

ST. ROSE'S P.H. SCHOOL

STROUD

22 6-87

It is 75 years since the school first began. Some of you may now know that it has always been a school for children with physical difficulties. It was officially opened and recognised in 1912 - with 1 pupil - by the end of that year there were 7 pupils. It was housed in Badbrooke House, which no longer exists, but which stood on the piece of ground by the footbridge over Merrywalks. For many years the pupils were all girls, and boarding only. In 1957 there were 18 pupils and the school was moved to Stratford Lawn - the original part of our present building, and by 1963 the new Classroom block was built, there were 47 pupils. Day children began in 1964 and the first boy joined the school in 1969. Over the next few years the number of pupils increased and we had a new kitchen and medical room, several classrooms extended, and a new classroom built. By the mid-70's we had quite a few pupils aged 2 - 5 years and it was obvious that we needed more room. The number of pupils continued to increase and plans were made for a new block which would contain the Therapy departments a Nursery Assessment Unit, Science and Art rooms and Typing room. These were completed and opened in 1978 and by then we had 84 pupils (inc. 13 in the Nursery); by now we had also begun to take pupils who were blind. Because we had more space now we were now able to offer a new extended education course for students of 16+. This was experimental to begin with but it soon became obvious that there was a need for this course, and we had to have better facilities.

So... by 1982 we had built an extension to the annexe making a totally independent Unit which we called "St. Joseph's" and which had its own staff. This was followed by the construction of a small workshop with an Instructor in Charge to give the students some 'work' experience.

Now in March 1987 we have 85 pupils (51 boys & 34 girls).

Some of the children who had been in the Nursery became too old for the Nursery and not really able to take advantage of the facilities in the main School so we have created a small unit for them in a room 'borrowed' from St. Joseph's.

At our last Governors' meeting it was decided that we would build a bungalow in the grounds to house the 16+ students for their 'living quarters' as it were, and maintain the upper part of St. Joseph's for 16+ education and give the lower floor over to the less able pupils.

There will also be a small flat under for staff. Obviously, with young people in wheelchairs, the size is larger than in an ordinary bungalow.

It is hoped the new bungalow will be opened in 1987 to celebrate our 75th Year - and we might call it "Jubilee House".

The bungalow will cost approx. £125,000 in total.

By purchasing this programme you have already contributed to our cause.

All those who have advertised in the programme are helping us achieve our goal, and we would like to say thank you all very much for your support.

There are many other ways you the reader can help if you so wish. We have many fund raising events you may wish to support.

There is our "Buy -a- Brick" campaign illustrated further on, but any fund-raising or donations would be gratefully received.

Our aim is £125,000, at the time of going to print we have successfully raised;

£26,000

IF YOU CAN HELP....
HELP THE CHILDREN BUILD THEIR FUTURE.