

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

September 2013

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Special points of interest:

Important Dates

27th Sept Holiday
30th Sept Holiday
11th October In Service Day
21st October School re-opens
29th October S1 Enterprise Event
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

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Dear Parent

As we enter October it is vitally important that pupils in S4 and S5 begin to put in the extra revision and consolidation work to reinforce what is being learned in class. Too often pupils are willing to drift at this time of year letting grades slip away. Just doing enough in class will not be sufficient for your child to achieve their full potential, they must be testing and pushing themselves with additional work at home. Pupils should be completing SQA past paper questions on the topics they have already covered and talking to their teachers about which bits of the course they are finding difficult. **Now is the time to change things that they currently can't do into things they can do.** To this end S5 will shortly receive their Targets for the year, these will also be given to parents. These targets are a result of a statistical process based on S4 prelim and Intermediate 2 performance. The targets are designed to be aimed for, achieved and exceeded- the target grade is the statistically "most likely" not a ceiling on ambition.. In relation to S4 their targets will be issued after the Prelims but as you receive this Newsletter there are only 35 school days to the start of those Prelims. This year we all need to have "New Standards and New Expectations" of ourselves and the school - No excuses.

Can I please take this opportunity to again request that all parents/pupils who think that they might be entitled to a free school meal take up the opportunity. As I mentioned in the August Newsletter, 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. Thank you

S Maxwell

Eastwood's Garden

Miss Craig's Higher HFT class have entered a partnership with Whole Foods Giffnock to develop an organic garden. The garden will grow seasonal produce that will then be cooked as part of the Higher HFT course. Whole foods experts will assist the pupils with recipes and demonstrate how the vegetables grown can be used. The pupils planted kale, winter lettuce, pak choi, spinach, broad beans, mizuna and cavolo nero for the winter season. When this crop is harvested a new batch of baby plants will be provided. Thanks also are due to B&Q Darnley who provided the gloves and gardening tools for the pupils.



Science Champions

On Wednesday 4th September a group of senior Physics pupils travelled to Barrhead High to attend a physics lecture on Defying Gravity. The class had just been studying Newton's laws and found lecturer, Laura, particularly interesting as she skated from one side of the lecture theatre to the other on her skateboard! There were many chances for pupils to get involved and Hamzah Mahmood jumped at the opportunity, he was able to demonstrate how difficult it is to travel to the moon accurately. Overall the class learned lots from the experience and were able to expand their existing knowledge whilst having fun.

In addition to the above nine S1 pupils accompanied Miss MacGavigan to Crookfur Primary School to assist with the school's Science Fair. Mya Harrison, Holly Houston, Michael Coyne, Mark Boyle, Rubai Gill, Elise Tweedie, Callum Meneely, Anoosha Khan and Justina Tai were all excellent in their Science ambassador role.



Media Profile

A number of Eastwood pupils have recently been successful in the area of Drama and Performing Arts. Briony Allan, Toni Leigh Lynch and Lisa McGowan have all been involved in filming for the BBC series "Waterloo Road" with the Director taking time to compliment the girls on their professionalism on set. Danny Nell of S1 has been successful in gaining a part in this year's Glasgow Pavillion Pantomime, Pinnocchio. In addition Megan Hart S3, Calum Philp S6, Abby McCann S3 and Robbie Noble S6 have all been successful in gaining parts in the PACE Theatre pantomime, "Mother Goose"

Finally Max Yuill and Raabiah Siddique are two of fifty young people across Scotland who have been selected to make up "Generation 2014". This is a landmark BBC Scotland project following a group of young Scots through the Commonwealth Games and the Independence referendum.

ABRSM Successes

Congratulations to the following pupils who passed their recent Associated Board Music exams.

- Emily Green - Grade 3 Flute (Distinction)
- Joanna McDermott—Grade 2 Flute (Merit)
- Sol Ballesteros - Grade 3 Flute (Merit)
- Aisling Young - Grade 3 Flute (Merit)
- Abigail Young - Grade 3 Saxophone (Merit)
- Rebecca Tait - Grade 4 Clarinet (Merit)
- Rebecca Lister - Grade 3 Saxophone (Pass)
- Hannah Carslaw - Grade 2 Flute (Pass)



Great Eastwood Bake Off

Christopher Kyle S4 won bronze for his "chess cake" at the Sugar Craft Guild Awards in September. His cake will feature in their magazine.



Let's Grow

Dr Lowe in Biology and the Eco group are collecting Morrisons "Let's Grow" vouchers. This is to purchase gardening equipment for the school garden. There is a collection box in room C216 and any vouchers would be gratefully received.



Rehaan Excels

Rehaan Saeed S6 was presented with a special award by Mr Maxwell and Dr Stirling for coming 1st= in Scotland in Higher Chemistry by scoring 100% in his SQA exam in May.



Hot Debate

Sophie Shields and Max Yuill, both S5, have won through the preliminary round of the STV Referendum Schools Debate. Well done

Sports News

Sports Ambassadors Jade Sheach and Calum Ross attended the Young Ambassadors Conference earlier this month in their role to promote sports in the school and community. At the event they met swimmer Robbie Renwick and of course "Clyde" the 2014 Commonwealth Games mascot.

In S3 football Calvin McCrory and Ewan Keir were selected to attend a Valencia FC training roadshow held at Petershill FC. The boys performed well and were undefeated in the tournament. The S3 team itself got off to a winning start beating Belmont House 4-1 (Calvin McCrory, Paul Hutchison (2) and Greg Young the scorers). Also in football Ryan Lockie has been selected to attend the Scotland U16 training camp for the Sky Sports Victory Shield Tournament coming up later this year. At the Whitecraigs Rugby festival the S2 Eastwood 7 performed well beating Williamwood but losing to Mearns Castle.

