

# EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

## Parents Newsletter

January 2016



*Special points of interest:*

### Important Dates

1st Feb. - S5/6 prelims begin  
 12th Feb - Inservice Day  
 15th & 16th Feb - Holidays  
 21st March - Spring Fling Concert  
 22nd March - ERC Dance Championships  
 30th Mar.- ASN Parents Evening  
 1st April - School Closes 2.30  
 18th April - School Re-opens  
 28th April - S3 Parents Evening  
 2nd May - Holiday  
 3rd May - SQA exams begin  
 25th & 26th May - P7 Induction  
 27th May - Holiday  
 30th May - Holiday  
 31st May - Inservice day

### Inside this issue:

Junior Duxes	1
Young Musician of the Year	2
"Lucky Break"	2
Aladdin Trouble at Eastwood	3
Celtic Connections	3
Holocaust Memorial Evening	3
Tycoon in School	4
Sports News	4

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### Dear Parent

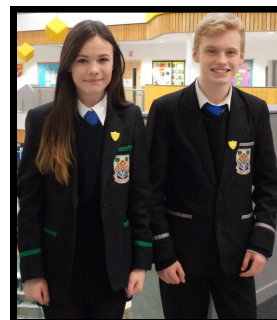
This is a crucial time for pupils in S5/6 as we approach the Prelim exams that start on the 1st of February. Along with Mrs Foster I have already spoken to senior pupils at assemblies about the importance of these exams. By now everyone should be well into a home revision timetable in preparation. I would also like to remind pupils and parents of the supported study programme that is running in most subject areas and the positive impact that participation in this programme can have on results. The Prelim exam timetable and the supported study timetable are both on the school website. I know that I can count on parental support to ensure that all pupils in S5/6 achieve their full potential in these exams.

In a similar way our S4 pupils are about to enter the most crucial phase of their education so far. During February and March many subjects at National 5 and National 4 will be working on the completion of value added units and projects that form a key part of courses. On one hand pupils will fail their courses if they do not complete these pieces of work to a high standard and secondly there is the potential for underachievement if pupils do not put in the required work to achieve their best. These projects and value added units should be seen as an opportunity to produce high quality work that adds value to the overall grade when combined with exam performance in May - It is effort and hard work that will make the positive difference. To this end all S4 pupils will soon be issued with targets to aim for in their national 4 and 5 courses. These are based on their prelim performance and teachers' best judgement from internal assessments. These targets are what the S4 pupils could achieve but they will require hard work and study; they will not be achieved for simply turning up. For 4th year the final run in to their May exams, a mere 50 school days away, starts now.

*S Maxwell*

### Junior Duxes

Congratulations to Zoe Sturgeon (S4) and Jake McKie (S4) who have become Junior Duxes of the school 2016. The Junior Dux is awarded for overall academic excellence and based on performance in the S4 Prelims held in December. Zoe and Jake 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



### Eastwood HS Young Musician of the Year

On Monday 11th of January Eastwood hosted its annual "Young Musician of the Year" competition. The standard was incredibly high from the 30 musicians but in the end Christopher Keenan (S6) won the overall title. In the senior singer category the winner was Rebecca Tait (S6). The junior young musician category was won by Esme Johnston (S2) and junior singer of the year was Carys Mitchell (S3).



### Mosque Competition

Miss Graham's S2 RMPS class have been taking part in a challenge to design a new carpet for the men's prayer hall at Glasgow Central Mosque. The pupils incorporated their ideas and themes (such as brotherhood and multiculturalism) into their designs whilst keeping within the brief given by the mosque. The designs have now all been sent away to be judged.



### Dance Successes

Congratulations go to Zoe Jamieson (S3) who has just passed her Grade 6 Royal Academy of Ballet exam with merit. This achievement fits into the SCQF framework at level 6, Higher. To achieve her award Zoe had to spend 18 months learning and practicing ballet technique, interpretation and understanding. A superb achievement at only 14!

In addition Chloe McKinlay (S2) passed her most recent dance exams, highly commended in Blue Riband/Tap and First Award/Freestyle.



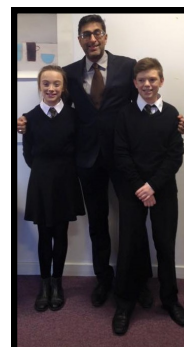
### 1950s Sadia

Sadia Ladadj (S6) was one of a number of East Renfrewshire pupils pictured for the local press after setting up a 1950s themed café (with juke boxes and images of classic cars) as part of their event management course at Glasgow Clyde College. The girls were able to raise £317 for Macmillan Cancer Support.



### "Lucky Break"

Eve Wengel (S2) has been filming for a new anti bullying film called "Lucky Break". In the film, that will be issued to all schools in Scotland, Eve plays the lead role of Emily alongside stars such as Sanjeev Kohli, Claire Grogan and Eileen McCallum.





### "Aladdin Trouble at Eastwood"

Just before the Christmas holidays 85 pupils took part in the school's pantomime "Aladdin Trouble at Eastwood". The cast gave three performances, one in the evening for parents, relations and friends and two on the last day of term for pupils. The cast were pleased that our friends from Isobel Mair School could be in the audience for the two morning performances. The money raised will be donated to this year's school charity "Action Medical Research".



### Prospective Medics

Laura Shoveller (S5) organised a trip for a number of senior pupils to attend a seminar for prospective medics called "Supporting Your Future" run by Edinburgh University



### Carmen Makes an Impression

Eastwood was fortunate to be visited by renowned children's author Carmen Reid. Carmen hosted two sessions, one for S1 and one for S2 where she was able to talk to pupils about the need for research and planning in fiction writing. The talk centred around her new book "Cross my Heart" set in World War 2.



### Celtic Connections

Christopher Young (S2) has been performing at Celtic Connections as a member of the Glasgow Youth Choir. The concert took place at the Royal Concert Hall and involved the choir performing with famous Scottish musicians such as singer/songwriter Barbara Dickson. In addition 50 S3 Music pupils, accompanied by Miss Hill, attended a Celtic Connections concert on 18th January as part of their BGE course. They enjoyed folk music from Canada and Irish band Skerryvore.



### Holocaust Memorial Evening

Rachel Tait (S6) and Billy O'Neil (S6) represented Eastwood High at the recent East Renfrewshire Holocaust Memorial event where Billy read out one of the seven Holocaust Commitments. Billy and Rachel visited Auschwitz in 2015 as part of "Lessons from Auschwitz" and will deliver assemblies to junior pupils in the school.



### Rudolph's Riddles

Well done to all S1 who took part in the annual inter-house Mathematics problem solving competition "Rudolph's Riddles". All 24 teams worked really hard with the winners being Balgray(2) with Duncarnock (6) second and Capelrig (3) third. Balgray won the overall inter-house competition. Thank you to all S4-S6 helpers and Miss McLoskey, Miss McArdle and Mr McCann for organising.



### Elf Promoting School

Everyone will be glad to hear that in the run up to Christmas Eastwood High was successful in gaining Elf Promoting School Status!



### Successful Book Fair

Miss De'Ath our school librarian recently ran a very successful Scholastic Book Fair as part of the school's drive to further improve Literacy. In the end more than £300 worth of books were purchased gaining the school an £80 credit to buy some new stock for the library. Miss De'Ath would like to say thank you to all the pupils who participated and the new stock is now available to borrow.



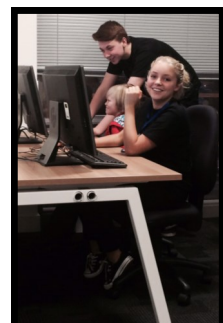
### Paired Reading with Crookfur Primary School

S2 pupils from Eastwood High School have been working with 40 P7 pupils from Crookfur Primary this month in a paired reading initiative. The project aims to improve communication skills, enhance story structures and develop teamwork and leadership amongst the pupils.



### Tycoon in School

Zak Griffin (S3) is doing very well in the "Tycoons in Schools" competition run by the Peter Jones Foundation (one of the dragons from "Dragons' Den"). Zak currently sits 5th out of all the UK entries in terms of profits made. Zak runs a computer coding (programming) clubs in local libraries (assisted by Holly and Lucy Smith - both S5). He also runs a coding club in Eastwood High School. The winner will be judged by Peter Jones himself in the next few weeks.



### Sports News

January started with British record breaking performance for Erin Wallace (S4). Whilst running in the 3000m at the Glasgow Athletics Association Miler Meeting at the Emirates Arena on 2nd January Erin clocked 9.36.07 smashing the previous U17 record that had stood for 10 years by 13 seconds! Also in athletics congratulations to Alyson Bell (S1) who achieved U13 Giffnock North club record times of 8.39secs in the 60m and 27.31 secs in the 200m at the same event this month.

Congratulations also go to Hannah Colville (S1) who has achieved her black belt in karate this month. Hannah has been training and competing in karate now for over 4 years.

In basketball the senior and junior girls teams have had a very successful month. The junior girls won both their league games convincingly against Gryffe HS and Williamwood HS.

The senior girls also won their league match against Williamwood comfortably

In football it has been a mixed month for the Eastwood teams. The S1 team had an excellent 5-2 victory over Paisley Grammar in the last 16 of the League Cup with goals from Kerr Scott, Jack Kelly, Rory Henderson (2) and Callum McNaughton. Unfortunately this excellent result was followed up by a Scottish Cup exit

to Gryffe HS and a defeat to top of the table Woodfarm HS in the league despite goals by Fraser Lipp and Darren Lindsay. The U18s enjoyed an exciting win on penalties away to Inverclyde Academy in the St Mirren Cup. The team came from 2-0 down to tie the match 2-2 at full time with goals from Callum Patrick and Greg Young. The boys then went on to win on penalties.

Finally in Netball Balgray were the winners of the senior inter-house competition whilst Duncarnock won the equivalent junior competition.

In addition Justine Ling (S5) and Lucy Smith (S5) have been successful in achieving their Level 3 netball umpire qualification enabling them to take charge of school netball games in future.

