

Tillicoultry Primary School and ELC

Newsletter 6 – January 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had a very productive and enjoyable January. A particular highlight was our P7 Burns Supper which was held last Thursday.



Thank you to all family members who came along to the celebration. The children shone as confident individuals; reciting poetry, singing songs, performing some drama sketches, serving their families and enjoying a good Scottish dance!

We'd like to thank Robert in P7 for piping for us, Emily Meeten, a former pupil for coming back to sing with Mr Clifford from Alva Academy and Jane, our wonderful cook for staying on to prepare the haggis, neeps and tatties. We were also joined by two members of the Ben Cleuch Burns Society. What a wonderful afternoon was had by all!

We are delighted that members of our local authority will be coming to visit our ELC and school on Thursday 8th February. I know everyone will make them very welcome.

Thank you for your ongoing support. *Mrs Thomas*

Notification of Absence

Please can I remind parents/carers to contact the absence line if your child is going to be absent from school as opposed to sending Dojo messages to Class Teachers. Thank you for your support with this.

Staffing Update

Mrs Alison Murphy, Depute Headteacher is currently absent from work. We send her our best wishes to for speedy recovery. In the meantime, I'm delighted to share that **Miss Lynne McBain** will assume an Acting Depute Headteacher role in Mrs Murphy's absence. I know you'll join me in supporting Miss McBain in this role.

The advert to replace **Mrs Lynsey MacMillan**, Learning Assistant is now live. I'll keep you updated as things progress.

Inclement Weather

A few parents raised concerns about how icy our playground was during the extremely low temperatures. I have been working with the manager for Janitorial services to see if we can find a solution to this. We are going to be given additional salt/grit and equipment so that we can support Mr McCheyne to clear a larger area in our back playground as opposed to only access paths.

Please be assured that we risk assess the playground carefully before allowing the children to play outside.

STEM Careers Fayre



Mrs Duncan has been busy organising a STEM Careers Fayre for P5-P7 involving parents/carers and some partners. This will take place on Thursday 8th February.

The idea behind this is to give the children the opportunity to hear more about different careers and the skills required for these roles. Here's hoping we inspire them!



"Team Tilly Family would like to invite you all to the next fundraising event - Bingo Tea at Tillicoultry Bowling Club. More information will be shared via our Facebook page & dojo!

A vibrant orange poster for a bingo event. At the top, it says "Team Tilly Family" in white. Below this, the word "BINGO" is written in large, colorful, bubbly letters. Surrounding the word are several bingo balls with numbers: 42, 26, 15, 83, and 7. Two lightbulbs with question marks are positioned on either side of the word. A white banner at the bottom of the poster contains the text: "FRIDAY | 1ST MARCH 2024". Below the banner, the text reads: "#TTF PRIZE BINGO", "DOORS OPEN 6.30. EYES DOWN 7pm", "TILlicoultry BOWLING CLUB", "£10 per ticket- CASH ONLY", "BINGO BOOKS/FLYERS & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED.", "BAR OPEN.OVER 18s ONLY.", and "GREAT PRIZES & RAFFLE ON THE NIGHT.". There are also several circular graphics with numbers: a green one with "30", a yellow one with "B 12", and a red one with "44".

The next Team Tilly Family meeting will be Tuesday 20th February at 6pm at Tillicoultry Primary School. Please come along to hear all about what we do and how your fundraising supports the school community.



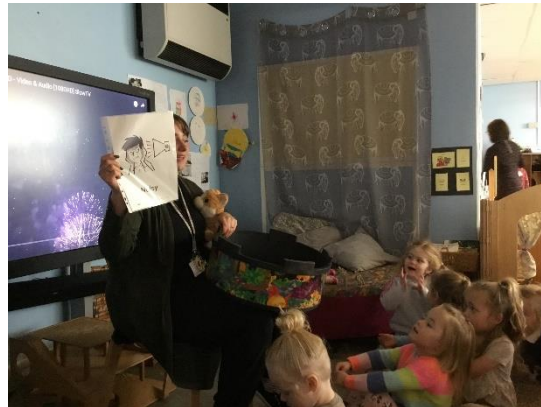
ELC Update, January 2024

We would like to say a big welcome back to our families and to all our new families joining us this term.

We are very proud to share that we have gained our **Silver Award** for our '**Visual Communication Environment**' which is awarded by our Speech and Language partners.

To achieve this, we have established a communication friendly environment, which benefits all children, particularly those who are visual learners and rely on structured visual routines to build their confidence and participation in the ELC environment. We offer learning opportunities including '**Concept Cat**' which helps children to learn the meaning and understanding of different concepts. We use '**Teaching Children to Listen**' games to support children's listening skills and concentration. We also ensure staff use Makaton and Makaton visuals are displayed in all areas. This enables learners to predict the routine of the day in order to understand what comes next and important sequences, such as handwashing and transitioning indoors and outdoors.

We are now aiming for our **Gold** award! We would like to thank the staff team for all their teamwork and commitment to achieve this milestone.



We are continuing with our Primary one transition as our learners become familiar with the school grounds and building. They have been establishing friendships with their peers in Primary one as they join them during playtime. They are also getting to know the classroom routine and school staff who will support them during story times in the classrooms.





Tilly's Diary of Events



Term 3 (January – March)	
Date	Event
Tuesday 6 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 12 th February	Staff Development Day – children do not attend
Tuesday 13 th February	Staff Development Day – children do not attend
Wednesday 14 th – 16 th February	Half Term holiday
Tuesday 20 th February	Parent Council Meeting, 6pm
Friday 1 st March	Headteacher Termly 'Cuppa Chat' Session 3, 2pm
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 7 th March	Whole School Open Afternoon, 2pm (ELC – P7)
Friday in March (tbc)	Red Nose Day
Wednesday 27 th March	Easter Service, Parish Church (P1-P7)
End of March	Written Reports Issued (P1-P7)
Thursday 28 th March	School closes for the Easter holiday, 3pm