



# Tinto Times

## August 2018

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## Head Teacher's Report

It has been a perfect start to the new school year in our lovely new building. Furniture is still arriving and boxes are still being unpacked. We just need the library furniture to arrive so the school library can be set up for the children.

The P1 pupils all settled brilliantly into the new school routines – thank you to the Buddies who have been so supportive in this process and to Mrs Kilgallon, Mrs MacConnell, Mrs Miller and all the nursery staff who organised the transition programme last session.

**Welcome:** Obviously to the P1 pupils and their families and also to Jenny Leonard who has joined P3. Our new nursery pupils also joined us this week and are enjoying the activities in the nursery. We also welcome two new members of staff: Miss Kennedy in P2/3 and Mrs Cathcart in the Nursery.

**Improvement Plan 2018-19 and Standard & Quality Report 2017-18:** These documents will be available on the school website in leaflet form – you will be notified when these are available. Full copies are available on request to the school office. The I.P details the development priorities we are focusing on this session. These are Writing and the Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) plus as a Learning Community we are focussing on Health and Well Being.

**New build:** Those parents who have been into the school will have noticed that the car park/ mugga and nursery grounds are still to be completed. There were complications regarding the removal of the water tank and system that was in place for the decant buildings. Updated plans have had to be submitted to the Council and funding agreed. Work should resume shortly and hopefully completed by Christmas.

**ParentPay:** All the schools in SLC will eventually be using ParentPay. Our Learning community will begin using this system at the end of September. A letter has been issued to all families. The system will mean that the office and catering staff will no longer be handling cash and will not be banking monies. This should make this aspect of school management a bit easier whilst allowing parents to pay when they want into the system for lunches / residential etc

**ASC:** We are looking for parent helpers for the ASC to do registers / serve juice / run activities. We also need parents on the committee. If you would like to run a 4 week art club, weekly chess club, a choir or anything else, please do contact Ms Stark.

**AGM:** The Parent Council AGM takes place on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, 7.00 p.m. in the school hall. Please do come along to ratify the constitution, hear about the work the Council does on your behalf and aims going forward.

**Parent Helpers:** Now we are back in Symington we are hoping that parents will start to help supporting learning in the classroom. The younger classes will benefit from an adult facilitating the children to play games and hear reading for example; the older children would benefit from an adult supporting discussions of their reading books, practical maths or topic research. If you have the time to offer a morning or afternoon a week, please contact either Ms Stark or the class teacher. All parents would require to have a PVG check, which we would organise.

**Photos:** There has been favourable feedback regarding photos being posted on Facebook/ Website of activities that took place in the classroom. As staff are not allowed to use their own mobile phones to take photos of pupils we have been using the cameras in school. However this then requires downloading the photos, emailing them home so we can access Facebook (FB is a filtered site on school computers and we cannot access it in school) and then posting. A time consuming process.

We have investigated buying pay as you go phones for each class for the sole purpose of taking photos and posting them directly onto the FB site. However the cheapest we can access (with a good camera and good reviews) is £70 – which would mean a spend of £350 to buy five. An alternative is to ask parents to donate old smart phones that are no longer being used as an upgrade has been purchased. We could then buy Sim cards for them and use them as cameras in the classroom to post onto Facebook and the website. If you are willing to donate an old smart phone this would be a tremendous support. All donations would be gratefully received. Any we do not use as cameras could be donated to the Nursery as they are looking for these for role play activities.

**Clothing:** PLEASE ensure that all clothing is named. We have spent a disproportionate amount of time already trying to match clothes to their rightful owners.

Could parents / carers also ensure that the children bring a coat each day. We still have children arriving in school without one and the weather is very changeable. Unless it is raining “stair rods” the children do go outside for break / lunch and often as part of the planned learning.

**School Uniform:** It has been suggested that a parent run uniform shop be started at Tinto. Parents could donate uniforms that are now too small and purchase larger sizes for a minimal cost. Could you let me know at the Open Day if you think this would be a good idea and if you are able to help run it on Open Days / Parents Evenings. Thank you

**Sanitary products:** The Scottish Government has provided sanitary products for schools in Scotland to ensure that all girls have access to these products. I have spoken to the P5-7 girls about these and where they will be stored. The girls will be able to access them independently without the need to tell an adult if they do not wish to do so and without other pupils knowing.

**Christmas Craft Fayre:** Sorry to mention the “C” word in August but we wanted to give lots of notice before you buy all your presents early! We are having a Christmas Craft Fayre on Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2-4.30 p.m. This is also the school Open Day. The plan is to have class stalls outside the classrooms in the open area and guest stalls from the local community in the hall. There will also be teas / coffees available.

If you wish to run a stall in the hall, or know someone who would, please contact Mrs Gilbert in the office. The cost for having a stall would be £10.00.

**Dates:**

5 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Council AGM	7.00 p.m
6 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Afternoon	1.30-2.30 p.m
7 <sup>th</sup> September	ASC Fun Day	
14 <sup>th</sup> September	P4-6 Football Festival	10.00-12.00, Lanark
14 <sup>th</sup> September	T.F.R Race night	Times to be confirmed, Football Club
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Harvest Assembly	2.00 p.m Symington Church
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Holiday	
24 <sup>th</sup> September	Holiday	
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Dress Down Day	£1.00 per pupil/ £2.00 per family

## Tinto Fundraisers

Tinto Fundraisers have organised a Family Race Night on **Friday 14th September** at **Symington Football Club**.

Time - 6.30pm to 8.30pm approx

It's a fun night for all the family. For those that haven't been before, the kids get really involved as they have to wind the horses in on a piece of string. High school and younger siblings are welcome too!

The bar will be open for business! Feel free to bring your own nibbles.

Cost is **£5** entry per family. Bets are **£1** and there will be a bottle slide for adults (**£1** per shot) and a sweetie slide for the kids (**20p** per shot). So bring lots of change!

Hope to see you there.

Diane Laing  
Fundraiser Co-ordinator  
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