

# Tynewater Primary School

a thinking, caring, learning community

Information for Parents / Carers  
and Children

Friday 11 February 2022



**We want everyone  
to achieve:**

**a**mbitious

**C**aring

**h**ealthy

**i**nclusive

**e**nvironmentally  
friendly

**V**olunteering help

**e**xploring

## 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

### **t-h-i-n-k**

**Modelling attitudes and behaviour;  
thinking before we do, say or write  
something – including social media:**

Is it true?

Is it helpful?

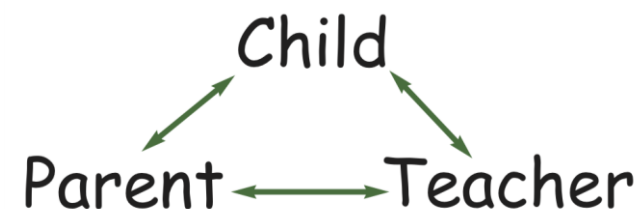
Is it inspiring? (Does it build up?)

Is it needed?

Is it kind?

**If not, do not do, say or write it!**

Dear Parents / Carers and Children,



Thank you for taking part in your child's Parent-Child-Teacher Video Meetings. These important termly 15-minutes' consultation meetings provide opportunities to discuss your child's progress and next steps in their learning.

We very much hope that we will be able to meet in person in school for our June Parent-Pupil-Teacher Meetings.

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**Staffing from Monday 21 February**

As intimated on 8 December 2021, Mr Lawson, Head Teacher, retires today - Friday 11 February.

**We are delighted that on Friday 4 February, Midlothian Education appointed Mrs McCallum (Depute Head Teacher since 15 Nov) as Acting Head Teacher until such time as a permanent Head Teacher is appointed.**

Mrs McCallum's appointment enabled Mr Lawson and Mrs McCallum on Thursday 10 February, following interviews, to appoint **Mrs Jo Clarke and Mrs Leonard (current Job Share teaching P6) as Acting Principal Teachers with a 0.5 FTE remit providing Support for Learning.** Our Acting Principal Teachers will support Mrs McCallum and the entire school. Mrs Clarke will continue to work on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and Mrs Leonard will continue to work on Wednesday mornings, all day Thursday, and on Friday mornings.

**Midlothian Education is arranging a Teacher to teach P6 from Monday 21 February or as soon as possible thereafter. To achieve continuity of teaching and learning for our P6 learners, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Leonard will teach P6 alongside this new Teacher for the first 2 to 3 weeks.**

The closing date for the current advertisement for Head Teacher of Tynewater Primary School is 13 February.

In due course, Midlothian Education will contact our Parent Council to involve two or three Parent Representatives in the appointment of the school's next Head Teacher.

**Woodland Wellbeing Sessions led by Play Midlothian Leaders at Hill Road, Pathhead.**

10 P5 pupils accompanied by Mr Christie (Learning Assistant) are enjoying sessions each Tuesday from 10.45 to 12.00 from 11 January to 29 March.

**Equipped for Learning**

**On Friday 28 January, our individual Primary 4 to Primary 7 learners received their new Chromebooks.** Learners, Teachers and Learning Assistants together thoughtfully formed their Class Acceptable Use Agreements. Already, learners are using their Chromebooks to enhance their learning.

**ipads for each P1, P2 and P3 learner** have been delivered to our school. Learners, Teachers and Learning Assistants together have carefully formed their Class Acceptable Use Agreements. Learners will start using their ipads in class after the February break.

**'The Mould that changed the world'**

P5, P6 and P7 learners have started preparing and rehearsing their Charades Theatre Company Musical Production about Sir Alexander Fleming's discovery of penicillin.

Learners are due to present / record their production on Wednesday 6 April.



Mrs Clarke (P6 Teacher/ Acting Principal Teacher) will continue to lead 6 Forest School sessions at the New Wood on Wednesday mornings with the 2<sup>nd</sup> half class of P6 learners, and on Thursday mornings with the 1<sup>st</sup> half class of P5 learners.

We are planning for P7 learners to experience Forest School sessions during the Summer Term.

All our learners from P1 to P7 will experience our Forest Schools programme. Our Early Learners will learn in the New Wood each Tuesday morning after the February break.

Thank you to Preston Hall Estate for making part of the New Wood safe and available for all classes to use for Forest School activities and outdoor learning.

### Best wishes from Mr Lawson

As you know, having served as a Head Teacher for 25 years: 10½ years at Pathhead Primary School from November 1996 and 14½ years at Tynewater Primary School from August 2007, I retire today - Friday 11 February 2022.

Thank you for the many 'thank you' cards and kind wishes that I have received; I shall cherish these forever.

As you know, retirement has been open to me for the past five years, and that in February 2020, I committed myself to remaining in post to lead Tynewater Primary School through emerging challenges of the COVID pandemic. Thankfully, for all of us, circumstances are now improving!

Developing any school is a continual process, and I retire confident in the knowledge that Tynewater Primary School is in a strong position to continue to develop and progress at the highest levels.

Thank you to all my colleagues, who led by me, make up the Tynewater Staff Team (please see page 4) and who are commendably dedicated to progressing the learning of every child, and to developing Tynewater PS as a very special learning community.

Thank you to the successive cohorts of children for whom the Tynewater Staff Team always strive to provide the best possible teaching and learning for every child.

Thank you for the support and understanding received from parents / carers, several of whom are former pupils!

Thank you for the help received from our community over 25 years.

I wish Tynewater Primary School children, young people, parents / carers, and staff every success and fulfilment in their efforts to be the best possible thinking, caring, learning community.

Yours sincerely,  
*Douglas Lawson*  
Head Teacher

**Thank you for the work of our Tynewater Staff Team for all our children and families:**

Alec Knox	Brass Instructor	Josie Purvis	P4 Class Teacher NQT
Alison Ketchion	Learning Assistant with P6	Jude Hawthorne	Learning Assistant with P4, P7 & P6
Amanda Hunter	Learning Assistant with P4	Kirsten Glennie	P1 Class Teacher
Ann McKenzie	Skanska Janitor	Laura Thompson	P7 Class Teacher (Mon, Tues & Wed)
Ashleigh Blyth	P5 Class Teacher	Lianne Moyers	Cleaner
Callum Watson	P4 (Tues pm + Wed) & P7 CT (Frid, Thur)	Lisa Craig	After School Club Manager
Cearis Sinclair	Touch Point Cleaner	Lisa Watt	Learning Assistant with P1
Clare McCallum	Depute Head Teacher	Louise Munro	Administrative Assistant
Danielle Clark	After School Club	Lucy McCormack	Kitchen Assistant
Douglas Lawson	Head Teacher	Mandy Clark	Kitchen Assistant
Eilidh Nicol	After School Club	Mary McInroy	Visiting Music Teacher: Thursdays
Emma Beattie	Sen EYP (maternity cover)	Mhairi Braby	Breakfast Club
Emma Williams	After School Club	Mharie Cook	Early Years Practitioner
Fiona Donaldson	Learning Assistant with P1 (Wed & Thur)	Nicola Faux	Kitchen Assistant
Gary Bowman	EYP Modern Apprentice (Cohort 6)	Pamela Scott	Kitchen Manager
Gemma Goodwin	Visiting Art Teacher: Mondays	Paul Christie	Learning Assistant with P5
Iona Cruikshank	P3 Class Teacher	Sarah Finlay	Brass Instructor: Thursday 09.15 to 10.30
Isobel Leonard	P6 Teacher (Wed am, Thur & Friday)	Siobhan Heatherell	EYP Modern Apprentice (Cohort 7)
Jackie Bee	Cleaner	Sophie Thorburn	P2/3 Class Teacher
Jackie McNairn	Learning Assistant with P3	Stephen Whitehead	Skanska Janitor
Jane Simpson	Learning Assistant with P1	Teresa Anderson	Office Assistant, Dining Supervisor & Senior Cleaner
Jennifer Davie	Sen EYP (maternity leave)		
Jessica Seaton	P2 Class Teacher	Tracey McCabe	Principal Teacher & SfL Teacher
Jo Clarke	P6 Class Teacher (Mon, Tues & Wed)		/ Acting DHT Secondment King's Park PS
	Forest Schools Teacher (Wed AM + Thur AM)		