



# Tinto Times

## February 2019

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## Head Teacher's Report

At the time of writing we are more than half way through this term with the busiest month yet to come. As usual, the children have enjoyed their learning experiences and staff continue to work together to ensure these are exciting, challenging and motivating. Details of what we have been up to as a school community are in this newsletter.

**After School Club:** The children have had the opportunity to attend Multi Sports (P1-3), Netball (P4-7) and Cherry Dance (P4-7). Next term netball will continue, along with rounders, cookery, dance, crafts and football, finishing the term with a film session. These clubs can only run if there is a parent helper booked in for each session. The parent helper does the register at the beginning of the activity and ensures each child is collected by the adult specified on the register. The parent helper also makes up the juice for half time. It's not an onerous task, but it is a necessary one. Thanks to the committee for organising a range of clubs that, hopefully, will be of interest to the children. If you have any ideas for future activities please contact the committee on [asctinto@gmail.com](mailto:asctinto@gmail.com)

**Hygiene:** Each class had the opportunity at the beginning of the month to work with NHS student nurses. The focus of the workshops was handwashing and it was quite a surprise for some of the children to see, using the machine, that their hands were not as clean as they had supposed after washing. Each sink now has a poster showing the correct way to wash our hands – ask your child to demonstrate!

**Netball / Benchball Festival:** P4-5 played benchball and P6-7 played netball with other children in the Learning Community during the festival. This is a great opportunity to meet peers who may be in their future classes at high school. Everyone had a great time and, even though its about the taking part, Tinto pupils were very pleased that they won some of the games!

**Nursery staff development opportunities:** The three nurseries in the Learning Community work together to improve the knowledge of the staff and therefore the learning experiences for the children. This session the Early Years workers are focussing on learning in the outdoors; the nursery teachers are focussing on Active literacy and the Team Leaders on Health and Wellbeing. Each H.T. leads one of these areas throughout the year – Tinto is leading the H&WB aspect. All groups met this month and have set targets to meet before our next meeting in May. The evaluations will be reported in the end of session Standards & Quality report and will inform the next sessions Improvement Plan.

**Primary staff development opportunities:** All of the primary staff have attended Number Talks training this month. This will enhance practice in the class and provide continuity in approach across the stages. Staff also worked with their Learning Community peers on a moderation exercise during the in service day. All teachers will meet again in May to discuss a piece of writing and how this has been assessed. This moderation activity will support consistency across the Learning Community when assessing the pupils.

**Linda Keith:** Linda is a renowned educationalist who has worked with Education Scotland and was involved in the design of the Curriculum for Excellence; was a lecturer and director at Strathclyde University and the author of many books about teaching numeracy and literacy. We used some of our PEF money to pay for Linda to spend the day in school, modelling how she would teach multiplication from P1-7. The teaching staff were able to join other classes to observe. It was a very enjoyable learning experience and we all came away with a bank of ideas that we can use in the future. Linda finished the day working with teachers across the Learning Community with a focus on Learning Walls – ways in which maths can be displayed and support learning.

**Parent workshop:** Continuing the theme of developing our learning, staff offered parents the opportunity to spend time with their children in class learning strategies for teaching number. The P1-3 parents worked with their children learning ways in which to consolidate understanding of number bonds and multiplication. The P4-7 pupils engaged in various activities that supported learning about fractions. The feedback was very positive, the main sentiment being that the learning was much more enjoyable now than in the past! Thank you to the staff for preparing such interesting learning experiences and to the parents for giving their time to attend.

**Pupil Equity Fund:** This is money given to schools to finance additional support for learning and to close the attainment related poverty gap in Scotland. The amount awarded to schools is based on the number of pupils who qualify for free school meals, known as Free Meal Entitlement (FME). This session Tinto was awarded just under £12,000 and from April 2019 we have been awarded £6,480.

There is a widespread issue in that P1-3 pupils automatically receive free school meals, so the majority of parents do not apply. This then directly impacts on the amount of PEF money that we receive. If you think that you maybe entitled to qualify for FME, could you please consider applying even if your P1-3 child will receive a free school meal anyway. This could make a difference to the PEF monies we receive in the future. Thank you.

**Car parking:** I realise that there have been many messages regarding car parking in the school app this month. It is SLC policy that during school hours (8.30-3.00) that the car park is for SLC employees. The turning circle can be used after 9.00 a.m. until 2.30 p.m. and there is parking outside the football club. Please do not park on the yellow zig zags or on the pavements. Thank you.

**Easter eggs and bonnets:** As Easter is late this year, we will have our annual competition the first week back in the summer term (Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April) This gives the whole of the two week Spring Break to be creative! The theme for the eggs this year is Europe (make of that what you will!) and the bonnets “Easter / Spring”. Please ensure your child’s name and class are clearly marked somewhere on their entry. The criteria is always that it is something obviously created by the child – although we appreciate a little bit of adult support may be required.

**Liverpool:** P7 pupils will be going to Liverpool on the 30<sup>th</sup> April. There will be a powerpoint presentation running during Parents Evening ( 28<sup>th</sup> March) and Ms Stark will be available to discuss any queries you may have.

**Broomlee:** The P5 pupils will be attending Broomlee from 5-7 June and the P4 pupils from 6-7 June. Mrs Kilgallon and Mrs McCammon will be with the children during the day and Ms Stark and Mrs McCammon will be with the children for the evening activities and overnight. There will be an evening information session in May – date to be confirmed.

**March events:**

4-8 <sup>th</sup>	Literacy Week	Details on the news section of the app
13 <sup>th</sup>	P4-7 "Let The Games Begin"	Afternoon / Evening shows
13-15 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Parent appointments	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Holi celebrations with Nursery	Details to go onto the app
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Family Bingo Evening	Details on the app
27 <sup>th</sup>	P2/3 Assembly	Parents welcome. Details on the app
28 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening	
29 <sup>th</sup>	School closes 2.30 p.m.	

# Tinto Fundraisers

**Date of next meeting – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, The Crown Biggar, 7pm.** (Changed from Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb) Please come along and help plan our up and coming events.

**What's on? Pop these dates in your diary!**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March - The P4-P7 Show, afternoon and evening performances.** Tinto Fundraisers would like to provide refreshments at the shows so donations of home baking would be greatly received on the morning of the 13th. Thanks.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Family Bingo Night, 7pm in the school hall.** Further details to follow.

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Tinto Village Day.** Tinto Fundraisers will have their hotdog, home baking and tea/coffee stall. We will be looking for helpers to do stints on the stall and for donations of home baking. Last year was a great success so fingers crossed we can repeat it this year.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – We would love to have a summer Family Treasure Hunt and BBQ.** Further details to follow.

If any new parents would like to become involved with Tinto Fundraisers, either with the planning, helping on the day or donating baking, and would like to be included in group emails please contact me on 07814378394 or [dianelaing74@gmail.com](mailto:dianelaing74@gmail.com)

Many thanks  
Diane Laing

# Tinto After School Club

The After School Club is pleased to confirm that the following events are scheduled for this term:

Netball - P4-7 6 weeks starting on Thursday 31st January 3-4pm (booking live)  
Multi-Games - P1-3 6 weeks starting on Friday 1st February 3-4pm (booking live)  
Cherry Dance - P4-7 6 weeks starting on Tuesday 19th February 3-4pm (booking details to follow)

We also plan to have a movie club and also an easter craft club - details will follow.

We would like to offer more craft and cooking based clubs to the children, however the cost of supplies do make these expensive for the club to provide. Therefore we are thinking that we will start to ask for £1 for these clubs to go towards the supplies needed.

For term 4 after Easter the planned clubs are as follows:

P4-7 Football  
P4-7 Rounders or something similar  
P1-3 Cherry Dance 6 weeks

## Eventbrite

We are using the eventbrite website to allow parents to register for the various clubs. It is essential the registration is done this way so all necessary details are collected regarding any special requirements and who will collect. The registration details are used to produce a register for the club which parent helpers will use on the day to sign children in and out of the club. The registers are being sent to the school the day before the club so if your child is not registered they cannot be added by the school on the day.

## Parent Helpers

The club depends on parent helpers to attend the clubs to sign the children in and out and give them a drink of juice during the club. If you are able to help please can you email the school and confirm so that you can be PVG checked.

## Village Day

The After School Club has for many years now had a successful tombola stall at the Village day and this has provided essential funds for the club to allow clubs to be run the following year for the children. This year we will be doing a tombola and your donations would be very much appreciated.

In addition we are going to do a new section of the tombola where we will ask for jam jars to be donated which are filled with something and wrapped up so the contents is unknown hopefully adding to the excitement. This section will really be for the kids and the jar could be filled with sweets, buttons, pasta, wool, pencils, crayons, pennies, craft materials, or anything else you can think of. If you can start collecting your jars that would be great.

## Next Meeting

We have a meeting planned on 7th March at 7.30 - if anyone would like to come along please email [asctinto@gmail.com](mailto:asctinto@gmail.com) and details can be provided. Everyone is welcome to come along.

If anyone has any queries, suggestions for clubs or to offer their services to run a club please get in touch - email [asctinto@gmail.com](mailto:asctinto@gmail.com).