

BACK TO SCHOOL

As our children return to school and college, the following chorus came to mind. It is from “School Days” a popular song written in 1907 by Will D. Cobb and Gus Edwards. A mature couple were looking back sentimentally on their childhood together in primary school. The song was also featured in a Broadway show of the same name.

School Days

School days, school days Dear old golden rule days
Readin' and 'ritin' and 'rithmetic
Taught to the tune of the hickory stick
You were my queen in calico
I was your bashful barefoot beau
And you wrote on my slate, "I love you, Joe"
When we were a couple of kids.

Did you do your ‘ritin’ on a slate? What kind of books were part of your required readin’? Did you like to read? Kathleen, one of our dear seniors, was a voracious reader in her younger days. Her love of books helped foster her children's life-long love of reading. Together they made weekly trips to the library. A few good books were always close at hand. She also loved poetry, whether reading, reciting, or creating. A prolific letter-writer, Kathleen was the family "connector" helping relatives stay in touch and abreast of family news. Her letters were long-kept treasures. In her last years, even with dementia, she listened eagerly to books read aloud by family members. She quoted favorite lines of poetry and sang songs to her caregivers. Until the end, music and hymns brought comfort and peace. Marj loved the hymns also and was known for “readin’ her Bible and prayin’ for others. The Bible is certainly the BEST book to read, and it is also available in LARGE PRINT! Isn’t it a blessing to know how to read and to be able to SEE to read. Oh, let’s not take either of those blessings for granted!

The 1st Schooling

4 Hear, O Israel...Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:4-9

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