



## August 2019 Welcome Newsletter

I hope all our families had a lovely summer together. We are delighted to be back at school with our colleagues and pupils. It is going to be a good year, with new initiatives and events to keep us learning!

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 Miller and all the nursery staff who organised the transition programme last session. Miss Fraser, our new P1 teacher, organised a lovely first morning for the children and parents were presented with a momento of their child's first day at school – a lovely gesture.

**Welcome:** Obviously to the P1 pupils and their families and also to Holly who has joined P4 and Lewis in P6 and Paige and Maddie in P7. Our new nursery pupils will join us next week and we look forward to meeting them and their families. We also welcomed new members of staff: Miss Fraser in P1; Mrs Davidson in the nurture class; Mrs Bryce and Mrs West in the Nursery; Mrs Miller as a Support Assistant and Mrs Black in the kitchen.

**Nursery:** Our Nursery class now operates from 9.00-3.00 daily and the children are staying for lunch in the dining hall. It is lovely to have the children with us all day and we look forward to the opportunity to work with the nursery staff and children more often.

**Nurture Base:** We are excited to be opening a Nurture Base for Clydesdale in our school. Mrs Davidson has joined the staff as the Nurture class teacher and Mrs Baillie will be supporting the children. We are hoping that the Base will be up and running after the September weekend. There will be more information given in the near future – once we have completed our information leaflets.

**Health & Well Being:** Each month the children and staff will be focussing on one of the Health and Well Being indicators. The order this year, starting in September, will be Included/ Respected/ Achieving/ Safe/ Healthy/Nurtured/ Active/ Responsible. These areas will be a focus across the school, in class and at assemblies.

We are also engaging in staff training for using the Nurture approach in school, supported by Emotionworks. More information about these will be issued soon.

**Improvement Plan 2019-20 and Standard & Quality Report 2018-19:** 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 continue to be Writing and there is a focus on Digital Literacy. Plus, as a Learning Community, we are focussing on Health and Well Being with a focus on the Nurture approach in schools.

**Parent Questionnaire:** Thank you for responding to our annual questionnaire. The responses were overwhelmingly positive with only one main area to work on improving. This was regarding how your children are assessed. We will be putting together information about this, with examples to look at on Parents Evening. The results will be on display in the school for you to view on the next Open Day (6.9.19).

**Correspondence / Forms:** If you are returning forms to school via pupils, could you please place them in the pupil diary. Teachers will be checking these daily to see if there are messages / returns. Thank you

If you are making changes to the end of day arrangements for your child could you please email before 1.00 p.m. If after 1.00 p.m. please phone the school and speak to a member of staff or leave a message on the answer phone. It would be helpful if this was done before 2.30 p.m.so we can ensure children are in the correct bus / walker line. Thank you

**ASC:** We are still 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 11th 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:** We are hoping that parents/ family members will come along 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 adults would require to have a PVG check, which we would organise.

**Clothing:** PLEASE ensure that all clothing is named. We spend a disproportionate amount of time 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 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 will be speaking 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 2-4.00 p.m. 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 in the P6/7 classroom – which the pupils are turning into a café as part of their enterprise project.

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.

We are looking forward to this new school year and hope to continue to work in partnership with our families to support the children in their learning and achievements.

I have listed dates for your diary for August – September. The year calendar will soon be updated on the Parent App.

Yours sincerely



Ms Stark

**Dates for the diary:**

22 <sup>nd</sup> August	P5 swimming begins (12 week block)	
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Tag Rugby P1-5 begins ( 4 week block)	
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Dress Down Day	
6 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Afternoon	1.30-2.30 p.m
8 <sup>th</sup> September	Family Treasure Hunt (TBC)	Symington
11 <sup>th</sup> September	P2/3 visit Lanark Book Festival/ P5-6 Football Festival	

20 <sup>th</sup> September	Science Festival P6	Biggar
24 <sup>th</sup> September	JRSO training	Chatelershault
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Dress Down Day £1.00 per pupil/ £2.00 per family	
27-30 <sup>th</sup> September	Holiday	