

HERITAGE TRAIL

GRIFFYDAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

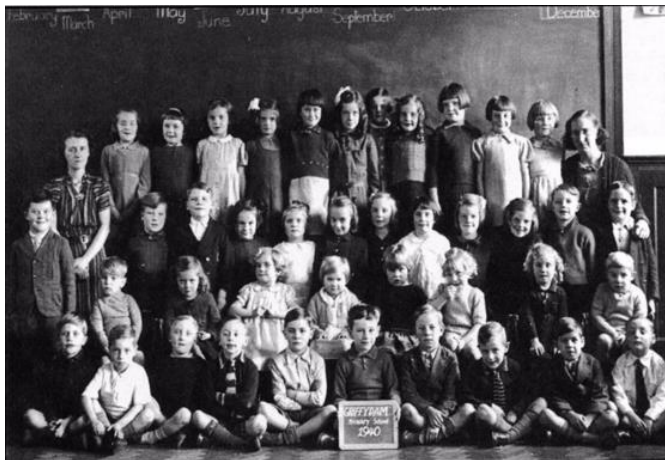


Griffydam Primary Council School 1936

This school was officially opened in November 1936 by Lt. Colonel R.E. Martin C.M.G. Chairman of Leicestershire County Council. There were 60 pupils under 8 years of age. The Head Teacher was Miss Ada Morishaw assisted by Miss Florrie Johnson. The pupils of this age had formerly attended the school on School Lane which dated from 1915. The two teachers had previously taught there as well.

The school had no running water and no mains drainage. In June 1937 the school log notes that, "The school drinking water has failed. The well having dried up. Arrangements have been made for drinking water to be fetched from **Griffy Well** until further arrangements can be made."

In 1939 there was a "National Emergency" due to evacuated children coming to the district. Initially 9 evacuees came from Birmingham. That year also saw the provision of a drinking fountain in the playground and taps provided in the cloakroom. The water was supplied by Ashby Rural District Council.



Photograph Taken In 1940
Miss Johnson (Left) & Miss Morishaw (Right)

In 1940 Miss Morishaw was replaced by Miss Kezia Wright as Head Teacher. More evacuees arrived with their teachers. In December of 1940 there were 44 local children and 42 evacuees, some from Birmingham and some from London. *The school had two classrooms, a staffroom, stockroom and a children's cloakroom.*

By 1942 there were 50 children including 10 evacuees from Birmingham and London. In 1948 the education system was reformed and secondary pupils were transferred at 11 years of age to schools in Coalville. As a result, the infant school closed and pupils were transferred to School Lane which became an Infant and Junior school. The 74 pupils were taught by Miss Wright, Miss Johnson and Mrs Wright.

In 1954 the school on Top Road re-opened as an infant and junior school. There were 48 pupils taught by Miss Wright and Miss Johnson. Dinners were served in the Wesleyan Chapel Annexe.

Miss Johnson retired after 50 years teaching in 1971. She lived at 25 Top Road.

In 1982 when Mr Adrian Bradley became Head Teacher, there were 37 pupils and 3 teachers.

Click [here](#) for further information about the school.



Griffydam School January 1982