

4/12/2011

Liara Murphy 4th Class Knockskeagh N.S

I have spoken to Paddy Murray my neighbour who was born in Shannonak. He educated me in relation to local history. He lived in a small cottage with his Mother, Father, brother and sister. He went to Knockskeagh N.S. They had to walk to school and the teachers had to cycle. They had 1 bike in the house and had to cycle to Ballinasealty for shopping or sometimes if their neighbour was passing on his pony and cart he would bring them to the Gemery.

There were only two rooms in the school. Some of the teachers were Mr Foley, Mr O'Rourke, Mr O'Shea and Mrs Mourihan. They didn't have uniforms and for lunch they had milk and bread. There was no electricity, so the only way to heat the rooms was from a range which the teacher lit. The teachers would put the milk on the range to heat it up. There were no whiteboards or markers so the teachers had a blackboard and they used chalk to write on it.

One of the memories that Paddy had since his childhood was the Kinsale Cloak. This was also known as the West Cork Cloak. These cloaks were worn in Ireland as far back as 750BC. By the 20th century the West Cork Cloak was very common. It was usually black, made from heavy black cloth called melton. It was lined with satin. They were sometimes given by a mother to her daughter when she got married. They were always hand made.