

# EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## Parents Newsletter



*Special points of interest:*

### **Important Dates.**

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  
 21st & 22nd June - School Show  
 27th June - School Closes 1pm

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**March 2017**

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 9 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. I feel however that I have to reinforce that black denim jeans and tight black "jeggings" style trousers are not part of school uniform and as such **must not be worn to school.** We are a proud school and a great school but 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. Let's make sure that it stays that way. Thank you for your continued support

*S Maxwell*

### **Senior Duxes**

Congratulations to Hassan Ismahel (S5) and Zoe Sturgeon (S5) who have become Duxes of the school 2017. The Senior Dux is awarded for overall academic excellence and is based on performance in the S5 Prelims. Zoe and Hassan will be presented with their awards at Prizegiving in June and their names will be added to the School Dux Board.



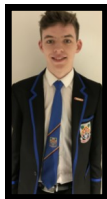
### **Inter-Faith Quiz Winners**

Congratulations to The Eastwood HS team made up of 9 fifth & sixth year pupils who won the first East Renfrewshire inter-faith quiz against the other East Renfrewshire school. The event was held in St Ninian's HS at the start of the month.. The team won the Shield and £50 for the school.



### Better By Design

Congratulations to Head Boy Ewan Keir (S6) who won one of the area awards in the prestigious Jaguar Time Capsule competition run by the V&A Dundee. Pupils studying Higher Design and Manufacture this year were challenged to design a time capsule to celebrate the opening of the V&A Museum in Dundee and Ewan was the West of Scotland area winner.



### World Book Day

The theme of World Book Day this year was "Banned Books". The day included teachers dressing up as characters from banned books, an interdisciplinary activity between History and English looking at the history of book banning, and a campaign to raise awareness of freedom of expression that tied in with Eastwood's move towards gaining "Rights Respecting School" Status.



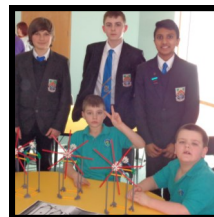
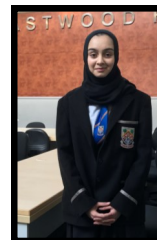
### International Recognition

Calvin McGrory has been starring for Scotland Schools this month coming on as a late substitute in a heavy 5-1 defeat to England but starting in the 5-1 victory away in Wales.



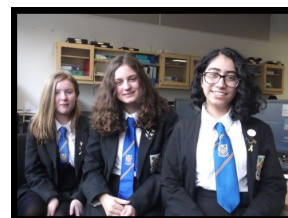
### Sutton Trust Success

Well done to Hafsa Manzur (S5) who has been selected as one of the British finalists in the running to receive a Sutton Trust Scholarship. Hafsa will attend the final selection process in London. Also in engineering thanks to Ali Gondal, Scott Fosbury and Ross Campbell (all S2) who helped Isobel Mair School enter a team into the Cluster Knex challenge.



### Cyberfirst Girls

Well done to Emma Madden, Rachel White and Ayeza Malik (all S3) who recently represented the school in the national Cyberfirst girls competition. The competition was run by GCHQ to generate interest amongst young women in cryptography, logic and coding.



### PTA Race Night

A **HUGE** thank you to Mrs A Ross and her PTA team for organising a very successful Race Night to support the School Show "Grease" in June. Thanks also to all who attended, over £1000 was raised.



### Music Successes

March has been a fantastic and successful month for Eastwood High School's musicians. Firstly congratulations to Leo Kumagai and Cerys Goodwin who came first in the piano duet category at the prestigious Glasgow Music Festival. This was followed up by the Eastwood Senior Jazz Band winning their competition and Cerys Mitchell coming 2nd in the vocal solo competition. Well done to all.

Rebekah Johnstone represented East Renfrewshire in the Scottish finals of the Rotary International Young Singer of the year competition at the RCS Alexander Gibson Opera Studio on 19th March. Alas she wasn't placed but received very positive comments from the judges.

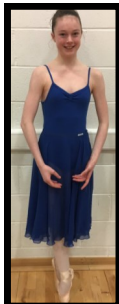
Well done also in music to Alessandro Merengnaghe on passing his recent grade 1 Associated Board piano exam. Finally the junior strings group attended a concert by the BBC Symphony Orchestra on

16th March.



### Dance Spectacular

Well done to all pupils who represented Eastwood at the recent East Renfrewshire Dance Championships. A special thanks also to the senior pupil Y Dance coaches who run Dance Club and prepared our teams.



### DYW Events

There have been two major Developing the Young Workforce events in the school this month this month. Firstly all S3 pupils took part in a very successful DYW Challenge Day organised by Miss McGeough and Mrs Gordon on 9th March. Many S4 pupils were also involved in a survey for East Renfrewshire Council about pupil work placements and some took part in focus groups. Riha Panesar was lucky enough to win the gift vouchers for Silverburn.



### BBC School Report

Well done to all the S1 & S2 pupils who took part in this year's BBC School Report. Led by Mr Ballantyne the pupils reported on stories as diverse as mental health provision, Brexit and Children's rights.

### Eco Schools News

With the better weather the ECO Schools activities have started up again. Mr Law's class have been building wildlife habitats in the school woods whilst Dr Gibson's & Mrs McLearn's S1 classes have been litter picking in the local community. In addition a representative from the SSPCA visited the school to collect donations of pet toys, blankets and food following a very successful collection run by the ECO Committee.



### Young Enterprise Finalists

Well done Eastwood High's "Young Enterprise" team "Picture This" who came runners up in the best display stand category of the recent regional final of Young Enterprise. The team had to showcase their products, present their ideas and be interviewed by judges from Hewlett Packard.



### Charity Begins at Home

March has been a very busy month for charity fundraising in Eastwood HS. The senior pupils' Charities Committee raised £1000 for Comic Relief on 24th March. They ran bake sales coffee mornings and a very successful "Eastwood Family Fortunes" teachers v pupils event. In addition to the above outside school Mrs Sinclair hosted a charity Strictly Come Dancing Event in aid of St Vincent's Hospice, Johnstone. It raised a staggering £28,000 on the night and was made more eventful with the presence of Jake Quickenden - former X-factor and I'm a Celebrity contestant.



### Maths in Action

Well done to Kate Weightman (S1), Nathan Pugh, (S1) Sebastian Smith (S2) and Hannah McGeogh (S2) who represented Eastwood in the UK maths challenge.



14th of March saw the school's annual Pi Day staff & pupil numeracy challenges across the school. Emma Wilkie now holds the EHS Pi record reciting Pi to 241 Decimal places !! With Keira Thomson 2nd and Amy McBride 3rd. Mrs Anderson won the staff Pi champion award.

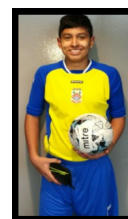


## Sports News

March has been an incredibly busy and successful month for school sports. In football congratulations go to the U18 senior football team who have won their way through to the Scottish Senior Shield final. After beating Dunfermline HS 2-0 at home in the  $\frac{1}{4}$  final (Harris McLean and Kyle Taylor scoring) they went on to beat St Ninians HS 5-4 on penalties following a 2-2 draw in the semi final at Renfrew FC Stadium (Keenan Campbell & Calvin McGrory scoring in open play and Graham Murchie slotting the crucial penalty). The team now prepare for the final at Hampden Park Thursday 4th May at 7pm.



The U14s have also been on an excellent cup run in the Scottish U14 Plate. Having beaten Largs Academy 2-5 in the last 16 (Fraser Lipp (2), Luke Gillies, Callum McNaughton, Rory Henderson the scorers) the team then made the long journey to Banchory Academy to win 0-2 in the  $\frac{1}{4}$  final (McNaughton and Gillies scoring again). They now face Taylor HS in the semi final. The S1 football team has also been in action this month performing well at the cash back 7s and sharing an exciting 6-6 draw with Castlehead HS - Ayaan Ali scoring all 6 of our goals and Matthew Bell saving a penalty! Finally in football congratulations to the Girls football U15 football team who have qualified for the finals of the Cashback 7s tournament.



The Eastwood High S1 girls Netball team have also be playing in national final action. After winning away at Forfar Ac. in the  $\frac{1}{4}$  final of the Scottish Bronze Shield the girls beat Belmont Ac. 18-11 at home in the semi final. The final against Hawick High School was held at Ravenscraig Sports Complex as part of Scottish Schools netball finals day. In the end the girls lost narrowly but still picked up runners up medals after a great run.



In rugby the S1, S2 and U15 girls rugby teams all competed in the Glasgow Warriors Championships at Scotstoun. Each team contributed to the overall

school performance with Eastwood coming 2nd behind overall winners Wallace HS. The S1 boys won 3 from 4, the S2 boys won 2 and lost 2, and the girls won 1, drew one and lost 2 matches. In the full scale game the S1s won 32-14 against Coatbridge HS (tries from Lewis Zanforlin (2), Mac Thompson, Joshua Carmichael, Jack Verscheuren and Charlie Barber). The U15s won a thrilling game against St Andrews Secondary Glasgow 47-41 with Alan Yie and Pablo Da Silva both scoring 3 tries apiece. The U17s were also victorious this month with a 39-15 win against Belmont House School Graham Murchie and Adam Mitchell both dominating the scoring. Finally the U15 Girls beat Coatbridge HS 57-15 in their most recent rugby match.



Congratulations in cross country athletics to Erin Wallace (S5) and Kate Richardson (S3) who both represented Scotland in the British International Cross country Championships held at Port Talbot in Wales on 25th March. Erin won the U20 race against athletes from all the home nations and Ireland leading her Scotland team to silver. Kate came 15th in the U15 race helping her Scotland team to pick up an overall silver as well. Eastwood athletes were also very successful at the recent East Renfrewshire Cross Country Championships held at Rouken Glen. The S2 boys won their team event with Helen Chong, Kerr Scott, Clare Wallace and Erin Wallace winning their respective races with Eva Chong picking up a 2nd and Kate Richardson a 3rd.



The Eastwood A Karting team have qualified 3rd in Scotland for the UK finals of the British Schools Karting Championship. Kevin King (S5), Craig MacFarlane (S6) and Max Skillen (S3) will travel to Daventry for the finals on the 1st of July. This is the first time an Eastwood karting team has qualified for the UK finals.



In martial arts David Graham (S4) has become the youngest person ever in the UK to pass a 2nd Dan black belt in Kendo whilst Cameron Paterson (S2) won gold for patterns and bronze for sparring whilst participating at the recent Scottish Tae Kwon Do Championships.



Finally well done to the girls' volleyball team who took part in the National Volleyball Tournament in E. Kilbride

