

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

March 2016



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

- 1st April - School closes at 2.30pm
- 18th April - School Re-opens
- 30th April - S3 Parents Evening
- 2nd May - Holiday
- 3rd May- SQA Exams Begin
- 27th & 30th May - Holidays
- 31st May - Inservice day
- 1st & 2nd June - P7 Induction
- 3rd June - Sports Dinner
- 6th June - Timetable change
- 6th June - S6 Graduation
- 8th June - BGE Graduation
- 9h June - Prizegiving
- 13th June—Colours Awards
- 24th June - School closes at 1.00pm

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Dear Parent

With the SQA exams imminent after the holidays it is vitally important that all S4-S6 use the break to revise. There are only 10 school days left until the first SQA exams! To help, Eastwood High is running an extensive Easter School revision programme (details are on the school website). All S4, S5 & S6 pupils have been issued with a pack containing information and forms to sign up for the classes. There will also be supported study classes in April and May as well as evening classes and weekend classes in some subjects through until the exams. Pupils will be told of these classes and reminder texts sent out. If everyone is to achieve their full potential in the exams then **the revision starts now!**

I am also seeking your support in ensuring that all pupils continue to wear full school uniform. I am sure that you will agree that our standards and expectations in this area have made a huge difference to the school and reflect very positively on all our pupils. We are a proud school and a great school and everyone must play their own small part in maintaining these standards. Eastwood High is now quoted in other local schools as the standard to aim for in school uniform. During the winter months some pupils have been wearing warm garments under their blazers and scarves over them. With the better weather everyone can now wear their full uniform with pride not only in school but also to and from school. *S Maxwell*

Senior Dux Winners

Congratulations to Holly Smith and Kyle McKinlay who have become Senior Duxes of the school 2016. The award is based on overall performance in all subjects studied in fifth year. The Duxes will receive their prizes at Prizegiving and their names will be added to the Dux Board between now and the summer. Holly and Kyle will also be entitled to gold half colours on their blazers.



Congratulations Erin

Congratulations to Erin Wallace (S4) who received the Rotary Award for "Best Female Athlete Performance" at the Scottish Schools Indoor Athletics Championships in February. The Head of Scottish Schools Athletics and a representative from Rotary Scotland came to an S4 assembly on Monday 4th March to present Erin with her award.



By Royal Appointment

Congratulations to Zack Griffin (S3) who visited Buckingham Palace on 14th March after winning the Key Stage 4 category of the UK Tycoons in Schools Competition. On the day Zack was also awarded a "Highly Commended" trophy, presented by HRH the Duke of York (Prince Andrew) and Dragon's Den star Peter Jones who founded the competition. Zack has also just been announced as one of the finalists in the Enterprise category of the Sunday Mail Young Scot Awards.



Fair Trade Winner

Well done to Disha Yadav (S1) on being one of the winners in the Fair Trade "Design a Tea Towel" competition run by MSP Ken McIntosh's Office. Disha won a bag of Fair Trade products and had her tea towel made up to keep.



Europhiles

Well done to Carys Mitchell and Hayyan Bashir (both S3) on winning the European Parliament Committee of the Regions Essay Competition. This has secured them a visit to the European Parliament later in the year.



World Book Day

The 3rd of March saw a number of events to mark World Book Day. Teachers came dressed as literary characters (Miss Cumming winning best costume) and there was a coffee morning held to support the school charity. In addition there was a cross school literacy displayed on the plasma screens where teachers and pupils reviewed a book that had changed their life.



West End Boys & Girls

Mrs Bryce, Miss Workman, Miss Arbuthnot and Mr Fairlie accompanied the Higher and Advanced Higher Drama pupils on a trip to London's West End to see the shows - "Mathilda" and "Woman in Black".



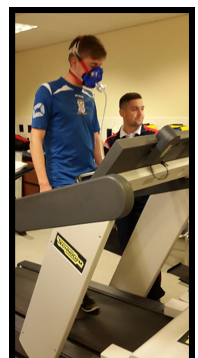
Promoting Science

On 16th March Miss Barr, Mrs McIlhargey and the Science club decided to celebrate British Science Week with a bang. The S1 and S2 pupils were treated to Van de Graaf generator experiments and a highly impressive Methane Bubbles experiment that nearly left Mrs McIlhargey with no eyebrows! Great fun was had by all.



Sports Medicine Trip To Hampden

A number of senior pupils visited the Hampden Sports Medicine Centre as part of an Educational Work Experience Trip. The pupils involved are studying Physical Education in the senior phase and the knowledge gained from the visit complimented their course work. In addition a number of our elite athletes took part in the visit and Jamie Sturrock (S5) is pictured undergoing one of the rigorous performance tests. Jamie, an elite athlete, came out 35% fitter than the average male of his Age. 😊



Charity Fundraising

March has seen some "serious" charity fundraising activities in the school. A "Dress as you Please Day" was held to raise money for the school's chosen charity this year - Action Medical Research. In addition there was a bake sale and "Lip Synch. Battle" held to raise a further £300 for the charity.

The highlight though was the staff v pupils bubble football match in aid of Sport Relief held on the 18th of

March. The game ended 4-4 and a large crowd enjoyed the thrills and spills.



Stress Relief

This month Mr Griffin organised for a speaker from "Recovery Across Mental Health" to provide our senior pupils with strategies to cope with anxiety and stress in the run up to the exams. The pupils found the talk very informative and useful.



Spaced Out

Congratulations to Emily Green (S5) who has been successful in gaining a place at the Scottish Space School 2016 beating off stiff competition from all over Scotland.



Glasgow Music Festival

Musicians and singers from Eastwood High School performed with distinction at the recent Glasgow Music Festival in both competitive and non competitive categories. The Eastwood High School Jazz Band won 1st place and the Advanced Higher Music class received very positive feedback after playing in that non competitive category. In solo performance Christopher Keenan (S6) won 1st place in the Ragtime and Blues piano category whilst Carys Mitchell (S3) won 1st place in the Girl's Vocal Solo aged 13/14 category. There were also

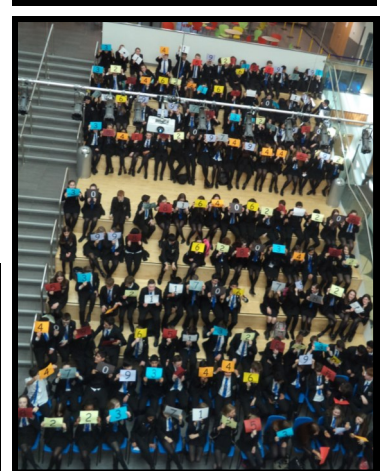
strong solo performances from Rebecca Tait (S6) in the "Songs from the Shows" category, Cerys Goodwin (S5) flute, and Jack Murray (S6) clarinet. Cameron Keir and Leo Kumagai (both S5) also performed well in the senior piano duets.

There were also a number of Eastwood pupils who performed and were successful in various East Renfrewshire bands and orchestras.



World Pi Day

A number of numeracy fun activities were held on 14th March to mark World Pi day. S1 were involved in a Maths relay around the track promoting numeracy skills and health & well being, whilst S2 and S3 were involved in Pi recital competitions in the Atrium. The winners of the S1 relay were Team 8 (pictured below) and Safwan Aamir was the winner of the S1 "Pi words" competition in English with a total of 36. The S2 prize and overall Pi day winner was Hanna Latif who recited Pi to 219 digits! The S3 prize was won by Anoosha Khan. Finally the staff competition was won by Dr Jamieson with Mrs Rorison runner up.



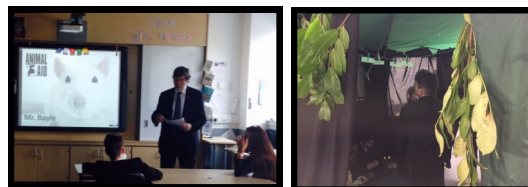
S3 Skills for Work Day

On Tuesday 17th March all S3 pupils, as part of their Broad General Education, were involved in a skills for life and work day. The event involved pupils completing a number of competitive challenges supported by representatives from business. The event was organised by Miss MacGeough and was a great success.



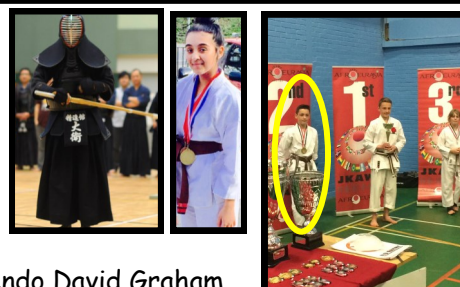
Busy Times in RMPS

As part of the "Animal Rights" unit S2 pupils have been visited by James Boyle of Animal Aid. Topics such as fox hunting and animal testing were discussed. As part of their course S1 pupils have been visiting a "meaning of Easter" exhibition set up in the school contemplation room by our local churches and Scripture Union

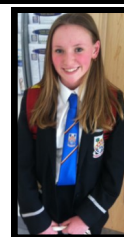


Sports News

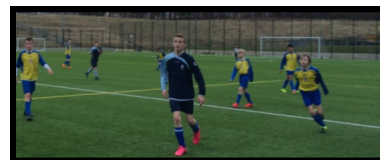
Starting with martial arts this month Imaan Manzur (S2) and Christopher Canning (S2) have both achieved success at national level. Imaan placed 3rd at the Scottish Shotokai Karate Championships in Glasgow in the U16s category despite only being 13! whilst Christopher placed 2nd in both brown belt Kata and brown belt Kumite (11-14 years) at the JFA/UKTKF UK Karate championships held in Blackpool. Meanwhile in Kendo David Graham (S3) passed his 1st dan black belt.



Congratulations also go to Laura Beatt (S3) who has qualified for the Scottish national swimming championships being held at Tollcross on the 31st March.



In football it has been a mixed month of results for the Eastwood teams. The S1 team were narrowly defeated 2-3 by Williamwood in a very tight game. Luke Gillies won man of the match and the Eastwood goals were scored by Rory Henderson. The S1 B team were defeated by Woodfarm HS in the league despite scoring goal of the game, a 30 metre rocket shot by Ross Carmichael. The B team also had 2 teams entered in the East Renfrewshire B team 7s where they came first and second winning 8 of 10 games between them. The U18s finished off their season with a 0-2 loss to St Ninians HS.



The March weather put paid to most of the fixtures at the end of the rugby season however the S1 and S2 teams were able to play a triangular tournament against St Ninians HS and Mearns Castle HS. Both teams were able to defeat St Ninians but lost to Mearns Castle.



The big rugby news this month however is that Eastwood HS has been awarded SRU School of Rugby status the first East Renfrewshire school to achieve this accolade, and only 1 of 30 in Scotland. The aim of the programme is to increase numbers of pupils playing rugby as well as improve physical fitness, attendance and effort across the school. It will run for S1 and S2 pupils from August 2016.

On Monday 7th March our senior netball team went to Woodfarm HS to play in a festival to raise money for Sport Relief. Our team played very well, the highlight was drawing against the eventual festival winners, Williamwood HS.



Amy McVitie and Chloe McKinlay (S2) attended the Sport Scotland Competition Organiser training course on Thursday 24th March at Stirling University. Both girls will now take on this role within Eastwood HS Sports Council and begin create a calendar of existing and new events

Finally congratulations to Alyson Bell and Lara Sturgeon (Both S1) who were part of the Giffnock North U13 4 x 200m relay team who broke the British record completing the race in 1 minute 59.51 seconds.

