



Tinto Times

January 2018

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Head Teacher's Report

A belated Happy New Year to all our families. I do hope that 2018 will be a healthy and happy year for everyone. This will be a momentous year for the school with a new build to move into.

Staffing: I am delighted to inform the Parent Forum that Mrs Kilgallon will now be the permanent full time P.T as from 14.1.17. Mrs Kilgallon has performed the role to an extremely high standard in an Acting capacity and I look forward to working alongside Mrs Kilgallon as part of the substantive management team.

Mrs Rodger will be taking maternity leave from April 15th 2018 and Mrs Andrews will be returning to work April 16th 2018. A request for Mrs Bowden to remain as Area Cover teacher has been submitted.

We are pleased to welcome Mr McCaw to P6/7 on a teaching placement for six weeks. Mr McCaw will return in April to work with P2/3 over five weeks.

2018/19 school roll: 22 P1 pupils were enrolled over the past two weeks and there around seven placing requests. There will also be two pupils enrolling in April. This will put the roll as of August 2018 at 93, meaning four classes. However this may change by August.

New Build: The completion date is currently sometime in May but a definite date has not been given as yet.

Tile project: Materials have been ordered and Chad McCail and Virginia Colley will be working with the nursery class on the 16th Feb and the primary classes w/b 19th Feb. The individual tiles will form a mural in the open area of the new school. The funding for this project was applied for by the Parent Council from the Clyde Windfarm Fund.

Improvement Plan update:

Maths: Staff continue to use the Tom Renwick and Numicon resources. Mrs Baillie is implementing the Catch Up maths programme with designated pupils. Mrs Davidson is a member of a L.C working party who are compiling a teaching booklet with a focus on using Numicon to support the four operations.

DYWE continues with nursery and Primary classes. Primary classes will be working on a L.C project compiling a directory of employment in the area.

Creativity: The three L.C nurseries are working together to compile creativity home:school bags. They have also completed an Education Scotland audit and as a result will be focussing on higher order questioning in the nursery setting.

Literacy: Mrs Kilgallon is assessing children using the PM Benchmarking to ensure that they are on the correct reading band. She is also working with designated pupils on the Catch Up Literacy programme. A working party are producing Literacy Mats to support writing. All teaching staff are implementing the North Lanarkshire Literacy programme following on from the training last term.

Raising attainment PEF funding: Mrs McKillop is released from class each week for three hours. She is supporting designated pupils with aspects of maths and numeracy

Snow Days: Thank you for your patience and support during the week of school closures. It is always difficult ensuring the right decision is made. However given the conditions I believe the decisions were correct. Communication appeared to go smoothly but please do let me know if you think this could be improved.

Sun Dial: As you will recall, the Twilight Walk Raffle raised £1,450 towards the sun dial memorial. I have been applying for grants to raise more funds and so far an additional £750 has been raised. Thanks to Mrs Harvie for presenting our application to the Community Council who have agreed to donate £500. Harvie's Garage have donated £250 in appreciation of the contribution Mrs Struthers made to their children's education and scouting experiences.

We are also planning to place a time capsule under the sun dial – any suggestions of what should be placed in it are very welcome.

Upcoming events

29.1.18	Whole school Burns Assembly (to be filmed and on website)
12-13.2	Half term
14.2.18	In Service
19.2.18	Tile project begins

Regards
Ms Stark

Parent Council News

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break.

We are looking forward now to the completion of the new school this year and all the advantages that will bring for the children. The parent council have already started planning for grant applications and the organisation for the relaunch of the after-school club. This will be a great opportunity for the kids to experience a range of different activities and to ensure we can run this successfully we will be looking for parent volunteers. If any help can be given it would be greatly appreciated; please email the parent council if you may be interested either helping the after school club to get ready for relaunch or for assisting once the activities start.

The Race Night fundraiser will be coming up in March – the date will be confirmed shortly. It is a fantastic evening to help raise funds for the school; the children love the races that they compete in (it is exciting and noisy a bit like the grand national but with better odds).

I would like to remind everyone not to forget about 'easyfundraising' as you book a wee last minute break for the holidays/ or order your new summer wardrobe online (or for the kids again)! It is a great way to raise funds without any cost to you (in fact there are deals and offers through this website that can also mean savings).

The google calendar is regularly updated and is really useful for parents to check what is happening in the school.

Previous minutes will be available to view on the school website. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions that you wish to share then please contact me on tintoparents@gmail.com.

The next meeting of the parent council is Wednesday the 14th of March at 7 pm in the Symington nurse's room. Meetings are open to all parents and we would welcome you to join us to find out more regarding ongoing plans within the school and future fundraising events.

Kind regards

Lorna Christie.