

# EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## Parents Newsletter

August 2015



*Special points of interest:*

### Important Dates.

25th & 28th Sept. - Holidays  
 9th October—Inservice Day  
 October 12th - 16th - Holiday  
 19th Oct. Pupils return @ 8.45  
 27th Oct. S1 Skills for Work event  
 3rd Nov. - S1 Parents Evening  
 18th Nov.—P7 Open Evening  
 19th & 20th Nov. S5 Skills for Work (Mock Interviews)  
 23rd Nov. Young Musician of the Year  
 30th Nov. S4 Prelims begin  
 1st Dec—Art Exhibition  
 10th Dec—Junior Dance  
 14th Dec. Christmas Concert  
 17th Dec. Senior Dance  
 22nd Dec. - School Closes 2.30  
 6th Jan - School reopens 8.45

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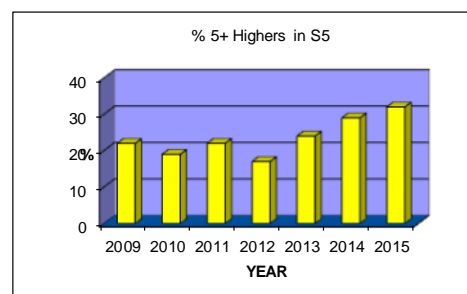
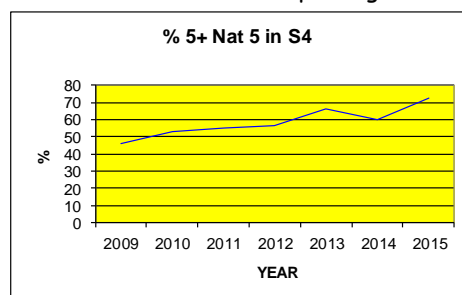
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Dear Parent

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to Eastwood High School after the long summer break. If you are the parent of a new S1 pupil let me especially welcome you to the school. I know that your son/daughter will do well here, and you should know that we will do our very best to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

I am pleased to report that this year has been Eastwood High School's most successful ever in SQA exam results and the graphs show how our results have been improving over the last 8 years. This improvement is down to the hard work of pupils and teachers as well as the support of parents - well done to everyone. We are now one of the very best schools in Scotland something everyone should be proud of. To continue this improvement "**Higher Standards, Higher Expectations - Greater Opportunity**" is the clear message to everyone associated with the school for the coming year. As I said to pupils at the recent assemblies, **what happens in "Eastwood High School is not normal, it is extraordinary!"** The improvements, the range of opportunities and the extent of successes achieved by pupils and staff is not the same in other schools. **Let's continue to build something great here.**



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents for your support in ensuring that all pupils wear the **Eastwood HS uniform**. This is one way that we can all show our pride in ourselves and the school. The standard of uniform has been excellent, a positive statement that Eastwood is a force to be reckoned with! Other local schools are using Eastwood as an example to spur their pupils on to emulate **our** uniform standards. Well done to everyone.

I'm sure you will agree it is important that the school receives its full allocation of resources. As I mentioned in the summer mail, many parents entitled to receive a free school meal for their children do not apply, **OR RE- APPLY**, for one. Some aspects of the school's funding is allocated in relation to free meal uptake. The cashless catering system in the school means that no one knows who is in receipt of a free meal. It is therefore important that everyone entitled, **applies or re-applies for this year**. Application forms with the qualification criteria are available from the school office or East Renfrewshire Council Customer First. If you feel that you might be entitled to a free meal for your child **please apply** and help your child(ren) and all the others receive their fair share of resources.

*S. Maxwell*

## Sport Scotland School of Excellence Presentation

On 24th August Kenny Brown from Sport Scotland came to the Eastwood to present the Sport Scotland Gold School Sport Award to Mr Maxwell, Mr Phillips (Active Schools Coordinator), Mr Gibson and the School's Pupil Sport Ambassadors Harris Ali and Justine Ling.



## Pupil Leadership Team 2015/16

Congratulations to Kirsten Watson (S6), Harris Ali (S6), Amirah Bouzgarrou (S6) and Neil Wood (S6) who have been selected as Head Girl, Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy for 2015/16.

Congratulations also go to Billy O'Neill, Lewis Gibson, Ethan Hood, Lewis James, Jack Murray, Mark Falconer, Joanna Dougall, Raabiah Siddique, Maryam Ibrar, Alice Chisholm, Bhavna Mehta and Hannah Kerr who have been selected as this session's Vice Captains. We wish them all the best in their new positions.



## S1 Literacy Evening

All S1 parents are invited to an evening outlining the School's "Read to Succeed" programme. It will be led by Mrs McLaughlin (PT English & Literacy) and Miss De'Ath (librarian) and takes place at 6.30pm on 7th September in the school. The event will last for about 1 hour. There will be a short presentation followed by an opportunity for discussion.



## Malawi Bound Girls Raise £200

Malawi bound senior pupils Emma McKelvie, Raabiah Siddique, Rebecca Tait and Chloe Waterson raised £200 on Friday 21st August through staging a home baking sale. Watch out for future fund raising events and please support the girls.



## Your Help Requested

Eastwood High School is looking for parents' assistance for an event being planned for November. The school is looking to host a careers evening and we would like to have as many businesses and occupations as possible represented. If you own a business or could represent an occupation on the evening could you please contact Mrs Sinclair, Mr Keogh or Mrs MacGregor via the school office, thank you

## Bhavna Dances at the Edinburgh Tattoo

As mentioned in the June Newsletter Bhavna Mehta of S6 has been dancing as part of a professional "Bollywood" Dance troupe at the Edinburgh International Tattoo. Bhavna is one of the dancers in the "Bollywood Love Story" that will feature in the BBC coverage of the Tattoo on 30th August.



## Science Club Crest Awards

Pictured below are some of the 12 pupils who achieved their Bronze Crest Award through their work in S1 Science Club. The pupils tested 10 different types of soap and then went on to produce their own brand - even designing packaging to give the soaps away as gifts.



## Top Students

As mentioned on page 1 of this Newsletter 2015 has been Eastwood High's most successful year ever in SQA exams. The S5 pupils pictured below all achieved 8 or 9 National 5 As and the S6 pupils pictured all achieved 5 As at Higher. Very well done to all.

S5 - Hugh Carslaw, Abigail Catterson, Niamh Coyne, Euan Gray, Heo Mun Ho, Hamza Hussain, Saym Hussain, Usmaan Karim, Rebecca Kay, Leo Kumagai, Justine Ling, Abtaha Maqsood, Abby McCann, Kyle McKinlay, Alishah Nazir, Jennifer Palmer, Robbie Raeside, Laura Shoveller, Ayesha Siddique, Holly Smith, Lucy Smith, Craig Yates & Aisling Young.

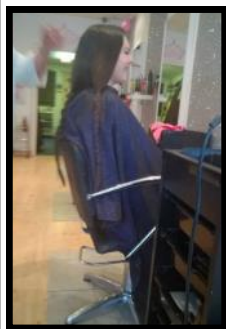
S6 - Amirah Bouzgarrou, Alice Chisholm,, Joanna Dougall, Ethan Hood, Maryam Ibrar, Nadeen Ishmael, Hamzah Mahmood, Omar

Mahmood, Emma McKelvie, Angelo Merenage, Kirsty Noble, Billy O'Neil, Becky Taylor & Cameron Wilson.  
Cameron Wilson



## Hair Today Gone Tomorrow

Well done to Chloe Dunn (S4) who managed to raise £431.17 for the "Little Princess Trust" over the summer. Chloe was sponsored to have her hair cut and donate it to the charity to make into wigs for children undergoing treatment for cancer. Chloe was able to donate over 30 cm of her hair. A fantastic effort and a really worthwhile cause.



## Disney Dancers

During the summer Abigail Thomson (S2) and Kirsten Burningham (S3) danced at Disneyland Paris with their Dance

Troupe JAW after the troupe won through a rigorous audition process. Well done to both girls as they had to put in weeks of strenuous rehearsal.



## Patterton Station Exhibition

During the summer holidays a permanent exhibition of some of Eastwood High School's best artwork has been set up at Patterton Station. The permanent frames will allow Eastwood to showcase its best pieces of artwork to the public throughout the year. The initiative was set up in partnership with Abeilo (Scotrail), with the help of Councillor Gilbert (pictured) who sits on Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT).



### Spanish Visitors

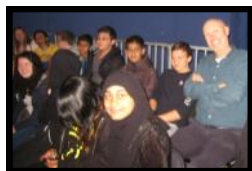
At the very end of last term Eastwood HS played host to 28 S3 pupils from the IES Blas Infante School in Cordoba, Spain.

Our S3 pupils studying Spanish acted as hosts and accompanied our visitors to The Peoples' Palace and a performance of our school show "High School Musical".



### Edinburgh International Book Festival

On 24th August 22 S2 pupils accompanied Miss De'Ath and Mr McIntosh to the Edinburgh International Book Festival. The pupils and staff heard Kate Saunders talk about her acclaimed book "Five Children at the Western Front" written as a sequel to E Nesbitt's famous children's novel "Five Children and It"



### Skillforce Awards

Congratulations to all pupils on completing their Skillforce course. Phillip Carr from Skillforce is shown presenting the awards.



### Drama News

Well done to Cerys McLuskie (S5) and Olivia Coutts (S2) who both attend the Queens Drama Club. At the recent awards ceremony Olivia won best supporting actress for her performance in Cinderella whilst Cerys won the award for best song for her performance of "Somebody to Love" in the summer production of "A Dame to Die for".

The new term got off to a cultural start for S3-S6 Drama pupils. They visited the Kings Theatre to see the National Theatre's adaptation of Mark Haddon's acclaimed novel "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time" which explores themes of social communication within families and society



### Emily Wins Arkwright Scholarship

Congratulations to Emily Green (S5) who has won an Arkwright Scholarship to help support her through S5 and S6 in her goal of studying engineering at university. Emily beat off fierce competition to secure this award.



### Sports News

Erin Wallace (S4) won the gold medal in the 1500m whilst representing Scotland in the UK 4 nations track and field meeting held at Grangemouth Stadium on 18th of July. Two weeks later she won gold again at the Celtic Games in the same event. These performances qualified her to compete in the Sainsbury's School Games on 3rd & 4th September. Erin also competed for GB (B) in Spain in the European U18! Team Triathlon youth relays where her team came 7th overall. Meanwhile also in athletics Erin's sister Clare Wallace (S2) and Clark Marshall (S1) have been selected to compete for Giffnock North Athletics Club in the Stornoway Games.

In hockey congratulations go to Ben McGarry (S4) who has been chosen as Vice Captain of Giffnock Men's 2nd team for the coming season - the youngest person ever to hold the role.

On 25th August the Eastwood senior 6s cricket team unfortunately lost the Glasgow 6s final by 3 wickets. In his final game Akbar Malik was top scorer with 22. It was also Umair Amin's final game after 7 years in the Eastwood team and he has also been instrumental in promoting cricket in the school

Finally Megan MacNair (S5) has just returned from a 3 week Karate Training Camp with world champion Yumi Hasagawa in Japan. Megan secured this opportunity following her excellent season last year competing at elite level across Europe in Kata.

