

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

1st Nov - S5/6 Halloween Charity Disco
6th Nov. - S1 Parents Evening
22nd Nov. - S3 Parents Evening
26th Nov. - S4 Prelims Begin
11th Dec. - Christmas Concert
18th Dec. - Junior Dance
20th Dec. - Senior Dance
21st Dec. - School Closes 2.30pm for holidays
7th Jan - School returns 8.45am
10th Jan - S5/6 Parents Evening
16th Jan - S2 Parents Evening
28th Jan - S5/6 Prelims begin
30th Jan - S4 Parents Evening
8th Feb - Inservice day
11th & 12th Feb - Holidays

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Dear Parent

As autumn turns into winter can I remind parents and pupils that school scarves and hats are available as part of school uniform on sale via the school shop on the school website (purchased items collected from the school office). The prices are £6.00 for the scarves, £7.00 for the knitted hats and £12.50 for the splendid "Russian Style" fur hat for boys and girls.



November is a key month for all senior pupils S4- S6 as we approach prelims and coursework deadlines. For Higher pupils November can be a make or break month in pursuit of their SQA results. It is the only full month in the school year with no holidays and it falls at a crucial time in the courses, about 40% of the way through. To support pupils there is an extensive supported study programme running (details on the website) and the importance of consolidating what has been learned in class at home ie. through putting in past paper practice, has been stressed to all senior pupils. It is important that S5/6 pupils use November to change things they currently can't do into things they can - this can only be achieved by talking with their teachers about what they need sorted out. All of the above also holds true for S4 but with much greater urgency. As this Newsletter is issued there are only 17 school days left before the prelims begin. The hard graft and revision must start now if it has not already started. As the school motto says "We Flourish Through Hard Work", pupils must not leave things too late.

S. Maxwell

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

Melody Nemhe (S2) was in the cast of the Pantheon Club's production of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the King's Theatre, Glasgow. The show played between the 9th and 13th of October. Melody played one of the children who fell victim to the evil child catcher.



Ben McKenzie

Everyone in Eastwood High was shocked and heartbroken to learn of the tragic death of S2 pupil Ben McKenzie on Monday 1st October. Ben was a lovely boy equally popular with teachers and pupils alike.

Forever young Ben will live on in our hearts and cherished memories; quite simply to many of us in Eastwood High Ben was special. He was a credit to the school, a credit to his parents but most of all he was a credit to himself - a thoroughly decent young man

As a school community we send our heartfelt condolences to the McKenzie family, Ann and Ian his parents and Natalie, Nicole and Greg his sisters and brother.

Employability Skills Conference

On 24th of October 50 S5/6 pupils accompanied by Mrs Sinclair, Mrs Rorison and Mrs Gordon attended the Skills Development Scotland employability skills conference held at the SECC. The pupils were able to attend various workshops

and engage with employers.



The Big Breakfast

Congratulations to Mrs Dunn's S3 Personal Development class who as part of their course organised a special breakfast for the Pupil Support Assistants and Pastoral Care staff in aid of the STV Big Scottish Breakfast Appeal. The class raised £101.



Art Exhibition

The annual Eastwood High School Art Exhibition will take place in and around the Atrium on Thursday 8th November between 6pm and 8pm. This exhibition is an opportunity for the school to showcase the best works of art and design produced by the pupils during session 2017/2018.



Beatson Visit

Having raised £240 for the Beatson Institute before the summer holidays, fundraising pupils Abdur-Rehman Karim, Jamie Dougall, Ross Gatheral, Ibraheem Shehzad and Matthew Lickley along with 10 other Advanced Higher Science pupils were invited on a tour of the Beatson Institute at their Garscube Estate. The pupils enjoyed and responded well to the presentations and tours of the laboratories, which allowed some of the pupils to examine and work with highly advanced scientific equipment. Pupils rounded off an educational afternoon by presenting a cheque to the Institute.



Black History Month

October has been "Black History Month" across the world. To recognise and respect this Mrs Bell and her S3 historians produced an excellent display for the foyer of the school. Their work commemorated people who have made a significant impact on world history - they should be very proud of their hard work. This activity also tied in with the study of the American Civil Rights Movement in their course.



Malawi Five O

Five Eastwood S6 pupils Elise Tweedie, Alan Yie, Jessica Ramsay, Rebecca Carmichael and Olivia Taylor recently returned from Malawi after spending two weeks working with the Betty Cunningham Trust at the Kapanonda School. The pupils helped with class activities as well as doing a little construction work!



Up For Debate

On the October Inservice day seventeen pupils from across the year groups attended a training session run by Jordan Pfoenhauer from the English Speaking Union. The training was organised by the group of senior pupils instrumental in setting up the Eastwood High Debating Club under the stewardship of Mrs McLaughlin.



Guitar Hero

Iain Aird (S6) has been working with Eastwood's Technical Technician, Mr Campbell to make a tele-caster electric guitar from scratch. Iain has shown talent, aptitude and skill in undertaking this task reaffirming his desire to train as a luthier (stringed instrument maker) when he leaves school. Really impressive and specialised work.



Riverside Trip

Mrs Allan and Mr Murray took a group of S5/6 pupils to the Riverside Museum on 3rd October. Advanced Higher Graphic Communication were looking at the layout and flow of the museum with a view to designing an interactive screen to be used on site. Advanced Higher Design & Manufacture pupils were investigating the design of the building as well as exploring product evolution. Higher D&M pupils were looking at materials and manufacturing techniques.

Sports Leader

As part of her Sports Leadership Academy qualification undertaken in partnership with East Renfrewshire Leisure and Culture, Claire Jordan (S6) was working during the October holiday in Eastwood High Sports Centre. As well as undertaking "classroom activities Claire had to lead a number of activities for the young children in the holiday club.



National Theatre of Scotland Workshops

Our S1 pupils were treated to a brilliant day of Drama when "Is this a Dagger?" created by Andy Cannon came to Eastwood as part of the Theatre in Schools Scotland initiative. The S1 pupils even got to take part in some workshop activities and evaluated their experience with senior pupil mentors.



Primary 7 Open Evening

On 25th of October Eastwood High School held its annual open evening for P7 pupils and their parents. This is the first event in the transitions calendar and an opportunity to see round the school and meet pupils and staff. As you can see from the pictures always a popular evening.



Sports News

October has been incredibly busy for Eastwood High sport. In rugby, after having beaten Carrick Academy in the last 16 the girls rugby team are through to the semi-final of the Scottish Cup because Borders Girls Rugby failed to fulfil the quarter final fixture. The semi final is an away fixture at Biggar HS. The U13 boys enjoyed a fine 69-27 win against St Thomas Aquinas Secondary (try scorers Cameron Healy, Ethan Ralston (2), Finlay Orr (2 & 7 conversions), Olly McKendrick, Luke Stewart (3), Chris Rae and Kyle MacLean). The U14s also had a good win against the same opposition 48-31 (try scorers Kasper Kielban 4 & 3 conversions, and Cole Hart 1 conversion). The U16s unfortunately lost 43-48 against St Thomas Aquinas with the last play of the game (try scorers Jack Vershueren (3), Liam Bothwell (2), Mac Thompson, Ayaan Ali, and Max Campbell). Charlie Barber added 3 conversions and Craig Orr kicked a penalty. October has been a very successful month for the Eastwood football teams. The U13s hosted Woodfarm HS in their first league match winning 2-1. The U18s won through to the second round of the Scottish Shield defeating Hutcheson's GS 2-1 in a tight game. Unfortunately the boys lost their first league match 1-4 away to Gleniffer partly as a result of the taxi back from college arriving late!



There have been some really strong performances in athletics this month. In the Scottish Schools Athletics Association Road Races in Falkirk Eastwood pupils put in some good performances—the highlights being Helen Chong and Eva Chong 7th and 22nd respectively in the S3/4 race, Clare Wallace (7th) and Kate Richardson (11th) in the senior girls race, and Kieran Killen (11th) in the senior boys race. In addition Kate and Helen were two of the three members of the Giffnock North AC team that won bronze at the George Cumming Road Relay races held at Kilbarchan.



Well done to the Eastwood High Junior Hockey team who finished in 2nd place the East Renfrewshire Tournament! Fantastic achievement with some pupils playing competitively for only the first time!

The Eastwood Ski Team participated in the Scottish Schools Dual Slalom qualifier held at Bellahouston Ski Centre this month. Unfortunately overall this year our skiers in the "Open Category" team - Caitlin Rae, Adam Inglis, Euan Inglis and Chris Malone; and in the S1-S3 team - Cameron Rae, Cameron Black, James Ansell and Freya Holmes failed to qualify despite some excellent individual performances.

Congratulations to the S3 Girls Netball team who won their 1st round Scottish Cup tie 11-8 against Woodfarm HS.

Congratulations to Kate Richardson (S5) who won the silver medal in the age 15/16 category at the British Cycling 10 mile Road Time Trial Championships held early in the month, over a very tricky course, at Morley St Peter in Norfolk. Kate is already the Scottish Champion in this discipline.

Finally congratulations to Ailsa Martin (S6) who has been selected for the full Scotland squad in Women's Water Polo. Ailsa had always been a club swimmer but moved to water polo earlier this year. She will compete for Scotland in Ireland at the beginning of November.

