

Tynewater Primary School

a thinking, caring, learning community

Information for Parents

Tuesday 12 January 2021



Nursery to P7: email / copy per family via oldest child

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: t-h-i-n-k

Is it true?

Is it helpful?

Is it inspiring? (build up?)

Is it needed?

Is it kind?

If not, do not do or say it!

We want everyone to achieve:

ambitious

Caring

healthy

inclusive

environmentally

friendly

Volunteering help

exploring

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

A very happy new year. We hope that you are well and were able to have, as far as possible, some enjoyable and restful holiday during the difficult circumstances being experienced by everyone.

Welcome to our Spring Term. As a school we are up and running – operational within new conditions! Thank you to our entire Tynewater Staff Team for working so hard to redesign, for a fourth time, how our school operates within the following timeframe.

Tuesday 22 December Update from the Executive Director of Education to parents.

Monday 4 January New COVID19 directives announced by the First Minister.

Tuesday 5 January

- Initial Information placed on the Midlothian website.
- Midlothian Head Teachers' Video meeting: Schools were directed not to issue their own information to parents, but to wait for a communication from the Executive Director of Education.

Wednesday 6 January

- Staff return to work: discuss and agree solutions and arrangements.
- Finalize lists of children of Key Workers and ‘vulnerable children’ to form classes. Who is attending when? Confirm this with parents.
- Minimize the number of staff and children working in school each day. Work out ways for half our staff to work in school with the aforementioned children, collaborating with the other half of our staff working from home with online learning. For COVID safety keep the same staff working in school each day to 29 January.

Thursday 7 and Friday 8 January

- The school is open for the children of Key Workers and ‘vulnerable children’.

Friday 8 January

- Issue to parents the communication from the Executive Director of Education received by all schools this morning.

Monday 11 January

- 08.45 Teachers start online learning with each class **as intimated on 22 December**.
- Staff working in school carry out teaching and learning with the children of Key Workers and ‘vulnerable children’ corresponding to the online home teaching and learning within respective classes / stages, using Seesaw Class.

Our Staff Team in School:**Early Years and Primary 1**

Ms Seaton (P1 Teacher)
 Ms Cook (Early Years Practitioner)
 Mrs Hunter (Learning Assistant)
 Mr Thomson (Wed pm)

P2

Ms Cruikshank (Mon, Tues, Wed, Frid)
 Mr Thomson (Thursdays)

P3-P4

Ms Blyth
 Mrs McNairn (Learning Assistant)
 Mr Christie (Learning Assistant)
 Mr Thomson (Wed am)

P5 to P7

Ms Maley (Mon, Tues & Wed)
 Mrs Leonard (Thursdays & Fridays)
 Mrs Ketchion (Learning Assistant)
 Mrs Lau (Learning Assistant)

Mrs Munro (Admin Assistant)
 08.45 to 13.00 (Mon to Frid inclusive)
 Mrs Anderson (Office Assistant)
 14.15 to 15.15 (Mon to Thur inclusive)

Mrs McCabe (Principal Teacher)
 supporting online learning of P1 & P3

Mr Lawson (Head Teacher)

Our Staff Team working from home on online learning using Seesaw Class**Early Years and Primary 1**

Ms Davie (Senior Early Years Practitioner)
 Ms Pringle (Modern Apprentice)

P2

Ms Thorburn
 Ms Cruikshank (Thursdays)

P3-P4

Mrs MacInnes (Thursdays and Fridays)
 Ms Marshall (new P3 Teacher [maternity cover] starting on 18 January) supported by Mrs McCabe (Principal Teacher)

P5 to P7

Mrs Clarke (Mon, Tues & Wed)
 Ms Maley (Thursdays and Fridays)
 Mr Watson
 Mrs Hawthorne (Learning Assistant)

Thank you for supporting Teachers in engaging 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. As before, Teachers are very understanding and flexible and will accommodate whatever involvement and routine works best for you, your child(-ren) and your circumstances. Please message your child’s Teacher if you need help.

As with all Midlothian schools, we will provide you with further information about anything, including online learning, when it has been finalized by the Executive Director of Education.

With everyone working together we can work our way through these difficult circumstances.

As always, please feel free to speak with me if you have any feedback, questions, suggestions, concerns, or simply need to talk through something. I am always happy to speak with you about any matter relating to your child(-ren). We can do this by telephone or via a Teams Video meeting.

All staff are working very hard to work with you each day to maximize your child(-ren)'s progress in their learning.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Lawson

Douglas Lawson
Head Teacher

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