

Head Teacher's Report

This term is always a surprise to me each year – it's the shortest one but also the busiest! I should have learned this by now.

New School Building Opened

The ribbon was cut by the oldest and youngest pupils in the school – Adele Roberts and Charly Lyon.



Of course the biggest event so far has been the move into our new school building. Most parents will have been in for a visit and the feedback was very positive. The children and staff are loving having this fantastic learning environment. The building is bright and airy; the classrooms are a good size and open into the playground.



Ice creams provided by Mr Dodds



Staff and pupils enjoyed their ice creams during our first playtime

Our first whole school photograph in the new building



We are having a community open day on Thursday 24th and those who come will be welcomed at the door by our resident piper, Franklyn Cowan, and drummer, Aiden White.

Residential visits: There have been three of these this term. P7 pupils went to Liverpool at the end of April. They had a great time, visiting the Terracotta Army exhibit; Chester Zoo and ChillFactore. The P5 and P4 pupils spent 2-3 days at Broomlee. They had set their personal targets before going and were given certificates from SOEC showing that they had attained these. Well done to all the pupils for their resilience in being away from home and their positive behaviour and manners when away.

Sporting events: The pupils have participated in three events already this ter. P7 pupils attended a Learning Community touch rugby festival and played in mixed teams with other schools. This was a great opportunity to meet others who will be in their S1 classes. The P6-7 pupils attended the Clydesdale Athletics event and Sam and Molly Mitchell won places in the SLC finals later in June – congratulations! Finally the P5-7 pupils participated in the Clydesdale triathlon and enjoyed swimming, running and cycling followed by a series of events in the Carluke Stadium grounds. Thanks to Mrs Cathcart for accompanying the pupils on the last two events mentioned. This is very much appreciated.

Sports Day: This will now take place on the 7th June not the 6th as previously. This is due to class photographs being taken on the 6th. (see below)

Class photos: The nursery, P1 and P7 pupils will be having an end of year class photo taken on the 6th June. Please send the primary pupils in school uniform on this day. Thank you

P2/3 student teacher: Mr McCraw finished his placement with P2/3 on the 18th May. He has thoroughly enjoyed his time at Tinto and we enjoyed supporting him develop his teaching skills. We wish him all the best for the future.

Transition: We welcomed next years' P1 pupils into school and they spent time with their buddies in the nursery. The children will continue to visit over the next few weeks, spending time with their class teacher and buddies.

The P7 pupils will spend 22-24th May at the high school in preparation for their transition to Biggar High. This will give them the opportunity to learn their way around the building, routines and to meet staff.

Classes: There will be four classes for Session 2018-19. As we will have a roll of 89 pupils this will necessitate multi composite classes. At the moment we will have:

P1/2	17 P1	4 P2	Total: 21	
P2/3/4	5 P2	10 P3	6 P4	Total: 21
P4/5/6	6 P4	10 P5	7 P6	Total: 23
P6/7	5 P6	19 P7	Total: 24	

3 spaces have to be left in P1 for possible enrolments over the summer. The smallest group in a composite class is set at 4. I have not had the discussion with class teachers as yet concerning which pupils will be in which class. The discussion will focus on working groups that can be taught together either as a group or with other pupils in the class. *We do not use the terms "being kept back" or "being put up" when making these decisions.* It is always an emotive area for parents but please be assured that decisions are based on the best educational outcomes for the children. If new families move into the catchment over the summer holidays, then the class compositions may change.

There are leaflets available in school explaining composite classes from SLC, these are also available on the SLC website.

Dates for the diary:

Please be aware of the following dates – reminders will be issued on Facebook and by emails

Friday 25 th & Monday 28 th May	School holiday
29-31 st May	P7 at BHS
2 nd June	Village Day
6 th June	Nursery / P1/P7 class photos
7 th June	Sports Day
13 th June	Step Up Day/ Nursery transition meeting and lunch
19 th June	Nursery Leavers Assembly
21 st June	Sundial unveiling / Shorts & Shades discos
22 nd June	Dress Down
26 th June	P7 night out
27 th June	P7 Leavers Assembly
28 th June	School closes 1.00 p.m.

Thank you for the parental support this term at various events. This is very much appreciated.

Regards

Ms Stark