

BIGGEST SCHOOL ROLL IN SCOTLAND

Entry in the Guinness Book of Records, 1972

The Duddingston Road school opened in 1964 and was intended to allow the teaching of up to 1,550 pupils in smaller classes.

But the school-age population within the catchment area continued to grow. New housing developments had been constructed in the late 1950s at Magdalene and Meadowfield. From the mid-1960s the 229 post-war prefabs centred on Northfield Drive were replaced by higher density housing – areas previously occupied by 4 or 5 prefabs were replaced by maisonettes that could accommodate 20 families.

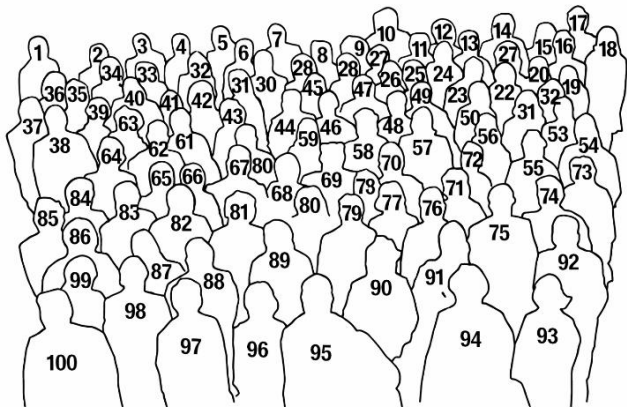
In 1969 the old school at Park Avenue was brought back into use and each new intake ‘served’ its first year at what for a generation would always be known as ‘The Annexe’, only visiting the main school for school dinners and perhaps the occasional class.



At April 1972 the number of pupils was 2,045 – 500 more than the new school had been built to accommodate. This led to a listing in the Guinness Book of Records.

The school with the most pupils in the United Kingdom is Thomas Bennett School, Crawley, Sussex with 2,145 in January 1972. The highest figure in Scotland is 2,045 at the Portobello Senior Secondary School, Edinburgh as at April 1972.

The story was picked up by the Daily Record, which ran a double-page spread in February 1973 – “The Head with a Headache” - in which head teacher Mr Baggaley explained the challenges he and the school faced. He was pictured with 99 of the 148 teachers on staff.



1 Roderick Hart (English)	2 Mr. Robin Dempster (Music)	3 Paul Bisson (English)	4 Eric Wilson (Admin. Ass.)
5 Miss Alison Massey (English)	6 Peter Wheeldon (German)	7 Alistair Cuthbertson (Art)	8 Miss Catherine Wright (English)
9 Mrs. Margaret Wilson (English)	1 David Waterson (English)	1 Edward Fenwick (Maths)	12 George Smuga (History & Mod. Studies)
1 Mrs Elizabeth Fulton (Maths)	1 George Main (French)	1 Peter Walser (Mod. Lang.)	16 Roger Bagshaw (Spanish)
3 Howard Turner (Geography)	1 Mrs. Judith Campbell (English)	1 Mrs Ann Craig (Drama)	20 Miss Marjorey Cook (Maths)
7 Miss Ann MacMillan (English)	2 Mrs Kathleen Taylor (Maths)	2 Mrs Margaret Hobson (Maths)	24 James Anderson (Maths)
1 Miss Eileen Cant (Business Studies)	2 Miss Maureen Grieve (Maths)	2 Miss Mary Wheeler (Maths)	28 Edith Watt (Maths)
2 Dr. Ray Milne (Mod. Lang.)	3 Mr. Freddie Brandon (German)	3 Mrs Fiona Lockhart (Mod. Lang.)	32 Mrs Judith Hamilton (Mod. Lang.)
9 Annie Grandguillot (French Asst.)	3 Mrs Susan Board (Mod. Lang.)	3 Mr. Allan Faulkner (Tech. Subject)	36 George MacFarlane (Tech. Subject)
3 Colin Oswald (Tech. Subject)	3 Ronald MacArthur (Art)	3 Miss Norma Kirk (Art)	40 Ian Grimmer (Tech. Subject)
7 Mrs Ray Bain (Geog./History)	4 Mrs. Isobel Willshaw (Mod. Lang.)	4 James Thompson (Physics)	44 Mrs Helen McLennan (Lab Tech.)
1 Mrs Aileen Little (Mod. Lang.)	4 Mr. David Fleming (Chemistry)	4 Mr. Alan Keay (English)	48 James McChesney (Tech. Subject)
5 Mrs Anna Mcleod (Adjustment)	5 Mrs Edith Burnett (Business Studies)	5 Maria Therezo Bermudez (Mod. Lang.)	52 Mrs. Martine Pugh (Mod. Lang.)
9 Joe Douglas (Tech. Subject)	5 George Bruce (Geography)	5 Mrs. Joan Andrews (Home Econ.)	56 Mrs. Barrabel Mason (Home Econ.)
3 Derek Wilson (English)	5 George Wood (Geography)	5 Mrs Anne Robertson (Science)	60 James Walker (Chemistry)
7	8	9	

61	Ian Dow (Physics)	62	Ian Marshall (Geography)	63	James Downie (Relig. Education)	64	Zigfrids Sapietis (Art)
65	Miss Morag Mackenzie (History)	66	Mrs. Margaret Millen (History)	67	William Gentleman (Biology)	68	Mrs Evelyn Degnen (Mod. Lang.)
69	William Robertson (Classics)	70	Dennis Garvie (Chemistry)	71	Miss Dorothy Williamson (Home Econ.)	72	Mrs. Elizabeth McKay (Science)
73	Mary MacIver (English)	74	John Wisely (Tech. Subject)	75	Mr. Harry Chessman (Music)	76	David Dalglish (Music)
77	Miss Diane D’Allessandro (Home Econ.)	78	Mrs Evelyn Jessiman (Chemistry)	79	Mr John Kirkpatrick (English)	80	Mrs. Diana Phillips (Physics)
81	Mrs. Eileen Paddock (Librarian)	82	Mr. Thomas Swan (Classics)	83	James Dickson (Music)	84	Graham Morrison (Music)
85	Kenneth Anderson (Asst. Headmaster)	86	Colin Bryce (Art)	87	Marion Whittaker (Art)	88	Edwin Romand (Biology)
89	Mrs. Janet Cuthill (Lab Tech.)	90	Lindsay More (Home Econ.)	91	Joanna Hutchinson (Home Econ.)	92	Harold Weaver (Maths)
93	Miss Christine Law (Home Econ.)	94	Mrs. Sheila Weld (Home Econ.)	95	John Baggaley (Headmaster)	96	Miss Sheila McKay (Physics)
97	Mrs. Elizabeth McEvoy (Biology)	98	Miss Sheila Thompson (Art)	99	Timon Rose (Art)	100	Derek Mclvor (Deputy Headmaster)