



# TYNECASTLE NEWS



## Upcoming Dates

December 20/21	Panto Performances
December 22	End of term 12 noon
January 9	Staff In-Service
January 10	All Resume
	S4/5/6 Prelims begin
	Parent Council 6.30pm
January 17	S2 Parent Info Evening



**Save the Date: Burns Supper will be on 20th January 2017**

## Once Upon A Time

Performances are at 7pm on 20 and 21 December, with tickets available from the school office, £5 for adults and £3 for children, students and concessions.



## Music in the Community



Our String Group, Woodwind Group and Singers performed a Christmas programme to customers in Sainsbury's Longstone on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Senior singers visited Dunedin Canmore Sheltered Housing at St Colms and The Mill to perform for the residents in the first 'Christmas Sing' in our community.

## Head Teacher's Update



This month is always a busy one but with lots to enjoy too. Our S3 students have now completed their Exam Experience and our seniors have been working hard and will continue up to the last minute and beyond, with prelims starting on 10<sup>th</sup> January. In between we have found time to take part in lots of other opportunities including the preparation for our Christmas Ceilidhs and Panto, which this year is Once Upon A Time. As always we have been thinking about those less fortunate than ourselves collecting for the homeless and also the elderly in our community. I hope to see many of you at the Panto but if not then I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families an enjoyable holiday and a wonderful New Year. *Hazel Kinnear*

## Apple Distinguished Programme News!

We are delighted to announce that our digital learning programme for students in S3-S6 has been recognised as an Apple Distinguished Programme for 2016-2018, recognising our innovative use of technology to improve, transform and enhance the learning experience of our students.



*Mrs Clarke, Mrs Robertson & Ms Kinnear receiving the award on behalf of the school*

The Apple Distinguished Programme designation is reserved for programmes that meet the criteria for innovation, leadership, and educational excellence, and demonstrate a clear vision of exemplary learning environments. Equipping all of our students in S3-S6 with an iPad enables us to achieve our vision of embedding technology across the curriculum to ensure that all students have equal access to a relevant and applied curriculum and are able to make use of world-class digital resources, wherever they are.



## Winter Windows Competition Success

Congratulations to S2 Art and Design student Jamie-Lee Forbes. She produced one of the 25 winning designs in the Winter Windows competition from an entry of over 200. Her winning design will be displayed in East Princes Street Gardens from 25<sup>th</sup> November.



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## P7 Curricular Visits

We were delighted to welcome P7s from our cluster primaries this month. Dalry & Stenhouse Primary students both came for a curricular visit to enhance their learning about WW2. In Home Economics they made carrot cake and in Social Subjects they learned about the use of propaganda during the war.

Students from Balgreen Primary also came for a curricular visit in Science and English where they looked at obesity and took part in a small group debate looking at the related issues. Craiglockhart P7s enjoyed this curricular visit in October.



We are looking forward to welcoming all our P7s again in the near future.

## Parent Council

We have an active Parent Council who meet every month. The next meeting is on the 10th of January at 6.30pm. You can find out more about the work of the [Parent Council on our website](#). You can also contact our Parent Council directly at [tynecastlepc@gmail.com](mailto:tynecastlepc@gmail.com)

## Fresh on the website

Check our website for the latest news [www.tynecastle.edin.sch.uk](http://www.tynecastle.edin.sch.uk)

## Contact Details

Please let the school office know straight away if you change your details. You can contact us by 'phone, email or in person at the school office.

Telephone: 0131 337 3488

Absence Line: 0131 337 0336

Email: [admin@tynecastle.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tynecastle.edin.sch.uk)

## Music News *Edinburgh Fanfare Concert*



*Tynecastle students performing at the annual St Martin's Community Art Exhibition Schools Concert*

We are thrilled that Alix Robertson, Jessica Lloyd, Jamie-Lee Hart & Rachel Hall from S4 and S5 performed in a number of Edinburgh Ensembles at the Fanfare Concert. We are so very proud of all our student's achievements and successes this term! Well done!

## English Faculty News *Debating Success...*

In November two teams from Tynecastle were successful in progressing through the first round of the ESU Juniors' Debating Competition at Stewart's Melville

College. S2 students Maks Reznik & Owain Woodman Carr were Closing Proposition and Molly Lloyd & Mhairi Robertson were Opening Opposition. Both teams performed fantastically and received helpful and positive feedback from the judges. We look forward to seeing them all in the next round in January.



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION  
Scotland

## *...and Debate Mate!*



The first session of Debate Mate 2016-17 took place earlier in November. As reigning Scottish Champions we're excited about the new season and determined to defend our title! Debate Mate is open to all S1-4 students, regardless of experience. Anyone interested should see Ms Barnett.

## *The Shakedown Shakespeare Project*

Tynecastle has been chosen, alongside five other Edinburgh schools, to take part in an exciting performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the King's Theatre in June 2017. Auditions will be held in February and all pupils are welcome to come along and have a go!

## *Mother Tongue Other Tongue*

On 22<sup>nd</sup> November a group of S1-3 bilingual learners took part in a creative writing session to work on entries for this year's Mother Tongue Other Tongue competition. The 'Mother Tongue' section of the competition gives students the opportunity to write a poem, song or rap in their first language and then write a short commentary in English explaining the inspiration for their piece. Our students came up with some great ideas and are now working hard on their entries for the national competition.

