



Tinto Times

November 2010

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Head Teacher's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

Fund raising: Thank you very much for your support of the various fund raising events that the pupils and parents have organised this month.

The Health Promoting group organised the sponsored walk - "Dress as a fruit / veg" theme – and raised a very healthy £1,164 towards playground improvements. The next step is to allow the children to organise what they wish to purchase with the money and research the best deals for playground markings and equipment.

The Pupil Council organised a successful Children in Need Day and raised £211.45 with their £1 fee for dressing in spotty clothes, colouring competition and the "pennies round the school". Iona Good and Aimee Thomson won the infant colouring competition; Ailsa Good and Lisa Campbell won the middle stages colouring competition and Cameron Sanders and Charlotte Murphy won the upper school drawing competition. The winning entries are on the Wall of Fame. Well done to everyone who entered.

The P.T.A. organised the annual Race Night – thank you very much to all who bought a jockey or horse and those who managed to support the actual event. A grand total of around £600 was raised towards I.T equipment – all classes now have a super digital camera. Thanks also to all the local sponsors who donated prizes for each race – their generosity makes these events possible. The staff and pupils appreciate the hard work of the members of the P.T.A in organising these events.

H.M.I.e: Ms Stark went before the Education Committee on the 16th November to report to Council on the findings of the follow up report. The Council asked Ms Stark to pass on their appreciation of the hard work and commitment of the staff and the Parent Council during this time.

Staffing: due to financial constraints we are having to make some staffing adjustments as from the 29th November. Mrs Sinclair will be teaching P7/6 on a Monday and a Tuesday morning, Mrs Semple will be teaching P6/7 from Wednesday-Friday. Mrs Struthers will continue with science on a Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Struthers will also be teaching P1 on a Monday and a Tuesday morning.

Parental workshops: These were due to be held on the 30th November but due to the low response they have been postponed until the spring term. Apologies to those of you who were hoping to attend this month. As the staff have spent some considerable time planning these to make the workshops as informative and as much fun as possible we are hoping for a larger turn out in the Spring.

Nursery news: The nursery children have been learning about Festivals of Light this term. They are now very knowledgeable about Diwali and have had the opportunity of learning new dance moves, thanks to Kate Deacon.

The Parent Group has met again this month and looked at the current nursery handbook. Changes have been suggested and the draft version will be discussed at the next meeting in January.

Christmas cards: Each child in the school will have brought home an order form this week which gives you the opportunity to buy a pack of 6 cards designed by your child. A sample of the card was attached to the form. These cards have been produced with the extremely generous support of Mr and Mrs Rogers and all proceeds will go into our school funds. I'm sure you will agree that they are of a high quality and good value.

Swimming: The P5 swimming block finished this week – so pupils should no longer be bringing swimming kit into school. Thank you for being so organised over the past 10 weeks.

Headlice: There have been instances of headlice in various classes this month. Please be extra vigilant when washing / brushing hair and please treat any headlice immediately. Thank you.

Recipe books: Thank you to all the families who have contributed recipes to the school or website. Unfortunately there was not enough interest shown and so there are not enough recipes to make the cookery book viable for Christmas. As our theme is one of Enterprise next term we will relaunch the cookery book then and hopefully have enough recipes to sell copies at our Spring Fayre.

School dinners: We are having a problem at the moment with children changing their minds as to what to eat when reaching the canteen – even if they have a band indicating their original choice. The numbers for each meal are sent into the kitchen by 9.30 a.m and appropriate portions cooked. However as children are changing their minds we have a problem with not having enough of one meal and too much of another. The teachers discuss the menus with the younger children and ensure they understand what they are asking for, the older children are responsible for selecting their meals.. Could I ask that parents discuss the menu with their children in advance so that the children know what they will be selecting.

Christmas Fayre: This will be taking place in the Football Club on the 4th December. There will be stalls run by the After School club, P.T.A. and pupils along with local community groups so please do come along to support the local community. There will be children singing in the After School Club Choir during the morning so do please come and hear them.

Nativity: The Nativity will take place on the afternoon of the 8th and the morning of the 9th December. Letters will be issued shortly to invite families to apply for tickets. Due to the numbers that we are allowed in the hall we are having to restrict tickets to 2 per family but we will also have a reserve list for those families wishing for more than 2 tickets.

Pantomime: The trip to the pantomime will take place on the 22nd December. Reminder letters will be issued nearer the time. Please remember that school uniform must be worn – it's much easier to keep track of over 100 pupils if they are in purple sweatshirts!
Mrs Semple will remain in school with those pupils who are not going to the pantomime and will organise an afternoon of Christmas activities for them.

Parties: The children will be putting these dates into their diaries nearer the time. The children can bring their party clothes to school and get changed after lunch. P1 and Nursery are having their party together and so P1 children can come to school in their party clothes.

Please contact me if you have any queries regarding any of the above news items.

Yours sincerely
Ms. A. Stark

Parent Council News

A Joint Forum meeting took place on the 9th November 2010. The meeting was well attended and all present had made use of the grant information received at the previous meeting; with most Parent Councils being in the process of applying for one or more grants. This sharing of information has been an asset to all. The next Joint Forum meeting will take place on Tuesday 1st February 2011 at Carluke Primary School.

The Sub-Committee met on Monday 15th November 2010 to discuss the completion and submission of numerous grant applications; we hope to finalise these at the beginning of next year and will keep you up to date with our progress. If you would like to offer assistance to the Sub-Committee, please email your details to tintoparents@btinternet.com.

Andrea Harvie and Sheila Govan attended the first National Parent Forum Conference at Bishopbriggs Academy on Saturday 30th October 2010. The conference was very well attended by schools across Scotland and a good day was had by all. Information regarding the conference is available to view on the Tinto Primary website. Andrea and Sheila will also be attending the South Lanarkshire Council Parents as Partners Conference on Monday evening 29th November 2010.

The Parent Council members have been working hard on your behalf since the beginning of the school term. We have liaised with the school in its development of Curriculum for Excellence, numerous consultations have been completed, grant applications have been started and conferences have been attended; just to mention a few. If you would like to offer support to the Parent Council, please email the above address.

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 8th February 2011 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

Christmas Fayre on 4th December, in the Football Club, Symington.

We will be selling teas, coffees, soup and homebaking at the Fayre, donations of homebaking will be accepted on the day.

There will also be a **Silent Auction**. Items for auction this year include Inverarity Blend whisky, a singing lesson, a belly dancing lesson, Christmas decorations, a Christmas floral arrangement, and much more.

We need your help and support... Are you able to donate an item to the auction? Are you able to spare an hour to help with the teas and coffees on the day? Contact Vicky on 309153.

Please come along and support our fundraising, we raised £500 at last years Christmas Fayre and are aiming to raise a similar amount again.

The recent table top sale raised £145, and the race night raised over £600.

Thank you to everyone who attended these events, and to those who bought owners and jockeys. Also a huge thank you to the race sponsors who provided fantastic prizes for each race: Boat Road Nursery, R. Allison, Harvies Garage, Diamond Blush, Aroma, Healthy Pets, Royal Terrace Hotel, Campsies Garage, and the Tinto Primary Staff.

Cameras have already been purchased from the funds raised, this will allow each class to be able to record activities as they take place.

After School Club News

Membership – Just a wee reminder about membership if not already paid.

Xmas Fair- We will be having a Tombola Stall again at the Xmas Fair, so would really appreciate it if you could start looking out some things. You can hand it into myself whenever or hand it into the school clearly labelled After School Club. We will also be selling some Reindeer dust and Xmas Bookmarks that the children have made at the After School Club.

Lucky Square – I have been fortunate enough to get a signed rugby ball by the Scotland squad. So we are selling a lucky square for a £1. So if you would like to win a rugby ball you can get one at the PTA Race Night, at the Xmas Fair or you can see myself at any after school event.

Football Club (P4-7s) – The children have now finished football till after the easter holidays. I am sure the parents will be glad as they were starting to get very filthy being outside. We would also like to say a big thank you to Jim and Josie for taking them.

Badminton Club (P4-7s)- The A Group have been lucky enough to have a wee training tournament with some kids from Coulter and it was a great learning experience for them all.

Rugrats (p1-3s) – All the children have had a great time and have learned some very good rugby and some new games they could also play in the playground themselves.

Xmas Sewing (P4 –7s) – The girls have made a lovely bag from felt and sewed on a Xmas picture in which they cut out and sewed on. It all looked very good and not sure I could have done this myself.

Xmas Choir (P1 - 7s) – The children have been practicing very hard and sounding good and all looking forward to singing at the Xmas Fayre in front of all the parents.

Xmas Card Making (P1 -3s) – The children have made some lovely cards and a lovely snow dome. They have also been making some Xmas Bookmarks, Shooting Stars and Gift Tags to sell at the Xmas Fayre so I hope to see the parents purchase some!

Xmas Decoupage Card Making (P4- 7) – Joy Harris very kindly agreed to come in and help the kids make some lovely cards for them to send to their parents/grans!

New Activities

Football P1- 3s – We have booked Ronnie Scott to take the wee ones for some football as there was a lot of interest last year. The dates are Monday 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st January so if your child is interested then put their name down soon as to secure your child's place.

Hockey P5-7s – We have managed to get some hockey sticks so Leah Wilson and Myself will be taking this and it would give all children a wee taste of it before they go up to High School. We will be doing this on Monday 21st, 28th February & 7th, 14th March.

Athletics P4-7 – Jim Paton is coming back to do some more Athletics with the kids. The kids thoroughly enjoy doing this, so if interested book your place soon as. The dates are Tuesday 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th March.

Chess (P4-7)- Jane Stevens will be coming in again at lunch times to do this. If you would be interested in learning chess then please put your name down.

Graffiti T-Shirts (P4-7) – We are looking to run this if we get enough interest. It will consist of spray painting your own design onto a white t-shirt.

Jazzing up Denim Bags/White T-Shirts (P1-7) – Again if we get enough interest we would run this. It will consist of using fabric pens to draw on your own design and some jewels to stick on. If you could also note whether it is a Bag or T-Shirt you would like to do.

Jewellery (P4 – 7s) - Due to some requests we would like to run this again but can only do so if we get enough interest.

Design & Make a Model (P5 – 7) - Miss Brandsma P1 teacher has offered to do this class. It would involve in you designing your own model eg a Desk Tidy, Ipod Holder, Mobile Phone Holder and Miss Brandsma will have plenty of other ideas aswell. Then you would have to make it. If you fancy doing this then let me know.

Netball Club P5-7s – We would like to start up the Netball club again so if you are interested please complete the form below.

If you have any ideas for what you would like to see the After School Club do then please put your ideas on the form below.

ACTIVITY DATES WINTER TERM 2010

Badminton Group A – Thursday 13th, 27th Jan, 10th, 24 Feb, 10th, 24th March

Badminton Group B- Thursday 20th Jan, 3rd, 17th Feb, 3rd, 17th, 31st March.

Football (p1-3s) – Monday 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st January 3-4pm.

Athletics (P4-7) – Tuesday 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th March 3 – 4 pm.

Hockey (P5-7s) – Monday 21st, 28th February & 7th, 14th March 3 – 4pm

Graffiti T-Shirts (P4-7) – Tuesday 22nd & 1st March 3 – 4pm

Jazzing up Bag/T-Shirt (P1-7) – Wednesday 23rd February 3-4pm

Design & make a Model (P5-7) – Tuesday 11th, 18th, 25th January & 1st & 8th February 3-4pm

We will let you know as soon as other activities are booked.

Tinto After School Club – please Circle , detach and return to Aileen Simpson – 308937 at Tinto Primary School

Name.....Class..... (please circle relevant activity) Football P1-3s, Athletics P4-7, Graphitting T-Shirts P4-7s, Jazzing up Denim Bags or T-Shirt P1-7s, Hockey P5-7s, Chess P4-7s, or Jewellery P4-7s. Interested in joining the Netball / Football/ Badminton Club.

New Activities ideas.....

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:

