

July 28th 1952.

101, Nightingale Lane,  
S.W.12.

Dear Ruth,

Here I am again with some more news from home for you! Do you look forward to our letters? We love hearing from you. Unfortunately there is not much time to spare for letters in term-time, so now that the holidays are here, I can write you a good, long one.

First, let me ask how you and your family are? I hope you are all well. We are O.K. But Miss Ballinson hasn't been very well lately and has had to stay in bed several days. I am not sure what exactly is wrong, but I think she has been working too hard. In April Mummy had to go into hospital for an operation. It was not really serious, and quite a lot of women have to have it. She had some growths in the womb, which had to be removed. The doctors said she was not to work for three months, but Mummy went into school half way through the term. She is quite better now. At the beginning of the term, Ivan Matt had to go into hospital. One day he had a fit and had to be given oxygen and rushed to hospital. It was very serious and he ~~was~~ had to be kept unconscious, because if he woke and had another fit, it might break his heart because he was so weak. He comes to school again now, but he is not yet normal. He often has chows of bad temper. Do you remember Gran and Auntie Agnes. Auntie is in hospital having treatment for nerves and Gran

is in a home just outside London, because she cannot stay at home alone. I cannot remember if I told you that she broke her arm at Christmas, but that made her very nervous of walking, and she cannot get about very well yet. She is staying in a lovely hospital with lovely gardens to walk in. She is in a room with three other old ladies, and they get on very well together. But she is longing to come home again.

Are you on holiday? I broke up from school on July 24th, Thursday, the same day as the children here. They come back on September 9th but I have until the 18th. Ruthie has left this term - I shall miss her - also Joshua, Lothar and Harold. There are very few seniors left - Benno, Sonia, Leslie, Michael, Kenneth. Tessie and Ann are not old enough to be called seniors yet. Do you have exams at the end of the term. We do. They lasted over a week. I did quite well & I did not fail in any. I came 1st in Maths, and Latin; 2nd in French and Geography; 3rd in Music; 4th in History; 5th in Biology; 6th in German, 7th in Scripture and 10th in English. I don't think that is too bad, do you? Our school is nearly finished now. It should be ready by October when the Duchess of Gloucester will officially open it!! We are all so excited. We use a lot of the new rooms but they are not all decorated or completely finished yet. I belong to a Tennis Club now. It is called the Chelton Tennis Club and it is near

Streattham. My best friend, Susan, is also a member and so are several other school-friends. Last Saturday there was a dance to celebrate "finals night". Every summer there are tennis matches and the winners get cups. It is rather like Wimbledon. Susan won the Junior Girls' Cup, and we are all proud of her. There were also cups for the Junior Boys Singles, Men's Singles, Ladies Singles, & the Doubles and Mixed Doubles. We had great fun at the dance in the evening and didn't get home until 12.30 am. I went home with Susan because I was staying the weekend with her. On Sunday morning we went for a walk on the Common, wearing shorts because it was so hot. We had fun following boys, who kept whistling.

We had our annual Garden Fête in June, I can't remember the date. It was very much the same as usual. It was a boiling hot day, and I think Susan and I had the best job - the lemonade and ice-cream stall. In the evening there was dancing on the lawn instead of indoors. It was great fun. The lawn was all brown the next day, and as there had been no rain for a long time we watered it the next evening to try and make it greener looking for the Prize and Sports day. This was about a fortnight later. I did not see it as I was at school but I expect one of the children will tell you about it later. The new Arts & Crafts Centre (the house) is finished now & looks nice. The children are using it now. The swimming pool is going to be enlarged with

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTERS

IF ANYTHING IS EN-1952,  
CLOSED THIS LETTERS WILL BE SENT BY  
ORDINARY MAIL.

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