

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

April 2017



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

- 1st May - Holiday
- 2nd May - SQA Exams start
- 26th & 29th May - Holidays
- 30th May - Inservice Day
- 31st May - P7 Athletics Day
- 1st & 2nd June - P7 Induction Days
- 5th June - Timetable Change
- 6th June - Sports Awards night
- 8th June - Prizegiving
- 21st & 22nd June - School Show
- 27th June - School Closes 1pm
- 14th & 15th Aug. - Inservice days
- 16th Aug. - Pupils return 8.45

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Dear Parent

During the Easter holidays Eastwood HS again hosted a well attended Easter School with classes being run in the vast majority of subject areas. We are currently running Supported Study after school and on weekends in many subject areas to supplement pupils' learning. It is vitally important that all S4, S5 and S6 pupils "PREPARE, PRACTICE and PERFORM" over the next 5 weeks. I know that I can count on parental support to ensure that everyone in S4—S6 is studying at least 4 hours per day from now until the SQA exams are over. IT IS TOUGH BUT WELL WORTH IT IN THE LONG TERM.

On another front I would like to take this opportunity to seek parental support looking ahead to next term. I'm sure that you will agree that it is important that Eastwood HS and its pupils receive their full allocation of resources. Many parents entitled to receive a free school meal for their children do not apply, **OR RE-APPLY**, for one each summer. Some important aspects of the school's funding is based on free meal entitlement and increasingly, with local authority cuts, the council is now charging for additional services such as Easter School - free to those registered for a free meal. The cashless catering system means that no one knows who is in receipt of a free meal. It is therefore really important that everyone entitled, applies or re-applies, for next session. Application forms with the qualification criteria are available from the school office, the East Renfrewshire Council website or Customer First. If you feel that you might be entitled to apply please do so, and help the school and your child(ren) receive their fair share of resources. Over the session it is worth around £400 per child to recipients as well as exempting them from Easter School payments etc. *S Maxwell*

East Renfrewshire Head Boy & Head Girl Awards Ceremony

Eastwood High School Head Boy (Euan Keir) and Head Girl (Laura Shoveller), along with Mrs McCartney, attended the annual awards ceremony for Head Boys and Girls from each of the East Renfrewshire secondary schools on 27th March. This year the awards were hosted by Director of Education, Mhairi Shaw at a lunch held in Eastwood House. Laura made it right to the front - Euan didn't!



East Renfrewshire Convenor's Award Winners

Congratulations to the 7 Eastwood High School pupils who received East Renfrewshire Education Convenor's Awards at a ceremony held in Carmichael Hall on 28th March. The pupils and awards are listed Below:-

- Calvin McGrory(S6) - Individual Sport (Football)
 - Liam Graham (S1) - Individual Sport (Snooker)
 - Victoria Xu (S5) - Individual Creativity (Art)
 - Zoe Jamieson(S4) - Individual Creativity (Dance)
 - Erin Harkness (S5) - Volunteering
 - Lewis Shoveller(S6)- Advocacy
 - Scott Johnstone (S6) - Volunteering & Sport
- Members of the award winning Eastwood High School jazz band provided the entertainment on the night for both award winners and dignitaries.



Malawi Bound

Miss Watt is going to Malawi in September 2017 for one month with the organisation Malawi Leaders of Learning (MLOL). This is a development scheme aimed at sharing resources and expertise between Scotland and Malawi to improve the quality of learning and teaching for Malawian children. The netball team held an Easter bake sale and raffle to help Miss Watt with her fundraising and raised £301.50. Thank you very much to all staff and pupils who supported this event. Congratulations to Mrs Anderson who won the Easter Hamper and Kiera Thomson and Alex Cuthbertson who won tickets to see the Sirens Netball team play at the Emirates Arena.



Interdisciplinary Learning

At the very end of last term a group of Glasgow University textile conservation students visited the school. They made presentations to 2 S3 Art & Design classes stressing the range of interdisciplinary skills required to work in this field. These included Scientific, Historical Research, Art History and Home Economics (Fabric) Skills.



The pupils were given practical tasks to do using real historical artefacts and were also informed of career pathways in this field.



Coffee Morning

Well done to Miss Miller's S3 Personal Development class who raised £155 for MacMillan Cancer Care. The class organised a staff coffee morning on 31st March as part of the event planning aspect of their course.



S6 Graduation Ball

Thursday 20th of April saw the social highlight of the year - The S6 Graduation Ceremony and Ball. As ever it was a night of glitz and glamour and a fantastic evening was had by all. This year the Ball returned to Hampden Park and the pictures below give a flavour of the evening. There really were some stunning dresses on show.



Mary's Meals

From January to the end of March a group of senior pupils from the Human Rights Group collected over 25 backpacks for the Mary's Meals Charity. These backpacks were donated by pupils stuffed full of equipment to help with education in the developing world eg. Pencils, jotters, notepads etc.



Design & Manufacture Successes

Well done to Hafsa Manzur (S5) and Nimra Furqan (S3) on their achievement in Design & Manufacture. Hafsa recently won through a selection round event in London for the Sutton Trust Scholarship. Hafsa will now spend her summer in the USA, at a range of Ivy League Universities including MIT and Harvard, where she will be coached on the USA application system and further study scholarship opportunities will be outlined.



Nimra has been successful in her application to the Engineering the Future for Girls 2017 summer school at the University of Strathclyde. Her Scholarship has been awarded by 'The Women's Engineering Institute for Scotland'. Nimra has fought off stiff competition for what is an extremely selective scholarship.



Glasgow College DYW Visit

During March a group of 5th and 6th year pupils visited Glasgow Clyde College to support the delivery of their National 5 Travel and Tourism and Skills for Work course. Pupils had the opportunity to practice customer service role play activities in an aeroplane set (see picture below) and at travel agents desk set. The pupils were also given a fully guided tour of the college campus and given information on the range of courses available. Through this trip pupils were able to practice transferable skills learned in the classroom helping to equip them for employment. It also provided key information and expertise on the various ways of ensuring a positive destination when they leave school.



European Essay Competition

Jonathan Rae and Caitlin Rae (both S4) have been selected from the Politics Club to represent the school in the EU Committee of the Regions essay competition after winning the school selection process. If successful they will win a trip with a parent to the EU Headquarters in Brussels during the summer holidays.



Dramatic News

Congratulations to Neil Campbell a former pupil of Eastwood HS (Year of 2011) who was nominated for an "Olivier Award" (Oscars for British Theatre productions) this year. Neil was always a stalwart of the Eastwood Drama set up and left to study Theatre Arts at the Royal Conservatoire of Wales in Cardiff, specialising in the technical side of theatre production. He was nominated for "The Government Inspector" in the Outstanding Achievement in Affiliate Theatre category.



Link with the Past

Senior pupils in Mrs Bell's Higher History class have been playing famous characters from the Scottish Wars of Independence in a letter exchange with Primary 5 pupils from Burnside PS. The Burnside pupils are currently studying the Wars of Independence as a Broad General Education 2nd Level topic. The primary pupils wrote to the Higher History class asking for further information about the life and times of Robert the Bruce and William Wallace. The senior pupils replied in character sending some wonderful detailed letters back. It was also a great way for the Higher pupils to consolidate their knowledge and condense it as part of their SQA revision.

Sports News

In football the U14s continue their excellent run in the Scottish U14 Plate. As mentioned in the previous newsletter the boys had won their way through to the $\frac{1}{4}$ final of the competition to play against Taylor High School. In a tense and thrilling match the boys won 2-0 with goals from Callum McNaughton and Fraser Lipp. Man of the match was awarded to Luke Gillies. The team will now face either Airdrie Academy or Peebles High School at a neutral venue in the semi final.



Also in football Calvin McGrory (S6) was at Hampden on the 21st of April to receive his Scotland caps for representing Scottish Schools in the Home Internationals series. He also picked up a man of the match award for his performance in the 1-0 victory over the Republic of Ireland on 6th April.



The Eastwood High girls football team have also been in winning action this month winning 1-3 away in a league fixture at Williamwood HS, Maja Paszenda scoring a hat-trick. The success of the team this season has also been further recognised through Maja Paszenda (S2) and Chloe Colquhoun (S1) being selected for the Scotland West Regional training squad.



Finally the Eastwood High School U18 senior football team play Braidhurst HS (Motherwell) at Hampden on Thursday 4th May in the final of the Scottish Schools Shield—kick off 7pm. A number of supporters buses for pupils will be travelling from the school and the game is pay at the gate £6 adults/£4 children and concessions. Any pupils interested in attending using the supporters buses should see Mr Higgins ASAP. All supporters will be housed in the main south stand with Eastwood allocated the Mount Florida ("Rangers") side.



Congratulations to Erin Wallace (S5) on winning **(Yes winning)** the Virgin Media U17 Women's London Mini Marathon on Sunday 23rd April in a time of 16.09 minutes. Erin won the race by 7 seconds from her nearest rival - an achievement of truly national and international significance. Erin was even interviewed after the race on the BBC coverage of the race. Also in athletics congratulations go to Clark Marshall (S2) on winning the Eamonn Fitzgerald Trophy in Pole Vault. This award is given by the Glasgow School of Pole Vault for the best young Pole Vault in their debut season.

At the Scottish Schools Aquathlon Championships held on the 21st of April at Stirling University both Clare Wallace and Kate Richardson (Both S3) achieved podium finishes in the S3/4 girls category. Despite racing against older girls Clare was able to finish 2nd taking silver, closely followed by Kate taking bronze. Very well done to both girls.



Finally Eastwood High School was represented by Esther Jamieson (S1), Lauren Chalmers (S1), Clare Wallace (S3) and Laura Beatt (S4) at the Scottish Swimming Championships held in Aberdeen between the 29th March and 2nd April. Esther swam well in a number of events with her best finish being a personal best in the semi finals of the girls 11-13 400m Freestyle. Lauren came agonisingly close to a medal finishing 5th in the final of the girls 11-13 100m Butterfly—her best finish. Clare (S3) was even closer to medalling swimming against older S4 girls in her events in the aged 15 category. She managed two fantastic 4th place finishes in the 1500m Freestyle and the 50m Freestyle sprint. Finally Laura, a swimmer with the City of Glasgow club, struggled with illness but despite not being fully fit managed to reach the semi final of the 50m Butterfly in the 15yr old category.



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