

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

March 2014



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

2nd April - ASN Parents Evening
 4th April - School Closes
 22nd April—School reopens 8.45am
 28th April - SQA Exams begin
 1st May - S3 Parents Evening
 5th May - Holiday
 23rd May - Holiday
 26th May - Holiday
 27th May - Inservice day
 3rd & 4th June - P7 Induction
 5th June - Sports Awards Eve.
 10th June - Prizegiving
 12th June - S6 Graduation
 25th June - School Closes @ 1pm

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Dear Parent

With the SQA exams imminent after the Easter holidays it is vitally important that all S4-S6 use the break to revise. As I issue this Newsletter there are only 8 school days left until the first SQA exams! To help, Eastwood High is running an extensive Easter School revision programme (details on the school website). All S4, S5 & S6 pupils have been issued with a pack containing information and forms to sign up for classes. There will also be supported study classes in April and May with a small number of Saturday morning classes in some subjects closer to their exams. Pupils will be told of these classes and reminder texts sent out. If everyone is to achieve their full potential in the exams, **the revision must start now!**

I am also seeking your support in ensuring that all pupils continue to wear full uniform. I am sure that you will agree that our new standards and expectations in this area have made a huge difference to the school and reflect very positively on all our pupils. During the winter months some pupils have been wearing warm garments under their blazers and scarves over them and have had to remove them when entering the school. With the better weather everyone can now wear their uniform with pride not only in school but also to and from school.

Finally a plea from the school office asking that pupils must bring their own water bottles to school to refill. The office do not supply plastic cups. *S Maxwell*

Senior Duxes

Congratulations to Adam Ali, Megan Kane and Rebecca Rae who have become senior Dux Boy and Dux Girls for 2013/14. The award is based on performance across the five subjects studied in fifth year and for the first time since 2000/ 01 there was a tie for the girls' Dux between Megan and Rebecca. The Duxes will receive the Lord and Lady Weir prizes at Prizegiving in

June and are now entitled to wear the gold half colours on their blazers.



Peer Mentors

The S6 mentoring programme goes from strength to strength with more than double the number of students this year achieving 6 ASDAN credits for their work supporting learning in classes across the school. The photo shows some mentors making a presentation to an S5 French class. Thanks go to Mrs Jenkins

for organising the programme



Sporting Effort

All week beginning 17th of March saw a series of fundraising events organised by the pupil Charities Committee in aid of Sport Relief. Events as diverse as Tug of War, the school Limbo Championships and the Crossbar Challenge encouraged pupils to give generously to this worthwhile cause. To finish the week all PE classes and many staff completed an Eastwood Mile ie. 4 laps of the track, Well done to Miss Lyons, Mr Carr and their team of senior pupils on raising the magnificent sum of £768.32.



Dance Spectacular

At the recent East Renfrewshire Dance Championships Toni Leigh Lynch & Lisa McGowan won "Best Secondary Duet" and Catriona Connolly won "Best Secondary Individual". There were also strong performances from the S1 Acro Dance Group (Kirsten Burningham winning the "Teen Spirit Award"), the S1—S3 Commercial Dance Group and Abbie Cameron. Thanks to Miss Lyons and the PE staff for organising the event.



STEM Young Engineer

Emily Green of S3 was recently shortlisted for the Scottish Engineers and Leaders Award. Pupils from all over Scotland took part. As part of Emily's challenge she had to undertake a small research project and interview a practicing engineer. Her work was exhibited at University of Strathclyde.



Seniors Tea @ Two

S6 pupils from Eastwood HS took part recently in intergenerational "Tea @ Two" events in Newton Mearns Baptist Church. The pupils attended these events as part of a campaign being run by the church to combat loneliness in old age. These events complimented the intergenerational quiz many senior pupils participated in October. Around 30 senior citizens enjoyed their tea and a chat with our very own EHS senior citizens.

World Pi Day (Numeracy News)

On Friday 14th March the Mathematics Department and the school celebrated World Pi Day. Pupils from S2 and S3 competed to memorize Pi to as many decimal places as possible. The winner overall was Maryam Shakeel of S2 who recited Pi to a remarkable 226 decimal places in front of her year group. The other S2 winners were Zak Rauf 155 places and Hafsay Manzoor 144 places. The S3 winners were Megan McNair, Kerr Miller and Hamza Hussain. As a grand finale to the day Mr McCann of the maths department played his guitar and sang the "Eastwood" Pi song over the tannoy.



Summer Reading Challenge

Erin Catterson, Alice Chisholm, Hafsa Manzoor and Rhadia Zahid will be giving up at least 10 hrs of their summer holidays to help promote literacy in young children by working with East Renfrewshire Libraries. The girls have undertaken training with Miss De'Ath and hope to gain a Saltire Award for undertaking volunteer work.

Catherine wins Livingston Grant

Catherine Webley from last year's S6 has been successful in gaining a Livingstone Grant to undertake volunteer work in Malawi this summer. Catherine received the £300 cheque from Lord Jack McConnell on 15th March and sets off for Malawi in May to do voluntary work in health care.

Music Technology Club

Pupils from Eastwood have been working in partnership with Chloe Anderson an Honours sound engineering student from UWS through the school's music technology club. Since January pupils have been completing various projects however as we approach the summer the club will be recording and editing an album entitled "Best of Eastwood 2014". It will showcase the best musical talent Eastwood has to offer.



Literacy News

To celebrate World Book Day on 6th March Mrs McLaughlin (English Dept.) and Miss de'Ath (Librarian) organised a "Who's behind the book" competition showing staff reading their favourite recent reads. Max Ellis of S1 won the £10 book token first prize. In addition for World Book day the school library was visited by none other than Sherlock Holmes himself who mixed with pupils and shared highlights from his fictional career.



Commonwealth Games Fever

The S4 ASDAN Silver Group have been using the Commonwealth Games as a focus to help them complete their expressive arts challenge. The projects being undertaken include making jewellery inspired by Commonwealth flags, producing a drama about a visiting athlete's impressions of Glasgow and creating and producing a T shirt inspired by the Games.



A Helping Hand

Many senior pupils are grateful to Mr Griffin for arranging stress management classes in the run up to the SQA exams. Russell Taylor from RAMH gave a series of very interesting and helpful seminars.

Finding His Feet

Tom Allan S2 has been part of a team that have raised £19000 this year for "Finding your Feet", a charity that raises money to provide prosthetic limbs. The picture shows Tom on a 93km sponsored cycle.



Haute Coiture

The Style Academy Fashion Show was held at Parklands on 18th March. Our would be fashion designers put together some stunning designs and the S4 personal development class helped out by providing a superb range of sweet & savoury canapés, augmented by a splendid old fashioned sweetie cart with goods for purchase.



Healthy Heart!!!

On world heart day the school raised over £400 for the British Heart Foundation via a wear it red day. Miss Barr's S5/6 Biology class celebrated in a rather different way however by undertaking a dissection of an animal heart!!



Computing Ambassador

The BECS faculty has been working in partnership with the Glasgow University student ambassadors scheme. Honours student Andrew Gardner spent several days working with S1-S4 Computing Science classes carrying out workshops on algorithms, cache memory robotics and game design.



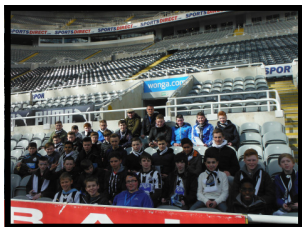
Acting Credits

Robbie Noble S6 and Abby McCann S3 have again been busy on stage. Robbie has been performing for primary school pupils in an anti-sectarian drama "Time to Shine" whilst with PACE Theatre Abby has been performing the lead role in Paisley and Edinburgh in the challenging play "Heritage" by Dayfydd James as part of the National Theatres' Connections Festival 2014.



Playing Away

On Saturday 22nd March a group of S1 & S2 pupils travelled to Newcastle to watch Newcastle United beat Crystal Palace 1-0. The pupils were involved in a morning training session taken by the Premiership club's coaches from which Ross Gatheral and Fraser Cowan were selected to be ball boys at the game.



Champions in Schools

As part of the Champions in Schools programme Hannah Eccles—a world class equestrian vaulter, made her second visit to the school. Hannah has been working with a group of Miss Lyttle's S2 girls promoting health and well being as part of their broad general education. On this occasion the focus was particularly on healthy eating.



Sports News

March has been an incredibly busy month on the sports front. In football the S1 team were involved in the Cashback 7s tournament in Paisley where Eastwood entered two teams. One of them successfully reached the second round but the other was eliminated. Also in football the S3 team finished their season with a 4-0 win over Williamwood HS. This was the first game on the new pitch, Greg Young having the honour of scoring its first competitive goal. The team finished 3rd in the league four points better than last season.



The U14s have now reached the $\frac{1}{4}$ finals of the Scottish Plate after winning 1-4 away at Madras College in St Andrews. Keenan Campbell scored a hat trick and Kyle Taylor one. The boys now play Gryffe HS.

The senior rugby 7s team went to High School of Glasgow's annual 7s tournament. They performed really well against specialist rugby schools Glasgow High, Heriots and St Aloysius, beating St Aloysius to finish 3rd overall in their group. Stuart Murchie was Eastwood's top try scorer with four tries.



In Karting both Eastwood A and Eastwood B qualified for the Scottish final of the British Schools Karting Championships to be held in Edinburgh on the 11th of June. Eastwood A (Alan Regan, Ian McIntosh and Stuart King) won the semi final at Cambuslang winning 5/6 races whilst Eastwood B (Harris Ali, Hasan Bashir and Kevin King) won the other race to qualify overall 4th.



In the latest round of Karate grading the following members of the Eastwood HS Karate club achieved the following belts (Green :- Caitlin McBride, Caitlin Roberts & David Veitch) ; (Yellow - Kayleigh Harkins & Daniel Harkins) ; (Red :- Joanna McDermott) and (Orange :- Asad Mahmood).



Finally in athletics Erin Wallace has had a terrific month performing at British Championship standard. On the 9th of March Erin won the Scottish U15 cross country at Irvine. On the same day Jamie Sturrock came a very creditable 16th in the boys race. Winning the Scottish Championship meant that Erin was selected to represent Scotland at the International Schools Cross Country in Bolton on 22nd March where she came 5th only 10 metres behind the winner. In achieving 5th Erin led the Scottish girls U15s to the overall silver medal in this European standard event. In between times Erin found the energy to win the Scottish U15s road race on 16th March qualifying her to represent Scotland at the London mini marathon on April 13th. Also in athletics congratulations to Catherine Palmer S5 who is now the top ranked Scottish U17 high jumper (3rd in UK) having recently cleared 1.66m.