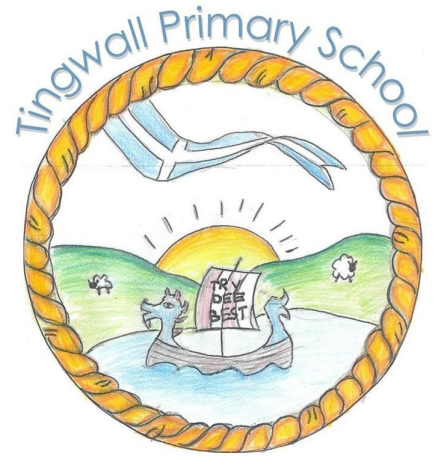


Term 1 Newsletter

Tingwall Primary and ELC

October 2026

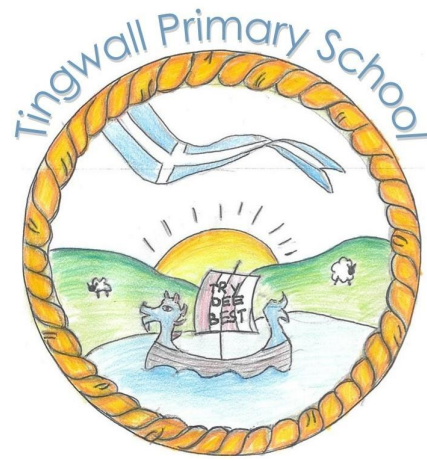


Welcome to our first newsletter of the year and my first as Head Teacher of the School. I'm very grateful for the warm welcome that I have received since joining and feel very lucky to have the opportunity of working closely with pupils, staff and parents/carers each school day. In this first term, it has been a pleasure to observe and support lots of the rich learning that is happening in different areas of our school each day; from our ELC through to P7, and across different areas of the curriculum.

Staff and pupils have worked diligently throughout the term and I can proudly share that we have made significant progress in working towards our shared School Improvement Targets.

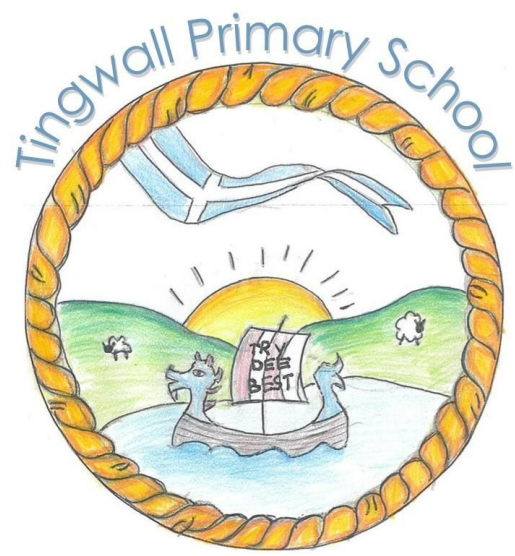
School updates

- Pupil Council for 26-27 has now been established, and initial meetings have focused on improving the break/play time experience for all pupils as well as looking at the features of what high-quality learning looks like in lessons.
- Our Learner Characteristics have been streamlined and updated to ensure they are closely aligned with our school values. Pupils have designed the characters (**Respectful Rabbit**, **Responsible Raccoon**, **Inclusive Iguana** and **Positive Puffin**)
- The new Learner Characteristics are also going to be defined by our Pupils. We will continue to celebrate pupils who are consistently Living our School Values in our weekly assemblies.



Updates continued

- Teaching staff have developed and recently finalised a Tingwall Primary School framework for High-Quality Teaching and Learning. This will be the foundation for much of what we develop moving forward and is aimed at ensuring that every lesson our pupils engage with provides opportunities for thinking, learning and progress. More details to follow in Term 2.
- The staff team have invested significant work in developing systems to develop pupil learning experiences in Mathematics. We have looked at jotter expectations, assessment and tracking and lesson planning with a view to developing consistently rich learning experiences for our pupils.



Inclusion



Ethos



Collaboration



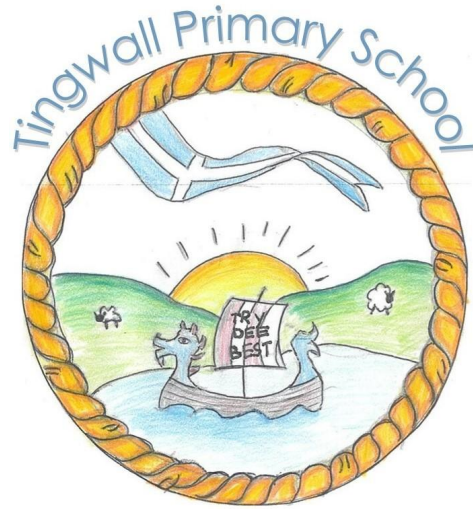
Interactions



Structure



• **Staffing update** - I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to Mrs. Sarah Hutcheson who finishes up in her role as Learning Support Worker in the Primary at the end of term. Thankfully, Mrs. Hutcheson will still be very much a part of our school community as she will continue in her role within our ELC on Thursdays and Fridays. The recruitment process for a replacement Learning Support Worker in Primary is nearing a conclusion.



Looking ahead

Term 2

Dates for the Diary

Monday 26th October - In-Service for staff
Tuesday 27th October - In-Service for Staff
Wednesday 28th October - Start of Term 2 for all pupils
Monday 2nd November - Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 5th November - Collection for shoebox appeal
Thursday 12th November - School Improvement visit
Thursday 10th December - Tingwall Christmas Enterprise
Friday 11th December - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18th December - End of Term 2

Highlights from ELC



This term in Tingwall Nursery we have welcomed our new starts and they have settled well into our routines. We have been out and about exploring our local environment as well as making use of the school Polytunnel and play ground. We enjoy Bookbug sessions and mark making opportunities. We are learning the importance of assessing our own risk by helping to prepare our snack and using tools at the work bench. We had our families in for our Stay and Play session and took them on a SIMOA hunt!



Term 1: P1-4 Highlights

What a fantastic start to our school year. The class have settled in so well and are working hard





Primary 5-7

Term 1

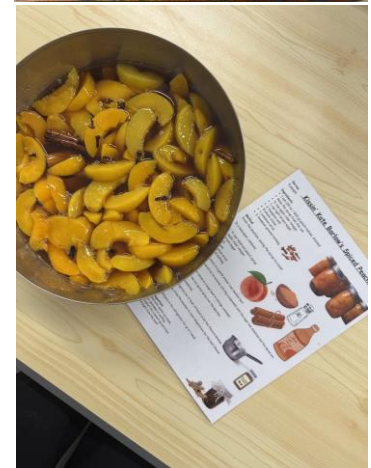
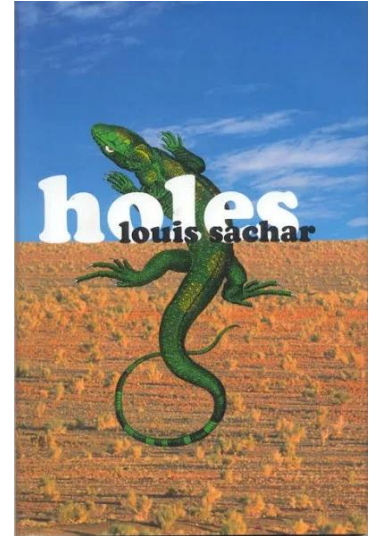
What a busy and exciting term we have had in P5-7!

Our topic has been based around the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar, and we have really enjoyed it! We have taken part in reading comprehension activities, practised reading aloud, listened to audiobooks while following the text, and worked together during group reading sessions. We have also been working hard to improve our writing by focusing on punctuation, editing our work using our marking scheme, and using dictionaries to help us with spelling. A big focus this term has been improving our handwriting and letter formation, and it has been great to see everyone's progress.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value, as well as practising addition and subtraction.

As part of our *Holes* learning, we made our very own spiced peaches, just like the characters in the story! We shared these during our fantastic learner-led event, where pupils were able to showcase their learning and achievements.

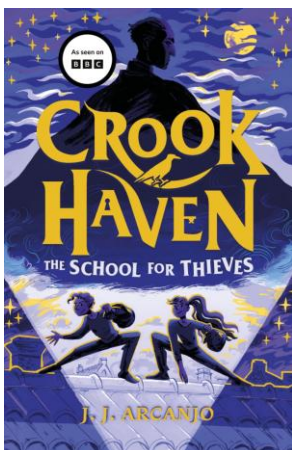
We were also excited to welcome a visit from the police, where we had the opportunity to meet our new School Liaison Officers and learn more about their important role in our community.



Alongside *Holes*, we have been enjoying reading *Crookhaven: School for Thieves*. This inspired lots of creative learning, including designing our own timetables for a school for thieves!

There has been an exciting project in the school, developing our new learner characters and our drawing competition! We also developed our own class charter that helps us learn and work together.

We have loved getting to know our new Head Teacher, Mr Healy, who paid a visit to our classroom. It was lovely to share some of our learning with him.



In PE, we have been developing our aiming, throwing and basketball skills. Even when the weather has not been on our side, we have kept active indoors with fun workout sessions.

One of the highlights of the term has been our class economy. Pupils have taken on jobs and responsibilities, earning and saving classroom money. They have loved deciding how to spend their earnings on rewards such as Homework Holidays, Garden Getaways and Seat Swap Specials. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm for responsibility, teamwork and saving for a goal!

We have worked incredibly hard this term and should all be very proud of everything we have achieved. We are looking forward to another exciting term of learning ahead!

