

# EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## Parents Newsletter

September 2015



*Special points of interest:*

### Important Dates

9th October—Inservice Day  
 October 12th - 16th - Holiday  
 19th Oct. Pupils return @ 8.45  
 27th Oct. S1 Skills for Work event  
 3rd Nov. - S1 Parents Evening  
 18th Nov.—P7 Open Evening  
 19th & 20th Nov. S5 Skills for Work (Mock Interviews)  
 23rd Nov. Young Musician of the Year  
 30th Nov. S4 Prelims begin  
 1st Dec—Art Exhibition  
 10th Dec—Junior Dance  
 14th Dec. Christmas Concert  
 17th Dec. Senior Dance  
 22nd Dec. - School Closes 2.30  
 6th Jan - School reopens 8.45

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Dear Parent

As we enter October it is vitally important that pupils in S4 and S5 begin to put in the extra revision and consolidation work to reinforce what is being learned in the class. Too often pupils are willing to drift at this time of year letting grades slip away. Just doing enough in class will not be sufficient for your child to achieve their full potential, they must be testing and pushing themselves with additional work at home. Pupils should be completing SQA past paper questions on the topics they have already covered and talking to their teachers about which bits of the course they are finding difficult. **Now is the time to change things that they currently can't do into things they can do.** To this end S5 have just received their targets for the year, these will also be given to parents. These targets are result of a statistical process based on S4 prelim and National 5 performance. The targets are designed to be aimed for, achieved and exceeded - the target grade is the statistically "most likely" not a ceiling on ambition. In relation to S4 their targets will be issued after the prelims but as you receive this newsletter there are only 34 school days to the start of those S4 prelims. Again this year the mantra is "Higher Standards, Higher Expectations, More Opportunity- No Excuses". Finally can I make one last plea to parents to apply for or RE-APPLY for free school meals for your children if you feel that you might be entitled. Some aspects of the school's funding is allocated based on the numbers eligible for and receiving free school meals. By applying via East Renfrewshire Council Customer First you are helping ensure that we get our fair share of resources.

*S. Maxwell*

### SEPA Competition Success

Alice Chisholm, Bhavna Mehta and Joanna Dougall, all S6, visited the Scottish Parliament on the 24th of September to pick up their runners-up prize in the SEPA Schools Competition. The girls are members of the school Eco group and were runners up in the S4-S6 category after setting up and running a successful battery recycling scheme in the school.



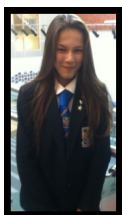
### Real Life Hero - Eastwood Pupil Saves Grandfather's Life

The 5th of September will be a day Andrew Paton (S2) will not forget in a hurry. Andrew was with granddad Sandy Malcolm in their speedboat on Loch Fyne when they were hit by a large wave. Sandy, who is 82, fell overboard into the cold waters of the loch and drifted away. Andrew then sprang into action, throwing Sandy a rope, hauling him to the side of the boat and tying him on to it, and stopping the boat's engine. He then dialled 999 to raise the alarm. The Coastguard put out an emergency relay and other boats in the area made their way to Sandy and Andrew, where Sandy was helped back on board the boat by fellow sailors. Tarbert Coastguard Rescue Team and an RAF rescue helicopter were dispatched to the scene and Sandy was airlifted to Lochgilphead Community Hospital where he was kept in overnight. Andrew sails regularly and completed his first Royal Yachting Association qualification when he was just 7 years old. The Coastguard said: "We were struck by how brave and sensible this young boy behaved. He knew to call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. He also managed to get a rope to his grandfather and keep him safe until help reached them. He deserves to be commended for his courage and quick thinking."



### Musical Success

Well done to Lauren Scott-Kiddie (S2) who achieved her (Grade 4 with merit) in clarinet at this month's sitting of the Trinity Guildhall music exams. Congratulations also go to Rebecca Tait (S6) who performed with the National Youth Choir of Scotland in Crieff on 11th September.



### Cyber Security

Four senior staff from the Clydesdale Bank visited the Higher Computing Science class to discuss cyber security and threat intelligence. The visit was an ideal opportunity for pupils to link the theory being learned in class to the real world.



### World Championship Cheer

Exciting times lie ahead for 3 Eastwood girls as they compete and represent Scotland in the finals of the World Cheerleading Championships in Florida. Louise Andrews (S6), Nicole Andrews (S3) and Natalie Gill (S6) are members of the JAM cheerleading team that won the European Championship in Liverpool at the end of June and now they are off to the USA later this year. Louise and Natalie run a cheerleading club in the school that meets on Thursday lunchtimes in the Dance studio.



### Your Help Requested

Eastwood High School is looking for parents' assistance for an event being planned for October. The school is looking to host a careers evening and we would like to have as many businesses and occupations as possible represented. If you own a business or could represent an occupation on the evening could you please contact Mrs Sinclair, Mr Keogh or Mrs MacGregor via the school office, thank you

### "Eibar the Brave"

Former pupil and writer Euan McTear visited the school this month to speak with pupils studying Spanish about his life in Spain and the benefits of language study. Euan's new book "Eibar the Brave" tells the story of the small Basque football team Eibar and their unlikely rise to Spain's top division, La Liga, where they play the likes of Real Madrid and Barcelona.



### Visit to Scottish Gallery of Modern Art

A group of S5/6 pupils studying Art & Design and Photography visited exhibitions by two world renowned artists. At the "Amazing World of MC Escher" everyone was awe struck by his prints that combine art, mathematics and Islamic symbolism. At the "Artist Rooms" the pupils were inspired by the Pop Art Style of Roy Lichtenstein



### Intergenerational Quiz

S1 and S2 pupils from Eastwood High School have been working closely with members of the Uplawmoor senior citizen's community and pupils from Uplawmoor PS in preparation for annual East Renfrewshire intergenerational quiz. The S1 and S2 pupils act as mentors to the primary pupils helping train them for some of the tasks in the quiz.



### Euan Raises More Money For JDRF

On Sunday 13th September Euan Ford (S3) came first in a 5Km charity run at the Falkirk Wheel raising £150 for the Junior Diabetes Research Foundation in the process. Well done.



### A Point of Reference for Eastwood

23 AH pupils accompanied by librarian, Miss De'Ath, and Mr MacDairmid (Social Subjects) visited the Mitchell Library on 16th September to help develop the skills to successfully research at AH level across subjects



### Film Stars

Eve Wengel (S2) and Rory Henderson (S1) are both currently filming on the set of Dalriata's King, a Fellowship Film Production, in Airth near Falkirk. Eve plays a character called Keira and Rory is a kidnapped child! During the October holiday Eve will also begin filming in "Slap", a short film by Bafta winning director Simone Smith.



### "By Yon Bonnie Banks"

During September all S4 Geography pupils have undertaken fieldwork at Loch Lomond to contribute to their National 4 and 5 assignments.

### S1 Literacy Evening for Parents

7th of September saw over 70 S1 parents attend a literacy partnership evening to promote reading for enjoyment. The event organised by the English department and the school librarian was very successful.



### Responsible Citizens

On Wednesday 30th September a group of S1 pupils, accompanied by PC Karen Searle and Mrs McLear undertook the first community litter pick of the year.



### Lego Engineers

S1 pupils are now benefitting from the success of our Lego Engineers. New Lego resources have been introduced into the S1 Technical course to teach "Mechanisms". Pupils learned about programming, accuracy & developing criteria for peer assessment. It was also great fun



### Eastwood Extra Curricular Fair

17th September saw the annual extra curricular clubs fair. S1—S4 pupils attended to find out what was on offer and sign up for clubs and societies. The event was organised by Mr Phillips and hosted by senior pupils.



### Tin Whistle Club

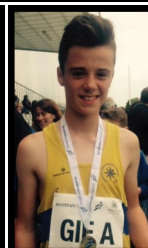
Miss McArdle has started a tin whistle club in C010 at Friday lunchtimes. All pupils and staff welcome, no previous musical experience necessary.

### Sports News

Congratulations to the Eastwood High School golf team of Stewart Percy (S6), Cameron Percy (S2) and Kevin King (S3) who won the East Renfrewshire Schools Golf Championship at Mearns Castle Golf Course on 16th September. All 3 boys play at Caldwell Golf Club and this is Eastwood's first triumph in this competition since 2003.



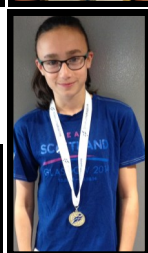
September has also seen a number of notable performances by Eastwood in athletics. Firstly congratulations to Erin Wallace (S4) on winning the gold medal in the girls U17 1500m at the British Schools Games in Manchester. In addition Fraser Lipp (S1) won the U13 Javelin title at the Scottish National Championships in Grangemouth at the start of the month. Fraser was also a member of the Giffnock North team that won the Scottish Relay Championship in Aberdeen in August. Fraser along with brother Ross (S4), Clare Wallace (S2), Clark Marshall (S1) and Alyson Bell (S1) were all members of the victorious Giffnock North team at the Stornoway Tri team cup where Alyson won the 100m and 200m. Alyson also achieved a 100m PB of 13.12 secs whilst running in the Scottish Women's Athletic League this month.



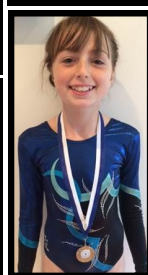
In Lawn Bowls congratulations to S5 twins Jonathan and Jaclyn Neil who have won the Scottish Youth Bowling Association Mixed Team title in Dunblane recently after winning qualifying rounds throughout the summer.



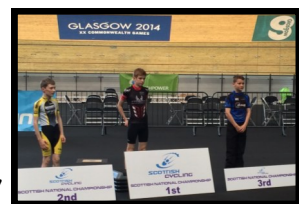
Mia Hepburn (S1) has recently had some success in gymnastics as part of her club team winning a silver medal in the level 5 competition on the 20th September at the Allander Open.



The school football season has gotten off to rather a mixed start. First the good news—The Eastwood U18 team won the Gibson Cup against Mearns Castle HS with a 3-2 victory at home, scorers Calvin McCrory and Cameron Purdie (2). The U18s then went on to draw 1-1 (Ryan Dougela) in the league with Barrhead HS but lost 7-1! (Marcus Mandagie) in the Scottish Cup to a strong Lourdes Sec. side. Congratulations also go to Calvin McCrory, Ben Lockie and Scott Johnston who have been selected to play for the Paisley & District U18s.



In cycling Keir Roberts (S1) has had a successful summer winning a bronze medal in the Scottish National Youth Omnium Track Championships (U13) at the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome. Keir achieved a number of podium finishes in the WOSCA this year and participated in the British Youth Track Championships in England.



It has been a great month for Eastwood rugby. The S1/2s won 45-20 against All Saints Sec. and the U16s defeated the same opposition 85-0 in the league. Unfortunately the U16s were knocked out of the Scottish Plate 32-14 by Douglas Ewart HS.

