



Eastwood High School Newsletter

September 2026

Head Teacher Introduction

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of session 2026 - 2027. We are now eight weeks in and it has been an excellent start to the year. We have welcomed in our new S1s who have settled really well. They have set the bar very high - uniform superb, working hard but most importantly they have fully demonstrated our school values. They are extremely positive, polite and well mannered and often stop me to ask how my day is going. They should be very proud of themselves. We have also welcomed a number of new pupils to other year groups in the school and again they have settled really well.

All of our senior pupils are fully settled with their timetables. Qualification Scotland results at the summer were superb - the quality of passes were exceptional. Well done to all involved, they should be very proud. I expect great things next year as pupils are sitting the next level off a very strong pass.

We have held a number of evening events. Our S1 Information Evening was very highly attended and I know that families loved getting the opportunity to see around the school, hear about what they were doing in subjects and where they sit in each class. We also held a

Success in S3 event where we talked about the use of Achieve and methods of studying. Two of our new S5 pupils spoke at this and they were amazing. then we held study skills sessions for our S4/S5/S6 parents where various staff spoke about how to support ASN learners and we looked at a variety of study techniques which would benefit our young people. we will also be leading sessions with them. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who supported us in this. S4 and S5/S6 will all have received tracking reports by now and the S4 Parents' Evening is this week.

Our Extra-Curricular Recruitment Day has also taken place. We have over 40 clubs ranging from sports, music, sewing, self-defence, board games, reading and British Sign language to name a few. This is a really important aspect of school life where pupils meet new friends with similar interests. Many of the clubs take place after school but equally, many of them take place at lunchtime. These are good to get out of the busy parts of the school and get some quiet time doing something they enjoy.

Our s1 and s2 sponsored walk took place a few weeks ago. This has been an amazing success. thank you to all of the families who came out to support and the local residents. the atmosphere was amazing. we have raised over £2500 so far, with money still coming in. We really appreciate this support.

We have already had many trips. Drama have been to Edinburgh Dungeons and Dragons, trips for next session are up and running for Malaga and Paris, our seniors have been out on Silver DofE and our S6 have been on their annual trip to Alton Towers. French and Spanish food trips are also planned for S2.

I would also like to thank you for your support with mobile phones, with almost all pupils complying with this. I have sent out ERC's Interim Policy on Mobile Phones and also asked you to get in touch to let us know if your young person does not have a phone. This is so that I can let staff know and so that your young person is not repeatedly asked to hand it in. We also have some medical exceptions that we are aware of. As I said, this has been very successful - I would say that the school is very calm and we are not seeing pupils walking the corridors with their phones. It really does give young people a good break from them.

All in all it has been a very busy eight weeks but an incredible start. Thank you as always for your support. Please get in touch if there are any issues.

Enjoy the October break when it comes.

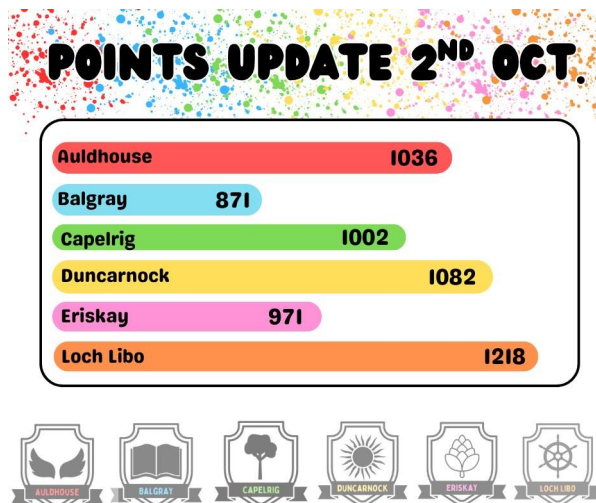
Kind regards

Kate Sinclair

Head Teacher



House Point Update



Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our extra-curricular programme is now in full swing! There is a wide range of lunch and after school clubs to choose from for all pupils.

MONDAY

Club	When	Open to	Where
Science Club	Lunch	S1	Rm 223 Miss Lynn
Science Club	Lunch	S2	Rm 220 Miss Hepburn
Chess Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 210 Mr Ballantyne
Table Top Games	Lunch	ALL	Rm 219
String Group	Lunch	ALL	Rm 010
Cricket	Lunch	S1-3	Games Hall 2 Mr Ingram
Running	3.35-4.30pm	ALL	Running Track Mr Shirra
Self-Defence	3.35-4.30pm	S1-3	Dance Studio Japan Karate
Girls Rugby	3.35-4.45pm	S1-6	Football Pitch WRC & Mr Lough
Boys Rugby	3.35-4.45pm	S1-6	Football Pitch WRC & Mr Lough

TUESDAY

Club	When	Open to	Where
Passport to Culture Club	Lunch	S1	Rm 306 Miss Ezeji
Young Carers	Lunch	ALL	Rm E130 Miss Macaulay & Miss Kelly
Sewing Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 114 Mrs Dempsey
Cosy Reading Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 303 Miss Raferty
Eco Committee	Lunch	ALL	Rm 215 Miss Hepburn
Winter Fayre - Makers Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 301 Miss Cumming
Volleyball	Lunch	ALL	Games Hall 2 Mrs Dobbin
Multi-Sport	Lunch	S1-6	Games Hall 1 Mrs Kincaid
Dance	Lunch	ALL	Dance Studio Mrs Lloyd
Junior Drama Club	Lunch	S1-3	Drama Box
Ceilidh Band	Lunch	All	Rm 011 Miss Black

TUESDAY

Club	When	Open to	Where
Jazz Band	3.35-4.35pm	All	Rm 019 Mr Fairlie
Senior Drama Club	3.35-4.35pm	S4-6	Drama Box
Badminton	3.35-4.45pm	S4-6	Games Hall 2 Mr Gibson
Netball	3.35-4.45pm	S1-2	Games Hall 1 Miss Hurrell
Gymnastics	3.35-4.45pm	S1-3	Gymnasium ERCL Coaches

WEDNESDAY

Club	When	Open to	Where
Poetry Club	Lunch	S1-3	Rm. 122 Mrs Jordanhill
Geeky Film Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 105 Mr Evans
Table Top Games	Lunch	S1-6	Rm 219
Scripture Union	Lunch	S1-6	Rm 202
Badminton	2.45-4pm	S1-3	Games Hall 2 A. Martin
Muay Thai / Kick Boxing	2.45-4pm	S1-6	Small Gym Pro Muay Thai
Table Tennis	2.45-4pm	S1-6	Dance Studio Mr Ashton
Multi-Activity	2.45-4pm	S1-2	PE Dept. Active Schools
Table Tennis	2.45-4pm	S1-6	Dance Studio Mr Ashton
Recreational Football	2.45-4pm	S1	Football Pitch Mr Barratt

THURSDAY

Club	When	Open to	Where
BSL Club	Lunch	ALL	Mr Wells Rm 006
Quiz Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 312 Miss Griffiths & Miss Petrie
Horrible Histories Club	Lunch	S1-5	Rm 310 Mr MacDiarmid
Board Games & Puzzles	Lunch	ALL	Rm 107 Miss Matheson
Girls Fitness	Lunch	S3-4	Fitness Suite
Rainbow Club (LGBTQ+)	Lunch	ALL	Drama Box
LEGO Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 007
Choir	Lunch	ALL	Rm 010
Wind Band	3.35- 4.35pm	ALL	Atrium
Dance	3.35- 4.45pm	S1-3	Dance Studio Miss Russell

FRIDAY

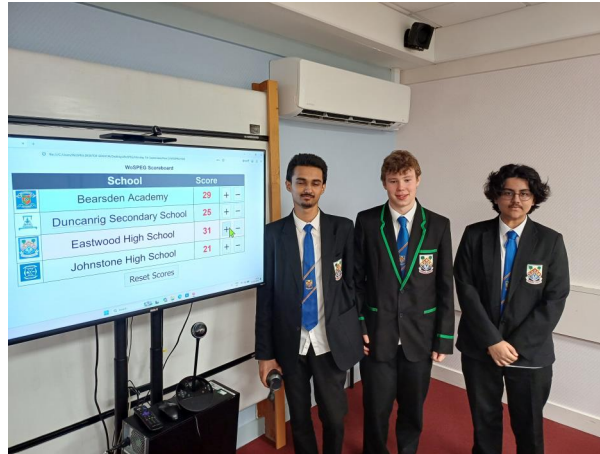
Club	When	Open to	Where
Crochet Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm. 219 Miss Lynn
Book Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 009 Mrs Seenan
Pokémon Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 117 Mr Watson
Music Technology Club	Lunch	ALL	Rm 019
Basketball	2.45-4pm	ALL	Games Hall 162 Mr Gibson
Water Polo	2.45-4pm	ALL	Swimming Pool

Physics Competition

Our S5 Physics team (Izyan, Adam, Ayyan) were competing in the first round of the West of Scotland Physics Educational Group (WoSPEG) annual competition. The competition involves 28 in teams in total from the west of Scotland. In our round 1 heat at UWS (Paisley), there were 7 rounds of challenging questions on Physics and general knowledge and our team prevailed to go into the semi-finals in October!

At the university, the team also got to experience some interesting physics experiments such as making superconductors and observing what happens when a balloon is placed into liquid nitrogen.

Good luck for the semi-finals boys!



Future Asset Competition: We're Ready!

We have two brilliant teams taking part in this year's Future Asset Investment Competition!

Over the next few weeks, the girls are stepping into the shoes of professional investors. Working alongside a real industry coach, each team has to research a major company, dive into its financial health, evaluate its environmental and social impact and present a case for whether it's worth a long term investment. They'll be putting together a full analytical report and filming a 3 minute video pitch to convince the judges.

To kick things off, both teams recently visited Barclays for the Future Asset Competition Kick Off Event to learn the ropes of stock market investing and get inspired for the challenge ahead.

- **Team 1 (Burberry): Jenna, Raghad, Hibba & Aiyla**
- **Team 2 (TSMC): Aliza, Abeera, Safaa & Noor**

Both teams are super focused, working hard on their pitches and definitely in it to win it. Wish them luck!

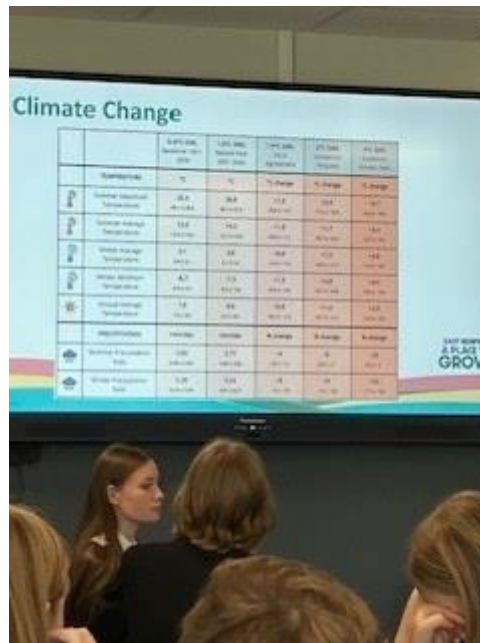


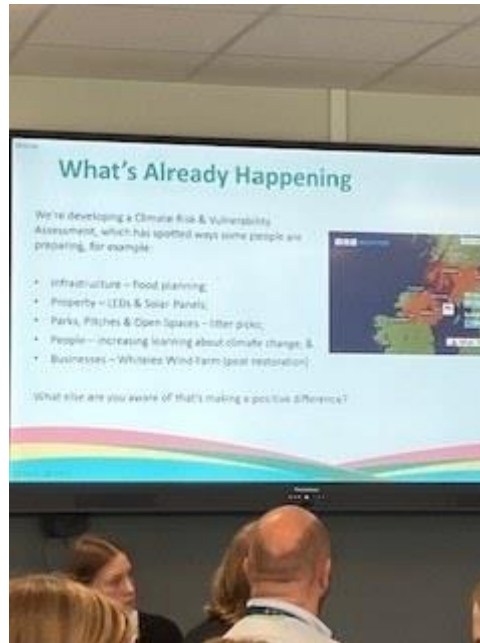
ERC'S Climate Resilience Plan

Pupils from the Higher Geography class spent time with the local authority Climate Education officer, the Net Zero Manager and the Resilience Officer, to engage with the new *Climate Resilience Plan* for the authority. This process involved identifying the local areas, people, and services, most likely to be affected by climate change and considering how ERC could respond through both adaptation and mitigation measures.

This session was about ensuring that the voices of young people were included. Pupils were supported to identify what they believed to be the greatest climate-related risks facing them and their communities and discuss how we can respond appropriately to these challenges, now and in the coming years.

The students were praised for their excellent engagement and ideas throughout this session, many of which have been noted by the visiting team for consideration.





Mentors in Violence

Well done to 50 of our S5 pupils who completed their MVP training over 2 days and are now ready to deliver lessons to S1 PSHE classes after the October week.



Sponsored Walk

Earlier this month S1&S2 took on a 5K sponsored walk around the local community. It was great to see so many parents out supporting our young people as they completed this!

The total sponsor money raised is £2515.50 - a huge thank you to everyone who sponsored one of our young people!



Parent Council Update

Hello, I'm Denny Henderson, the new Chair of the Eastwood High School Parent Council. One of the things we'd like to do this year is use the school newsletter to keep parents and carers more regularly updated on what the Parent Council is discussing and working on.

We held our first meeting of the school year on 1 September. We heard an update from the school on attainment and the priorities for the year ahead, as well as the new modular classrooms now in use. We also heard that the new mobile phone policy has had a very positive start, with almost 100% compliance and a noticeable reduction in pupils missing lesson time.

We also discussed how information is shared with parents and carers. The Parent Council has asked whether a parent-friendly summary of the School Improvement Plan can be made available, and whether more information can be shared on success across the wider curriculum and on pupils' positive destinations after leaving Eastwood.

We're also working on updating the Parent Council section of the school website, so that it is easier to find information about who we are, what we do and how to get involved.

Our next Parent Council meeting will be on **Tuesday 3 November at 7.00pm**.

If you have a question, suggestion or an issue of wider interest that you think the Parent Council should be aware of, you can contact me at EastwoodParentCouncil@gmail.com.

We're delighted to welcome five new S1 parent/carer members to the Parent Council this year. Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward — we had more applicants than available places, and it was really encouraging to see such strong interest in getting involved.

PTA Fundraising Group

Our PTA Fundraising Group, led by Sidra Hasan, does a fantastic job supporting the school through fundraising and serving refreshments at school events.

Last year, the group raised over £2,000, which is going towards a new laptop trolley for the school. We still have more to raise, so we would love to grow our pool of PTA volunteers.

Helping doesn't have to mean a big commitment — even one hour, once a year, would be amazing. This might be helping with refreshments at a school event, supporting the annual raffle, or getting involved with another fundraising idea.

If you would be happy to help, please add your details using the form below. You can then be added to the PTA WhatsApp group and hear about opportunities to get involved:

[Eastwood PTA Fundraising Group – Fill out form](#)

Thank you to everyone who already gives their time and support — it really does make a difference.

Achievements

At Eastwood, we are keen to recognise and celebrate successes achieved by our young people, not only in the classroom, but at home and in the wider community as well. If you would like to share an achievement with us, please fill in the form which is linked [here](#), and can also be accessed via the school websites 'Achievement' section.

Congratulations to Kayla (S1) who was selected to perform as a harp soloist at Glasgow City Halls, taking part in a public concert (West of Scotland Schools String Orchestra) alongside other young musicians.

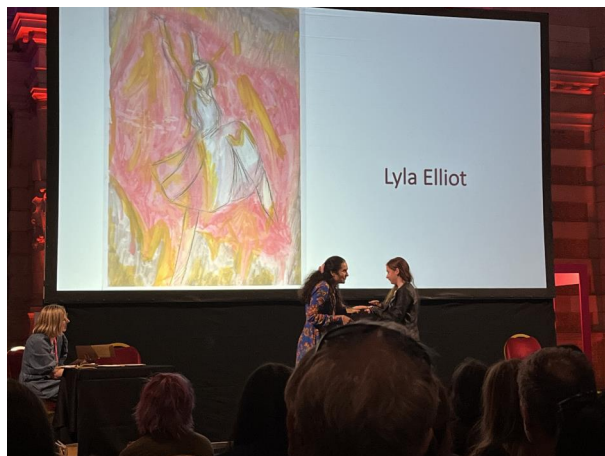
This was a significant achievement and reflected the hard work, dedication and confidence she has developed through her harp studies.

Well done Kayla!





Congratulations to our two pupils, Lyla and Aritri (both S3) who competed in Kelvingrove's Art Competition for Young People 2026. The girls attended the awards ceremony this month, where Lyla received a Bronze award and Aritri a Silver Award. Well done girls!





Valentina (S1) competed in the Scottish Gymnastic Women's Artistic 2026 Classic challenge with her club, Hamilton Gymnastics Club. She competed Bronze level 2012-2016 and achieved 3rd place on Beam and 9th overall. She showed great determination and resilience and it paid off with her excellent achievements!

Well done Valentina!



Congratulations to Theo who was selected to represent Scotland at the European TaeKwon-Do championships in Italy this year.

Not only was he representing his country, he is now a European Silver medallist for sparring!

Amazing Theo, well done!



Over the summer Erin (S6) was selected for Scotland U18 summer series, which included a tour to the Netherlands where they played both the Netherlands and Wales U18 and won both matches.

She has also been selected for the Scottish rugby national talent pathway for this year. What a fantastic achievement Erin!



Congratulations to our swimmers Olivia and Beth (both S1) who achieved medals in their recent swimming competition!

Congratulations to Archie (S3) who won in the sparring section of the North Lanarkshire Kickboxing competition. A great achievement.



Enhanced Support Committee



1 - A new pupil-led committee has been created, open to all neurodivergent or disabled pupils and meeting every Friday lunchtime in C006.

The aim of the committee is to raise awareness of enhanced support needs and offer a safe space for pupils to come together to discuss matters affecting them, to make new friends and to set up activities celebrating their diversity.

Family Support

We are often asked by organisations like East Renfrewshire Good Causes to identify families who require support from across our school community and are aware that we may not always know your circumstances. If you feel like you would benefit from additional support

from any organisation or there are circumstances that we may not be aware of please let us know. This information will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be discussed with your child, unless you wish us to do so.

If there is anything that you would like us to know, please email SchoolMail@eastwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk FAO your child's PT Pastoral Care and Depute Head Teacher.

East Renfrewshire Council's Free School Meals, Clothing Grants and Educational Maintenance Allowances

Are you due financial support for your child at school?

Educational Maintenance Allowance

Free School Meals / Clothing Grant

If you are receiving Employment Support Allowance, Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Support under Immigration and Asylum, Universal Credit then your child qualifies for free school meals and a clothing grant. If you have a council tax reduction or housing benefit, then you qualify for a clothing grant. However, it is important you claim for these by applying online <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals> The applications for free school meals and clothing grants 2026/27 will soon be open.

Scottish Government Consultation – restricting mobile phones in school

The Scottish Government has said it will make a law to restrict personal use of mobile phones in all of Scotland's schools. This consultation is to inform the development of the legislation.

The consultation is open until 17th November 2026.

[Restricting mobile phones in Scotland's schools - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultations/2026/11/restricting-mobile-phones-in-schools/pages/1/)

Parking

The parking area at Capelrig House is for disabled badge holders only. No one else should be using this for pick up or drop off. I am aware that the weather has been really poor recently and that this area is closer to the school but we cannot allow this to be used by anyone else. I have asked for support from Traffic Wardens. I am very grateful to you for your understanding and support with this.

Important Dates

Thu 1st Oct - S4 Parent's Evening 4pm – 6.30pm

Fri 2nd Oct - UCAS Early Applications

Thu 8th Oct - Attendance Report 1 to parents

Fri 9th Oct - S1 Tracking Reports to parents

Fri 9th Oct - INSERVICE DAY Closed to pupils

Fri 9th Oct – Fri 16th Oct - OCTOBER HOLIDAYS

TERM 2

Mon 19th Oct - SCHOOL RESUMES 8.45am

Tue 22nd Oct - Culture Day

Thu 22nd Oct - S5/6 Parent's Evening 4pm – 6.30pm

Mon 26th Oct - Flu Immunisation (Day 1)

Tues 27th Oct - Flu Immunisation (Day 2)

Thu 29th Oct - Careers Event (S1-S6) 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Tue 3rd Nov - S2 Full Reports to parents

Tue 3rd Nov - Parent Council 7pm – 9pm