. We learned Gaeilge, English, maths and all the other subjects. We wrote with pencils. We also wrote with fountain pens using the nib and blue ink.

There were two classrooms in the school, two toilets, a hall, a football pitch and basketball court. The school was heated with turf. We had to clean the hall at lunchtime. For lunch we had a cup of cocoa and homemade soda bread. We played 'house', tag, hopscotch and basketball at break time.

Mrs. Flynn, Mrs. Kennedy were the teachers. Mr. Jim Bligh was the assistant teacher when the principal was gone. The teachers were nice and not too strict. There were about 20 to 25 children in the senior room and about 20 children in the junior room.

My favourite memory was knitting scarfs and headbands. I also really enjoyed my mother's brown bread at school. I really enjoyed school because in the evening, we played 'house' and we had good friends.



Mary with her grandchildren Daniel, Hannah & Oisín

By Daniel and Hannah Connelly (Grandchildren)

Interview with Julie Greene

I started Junior Infants in September 1989. I cycled to school, it was about 1km to get to and from school. We spent six hours at school. We learned Gaeilge, English, maths, history, geography and religion. We had eight books and seven copies. We wrote with pencils.

There were two classrooms in the school, outside toilets, a cloakroom and a football field. I wore jeans and a t-shirt to school. The school was heated with storage heaters. For lunch we had sandwiches. We played soccer outside. I remember one of the windows was broken with the ball!



Julie with her children Lauren and Daniel

Ms. Callaghan and Ms. Flynn were the teachers. The teachers were very nice. There were about 32 children in the classroom.

My favourite memory is playing football on the school football team. I enjoyed school because I liked learning and playing with my friends.

*By Lauren Colleran
(Daughter)
3rd class*

Interview with Patrick (Patsy) Finan

I walked to school, it was about 2 and a half miles to get to and from school. We spent six hours at school. We learned Gaelge, English, maths, history, geography and religion. We had seven books and seven copies. We used a fountain pen and ink to write.

I wore short pants, jumper and jacket to school. I brought

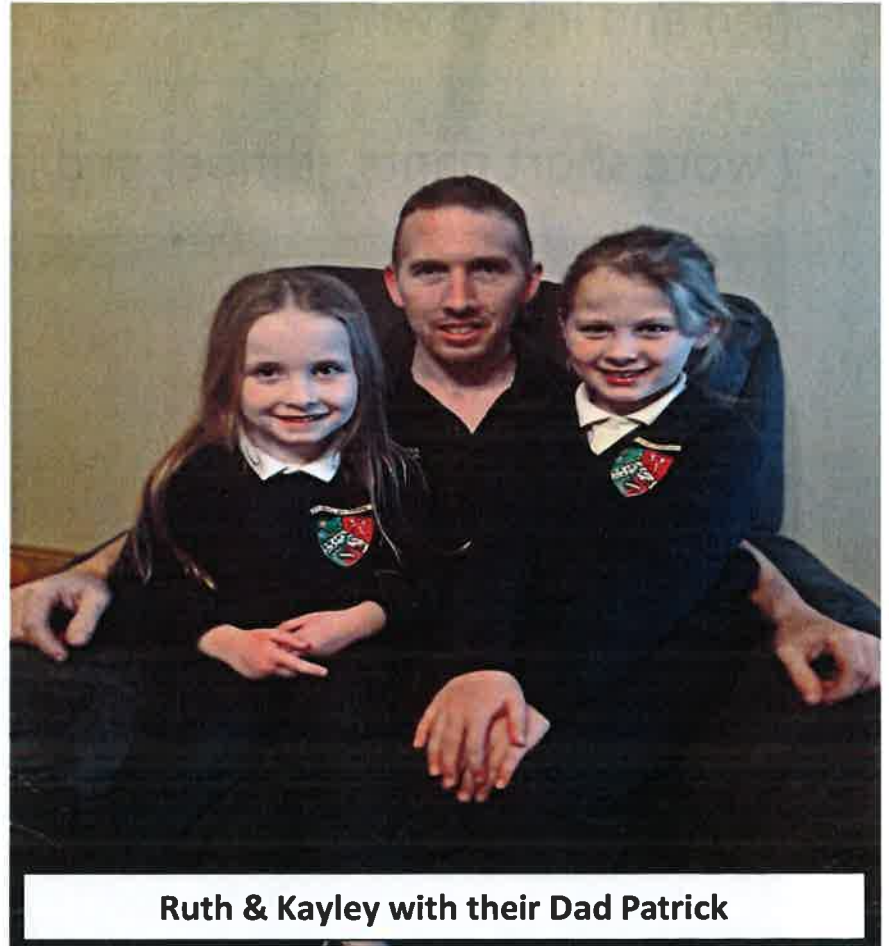


Patsy with his grandchildren Ruth & Kayley

my school bag and a few sods of turf to school. The school was heated with turf and coal fires. For lunch we had homemade bread, cheese and jam. We played football along with cowboys and Indians during breaktime.

There were two classrooms in the school. There were about 20 children in the classroom. Mr. O'Rourke, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Flynn, Mrs. Kennedy, Mr. Quinn and Mr. Bligh were the teachers at different times while I attended school.

I enjoyed fifth and sixth class because the teachers had stopped slapping the pupils.



By Ruth Finan (Grandchild)