

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

9th Mar- S3 DYW Event
 21st Mar - ER Dance champion-
 ships
 29th Mar - ASN Parents Evening
 31st Mar - School Closes 2.30
 18th April -School reopens 8.45
 20th April - S6 Graduation
 27th April - S3 Parents Evening
 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

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February 2017

Dear Parent

February has seen the completion of the S5/6 Prelim Exams and the focus is now very much on the drive towards the SQA Exams in May. This year is a bit different because pupils return from the Easter holidays later than normal on Tuesday 18th April meaning less time in school before study leave begins. In fact there are now only 32 school days before the SQA exams begin!. It is vitally important therefore that pupils use the month of March to fully prepare turning things they currently can't into things they can.

To assist pupils with this preparation and to achieve their full potential in the SQA exams the school has a number of initiatives running. Firstly a full programme of after school Supported Study classes will be running through March and April, details of the schedule for these classes is available on the school website. Secondly each individual in S4 and S5 pupil has been issued with target grades for the final exams. These target grades are not predicted grades but are based on prelim and SQA Unit results, and are something that with hard work and study can be achieved. Finally Easter School will again run during the Easter holidays. In line with other East Renfrewshire schools there is a small charge levied for Easter School classes. This charge is £6.50 per day or £3.50 for a morning or afternoon session. Easter School is free to any pupil in receipt of a free school meal. An information leaflet will be issued in mid March giving details of the Easter School programme.

Finally I would like to introduce and welcome new Deputy Head Mr Chris Morris to the school. Mr Morris will be Deputy Head in charge of S1 & S2. Mr Morris was previously Principal Teacher of Mathematics in Bearsden Academy.

S Maxwell



Junior Duxes

Congratulations to Holly Houston (S4) and Abdur Karim (S4) who have become Junior Duxes of the school 2017. The Junior Dux is awarded for overall academic excellence and is based on performance in the S4 Prelims held in December. Holly and Abdur will be presented with their award at Prize-giving in June and their names will be added to the Junior Dux Board, located in the Atrium, between now and the summer.



Young Carers Awareness Week

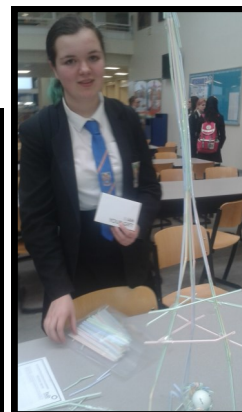
Staff from East Renfrewshire "Young Carers Support" came to the school this month to raise awareness of the important role that young carers play in society. Young carers are aged 8–18 and help to look after someone who is affected by learning/physical disability, physical/mental health issues, drug/alcohol misuse or who is elderly or frail. The Young Carers Support group ran competitions and quizzes during lunch-time and Talia

Celino (S2) was lucky enough to win a voucher for Silverburn Shopping



STEM Event

A group of Eastwood S1, S2 & S3 girls attended an East Renfrewshire event held at Williamwood HS this month which promoted women into Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). At the event a large number of companies were represented and the girls were able to work with female role model representatives from engineering and the construction industry. The girls also took part in an engineering challenge in teams drawn from all of the East Renfrewshire Schools. Special congratulations go to Freya Black who was a member of the winning team on the day.



International Recognition

Abtaha Maqsood (S6) has been playing for Scotland Women's Cricket team in the ICC World Cup qualifying competition in Sri Lanka during February. The picture shows Abtaha batting against Pakistan, an innings in which she finished 4 not out. She also bowled 3 overs for 10 runs against one of the tournament favourites. Scotland did beat Papua New Guinea but in the end failed to qualify losing to both South Africa and Pakistan.



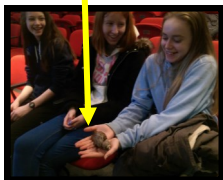
DJ Eastwood

Over recent weeks a number of pupils have been attending a series of DJ workshops organised by Mr Fairlie. The sessions in this very popular after school club ran for 6 weeks and were led by "i- create" and Software Training Scotland. All those who attended really enjoyed the experience and those studying Music Technology found it very useful as an enhancement of their SQA course.



Zoo Visit

On the 1st of February 15 S4 pupils accompanied by Miss Barr visited Edinburgh Zoo's Secondary Global Classroom. The visit was arranged to enhance the pupils' National 5 learning on the topic of "Biodiversity in Africa". The pupils even got to meet some of the biodiversity in real life! A giant African land snail.



On Song

Good Luck to Rebekah Johnstone (S6) who will represent East Renfrewshire at the forthcoming Scottish Final of the Rotary Young Singer of the Year Competition. This follows on from Rebekah winning the East Renfrewshire heat in October. The event will take place at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland on Sunday 19th of March.



Race Night

Eastwood HS PTA are organising a Race Night at Whitecraigs Rugby Club on Friday 24th March to raise funds for the forthcoming School Show "Grease". Tickets cost £2 from Mrs Sinclair

Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal

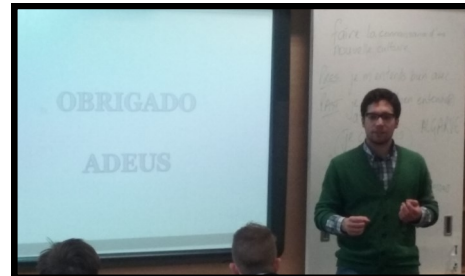
The Eastwood High School Human Rights Group is running the Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal for children in the developing world. This appeal is targeted at 1st and 2nd year pupils and challenges them to bring in educational items, clothes, toys, toiletries and backpacks. The senior pupils are organising the appeal through Modern Languages classes and donations of any items from the list above can be handed in to Mrs Metcalfe or the Modern Languages base until Friday 17th March.



Portuguese Tutor

During February the school was delighted to welcome Ricardo Sampaio, a Portuguese education trainee, who is working with East Renfrewshire Council until the end of June. Ricardo is based in Eastwood and has been delivering master classes in Portuguese to our S1 and S2 pupils as well as in our associated primary schools.

Ricardo has been able to bring a new language and culture to our Broad General Education.



"Teacher in Another Fight !!

Miss McLoskey of the Maths Department has been wrestling again this month in her bid to represent Northern Ireland at the Commonwealth Games in Australia next year. Miss McLoskey, a genuine medal chance, came 5th in the European Championships in Austria on 11th February and at the English Senior Open Championships held in Manchester on 25th February she finished second losing to her main Commonwealth gold medal rival from Cameroon in the final.



Arkwright Scholars

Well done to Jamie Dougall, Stephen Baird, Jonathan Rae, Bradley Scott and Hannah Shields (All S4) who were presented for their Arkwright Scholarship exam on 1st February. The scholarship offers financial and mentoring support for pupils intending to study Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics at university. Mr Murray works in partnership with the Arkwright Foundation and has had notable success in the past. This year Hannah Shields has won through to the next round on 11th April where she will be interviewed and deliver a presentation to the judges. Hannah's work was shortlisted for its innovation and clarity.



Play Unified

Play Unified are a group of students within Eastwood High who work together to bring pupils from all backgrounds together through sport. They run lunchtime sessions in sports as diverse as trampolining, badminton, boccia, table tennis and volleyball. They are working closely with the support base to increase participation. The new block of activities starts on 6th March.



S1 Junior Prefects

Congratulations to Jessica Anderson, Holland Bogan, Maja Cameron, Preetika Samra Kaur, Eilidh Mitchell, Amna Shahzad, Alyyah Waheed, Liam Bothwell, David Cameron, Calum Cunningham, Nathan Pugh and Jack Sinclair on being elected S1 Prefects. They will now take up their duties until the end of session



Sports News

This time of year is always an incredibly busy time for school sports. Starting with rugby, pride of place goes to the Eastwood girls rugby team who won their first competitive match beating Coatbridge High School 30 - 3 away from home. The girls are now ready for their "Warriors Series" where they will play 4 other schools in March. The S1 boys rugby team has also been in action this month playing Coatbridge High School and Dalziel High School. The boys beat Coatbridge High 17- 7 (Lewis Zanforlin and Luke Barber scoring the tries) but unfortunately lost 14-0 to Dalziel.



In football congratulations go to the S1 boys team to win their first game of the season this month 2 - 3 against Woodfarm High School. It was a very tight game and the boys held on admirably under some strong pressure from the home team. Unfortunately the U14s (S2) team lost their last 2 league games of the season against Woodfarm HS and Mearns Castle HS however they are into the last 32 of the Scottish Plate and will play Largs Academy away in March. Finally on Tuesday 28th the senior boys hosted Trinity HS Rutherglen in the last 16 of the Scottish Schools Shield winning 3-2 in a thrilling game. Harris McLean, Keenan Campbell and Calvin McGrory scored the goals. The team now have a home $\frac{1}{4}$ final against either Perth HS or Dunfermline HS.



At the Scottish Schools Indoor Athletics Championships held at the Emirates Arena on 1st & 2nd February 11 Eastwood HS athletes performed with great distinction. The team comprised Jamie Sturrock, Erin Wallace, Ross Lipp, Rhea Campbell, Fraser Lipp, Kate Richardson, Clare Wallace, Helen Chong, Alyson Bell, Lara Sturgeon and Clark Marshall. The standout performances were Erin Wallace who won gold in the over 16 800m and 1500m, Alyson Bell who won bronze in the U16 60m (despite being only 13!), Kate Richardson who agonisingly came 4th in the U16 800m and Rhea Campbell who came 6th in the over 16 300m (despite only being 15). Helen Chong also made the final of the U16 1500m coming 6th (Despite being only 13!). Well done to all especially Erin who had won bronze the week before in the senior women's 800m at the Scottish Athletics Championships securing a qualifying time for the Commonwealth Youth Games in the Bahamas in July in the process. Erin's sister Clare also performed really well at the same championships coming 5th in the U17 1500m (despite being only 14!). As a result of their performances at the Scottish Schools Indoor Championships Kate, Rhea, Alyson and Helen have been invited to take part in the SSAA training day at Pitreavie in Fife on the 19th of March. Clare Wallace also represented the school at the recent Scottish Schools Swimming Championships in East Kilbride coming 6th in the 15/16 age group 200m Freestyle. Lauren Chalmers (S1) in the same championships came 6th in the 200m butterfly and 9th in the 100m butterfly in the age 13/14 category. Excellent performances from Clare and Lauren who were performing against older girls.



The S1 girls netball team have made it through to the next round of the Scottish Cup following an 11—5 victory against St Peter the Apostle HS Clydebank. They have now been drawn away to Forfar Academy in the next round. Unfortunately during February our S2 team was knocked out of their Scottish Cup Round 2 tie away to Lathallan School Montrose and the S3 team also were knocked out at Round 3 of their competition away to Balwearie HS Kirkcaldy.

On 27th of January Sean Scott-Kiddie, Myles Douglas and Kunal Marwaha represented Eastwood in the East Renfrewshire S1 Basketball Tournament held at Williamwood HS. They put in a great performance winning 3 out of 4 games which was enough to secure 1st place. Also well done to Louis Aston (S6) who coached the team. Finally Eastwood High's U16 Scottish Snooker Champion Liam Graham (S1) has been selected to represent Scotland in the European U18 and U21 Snooker Championships in Cyprus in March—despite being only 12!. For those of you who understand snooker Liam's highest break in practice is 144 and he has scored 112 in competition - that is how good he is.

