

Head Teacher's Report



I hope that all our families had a lovely half term break. The children have come back full of energy and ready for Term 2.

Students: The Nursery Class hosted two PGCE students for the first two weeks of term. In the afternoons the students supported learning in P1. Both students were full of praise for the teaching and learning they had observed and thoroughly enjoyed their placement. Thanks to the Nursery staff and Mrs MacConnell for their support.

Parents Evening: There was an almost 100% attendance at Parents Evening. Thank you for the very positive feedback regarding the termly overviews and information about additional support. Staff will continue to send this information home.

Mrs Gilbert did a sterling job of ensuring all of our parents had access to the new app. This is proving to be a very good communication tool.

Thanks to the P7 pupils who welcomed parents and helped keep the Parents Evening to time. They were fantastic representatives of Tinto P.S.

Twilight Walk: A number of families – and me- took part in the first ever Brain Tumour Charity Twilight Walk in Scotland, which was held in Edinburgh. As you will know Tinto P.S & N.C have recently lost a much loved teacher to a brain tumour and supported a pupil and his family through the successful removal and treatment of a brain tumour. The Tinto Team have raised £2,302 at the last count. Thank you to everyone who donated to this very worthy cause.



Committee meetings: The *Tinto Fund Raisers* and the *After School Club* both held their first meeting of the session this month. It was great to have new people on the committees, willing to carry on the work of these groups. The Tinto Fund Raisers have organised the Halloween disco and The After School club is organising some Christmas workshops and then a variety of experiences in the new year, there will hopefully be something for everyone.

I.P update: We are making good progress with the development priorities listed in the Improvement Plan. The Staged Intervention guidelines have been updated to meet the requirements of the new SLC documentation. Staff have all attended a training session on the updated approach. Our next steps are to review the school behaviour policy which Mrs Kilgallon will be doing with the Pupil Council.

Staff have been implementing the Active Literacy Approach for reading and some are about to embark on training for a new approach to writing. The Parental workshop in November will focus on how we teach reading in school.

Staff have also attended training on the Dyslexia Toolkit with colleagues in the Learning Community.

Staff and pupils are using the Lanarkshire Health programme and the pupils are completing a questionnaire linked to the wellbeing indicators each month. These are Safe / Healthy / Active / Nurtured/ Achieving/ Respected/ Responsible/ Included. The results will then inform the planned learning and teaching.

Ex Pupil visit: P4/5/6 had a visit from Sarah Laughtland (an ex pupil) and friends. They had been part of a VSO programme in Nigeria and came into school to talk to the children about their experiences. They also visited P2/3 as the children have been doing a comparative study of Scotland: Africa. The children in both classes enjoyed this learning experience and showed a particular fascination with the toilets (or lack of!). Thank you to Sarah and friends for giving the children this very interesting opportunity.

Dress Down Friday: Thank you very much for the tombola contributions that came into school for this event. The sale of tombola tickets will help raise much needed funds for our School Fund.

P6/7: The P6/7 class attended a workshop on WW1 at the Biggar Museum. This is part of the Biggar Museums current programme and exhibition. It kick-started the P6/7 topic on this era – which is now marking 100 years of the end of WW1.

P5-7 Netball / benchball festival: The pupils in P5/6/7 attended a Learning Community netball / benchball festival at the high school. As well as being able to put their games skills into practice, the festival gave the children an opportunity to meet and play with pupils from the other L.C schools – these being the pupils they will attend high school with.

Halloween Disco: These were very scary events indeed! Some of the children were unrecognisable! Thanks to the committee for organising such a great, fun filled event for the N-P7 pupils. Thanks also to all the parent helpers for their support with snacks, games and general supervision.

Upcoming events:

2.11.18	Flu immunisation
6.11.18	P4-7 Rugby sessions weekly for 3 weeks
12.11.18	Parent Council meeting, 7.00 p.m. School
14.11.18	P1-3 skipping festival
14.11.18	Dance Festival, Lanark Memorial Hall 5.15 p.m
19.11.18	In Service SCHOOL CLOSED
21.11.18	Parent Workshop – Active Literacy 7.00-8.00 p.m / Nursery stay and play
23.11.18	Open Afternoon / Christmas Fayre
27.11.18	P7 Rotary Quiz
28.11.18	School photographer
29.11.18	P4/5/6 Class assembly 2.00 pm.
30.11.18	Dress down Friday

December

4.12.18	Infant Nativity 1.30 p.m
5.12.18	Infant Assembly 10.00 a.m.
10.12.18	Panto in school p.m
11.12.18	P6 bubblegum and Fluff
13.12.18	Nursery Nativity
17.12.18	Class parties – days TBC
21.12.18	School closes 2.30 p.m.

Parent Council

I hope everyone had a great break over the October Holidays.

Thank you to everyone who made the Halloween discos such a success! The kids looked fantastic and everyone had a great time.

I would like to remind everyone not to forget about 'easyfundraising' as everyone starts to think about Christmas shopping. 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 had great success with the Christmas shopping last year – it would be great to see a similar result this year. The tool bar is a fab way to get reminders for any website you are on and with most it just means one click to activate your donation.

This term the funds raised by the parent council have been used to purchase 6 brand new amazing tablets (with indestructible casings!). This will really help the teachers access educational tools that are at present limited by the number of computers available and allow for more classroom pictures to be easily uploaded to the app or facebook. Thank you so much for all your contributions and help to raise these funds. They make a real difference for our kids.

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 Monday 12th November in the Primary school. 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 Parent Council)

Tinto Fundraisers

Halloween Parties

The Halloween parties on Tuesday 30th were a great success. There were some fantastic costumes and the children enjoyed the games and dancing. Thanks to all the parents and staff who helped on the night and to Chris Cruise once again for being a great DJ.

Christmas Fayre

Tinto Fundraisers will be serving refreshments at the Christmas Fayre on Friday 23rd November. We will also be selling home baking so any donations would be gratefully appreciated. Baking can be handed into the school on the day. If you are free in the afternoon to help serve tea/coffee please let me know.

If any new parents would like to become involved with Tinto Fundraisers and would like to be included in group emails please contact me on 07814378394 or dianelaing74@gmail.com

Diane Laing
Tinto Fundraisers coordinator