

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter



Special points of interest:

Important Dates

- 13th March -EHS Dance Display
- 15th Mar. - ERC Dance Championships
- 28th March - ASN Parents Eve.
- 29th Mar. - School Closes
2.45pm for Holidays
- 16th Apr - School reopens 8.45
- 26th April - S3 parents Evening
- 1st May - SQA Exams begin
- 7th May - Holiday
- 8th May - School Athletics Championships
- 25th & 28th May - Holidays
- 29th May - Inservice Day
- 30th, 31st May & 1st June - P7 Induction Days
- 4th June - Timetable change
- 7th June - Sports Awards Dinner
- 12th June - Prizegiving
- 19th June - S6 Graduation

Inside this issue:

- Dear Parent 1
- Michelle Performs for Deputy First Minister 1
- Malawi Five 0 2
- "Single By Sunday" 2
- Arkwright Scholars 2
- Fatima meets the First Minister 3
- Community Ceilidh 3
- Sports News 4

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February 2018

Dear Parent

February has seen the completion of the S5/6 Prelim Exams and the focus is now very much on the drive towards the SQA Exams in May. In fact there are now only 31 school days before the SQA exams begin! It is vitally important therefore that pupils use the month of March to fully prepare turning things they currently can't into things they can.

To assist pupils with this preparation and to achieve their full potential in the SQA exams the school has a number of initiatives running. Firstly a full programme of after school Supported Study classes will be running through March and April, details of the schedule for these classes is available on the school website. Secondly each individual in S4 and S5 pupil has been issued with target grades for the final exams. These target grades are not predicted grades but are based on prelim results, and are something that with hard work and study can be achieved and exceeded. Finally Easter School will again run during the Easter holidays. Following ratification of East Renfrewshire Council's budget for 2018/19 at the Council meeting on 1st March the following charges for Easter School will be applicable from 1 April 2018 onwards :- £60 per week or £13 per day/£6.50 per half day session. Full concessions for pupils who would qualify for free school meals will continue to apply.

S Maxwell

Michelle Performs for Deputy First Minister

As mentioned in the January Newsletter Michelle Musyoka's (S5) English folio piece entitled "Nyumbani Means Home" was identified as a truly exceptional piece of work by the SQA. Such was the power of the work "Nyumbani Means Home" was turned into a play and performed by professional actors at the launch of the "Write Times" on 8th February in the Glasgow Centre for Contemporary Arts. Michelle had the honour of performing in her play alongside professional actors in front of Deputy First Minister John Swinney.



Malawi Five O

Congratulations to Elise Tweedie, Olivia Taylor, Alan Yie, Jessica Ramsay and Rebecca Carmichael (all S5) on being successful in the selection process to visit Malawi with the Betty Cunningham Trust. The pupils were selected as part of the group drawn from all East Renfrewshire schools and will visit Malawi in October.



"Fabric & Textile Technology Visit"

As part of their Fashion & Textiles course S3 pupils visited Mandors Fabric Store in Glasgow to make fabric and haberdashery selections pertinent to their designs. The pupils have chosen to design and make skirts to be completed and assessed by the Easter holidays.



"Single By Sunday"

On 16th February popular boy band "Single By Sunday" paid a visit to Eastwood High School to perform to S1 and S2 pupils. The band were on a British tour visiting selected schools to put across a serious anti-bullying message to pupils. The pupils really enjoyed the concert experience organised by the Creative and Performing Arts Department.



S3 Visit Edinburgh Zoo

Miss Barr & Miss Taylor visited Edinburgh Zoo on 16th February along with S3 Biology pupils. Everyone had a great day enhancing their learning as part of their Biology course. The group were also lucky to have visited at Chinese new year and were able to witness a spectacular exhibition with models of creatures not normally found at the zoo 😊



Arkwright Scholars

Five S4 pupils Al'Harreth Musbahi, Karen King'ori, Chloe McKinlay, Nimra Furqan and Jason Robb have completed round 2 of the selection process for an Arkwright Scholarship. These scholarships are available to pupils intending to continue their studies in Design Technology post school and those successful receive financial support and an industry mentor to help further develop their studies.



Charity Fundraising

Well done to the pupil Human Rights Committee who this month were able to donate £51 to Islamic Relief. The money was raised by creating a Christmas Card and taking it round staff who paid £1 to send Christmas greetings to all their colleagues.



Writing Achievement

Huge congratulations to Emma Kirby (S5) who has just received her certificate for being a finalist (Top 20 in Scotland) in the Scottish Schools Young Writer of the Year 2018 Competition.



Eastwood High Dance Show

Don't forget to buy tickets for the upcoming Eastwood High Dance Show to be held at 7pm on 13th March in the Sports Centre. This evening will showcase the best work of Eastwood High School's dancers.



SSPCA Collection

Animal Rescue officer Liz from the SSPCA visited the Eco Committee on Thursday 22nd Feb. The pupils heard all about the work of the charity as well as volunteering and job opportunities. The officer collected the items donated by pupils, parents and staff this session, such as blankets, toys and food. These items will be used to help enrich the lives of the animals at the Cardonald re-homing centre. Liz thanked the pupils for their efforts and stressed the importance to the charity of such collections as the SSPCA receive no government or lottery funding.



Fatima Meets First Minister

As mentioned in a previous Newsletter Fatima Bari (S4) is an Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament and one of the Scottish Government's "Year of Young People Ambassadors". In that role Fatima was one of a small number of young people invited to Edinburgh Castle for the annual First Minister's Reception for the staff of foreign consulates based in Edinburgh. As can be seen Fatima had a great time and was very much at home mingling in high powered company!



Paper/Digital Newsletter Consultation

Following the proposal from the pupil ECO Committee that the newsletter appear in digital form only from the start of next session, an extensive consultation was carried out. The Pupil Councils all thought that this was a good idea and a big thank you to the over 200 parents who responded to the online survey launched in last month's newsletter which again was overwhelming in its support of going digital. There will still be a small number of paper copies available in the school foyer for visitors.

Community Ceilidh

Well done to all the S6 prefects and Sports leaders who helped organise a Community Ceilidh on the afternoon of Thursday 22nd of February for pupils of Isobel Mair School, St Cadocs primary School and Crookfur Primary School. It was a great event thoroughly enjoyed by all our young visitors.



Adventure Service Challenge

S2 pupils Connor Armstrong, Nicole Buchanan, Alex Campbell Cairney, Collette Finnegan, Riordan Gavin, Ellie Kerr, Andrew MacKenzie and Amy Woodburn travelled to Summerlee Heritage Museum on 26th February to participate in the Adventure Service Challenge. This is a stepping stone to Duke of Edinburgh Bronze in S3.



Published Poet

Well done to Katie Grant (S2) who has had her poem published in a poetry anthology called "Poetry Idol". Katie chose suffragette Emily Davidson as her idol and dedicated her poem to her. Emily Davidson was the woman who in 1913 died at Epsom Races whilst attempting to stop the King's horse during the Derby.



Sports News

February has been a very busy month for many of Eastwood High School's sportsmen and women with many re-scheduled fixtures as a result of the bad weather in January. In athletics a huge congratulations to Alyson Bell (S3) on winning double gold at the Scottish Schools Indoor Athletics Championships held at the Emirates Arena. Alyson won both the U16 60m and 200m. At the Scottish National U17 Championships a week earlier at the same venue Kate Richardson (S4) won the bronze medal in the 1500m with Clare Wallace (S4) coming 6th. All the Eastwood athletes performed well at the Scottish Schools Indoors with Clark Marshall in particular being unlucky just missing out on a medal coming 4th in the U16 pole vault. Eastwood High was also well represented at the East Renfrewshire School Cross Country Championships held at Rouken Glen on 27th February. Best individual performances came from Clare Wallace (S4) who won the senior girls race, Helen Chong who won the S3 girls race, Max Campbell who came second in the S3 boys race and Eva Chong who came 4th in the S2 girls race. In the team event the S2 girls came third overall, the S3 girls third overall and the S2 boys second overall. Well done to all who took part. The Eastwood netball teams have been busy this month. The S1 team had a thrilling 18-17 win over Earlston HS and progress in the Scottish Cup Silver Division. Likewise the S2 team progressed in their Scottish Cup Silver Section after a 13-7 win over Mary Erskine School from Edinburgh. Unfortunately the S3s lost their Scottish Cup tie 13-20 in a difficult away tie at Brechin HS.

It has been a mixed month as far as Eastwood HS football is concerned. Mr Higgins' S1 team have had two excellent wins 6-0 against St Ninians HS B in the league and 7-0 in the St Mirren Cup against Mearns Castle HS. This second win means that the S1 team are now through to the $\frac{1}{2}$ finals.

Unfortunately the S2 team were knocked out of the $\frac{1}{4}$ final of the Scottish Plate 2-5 away at Vale of Leven Academy and also suffered a heavy defeat in the league to St Ninians HS. The Eastwood U16 were also in league action this month going down 4-1 away to a strong Mearns Castle side. Also in football well done to Chloe Colquhoun (S2) and Rebecca Hickey (S4) who have both now been promoted into the Glasgow City U19s squad for the new season.

Well done the Eastwood High School Karting teams who took part in the Scottish Finals of the British Schools Karting Championships. Eastwood A came 5th with Eastwood B coming 7th. This was a solid performance after last year's qualification for the British finals after which most of our experienced drivers left school.

In Rugby the S2 Boys had a fantastic performance to defeat Duncanrig Secondary 73-5 this month. There were many outstanding performances with the try scorers as follows :- Ricky Zhang 3, Jin-Peng Wang 2, Charlie Barber, Rory McKendrick, Josh Coverdale, Mac Thompson, Matthew Deighton and Liam Bothwell. Also in rugby Alanna Temple and Charlie Barber (both S2) represented Eastwood HS at the launch and draw for the Glasgow Warriors SP Energy Championships to be held in march. Eastwood have been drawn in a section alongside McLaren HS, Shawlands Academy, Douglas Ewart HS and Belmont Academy (Ayr).

