

RECIPE FOR EDUCATION BROTH

FOR WHICH THERE ARE ALWAYS TOO MANY COOKS!

INGREDIENTS

- ◆ 1 teacher, female or male
- ◆ 30 or so children, reasonably fresh, in assorted shapes, sizes, colour and sex, all approximately the same age

METHOD

- 1 Place children in a container called a classroom.
- 2 Add several large chunks of Literacy and Numeracy.
- 3 Chop up a few handfuls of HSIE/SOSE and Science & Technology and sprinkle on top.
- 4 Toss in just enough Physical Education (to let off steam), Music (for sweetness), Creative arts (for taste) and Health and Personal Development (to help smooth out any rough edges).
- 5 Simmer steadily for four 10–11 week periods, removing from the heat at regular intervals to ease any build up of pressure.
- 6 Stir occasionally. If you need to bring things to the boil quickly, add several complaining phone calls or letters, or snippets of your staffroom discussion on a newspaper article about the inadequacies of schools today.
- 7 At the end of cooking time remove the main ingredients (i.e. the children). Some will be in the same condition as when they went in, while a few might be tender, having absorbed all the juices. Others will have risen to the top achieving the desired outcome. A handful will be still tough, stringy and sharp to the taste. These are the ones by which a teacher's success will be judged.
- 8 The best method for preserving the teachers is to lay them gently on grass or sand and allow them to vegetate for five to six weeks. Some improve by being sprinkled with wine occasionally. This assists the maturing — and aging — process.

PAT EDWARDS

