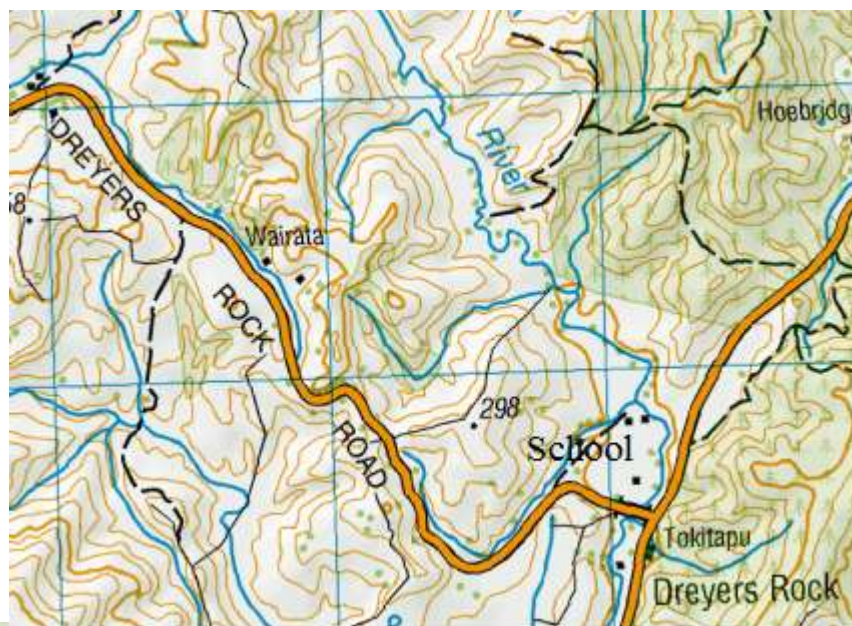


Dreyer's Rock: 1897 to about 1927. The outstanding thing about this school was the high quality of the teachers in the early years. They were teaching children with no previous schooling and getting results in topics like astronomy and shorthand. The school was always underequipped and the children over taught. Inspiring reading of the log at National Archives. 30 Kilometres from Masterton on the Eastern End of the Dreyer's Rock Road through Mauriceville township.



Rolls of Dreyer's Rock School

Average	Boys	Girls			
March 1897	6	10	March 1900	13	12
June 1897	6	10	June 1900	10	12

September 1897	8	10	September 1900	9	9
December 1897	9	10	December 1900	11	9
March 1898	11	10	March 1901	10	8
June 1898	11	12	June 1901	11	9
September 1898	12	14	September 1901	11	10
December 1898	12	13	December 1901	12	11
March 1899	14	13	March 1902	11	9
June 1899	14	13	June 1902	11	9
December 1899	14	13			

1896

9th March 1896 Mr Fleming also visited Dreyer's Rock Ngatitipu, Pongaroa, Tiraumea "Valley, Coonor and Upper Opaki, at each of which the Board has been asked to establish schools He will make a report as to the results of his enquiries at next meeting of the Board PP

24th June 1896 The tender of Mr Crofts was accepted by the Education Board for building a new school at Dreyer's Rock PP

16th January 1896 Mistress Dreyer's Rock School Salary £80 per annum PP

1897

16th January Mistress, Dreyer's Rock School salary, £80 per annum
First job advertised. A mistress wanted because the teacher was boarding with a local family.

The teacher appointed Teacher: Emmeline Hutchens

27th January 1897 Teacher appointed to Dreyer's Rock PP

3rd March. Opened school this morning through the non-arrival of the school furniture was unable to do so before. Fourteen children presented themselves for enrolment

3rd March 1897 The Dreyer's Rock school opens tomorrow in charge of Miss Hutchens. The furniture went in today PP

8th March Received a globe from S and W Mackay

12th March Average attendance for the week is fifteen

The work at present in the school is very elementary. Most of the children have not attended any school before and the others not for some time.

16th March. The scholars are now provided with slates and the necessary reading books

19th March. The weather is fine and the children have attended punctually

30th March. The playground is very rough and therefore not very convenient for drill (*Physical Education*)

31st March During the month the children have made a little progress

6th April. Inspectors report included

16 children present. 8 have not been to school before

Of the remainder only one Alexander Watson has been a regular attendant at any school (Tinui) I have passed him in Standard 4

William Payne and Catherine Power have passed Standard 2 at Mauriceville East some years ago and as they have not been to school since, they are very backward especially in Arithmetic

Ethel Payne has not been to school since she passed Standard 1 at Mauriceville East some years ago

Of the others in the Primer class an attempt must be made to push on the elder children more especially those considerably over 8 years of age.

To push the children on considerable time must be devoted to Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Geography and Drawing, more especially the first four.

For class work in geography the whole of the standard children should start with Standard 2

Drawing freehand should be given to the whole school

In the primer class the children should be well drilled in tables and the standard classes should be practised in mental arithmetic, 5 or 10 minutes daily

In history some oral lessons as suggested for Standard 3 will be sufficient

As the Standard 4 boy is the only one who knows anything about grammar the Standard 3 programme will be enough

No science lessons need yet to be attempted

All the school should learn poetry, singing and sewing

As the playground is unfit for drill at present, a little Swedish drill given occasionally in the schoolroom will be sufficient

As more time has to be devoted to reading, arithmetic etc. than usual a year's programme for these last subjects will not be looked for.

If Miss Hutchens finds that some of the children can learn more there will be no objection to any of them being presented for a higher Standard than the one above their last pass

There is only one reader in each class, but as children are very backward one will be enough for some time. Later on as progress is made another one can be obtained

The approach to the school door requires to be made

The porch entrance gravelled

A door mat or wooden or wire grating would be useful

The water from the tank should not be allowed to run in front of the door.

Some of the top should be cleared off the ground as soon as possible and in time the ground should be fenced

T R Fleming

4th April Copied and forwarded the report (To School Committee?)

Alexander Watson passed Standard IV (Not very strong)

22nd April after Easter. Unable to open school before Thursday Morning on account of no through train on Tuesday afternoon as thought.

26th April Received one set of Blackies block Lettering

29th April Received a Geographical Chart and one box of small wooden models

3rd May Received four natural history pictures, Some Kindergarten, Weaving frame, mats, beads, sticks, and prints. A map of New Zealand

11th May. Commenced kindergarten lessons (beads)

13th May. Gave the lower division a new lesson, stick laying

18th May the very wet weather has made a difference in the attendance and punctuality .The road being very slippery etc.

21st May. School to be closed on Monday May 14th it being the Queen's Birthday.

31st May The work is progressing steadily but the reading in the Standard's is very backwards.

18th June School to be closed next week in recognition of Her Majesty's Record Reign Celebration and that the mid-winter vacation will commence on the 28th June

19th July. Reopened School received a week's leave of absence on account of urgent family business

26th July commenced the first primer in Primer 2 having finished the reading sheet.

6th August Only 5 children attended today. Very wet weather

12th August Several children away with influenza

2nd Have been able this week to get on with steady work. The fine weather enabling the scholars to attend regularly

13th September Considerable progress in reading. But standards are still far behind. Two children in Primer 1 have finished the infant reader and commenced Standard 1 reading book. Two scholars have finished the second primer and started the infant reader.

27th September. One scholar in Standard 2 owing to home circumstances cannot attend school fulltime.

4th October. Commenced mat weaving in the infant division today.

13th October. Owing to very wet weather only 5 children present today and on last Monday

4th November. Several of the Standard One are not attending as well as could be desired.

10th November School closed on account of the Prince of Wales Birthday

18th November received a long arm. (*Probably for making a circle on the blackboard*)

26th November. The attendance of the senior children is at present unsatisfactory.

13th December. All the children in the infant department other than one know the alphabet

1898

29th January the floors have been washed during the holidays

4th February Class examination Standard 3 The arithmetic was fairly well done, the writing, spelling and reading fair

11th February the attendance in Standard 2 is not as good as could be desired

18th February the young children have been attending regularly the past month

20th February. Only half the children present owing to bush fires

4th March Owing to bush fires the attendance has not been good this week.

23rd March. Have pushed Standard 3 children on with Standard 4 work and have now covered the arithmetic for that standard.

5th April Received grating for doorway. The committee spent the day clearing the school grounds.

7th April The attendance was considerably lowered today owing to the holidays that the committee decided to close the school for the day

18th April School was closed for three days through sickness. The committee sanctioned the leave.

22nd April Inspectors Report

Standard 4, 1 passed

Standard 3 No passes

Preparatory Roll 12

A very suitable schoolroom has been built by the carpenters

Part of the playground should be cleared of logs,

The grounds are not yet fenced

1st April 1898 Dreyer's Rock Bounded on the north by the Alfredton District, on the east by Block 7, Rangitumau, and the Bideford District, on the south by the Wangaehu and Rangitumau Districts, and on the west by Sections 99, 100, Block 6, 208, 204, 205, 206, 98, and 104, Block 2, Kopuaranga District and the Mangamahoe District
PP

28th April School closed yesterday. Examination holiday

6th May A good track has been made through the school grounds and wood cut

16th May Unable to attend school these last few days through illness. Received a fire screen

7th June Standard 5 drawing is considerably improving.

15th June received a modulator

20th June an axe and a dust pan came today.

23rd June Examination Report

Standard 4 Presented 1 Passed 1

Standard 2, 4, 4

Standard 1 5, 5

Ten presented, ten passed Passes in Standard 1 and 2 very good

Class Subjects

Standard 4 Grammar Good, History fair

Standard 4 and 2 Geography Good

Object lessons and mental arithmetic fair
 Repetition, recitation and singing, Good
 Needlework, comprehension of language of reading lessons satisfactory
 The children have made very good progress under Miss Hutchens. Some who passed Standard 1 did not know their letters when the school opened a year ago
 The school ground should be cleared of logs
 An approach should be made to the building from the entrance
 T R Fleming
 10th August. Some firewood was cut today
 15th August the work of the last two new scholars is weak.
 16th September two new scholars admitted this week. Roll 26
 28th September 1899 Applications for improvements at Makairo, Dreyerton, Dreyer's Rock, Kaitawa and Otaki were agreed to provisionally on satisfactory details being supplied. PP
 7th October. The parents of one of the Standard 3 children wish their child put in Standard 4 but I find the child too weak in all subjects to commence Standard 4 work.
 11th October. Received a dozen Slates
 21st October. The state of the weather has considerably interfered with the attendance this week.
 16th November. A blackboard and an easel came today.
 23rd November. One student attends the cooking class Wednesday mornings (*Probably the ones held at Mauriceville School*)
 15th December Closed School for the Christmas holidays

1899

25th January Two new scholars Roll 22
 3rd February. Some of the children who have been away some time attended this week, their work is very unsatisfactory
 6th February A very wet day. Only Ten scholars present
 16th February some improvements have been made in the school grounds. A portion of the playground has been cleared and a drain laid to carry off the water tank water
 21st February School closed tomorrow. Masterton Show Day
 2nd March. Full attendance today, 28
 6th March. In Standard 2 and 3 the arithmetic is progressing but Standard 5 work is very unsatisfactory owing to irregular attendance
 20th March Received 3 dual desks a fortnight ago
 24th March. Received an unpleasant note from one of the parents this week and have referred the matter to the committee
 29th March. The committee considered the matter last night and decided to hold an enquiry on Thursday morning
 30th March. The Committee met this morning at the school. No truth was found in the statement and the person accused of making the statement positively denied ever saying so
 21st April The parent who wrote the note has apologised.
 28th April Absent yesterday,, severe cold
 3rd May/ Examination Report T R Fleming. Held 11th April

Standard	Presented	Present	Passed
5	1	1	1
3	5	5	5
2	7	7	7
Primers	14		

The years work has been satisfactory. Of the pass subjects spelling was good. Composition and Arithmetic satisfactory but reading should be more expressive. The work of the lower classes was very good. A shelter shed has been erected behind the school

9th May Received a dozen reading books, Seaside and Wayside and a box of coins

12th May Received some drawing charts and a map

15th May The weather has been very bad thru last week consequently the attendance has not been good

23rd May A child has some bad sores so sent word to keep him away for a day or two until they were better

16th June. Some of the older scholars are not attending regularly. Consequently their work is not as good as it should be

28th July. Some firewood cut today

7th August .Received ink and some pencil holders

22nd August Inspectors report Included

Some rearrangement is advisable especially in the matter of the times at present allotted to reading and spelling.

During the afternoon the teacher gave an intelligent lesson on “form”.

The lesson was shown in detail and the language well chosen.

The children answered well as a class but should be made to give their answers in the form as a complete sentence

The exercise books of the upper standards were neat in appearance

The slates of the lower part of the school should be more uniform.

Manners and General Behaviour of the children Very Good

Gravel is needed in front of the school door and on paths to the shed and outhouses

A scraper should be provided at the door, as at present the children tread in quantities of mud which give the floor an unsightly appearance

One of the outhouses was not in a satisfactory condition

Mr Bakewell

1st September. The school has been cleaned

1st October 1899 Miss Emmeline Hutchens, formerly of Wellington, who has been mistress of Dreyer's Rock School for some time past, has been promoted to the charge of the Nireaha School PP

2nd October Received blackboard compasses

5th October One family away with measles

20th October. Eight scholars have not attended at all this week owing to the measles and home circumstances

25th October. The school gate key has been accidentally lost

8th November. Permission has been granted by the School Committee to take Palmerston Show Day in place of Prince of Wales Birthday.

25th November. Received a broom

5th December. Have given six physiology lessons. The irregular attendance prevent more being done satisfactorily

1900

25th January School picnic tomorrow therefore the school will be closed

29th January the school has been cleaned

6th February A number of the children have been away cutting grass seed

10th February I was away yesterday with influenza

1st March. Some of the long grass in the school ground has been cut

12th March the attendance in the upper classes is much better. The work is progressing as well as can be expected

19th March. A number of the children have been unable to attend because of the bush fires.

23rd March. The playground is in a very rough state. There is very little space for drill.

30th March 23/25 average attendance for month

11th April only 2 scholars attended today. The weather having been very wet and the roads muddy

The chairman visited today. It was found the attendance would not be any better tomorrow and it was even probable the two present may not attend. Therefore the chairman thought it best to close the school this afternoon for the Easter holidays.

The reason for this non-attendance is due to the state of the road.

23rd April the school was closed for the whole of last week. One day for the examination holiday and the other two days in commemoration of the two important events in the current war.

7th May. Some firewood has been cut

28th May Mr Bakewell's report of school inspection on 1st April included

- a) 13/14 presented passed
- b) Class work has suffered through bad attendance due in most cases to sickness
- c) Miss Hutchens is a careful and considerate teacher and has done a good years work under exceptional difficulties.

5th June. Holiday yesterday the Boers abandoned Pretoria

14th June Have commenced Geometry this week

21st July The Lower Primers have started the 2nd primers

7th August the Upper Infant Division are now using Standard 1 readers

17th August the Geometry not progressing satisfactorily as some of the scholars have not the necessary requisites

21st August One of the pupils in Standard 3 is very deaf at times, consequently at these times it is difficult to get him to understand what is said

18th August Inspection Report included

- a) The work was being carried out in a quiet and orderly manner
- b) I was particularly pleased with the condition of the exercise and drawing books which were without exception neat and clean and carefully corrected.
- c) A saving in time might be made by the use of more blackboard demonstration in place of individual correction
- d) Good for the exception of the matter of the grounds. The steep approaches to the school and outside offices I am told are absolutely dangerous in wet weather. The children frequently slipping and rolling down the banks.
- e) The members of the committee appear to have gone carefully into the matter propose constructing wide steps or terraces in the banks.

7th September some of the scholars are still without Geometry requisites.

14th September. The older scholars do not attend well.

28th September Average 15 Roll 19

1st October Miss Emmeline Hutchens, formerly of Wellington, who has been mistress of Dreyer's Rock School for some time past, has been promoted to the charge of the Nireaha School

2nd October Received notification of my appointment to Nireaha School

8th October Miss Hutchens left for Nireaha School

P A Black opened the school

16th October Began "Rate" in arithmetic

17th October. Very bad weather Came to school today but at 10.30 no scholars had appeared so I went home again

18th October. Day fairly fine But roads in a very bad state owing to constant rain and slips. 15 only present

24th October. Fine weather but the road is still very muddy. Some scholars absent accordingly

30th October. Very stormy weather. School closed again

31st October. This school has been closed 4 days in October in accordance with wishes of School Committee. It is said that such bad weather has not been experienced for years and most of the students have long distances to walk to school the committee consider it better not to open school on such bad days. Average for month 16

1st November Primer class began new mat weaving. Took Standard IV as a class in the principle of reduction and the rules employed therein. One boy reduced 1 ounce to tons

5th November. Present this morning 16. Scholars are still very unpunctual.

Robert is attending school in Carterton

14th November Gave Standard IV lesson in bills of parcels

16th November. Miss Phelan newly appointed teacher of this school takes charge on 23rd January

Many of the boys are absent today as the shearing season is begun.

19th November Received the sum of 3/6d from Mr Budd, Secretary of the School Committee to pay Richard Payne, 5 weeks sweeping 2/6 and Mary Budd 2 weeks 1/- ending 28th September 1900

22nd November. The yard has been metalled nearest the doorway.

24th November 1900 Miss May G. Whelan, of the Thorndon School has been appointed to the school at Dreyer's Rock (near Mauriceville), and will enter upon her new duties at the reopening of the school year PP

26th November. 13 present today. Absent Fanny and Robert Larsen, R Payne, Roland Wilton and John Power, The three last are engaged in sheep work I am told and two of the three will not attend again before the vacation.

27th November. At 11 am only 12 were present. One appeared during playtime, but such irregular attendance is very unsatisfactory. Kindergarten work not very good

3rd December Forgot the key this morning. Took lessons in the shed till 10.45.

4th December. Received schedule form for return of Native Scholars of which there are none.

13th December Closed school for summer holidays. Received information through newspapers of closing of schools on 21st December.

14th December Average for this week 14.35

19th December 1900 Miss May Whelan, of the Thomdon School teaching staff, was entertained at afternoon tea by her fellow teachers, prior to her departure to take charge of Dreyer's Rock School and Mr. W. Mowbray, the headmaster, on behalf of the teachers, presented her with a set of handsome and useful books PP

21st December Gave up Keys to Mr Budd. P. Annie Black (Acting Teacher)

Inventory.

10	Dual Desks
2	Easels
3	Blackboards
3	Sets of Blackboard pegs
1	Table
1	Chair
1	Window Pole
2	T Squares
1	Clock
1	Bell
1	Globe
1	Ball Frame
4	Natural History Sheets
	Pictures of Sir Walter Scott and 4 drawing sheets
1	Reader Ditto
	The Forth Bridge
1	Map Europe
1	Map World
1	Map New Zealand
1	Map England
	Kindergarten Material

The week ending 21st December has been one of poor attendance as the children have been required to give their services at home during the busy season of shearing- hay making and other work

1901

28th January Opened school this morning according to instructions. 13 children present. Gave standard 3 and 4 Test Examination in Arithmetic. Kept results which were not good

May G Whelan

Died in 1918. Once Miss Whelan left this school there is no track of her. Death registration below

1918/2230 Whelan May Catherine AKA May 43Years
Gabrielle old

29th January Sent letter to Payne Family to inquire re non-attendance of Richard and Bertha

30th January Roll 17

Work very backward especially Arithmetic. Reading more satisfactory. Two members of the Payne Family attended today Richard and Lily attended school today.

Wind fine in the morning changed to rain and wind 11 a. m.

1st February 15 children present today all punctual. 3 were absent One wanted at home for grass cutting . Gave Lower Division Kindergarten work. No drill in playground on account of wind

11th February Eight children absent today owing to visit of Imperial Troops to Masterton. Having received official notice re holidays opened school.

19th February The Chairman and Secretary visited the school today School to be closed tomorrow Masterton Show Day

25th February Received a jar of ink and some nibs. Two pupils attend very irregularly on account of distance. Also received a supply of Collin's Copy Books for use in Standard 111, IV and V

28th February Arrived at school at 9 a.m. Found I had forgotten the keys. Rode back for them Leaving word for the children to wait in the shed. Opened the school at 10.30 a.m.. Made up the time partly

4th March. Received papers from Board concerning census etc. Gave an object lesson on it as requested.

8th March. Gave drill to Boys and Girls this afternoon. Poles and Military, turning etc.

15th March. Received some blotting Paper

22nd March Average attendance for week is eighteen

25th March. Weather very stormy, attendance today 14. The school has been cleaned. The window was broken by the wind

27th March. Gave list of new books to those scholars who had passed. Two scholars absent. One helping at home with sheep dipping

22nd April The reading in Standard's II, III, is not progressing as some of the scholars have not yet obtained their books.

25th April All the scholars have obtained their readers. One scholar in ABC has commenced 1st Primer

29th April A very wet stormy day. Present at 9.30 a.m. 8 scholars. At 11.30 15. Afternoon 16 were present

30th April The scholar with the sore leg has not yet returned as the illness has proved to be a case of blood poisoning.

6th May. Received a pair of andirons (A metal stand, typically one of a pair, for supporting wood burning in a fireplace) and washing basin. One Standard V pupil kept at home for sheep mustering

13th May The scholar in the primers with a sore leg has returned after 6 weeks absence

20th May Two scholars absent. One kept at home to help with camping arrangements for bush felling

28th May The scholars in Primer 3 are now ready for Standard 1. One scholar is rather weak but as she is over nine years old, have decided to put her up also

5th June. Roll 20. Transferred the four scholars in Primer 3 to Standard 1

11th June. Received Telegram concerning arrival of Duke and Duchess of Cornwall at Auckland. Assembled Children Sang National Anthem

13th June. Received the medals struck in Commemoration of the visit to their royal highness the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall. Distributed them to scholars.

14th June. School closed for winter holiday.

1st July. The school has been cleaned and firewood cut.

9th July The Geometry is not progressing satisfactorily as some scholars don't have compasses.

16th July. Received notice that tomorrow is a holiday being Arbor Day.

22nd July The extremely inclement weather on Friday last made it utterly impossible for me to open school.

23rd July. Inspectors Report Included

- a) Pass work satisfactory in all classes except Standard 1
- b) Needlework Very Good
- c) Drill and exercise poles Good
- d) Miss Whelan who has been two months in charge is capable of keeping up the good record of this school.

30th July The chairman advises not opening school owing to continuous heavy rains which make it impossible for the scholars to attend. Rode half way but was so wet had to turn back.

5th August Heavy fall of snow this morning.

8th August Received a chart of New Zealand Lighthouses. And book on swimming.

19th August Five scholars absent with chicken pox.

20th August Only 9 children present. Parents of two considering it unwise to send to allow them to attend on account of the sickness.

21st August 7 scholars attended this morning. Two were sent home as they were plainly sickening for chicken pox.

25th August. School closed for two days owing to sickness.

9th September Commenced proportion in Standard V.

18th September. Gave a lesson in mat weaving to the new infant class.

23rd September. The window blind has been repaired and the window pane in the porch window has been repaired.

1st November The attendance has been lowered on account of three scholars having gone to the Carterton Show.

21st November. A very hot day Twenty scholars present

6th November Received some tools for clay modelling

7th November Received one dozen boards for clay modelling.

26th November One family absent on account of shearing.

16th December. Received a school stamp.

20th December. Closed school Average attendance for last week 17

1902

27th January The school has been cleaned One of the scholars having died suddenly yesterday the chairman and committee requested that the school be closed tomorrow as a mark of respect and sympathy for the bereaved parents

30th January The Dreyer's Rock School was closed yesterday as a mark of respect to Mr G. Day's daughter, who was a pupil of the school PP

The attendance today is 20

5th February The school and children were photographed today

11th February The Primers commenced the 2nd Primers today

17th February The attendance is very irregular in two or three cases owing to sheep mustering being carried out at present

The grass in the playground requires cutting very badly

10th March Removed the names of two pupils. One who has not attended since school started and one who has not attended for last four weeks.

21st March There has been a full attendance every day this week.

26th March 1902 MAURICEVILLE NEWS.

.By Telegraph — Special £o Daily Times), Mauriceville, This Day, Mr Fleming, Inspector of Schools, is at present conducting the annual examination of schools in this district. Mauriceville West and Dreyer's Rock Schools were examined last week, and the Hastwell School on Monday WTPP

4th April Received a large map of Australia

15th April The scholars being wet through with rain had to return home.

18th April Inspectors report

Class	Presented	Present	Passed
Standard VI	1	1	1
Standard V	3	3	3
Standard IV	4	4	4
Standard III	1	1	1

Standard II	3	3	3
Standard I	3	3	3
Primers	5		
	20	20	15

Drill Dumb bells used wet (day)

The children have made very satisfactory progress

Buildings generally satisfactory except that a urinal is required.

29th April Received some science readers on loan

The Secretary (School Committee) visited the school today

30th April Dreyer's Rock The following Committee were elected:

Messrs R. Dawson (chairman), G. F. Day (secretary and treasurer),
W. Budd, W. Payne, R. F. Wilton

7th May The VI standard commenced approximate calculations in decimals

9th May A very heavy shock of earthquake about 1pm last night has cracked the school chimney

12th May The Chairman visited the school today and inspected the chimney and playground. The chimney reported dangerous.

16th May The school was closed for two days owing to continuous bad weather. Heavy rain wind etc. and in accordance with the wishes of the School Committee who also consider the chimney dangerous in such windy weather

2nd June Received news of Declaration of Peace at 3.30 PM

16th June The scholar in Standard VII could not attend on account of the bad condition of the roads.

17th July The roads are very bad and consequently the smaller children are not able to attend school

20th July Closed school for Mid-Winter Vacation. An extra week granted in honour the King's coronation June 26th 1902

14th July School is reopened today The King's coronation was postponed on account of His Majesty's Illness

17th July. School closed for Arbor Day

23rd July The Primers in the Second Primer are now ready for the Infant Reader

7th August The school will be closed tomorrow in honour of King Edward VII coronation which takes place on Saturday

12th August Mr Riley (Art Adviser) called. advised that only Freehand and Plaiting Folding and Mounting be attempted

20th August. Absent two days with illness. Consequently the school was closed

1st September One scholar on Standard II has gone to Masterton on account of illness,

8th September The scholar admitted on 2nd June and who has not attended since on account of the bad roads returned today

9th September Sent notice today to School Committee about chimney which has been in dangerous condition since the 9th April The heavy gales and earthquake have loosened it still more and at present it is jeopardising the lives of the children and teacher

19th September. Two men came today to repair the chimney

22nd September School closed owing to very inclement weather snow, heavy rain and roads impassable

6th October received a manual by A Nevis on paper folding

9th October. Gave first lesson today on paper folding.

14th October Readmitted a scholar who has been absent a long time through illness

15th October. The scholars in standard V are now ready for Standard VI readers. The two classes being able to read together saves much time.

17th October. Two boys away with bad legs. One a cut, the other sores.

4th November The scholar in Standard VI attends very irregularly being kept at home to help with shearing etc.

7th November The average attendance is 20. The girls have a much better attendance than the boys. The latter being kept at home to give assistance with the farm work.

18th November School closed two days. (*Teacher*) Ill with influenza after severe wetting. Present 22

19th November Sent children home as being very wet and a great number of colds etc. Thought it advisable to do so.

24th November Unable to attend school through illness

25th November School closed for election day

8th November Roll 24

11th November the Scholar in Standard VII has been absent very frequently owing to illness in her family

16th December School closed accident with horse. Badly bruised and shaken

1903

26th February School reopened It has been cleaned Only two scholars present 11.00 Weather very bad

4th February As several of the scholars wish to see the band concert in Masterton the School Committee have given a holiday tomorrow

9th February Had a brief visit from Mr Young Wellington Education Board member

20th February Received some envelopes and scholarship exam papers.

2nd March The work such as mapping and drawing has been rather hurriedly done and in not so neat in consequence

21st March Inspector Bakewell visited today and examined the scholars. One boy failed in Standard II (More oral work required.)

5th March. Examination holiday tomorrow

17th March. The infant readers have started the Standard 1 readers.

1st April Standard 1 scholars have begun Standard II Arithmetic.

3rd April Gave a lesson in Lloyd work to Standards 3 & 4

9th April J H Bakewell as well as failing one pupil made the comment.

The children are still very much disinclined to speak up when giving oral answers and the reading lacks expression and distinctness. In other respects the condition of the school reflects the greatest credit on Miss Whelan Exercise Books, Copy Books and Drawing Books give every indication of most careful supervision and instruction

23rd April The Children discovered the fact that the tank is leaking.

Reported the same to the chairman

19th May Several scholars in the upper classes absent in consequence of farming operations

26th May Holiday for Empire Day

28th May Unable to open school owing to the heavy continuous rain and bad roads.

2nd June Received a door scraper

6th June Owing to private circumstances have been obliged to close the school for a few days pending the Board's permission to have winter holidays. Now until my affairs are settled.

12th June Mr J Murray relieving teacher
18th June Four children are absent from school in consequence of arrangements made by their parents when it was thought the school might not open in Miss Whelan's absence
24th June Last night owing to the configuration of the country the howling of the wind among the hills sounded like the continuous roar of heavy surf
25th July 1903 The Dreyer's Rock School is at present in charge of Mr Turner, of Auckland PP
30th June The four absentees returned today.
I received notice of my appointment to the school at Rakaunui and that Mr Turner will relieve me
23rd June Mr W. T. Murray is taking charge of the Dryers Rock School until the return of Miss Whelan, whose residence was burned down on the evening of the 4th inst. WTPP
25th July The Dreyer's Rock School is at present in charge of Mr Turner, of Auckland.
1st July Mr A A Turner took charge temporarily as from this afternoon 12.30
2nd July The catch on the door is defective allowing it unless locked to bang continually when the wind sets that way.
3rd July Closed school at 3 pm instead of 3,30 to catch train. Made up time in dinner hour
20th July,. Made some oxygen in the science lesson
29th July Several of the bigger boys have been authorised by the Committee to procure firewood for the school They have been crosscutting most of their playtime. Seem to enjoy it.
30th July Boys are still cutting wood
31st July. There has been no absentee this week

12th August Have been going thoroughly into the Metric System with for some days past with Standards VI and VII
18th August This is the 5th day of tempest
24th August Standard III are beginning to understand compound short division
Standard IV boy is doing Troy Weights
Standard V are into proportion and Standard VI into stocks The boys have now chopped one cord (128 cu feet) of firewood; They have another still to do, but are not so enthusiastic about it as at first
27th August Received a notice form Board of Education that a packet of $KClO_3$ labelled KNO_3 had been sent to one school and there was danger least the same thing had been done in other cases. The chimney smoked badly owing to the strong SE wind.
2nd September. Have been giving lessons on climate to Standard V and VI
3rd September The upper classes are taking great interest in colouring in their maps. Gave a lesson on the barometer.
7th September Gave a lesson standard time to seniors
16th September A bull got into the school paddock
17th September Let primers use water colour paints for a change. Someone came to turn the bull out of the playground
25th September Another blind off the roller
2nd October Have been giving Standard VII some instruction in the use of the prismatic compass
13th October Not a cloud in the sky, but windy
5th November Guy Fawkes Day- No display
10th November. Very wet day. No school today as teacher weather bound
20th November Two hot days this week and snow this afternoon.

23rd November A frost early this morning. A whole family away working with sheep

1st December A prolonged but not very violent shock of earthquake lasting about 16 seconds was felt at 3 a m There were 20 children at school today. The only child absent being away for mumps

2nd December. Beautiful weather consequently shearing operations in progress. Only 13 present A thunderstorm came in and drenched he children on the way home.

3rd December Mended one of the blinds

4th December, Mended the other blind

7th December A severe thunderstorm came on at 2.30 pm Kept many of the children till it was over and acted some dialogue to keep them amused.

7th December Received a memo from the Wellington Education Board that the scholarship exam was to begin on Monday 7th instead of Tuesday 8th. Received the Memo at 5 pm

10th December Inspectors report

- a) Standard 7 to Primers
- b) Roll 21 present 14
- c) Mr Turner is in temporary charge and is working earnestly in the interests of the school

15th December One girl intends entering for the national scholarship

17th December Held an examination (not quite completed) Standard 1 are very poor in spelling and the school has not done well in arithmetic

1904

21st January Opened school today roll 16

Gave a science lesson on the electric telegraph. Showed compass galvanometer

26th January 20 present

27th January. Only 16 present. Some busy grass-seeding.

January 1904 Mary Power passed National Scholarship with 377 Marks PP

15th February Wet day 14 present. Punished a boy rather severely for impertinence – 2 strokes of the strap followed by 6 (six) more

18th February Small attendance result of ram fair

23rd February A slight earthquake last night about 3 am

25th February An earthquake shook. 9.47 am by the school clock

12th March The school was examined by Inspector Fleming. 2 failed

8th April. The newly appointed sewing teacher gave her first lesson today.

15th April Observations of the sun are being made by Standard 7 Standard V and 6 are measuring the playground and plotting it, using a tape and plumb bob. Standard 4 are being exercised in calculating distances by measuring the length of a pace and then counting the number of paces.

3rd May Another window pane broken in the porch.

5th May Inspectors Report

- a) Miss Whelan resigned
- b) Mr Murray in temporary charge for 5 weeks
- c) Mr Turner sent to take temporary charge about 8 months ago.
- d) Present 20 Roll 21
- e) Boys require a urinal
- f) A broken window in the porch will be repaired shortly

- g) The School Committee should appoint a sewing mistress who will be paid a capitation of 10 shillings on the average attendance of girls

Standard	On Roll	Present	Passed
Standard 7	2	2	
Standard 6	3	3	3
Standard 5	1	1	1
Standard 4	3	3	2
Standard 3	4	4	4
Standard 2	1	1	1
Standard 1	3	2	1
Primers	4	4	

Drill and Exercise. Dumb-bells fair

Both candidates passed Year 7. This school has had three teachers since last examination, Under these circumstances the general work may be classed as satisfactory

The following children secured promotion

- a) Standard 7 Balfour Dawson, Mary Power
- b) Standard 6 Albert Dawson, Mary Budd, Lily Payne
- c) Standard 5 Roland Wilton
- d) Standard 4 Samuel Dawson Fred Budd
- e) Standard 3 James Power, Fred Payne, Horace Wilton, Emily Budd
- f) Standard 2 Hannah Day
- g) Standard 1 Jessie Budd

18th May Notice that Empire Day May 24th is a holiday. Letters to the Wellington Education Board would be franked for an indefinite period

31st May The attendance for May has been 19.6 with a roll of 21- the record since I have been here

6th June Friday 3rd was a school holiday for the Prince of Wales' birthday

13th June The children brought into the classroom a mass of green stuff gathered in the school playground for nature study. The information given by the children formed a suitable subject for a composition lesson.

22nd June. The shortest day according to an astronomer at Wanganui. It being a sunshiny day special lessons were given on astronomical geography. The timetable suffers frequent suspensions on account of time spent on observations. A timetable to suit the new syllabus has , indeed not been drawn up yet or rather has not been put on paper.

20th July Received circulars from the Board of Scholarships exams and gymnastic instruction for lady teachers.

21st July. The chimney smoking, seriously impeded school work. The fault was not so much in the chimney as in the class of wood. Rimu is a most unsatisfactory wood for firewood. Luckily we have some other wood as well

4th August. Snowing; all the country around white with snow. Only 4 children at school

9th August 3 new children enrolled. A severe shock of earthquake occurred at 10.20 a.m. twisting the chimney around at an angle of 45° The children were sent home for the day as it was manifestly unsafe to remain in the building until the chimney was seen to. Three School Committee men took the top off the chimney in the afternoon.

10th August School was dismissed at dinner time to enable the remainder of the chimney to be taken down (See 9th September 1902)

24th August. A slight shock of earthquake occurred at 6.37 a.m. Standard 3 to 7 are using historical readers.

25th August. An earth tremor occurred about 9.19 pm yesterday. Three other tremors are also reported to have occurred yesterday. As a matter of course Lessons have been given on earthquakes also some theories to the direct exciting cause- The last straw so to speak- have been discussed

8th September A light shock occurred here at about 9.35 a.m. shortly after school was brought in.

Standard VII has made satisfactory progress in Pitman's shorthand. One pupil indeed has exceeded my expectations being able to decipher the Reporters magazine with comparative ease, so that in her case at least the study of English has been materially assisted.

19th September A Photographer visited the school The children were all afforded the opportunity of observing the inverted image in the camera.

26th September. A Standard 6 girl has been away for a week owing to home circumstances.

29-30th September 1904 That a special grant of 2 pound been made for Dreyer's Rock urinal PP

30th September Some practical instruction in the use of pocket sextant and the prismatic compass was given to the three biggest boys today while the girls were sewing. Three readings of the thermometer are taken daily by the pupils and entered by them in their drawing books. One reading is taken at 9.30 a.m. another at apparent noon which was at about 11.37 a.m. today in this locality, and the third at 2 p.m.

5th October Received a communication from Mr Wise Truant Officer Eketahuna requesting to be informed whether three certain children have been admitted to this school.

11th October Notice from Wellington Education Board re interchange of letters among school children

13th October. School closed in the afternoon as it was too cold to remain in school as it was impossible to light a fire owing to there being a hole in the roof instead of a chimney- the effects of the earthquake- a very wet day.

One boy (in Standard VI) is able to read correctly the vernacular on a pocket sextant which reads correct to minutes. Several are able to read the less delicate vernier (*Measure*) which is attached to a rifle

5th December Cold and wet 52° F at Midday. 20 children present in spite of the weather.

16th December. School closed on this date as King's Birthday had not been taken.

At the meeting of the Wellington Education Board, yesterday, the following recommendations, inter alia, were adopted— viz., That special grants be made for Dreyer's Rock School urinal, £2 WTPP

1905

28th January The Dreyer's Rock School, near Mauriceville, has been in a dilapidated condition for a considerable time past. When the severe shock of earthquake occurred, several months ago, the School chimney came to grief and the side of the building near the fireplace was exposed to wind and weather. Of late, the inclemency of the weather has rendered the school almost uninhabitable, and the parents have threatened to withdraw their children unless the building was put in repair. It appears that the delay is partly due to the difficulty of replacing the chimney with a suitable stove. Coal and WW kerosene stoves are readily procurable, but a stove to consume firewood and

adapted for a bush school is unobtainable. A Canadian stove has now been imported from Sydney and this will be fixed up and the school repaired in a few days. WTPP

1st February Teacher absent at a wedding by consent of School Committee.

8th February Sun spots have been observed by children this week. An image of the sun through a telescope was projected onto a piece of paper, clearly showing 4 spots which were mapped in by one of the pupils. Alteration in position of spots has been noted.

14th February No children present in consequence of a decision by householders to keep their children at home until a stove be fixed in the school

15th February Dreyerton School.

The Dreyerton public school has been closed under somewhat unusual circumstances. It will be remembered that the earthquake of some months ago damaged the building, shaking down the chimney and leaving a big hole in the wall. The work of the school has since been carried on under great disadvantage and inconvenience both to scholars and teachers. During bad weather the children have often contracted severe colds as a result of this promiscuous ventilation, and the parents have expressed their feelings very strongly on the subject. The Education Board has been repeatedly but vainly approached with requests to have the necessary repairs effected. The School Committee has now considered it time to interfere, and have closed the school, with the fixed determination not to re-open it until the chimney has been re-erected, so that the building may be considered suitable for ordinary requirements, PP

17th February NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

" We go from home to hear the news." It was a surprise to all of us to read that the Dreyerton School had been closed by the committee on account of some injuries received from the earthquake shock of a few months ago. As a matter of fact the school escaped with no damage whatever, and the chimneys are, to all appearances, as strong as when first built, The remarks may probably apply to the Dryer's Rock School, the similarity of names frequently causing confusion

17th February 10 Children present

20th February 22 children present

22nd February A stove and stove pipe arrived for the school

13th March. The Board's clerk of works fixed the stove and a urinal. Exam holiday was taken on the 10th so that Mr McDougall could get to work in the school.

27th March The middle and upper school have been working at profit and loss together for the last fortnight.

29th March. An ornamental top arrived for the stovepipe

7th April A fair percentage of the pupils in the upper and middle divisions have mastered the principles of "profit and Loss"

19th April An earthquake at 3.23 pm. (*Note a lot of quakes recorded by Mr Turner have not been noted here.*)

26th April School picnic held

1st May. The bricks from the chimney have been used for paving purposes.

16th May Inspectors Report included F H Bakewell M A

Class	Average Age
Standard 7	14.0
Standard 6	13.2
Standard 5	11.8

Standard 4	11.9
Standard 3	9.10
Standard 2	9.2
Standard 1	8.6
Primers	5.1

Very good astronomical work commended- by upper standards especially

Remarkably good work done in shorthand by both Standard 7

Efficiency of the school very satisfactory

30th May At playtime (11 am) the children drew my attention to the fact that the Sun, the Moon and Venus could all been seen shining together Venus now a morning star, attains its greatest brilliancy in a few days.

31st May As the Standard 6 arithmetic's have been procured the whole school is now working with them.

6th June A clock arrived yesterday for the school

20th June Venus observed by nearly all the children before school at 11.00 playtime with a telescope. Observed to be rather less than half full. Its distance from us estimated by reference to the plan of the solar system in the playground, which is constructed on a scale of 2 million miles to the inch.

21st June All the children (26) present today.

6th July. Jupiter observed today through the telescope by the children It was quite invisible to the native eye, but it was found owing to its proximity to Venus. The conjunction having occurred yesterday when he planets were only $2\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ apart. The two planets compared- Venus half full and Jupiter perfectly round

Sharp earthquake about 3.15 pm

10th July All the primers are now reading out of the 2nd primer book except for two are reading the Standard 1 book

19th July. Found the fuel supply would not last through the winter- informed the chairman of School Committee.

21st July. Two cords of firewood have been cut

7th August A very brilliant meteor fell yesterday evening (Sunday) Those scholars who saw it were able to correctly state its course when referred to the star map

18th August. Gave lessons on simple interest to upper and middle school

25th August Standard 7 are doing Latin Conjunction.

12th October. Another earthquake 12.24 a.m. But weather but attendance keeps up wonderfully well

Primer classes have begun a new reading book.

13th October Spontaneous and original observations made by children concerning expansion of stovepipe

23rd October Slight but somewhat prolonged earthquake shock 12.12 p.m.

7th November Roll 27

24th November. There have been a few absentees owing to shearing.

4th December. School closed for 5 days owing to teacher's absence at examinations.

12th December School reopened.

15th December School broke up Xmas Holidays

1906

30th January Earthquake 12.11 pm

9th February received specifications of repairs to school for use of contractor

13th February Barometric readings are now recorded daily by children in upper classes

15th February Sharp earthquake shock 9.11 a.m.

23rd February One child absent in Masterton on account of sickness in the family

6th March. Painters started operation in the school It was found necessary to close the school for three days.

12th march School reopened. Smell of paint still rather strong.

20th March. Prolonged shock of earthquake lasting about 50 seconds occurred at about 2.59 pm. Appeared judging by the sound of the premonitory rumble which gave ample warning of what was to follow to come from the NE. Weather very calm- cloudy.

Barometer 29.04 High for Dreyer's Rock Thermometer 60° F

18th April All classes are attacking the year's work with energy.

12th June School closed ½ an hour early because of the death of Mr Seddon

22nd June School is reopened after the holidays ordered for mourning for Mr Seddon

30th June. Have received a rain gauge. The sewing teacher has resigned.

10th July The teacher was occupied till 10.30 a.m. in climbing on to the roof and up among the rafters to fix the top of the stovepipe. A stovepipe if properly fixed should not give trouble but this will continue to do so as long as it is secured to the roof. Allowance Must be made for expansion

18th July The children have taken to bringing to school cuttings from newspapers on scientific subjects, so I have determined to make a collection of such cuttings.

30th July Received a small cupboard from the Wellington Education Board. About a fortnight ago I turned the zinc back from the stovepipe at the roof so that it should not be secured there. It has given no trouble since

1st August An earthquake at about 2.23 p.m. lasting from 15 to 20 seconds. The water on the top of the tank was observed by a pupil to be splashed off the tank to fall on the ground NE of the tank. We therefore presumed the shock came from the South East.

6th August Total eclipse of the moon seen on the evening of the 4th seen under very favourable conditions. The whole of the moon's disk was plainly visible during the whole period of totality. It was observed by nearly all the older children.

7th August Barometric Pressure exceptionally high 29.6 uncorrected for altitude.

14th August A pupil in Standard 1 has returned after an absence of 6 weeks in Wellington. When he went away he was the best reader in his class; now he is the worst. He has unfortunately not been to school during his absence from Dreyer's Rock

21st August The pupil in Standard 1 who was absent for a holiday in Wellington is rapidly improving his reading. Earth Tremor lasting for a fraction of a second at 3.59 pm

24th August As composition is weak I have decided to devote considerably more attention to it, even at the expense of arithmetic.

4th September I have procured a fresh supply of "examination Books" as the first lot were "cheap and nasty" the paper being very inferior.

16th October Inspectors Report. J S Tennant

- a) Roll 26 present 23
- b) The stove has given the teacher some trouble but is now working well except that the mantelpiece is too close to the flue
- c) The children seem very fond of their school and interested in their work.
- d) The attendance (Considering the District) is ample evidence of this.
- e) Standard 7 candidates are taking advanced, English, Latin and Shorthand
- f) A barometer tube and a rain gauge are recommended for the school

Standard 7. 2 children average age 15.1 years

Standard 6. Average age 13.3 years 3 children

9th October Standard 2 have been once through their reading book

One Standard 7 boy has left and is now attending Masterton DHS

22nd October Seven children have been struck off the roll this week on account of leaving the district

6th November Roll 16

16th November 2 children absent in Masterton at an examination in Pitman's shorthand for the Christchurch Exhibition.

19th November School somewhat disorganized this week on account of sharp earthquake shook 11.20 a.m.

8th December Inspector's Report Mr J S Tennant included.

- a) Mr Turner is enthusiastic in his work and the fact that one of his Standard 7 pupils is sitting this year for the N Z University Matriculation is most creditable.
- b) The school and sheds have been repainted this year. All are in good condition

1906

9th February 1906 TENDERS for Repairs, Painting, etc., at the Schools, Wangaehu and Dreyer's Rock, will be received at the Education Board Office, Wellington, School and the Daily Times Office, Masterton and for the latter at the School, Dreyer's Rock, and the office of the Eketahuna Express G. L. STEWART, Secretary PP

7th April The examination of the Dreyer's Rock School took place yesterday, the result being highly satisfactory, twenty-four out of the twenty-five children presented having succeeded in passing their respective standards. PP

16th October Mr G. H. Day, who has resided in the Dreyer's Rock district for over twenty years, has acquired a property in the Waverley district. Mr Day, who is regarded as one of our most enterprising farmers, has been chairman of the Dreyer's Rock School Committee for many years, as well as a valued member of the Wairarapa Caledonian Society and Masterton A. and P. Association.

1907

4th February School reopened. One pupil will be absent for some time to come owing to having been gored by a bull

15th February NZ Ensign received.

22nd February Poor attendance this week owing to Masterton Show etc.

1st March A supply of firewood is being laid in for the winter.

14th March One scholar absent at Masterton at the St Patrick's Day Sports

20th March Received word through the agent for Gregg's shorthand who wished to know which system had been employed by my candidates that Mary Power had won the Gold Medal at the Christchurch Exhibition in Class VI Transcribing notes written by an expert shorthand writer into longhand, open to those under 17, also that Albert Dawson a pupil of the school at time of entry but now attending Masterton High School had obtained the silver medal for Class 5 open to pupils attending primary schools

6th May Have ascertained from the survey office that the latitude of the Dreyer's Rock School is 40^o 47' 6.7" S and longitude 175^o 42' 7.6" East

The difference in time between apparent noon at this place and the Longitude of 172^o 30' from which meridian NZ mean Time is calculated is 12. 48.5 Secs. On the card hung in the school for the purpose of keeping the clock right 13 minutes is allowed, and this constant correction is applied to the equation of time to be found in the columns of the Nautical Almanac The result of this is that at one period of the year the sun is highest in the sky at 11.31 a.m. at Dreyer's Rock

14th June For this week there have been 128 half day attendances out of a possible 140

28th June Examination Report

	B	G	Average Age
Standard 7	2	1	15
Standard 6	3	1	13 years 6 months
Standard 4	1		10 10
Standard 3		4	11 1
Standard 1	1	1	7 3

Primers	1		5.1

25th September Flagstaff erected

22nd October School closed from 14th to 21st owing to the teacher being at exams

6th November 1907 Dreyer's Rock Sole Teacher 84 pound and 10 pound housing allowance PP

14th November 1907 Mauriceville School Miss Dempsey relieving teacher to the Wellington Education Board will be in charge of the local school until next Month when Mr Turner of Dreyer's Creek will take over. (*Mr Turner was at Mauriceville for a very short time before going to Adelaide to teach*) PP

10th December. Inspector's report Mr Turner is covering very much more work than the syllabus prescribes thus encouraging his older pupils to stay at school

1908

3rd February J H M Finlayson took charge of school as a relieving teacher.

Roll 12

14th February Marked out N, S, E, W, NE etc. lines on floor and playground

18th February During Drill hour in afternoon boys cleaned out school tank

21st February Rain fell during the night, sufficient to supply school with water.

25th February Water supply again failed. Water carried for drinking purposes from Tiki Tapu estate

28th February Commenced daily club drill
 2nd March Charts for recording weather phenomena started for all classes. Clouds (Amount and kinds) Rainfall, Length of day and night, Barometer and thermometer.
 Wind on previous day broke the school gate.
 9th March Received circular re Saturday Classes
 1st April Inspectors Report J S Tennant. E Matthews took charge of school as temporary teacher.
 20th Mr Finlayson has been relieving for past two months
 Roll 14 Standard 7 One certificate granted.
 Standard 7 Shorthand Pitman's 60 exercises
 English The Merchant of Venice
 Algebra Hall's thoughts to Brackets
 Order Discipline and tone of school satisfactory/
 24th April Girls began sewing. Boys hung pictures which had been taken down when school was painted.
 8th May A Horse broke the end off the front gate
 18th May A man was employed sawing wood in the playground
 8th June Received floral pictures from Wellington Education Board
 9th June The front gate was mended
 17th July Snowing all hills around white with snow- all pupils except one here in spite of the cold weather
 24th August Received plasticene from Whitcombe and Tombs
 18th September Received medals from Wellington Education Board
 (*For what?*)
 25th September Presented medals to children
 3rd November Received schedule for return of Native Scholars
 25th September Inspector's report
 a) Miss Matthews sole teacher Roll 13

- b) All school records carefully kept
- c) Attendance good
- d) The teacher is at school all day.
- e) Standard 7 (2 pupils) do extra English and Algebra

1909

1st February reopened school 2 present
 8th February Took children for deep breathing exercises. Cool Day received basin, bucket and mats
 8th March Gave the first standard copy books
 23rd April Very wet closed school at 11.00
 7th May Inspectors Report
 1st June 1909 The Central Mangamahoe, Ihuraua Valley and Dreyer's Rock roads are closed to timber traffic during the mouths of June, July. August and September PP
 Miss Matthews. Roll 14

1910

4th February A family has been away all week with whooping cough
 17th February The children who had whooping cough have come back.
 9th March Sent a child home with whooping cough
 3rd May Inspectors report.
 Miss Matthews Teaching Roll 13
 Building etc. . Generally in satisfactory order. The tap of the tank is leaking but the School Committee are endeavouring to effect the necessary repairs Fern is spreading all over the grounds
 7th October Received Historical readers for Standard 3

20th August The boys commenced to cut the fern

23rd November Inspectors report The general work of the school is fairly satisfactory The tank still leaks at the tap and the children will be without water in the summer months. The chairman has, I understand, endeavoured to stop the leak but so far without success.

1911

15th February Closed school for Masterton A and P show

22nd February Held the annual school picnic in Mr Perry's paddock

3rd March Bought books for school library with money left over from Picnic Subscriptions.

Inspectors report. Miss Matthews. Roll 9

The instruction is mainly individual. The exercises are carefully marked. Of the essential subjects the general work in English is fair, and in arithmetic fairly satisfactory. Miss Matthews is a conscientious teacher who has the interests of her scholars at heart.

There are only a few books in the library but the school is well supplied with supplementary readers in Geography and History.

A new tank has been received and will be erected shortly. The flue of the stove requires renewing. At present it is too close to the mantelpiece. The grounds are overgrown by fern

26th April Another piece was sawn out of the mantelpiece

12th May Received a brush for the stove and a seat for chair

29th May Sheep were put in playground to eat the fern

3rd July Reopened school During the holidays a fence was put up round the school and cattle were put in to destroy the fern. Piping came for the stove and the new tank was put up.

18th July The chairman fixed the piping.

21st July. The boys have cut down the fern which surrounded the school

25th September Dominion Day. School closed,

4th October. Board's Foreman visited the school (*First Visit?*)

3rd October Inspectors Report

a) Miss E Matthews Teacher

b) Roll 11

c) The general work is of a fairly satisfactory character. Miss Matthews is an earnest teacher, one whom I would recommend for a period of training in the training college

3rd November Received the hydroplate board from Wellington

4th December School broke up for four days holiday. Teacher at examination.

1911

31st May W Budd chairman School Committee We have no source of income other than capitation. I always get accounts as close up to the 31st March as possible and pay them to start the year free of debt.

1912

Receipts	£		
Balance as at April 1st	1-19-2		
Grants	6-4-1		
Total	8-3-3		
Expenditure			
Cleaning	3-9-0		

Fuel	0-0-0		
Repairs	1-15-0		
Books maps Furniture	0-15-5		
Balance	2-3-10		
Total	8-3-3		

26th February Opened school 7 pupils present

11th May Reopened school after the Easter Holidays. On account of the very heavy rain on Tuesday I was unable to get back to open school on Wednesday.

4th May Two children present rest of children away with mumps. Closed school for rest of week

12th June Average attendance 4.8 Some of the children still away with mumps.

12th July Very heavy rain 237 points registered on 13th. No School

30th July School was closed for a fortnight beginning July 16th The first week on rough wet weather and the next week on account of teacher's illness.

28th October Inspector Charter's Report

- a) Miss Matthews.
- b) Roll 9
- c) Breathing and Free exercises daily
- d) It is a matter of regret that the roll has fallen so low.

1913

January During the holidays the school was painted.

4th February Roll 8

9th April Inspectors' visit The weather has been bad for several days. Only 5 pupils present on my arrival. The remainder came during the morning.

21st April A holiday as some of the children visited the Battleship New Zealand

5th May Received rain gauge funnel from Wilton and Co Wellington

3rd June In order to allow me to get home by the weekend I closed a day earlier than the other schools and came back on the 3rd rather than the 4th

4th June Gave the Standard 4 and 5's Nature Calendars

29th August The rainfall for the month was 3 inches.

9th September Reopened school As it was too wet to travel on the Saturday I was a day late in opening the school after the vacation.

10th September The fern is being cut down in the school grounds.

3rd October Two children have been absent this week with Measles.

13th October Miss Matthews Roll 9

4th December Examined the work of the children and posted returns to Wellington Education Board

1914

1st July The school ground has been cleared in front in readiness for ploughing.

15th July Had Arbor Day as school holiday

20th July Part of playground ploughed harrowed and fenced off

10th August School closed for two days. Unable to attend to duties owing to an accident

20th August The grass is coming up on ploughed piece of ground.

5th October I have been appointed to a school in Wanganui district but Wellington Education Board cannot release me until December 1st

15th October 1914 Dreyer's Rock (Railway Station Mauriceville)
Sole teacher 100 to 120 pound and 10 pound housing allowance PP

29th October A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced here today at 2.30

30th October Let the children out an hour earlier in order for me to catch Express

2nd November Received notice that Wellington Education Board had agreed to accept my resignation from the 30th November. Elizabeth Matthews.

7th October Report

Roll 14

1st December New Teacher Jessie Campbell relieving

7th December Children began to pull the young fern in cleared section in front of the school

Mr Jeffries kindly put the school clock in order which had been stopped since 1906

8th December The wind has been very apparent for the last fortnight and renders it difficult to ventilate the school well as the windows all face the windy quarter and a pane of glass requires to be repaired in the porch window.

10th December The school closed on election day and heavy rain prevailed thro' out the day

Two children have already left on holiday but with one other exception the attendance has been good.

Also received certificate of competency for Gertrude Budd and Proficiency for Denman Wilton

26

There are 40 books in the library including teacher's reference books.

40 dumb bells, 40 clubs, 15 desks

Closed school as per instruction and gave keys to Mr Budd

1915

Margaret Morrison Teacher. 9 children present

3rd February 4 children have left

12th February Started to dig ground today in readiness for garden

2nd March On hearing word of my sister's death I closed the school for the rest of the week. Notified Board

9th March Urinal was blown down last night

Inspectors Report Mr Stuckey. Miss Morrison has been in charge 7 weeks and has begun her duties very satisfactorily

9th April The screen of the boy's latrine has been blown down and should be replaced.

19th April The chairman has mended the screen of the boy's latrine.

25th April A half holiday on account of the Sale of Work in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund

21st July Very heavy rain Roads flooded. No School.

1916

9th February Roll 12

27th February Took yesterday as a holiday to enable me to see my brother who is leaving for the front.

11th March ALLIES RELIEF FUND.

The secretary (Mr D. Heberton) acknowledges the following additional donations to the Poor of Great Britain and Allies' Relief Fund Dreyer's Rock School children 10 shillings .

1st May Received word that one child is going to attend Fernridge School during the winter months

3rd May One pupil absent, having sustained an injury to his eye. At present in hospital

9th May Inspector's report Mr Stuckey included.

The programmes are suitable and should lead to intelligent teaching. A short programme of Nature Study, Health, Moral Instruction and Temperance will be prepared and carried out this year. Miss Morrison is a careful and conscientious teacher and instruction she gives her pupils is very satisfactory.

The premises are kept neat and clean and the classroom has recently been disinfected. A new stove pipe is urgently needed before the cold weather sets in. It is at present impossible to light a fire

14th August The weather for last month has been very stormy and therefore the attendance has suffered.

28th September Owing to a breakdown in the car on the road from Wellington I was unable to open school until today.

1917

16th May Inspectors Report included

Roll 13

Miss Morrison is always present in the lunch hour and joins in some of the children's games during the forenoon and mid-day recesses. Care should be taken to secure proper supervision of the boys in the playground.

14th June 1917 Dreyer's Rock (near Mauriceville Sole Teacher 110 to 140 pound . 20 pound Housing Allowance PP

20th June Received word of My transfer to the Nireaha School which is from date 1st August

1st August Miss Hettie Sprague teacher 12 children present

6th August This morning I found vases broken, easels, blackboards, books from cupboard, all flung to the ground- the result of the earthquake.

31st August Closed school for term holiday, also to attend Spring School in Masterton

20th December Before closing for the holidays I had everything removed from the walls, because of rumour that the school was to be painted both inside and out. Two or Three children have written requests to "Mr Painter" that school walls be painted green and not red.

1918

5th February Returned to school this morning to find it is in the same condition as when we left- even to the floor which has not been cleaned. The attendance however has considerably improved there being 16 on the roll

12th March Inspectors Report

- a) The attendance for 1917 was very good about 94%
- b) Repairs are needed to the tank and latrines
- c) These matters should be brought under the notice of the School Committee.

19th March It was so dark that I was compelled to close school; also the children were becoming nervous because of rumours that Ngaurahoe was in eruption. The rumour however was untrue, the darkness was caused by bush fires in Taihape

5th April 1918 Sole Teacher 110 to 140 pound . 20 pound Housing Allowance PP

18th July The chairman with several of the School Committee kindly put in a day working on the school grounds. Those who could not themselves attend sent representatives and provided trees.

20th August during the holidays the school was fumigated because of the Diphtheria epidemic The school and out buildings were thoroughly cleaned.

29th August The school was closed on the 27th and 28th A child of the house where I am living developed an illness which showed symptoms of Diphtheria The doctor was called and the girl removed to hospital for observation. It proved however to be a septic throat so we reopened school on the 29th

12th November School closed today until further notice owing to the Influenza Epidemic

Inspectors report for 12th March and 30th September included

- a) Roll 14
- b) Miss Sprague is teacher
- c) A well managed little school
- d) The programmes are carefully prepared and meet all the requirements of the syllabus
- e) Basket Work Very Good, Commended
- f) The pupils are now under careful supervision in recess time. Games satisfactory.
- g) There is an unnecessary accumulation of old material which I have instructed the teacher to destroy.

Mr Stuckey

1st October The mother of two of my pupils this morning informed me that both were suffering from Chicken pox.

I rang the Health officer in Masterton who advised closing of the school for a few days. Since nearly every family represented at school has been affected by the disease I am convinced now that at the first outbreak, authority should have been given to close the school for three weeks. Practically no work has been done since the flu

1st November 1918 Sole Teacher 110 to 140 pound . 20 pound Housing Allowance PP

4th December 1918 Miss T Sprague Dreyer's Rock resignation accepted PP

5th December At yesterday's meeting of the Wellington Education Board the resignation was received of Miss H. Sprague, sole teacher at Dreyer's Rock

1919

Muriel G Morgan opened school after 3 months' vacation Roll 12

27th March School closed for school picnic

28th March School Committee granted a holiday after the picnic

5th April Received from Wellington Education Board Weekly Scheme Book Cardboard, Straw boards. And knives for cardboard work. Gummed paper (2 packets) Plasticene 3 lbs

7th April Have sent request to Wellington Education Board for subsidising £2-4-2d which we have in hand for the purpose of relieving a long felt want in the school, namely a library

10th April Polling Day for liquor

25th June Received news that the German Council has decided to sign Peace Terms and as I found out that town schools had been granted a half holiday yesterday, I decided to close school this afternoon.

17th July planted trees.

20th July Children's day for peace celebrations

22nd August Received per Committee money (£2-14-8d doubled by Wellington Education Board) collected in April for library books and just received back from the Board

23rd August Purchased library books 38 in all. A good collection of classics among them. Arranged with School Committee to have shelves put up to hold books.

6th October Mr Stuckey came Standard 6 obtained 3 proficiency 1 competency

3rd December Weather too bad, Snow and Rain to have school

16th December. All personal belongings of children removed to facilitate cleaning and fumigating of school

1920

SCHOOLS & NAVY LEAGUE ENROLMENT OF PUPILS.

4th February 1920 Great satisfaction was expressed at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Navy League (Wellington Branch) yesterday afternoon, with the enrolment 'of schools in the league for the year 1919. The number of paid-up members from 52 schools in the Wellington province was 5145, and 27. flags had been presented Dreyer's Rock 11 .

19th February Arrived at school after holiday to find key lost- applied to Chairman of School Committee who being unable to find it thought it better to reopen tomorrow

20th February Reopened. Find that so many families have sold during the holiday the roll is reduced to 9 with the prospect of 5 more leaving in a little over a month

7th April Roll 12. New family have come into the district

6th May Prince of Wales visits Masterton. School closed to all children and teacher to attend his welcome in Masterton. School closed until end of week.

10th May School opened after Prince's Holiday.

14th May is the special holiday granted the children on request of Prince of Wales

1st June. School reopened. Prince's special message read to children Received from Mr Jackson Mayor of Masterton- placards specially printed for the children as a souvenir of the Prince of Wales visit to Masterton

Another family having 4 children at school left the district during the holiday leaving the roll at 8

9th July Received from Wellington Education Board notice of transfer to Eastern Hutt School to take effect from September 1st

4th August Sixth anniversary of England's Declaration of War Received special numbers of school journals dealing with the visit of the Prince of Wales

Two cords of wood have been purchased for the school and are now stacked in the school grounds

20th August This is my last days attendance at this school

Standard 5 Jack Bennett-good Neville Wilton- satisfactory. General knowledge weak

Standard 3 Jake Pike Good

Jean Bennett fair (Arithmetic weak)

Standard 1 Kathleen Bennett Good

Jean Rose Fair (Only lately promoted to Standard 1)

20th September Ella D Brunton began teaching after two weeks experience in the Eketahuna High School under Mr Foss!

The school has been closed two weeks extra on account off lack of a teacher

Roll now 7

23rd September. Received foolscap from Masterton ordered by Chairman

27th September Dominion Day

28th October Inspector Cowles paid the annual visit 6 children passed His report The work of the school was well carried out.

16th December Roll still 7. Children scrubbed their desks and removed all belongings to facilitate the cleaning of the school.

1921.

1st February Roll 8

9th March Holiday for Alfredton Sports. Granted by School Committee

4th May Visit of Mr Brockett Instructor of Agriculture.

13th May Mr B Anderson Organising Teacher .The work is well advanced for the year. And under Miss Brunton's care should be well trialled during the year. I would suggest that more attention be paid to the written work of the pupils and that more finish be given to drawings.

13th May Received Mr Brockett's Report

- a) Records will be kept by the children
- b) A small flower garden is maintained as an aid to Nature Study
- c) Lessons given by instructor talks on observation, weather records and question sheets

25th July The school was closed for a week My Illness

5th August Weather has been slack this week on account of very stormy and wet weather,

6th August Received ½ Dozen plasticene modelling boards, ½ Dozen modelling tools ½ dozen boxes of pastels

3rd October J Campbell According to the Wellington Education Board instructions took temporary charge of the school from today. The school has been closed for 3 weeks owing to Miss Brunton's illness

One boy who went to Ihuraua Valley School during Miss Brunton's absence decided to remain there till the examination. As he is returning here shortly I am not removing his name from the roll

17th October received word from Mrs (sic) Brunton that the inspector will visit the school'

18th October One boy absent on account of severe wetting the previous day.

Regret that a window was broken accidentally by one of the children while sweeping the school Have reported the matter to the chairman who has promised to attend to it.

2nd November received memo from Wellington Education Board re Inculcation of Patriotism and an inquiry as to whether there was any difficulty in connection with instructions contained in the amended regulations of Clause 22 (Regulations for organisation and examination of schools) I reported that no difficulty had been encountered in the school

11th November Armistice Day was observed by keeping the two minutes of silence at 11 am

Miss Brunton's leave of absence is up today so I conclude that I am to give up charge of the school today

14th November Returned today after 9 weeks sick leave during which Miss Campbell was relieving
21st December End of year
Standard 6 Neville Wilton fair
Standard 4 Jack Pike Good Passed into Standard 5
Standard 3 Jean Bennett Very Satisfactory Passed into Standard 4
Standard 2 Nancy Pack To Standard 3
Standard 2 Kathleen Bennett go to Standard 3
Standard 2 Jean Rose Satisfactory Standard 3
Standard 1 Mavis skeet Satisfactory (reading weak) Standard 2 Primers. Joyce Bennett, Elizabeth Burling and Colin Burling are all progressing satisfactorily

1922

7th February 9 children present
28th April E D Brunton leaves
3rd May New Teacher Took charge from Midday Sickness prevented me from arriving here on the 1st and 2nd
30th May J Coney's took temporary charge
3rd June Donald S Cameron aged 7 entered
18th June Mavis Skeet withdrawn again
3rd July Received 5 numbers of Hainsworth's Atlas
8th August J M Stewart commenced duty
No More records until

1925

25th March Xmas vacation commenced on the 19th December 1924 but owing to the prevalence of infantile paralysis it has not been possible to reopen school yet
Since March 16th The children have been doing lessons at home Each day I have been going to different homes and giving the children some instruction correcting homework and setting more home lessons.
Having been appointed to Pahiatua School my duties at Dreyer Rock cease on 31st March J M Stewart
15th April Katherine Dillon Temporary Teacher Roll 9
Ella Bennett and Richard Cameron admitted
22nd April New chair arrived for teacher
Received notice of permanent appointment to Dreyer's Rock
15th December Closed for Holidays. New desks arrived.
16th December 1925 That is the difficulty which the Education Board set out to overcome. When a School is added to, a committee receives its additional floor space grant as from occupation. A further anomaly under the existing regulations was pointed out, this time a school in Marlborough (Dillon's Point) and one in the North Wairarapa (Dreyer's Rock) being considered. Dillon's Point School has an; average attendance of 21, a floor space of 372 square feet, and receives a Government grant of £23. Dreyer's Rock has an average attendance of 10, a floor space of 388, and receives a Government grant of £15. Under the new scheme the difference of the amount for these two schools would be reduced to £2. *A piece from a long article on unjust grants to schools based on floor space rather than rolls PP*

1926

1st February Reopened with roll of 7

The school gardens have become overgrown with fern once more and the flower garden needs attention badly

5th May Mr Bowden (Inspector) came to school and discussed the matter of closing this school and transferring the children to Ihuraua and Mauriceville schools respectively

31st May Received notice of transfer to Kaitawa School owing to reduction of grade at this school

30th July Last Day of K Dillon

5th August G M Souness relieving

17th September Snow began falling yesterday afternoon and continued to fall until after dark

14th December School reopened today after being closed for three weeks owing to outbreak of whooping cough.

1927

7th March The visit of Duchess and Duke of York
Closed school at end of year.

No more entries in log book Presume this is the closing date for Dreyer's Rock School.

Buildings

Gazetted 1900 Application to sell Section 15a Block 111, Kopuaranga SD 340 square feet erected 1896

26th September 1930 Assured that no buildings will be required at Dreyer's Rock again

26th November 1930 Tender from Mr Spackman for £41 was recommended.

Note ... The fact that unauthorised persons have been interfering with the school property not only causing material damage but actually removing the shelter shed and tank It also reported that practically all the windows are broken.

3rd December The school has been closed for some years past and there will not be a need for a school again. The site of 4 acres and the building of one classroom built in 1896

1896		Dreyer's Rock	Not yet Open				
1897	15	Dreyer's Rock	Hutchens	E E R		Female	£70
1898	19	Dreyer's Rock	Hutchens	E E R		Female	£80
1899	22	Dreyer's Rock	Hutchens	E E R		Female	£90
1900	20	Dreyer's Rock	Black	Prudence A		Female	£90
1901	17	Dreyer's Rock	Whelan	May G		Female	£95
1902	19	Dreyer's Rock	Whelan	May G		Female	£88
1903	19	Dreyer's Rock	Turner	Alfred		Headmaster	£96
1904	20	Dreyer's Rock	Turner	Alfred		Master	£96
1905	23	Dreyer's Rock	Turner	Alfred	D2	Master	£118
1906	22	Dreyer's Rock	Turner	Alfred	D2	Master	£130
1907	14	Dreyer's Rock	Turner	Alfred	D1	Master	£130
1908	13	Dreyer's Rock	Matthews	Elizabeth		Female	£84
1909	13	Dreyer's Rock	Matthews	Elizabeth		Female	£90
1910	10	Dreyer's Rock	Matthews	Elizabeth		Female	£90
1911	9	Dreyer's Rock	Matthews	Elizabeth		Female	£91
1912	7	Dreyer's Rock	Matthews	Elizabeth		Female	£99
1913	8	Dreyer's Rock	Matthews	Elizabeth		Female	£103
1914	10	Dreyer's Rock	Campbell	Jessie		Female	£90
1915	10	Dreyer's Rock	Morrison	Margaret		Female	£110
1917	12	Dreyer's Rock	Sprague	Hettie		Sole	£110
1919	15	Dreyer's Rock	Morgan	Muriel G	C-87	Sole	£195
1921	8	Dreyer's Rock	Brunton	Ella D		Sole	£170
1923	10	Dreyer's Rock	Stewart	Jessie		Sole	£175