

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

August 2019



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

27th & 30th Sept. - Holidays
 3rd Oct. - Young Musician of the Year
 10th Oct. - S1 Parents Evening
 14th - 18th Oct. Holidays
 21st Oct. - Inservice Day
 22nd Oct. - Pupils Return 8.45
 24th Oct. - Careers Fair
 7th Nov. - P7 Open Evening
 19th Nov. - S3 Parents Evening
 25th Nov. - S4 Prelims Begin
 10th Dec. - Christmas Concert
 17th Dec. - Junior Dance
 19th Dec. - Senior Dance
 20th Dec. - School Closes
 2.30pm for holidays

Inside this issue:

Dear Parent	1
Face of the SQA	2
Pupil Leadership Team	2
Artists in Residence	2
Autism Acceptance Activist	3
Top Students	3
"Shed of the Year"	3
Sports News	4

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Dear Parent

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to Eastwood High School after the summer break. If you are the parent of a new S1 pupil let me especially welcome you to the school. I know that your son/daughter will do well here, and you should know that we will do our very best to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

I am pleased to report that this year has been Eastwood High School's most successful ever in SQA exam results at S4, S5 & S6. The graphs show how our results have been improving over the last 12 years. This improvement is down to the hard work of pupils and teachers as well as the support of parents - well done to everyone. We are now one of the

very best schools in Scotland something everyone should be proud of. To continue this improvement

"Higher Standards, Higher Expectations - Greater Opportunity" is the clear message to everyone associated with the school for the coming year.

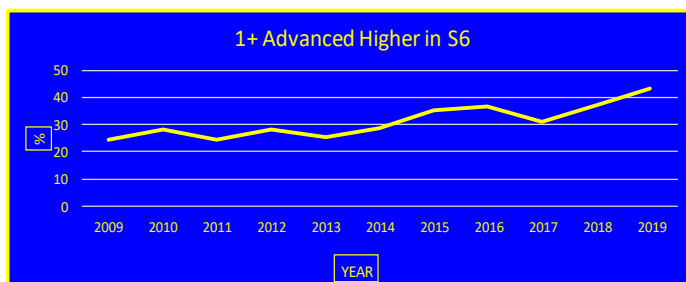
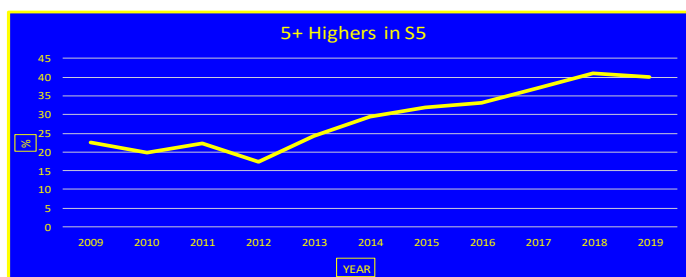
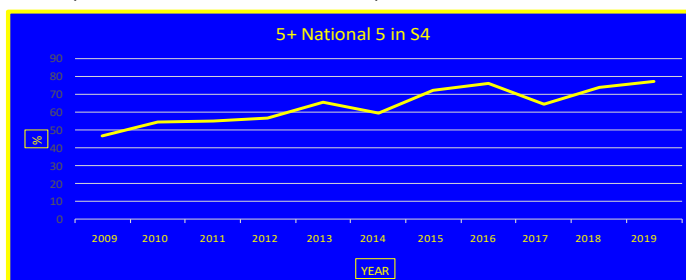
As I said to pupils at the recent assemblies, these improvements, the opportunities available and the extent of successes achieved by pupils and staff is not the same in other schools.

"Let's continue to build something great here".

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents for your support in ensuring that all pupils wear the proper **Eastwood HS uniform**. This is one way that we can all show pride in ourselves and the school. The standard of uniform has been excellent, a positive statement that Eastwood is a force to be reckoned with! Other local schools are using Eastwood as an example to their pupils to emulate **our** uniform standards. Well done to all.

As I mentioned in the summer mail, many parents entitled to receive a free school meal for their children do not apply, **OR RE- APPLY**, for one. Many aspects of the school's funding is allocated in relation to free meal uptake. The cashless catering system in the school means that no one knows who is in receipt of a free meal. It is therefore important that everyone entitled, **applies or re-applies for this year**. Application forms with the qualification criteria are available from the school office or East Renfrewshire Council Customer First. If you feel that you might be entitled **please apply or RE- APPLY** and help your child(ren) and all the others receive their fair share of resources.

S Maxwell



Pupil Leadership Team

Congratulations to Lucy Connelly (S6), Robert Brownlee (S6), Amelia Bain (S6) and Luke Barber (S6) who have been selected as Head Girl, Head Boy, Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy for 2019/20. Congratulations also go to Nimra Furqan, Rebecca Hickey, Elleigh Thompson, Eve Bell, Clare Wallace, Eve Wengel, Hana Latif, Al-harreth Musbahi, Christopher Young, Ben Chisholm, Kieran Killen, Euan Chalmers, Lawrie Haig and Theo Frater who have been selected as vice-captains.



Charity Fundraising

Well done to the S2 Adventure Service Challenge class who presented £752 to "Beautiful Inside & Out" at the end of last term after raising money through various activities..

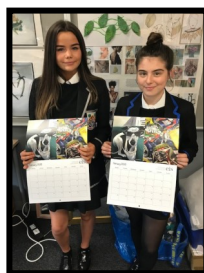


Artists in Residence

On the 20th of June seven S4 pupils Nicole Buchanan, Isabel Jardine, Annabelle Leitch, Lauren MacPherson, Bethany Marsh, Skye Martin and Lauren Sanders visited Whitecraigs Care home to meet with the residents and present them with some specially commissioned art-work to brighten up their new building.



In addition to the above congratulations also go to Evie Mackenzie (S6) and Lara Sturgeon (S4) as their work has been selected to be part of the educational Institute of Scotland calendar for 2019/20. The girls' pictures represent July in the calendar that is circulated to all EIS members and schools throughout Scotland.



Face of the SQA

Miss Mairs from the Eastwood High Art & Design department along with former pupil Kess Sajid found themselves appearing in this month's edition of the General Teaching Council for Scotland's magazine, "Teaching Scotland". Miss Mairs and Kess were part of an article on the new SQA Advanced Highers. In 2017 an SQA photographer visited the school to take some photographs for use in publicity material. Featuring in this article however 2 years on did come as a pleasant surprise for Miss Mairs.

Helping you prepare
for Advanced Higher
assessment



The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) is publishing Advanced Higher specimen question papers and coursework assessment tasks for use in session 2019-20 onwards. This includes revised versions of the documents, for subjects with changes to assessment

Requests from The School Office

1. When collecting pupils for appointments can parents please arrange in advance for their children to meet them at the school office. This avoids the office staff having to go and collect pupils from class
2. For S1 parents - Lockers are a one off payment of £35 and that lasts for 6 years
3. Can parents please ensure that pupils have their own re-usable water bottle to re-fill at the water fountains. Cups cannot be provided via the school office.
4. Can all parents add the school e mail address (top of Page 1) to their contacts list. Thank you

Careers Evening

Parents

We need
YOU!



Eastwood HS will be hosting a Careers Event on the evening of Thursday 24th October 2019. We are currently recruiting people to come along and have a chat about their occupation and their career path. If you feel you could make a contribution to our evening, please contact Mrs Jane Sinclair via the school office for more information.

Top Marks

A huge well done to Callum McMillan (S3) on securing a "pass with merit" in the prestigious UK Maths Trust Challenge. Callum had already been crowned "Best in School" in the Junior Maths Olympiad and his high score qualified him for the UK event against pupils from all over the country. A "With Merit" pass means that he was in the top 25% of UK finalists a truly outstanding achievement and the best performance from an Eastwood High pupil for many years.



Top Students

As mentioned on page 1 of this Newsletter 2019 has been Eastwood High's most successful year ever in SQA exams. The S5 pupils pictured below achieved 8, 9 or 10 As at National 5 and the S6 pupils pictured below all achieved at least 5 As at Higher. Very well done to all.

S5 - Mohamad Abdelkader, Hana Afzal, Khadija Bari, Alyson Bell, Ross Cathcart, Helen Chong, Maryam Choudhry, Steven Collingham, Kirsty Dougall, Nicholas Duffy, Abigail Ewen, Emma Garner, Alyssa Haigh, Gautam Kaker, Rafay Khan, Emma MacDonald, Cameron Mackerrow, Clark Marshall, Amy McBride, Hannah McGeogh, Rebecca Orr, Rebecca Paton, Niamh Presslie, Louise Rafiq, Ra'eesha Shafqet, Abbie Shaw, Sebastien Smith, Faye Speirs, Lara Sturgeon, Keira Thomson, Aryaman Tyagi, Emma Wilkie and Disha Yadav.

S6 - Luke Barber, Eve Bell, Robert Brownlee, Max Brydon, David Campbell, Euan Chalmers, Ben Chisholm, Sara Hameed, Olivia Jackson, Karen King'ori, Chloe McKinlay, Al-harreth Musbahi, Ibrar Shafiq, Bethany Shum and Clare Wallace.



Autism Acceptance Activist

Well done to Katie Lindsay (S5) who was interviewed by Reem Sabha for a reflective article on autism acceptance. The interview is well worth a read and can be found at

<https://medium.com/meet-the-activist/katie-lindsay-autism-acceptance-activist-563ab54f9b38>.



Photo Scoop

Well done to Mr Murray from the Technical Department who over the summer had one of his photographs published on the BBC website.

The photograph, taken on a trip to Loch Lomond, was achieved using various light filters to highlight the rust colour of the Highland cattle against the monochrome backdrop of Ben Lomond's landscape.



The Ark

Congratulations to Eastwood HS Technical Technician Mr Stuart Campbell. His garden shed workshop has been nominated as one of the 21 finalists in the Cuprinol "UK Shed of the Year" completion. The Ark Workshop took Mr Campbell 3 years to build and is based on a boat design.



Advanced Higher Biology trip

On 23rd of August Miss Barr and Dr Gibson accompanied the Advanced Higher Biology pupils to the University of Strathclyde. They were taking part in a Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy & Biomedical Sciences PCR and gel electrophoresis lab. They all looked splendid in their lab coats!



Festival Fringe

On Thursday 22nd August 10 Advanced Higher Drama pupils along with Miss Workman attended performances of Romeo & Juliet and Crocodile Fever at the Edinburgh Festival. The idea was to give the pupils inspiration for their Advanced Higher Dissertations



Rewards Trip

30th August saw the imPACT reward trips attend M&Ds Theme Park in Motherwell. These trips for S2, S3 and S4 were organised to reward positive attitude and behaviour last session and were open to any pupils who achieved a high number of positive referrals during session 2018/19.



Piping Live

Earlier this month Harrison Bishop (S2) took part in "Piping Live Week" for the 4th year in a row. On 12th August he was in the front row of the "Big Band March" from Blythswood Square to George Square in Glasgow. Being in the front row of the band meant that Harrison was marching and playing alongside Glasgow City Council Lord Provost Eva Bolander. The march was the prelude to the Piping Live Week that was officially launched in George Square that afternoon.



Pride

On the 20th of July Glasgow Pride took place in Glasgow City Centre with a number of pupils and staff from Eastwood High and other East Renfrewshire schools taking part in the parade. The Pride event celebrates the LGBTI community and is open to anyone and everyone. It was great to see the support that the pupils and staff received from the friends and family.



Sports News

It has been a very busy and successful summer for sprinter Alyson Bell (S5) in Athletics. In early August Alyson won the Scottish U20 ! Championship at 100m—remarkable considering that she is still 15 years old. She also won the girls U17 100m title at the Gothenburg International in a personal best time of 11.90. In addition Alyson came second in the Welsh International 100m whilst running for the Scotland U20 team and won the gold medals for 100m and 200m at the Scottish National Track and Field Championships held at Grangemouth. On 24th August Helen Chong (S5) was one of six young Scots representing Scotland in the International Youth Cup in mountain running held in Sauze d'Oulx, Italy. Helen and the Scotland team just missed out on a medal competing against athletes from 22 countries.

Also in athletics congratulations to Lauren Agnew (S5) Long Jump and Alyson Bell (S5) 100m who were part of Giffnock North AC's winning team at the U17 Scottish Youth Development League Trophy on 10th August.

In rugby well done to Mac Thompson (S4) who has been selected to play for Glasgow & The West U16 regional squad over the summer. Mac started in all three games but despite excellent personal performances his team came 4th overall. Unfortunately in the semi final Glasgow having led 19-0 at half time lost the game following a superb second half fight back from Borders. In the 3rd place play off Edinburgh triumphed over Glasgow in a tight game. Nearer to home the Eastwood High rugby teams got their season off to a quick start on 28th August at Whitecraigs RC with matches v Wallace High from Stirling. S1 Boys won 40-35, S2 Boys (U14) lost 15-35, and Girls S3/4 (U16) lost 25-40 against the team that pipped us in last year's Glasgow Warriors Trophy final.

Well done to Jack Tuck (S3) on representing the Scotland U14 National Basketball Academy versus England in the Humphrey Long invitational held in Manchester over the summer holidays. The Scotland team unfortunately went down 40-50 against the much bigger England team but Jack performed well.

Finally congratulations to former pupil Kess Sajid who has been selected as part of the Scotland U19 cricket team to go to the Cricket U19 World Cup later this year in South Africa.

