

# EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## Parents Newsletter

December 2016

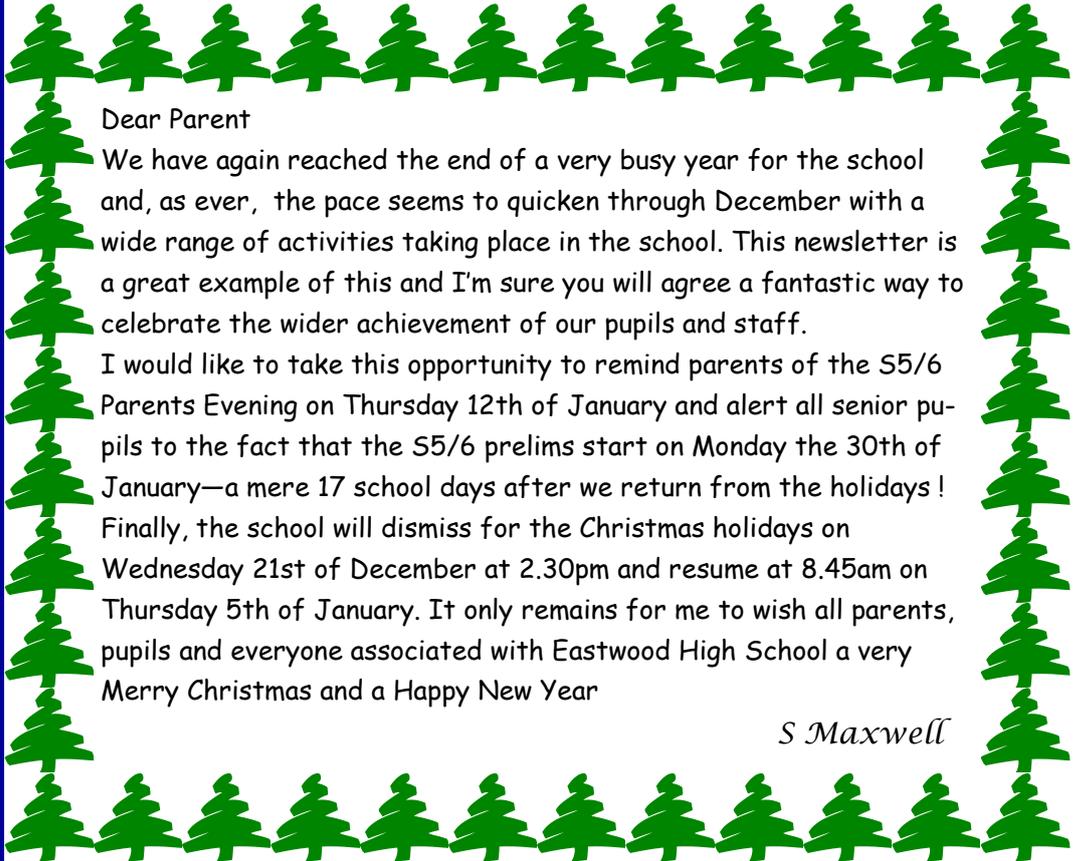


*Special points of interest:*

### Important Dates.

- 21st Dec. - School closes 2.30
- 5th Jan - School reopens 8.45
- 12th Jan - S5/6 Parents Evening
- 18th Jan- S2 Parents Evening
- 30th Jan - S5/6 Prelims begin
- 1st Feb - S4 Parents Evening
- 10th Feb - Inservice day
- 13th, 14th & 15th Feb - Holidays
- 9th Mar- S3 DYW Event
- 21st Mar - ER Dance Championships
- 29th Mar - ASN Parents Evening
- 31st Mar - School closes 2.30
- 18th April -School reopens 8.45

Tel : 0141 577 2200 , Fax : 0141 577 2220,  
 E.Mail : [schoolmail@eastwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@eastwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk)  
 Website : <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Eastwood/>  
 Twitter : @EastwoodHighERC



Dear Parent

We have again reached the end of a very busy year for the school and, as ever, the pace seems to quicken through December with a wide range of activities taking place in the school. This newsletter is a great example of this and I'm sure you will agree a fantastic way to celebrate the wider achievement of our pupils and staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the S5/6 Parents Evening on Thursday 12th of January and alert all senior pupils to the fact that the S5/6 prelims start on Monday the 30th of January—a mere 17 school days after we return from the holidays! Finally, the school will dismiss for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday 21st of December at 2.30pm and resume at 8.45am on Thursday 5th of January. It only remains for me to wish all parents, pupils and everyone associated with Eastwood High School a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

*S Maxwell*

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### Young Enterprise Success

On 1st December, Mr Dean and Mrs Dodds joined the S6 Young Enterprise team at the annual YE trade show at SOAR, Braehead. The team's business is called "Picture This" and makes and sells 3D personalised photo frames. The judges were impressed with the quality of their products, trade stall and their business knowledge and out of 23 schools competing Eastwood's "Picture this" came 2nd overall. As a result the team have now progressed to the Area finals to be held in

March. If you are interested in buying any of their products please contact one of the team or Mr Dean in the Business Education Department.



### East Renfrewshire Young Musician and Singer of the Year

On the evening of 1st December, Eastwood High School hosted the Rotary East Renfrewshire Young Musician and Young Singer of the Year Competition. This competition involved competitors from each East Renfrewshire school performing to win the titles. Howard Yip and Rebekah Johnstone (both S6) represented Eastwood and I'm glad to say congratulations to Rebekah who won the title of East Renfrewshire Young Singer of the Year.



### "An 'Elfie with Santa"

On 13th December Eastwood S6 pupils organised a Christmas party for over 140 senior citizens from the local community. There was lots of festive entertainment with pupils putting on a great show. Special thanks go to Mrs Mori from Pupil Support, Mrs McCartney and Mrs Foster DHTs for helping the S5/6 to organise the event. Special thanks also go to Santa and his little helper who also made a guest appearance



### Art & Photography Exhibition

The annual art exhibition of the best exam pieces presented by S4, S5 and S6 pupils in 2016 was held on the 5th of December. Yet again the event was a huge success with the standard of the work on show being very high indeed.



### "Peace to all Men and Robots?"

On 8th December Mr Murray, Mrs McIlhargey and a group of S1–S6 STEM students enjoyed a trip to Renfrew to see an episode of the BBC series "Robot Wars" being filmed. The pupils, all keen engineers, learned about the technical aspects of TV studio production and watched the amateur team robots take on the professional stars of the show like "Sir Killalot".



### S1 Pantomime Trip

140 S1 pupils took part in the annual pre Christmas pantomime trip on Wednesday 14th December. This year the trip went to see the Citizens' Theatre production of Hansel & Gretel. A great morning was had by all and special thanks to Mrs Bryce for organising the trip.

### Pandamonium

On the 7th of December Dr Gibson and the Advanced higher Biology class visited Edinburgh Zoo to undertake some workshops relevant to their course on "biodiversity". The highlight of course was the selfie with a panda!



### Eastwood Bake-Off

Miss Miller's S4 Personal Development Class have been busy this month making Christmas Cakes using a range of different ingredients to determine which one has the best flavour.



### Social Events of the Year

This year's Junior and Senior Dances were a great success with the school's own ceilidh band even performing for part of the Junior Dance. A big thank you as ever to Mr Gibson and the PE staff for organising the events.



### "Ferry 'cross the Mersey"

54 History pupils were in Liverpool this month as part of their National 5 course. The pupils got involved in a number of fun and interactive activities including an open top bus tour, a ghost walk, and a visit to the International maritime and Slavery Museum. Whilst at the museum the pupils researched aspects of the slave trade and delivered presentations of their findings. Thanks go to Mrs Bell, Mrs Malcolm and Mr McDairmid for organising the trip.



### Design and Technology Visit

S5/6 Design & Technology pupils visited BAE Systems in Govan earlier this month, along with Mr Murray and Mrs Allan. When there they found out about the different advanced apprenticeship schemes as well as undertaking design workshops relating to the Royal Navy's Type 26 frigate.



### Literacy Challenge

Miss Baillie's S3 English class are currently taking part in a colossal reading challenge. This involves reading books from 100 different categories including "a book with more than 500 pages", "a book at least 100 years old" and "a book originally written in a different language".



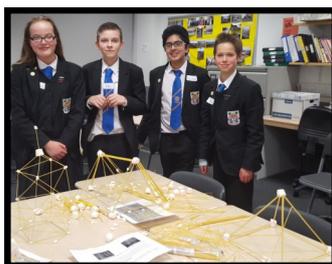
### Festive Music

On Monday 12th of December the Music Department held its annual Christmas Concert showcasing the best of this year's pupil performances. As ever the evening was a great success with a large audience really appreciating some fantastic performances. In addition, on the 9th of December Mrs Anderson, Mr Fairlie and the School Choir performed at Prince's Square in Glasgow to entertain Christmas shoppers.



### Master Builders

As part of the P7 Open Evening Miss Kelly's Geography class constructed earthquake proof buildings and used virtual reality headsets to go deep inside a volcano.



### Read to Succeed

The English Department held an assembly this month to celebrate the S1 "Read to Succeed" programme. Many pupils received bronze certificates and some pupils even achieved silver. Ruaridh McInnes and Shozab Naqvi have read the most books and are well on their way to achieving gold.



### Great Gatsby Party

Senior pupils from Mr Brannan and Miss Baillie's Higher English classes organised a "Great Gatsby" 1920s themed party after school on Wednesday 14th December. The classes had been studying "Gatsby" as one of their texts and commandeered the drama studios turning them into a 1920s speakeasy. Attractions included Dancing the Charleston, a "mocktail" fountain and the obligatory black jack table! The costumes were wonderful and a great effort from all involved.



### P7 Ceilidh (Band)

The Eastwood High School Ceilidh Band once again played for the annual Crookfur PS/St Cadocs PS P7 Christmas Ceilidh held in the Eastwood HS games hall. A big thank you from the primary schools to the ceilidh band for making the event such a success.



### Dynamic Geography

On 15th of December 50 S2 Geography pupils enjoyed a visit to Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh as part of their BGE course. The visit was organised to link up with their current studies on volcanoes and earthquakes.



### Sports News

Congratulations to Calvin McGrory (S6) who has been selected for the Scotland Schools U18 Squad. Calvin who also plays for Queens Park came through after two training and selection events held at Toryglen indoor football arena in Glasgow. The first game is on 22nd December.



Two Eastwood High pupils have been making their mark in Gymnastics this month. Mia Hepburn (S2) took part in the "Zippy's" Gymnastics Christmas event winning level 5 gold overall with a score of 45.7. Mia has now moved up to level 4. Naomi Chin (S1) and her team were placed 4th overall at the recent level 4 Women's Artistic Gymnastics team Championships.



December has also seen the start of the Eastwood HS Karting Club season. The school will again be participating in the British Schools Karting Competition (BSKC) and the trials were held at Scotkart Cambuslang on 14th December. The successful drivers were Kevin King (S5), Craig MacFarlane (S6) and Max Skillen (S3) who will make up team Eastwood A and Logan Rowe (S4), Callum Otley (S6) and Robbie Imrie (S5) who will make up team Eastwood B. The two teams will now go forward to represent the school at the West of Scotland heat at Cambuslang in March.



In rugby both S1 and S2 teams had good victories this month at home to St Thomas Aquinas HS from Glasgow. The S1s won 39-5 with a hat trick of tries from Charlie Barber, and tries from Cole Hart, Jack Versheuren, Ricky Zhang and Joshua Carmichael. The S2s won comfortably 63-14 with Fraser Lipp and Ben Wilson dominating (6 tries and 4 tries respectively) and Uzair Khan also scoring a try. In other rugby news well done to Ben Fosbury, Uzair Khan, Fraser Lipp, Gautam Kakar, Luke Barber and Alan Yie who have all been selected for the Glasgow & West BT Sport Scottish Rugby Academy. They will attend 3 trial sessions before hopefully moving onto the next stage of selection to represent Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire District

On Saturday 26th of November the Eastwood High badminton Club attended the Scottish Open at the Emirates Arena. The pupils were able to watch some exciting semi-final action in both singles and doubles as well as pick up tips for improving their own skills.



Finally Eastwood High hosted a P7/S1 football festival with pupils from Crookfur PS. The senior pupil sports leaders helped to organise the event and 24 S1 Eastwood football players joined a similar number from Crookfur PS P7 in this successful Transitions event.

