

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

September 2014



Special points of interest:

Important Dates

10th October In Service Day
 20th October School re-opens
 28th October S1 Enterprise Event
 6th November S1 Parents' Evening
 13th & 14th November S5 Mock Interviews
 19th Nov P7 Open Evening
 1st December S4 Prelims begin
 11th December Junior Dance
 15th December Christmas Concert
 17th December Senior Dance
 19th December School Closes
 5th January School Re-opens

Inside this issue:

Higgs Boson Winners	1
Independence Referendum	2
Crookfur Science Fair	2
Art & Design News	3
Minecraft School	3
Library News	
Recognising Wider Achievements	4
Sports News	4

Tel : 0141 577 2200 , Fax : 0141 577 2220,
 E.Mail : schoolmail@eastwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk
 Website : www.scottishschools.info/eastwoodhigh

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 the 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 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 the mantra is "Higher Standards, Higher Expectations—More Opportunity" of ourselves and the school - No Excuses.

Finally can I make one last plea to parents to apply for or RE-APPLY for free school meals for your children if you feel that you might be entitled. Some aspects of the school's funding is allocated based on the numbers eligible for and receiving free school meals. By applying via East Renfrewshire Council Customer First you are helping ensure that we get our fair share of resources. *S Maxwell*

Higgs Boson Competition Winners

Congratulations go to Kerr Miller and Craig Yates of S4 who have won the prestigious Institute of Physics Higgs Boson competition against schools from all over Scotland. The boys attended a presentation in Edinburgh and received a certificate signed by Nobel Prize winner Professor Peter Higgs and a glass trophy for the school containing a holographic image of the Hadron Particle Collider at CERN in Geneva.



Independence Referendum

September was a hectic month in Eastwood High promoting citizenship and participation around the referendum debate. Max Yuill S6 and Raabiah Siddique S5 were heavily involved with the BBC as part of their "Generation 2014". Max and Raabiah made numerous television and radio appearances on Reporting Scotland, Scotland 2014, Radio Scotland GMS and Radio 5 live .



In addition Mrs Malcolm and a group of senior pupils attended the Big Big Debate held at the Hydro on Thursday 11th of September. This event was the largest debate of the whole referendum campaign and our pupils were part of the 8000 audience to hear Patrick Harvie and Nicola Sturgeon for "YES" and Ruth Davidson and George Galloway for "NO". Billy O'Neill of S5 even managed to ask a question that was screened as part of the edited broadcast on BBC 1.



The highlight of the whole referendum campaign for the school however was when Channel 4 News ran their main evening news bulletin on Wednesday 10th September live from Eastwood High School. The school library was transformed for the night and everyone in the school was able to watch as a TV news studio was set up during the afternoon. Many of our senior pupils were able to participate in the live broadcast asking questions of Jenni Marra MSP for "NO" and Humza Yousef MSP for "YES". Everyone in the Channel 4 team were a pleasure to host but especially Krishnan Guru-Murthy the main anchor man.



Crookfur PS Science Fair

On 16th September Miss Bannerman and Miss Barr assisted by four S2 Science Club members (Iqra Nadeem, Emma Kirby, Lloyd Russell and Jamie Dougall along with S6 mentors Jake Rodger and Callum Ross) were helping P7 pupils at Crookfur Primary to learn about genetics as part of the Crookfur Science week. The Eastwood pupils were fantastic in helping the P7s with their creations .



National Theatre Workshops

On 12th September 40 Higher and Advanced Higher Drama pupils attended a workshop run by the National Theatre of Scotland at Traverse

Theatre to help develop their performing skills for their practical exams.



Library News

Our school librarian, Miss De'Ath, recently organised a trip to the Mitchell Library in Glasgow for a number of our Advanced Higher pupils. The purpose of the trip was to familiarise students with the library in order that they could use it whilst completing projects and assignments.



S6 Sciences Trip

At the start of September twenty five AH Chemistry & AH Biology pupils visited "TC Bio Pharm" and "SEPA" at the Maxim Technology Park, Eurocentral. The trip gave the pupils the opportunity to see industrial Chemistry and Biology in the workplace and garner ideas for their own research projects.



Art and Design News

At the beginning of September Eastwood's AH Art & Design pupils took part in two East Renfrewshire workshops. Rachel Hughson-Gill, Katrina McCann, Firdous Mir & Shaunnie Swanton all attended the "Expressive Drawing" workshop whilst Nicole Paterson, Euan Robertson, Samantha Stewart & Robert Veitch all attended the "Drawing for Design" workshop. Our Advanced Higher Art success has been further reinforced by Murray Marrant's Advanced Higher art work being included in the prestigious, annual national exhibition of the best pieces submitted to the SQA 2014.



Enterprising Maths Challenge

Ansa Ali S3, Amarah Saeed S3, Kerr Miller S4 and Euan Gray S4 came a creditable 5th in the recent East Renfrewshire Enterprising Maths Competition. Mrs Callaghan, the team's coach, commented positively on the ability and attitude of all the team members. The event focussed on problem solving and the pupils had to work as a team to overcome set challenges.



Minecraft School

Robert Northcote of S2 has again produced a fantastic image of the school in Minecraft. Robert produced a model of the whole school last year that has been showing on the school plasma screens ever since. This year Robert has given the school an image of the school badge in Minecraft to use on the plasma screens. Everyone seeing these images acknowledges them as remarkable pieces of work.



European Day of Languages

To celebrate European Day of Languages on the 25th of September the Higher Music Technology class joined forces with the Modern Languages Department to produce a podcast of pupils speaking in different languages ie. Languages taught in school and ones where a pupil is a native speaker. It is hoped that a monthly podcast will supplement the Newsletter on the website later this year.



Mock Interviews

As part of the S5 PHSE programme, pupils are given the opportunity to experience a mock interview. These take place in school and are undertaken by various people from industry, many of whom are parents in the school. If you feel that you could volunteer some time to help us with this programme on 13th and/or 14th November please contact Mrs Jane Sinclair 0141 577 2200.



Recognising Wider Achievements

At Eastwood High we like to celebrate all the achievements of our pupils whether they are achieved in school or outwith. It is nice to be able to recognise all achievements in this Newsletter, at Award Ceremonies, on the Plasma Screens or on the website. To this end it is important that pupils and parents keep us up to date with the latest achievements outside school. Can I please encourage you to contact Miss Boyle (DHT) if you have any achievements to report. It would also be useful if friends could alert Miss Boyle to any achievements as sometimes our successful people are too modest to put themselves forward.

Sports News

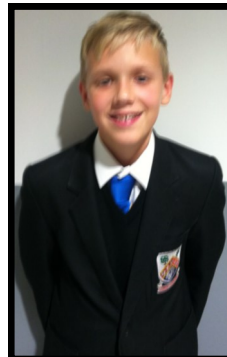
The school football season is now underway. The girls football team had their first game of the season at home on 23rd September against Gleniffer HS. In a team greatly changed from last season the girls came from behind to earn a creditable 4-4 draw. In a pre season warm up the S1 boys played the S2 boys with the S2 coming out 6-4 winners. The S1's first league game ended in a 1-4 defeat away to a strong Woodfarm HS team but there were encouraging signs with the second half being even. At U15 level the boys drew their first game of the season 5-5 against Williamwood with goals from Jason Stewart, Keenan Campbell and a hat trick from Kyle Taylor. The S4 U16 football team had their first game of the season away to Woodfarm HS earning a 1-1 draw- Gavin McCrory scoring the Eastwood equaliser.



In rugby Eastwood's S1/2 team has played two games so far losing one to Duncanrig HS despite 2 tries from Ben McCann, and winning the other 39-7 against Belmont House including a 70metre score from Michael McClure. The U16s rugby lost both opening games against the same opposition but bounced back superbly to beat Largs Academy 91-10 in the 1st Round of the Scottish Plate. 14 tries were scored in total with both Graham Murchie and Adam Latif grabbing hat tricks and Gary Turner collecting a brace of tries.

In athletics Erin Wallace completed her last track race of the season at the British Championships U15 1500m winning silver just 0.4sec behind the winner in a sprint finish

In other sports news Jonathan Neil of S4 was



selected to represent County of Renfrewshire U25 team in Lawn Bowls in a tournament in Northern Ireland.

In addition Ross Gatheral of S2 was runner up in the Giffnock Tennis Club U14 Doubles

Finally our Scotland Women's cricket star Abtaha Maqsood was filmed and interviewed at the BBC Scotland Studios when the cricket World Cup came to Scotland in advance of the World Cup Tournament being held in New Zealand and Australia in January. Abtaha was there to represent womens' cricket alongside Scotland male players who will participate in the World Cup this winter.