

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

August 2017



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

31st Aug - S1 & S4 Photographs
 15th Sept - Young Musician of the Year
 22nd & 25th Sept - Holidays
 13th October - Inservice Day
 16th - 20th October - Holiday
 23rd Oct - Pupils return @ 8.45
 7th Nov - S1 Parents Evening
 8th Nov - School Careers Eve.
 16th & 17th Nov - S5 Skills for Work (Mock Interviews)
 22nd Nov - P7 Open Evening
 27th Nov - S4 Prelims begin
 4th Dec - Art Exhibition
 11th Dec - Christmas Concert
 14th Dec - Junior Dance
 18th Dec - Senior Dance
 20th Dec - School Closes 2.30
 4th Jan - School reopens 8.45

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Dear Parent

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to Eastwood High School after the long summer break. If you are the parent of a new S1 pupil let me especially welcome you to the school. I know that your son/daughter will do well here, and you should know that we will do our very best to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

I am pleased to report that this year has been Eastwood High School's most successful ever in Higher SQA exam results and the graph shows how our results have been improving over the last 10 years. This improvement is down to the hard work of pupils and teachers as well as the support of parents - well done to everyone. We are now one of the very best

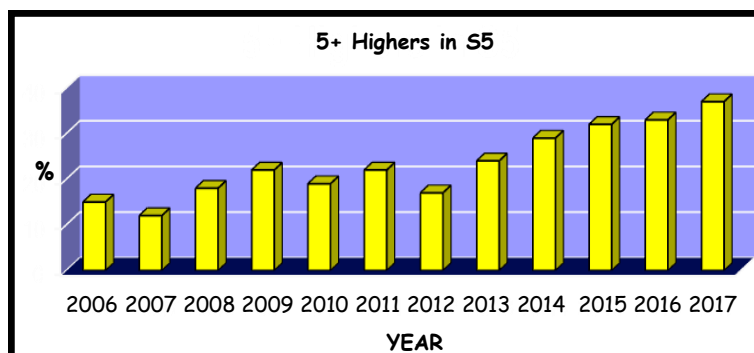
schools in Scotland something everyone should be proud of. To continue this improvement "Higher Standards, Higher Expectations - Greater Opportunity" is the clear message to everyone associated with the school for the

coming year. As I said to pupils at the recent assemblies, the improvements, the range of opportunities and the extent of successes achieved by pupils and staff is not the same in other schools. "Let's continue to build something great here"

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents for your support in ensuring that all pupils wear the proper **Eastwood HS uniform**. This is one way that we can all show our pride in ourselves and the school. The standard of uniform has been excellent, a positive statement that Eastwood is a force to be reckoned with! Other local schools are using Eastwood as an example to spur their pupils on to emulate our uniform standards. Well done to everyone.

I'm sure you will agree it is important that the school receives its full allocation of resources. As I mentioned in the summer mail, 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.

S. Maxwell



Super Volunteering

During the summer Rachel Tait (S5) was working as a volunteer in Rwanda in central Africa for 3 weeks. Rachel was there working with an organisation called "Urban Saints" helping to run activities at an orphan and vulnerable children's centre.



Islamic Relief

Around Eid at the very end of last term two former pupils (Rehaan Aatif and Humza Mahmood) now working for the International Aid Agency Islamic Relief raised £200 in partnership with Eastwood High School through organising a "cake challenge".



Rights Respecting Schools Accreditation

Over the summer holidays Eastwood High School received accreditation for Rights Respecting School Level 1. To achieve this award the school had to satisfy a visiting verifier that Children's Rights as enshrined in the United Nations Children's Charter were evident within the school's policy and daily practice.



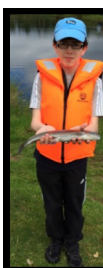
New Developments for 2017/18

There have been two new developments in the school office over the summer for session 2017/18. Firstly a new telephone answering system has been installed. When phoning the school select 1 to report a pupil absence, select 2 to be put straight through to the Sports Centre and select 3 to speak to a member of the office staff.

The school office have also created an online "Parent Pay" pop up shop to sell small items of school uniform such as school ties, PE tops, hats and scarves. There is a link on the school website and items can be collected from the school office.

Gone Fishin'

On 26th June the Eastwood "fly fishing" group took part in a trip to Lawfield Fishery organised through our campus police officer, Mr Keogh and the Scottish Angling Network Association. The pupils had a great day learning to apply all their skills of patience, perseverance and team working.



Miss Eastwood !!

Well done to two former Eastwood High School pupils (Tanya McAllister and Catriona MacNee) on reaching the final (last 15) of Miss Scotland 2017. The Miss Scotland event was held at the Doubletree Hotel in Glasgow on 24th August.



Kelvingrove Art Winners

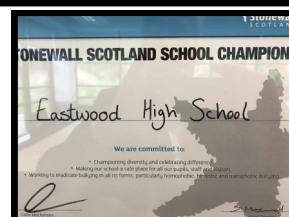
Congratulations to the following pupils for winning the following prizes in the prestigious Kelvingrove Art Competition.

Aryaman Tyagi (S3) (Highly Commended), Sara Hameed (S4) & Faith Pearson (S4) (Bronze), Hannah Shields (S5) & Lauren Sanders (S2) (Silver)



Stonewall School Champions

Eastwood High School has now been designated a "Champion School" by Stonewall. This award recognises that the school, champions diversity, celebrates difference, is a safe place for pupils staff and visitors, and is working to eradicate bullying in all its forms particularly homophobic, bi-phobic and transphobic bullying.



Top Students

As mentioned on page 1 of this Newsletter 2017 has been Eastwood High's most successful year ever in SQA exams. The S5 pupils pictured opposite all achieved 8, 9 or 10 As and the S6 pupils pictured below all achieved at least 5 As at Higher. Very well done to all.

S5 - Muhammad Abideen, Christopher Barber, Kirsten Burningham, Michael Coyne, Katie Glass, Lucy Hemmingsley, Holly Houston, Zoe Jamieson, Abigail Jardine, Abdur Rehman Karim, Hassan Khalid, Anoosha Khan, Florence Kirkwood, Lewis McLachlan, Kimberley McLeish, Martha McTear, Carys Mitchell, Caitlin Rae, Jonathan Rae, Rameesah Rashid, Rachel Tait, Olivia Taylor, Elise Tweedie, Abigail Young.

S6 - Ansa Ali, Fatimah Anwar, Hassan Ismahel, Emma Kelly, Asad Mahmood, Rhona McFadden, Ben McGarry, Jake McKie, Lewis Morgan, Zak Rauf, Caitlin Roberts, Gillian Ross, Amarah Saeed, Caitlyn Sinclair, Amardeep Singh, David Veitch, Robbie Walker, Erin Wallace and Victoria Xu.



YPI Volunteers

Well done to Rory Henderson and Scott Campbell (S3) who have continued to volunteer at the Eastwood Dementia Centre, their YPI Charity, over the summer. Rory also spent time volunteering at the first Scottish Visually impaired Tennis tournament.



Police Volunteers

Blair Morgan, and Theo Frater (both S4); and Keira Thomson and Rebecca Paton (both S3) have all been selected after, interview, to join the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers. This DYW partnership with Police Scotland develops leadership skills and will be very useful for the pupils and their future career choices. The pupils along with Mrs Gordon attended the launch event at Jackton Police Training College on 29th August.



ECO School Status Renewed

Eastwood High School's Green Flag status has been awarded for another 2 years. Green Flag is an internationally recognised award recognising excellence in sustainability education. The school has held Green Flag status since 2012. The assessor was particularly impressed by the range of activities across all year groups including the S1 litter picks in the community. He was also very impressed with how outdoor learning permeates the curriculum across many subjects. Well done to Dr Gibson and her team.



Breast Cancer Awareness

Well done to three of Eastwood High School's Pupil Support staff who raised a fantastic £1140 in aid of Breast Cancer research. Mrs Mair, Mrs Brydon and Mrs Omand took part in the Glasgow "Pink Walk" in memory of Mrs Lisa Kleinglas, a former member of the Pupil Support team who sadly died of breast cancer in 2016.



M&D's Visits

29th & 31st August saw the imPACT reward trips attend M&Ds Theme Park in Motherwell. These trips for S2, S3 and S4 were organised to reward positive attitude and behaviour last session and were open to any pupils who achieved a high number of positive referrals during session 2016/17.



Songwriting Workshops

On 28th August the Music department hosted a specialist song-writing workshop delivered by pop band "The Tailormade" who are supporting "Little Mix" and Olly Murs on tour this year. This great experience was a most useful enhancement to pupils' National 5 and Higher Music studies.



Sports News

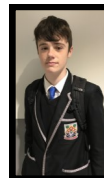
Congratulations to Erin Wallace (S6) who, on 21st July, won 1500m the gold medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games held in the Bahamas. It has been an excellent summer for Erin who also finished 6th in the 800m and came second in an U20 Triathlon European Cup event in Lausanne Switzerland on 19th August.



Also in Triathlon congratulations to Kate Richardson (S4) who became the Scottish Triathlon Champion (age 15/16) at the Scottish Youth Triathlon Championships held at Bellahouston on 17th June. In the same event Clare Wallace (S4) came 4th.



In athletics Alyson Bell (S3) became the Scottish U15 100m champion at the Scottish National Athletics Championships held at Scotstoun this month (She's only 13!). Alyson also represented Scotland in the Celtic Games in Dublin where she came 2nd in the U16 200m. Alyson, along with Clare Wallace (S4), represented Giffnock North Athletics Club at the Gothenburg International Meet where Alyson won the U14 300m and came 2nd in the U14s 80m. Clare came 9th in the U16 2000m. The Scottish National Championships also saw Fraser Lipp (S3) win bronze in the U15 Javelin and Clark Marshall (S3) finish 4th in the U15 Pole Vault.



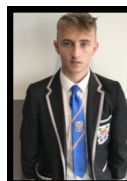
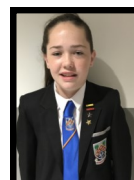
Congratulations to Clare Wallace who won 2 gold & 2 bronze medals at the Scottish Summer Swim Meet and on 12th August won silver in the Scottish Open Water Swimming 2000m (age 15/16).

The 19th of August saw Kate Richardson (S4 - pictured above) become Scottish U16 Cycling Youth Time Trial Champion winning by over a minute from her nearest rival at Monikie in Angus.

On Saturday 1st July Max Skillen (S4), Kevin King (S5) and Craig MacFarlane (S6) represented Eastwood and Scotland at the final of the British Schools Karting Championships held at Whilton Mill near Daventry. Despite not being placed Mrs Ross' team thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and performed admirably.



In football congratulations to Chloe Colquhoun (S2) who has been selected for the Scotland U15 Girls Squad. Also well done to Kyle Taylor (S6) who has been selected for the U18 Paisley & District squad.



Eastwood cricket star Kess Sajjad (S6) has been playing for the Scotland U17 team against Lincolnshire, Durham and Derbyshire. Unfortunately injury prevented Kess playing for Scotland U19s in the World Cup qualifying series, however he remains the highest wicket taker in Scotland at U19 level this season.

Finally well done to Kirsty Anderson (S4) on competing for Eglinton PC at the British Pony Club Championships held at Cholmondeley Castle Cheshire on 19th & 20th August. Her team came 10th in the UK out of 300 entries.

