

Tynewater Primary School

a thinking, caring, learning community

Information for Parents

Nursery to P7: email / copy per family

Tuesday 12 May 2020



Silver
Level



Our School Aims We believe that each of us can confidently:

- **Be ambitious, imaginative and creative**
- **Make healthy choices to take care of ourselves, others, and our environment**
- **Seek new challenges to learn together to achieve our goals**
- **Explore, be involved in, and build up our community**

Modelling attitudes and behaviour; thinking before we do or say something:

Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it inspiring? (build up?) Is it needed? Is it kind?" **t-h-i-n-k**

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you, your family, relatives and friends are keeping well, and that you have been able to enjoy the fine weather of recent weeks.

Our congratulations and best wishes to Mrs Thompson (currently teaching P2) who is expecting a baby in September; staff knew some weeks ahead of Mrs Thompson's announcement!

Midlothian Education's Strategic Planning Group, Head Teachers and staff are working hard to provide the best possible provision for each school's pupils given the prevailing circumstances. Please bear with us; we are finding that everything is taking at least twice as long to plan, prepare and complete.

Tynewater PS has weekly video planning meetings for our respective Teams: Early Years Staff; Teachers; and Learning Assistants / Admin Staff. Mrs McCabe (Principal Teacher & Support for Learning Teacher) and I meet two or three times per week.

Using Seesaw Class to promote pupils' learning

Thank you for supporting Class Teachers in their considerable efforts each day to engage your child(-ren) in learning through Seesaw Class. We know that in a family of more than one child or a single parent family this can be difficult, however, Class Teachers are very understanding and flexible and will accommodate whatever involvement and routine works best for you and your child(-ren).

We have been heartened by the participation of children and yourselves; the two-way communication; and the sharing of the whole range of learning that you and your children have been involved in. Communication and the interest shown by children, parents and staff have been great morale-boosters. Children are so proud to share with their teachers what they have been doing / learning indoors and outdoors. Thank you.

If you or your children have friends who are not yet up and running using Seesaw Class, could you please encourage them to take part? We don't want anyone to miss out. If anyone needs help, they can simply email the school.

Dalkeith Learning Community Hub at Woodburn PS caring for and teaching the children of Key Workers and providing additional support to other children

Thank you to the following Tynewater Staff who have been able to volunteer to work at the Hub on certain days each week since 23 March, including the Easter holidays, and continue to do so: Mrs Munro (Administrative Assistant); Early Years Practitioners - Ms Cook and Ms Turnbull; Learning Assistants - Mrs Watt and Mrs Ketchion, and Teachers - Ms Thorburn, Ms Rae, Ms Seaton, Ms Blyth, Mr Watson and Mrs Clarke. My day for co-managing the Hub is now Monday.

Thank you to Mr Christie (Learning Assistant) and members of the Tynewater Mutual Aid Network: Mrs Jacqui Duncan; Ms Inge Thomson and Ms Karine Polwart for collecting and delivering packed lunches Monday to Friday inclusive.

Thank you to all our colleagues from our Dalkeith Learning Community schools, the children who are so happy to attend each day, and their parents who are so appreciative.

P7 to S1 Transition to High School

The Head Teachers of the schools that make up our Dalkeith Learning Community schools are presently finalizing online arrangements. Mr Martindale and I have been liaising with staff at respective high schools.

Children starting Primary 1 in August and children starting Early Years in August

We have now received our list of children. We are presently finalizing our online arrangements and will contact parents as soon as possible.

Mr Colin McCabe (Education Officer - Digital Learning) is helping each school to form a video programme involving a virtual tour. Last Wednesday, Mr McCabe and I recorded views in and around our school, albeit without any children, staff and parents!

Summary Report of Individual Pupil's Achievements and Progress since August 2019

We have recently agreed a new format. Teachers are now busy writing their reports which will be issued before the end of term.

Class Teachers for August 2020

This information will be issued as soon as possible which may be well into June. Please bear in mind that everything within Midlothian Education is taking a bit longer this year.

Parent Council Decorated Easter Egg Competition

Well done to everyone for participating in imaginative and skilful creations, and providing so much pleasure. As well as a Winner for each class, we have some 'Highly Commended' awards. All entries were judged anonymously, so there are no names attached to the pictures in the links below.

Nursery: Charlie Noblett
P1B: Elsie Ann White
P1A: Ivy Cassidy
P2: Tessa Henderson
P3: Two winners: Elliot Thomson and Mia Marshall
P4: Isla Madhra
P5: Struan Milne
P6: Bronte Teasdale
P7: Emily Adams

Highly Commended: Eve Tulloch (P5), Isabella Diffley (P4), Macie Bolton Brown (P2), Magnus Madhra (P1B) and Rory Lorimer (P1A)

Winners and Highly Commended entries can be viewed here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/t2CfFtXZnd59GztA8>

All the entries can be viewed here:

Nursery: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/6wH3CMnH7dCwtyyY7>

P1A: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/8p9FGgG2b6N4z2tLA>

P1B: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/vCkBpdkM4UDuYMCR6>

P2: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/G41uwzhNZPR38RCWA>

P3: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/4bWmew9zrC9FU8jGA>

P4: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/UQ8hEBR6J5bXysJq8>

P5: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/GDJT5bhvNnwYyhEQA>

P6: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/VjRfUYjDehFsR1fSA>

P7: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ib2M8XjwFUejfAGk9>

Thank you to our judges Louise Megson, Kirsten Stewart and Karen Tighe from Edinburgh, Inverness and Musselburgh. **Thank you to Mrs Emma Diffley, Parent Council Chairperson, for organising the competition.**

This Term's Children's Book Review Competition invites entries to be posted on Seesaw Class by Monday 15 June. A £10 Amazon Book Voucher is on offer to one pupil per class **for the best handwritten and illustrated review of a book that a child has read this term for the very first time.** Early Years and P1 children can present an illustration with at least one handwritten sentence. (EY children: scribed by a parent / carer.)

Please note that Monday 18 May is an In-Service Education and Training day for Staff and therefore a holiday for pupils.

With everyone's understanding and support, we can achieve the best possible for our pupils during these times.

Thanking you with best wishes, *Douglas Lawson* Head Teacher

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