

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

8th Feb - Inservice day
 11th & 12th Feb - Holidays
 12th March - EHS Dance Display
 27th Mar- ASN parents Evening
 29th Mar - School Closes 2.30pm for Holidays
 15th Apr-School returns 8.45am
 19th & 22nd Apr – Holidays
 25th Apr - SQA Exams start
 6th May - Holiday
 7th May - Inservice Day
 24th & 27th May - Holidays
 28th May - New timetable begins
 29th May - P7 Athletics Day
 30th & 31st May - P7 Induction Days

Inside this issue:

Dear Parent	1
Young Singer of the Year	1
On the Piste	2
Community Service	2
Peter May visit	3
SI Prefects	3
Community Ceilidh	4
Sports News	4

Tel : 0141 577 2200 , Fax : 0141 577 2220,
 E.Mail : schoolmail@eastwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk
 Website : <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Eastwood/>
 Twitter : @EastwoodHighERC

January 2019

Dear Parent

This is a crucial time for pupils in S5/6 as we face the Prelim exams that started on 28th January. Along with Mrs McCartney 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 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 be issued in February with targets to aim for in their National 4 and 5 courses based on their prelim performance and teachers' best judgement based on 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 41 school days away, starts now.

S Maxwell

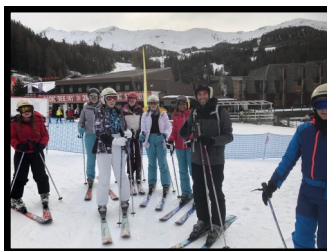
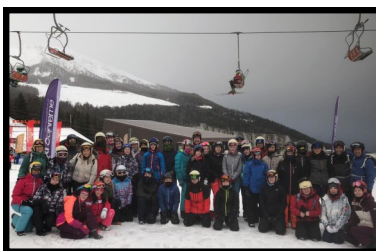
East Renfrewshire "Young Singer of the Year"

Congratulations to Amy Murphy (S3), accompanied by Mr Fairlie, on winning the East Renfrewshire "Young Singer of the Year" held at Williamwood HS on the 10th of January. The overall standard of the competitors from all the East Renfrewshire schools was very high indeed. This competition was the district heat of the British Rotary Young Musician & Young Singer of the Year and Amy now progresses to the regional final to be held at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland on the 6th of March.



On the Piste

Between 12th and 18th January a group of 39 pupils from all year groups enjoyed a ski trip to Pila in Italy. Interestingly it was in effect a 3 country trip - Landing in Geneva, Switzerland; travelling through France to the Mont Blanc tunnel and staying and skiing in Italy. Everyone had a great time on the trip organised by Mr Gibson. Many of the non skiers at the beginning of the week were confidently tackling challenging red runs by the end it!



Community Service

Well done to Ben McCann, Kyle Raynal and John Cumming (all S5) for undertaking a litter pick in the Harvie Avenue area on the 24th January. As can be seen from the photo the underfoot conditions weren't easy but the boys made a real positive difference appreciated by the local community as evidenced by the positive comments they received on Twitter.



"Going Private"

Well done to S5 pupils Amy McVitie and Chloe McKinlay who have both secured student leader places at the Gordonstoun Summer School. The girls had to win through a competitive application and interview process and will be responsible for leading pupil activities for a number of the international children attending.



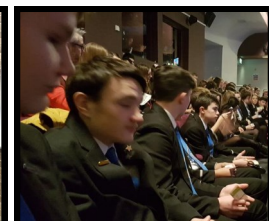
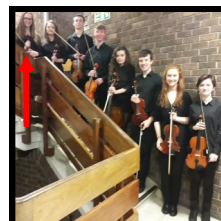
IKEA Visit

On 30th January Miss Ling & Mr Murray took their S3 Design and Manufacture classes to meet the marketing team at IKEA Braehead to discuss IKEA's Democratic Design Principle. They found out how IKEA's concept ties into sustainability in design a topic the pupils have been learning about in their National 5 course. It is hoped this knowledge inspires some extraordinary sustainable designs from our budding innovators. The pupils not only got to view the products they even got the chance to get "hands on" - with varying degrees of success!



Holocaust Memorial

Jamie Dougall and Meghan McBride (Head Boy & Head Girl) accompanied Mr Maxwell to Eastwood Theatre on the evening of Monday 28th to participate in the National Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations. Katie Glass (S6) played violin as part of the ERC String Octet at the event. The Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Communities Aileen Campbell, was also in attendance. During the day on the 28th Miss Boyle attended the equivalent youth event with a number of our S3 Pupils' Council and prefects.



Helping Hand

Miss Hanvidge and some pupils from the Fashion & Textile Technology classes visited Neilston Primary on the 15th of January to help pupils design a tartan for Burns Day. As you can see the primary 4s had a very productive session with some "interesting" tartan designs.



Peter May Visit

Eastwood High School was honoured to welcome back world famous author and former Eastwood High School pupil Peter May on January 15th. Peter discussed writing and his career with a group of S3 and S6 English students. It was also nice that he was able to meet the three winners of the Peter May Cup for creative writing — Bethan MacSween 2016 (S5), Maryam Khan 2017 (S4) and Katie Grant 2018 (S3). Pupils, staff and parents were also able to get copies of his books signed by the author himself.



Up For Debate

On 24th January Eastwood HS hosted the second round of the Law Society, Donald Dewar memorial Debating Tournament. The motion was "This house would abolish the national minimum wage". Lucy Hemmingsley and Hayyaan Bashir (both S6) first saw off the challenge of Williamwood High School but in the end lost out narrowly to St Andrews Academy, Paisley. Lucy and Hayyaan will now look to progress in the Rotary debating competition.



Snaky Behaviour

A number of S4 Biology pupils visited Edinburgh Zoo on 23rd of January to attend the Global Classroom Conference. As well as learning about world-wide conservation they were introduced to some new friends. I don't know who looks most surprised Taylor, Rachel or the snake!



S1 Prefects

On the 8th of January the new S1 prefects were issued with their badges of office. The prefects were chosen following a vote by staff at the very end of last term. The pupils with the most nominations were selected. Well done to Katelyn Beattie, Abby McGregor, Rhona Brown, Nadia Osman, Botan Demir, Christopher Rae, Miles Hampton, Calum Shearer, Amina Khan, Cara Shields and Harris Lovatt.



Safer Internet Day

Eastwood High School will be taking part in "Safer Internet Day" on 5th February. The concept behind this day is to "inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully and creatively". This year the focus is on educating pupils about giving consent online in terms of the data they share and their own privacy. There will be assemblies for S1—S3 to reinforce this message with pupils and staff. It would be beneficial if parents could discuss this topic with their child(ren) on 5th February at home



Foodbank Collection

Well done all the pupils involved in organising a collection for the Barrhead Foodbank. The collection was taken to the Foodbank on 21st December, the last day of term, by Amy McVitie, Chloe McKinlay and Donald Bolton (all S5)



Community Ceilidh

On 19th December senior prefects and the Eastwood Ceilidh Band organised a very successful community ceilidh for pupils from Isobel Mair School, Crookfur PS and St Cadoc's PS held in the EHS Games Hall.



Sports News

Starting with football this month the girls U18's football team unfortunately lost 9-4 in their last 16 Scottish Shield match away against Turnbull HS. The girls having progressed to this 4th round stage found Turnbull HS really difficult opponents. The senior boys team however have had a better month winning their 2nd round St Mirren Cup tie on penalties after a 2-2 draw away to Barrhead HS. Scott MacLachlan scored the winning penalty however Matthew McGoldrick's last touch of the game equaliser will live long in the memory. Finally in football it is good to see former pupil Calvin McGrory becoming a 1st team regular at Queens Park FC.



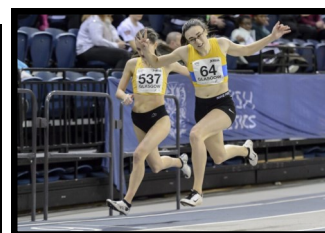
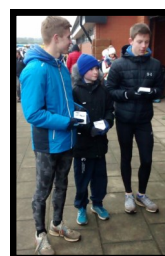
Massive well done to our S2 netball team who beat Gleniffer HS 49-18 in the 2nd round knockout stage of the Scottish Cup Gold league - Securing a bonus point in the process. The captain was Keira Ratter and Player of the Match was Beth Allan.



The Eastwood HS swim team performed with great distinction at the Scottish Schools Swimming Championships held at Tollcross Pool this month. Esther Jamieson (S3) achieved a personal best in the 100m freestyle (age 15/16) but even that wasn't enough to make the final! Lauren Chalmers (S3) swimming in the age 15/16 category came 4th in the 400m individual medley and 6th in the 200m butterfly. However congratulations to Clare Wallace (S5) who won bronze in the 200m and 400m freestyle in the 17-19 years category.



Alyson Bell (S4 & aged 15) won gold at the Scottish Indoor Athletics Championships on 26th January. This was a phenomenal performance in the U17 200m (Her winning time was 25.17 seconds). Alyson also won silver in the 60m (losing by one hundredth of a second) in a time of 7.65 seconds. Also in athletics well done to Andrew Combe (S2) on being part of the Giffnock North AC team that took silver in the U15 Boys cross country in the Belfast XC Challenge series race. Finally former pupil Erin Wallace continues to move up the British Athletics rankings following an excellent performance for Scotland U20s in the televised Stirling International XC relays. She is now training with Laura Muir's performance squad at the Emirates in Glasgow.



The Eastwood High Karting Club had their first competition of the season at Scotkart Cambuslang in December. As ever the competition was intense with some excellent racing. In the end out of 30 competitors Bradley Scott (S6) won, with a fastest lap of 35.732 seconds, Lewis McNaughton (S3) was second (36.300 seconds) and Scott King (S1) came third (36.597 seconds).



Finally well done to David Graham (S6) who came 4th in the Kendo Northern Open Team Championships held at Scotstoun Arena just before Christmas. This was an open competition for competitors from all over the UK with David competing in the Men's Open Category.

