



PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

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

September 2021

Special points of interest:

Important Dates

8th Oct - S1 Parents' Meeting
 11 - 15th Oct - Holiday Week
 18th Oct - Inservice Day
 19th Oct - Pupils Return
 21st Oct - Flu Vaccinations
 16th Nov - S3 Parents Meeting
 22nd Nov - S4 Prelims Begin
 22 Dec - School Closes at 2.30pm for holidays
 5th Jan - School returns
 10th Jan - S5/6 Parents' Meeting
 16th Jan - S2 Parents' Meeting
 28th Jan - S5/6 Prelims begin
 30th Jan - S4 Parents' Meeting
 4th Feb - Inservice Day
 7th & 8th Feb - Holiday
 1st April - school closes at 2.30pm for Easter Holidays

Dear Parent/ Carer

My first term at Eastwood High School seems to have passed by at an incredible rate. However I have really enjoyed meeting and getting to know staff, pupils and even a few parents. My first impressions have been confirmed - this is an incredible school with some incredibly talented and committed people in the community—and I am still really excited to be a part of that community. I have had the privilege of visiting classes in all departments and it has been so good to witness the high level of engagement of pupils in their learning. I have also enjoyed being on the front door each day and being out and about at breaks; their chat is good! The COVID restrictions are still impacting on the life of the school and as yet we do not have the go ahead for parents to be in the building. However we are seeing some return to normality with clubs restarting and we look forward to further guidance on the way ahead after the October break. In the meantime we will continue to work around the guidelines to ensure the best experience possible for pupils, parents and staff in a safe and sometimes creative manner. Thank you to parents for supporting us in ensuring that all pupils come to school with their own masks.

Thanks to the PTA

The PTA have been working hard to raise funds for the school. Already this year, they have secured donations from 2 companies—Taylor Wimpey West Scotland donated £500 for 'back-to-school' materials and Mactaggart & Mickel donated £1000 for purchase of school uniform and essential equipment and to support STEM and Eco Community projects. Our thanks to the companies and to our PTA. The PTA are always looking for volunteers so if you would like to get involved, please let the School Office know.

Pupils Queue Up for Extra-Curricular Clubs



The Extra-Curricular fayre was held on Friday 3rd August.

There was a fantastic response to the event which saw many pupils from S1-S3 sign up for a variety of clubs we have on offer. The clubs are now up and running and if you wish more information please contact the PE department.



European Day of Languages

On Thursday 23rd September we celebrated European Day of Languages and linguistic diversity in Eastwood. We started the day with a 'Spanglish' music quiz and pupils across the school learnt about the languages spoken in the world, Scotland and Eastwood and we learnt how to say hello in several languages.



All S1 classes took part in a multilingual scavenger hunt around the school and a dictionary race challenge and we were so impressed with their team work, problem solving and linguistic skills. Thanks to the fabulous S6 Languages Ambassadors who helped out so brilliantly with the S1 activities. Thanks also to the many pupils who speak a different language at home, who recorded messages for us to play on the day and to Mr Fairlie and the Higher Music Technology class for putting together the multilingual tannoy announcements - gracias, merci, grazie, diolch, obrigado, danke, arigato, takk..



Meet the New Staff

August 2021 saw a significant number of staff changes in Eastwood High School, particularly in the Senior Leadership Team, due to retirements and other staff changes. We thought you might like to know a bit more about the new members of staff leading the school and heading up some of the yeargroups.

The newcomers are still supported by the remaining Depute Head Teachers, Chris Morris and Emma Gordon.

Kate Sinclair - Head Teacher

I have been teaching for over 27 years. I am qualified to teach both maths and chemistry, although for the last 25 years I have only taught maths. Having taught in Kirkintilloch HS, Clydebank HS and Barhead HS, I was appointed as a Pupil Support teacher in Mearns Castle HS before moving to Williamwood HS as a Depute Head Teacher in 2007.

I have a passion for ensuring that all pupils achieve their full potential and fully enjoy the wider school experience, but also have fun. I am also known for starring in videos...I cannot wait to introduce this to the Eastwood pupils.

Outside of school, in what time I can find available, I enjoy skiing, cycling and generally keeping fit - but also love nothing more than relaxing in the Portugal sun with my family!

In dealing with the 'busyness' of a Head Teacher post, with a daughter training to be a PE teacher and a husband recently retired as Head Teacher, I benefit from having an understanding and supportive family.



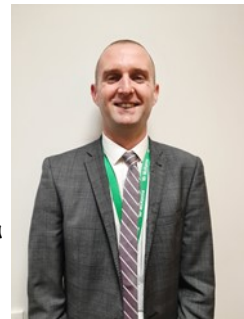
Chris McKenna - Depute Head Teacher

I have been teaching for 12 years and have taught history, modern studies and politics. I was a PT Pupil Support at Williamwood HS for 8 and a half years and thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. I have led a range of whole school initiatives such as eco-school, Rights Respecting School and

I am passionate about raising money for charities. I led the Williamwood Malawi Partnership for many years, and led 5 trips to the country taking over 130 pupils. We also raised over £100,000 for Classrooms for Malawi which was used to improve education facilities in Ekwendeni, Northern Malawi.

At Eastwood High School, I have responsibility for S5 and S6 pupils and oversee Learning & Teaching and Leadership Development of staff.

Proud dad to my 18 month old son with another due in January, massive football fan and I am taking on the Manchester Marathon on 10/10 as a nice relaxing way to start the October week.



Allison MacKinnon - Depute Head Teacher

A native Gàidhlig speaker, I originally come from Benbecula: a small, beautiful island in the Outer Hebrides. I came to Glasgow to study English and Philosophy at Glasgow University before becoming an English teacher 16 years ago. I taught in schools in East Ayrshire and North Lanarkshire before moving to East Renfrewshire in 2013. I was Principal Teacher of Pupil Support (Learning) at Williamwood before moving to Eastwood where I have responsibility for our lovely S1 whom I am immensely proud of. I am the Child Protection Co-ordinator and oversee Pupil Support within the school. I am a very proud mother of two young boys and in my spare time I like to escape to the coast with my children and Golden Retriever for long walks and head back to the Hebrides as often as I can. I am delighted to be part of the Eastwood community and look forward to the year ahead.



Judith Boulton-Jones - Depute Head Teacher

I have been teaching Modern Languages for 23 years and have loved every second of my career to date. I started out in schools in Edinburgh and then Kirkcaldy before returning to my home town of Glasgow. I have spent 21 interesting and happy years in East Renfrewshire, holding a variety of posts including Development PT at Woodfarm High School and PT of Modern Languages and International Education at Williamwood High School. At Eastwood, I am the Head of S4 and have responsibility for SQA and ICT across the school. I also have responsibility for all the Newly Qualified Teachers and Student Teachers who join us at Eastwood. I am the mother of three teenagers, the proud owner of a miniature labradoodle and a keen cook, reader and traveller ... and I love trying out new foreign languages wherever I go!



Enterprising Pupils

Enterprise education provides young people with the skills, competencies and mindset to make the most of everyday opportunities and challenges. Being enterprising is something which can be applied to all aspects of life and work.

This month saw many enterprise activities taking place within the BECS department. We have started a Young Enterprise Club for S1 & S2, helping our young people develop the life skills, knowledge and confidence they need to succeed in the changing world of work. This week our pupils displayed their enthusiasm and passion for Business during our Business Quiz.

We also are now a few weeks in for this year's S6 Young Enterprise teams. Congratulations to all team members who made a Director post. Please watch out for their products being on sale soon! There are 2 teams this year, so this means an added level of competition amongst the pupils involved.



Modern Languages Ambassadors

The French and Spanish Languages Ambassadors are doing a great job with S4 and S3, supporting them with their talking and were also a brilliant help at the European Languages Day.



S6 Pupils Race Against Hunger

We were very proud of the commitment shown by our S6 pupils who took part in the Race Against Hunger on Thursday 23rd September to raise money for the Trussell Trust. Pupils have raised over £700 which will be used to help fund food banks across the country to provide vital support to those who need it. You can make a donation at



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ehsrah> or search for 'Eastwood S6s Race Against Hunger'.

Pupil Leadership

Congratulations to our new Head Boy and Head Girl (Liam and Skye), our Pupil Deputes (Aaron, Jessica, Katie, Laura and Maryam) and Vice Captains (Aimee, Amna, Mariam, Nicole and Toby). Pupils were selected after a very competitive application process and they will be working to ensure that Pupil Voice is celebrated across the school. Deputes/Vice Captains will be working with S1-S5 pupils to ensure that they get the chance to have their say in matters affecting them while they will all have the responsibility of representing their school at numerous events over the year.



Salters Competition Winners

A group of S1 pupils participated in multiple Salters Festival tasks in June. These included some kitchen experiments, investigations and quizzes. Congratulations to these pupils in winning the quiz and receiving prizes from the sponsors Tuncocks!

Supporting Pupils

A letter was sent by email this week to parents/carers of pupils in S3-S6 with ASN, regarding SQA requirements for the collection of evidence for entitlement to Alternative Assessment Arrangements.

Sports Ambassadors

Congratulations to Katelyn Beattie and Chris Rae (S4) who are our new Eastwood High School PE Sports Ambassadors. Well done to both of you on being selected.



Congratulations to ...

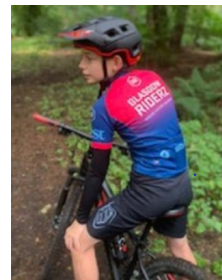
Ross Inglis (S1) who finished 2nd in the U14s boys Giant Slalom event at the Scottish Outdoor Skiing



Former pupil Rafay Khan who has represented U19s Scotland Squad in their ICC World Cup Qualifier.



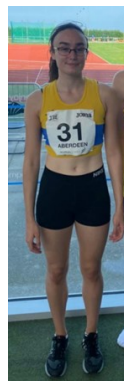
Oscar Parker (S3) on being selected onto the Scottish Cycling Young Peoples Panel.



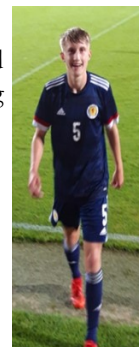
Charlie Jackson (S5) (2nd left) on his 'A' Team Selection for Giffnock Utd, competing in the Scottish PAN Disability Football League.



Former pupil Alyson Bell in achieving a Gold Medal in the U20 200M European Athletic Championships.



Former pupil Greig Allen on his selection for the U17s Scotland football squad playing against Wales in an International Friendly. Also well done on his debut for the RangersFC 'B' Squad



Hazel King (S3) who competed at the Blair International Horse Trials and finished 5th in her section.



Ailsa King (S1) who represented Scotland in the International Minimus Tetrathlon & National Triathlon competition in Ireland. Ailsa was 1st in air pistol target shooting and 4th in the swim helping Scotland to 2nd place.



Scott King (S4), Steven Sands (S4) and Calan Chong (S3) who were the winners at the East Renfrewshire Secondary Schools Golf Competition.



Our girls Olivia Cuthbertson S3 (3rd from left), Caitlin Miller S3 (2nd from left), Hollie Urquhart S2 (Front Centre) and Freya Ponton S2 (front right) on becoming Gold Medal winners with St Cadocs U15s Netball squad.



Also a very well done to Scott who won the individual event.

