

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

May 2013

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Special points of interest:

Important Dates

- 12th June Prizegiving
- 13th June S4/5 Uniform am
- 13th June Graduation
- 19th June School Show
- 20th June School Show
- 25th June School Closes
- 12th August In Service Day
- 13th August In Service Day
- 14th August Pupils' Return

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Photo Winner

Congratulations to Ross MacDonald, S5 who was recently one of ten winners of a photographic competition run by the Herald in conjunction with the Scottish Football Museum and Kelvingrove Art Gallery. The subject matter was **Grassroots Football**. He was invited along to Kelvingrove on 27 March for a special viewing of the exhibition, **More Than A Game: How Scotland Shaped World Football**.

Ross's photograph is currently being displayed at Kelvingrove until August 18. Below is a copy of his winning photograph and the caption:

"Glenafton players console each other after Ryan McArdle scores the winning goal for Pollok FC in the 88th minute".



School Duxes



Congratulations to Rehaan Saeed and Emma Wilson (left) who have been awarded the Lord and Lady Weir prizes for dux of the school. Congratulations also to Daanyal Afzal and Hannah Blackburn-Turner (right) who were awarded the prizes for

the newly instituted junior dux. The pupils will receive their prizes at the upcoming school awards ceremony. Well done to the pupils—a magnificent effort.



Science STEM Day

The Science department recently organised a **Speed Networking Careers Event** for S2 pupils. All 190 pupils had face-to-face group discussions with **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) ambassadors**, who work in industry and universities, and who kindly volunteered to pass on their experiences to the pupils. The ambassadors provided the pupils with lots of information on career paths and routes into employment. Each pupil group met a STEM Ambassador for 10 minutes at a time, in order to find out as much as they could about the Ambassador's job and career route. 11 STEM Ambassadors took part in the event with each group getting the experience of 11 different types of careers ranging from a Medical



Physics Technician from Vale of Leven Hospital to a veterinary medical student from Glasgow University. The event was a great success with positive feedback from both the pupils and Ambassadors. Both pupils and Ambassadors thought the speed networking concept was original and allowed the pupils to experience a more useful and personal careers event with real information on routes into employment.

STEM Ambassadors are volunteers from industry, academia and public organisations who give up their time free of charge to enthuse pupils in the STEM Subjects. There are 30,000 STEM Ambassadors in the UK, with 1,500 in the West of Scotland. The Programme is co-ordinated nationally by STEMNET, and run locally by Science Connects which is based at Glasgow University. Parents who are involved in a STEM related career are encouraged to become STEM Ambassadors and get involved in working with pupils at Eastwood High to provide career talks, hands-on activities or real world applications of topics covered in the curriculum (subject to disclosure clearance). For more information on STEM Ambassadors and to register online, visit www.stemnet.org.uk



Let's Go East Ren Magazine

Eastwood High's **ECO Committee** was asked to contribute to the first edition of the new East Ren-frewshire environmental magazine—Let's Go East Ren. The article sets out the committee's success in securing the Green Flag award for the school and the work that went into that achievement. The full article can be read here:

<http://letsgoeastren.co.uk/index.php/the-magazine>



The **FIRST and ONLY** greener living magazine in East Ren and it's FREE!

Green flag award at Eastwood High

In November the hard work of the Eastwood High School Eco Committee was recognised by the Green Flag Award from Eco-Schools Scotland. Eco-Schools Scotland is part of an international initiative designed to encourage whole school action for the environment. To gain the award the committee had to lead actions on three topic areas: litter, biodiversity and minimising waste. The activities involved were wide ranging and involved pupils of a variety of levels throughout the school. To encourage new species into the school grounds, and to try and counteract the habitat loss as a result of the new school building, a number of projects were undertaken. One of the Biology classes built a 'Bug Hotel' to provide shelter for insects, using wooden pallets and other materials recycled from the building site. The Young Engineers club designed and built Bee Boxes which are situated in the woodland area along with Bird Boxes built from recycled plastic signage. To highlight the need for recycling senior pupils designed and made outfits from recycled materials which they modelled at East Renfrewshire's Go Greener day. The committee has now set up printer cartridge recycling within the school, which has the added bonus of generating funds for new projects. In addition many junior classes have been involved in litter picks in and around the school grounds and a new 'Golden Bin' competition is planned to raise awareness of the issue.

Cricket Wins Again!

Eastwood ran out comfortable winners against local rivals Shawlands Academy in their first round **Scottish Cup tie**. Playing at Shawholom, home of Poloc Cricket Club, Eastwood set an impressive total of 93 for 2 with Lewis James top scoring with 53. Eastwood then fielded and bowled superbly to knock down Shawlands for 66, with Azam Jamil taking 3 wickets for 4 runs in the final over.

Eastwood now face Hutcheson's Grammar School in the second round of the competition to be played at Clydesdale CC on the morning of 30th May.



Evening of Music and Dance

Well done to Bhavna Mehta (S3) who contributed to an evening of Music and Dance at Clarkston Halls on Saturday 18th May as part of a display of Bollywood Dance. An enjoyable evening was had by all!

SSPCA Fundraising



Thank you to everyone who donated to the **ECO Committee's appeal** for toys, blankets and food for **SSPCA rescue centres**. The response was fantastic and the donations were gratefully collected by an SSPCA representative. Also thank you to all the pupils, parents and staff who donated to our copper collection for the SSPCA. Just by people donating their loose change we have managed to raise a brilliant £70 which will be used to sponsor an animal space for a year at one of the local animal shelters. Look out for both appeals running again next session.

Eastwood Food Festival

The **S3 Personal Development class** recently held Eastwood High Schools' first Food Festival. The event, which took place on 14th May, was organised by the pupils as part of their course, and was designed to allow them to develop their interpersonal skills. The festival was extremely well supported by Eastwood staff who claimed it a resounding success and the best 'food event' to be held in the school. Many local businesses donated ingredients towards the stalls which included Foods of the World, Summer Dishes, Unusual Meats, Sweet Treats and even an old fashioned ice-cream Parlour. The money raised will be used to help fund future units of the Personal Development course which include setting up and run a small business. Well done to all of the pupils involved.



PACE Theatre Company

Back in the February Newsletter we ran an item about Robbie Noble (S5) and his participation in the **PACE Theatre company's production of The Guffin by Howard Brenton**. This was part of the National Theatre Connections Festival and this week The National Theatre has announced the final line-up for this year's National Theatre Connections Festival, its annual festival of new plays for young performers, which will run from 3 - 8 July in London. Over the past three months the ten plays have been premiered across the UK by 220 youth theatre companies in 23 leading regional theatres. Now ten companies have been invited to bring their productions to the National's Olivier Theatre and new venue, The Shed. One of the successful Companies is PACE Youth Theatre who will be Scotland's only representative at this year's festival. This is a huge achievement for both PACE and the young people, including Robbie, who have been involved in this national event. Tickets go on sale for the London performances from Friday, 24 May and if you would like further details, please contact the PACE Theatre Company.



Kelvingrove Annual Art Competition

A group of 30 S1-S3 Art and Design pupils were selected to go along to **Kelvingrove Art Gallery** to participate in the annual Art competition for Young People. This was an enjoyable day out for all involved and we are looking forward to seeing what the judges thought of the wonderful work that was created by our pupils. Well done for taking part!



Sports News

The **S1-S3 school athletics championships** were held at Linwood Sports Centre on 2/5/13 with the following results: S1 Boys: 1 - Ross Lipp, 2 - Paul Hutchison, 3 - Robbie Walker. S2 Boys: 1 - Ross Pillans, 2 - Marc Low, 3 - Ewan Keir. S3 Boys: 1 - Ryan Lockie, 2 - Geran Cusick, 3 - Jesus Rodriguez. S1 Girls: 1 - Erin Wallace, 2 - Alice Crombie, 3 - Mirryn McGeehan. S2 Girls: 1 - Michaela Raynal, 2 - Nichola Struthers, 3 - Jenni Palmer. S3 Girls: 1 - Natalie Gill, 2 - Molly Ruff, 3 - Natalia Kielban.

A Fond Farewell

On Thursday 18th April 2012 former pupils and staff had a great evening reminiscing about their time at Eastwood when they said "goodbye" to the old Eastwood High Building. Below are a selection of pictures from the evening.

