

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

14h October—Inservice Day
 October 17th - 21st - Holiday
 24th Oct. Pupils return @ 8.45
 2nd Nov. - School Careers Eve.
 8th Nov. - S1 Parents Evening
 17th & 18th Nov. S5 Skills for Work (Mock Interviews)
 23rd Nov.—P7 Open Evening
 28h Nov. S4 Prelims begin
 6th Dec—Art Exhibition
 12th Dec. Christmas Concert
 15th Dec—Junior Dance
 17th Dec. Senior Dance
 21st Dec. - School Closes 2.30
 5th Jan - School reopens 8.45

Inside this issue:

Dear Parent	1
Y Dance Leaders	1
Young Musician of the Year	2
Picture This	2
Diamond Girl	2
Alton Towers Trip	3
The Great Outdoors and Indoors	3
Sports News	4

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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

Y Dance Leaders

Congratulations go to Rachel Tait, Kirsten Burningham, Heather McKie and Ellie Marshall (All S4), along with Caitlin McBride (S5), on qualifying as Y Dance leaders. The girls are now using their qualification to lead a Dance Club for S1—S3 pupils during lunchtimes. The club is well attended and anyone interested should see Mr Gibson (Head of PE) for details.



Young Musicians of the Year

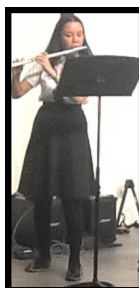
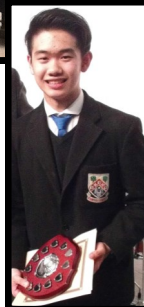
On 15th September Eastwood High School held its third annual "Young Musician of the Year" competition. The competition encompasses senior and junior categories for Young Musician and Young Singer of the year. This year again the standard was incredibly high with all the musicians and singers performing very well in front of a large and appreciative audience. The overall winner was pianist Howard Yip (S6) with the other results as follows:-

Junior Category

Young Musician winner	Katie Lindsay (S2)
Young Musician runner-up	Rob Pollok (S2)
Young Singer winner	Amy Murphy (S1)
Young Singer runner-up	Kirsty Dougall (S2)

Senior Category

Senior Musician winner	Howard Yip (S6)
Senior Musician runner-up	Cerys Goodwin (S6)
Senior Singer winner	Rebekah Johnstone (S6)
Senior Singer runner-up	Abbey Miller (S6)



Diamond Girl

Well done to Hannah Shields (S4) who received a badge and a certificate for successfully completing the Duke of Edinburgh Diamond Challenge. Hannah raised £70 for the DoFE Charity by cycling round the Isle of Cumbrae — twice.



Staff Charity Fundraiser

Well done to the Eastwood staff and the School Social Committee for organising a coffee morning on the 22nd of September in aid of MacMillan Cancer Relief. A total of £264.22 was raised for this worthwhile cause with Mr Woods winning the "Number of Spots on the Cake" competition and Mrs Cameron winning the giant cupcake.

Picture This

A number of S6 pupils are currently taking part in a Young Enterprise project. It involves them setting up their own business, producing real products, managing money and working with real customers. At "Picture This" the vision is to capture and share memories through creative and high quality products whilst being sympathetic to the environment. The company have set up a Facebook page (please "like"). Products coming soon.



Higher Education Fair

On Wednesday 14th September 48 senior pupils attended the Scottish Higher Education Fair held at the Glasgow Science Centre. The exhibitors included universities from all over the UK as well as UCAS and Skills Development Scotland. The pupils all found the morning a very useful experience having been able to speak with representatives from their preferred universities.



Sad News

It was with great sadness this month that Eastwood High School had to report the passing of Fiona Gillespie, the school office manager, after a period of illness. Fiona had been the office manager in Eastwood High School since 2000. She died peacefully in hospice care on Sunday 11th September. Fiona was liked and respected in equal measure by everyone at the school, staff and pupils alike. We were all devastated by this news. Quite simply Fiona was one of the finest people any of us have ever had the privilege to know. The Head Boy and Head Girl paid the pupils' respects at Fiona's funeral held in Paisley on the 19th of September. The thoughts of everyone at Eastwood are with Fiona's family at this time.



Drama News

Deputy Head Girl Abby McCann S6 was part of PACE Theatre's performance at the Houses of Parliament on 6th September to launch Paisley's bid to become UK City of Culture 2021.



Further Music Successes

Congratulations go to Joanna McDermott, Jennifer Orr and Carys Mitchell (All S4) who all gained passes with merit or distinction in their recent ABRSM Grade 4 music exams.



Alton Towers Trip

22nd of September saw the Merits Reward Scheme trip to Alton Towers. This trip rewards those pupils in S5 who had the highest number of "merits" during their fourth year. Merits are awarded for such things as effort in class, citizenship activities and achievement. 79 pupils and 8 staff made the long journey south. They were rewarded with excellent weather and a theme park with no queues.

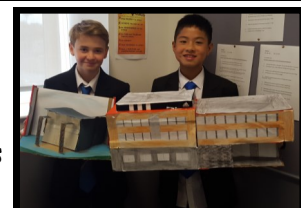


The Great Outdoors - And Indoors

S4 Geography pupils recently visited Loch Lomond as part of the National 5 Geography course. The pupils were there to undertake fieldwork and gather data to inform their National 5 Assignments. In addition the Geography Department has a whole programme of outdoor learning activities scheduled for this session for S1—S6. These activities include

- S1 - Environmental Survey of the local area as part of The John Muir Award
- S2 - Visits to Dynamic Earth in December and New Lanark in May
- S3 - Local traffic and environmental surveys
- S4 - Loch Lomond fieldwork and data collection (September)
- S5/6 - Urban Fieldwork in February

Meanwhile indoors Miss Kelly's S1 Geography class were asked to design a miniature Scottish landmark as part of their Scotland unit. Ricky Zhang and Ryan Gordon surpassed themselves producing a very impressive model of Eastwood HS and its Sports Centre.



Sports News

The pictures opposite show Kess Sajjid (S5) playing for Scotland U15 against Ireland. The four match series was drawn 2-2 with Kess playing key roles with the bat and as the picture shows, bowling. The Junior Cricket team reached the final of the Glasgow Schools Cup this month playing against Holyrood Secondary. After a good performance the team eventually lost by 4 wickets with Rafay Khan taking 2 wickets and Aryman Tyagi top scoring with the bat



The Eastwood rugby teams have been busy at the start of the season. The U18s made it through the 1st Round of the Scottish Cup against Campbeltown Grammar however were then drawn against Hutcheson's Grammar in round 2 losing 59-14.



The U18s now go into the Bowl Competition where they will play Bell Baxter HS from Fife. The U16s have secured one win and one defeat from their first two league games. They beat Mearns Castle HS 33-31 with the last kick of the ball in a thrilling match however weakened through injury and call offs lost 40-10 against a strong Williamwood HS side. The U16 boys still weakened by injuries to key players also went out of the Scottish Cup 15-0 to Lenzie/Kirkintilloch Schools in a



very close match. The Eastwood S1 team also lost a really tight match 36-31 against an S1/2 select from Williamwood HS. The team fell behind when playing against the wind in the first however rallied to put the Williamwood line under pressure right up to the final whistle. Finally the S2 team drew their first match 7-7 against Mearns Castle HS but succumbed to a heavy defeat by Williamwood HS in their second game after a poor performance.

The Eastwood HS football teams have also gotten their seasons underway this month. The U18s got off to an excellent start with a 6-1 win against Barrhead HS (Jason Stewart 3, Calvin McGrory 2 and Stefan Downey 1). The S2 team however lost to Barrhead HS 7-3 in their opening game despite a hat-trick from Fraser Lipp. Also in football Chloe Colquhoun (S1) was invited to take part in the Scotland Girls U15 trials. She performed really well against much older girls and only narrowly missed out on selection, however she has put a marker down for the next 2 years.



Head Girl, Laura Shoveller, has had a very successful summer participating for the ATC in rifle shooting. Laura secured the following places in various national competitions.

Individual UK Cadets Championships UK Team Cadets Championships

100m rifle - 3rd place

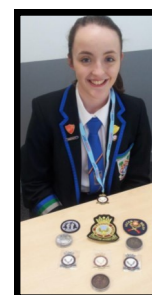
The Gill Championship and top UK ATC team - 1st

Bosson Cup - 3rd place

Frankfurt Shield (Top Interservice Cadet Team)- 3rd

Boulter Cup - 2nd place

Campbell Cup - 2nd place.



Laura was also asked to trial for the GB junior team in England.

Ester Jamieson and Lauren Chalmers (Both S1) took part in the recent West Districts Swimming event at Tollcross Pool. Both girls competed in the Individual Medley Relay and qualified with one of the fastest times from their heats. The girls placed 3rd overall winning a bronze medal.



Finally congratulations go to Kirsty Dougall (S2), Eve Gibson (S3) and Amy McVittie (S3) on being selected to represent East Renfrewshire in Netball. The girls were selected from the 70 netballers who attended the trials. In addition Amy has been selected by Netball Scotland to attend the Regional Elite Performance Academy.

