

# Eastcote Lane School

## 'The Early Years'



Opened on November 3rd 1933

By The Head Mistress  
Gladys L. Lewis.

The School opened with  
Eight Teachers

5 were Permanent Teachers

3 were Supply Teachers

The Children came from:

Weldon Park School..... 230

Vaughan Road Mixed.....45

Vaughan Road Infants.....10

Roxeth Hill Junior Mixed.....7

Eastcote Lane Infants .....94

Various Distant Parts.....24

The Register had to be recorded on Foolscap Paper for three days before they had a Proper Register delivered

The Playground had not yet been finished, so not many playtimes were allowed, as too many children were falling and hurting themselves and cutting their knees.

The first Teachers at the School were:

Miss Pidgeon, Mrs Jarratt, Mrs Tomlinson, Miss Bolton,  
Mrs Clement, Miss Jonathan,  
Miss Lyall and Miss Cooper.

**December 1<sup>st</sup> 1933** New Teachers arrived,

They were: Miss Butt, Miss Hamblin, and Miss  
Maclachlin,

Name Changed to Roxeth Manor in 1951

The Seniors School became known as

Rooks Heath High School in 1974

The first recorded Log Book started nearly a year later in September 1934.

Some times the record of daily events was very spasmodic as you will see from reading the Logs.

Everything has been copied from the Log Books so if nothing is written here it had not been recorded.

**September 24 1934.** The Football Pitch was prepared and laid out

**October 1st.** The First Football game was played by Class 2.

**19th.** The very first Football Match against another School took place.

The opponents were Weldon Park. Eastcote Lane won 3-0. By the end of October the School had grown to 533 pupils.

**January 1935.** Mr. Austin joined the school.

**March 1935.** There was evidence of a serious outbreak of mumps, many children were affected.

**April 1935** Two Concerts were held, both were full and they raised a total £9-0-7, this was paid into the Bank to pay for the Lighting and to start a fund to acquire curtains for the stage.

**May 1935.** By this time the pupils had risen, another 39 came up from the Infants.

The School was closed for three days for the Jubilee of the King & Queen; each Child was given a Medal and a tin of toffee.

**January 1936.** When the School reopened the total number of children on the Register had risen to 660, therefore a New Class had to be made up, and this was called 3D and was situated in the Medical Room.

**29th** The School had to be closed for the Funeral of King George V.

**August 28th.** School was reopened after the Summer Holidays, and the total of Classes had now reached 14. The number of Pupils in some of the Classes were as high as 50.

**September.** Because the School had grown so much, it was now necessary to install extra Classrooms.

These consisted of Huts placed in the Senior Playground and housed Four Classes, the number of Pupils had risen to 709.

**January 1937** By now the School consisted of 15 Classes with 15 Teachers I Floating Teacher and The Head Mistress, giving a total of 17.

January also saw a Flu epidemic and out of the 731 children in the school 656 still managed to attend.

**May 14th** When the school assembled in the morning, every child was presented with a Silver Coronation Spoon, a book by Stephen King Hall and a ticket for the Grosvenor Cinema. These were presented by Councillor J. L. Munns, of Harrow Council.

**20th** School celebrated the Coronation of King George V and Queen Elizabeth.

**August** The number of pupils attending the school was now at its highest 781. By now we had 16 Classes with 1a, /1b/1c and 1r. all being housed in the huts.

**October** Saw the school holding various events to raise funds for the Stage Equipment, a Jumble sale raised £14 bringing the total to £36.

Quotes were taken from many firms for the work of installing new classrooms, and the contract was given to Harrods, the work would be carried out after the Christmas break.

**November** The School was given a new Flag pole and Flag on the Birthday of the School.

**January 1938** The School reopened with 608 children, 175 had now been transferred to Roxbourne Junior, or Bourne Senior School, Ruislip Manor.

**14th** The school had a donation of £6-3-9 towards equipment, so they were able to pay Harrods for the stage work to be started, the cost of which was £44.

**18th** The curtains were fitted to the stage and the Monograms on them were designed by Mr. Furnell.

**April** The school Football Team has won every match since 1936.

**July** The School were supplied with a Projector from the County Council, so the hall windows had to be darkened.

**September** The school purchased a Cine Screen to use with the projector, at the princely sum of £2.

**November** At each Birthday celebration candles were lit and the school sang 'Up and on', The Union Jack would be flying from the flag pole.

On the schools 5th Birthday Barbara Oliver presented the school with two Chromium Candle Sticks.

**December** The weather was so bad, there was no playtime for the children, so the school hired a professional Conjuror and Ventriloquist for two one hour performances, at a cost of £4-12-6d. This was paid from the jumble sale funds.

**April 1939** The first film performance was held in the hall, entitled; Cleanliness, Care of the Face & Hands.

**June,** Peter Bloomfield gained first place in the High Jump, and equalled the record 4 foot 1 inch.

**August 29th** School reassembled after the Summer Break, and we heard the first threat of war.

**30th** All children were urged to carry Gas Masks and bring them to school each day, and Teachers helped to fit them on to each child.