CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Old Edward James was a tyrant A proper "old school" Head His gimlet eye was everywhere His pupils filled with dread

Old Edward James had "Bessie"
An evil looking cane
It thwacked the pupils' upturned palms
Time and time again

Every minor misdemeanor
Was treated just the same
We dodged the flying rubbers thrown
And endured the thwacking cane

No talking in the corridors No fidgeting, fighting, fuss No crying as the welts appeared 'cos no-one likes a Wuss

And so, this was the status quo
The Head did not relent
It was his school, therefore his rule
Of Corporal Punishment

But the "times they were a changin"
Old Edward lost his kicks
Corporal Punishment in State Schools
Banned in '86

This didn't change in private schools
Till 1999
They endured 13 more years
Of adult caning crime

Conclusively it ended
The UK saw the light
School kids no longer fear the cane
A basic Human Right.

Caroline Davies 2019.