

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter

August 2012

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Special points of interest:

Important Dates

21st Sept Holiday
24th Sept Holiday
26th Sept P6/7 Open Evening
11th October School closes
12th October In Service Day
22nd October School re-opens
30th October S1 Enterprise Event
6th November S1 Parents' Evening
15th & 16th November S5 Mock Interviews
3rd December S4 Prelims begin
21st December School Closes
7th January School Re-opens
15th January S3 Industry Awareness Day
16th January S2 Options Hour & Parents' Evening

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Dear Parent

If you are the parent of a new S1 pupil let me first welcome you to Eastwood High. I know that your son/daughter will do well here and you should know that we will all do our best for them to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in ensuring that all pupils wear the **Eastwood HS uniform**. This is one way that we can all show our pride in ourselves and the school. The standard of uniform has been excellent at the start of term with many pupils wearing blazers and I would ask for your further support to ensure that these standards are maintained throughout the session. The school also has a limited number of brand new blazers for purchase (£30). Please see Mr Richmond or Mrs MacGlashan for further information.

I'm sure you will agree that it is important that the school receives its full allocation of resources. 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. Some 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 to a free meal for your child **please apply** and help your child(ren) receive their fair share of resources.

S Maxwell



Super Students

Congratulations to five Eastwood High School pupils **Laura Cheng, Mark Kyle, Murray Marrant, Alastair Stables and Emma Wilson** who achieved 10 A grades in their S4 Intermediate 2 examinations. Eastwood offers S4 pupils the chance to gain ten awards by sitting Intermediate 2

RMPS and PE on top of the normal eight subjects. Well done also

to **Chloe and Rachael Boyd (S2)** who sat their Intermediate 2 Spanish exam while they were still in S1 and achieved A passes—an excellent result for both girls!



Advanced Higher Art and Design Event

Congratulations to **Hazel McKelvie**, from last year's Advanced Higher Art class, whose Folio of work has been selected to be showcased at the second national **Advanced Higher Art and Design exhibition** in October at Williamwood High School. This is a great accolade for Hazel and to the Learning and Teaching in our Art and Design Department. The event takes place on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th October with a selection of workshops and presentations by practitioners and former Advanced Higher candidates.

Edinburgh Book Festival Trip

This year all S2 pupils were given the opportunity to visit the **Book Festival** and see an author. On one visit the pupils saw the Australian author **Garth Nix**. Garth's Science Fiction/Fantasy books are popular at Eastwood. He talked about the difficulties he had in becoming published. How he wrote a book (longhand first and then onto a computer); how listening to music altered his writing. He also gave some short readings and answered questions from the audience. One S2 pupil **Leo Kumagai** was delighted to get a book signed by Garth. In another visit two authors, **Anne Cassidy** and **Sophie MacKenzie**, talked about how they created mystery and excitement in their books. Some of the group had read books by the authors and they heard about the techniques adopted to weave a story in an hour which left the group feeling inspired. The final visit saw authors **Keith Gray**, **Kate Harrison** and **Sally Nicols** focus on the subject of the afterlife, a subject often taboo in society. The 3 writers talked about how they approached this topic in different ways and then illustrated it by reading short extracts from their latest works and answering questions. Organising the trips has been a massive undertaking. A big thank you must go to all the staff involved but especially **Mrs McLaughlin**.



Sunflower Competition

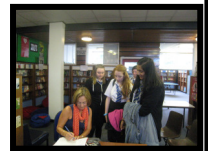
As part of their Biology course, Dr Lowe's S4 Biology class took part in a **Sunflower growing competition**.

Pupils grew the plants from seed and learned how to look after the plant at different stages in its lifecycle. In June the height of all the plants were measured to decide the winner. Well done to **Natalie Anderson** and **Megan Taylor** whose Sunflower measured 146.5cm.



Author Chris Higgins Visit

Eastwood was lucky enough to host an author event on the first Friday back after the summer holidays. Though **Chris Higgins** lives in Cornwall, she was able to come to Eastwood as she was visiting the Edinburgh Festival. She contacted **Miss De'Ath** (librarian), in response to a fan email she received from **Shazia Rahid** an S2 pupil. Chris read from her books and brought her latest script to show the group. She explained how she produced her characters and talked about the themes of her books. The pupils (a mixture of third years), were then able to buy her books and Chris very kindly signed them.



Competition Winner

Congratulations to **Ben Donaghue (S4)** whose article in the May edition of our newsletter about the school's Physics trip to the SECC Radiation conference won the Society for Radiological Protection's competition. Thirty schools from across the whole of Scotland attended the event and Ben's article, chosen as the best entry, has won him £100! Well done!

Charity News

Before the holidays on Friday 22 June, **Mrs White** and the **Higher Business Management class** held a **Wii Olympics Event** in the Assembly Hall at Lunchtime to raise funds for **CLIC Sargent** - a charity which cares for children and young people with cancer. The charity was chosen by the class as part of their social enterprise project. They surpassed their £100 target by raising a marvellous £120 for the charity. Well done to everyone involved.



Congratulations also to **Joanna Dougall (S3)** who helped host a **Marie Curie**

Cancer Care Coffee Afternoon on Saturday 25 August in memory of her aunt who passed away in May. Over £1000 was raised—a fantastic sum, well done!



School Meals On-line Payment

A reminder that you can load money on to your child's account online to pay for school meals. You can access this by clicking the "Pay" logo on the school website. You will need your child's Scottish Candidate No. which is available from the Office.

Eco Committee News—Let's Grow Vouchers

The Eco Committee are yet again collecting Morrison's **Let's Grow Vouchers**. These are used to purchase resources for the Biology Department and gardening equipment for when we move into the new school. All vouchers from parents and guardians would be greatly appreciated. The vouchers will be collected by Dr Lowe in Rm 111.



Sports News

Congratulations to **Erin Wallace (S1)** and **Catherine Palmer (S4)** who have both been selected as part of the Giffnock North AAC Team to take part in the finals of the **UK Young Athletes** on 1st September 2012. The team will be representing Scotland in the Auxiliary Final of this prestigious competition. As reported in the June Newsletter the school's **Junior Cricket Team** won the Glasgow Schools' Cricket Association Junior Final this year by defeating Shawlands Academy. A report of the final can be found on the CricketEurope Scotland website here: <http://www.cricketeurope4.net/DATABASE/ARTICLES5/articles/000015/001596.shtml>