

Scouse Sonnet - Number 6 - 1940's Nostalgia

Junior School Routines

Author & Copyright - John McEwan - The Liver Bard

At nine o'clock, we gathered in the Playground, when the Bell would ring.
Stood in our usual places for Assembly, a Morning Prayer, or Hymn to sing.
Our Teacher checked we were clean and tidy, Shoes polished with a shine.
Should misbehaviour bring on her displeasure, I just hoped it wasn't mine.
Sat at our desks in silence, for the Register, answered only to your Name.
Thoughts already racing forward, to next playtime, another football game.
We used Pens and Nibs with China Inkwell, Blotting Paper to dry the Ink.
We learnt Multiplication and Division, also Mental Arithmetic made us think.
In English Class, we could have a Spelling Test, maybe write a Composition.
With short Stories, so Amusing and Inventive, never short on Supposition.
The Strap was used as Punishment, but 'Something Else' was even Worse.
Our Heads painfully combed and scrutinized, by 'Nitty Norah', the Nit Nurse.
Some Barbers gave us 'Short Back and Sides', which we never liked to get.
To endure the 'Shame and Ridicule', from our Friends, who had 'First Wet'.