

## Head Teacher's Report

This is the final newsletter of the Spring Term. There have been many opportunities for the pupils to achieve success and celebrate their learning. The pupils have enjoyed showing their parents / carers their work and progress during open afternoons, parent workshops and Parents Evening. The P4-7 concert was a resounding success and showcased the pupil's talents. There have also been sporting opportunities for the pupils. Details of exactly what we have all been up to are detailed below.

**P4-7 "Let The Games Begin":** The two public performances were a great success and were a fitting tribute to the extremely hard work that the children and staff had put into this show. The singing, dancing and acting were absolutely tremendous and every pupil had the opportunity to shine. The feedback from families was full of praise.

Carole McKenzie, Head of Education, visited the school and had the opportunity to hear two of the songs and watch one of the dance pieces. She declared it "outstanding". Well done to everyone involved.



**Staffing:** Mrs MacConnell began her maternity leave on 25<sup>th</sup> of March. We wish her and her husband the very best as they begin their parenting journey. We look forward to hearing about the new addition to the family. Mrs Bowden will take P1 until the end of the school year. Mrs Rodger will return from maternity leave at the start of the Summer Term and will take on the remit from Mrs Bowden of nursery and CCC.

We will also be welcoming Mrs Shillan to the nursery as an Early Years Worker. Mrs Shillan will be taking over from Mrs McPhail on a Friday. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Shillan to Tinto N.C.

**ParentApp:** There has been some feedback concerning the number of messages that are sent out from school to the app. Please remember that you can turn off notifications from other classes so that you only receive messages from the office and your child's class.

As each message has a word limit, it is often the case that we have to issue more than one message a day.

**Open Afternoon:** It was lovely to see so many families coming along to the Open Afternoon. This is an opportunity for the children to discuss their pupil portfolios with parents/ carers and to show their families around the school.

**Numeracy workshop:** There was a good turnout for the numeracy workshop and feedback was very positive. This is an opportunity for parents, working with their children, to learn about the strategies that are used in class to support learning. These strategies can then be used at home to support homework activities. It also allows parents to see how teaching and learning is continually evolving. Next session we will be offering “open classroom” events where parents can join their child during a lesson.



**Cross Country:** P4-7 pupils have been participating in cross country training as part of their P.E lessons this term. This was supported by coaches from Active Schools. P6-7 pupils went onto take part in the Clydesdale cross country event in Lanark. Well done to everyone – it was a very cold, windy and wet day. Congratulations to Eva Tweedie and Molly Mitchell for their success in making it through to the South Lanarkshire finals.

**Literacy week / recipe book:** The pupils and staff had a fun filled Literacy week co-ordinated by Mrs Kilgallon. Every class took part in baking and will be producing a recipe book so that they can continue to bake at home. The children also took part in a “River of Reading”, listened to each class teacher read from their favourite book and read their own book throughout the week. Staff and pupils also dressed up on World Book Day, either as a character from a book or in their pj’s – and everyone had a snuggle with their blankets and soft toys in the hall for a bedtime story!

**P7 hamper / fund raising/ bingo night/dress down:** This has been a busy month for fund raising – thank you so much for supporting these events. The P7 pupils have almost raised enough money for their P7 night out. Funds raised from the lucky programme (P4-7 show) and dress down days go into school fund and pay for the “extras” such as ingredients for baking, certificates, stickers, top table awards etc.

The Bingo night was a great success and raised £363! Thank you very much for supporting this event. We are planning to buy additional chrome books so we have enough for one between 2 in a class.

**Amazing pupil:** Tommy Ronaldson (P4) has been growing his hair since P2 and it is now down his back. He has decided to have his hair cut and sent to The Princess Trust to be made into a wig for a child who has lost their hair due to cancer treatment. This will take place on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Tommy has a jar in school for sponsor money and also has a Just Giving page if you want to sponsor him. He also has a short film on youtube explaining what he is doing and why. We are very proud of Tommy as he is showing that he is an “Effective Contributor”!

**ASC:** The ASC committee have worked hard this term organising activities for the children. They have ensured a balance of sports and crafts for this term and next. Please do support the committee by signing up to be a parent helper at one of the clubs if you can. All clubs can be found on Eventbrite, the link is on the app.

**Top Table:** Top Table takes place once a month and the children are selected by Facilities and Support staff. The staff choose children who have shown good table manners, polite behaviour and courtesy to their friends and staff. The children sit at a table which has been set with a tablecloth and cutlery and are served their lunch by Mrs Kilgallon and Ms Stark. The children also select a small item from the Treasure Chest. The children who have sat at Top Table in:

#### February

*Alistair Christie, Daisy Dickson, Wallace Bell, Euan Cathcart, Leyton Cowan, Anya Davis, Freya Brown, Liam Taylor, Anna Cathcart, Adam Duncan, Daniel Turner, Lauren Johnstone, Liam Gold, Laura Lyon*

#### March

*Izzy Hale, Angus Thomson, Charly Lyon, Erin MacKay-Tervit, Isla Storie, Maisie Taylor, Charlotte Christie, Eoghan Reid, Grace Johnstone, Kayla Morris, Connor Brown, Scarlett Cowan, Amelie Minnie, Murray Taylor*

Well done everyone.

**Sea Life:** The P2/3 class have been learning about our oceans, what lives in them and how we can work together to keep them free of pollution. To bring their learning together the children spent a day at Deep Sea World where they participated in a workshop and saw marine life up close.

Thanks to Miss Kennedy for organising the event, to Mrs Gilbert for organising the paperwork and to Mrs Mackay-Tervitt and Mr Kay for accompanying the children.

The class followed this up with a fantastic class assembly on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. They demonstrated that they have learned amazing facts about the sea and some very sobering ones about the effect of human pollution on our oceans.

**Holi:** Holi is a Hindu Festival celebrating Spring. The nursery children and staff have been learning about the festival and took part in an activity that involved throwing coloured powder at each other. They had great fun and went home in all colours of the rainbow! The P4-7 children participated in a slightly cleaner version and drew around a friend and then sprayed paint around their figure.

**P7 Transition:** Mr Stewart, H.T at Biggar High, spent an afternoon with P7 this month. Mr Stewart worked with the children on a piece of reading and spoke about Biggar High School and the experiences they would have there. The children enjoyed listening and having the opportunity to ask questions.

**Nursery-P1 transition:** The P6 pupils have been spending time in the nursery class this term, getting to know the children who will be coming to P1. The P6 pupils have also been told who their p1 buddies will be – to great excitement! They will introduce themselves next term and will be taking their buddy out to play at designated playtimes.

**Parent Council:** The Parent Council met this month and engaged in an evaluation activity focusing on family learning. The evaluations highlighted good practice in terms of family engagement and next steps identified included an open class event and filming teaching activities so parents can watch with their children and support homework. Staff and pupils will also evaluate their experiences of family learning. These combined evaluations will inform part of next session's Improvement Plan.

The other items on the agenda included a staffing update and a discussion about applying for grants to enhance the school grounds, ICT and the expressive arts curriculum.

**Parents Evening:** There was a very good turn out for Parents Evening. Parents received a brief summary of their child's progress since October and next steps. This information should not have been new as parents have been continually updated throughout the year through the termly information leaflets, How We Are Supporting Your Child updates, pupil portfolios and open days. The Parent Evening does give time to ask for clarification and how to support children's learning at home.

**Easter Eggs / Bonnets:** As mentioned in the February newsletter, the theme for the Easter Eggs this year is "Europe". The theme for the bonnets is "Spring / Easter". All entries are to be handed in on the first day of the summer term, clearly named. Part of the judge's criteria is that the entries are clearly made by children – a little adult help is ok! Winners will be announced at the Easter Service on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April. We look forward to seeing the entries.

#### **Dates for the Diary:**

Return to school	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Easter Week-end	18-22 <sup>nd</sup> April. Return to school 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
P7 Residential	30 <sup>th</sup> April – 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
Holiday / In-Service	6-7 <sup>th</sup> May. Return to school 8 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Rugby Tournament	15 <sup>th</sup> May
P6-7 Athletics, Carluke	17 <sup>th</sup> May
P6-7 Triathlon, Carluke	21 <sup>st</sup> May
Open Afternoon	22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Nursery Sports Day	23 <sup>rd</sup> May
Holiday	24 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> May. Return to school 28 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Transition to B.H.S.	28-30 <sup>th</sup> May
Dress Down / Top Table	31 <sup>st</sup> May
Inter House Football	31 <sup>st</sup> May (weather dependent)

# Tinto Parent Council

April is nearly here - hopefully bringing some nice weather for the egg hunts and holidays!

The After School Club have arranged a brilliant restart and I want to thank them for all their hard work. It is greatly appreciated. Please contact us if you can help in the upcoming months – we always need helpers to take the register and assist or provide new activities / experiences for the club. Thank you to the numerous volunteers that have come forward already.

Tinto fundraisers did a fantastic job of the Bingo night which was a huge success. It was great to see so many people there. Thanks goes to Ms Jenkins for suggesting it - a firm favourite we will see repeated!

I would like to remind everyone not to forget about 'easyfundraising' as you think about booking some sunshine for later in the year. Lots of the large travel companies offer a percentage of your total cost which can amount to quite a good amount. Recently I have used Bloom and Wild (there are other flower delivery companies available!) for birthday flowers - they donated over £2 for one bouquet. It all adds up. 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). We were recently paid just over £50. These funds are being used to buy resources for the kids all the time so thanks to everyone that finds the time to do the double click before they buy. It is very easy to set up.

This year we are hoping to raise funds for more IT equipment such as tablets and cameras that the teachers have requested. This will enable the children to have access to a number of exciting new types of lessons. There are also plans for improvements to the garden which will provide nice projects for the kids to be included in.

The Tinto app is regularly updated and is an easy way 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](mailto:tintoparents@gmail.com).

The next meeting of the parent council is Monday the 13th May in the school at 7 pm. 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.

Chairperson Tinto Parent Council.



# Tinto After School Club

## Clubs for April - June

The After-School Club Schedule for the final term was emailed to all parents whose children are registered on 26th March asking for parent helpers. We are looking to secure parent helpers before registration begins. Unfortunately, without parent helpers we cannot run the clubs. Once parent helpers are secure Eventbrite registration will be issued.

If you can help, please email [asctinto@gmail.com](mailto:asctinto@gmail.com).

If you did not receive the email and you want to make sure your child is registered, please email [asctinto@gmail.com](mailto:asctinto@gmail.com).

## 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 TBC** - we'll get details on the app once confirmed

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).