



Tinto Times

June 2010

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Head Teacher's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of term is now upon us and of course it is the end of another school year. It has been a very busy and challenging year for the school community and we have all worked very hard. There have been many successes for individual pupils and for the school as a whole – the very good H.M.I.e report being one example.

Attainment: This is the last year in which 5-14 attainment results will be reported. From August 2010 the Curriculum for Excellence will be fully implemented and the new on-line assessment materials will be used alongside assessment procedures currently in place in the classroom.

	2009-10	2008-09	Increase
Reading	93%	81%	12%
Writing	94%	80%	14%
Maths	93%	88%	5%

The above results are excellent and congratulations to all the pupils and staff for their hard work in attaining these results. Thanks also to the parents who support their children's learning by ensuring homework is completed.

Achievements: The Wall of Fame has been very full this year – we have a very talented group of pupils at Tinto Primary. We also enjoy hearing of the achievements of former pupils and are very proud to be able to share the following successes with you. Biggar High School are awarding the following awards :

Dux	Hannah Bruce	<i>A fantastic achievement and very well deserved</i>
S2 Merit	Jenny Bruce, Yvonne Chappell, Hollie Marshall, Fergus Spence	
S2 Effort	Adam Watson	
S3 subject	Emily Norris	Intermediate Art & Design
	Emily Norris	Standard Grade history
	Alice Smith	Standard Grade biology
	Alice Smith	Standard Grade English
	Alice Smith	Standard Grade French
	Alice Smith	Intermediate Administration
S4 subject	Fiona Greenshields	Standard Grade English

S5/6 Subject	Scott Affleck Hannah Bruce Hannah Bruce Hannah Bruce Alisdair Lindsay Rachel Swinton Harry Thundow Johnathon Woollard	Intermediate English 1 Higher Biology Higher Chemistry Higher History Higher Administration Advanced Higher Music Intermediate 2 Accounting Higher Accounting
Special Prizes	Rachel Swinton Tyla Adams Angus Thompson	John Anderson Memorial Prize for Music Forrester Shield Weston Prize for Engineering Excellence
Sports	Katelyn Reilly	Bronze team medal orienteering
Congratulations to all our former pupils for their fantastic achievements.		

There were also Tinto pupils in the S3 vocal group who sang at the presentation. The singing was truly outstanding, well done indeed to Claire Harrison, Chelsea Blacklaw, Lyndsay Collins, Fern McCaffery, Claire Black and Emma Norris

Tinto was also represented in the Biggar High School orchestra – well done to William Grieve, Connie Tucker and Arlene Black.

P7 leavers: Our P7 pupils will hopefully be appearing on the above list next year! The pupils led a memorable Leaver's Assembly on Tuesday 22nd June and the hankies that were issued at the beginning of the service were put to good use. They have been a very good P7, managing their additional responsibilities well over the year and representing the school during their outings and events. We wish them all the very best at their respective high schools and look forward to hearing of their successes.

Thank you to the P.T.A. for providing the refreshments for the P7 garden party on Tuesday – it really makes the event a bit more special. Special mention to Mr and Mrs Smith for providing a beautiful cake emblazoned with the school logo and a list of the P7 children. This was very much appreciated by the parents, pupils and staff.

Pupil Leavers: There are other pupils currently at Tinto moving onto new schools both near and far. We wish them every happiness and success in their new schools.

P7 enterprise: The P7 pupils have not rested on their laurels at the end of term. As part of their science work with Mrs. Struthers they made and sold UV bead bracelets to pupils in the school. The beads change colour when they are in direct sunlight and let you know that you should have sunscreen on. The pupils raised £50 for the Cancer Research charity.

Panto: We have made reservations at the Motherwell Theatre for the Christmas panto. Letters will be issued early next term to gauge the level of interest.

P1 dates: We have 22 P1 pupils beginning their school career with us in August. All P1 pupils should come to school on Monday 16th August at 9.00 a.m. They will be met by their buddies at the front door and taken to their classrooms. Parents are welcome to come into class too. The P1 pupils are in school half days only until Monday 13th September.

Staff: Mrs Struthers will still be teaching at Tinto Primary. Her remit is that of management relief for Mrs. Semple. We are in the fortunate position of being able to utilise Mrs Struthers' expertise in science next session and Mrs Struthers will be teaching science throughout the school. As Mrs Struthers was responsible for planning the maths programme for P7 over the past 2 years and piloting the "chunking" approach whereby maths was taught in a block over 2 days, she will also be working closely with Mrs Sinclair to ensure this approach is continued.

Staff leavers: We have to say good-bye to a number of our staff this term. Mrs Kilgallon and Mrs Weir are leaving us temporarily whilst on maternity leave. We wish them both well for the happy event and look forward to meeting the new additions to their families in the new term. Both teachers were very appreciative of the baby boxes they received and touched at the generosity shown by the pupils and their families.

Mrs Robinson will be returning to her post as cluster cover. Mrs Robinson was one of our CCC teachers this session and the children have thoroughly enjoyed their learning experiences with her. We wish Mrs Robinson all the best in her post.

Mrs McNeil has been in our nursery class this term and has provided wonderful learning activities for the children. We wish her all the best and hope to see her again!

Mrs Fox is also moving onto pastures new after teaching at Tinto for 6 years. Mrs Fox has made substantial contributions to the school in terms of teaching, development work and, most importantly, to the children she has had in her classes. We will miss her valued input and wish her every success in her new post.

New staff: The P7/6 teacher will be Mrs. Sinclair. Mrs Sinclair was here in 2008-09 and was involved in the H.M.I.e action plan. She is fully aware of our development work and of our procedures and routines. Mrs Harper will be teaching P5/6. Mrs Harper is currently teaching at Tinto as a CCC teacher so is also well conversant with our routines and development work. We will also be meeting Ms. Brandsma, our probationer teacher, in August. Ms. Brandsma will be teaching P1 with Mrs Semple.

Dates: School finishes on Friday 25th June at 1.00pm and resumes on Monday 16th August. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parent Council, The P.T.A. and the school community for the tremendous support we have received this year. The successes we have achieved are only possible with strong partnerships and we are very appreciative of your support.

I hope all our families have a relaxing holiday and as a staff we look forward to seeing all our pupils and their families in August.

Parent Council News

The Parent Council has now reached the end of its third year. Once again we have had a successful year in representing the views of the Parent Forum and supporting the school and its staff in their work with the pupils.

A few of our members have resigned from their position on the council and we would like to thank them for their contribution over the years. As a result, there are now spaces on the Council for new members. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Parent Council please contact Andrea Harvie on 308359 or e-mail tintoparents@btinternet.com.

The sub-committee will meet at the beginning of the new term to discuss possible grant funding opportunities. If you have an interest in sourcing and applying for grants, please email the address above.

The Parent Council is the representative body for parents within the school; if you have any issues or suggestions you wish to raise, please contact a member, e-mail tintoparents@btinternet.com or use the suggestion box located outside the school office.

Previous minutes are available to view on the school website and on the notice board at the school entrance.

The next meeting of the Parent Council will take place on Tuesday 31st August 2010 at 7.00 pm in the school hall. These meetings are open to all parents and we look forward to seeing you there.

PTA News

June is always our busiest month of the year. We have been kept busy with Village Day, Bags 2 School, the Parties and the P7 leavers garden party.

Village Day was very successful, we made £550 profit which is being spent on replacement TJ maths books (as the current ones are worn-out) and reading books for the older children (as there is a shortage of books for advanced readers).

The **Bags 2 School** collection took place earlier this month, we had another great collection and will know how much we raised at a later date.

Both the **Party and Disco** were well attended with most of the pupils attending. All the children had a great time.

The **P7 Leavers Assembly and Garden Party** took place on Tuesday. The parents enjoyed a wonderful performance by the P7's, followed by refreshments in the garden provided by the PTA.

Thank you to everyone who supported these events, and to the parents and teachers who made these events happen.

After School Club News

Huge Thanks – I am sure everyone who has attended the Badminton would echo me saying a huge thanks to Gina Moffat who very kindly came in to coach the ASC Badminton for a few years, but now is sadly having to step down.

Coaches Required – Due to unforeseen circumstances Gina Moffat who coaches the Badminton is having to step down, we have 14 children taking part and it would be a shame to lose this club so if any parents have experience in Badminton Coaching or would be interested can you please notify me as soon as possible.

I would also like to be able to start the Netball Club up again which due to a shortage of numbers it was stopped a few years ago, so again if any parent would be interested let me know, or if you know of anyone who would be interested.

Village Day - The day was great weather wise and profit wise the club managed to make £275. We would like to say Thank you to all the people who donated prizes for the tombola and on the day Gavin Hill for very kindly putting up our Gazebo, Josie McMorrow, Susan Cowan, Sandie Greaves & Alison Rogers for helping on the stall. We would also like to thank Susan Cowan and Mrs Fox for all the wonderful Home Baking they very kindly donated to our stall and believe me it did not last long! And last but not least all the people who very kindly visited our stall.

Football Club –The children have had a busy time with football, firstly they had Carnwath Primary over for a friendly so the children got all dressed up in the new strips, got some photos taken and then played very well against Carnwath.

Then they went over to Carnwath to play in the Biggar School Cluster mini football tournament with Josie as Coach and Mrs Fox as chief supporter the kids played outstanding and came home victorious. So thanks again to Josie and Mrs Fox for all your help, and well done to the children who were lucky enough to play.

Then the next big match was the Parents/Teachers v The Children, believe me it was a tough contest they are some very good players who we just could not stop. Thanks to Moira Struthers and Michelle Martin for joining in the fun (not sure if they would agree, as word has it they took a few days to recover!!) then as for the dads I believe some had very sore faces!! The final result was 6 all.

Gymnastics P3-7 – All the kids have had a great time learning how to do Somersaults, bench work and balances, I am sure the children will agree they have had fun.

Archery & Abseiling P4-7s – All kids who attended had great fun and enjoyed the experience of a new adventure. I would also like to thank Josie McMorrow & Sandie Grieves for supervising (they both wimped out of taking part!!).

Scarecrow for village day P1-7s – Congratulations to Alison and all the children who were involved in making Bill & Ben and of course Weed. If you did not hear they won the group competition and I am sure you will all agree with me they look absolutely great. So well Done.

Judo P1-6s We will be looking into running judo again on a Wednesday after the summer holidays, just looking for expressions of interest at the moment, this would be for current P1-6s.

Dance P1 - 3s - This has been booked for Monday 30th Aug, 6th, 13th, 20th September. I have only got 6 children interested which would not be enough to run this, so if your child is interested please let me know soon as possible.

Gardening P1 -6s – Alison Rogers has very kindly agreed to do this again which is on Thursday 26th Aug, 2nd, 9th, 16th September. It looks like it will be split into 2 groups again as we have alot of interest. If you have not got your childs name down already please do so as soon as.

School Response slip

Should you have any queries, comments or suggestions to make about any of the articles in this month's newsletter then please note them on this slip and return to the school marked "F.A.O. Ms. Stark". Thank you.

Name: _____ Child's name & class: _____

Comment: