



...h some of her pupils at Dunbeg Primary School. Fourteen years after
... she still remembers the advice that 'the pupils come first.'

Dunbeg Primary School as a teacher straight from Craigie College.

She made some extra pennies during her college years babysitting for the family of former Scotland football manager Craig Brown. But her first and only full-time job has been at Dunbeg primary.

So what has changed over the 33 years?

'I came here as part of a staff of six.



'There are now 25 staff, things have changed dramatically over the years.

'The inclusion of pupils with additional support needs has been a big change and I have seen a different attitude among the pupils to each other and they have become very accepting of each other,' said Sine.

'Because we are so close to the marine laboratory we have children here from all over the world.

'We had a Japanese child here who spoke no English and the first words he learnt were, 'no wallbars'.

'He had gone into gym and began climbing the wallbars before Sheila Sinclair, the gym teacher, had to tell him 'no wallbars'.

'The boy's mother used to come into school and video him in class to send the video back to the family in Japan.

'It was a great experience for all the pupils.'

As well as academic achievement, Sine believes there are other important aspects to primary school education.

'There are other things you hope the children will carry through for the rest of their lives.'

The school has its second Eco Schools Green Flag award which shows the commitment staff and pupils have towards the environment.

Dunbeg Primary School also has a good reputation for sporting and musical achievements.

And Sine is full of praise for her staff and others who help run the school.

'Since its introduction, the school board has always been a tremendous support, we have a very hard working Parent Teachers Association and school chaplain Rev George Cringles plays an active role in the school,' said Sine.

'The pupils have greatly benefited from being involved in the Mid Lorn Co-op which comprises of four primary schools, Dunbeg, Park, Lochnell and Achaleven.

'I have certainly benefited from having support from other headteachers, you definitely don't feel alone.' Sine now looks forward to the next 14 years at Dunbeg.

*What do you call a Bonawe man under a wheelbarrow?
A mechanic.*