

Furniture and Equipment : then and now

In the old days school teachers used to have typewriters instead of computers and photocopiers because they didn't have power in those areas back then. All the students' desks were joined together and they would sit next to each other on them because individual desks cost too much to make. They also used to use the cane for punishing people, whereas nowadays we have the green mat, pink slips and detention. They used slate pencils, slates, inkwells and nibs instead of pens and pencils and because they sometimes used ink and nibs, they had to use blotting paper which would soak up the excess ink. As well as the teacher they used to have a monitor, who was kind of like a



student councillor, who would go around each morning and make sure that the inkwells were full.

instead of CD players and wash basins instead of sinks.

In the teacher's cottage out at the back of the school they used wind up telephones and pedal sewing machines (because they had to make and mend their own clothes). Teachers had radios the size of small cupboards and kerosene lamps and candles instead of light bulbs and lamps, record players

An amazing thing is that all of these things were made of either stone, china, metal or cloth, since plastic hadn't been invented back then.

These days we have whiteboards as well as blackboards (which is all they used to have). These days we use pens and pencils, posters, rubbers, white-out, and separate desks often made of plastic or wood.

Lots of things have changed since then.



Lining up for a drill (1933)



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