



# Academy News



Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, this has been a busy term at this wonderfully busy school. 2024 has been intense and eventful, and has seen a number of tremendous achievements from our young people. The pages that follow will give you an insight into life at Eastbank in recent months, and at the time of writing there are yet more events taking place during this last week of term.

The month of March is always heavily focused on preparing our senior pupils for the SQA exams, which begin on 22 April. We have had a full programme of supported study running since February, and are once again running our Easter School during the holiday. After the Easter break there will be a mere 5 school days remaining until the exams begin. We wish our seniors the very best as they prepare for and tackle these!

This week sees the first anniversary of the publication of our inspection report. A letter from the Executive Director of Education, updating you on the progress we have made in relation to the report's recommendations, will be shared with you in early course.

After the holiday, we will reach the final quarter of session 2023-24. I am grateful to all members of the Eastbank community for your support this year. I wish all staff, pupils, parents and carers a very happy and relaxing break, and look forward to a positive and successful summer term!

Yours aye,  
Jonathan Graham

## School Term Dates

### **April 2024:**

Schools close at 2.30pm on  
Thursday 28 March

Friday 29 March – Friday 12 April  
(*Spring Break*)

Schools return on  
Monday 15 April

### **May 2024:**

Friday 3 May  
(*In-service day*)

Monday 6 May  
(*May Holiday*)

Friday 24 May and Monday 27  
May  
(*May Weekend*)

### **June 2024:**

Schools close at 1pm on  
Wednesday 26 June

## **iPads**

Please remember to bring your fully charged iPad to school.



## Lawyers in Schools Programme

S3 Modern Studies pupils completed their Lawyers in Schools programme run by CMS Law and Young Citizens. They took part in 3 sessions learning all about the law and the rights that young people have. The lawyers were very impressed with the dedication and effort from the S3 pupils! Well done to all involved!



## Live-n-Learn

60 of our S3 pupils took part in a workshop run by Live-n-Learn where they developed their team work skills to solve a variety of problems, used their creative skills to sell random objects to each other and played a game of Deal or No Deal to show how resilient they are. This was a fun-filled morning that left pupils feeling inspired and motivated.



## Prince's Trust Achieve Club

S3 and S4 Prince's Trust Achieve Club attended the "Bridging the App" event where they worked on their coding skills and created and presented their own apps. Everyone had a great time and especially enjoyed the pizza buffet for lunch.



## Purple Friday

On Friday 23rd February, the last Friday of LGBT History Month, Eastbank Academy participated in LGBT Youth Scotland's 'Purple Friday' fundraiser. Pupils and staff were encouraged to accessorise their uniform with purple, which represents the spirit of the LGBT+ community and its allies. We raised a total of £69.64 for LGBT Youth Scotland through donations, which the charity will use to continue their amazing work supporting LGBT+ young people in Scotland. Thank you to everyone who donated and took part!



## The Masked Reader

As part of World Book Day, teachers read parts from their favourite books with pupils guessing the masked reader. Thanks to all staff who got involved and well done if you managed to guess correctly!



## World Book Day

Eastbank enjoyed an amazing World Book Day on March 7th, with lots of activities going on.

First of all, the Literary Council of S1 and S6 pupils were asked to design a promotional poster and make some decorations for the library. As you can see, they came up with amazing ideas which helped set the tone for the day itself.

When World Book Day came around, all S1 pupils were gifted a World Book Day book with our S6 Literary Prefects going round classes to distribute them. As well as this, during lunchtime there was a bake sale and a "Guess the number of pages in the book" game, which were both a great success. The Literary Council wanted to be as inclusive as possible in their fundraising efforts, with the cakes and game asking for a "pay what you can" donation.

Our lucky winner of the Book Pages competition was Selina Huang who won a shopping voucher and some chocolate.

By the end of the day, Eastbank had raised an amazing £150 for 'Category 1s Books' for their "pay it forward" facility, which gives people access to books who may not have been able to afford to do so otherwise. Fantastic work Eastbank!



WORLD BOOK DAY  
7 MARCH 2024



### Burns' Supper

We had an incredible Burns' Supper lunch which was hosted by our Hospitality class. A big thanks to Calvin Scott for organising. Also, a big thank you to Mr Dunsmore for his address to the haggis.



### Buddy Programme

Some of our S3 pupils have been taking on a leadership role in supporting raising attainment with some of our S1 pupils. They have been magnificent role models in buddying S1 and demonstrating all of our school values whilst doing so! The S1 have been focussed whilst working with their buddy and we are delighted with how they have conducted themselves. Well done to all pupils involved!



### S4 Prince's Achieve Club

S4 Prince's Trust Achieve Club recently collected five bags of litter from the Astroturf pitch, in the rain! They are no strangers to a litter pick as this forms a regular part of the programme of activities for the Prince's Trust Achieve qualification. However a special mention must be made of the extra effort they put in to this task. Well done!



### S3 Shipwrecked Challenge

On Wednesday 13 March a dedicated team from S3 attended the Shipwrecked Skills Day at the City of Glasgow College. The day saw collaboration, team work and creative minds work together and present to over 100 other participants and organisers who were very complimentary of the skills set on display.

A testimony:

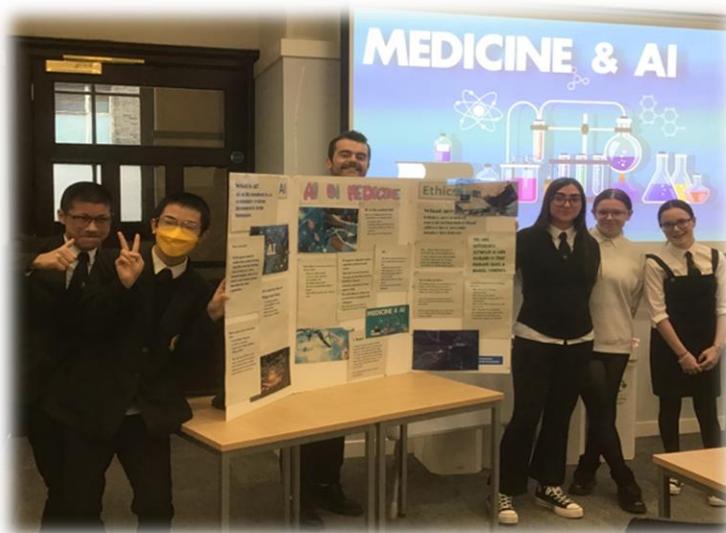
*"The shipwrecked challenge was overall a pretty enjoyable and productive experience. We got the opportunity to put our creative minds to the test with the scenario of the teams participating being all shipwrecked on an island and tasked to try and create and present a safe and fun experience to people involved with the challenge. Finally, we also got to meet some interesting and incredible people from all sorts of organisations who supported us throughout the challenge."*

Many thanks to our wonderful DYW team Mrs Donald and Mrs Jinadu for supporting the young people on this experience.



## University of Strathclyde Chemical Ambassadors 2024

The Young Chemical Ambassador Programme trains third year pupils to become ambassadors for Chemical Engineering. Shortlisted teams of up to 5 pupils are paired with a Chemical & Process Engineering mentor who will support them throughout the programme. This year's project was titled "So Are We Really Ethical Engineers?" and the pupils were to research the ethics behind an engineering idea, real or imagined. Eastbank Academy's team choice was "The Ethics in using AI in Medicine." The 5 S3 pupils were Nerea Lopez, Lara Mulligan, Grace Whitten, Ethan Huang and Johnny Zhou. The pupils delivered a well-researched and confident presentation on the topic which achieved first prize of £40 amazon vouchers and science kits. Congratulations to all. A thank you goes to Theo Tait, their mentor and University of Strathclyde for their support and encouragement.



# Amazing!

### Family Fund

National charity Family Fund has grants available for families in Scotland on a low income, raising a disabled or seriously ill child aged 17 or younger. Grant items include clothing and bedding, white goods, furniture, kitchen appliances, sensory and play equipment, and digital devices. Look at their website for more details:

[Scotland programme - Family Fund](#)

Family Fund social media handles:

- Instagram - @FamilyFund
- Facebook - @FamilyFund
- Twitter - @FamilyFund



BBC Children in Need Emergency Essentials Programme



### Kelpies Success

Despite the torrential rain, the Eastbank team completed the Kelpies Night 5k run with a smile on our faces! Thank you so much to all those who sponsored us as we ran in memory of Melissa. The total we have raised so far is £670 which is amazing and will help vital research into the symptoms of Sepsis.



**TEAMWORK  
MAKES THE  
DREAM  
WORK**

### P7 Visit

We had the privilege of hosting a fun STEM event for primary 7 pupils within our learning community. This was a fantastic event and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you to Clyde Gateway for hosting and to our visitors for taking the time to judge the designs!



### Staff v Pupils Football Match

We held our annual staff v pupils football match on Thursday 28 March. Well done to our pupils who won 3-2!

Well done to everyone involved.

"it's not the winning but the taking part that counts"

Founder of the Olympics, Baron Pierre de Coubertin



### Study Skills

There are many study techniques which are used in many classes across a range of subjects. These include: flash cards, summary notes, mind maps, past papers, active recall, blurting, Quizlet and mnemonics.

Our school You Tube page has some visual demonstrations of how to apply these when studying. Scan the QR code below for quick access.



### Study PowerPoints

Staff have produced slides which summarise important study advice for all Senior Phase pupils. This collates everything in the one document and will prove very useful to pupils as they prepare for exams.

It can be accessed at the following link:  
[https://manage.appscentral.co.uk/uploads/client/documents/4306/1c7f\\_Senior%20Phase%20Study%20Guide.pdf](https://manage.appscentral.co.uk/uploads/client/documents/4306/1c7f_Senior%20Phase%20Study%20Guide.pdf)

## ambition

**am-bih-shonl**      *noun*

an overwhelming drive and determination to achieve goals, targets and success. dream bigger.

### Achieve

Achieve is an online study resource to which pupils have access. Pupils have their own log-in and can personalise their account with their subjects and levels to ensure easy access to resources to support their learning.

This resource breaks down each subject into topics and has knowledge and understanding areas for each topic with links to past paper questions, marking instructions and further websites.

The resource can be found at  
[www.achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk](http://www.achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk)



IF YOU PUT IN THE  
**TIME+**  
**EFFORT**  
YOU WILL SEE THE  
**RESULTS**

### Easter School

**Dates:**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

**Times:**

Morning session: 9.30am – 12noon

Afternoon session: 12.30pm – 3pm

A timetable of subjects on offer will be issued to pupils on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. This will also be displayed on the school app, Twitter page and school website for information.

