

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

October 2015



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

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
 7th Jan - S5/6 Parents Evening
 13th Jan. - S2 Parents Evening
 27th Jan. - S4 Parents Evening
 1st Feb. - S5/6 prelims begin
 12th Feb - Inservice Day

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Dear Parent

There is currently an important consultation exercise being undertaken by East Renfrewshire Education Department around the "Payment4Schools" on line payment facility and, in general, how schools communicate with parents. There is a link from our own school website to this and I would encourage as many parents as possible to participate. The consultation revolves around the completion of a short on line questionnaire the results of which will be collated and used to improve the quality of service parents receive.

Finally it is with great pleasure that I am able to announce that HRH The Earl of Wessex (Prince Edward) will visit Eastwood High School on the morning of 23rd November 2015. Prince Edward will tour the school with myself visit selected classes, talk with some pupils and present a number of Duke of Edinburgh Awards. This is a great honour for the school and we are all looking forward to his Royal Highness' visit immensely.

S. Maxwell



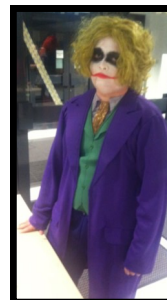
Syria Appeal

Senior pupils Cameron Wilson and Rebecca Boyle from the school's charity committee organised a collection of tinned foods and warm clothes to help Syrian refugees living in difficult conditions in Europe as the winter sets in. This was a response to an appeal by East Renfrewshire Councillor, Vincent Watters, and the generosity of pupils and staff was overwhelming.



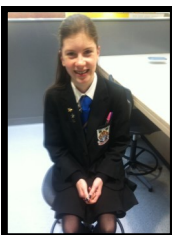
Halloween Ball

One of the highlights of the school social calendar took place on Wednesday 28th of October - the senior pupils' Charity Halloween Costume Ball. As ever the costumes were fantastic and in some cases genuinely scary!



Robyn Raises Money to Support Yorkhill

Robyn Lees (S2) has been busy raising £370 in support of Yorkhill Children's Hospital. She achieved this by organising a successful bake sale. Robyn now plans to continue raising money for this most worthwhile cause.



National Poetry Day

Miss De'Ath and the AH English class ran a competition to mark national poetry day on 7th Oct. The theme was "light" and pupils were asked to match a missing line to 10 well known poems that mention light. The winner was Maryam Shabbir.



Kelvingrove Art Success

Congratulations to Lauren Watson, Eve Murphy Marriott and Amardeep Singh who won Gold, Silver and a "Highly Commended" in the 111th Kelvingrove Art Competition. The girls entries beat competition from all over Scotland. I'm sure you will agree their work was of a truly excellent standard and is currently on exhibition at the Kelvingrove Museum.



Big, Big Sing

On Sunday 4th October Miss Hill and members of the Eastwood HS choir took part in the Big, Big Sing event to celebrate 25 years of the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow. This gave the pupils the opportunity to perform with other choirs from all over Scotland and Christopher Young (S2) even managed to perform a solo in front of over 200 people.



Computing Science Student Ambassador

This year Eastwood High School welcomes another student ambassador from Glasgow University to assist pupils studying Computing Science. This year's student link is Iulia Popescu who is Romanian. Iulia made her first link visit to the school on Monday 19th of October.



S1 Skills for Work Day

27th October saw S1 take part in a "Skills for Work" day organised by Miss McGeough. The event focused on developing teamwork and problem solving skills and there were some splendid balloon sculptures created in the process. This event is a key component of EHS's "Developing the Young Workforce" strategy.



Inspectors Call

As can be seen by the photograph below Her Majesty's Inspectorate in Education visited the school in the week before the October holiday. Parents will receive direct communication from HMIE when the findings are published sometime in late November however all that I can say at present is that the school is likely to receive a very positive report. This will reflect very well on our pupils and staff, and my sincere thanks go to all parents who gave up their time to either complete and return a questionnaire (there was an extraordinarily high return) , or participate in an interview or focus group. I have really appreciated everyone's support.



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 for the annual East Renfrewshire intergenerational quiz. Miss Williamson and the pupils helped organise the event and were fundamental to "running the show". They greeted guests, photographed the event, recorded the scores and even took part in the show! The next round is to be held at Vikingar in Largs in November.



Careers Evening

On Wednesday the 21st of October Eastwood High School held a very successful "Next Steps" evening. With curriculum choices to be made early in the new year, UCAS applications to be completed by December and many senior pupils beginning to consider their post school options, it was felt important that we invite representatives from the world of work, Higher & Further Education, and professional associations to assist our pupils and parents with these choices.



Auschwitz Visit

On 28th October Rachel Reid and Billy O'Neil of S6 visited Auschwitz in Poland as part of the Holocaust Educational Trust programme. As we approach Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January they will undertake presentations to younger age groups and represent the school at the East Renfrewshire Council memorial event.



Medics of the Future

Eastwood High School would like to thank Mr Rajeev Strivastava and Mr Peter Galloway, both consultants at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, for taking the time to interview some of our S6 pupils intending to study medicine. Mrs MacGregor organised the evening on 20th October and the two consultants certainly put our would be medics through their paces prior to their university admissions interviews.

Well Done Emily

Well done to Emily Green (S5) who attended the recent award ceremony of the Arkwright Foundation. Emily was there in recognition of her winning an Arkwright Scholarship to support her studies in engineering.



Active Girls Day

Friday 2nd October was "Active Girls Day" in Eastwood HS with various activities organised by Miss Watt. Girls came along to PE after school to participate in metafit, netball, and to learn the Y Dance Active Girls Day Dance. The dance was taught by young dance leader Bhavna Mehta (S6) and S3 dance volunteers Tessa Lamb and Abigail Young.



Sports News

Congratulations to the Eastwood High School Swim Team after securing a record haul of medals at the Renfrewshire Schools Swimming Championships held on Saturday 24th October. Our medal winners were : Clare Wallace (S2) gold in 100m and 200m freestyle (13-14yrs); Erin Wallace (S4) gold in 100m freestyle and silver in 200m freestyle (15-16yrs); Laura Beatt (S3) gold in 100m Butterfly and silver in 200m individual medley (13-14yrs); Ailsa Martin (S4) gold in 100m Butterfly and silver in 200m individual medley (15-16yrs); Finlay Marrant (S5) gold in 100m freestyle (17 and over); Erica Hunter (S4) gold in 100m Breaststroke (15-16yrs); Fiona Marshall (S5) silver in 100m Breaststroke (15-16yrs); Jennifer Palmer (S5) silver in 100m Breaststroke (17 and over) and finally Helen Chong (S1) bronze in 100m Breaststroke (13-14yrs). In athletics well done to Helen Chong (S1) and Erin Wallace (S4) who won a silver and bronze medals respectively whilst running for Giffnock North Athletics Club in the Scottish National Cross Country Relays at Cumbernauld on 25th October.

Congratulations to Scott Dempster (S4) on winning the bronze medal in the U81Kg category of the West of Scotland Junior Judo Open

Good luck from everyone in EHS to Abtaha Maqsood (S5) as she travels to Thailand with the Scotland Women's cricket team to play in the world cup T20 qualifying tournament in November.

The Eastwood High rugby teams have had a very successful month of October. The S1, S2 and U16s all had excellent victories in the Glasgow North league against St Andrews Secondary 57-15, 77-21 and 58-10 respectively. The U16s now have 5 wins from 5 in their league campaign. On 22nd October the U16s continued their great form with a 36-24 win against Belmont House School through tries from Adam Latif, Jamie Black, Robbie Walker and Graeme Murchie.

In football the Eastwood teams' fortunes have been a bit more mixed. The U16s lost heavily away to Dumbarton Academy in the Scottish Cup. The U13s team lost 6-1 to St Ninians HS at the start of the month but bounced back to secure a 5-2 victory at home to St Lukes HS with Fraser Lipp scoring a hat trick supported by goals from Jack Kelly and Keir Roberts. The U14s lost their most recent league game 0-1 away to St Lukes HS. The U15 Girls football team drew their opening 3 games in the East Renfrewshire 7s at Barrhead HS with Leigh Edgar in defence and Niamh Gorman in goal having outstanding performances.

The netball season finally got underway on 27th October with the S1, S2 and S3 girls up against Williamwood HS in the Scottish Cup. All the teams remained positive throughout despite lack of match practice and the score lines! S1 lost 0-7, S2 lost 4-7 and S3 lost 0-27. The picture shows the team captains Ellie Gallagher (S1), Eve Bell (S2) and Megan McBride (S3). Eve Bell has also been selected for the Glasgow Trampoline Club and will begin competing for them in national competitions this winter.

