

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

October 2013

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Special points of interest:

Important Dates

7th November S1 Parents' Evening
14th & 15th November S5 Mock Interviews
20th Nov P7 Open Evening
2nd December S4 Prelims begin
12th December Junior Dance
16th December Christmas Concert
18th December Senior Dance
20st December School Closes
6th January School Re-opens
9th January - S5/6 Parents Eve.
14th January - S3 Industry Day
15th January - S2 Parents Eve.
29th January - S4 Parents Eve.
31st January- S5/6 Prelims begin
7th February - Inservice Day

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Dear Parent

Firstly I would like to apologise for the slightly late issue of the October Newsletter. Production was delayed to ensure full coverage of the opening ceremony of the school. The official opening ceremony for the new school building took place on Wednesday the 30th of October. This was an opportunity for the whole school community to impress the distinguished guests who attended, and our guests were not disappointed. The school was formally opened by Councillor Elaine Green, the Education Convenor, for East Renfrewshire Council, with Scottish Government Schools Minister Dr Alastair Allan also participating. A plaque commemorating the opening of the school was unveiled by Councillor Green and another plaque was presented to our Head Boy, Mark Kyle and Head Girl Bianca Deladia by Councillor Mary Montague to mark the official opening of the new Community Sports Centre. It was a historic day for the school and the local community.



S Maxwell

World Champion

Congratulations to Physics teacher Miss Julie MacGavigan who was crowned female world champion in KWF Kumite (Karate fighting). Miss MacGavigan won the world title in Denmark on Sunday 20th of October. She has been running the Eastwood High School Karate Club for 3 years and hopes one day to train a future world champion from Eastwood. In November five competitors from the Eastwood Karate Club will be taking part in the local championships. In preparation they benefitted from a coaching session led by Miss MacGavigan's coach Sensei 5th Dan black belt Ronnie Smith.



Sports News

October has been a very busy month on the sporting front. In the Under 15 football the Eastwood team followed up a disappointing defeat to Woodfarm HS with a superb 5-2 win against Mearns Castle in the league. In the Scottish Cup the team beat Clydebank HS 4-3 on penalties after drawing 2-2. Goals by Ryan Lockie and Calvin McCrory secured the draw after being 2-0 down with the crossbar denying Liam Gray a winner near the end. From this team Calvin McCrory, Ryan Lockie and Scott Johnston recently played for Paisley & District U15s in the Scottish Trophy but lost narrowly to Midlothian schools. Also in football the Eastwood U14s team won their first game of the season on the 4th of October beating Johnstone HS 3-1. In rugby 7s Eastwood U18s and U16s performed creditably at the recent Whitecraigs Rugby Club tournament. The U18s lost out to a strong Mearns Castle team but our U16s won their tournament. The School House Sports Championship started this month with the senior indoor cricket 6s. As things stand Auldhouse will play Capelrig in the final and Balgray will play Duncarnock in the 3rd/4th place play off. November will see the Junior cricket 6s and Dodgeball for all year groups. Anyone interested in competing should watch the PE Noticeboard.

Away day

On a slightly damp 1st of October morning 42 keen S4 Geography students set out on a field trip to the Loch Lomond National Park to learn about some of Scotland's most spectacular scenery. First stop involved a climb to the top of Dumbarton Rock to examine changing land use along the River Clyde and the industrial town of Dumbarton. Thereafter the group headed to the power station at Inveruglas on the shores of Loch Lomond. Here the pupils were encouraged to assess the advantages and disadvantages of hydro electric power and visit the dam and reservoir.

On the return journey the field trip visited Luss conservation village to look at the impact of tourism and finished with a visit to Lomond Shores for a well deserved late lunch break.

Royal National Mod Winner

Neil Wood (S4) won the clarsach competition at the recent Royal National Mod held in Paisley. He achieved his 1st place winning the "Margaret Balfour Award" in the process playing his own composition "Barr nan Tonn" in Gaelic— "Crest of the Waves" in English.



Digital Day

On 10th October 30 S2 pupils took part in "Digital Day" organised by the BECS department. The day brought IT professionals into school from digital company "Equator" to work with pupils on designing and marketing a mobile phone app.



Weird Science

Miss Barr's S1 Science Club have been engaged in a number of exciting and interesting activities recently. These include making lava lamps, rainbow glasses and investigating mummification! Halloween saw the creation of a Pumpkin Bubblin' Brew.



A Home Made Lava Lamp



Top Performers

Well done to Abby McCann (S3), Hannah Blackburn-Turner (S5), Calum Philp (S6) and Robbie Noble (S6) who represented PACE Theatre in the Verona Cup Challenge at the beginning of October. This competition culminates at the national Theatre in London in July.

In Irish dancing Zoe McKinna (S2) recently competed at the Craig Tara festival in Ireland.

S1 Enterprise Day

On Tuesday 29th October the S1 Industry Awareness day took place in the school dance studio. 150 pupils participated in the event organised by Mr Richmond and Miss McGeough and run in partnership with local partners from business and industry. The day encompassed a series of group challenges to simulate the world of Enterprise and Business.



Halloween Fun

One of the highlights of the school social calendar took place on Wednesday 30th of October - the senior pupils' Halloween costume ball. As ever the costumes were fantastic and in some cases genuinely scary!

