



# Tinto Times

## February 2020

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## Head Teacher's Report

Even with the extra day in February it has still been a challenge to fit all the planned activities into this month. Staff and pupils have been enjoying their topics this term and the children have been excitedly bringing their work to show me. Home-made rockets (some with interior décor and lighting!); WWII artefacts and Victorian schoolwork have all been displayed in the classrooms making them really motivating places to learn.

**Planning Meetings:** The teaching staff have met with me to discuss their evaluations of last term's learning and teaching and the plans for this term. The 20/20 letters will be issued shortly detailing individual pupil plans for the term. The majority of pupils are on target to meet the curriculum milestones and supports are in place for pupils who require them.

**In-Service Days:** There were two in service days this month. The agendas included nursery and primary staff looking in depth at the VSE report and planning next steps; nursery staff drafting a curriculum rationale and updating care plans; primary teaching and support staff engaging in professional dialogue about positive relationships and behaviour which led to a new position statement being drafted; primary staff updating their data and looking to see if there were trends re gender / free school meals / catchment and finally all staff planning the official school opening.

**RSHP:** All classes N-P7 are learning about **R**elationships, **S**exual **H**ealth and **P**arenthood with age and stage appropriate materials being used. Letters were emailed to all parent / carers outlining the concepts being taught. The detailed plans and power points can be accessed on the Education Scotland website: <https://rshp.scot/>

The Biggar Learning Community parent forum were invited to attend an information evening at Tinto P.S & N.C about RSHP and it was great to see over 40 parents attending. An evaluation will be issued shortly.

**Homework:** A few parents have contacted staff to discuss homework and this was also discussed at the January Parent Council meeting. There are a range of views and research about the value of homework and these are reflected in the responses from parents to our questionnaire. There have been 50 responses at the time of writing this newsletter, although not all the questions have 50 responses. Main results are:

- 32 want homework issued / 18 do not
- 28 want homework issued Monday and returned the following Monday
- 21 like the topic related homework
- 45 want the focus on literacy and numeracy
- 17 like I.T to be used / 17 do not like I.T to be used

We will discuss these results at the next Parent Council in March and rewrite our position statement.

**P7 fund raising:** Thank you very much for supporting the P7 pupils with their fund raising events this month. The N-P6 pupils were able to participate in a Valentine card making activity and buy Valentine themed baking at break. The money raised will go towards the P7 Leavers night out in June.

**Maths monitoring:** Mrs Kilgallon and Ms Stark have been discussing numeracy and maths with each class this month. The majority of children enjoy their maths lessons and were able to explain the purpose of what they were learning, linking this to the wider world of work and life. The children preferred the active approach to learning and liked the mix of group work and working independently. Whilst these conversations were taking place, the class teachers used this opportunity to peer observe colleagues teaching maths, thus sharing good practice.

**World of Work:** Miss Fraser and Miss Kennedy organised a World of Work week this month. It was fantastic to have so many parents and members of the local community visiting the classes to describe their work, what they had to do to get the job and what they enjoyed about their careers. The childrens' understanding of the variety of careers that are available has widened as a result. Thank you very much to the parents who gave up their time to participate. It was very much appreciated.

**Benchball / Netball Festival:** The P4-7pupils participated in a Biggar Learning Community event this month with some of our partner schools. These events are hugely enjoyable and allow the children to mix with peers who will be in their year at high school. Thanks to the Active Schools team for organising the event.

**Easter Eggs / Bonnets:** The theme for this years eggs is "Eggstrodinary Jobs" linking to our World of Work week. Easter bonnets can also be decorated to reflect this theme or just have an Easter/Spring theme. Could all entries be brought to school on Monday 30.3.20.

**Official School Opening:** This will take place on the 23.3.20 at 1.30 p.m. Parents are invited to the Dress Rehearsal on Friday 20.3.20 at 10.00 a.m. There are 8 places per class available for parents to attend the official opening and a ballot will take place for these.

## Events

4.3.20	P2/3 class trip to Dynamic Earth
12.3.20	P1/P4/P7 Dental checks
16.3.20	Parent Council 7.00 p.m
20.3.20	Dress Rehearsal
23.3.20	Official Opening
24.3.20	Open Afternoon
25.3.20	Lion King
27.3.20	Bingo night in Football club
30.3.20	Easter Bonnets / Eggs competition
2.4.20	Parents Evening
3.4.20	Easter Service 1.30 Symington Church
	Term ends

## Tinto Parent Council

March is nearly here and I hope everyone has survived all the stormy weather recently! I am sure we are all looking forward to some more settled spring weather. We will see what Jorge (or is it Ellen?) has to say about that.

I would like to thank Jean Lyon and Rebecca Lyon for their great work with all the fundraising events. The kids all loved the discos and we are all looking forward to the events that are coming up. Bingo night is on Fri 27th March and was very entertaining last year for all ages.

I would like to remind everyone not to forget about 'easyfundraising' as you think about booking your holidays or online summer clothing shops. This has raised over £1200 so far. It is very easy to join and there are deals and offers available for various major retailers which donate money at no cost to yourself.

During the Black Friday sale deals the Parent Council were able to use funds to purchase five new Huawei tablets, SD cards and cases for the school. This has created far more opportunities for IT based lessons which will help to hit targets set out in the school improvement plan. The teachers say they are seeing the difference they are making already.

The Tinto app is regularly updated and is an easy way for parents to check what is happening in the school.

The Parent Council is here to listen to your views and to help communicate these with 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](mailto:tintoparents@gmail.com).

The next meeting of the Parent Council is on Monday 16th March in the school at 7 pm. We would welcome you to join us to find out more regarding ongoing plans within the school and future fundraising events.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards

Lorna Christie.

Chairperson Tinto Parent Council.

## TINTO FUNDRAISERS

**What's on? Pop these dates in your diary!**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Family Bingo Night, 6.30 – 8.30 in the Sports Club, Symington.**

Come get your dabbers out and join us in a fun filled night of Bingo. Lots of fantastic Easter eggs to be won! Buzzer game, Lollipop game, Sweetie Stall, Gin and Sweetie slide fun for all too! It would be great to see lots of Tinto families there to support the school fund raising. If anybody is able to help out on the night please let us know. We will also be in touch nearer the time looking for some Easter Egg donations to use as prizes.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Tinto Village Day.** Tinto Fundraisers will have their hotdog, home baking and tea/coffee stall. We will be looking for helpers to do stints on the stall and for donations of home baking. Last year was a great success so fingers crossed we can repeat it this year.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Shorts and Shades Disco**

If any parents would like to become involved with Tinto Fundraisers please get in touch – we would be always open to new ideas and welcoming to helpers!

Many thanks

Rebecca Lyon (07880 882571) and Jean Lyon (07841 713253)

Tinto Fundraisers coordinators

## TINTO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The after school club currently have the following clubs running:

- Rugby on a Thursday for P4-7
- Snare Drum on a Friday for P5-6

We are hoping to get a lego after school club running with parents running this. A few parents have offered via the School Facebook page so hopefully this can run after Easter.

Parent helpers are essential to ensure future clubs can run. It's not an onerous task to be a helper normally it is just to sign the kids in and out the club and make them a drink halfway through.

The purpose of the club is to give the children of Tinto exposure to learning new skills or taking part in an activity.

If anyone has any clubs, they would be willing to run, suggestions/comments please get in touch.

Thanks

Claire Thomson

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