

Don Walker's Memories of Deddington Deddington School

Yes - still the same school but not just a Primary. You could stay there for your school life unless you passed the eleven plus then you would go to Banbury Grammar School then known as The County School.

I started at Deddington at the age of 3yrs and 10months the same day as my brother Roy who was 15months older. My mother asked if I could go to the nursery dept as I so wanted to go with my brother. When I got home from my first day mum said, 'how did you like it?' Then I said, 'I didn't like it so I won't go again'. She said, 'you will because you pestered me to so you will go every day' Miss miller was my first teacher, a very caring and kind person. Our classroom was the one that juts out on the south side. There was a swing hanging down from the ceiling. Every afternoon we had to sleep on small camp beds.

Other teachers

Mr Armstrong was the headmaster when I started. He lived in the house later an antique shop in the market square but to us was always known as Schoolmaster's House.

After a few years Mr George Wing came as the head. He came from Norfolk. an excellent head but very strict and was not slow to dish out a good hiding. He loved to teach country dancing. The only music we had was a wind up gramophone so we had to stop dancing every time it needed a rewind.

He kept bees in the garden behind the main school hall and a few rabbits.

His wife came to teach shorthand but that was too complicated for me.

We would always address Mr Wing as Sir. He certainly made changes. We were to wear a school uniform dark brown blazer and cap for boys and a beret for girls and woe betide you if you were incorrectly dressed on your way to school.

He split the pupils into 3 different houses Windsor Tudor and York. We had competitions between each other to gain points for your house

A school journey as we called it was arranged. 10days in Scotland staying at Melrose and Joppa.

Don Walker June 2019