

Tingwall Primary School

Term 1 Newsletter 2025



Welcome to our first newsletter of the year! We thought that having a regular newsletter would perhaps be a more manageable and informative way of sharing what all the classes in school have been up to alongside the continuous updates to the school website. Having the school website up and running should help everyone to find the information that they require across time rather than having to scroll back through emails or messages, by having all communication in the one place and available across time. Please remember to pop along to <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sh/tingwallprimaryschool/welcome/> for more photos and information.

What a busy term we have had! All our classes have been working hard at their learning and deserve their holidays. Please read over the next few pages to get a flavour of what each of the classes have been learning.

We continue to make big improvements to the school environment, inside and out, and the holidays will see new flooring being laid across the entrance area and the huts, with further painting taking place in some parts of the school to blend in with the new colour scheme.

Our School Improvement Plan will be uploaded onto the website shortly and I will be in touch to ask for your help with our new Nurturing Relationships and Positive behaviour Policy next term.

I hope you all have a lovely relaxing October holiday and look forward to welcoming wir bairns back on Wednesday 29th October.

Best wishes,

Lesley Simpson

Term 2 Dates for your Diaries

- 27th October - Inservice Training
- 28th October - Inservice Training
- 29th October - School opens for pupils
- 14th November - Children in Need
- 10th December - Nursery Christmas Stay and Play
- 11th December - P1-3 Christmas Concert (in afternoon)
- 11th December - P4-7 Christmas Concert (in evening)
- 12th December - Christmas Dinner!
- 12th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- 19th December - Last day of term

Consultation feedback from Learner Led Event

At the Learner Led Event in September 2025, we asked you a few questions to gather your thoughts about some specifics. There wasn't a huge response, but we have collated what you shared and have been looking at what our next steps could be.

We asked

How do you want us to involve you more?

You said

- More communication between class teachers and parents
- More events for parents to get involved
- Parent helpers

We asked

What events or activities would you like us to start/stop?

You said

- An after-school club
 - A breakfast club
 - Shetland dancing
 - Activities with buddies
 - More Nursery inclusive activities
 - P6/7 combined trip away from school
- You didn't ask for anything to stop!

We asked

What do you think the school is doing well?

You said

- The staff are polite and helpful
- Good community feel
- Nurturing environment & staff
- Good at communicating
- Inclusion & staff are approachable
- Lots of activities for the children and good at getting everyone involved

We asked

What information do you want from the school?

You said

- More learning updates
- I'm happy as it currently is
- Happy with everything - good communication
- Happy with how it is now

We asked

What aspects of school do you think needs to improve?

You said

- Please mark homework x 3
- Predictable homework marking/returns
- Make the peerie area nicer!
- Updating staffing - website even if it's just supply

Primary 1/2/3



LITERACY

P1s have been so busy this term learning their first letters and sounds.

P2s and P3s have had a BIG focus on sentence writing this term, and just how important writing in sentences is. They have had lots of fun making up silly sentences with our sentence makers.

We have all done lots of writing connected to our topic, like writing about our favourite animals, writing about which animal we'd choose to be, and creating our own animal stories.



ANIMALS TOPIC

Although we've been very busy this term with our maths and literacy, we've been learning lots about animals too. We have:

- Learned about different animal classifications, like 'mammal' and 'amphibian'.
- Learned about food chains and food webs and how these show the predators and prey.
- Created our own 'Italian Brainrot' characters.
- Learned about extinct and endangered animals. We have thought about ways to help endangered animals.

MATHS

1. P1s have been focussing on becoming really confident with their numbers to 10.
2. P2s have been focussing on adding numbers up to 20, and particularly using mental skills.
3. P3s have been working with trickier adding skills up to 100 and beyond.
4. We have all been learning about 2D shapes. We have done lots of topic maths, including creating 2D shape animals and tessellated animal pictures. We had lots of fun with these activities!



HEALTH & WELLBEING

We have enjoyed a lot of collaborative play this term, including plenty of construction with blocks and loose parts.

We are getting ready to introduce woodwork to the classroom, so have been learning about safe and responsible behaviour. We have been using 'Tap Tap Art' to practise using a hammer.

We have been focussing on how to be a good and kind friend, and how to be role models to those around us.





KID, YOU'LL MOVE
MOUNTAINS!

DR. SEUSS



Primary 4/5 Newsletter

Term 1 – 2025-2026

What a fantastic first term we have had in P4/5. The children have all worked incredibly hard and achieved so much in 7 weeks. We are really excited to see what term 2 brings!



Shetland Youth Orchestra

We had a visit from the Shetland Youth Orchestra which was utterly fantastic.

Such a talented group of young folk. Emma was very brave and volunteered to be the conductor!



Maths

We have been exploring numbers to 10,000 and 100,000 this term. Everyone has demonstrated such a positive attitude towards their work. We have used Sumdog to reinforce learning and even played Blooket to practice our number skills.

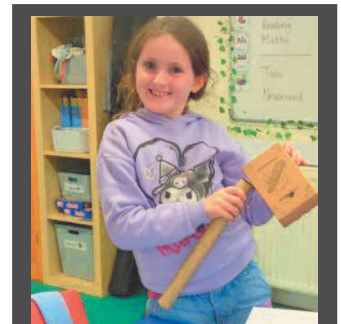
Writing

We have been doing daily writing to try to improve the quality of our work. We have written about everything from castles, Disney characters and even Labubu dolls!

We are seeing some good progress already.

Topic – Scotland

We have thoroughly enjoyed our topic about Scotland this term. We have created posters, fact files, used maps, made power point presentations, presented to the class, baked shortbread, made Loch Ness Monsters and created pictures based on Scottish artists.





Hannah Anderson on behalf of P/7

Math:

We have been increasing our knowledge of adding and subtracting. In our SHM textbooks, we have been working on and practicing word problems. In our jotters, we have been writing out chimney sums to help us understand how the problems work. For our classroom jobs, we also work with money. Every day, pupils earn money through our classroom economy by doing their jobs. This has been another great way to practice our adding and subtracting.

Writing:

Recently, we have been writing imaginative stories to keep us entertained in the Air Raid Shelter. We have been impressed by the ones that have been read out loud and are excited to hear more stories from different perspectives. To earn our trip to the museum, the class wrote letters to Ms. Simpson and Mari Anderson. We also wrote recounts of our museum trip. In addition, we wrote letters back to the Shelter children, telling them about the future and our experiences with their games that were sent from the past. Our current success criteria has been focusing on punctuation.

Topic:

Our P6/7 topic is World War II. Our class has found this topic very interesting, and here is what we have learned. We have been working on rationing (we made a lemon cake using ingredients that would have been rationed), identity cards (pupils must carry them everywhere!), air raid shelters (we even have our own siren and shelter for practice), blackout drills, gas masks, evacuation, ARP Wardens (we've got our own ARP whistle and helmet), and WWII games (we recently received a package with a letter and games to play from The Shelter Children). Finally, we are learning about important battles, doing research, and making posters. We will use the posters to teach the class and then quiz each other on what we remember.

P.E.:

During PE with Mr. Kirkness, the class has been enjoying handball and, more recently, hockey. In our class PE sessions, we have been playing netball. Everyone has worked really well in teams and has been great at learning new skills!

Reading:

Every morning, the class gets into their reading groups and reads part of their novel. Usually, they listen to the audiobook while reading along, but sometimes they read a chapter or two to each other. Every book is connected to World War II, linking with our topic. We have also finished reading *Once* by Morris Gleitzman and are now moving on to *Then* for our class novel!



