



Academy News



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter.

It has been a very busy year with lots of trips, activities, and events taking place across our school community. A veritable roller coaster of a term – literally – with 300 of our young people having just returned from reward trips to either Blackpool Pleasure Beach or M&Ds. Both were enormous fun for everyone involved and, as always, our pupils conducted themselves incredibly well, ensuring our values were fully in evidence at all times.

We have once again had the pleasure of hosting our senior prom, our S6 graduation, and our BGE awards ceremonies, all of which were very uplifting and enjoyable events. And of course, we have had the pleasure of the company of P7 pupils from our associated primary schools, who will be joining us as S1 in August!

I cannot fail to mention the exams, as our senior phase pupils tackled these over the course of May (and indeed late April). I have no doubt that our pupils gave it everything they had, and I very much hope that they are delighted with their results when they are released on 6 August.

As is always the case at the end of term, we say goodbye to senior pupils, and to a few staff as well. Mrs Jinadu left Eastbank at the end of May, after more than 5 years at the school, and Mr Oliver of the English department retires after 8 years at Eastbank. We wish both well in their new endeavours, and also to those colleagues leaving us after shorter periods of service here.

I would like to congratulate all pupils on their wide-ranging achievements this year. In addition to making impressive progress in their learning, pupils have worked incredibly hard to use their skills and talents to contribute to the success of our school community. We are very proud of the achievements of our pupils, all of whom are a credit to our school, to you and their families, and to themselves.

I would also like to thank you, our parents and carers, for your continued support as we work in partnership to secure positive outcomes for our pupils. I hope that you enjoy viewing the achievements and successes of our pupils in the pages ahead and I hope that you, your families, and all members of our school community have an enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday.

Best wishes,

Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

School Term Dates

June 2024:

School closes at 1pm on
Wed 26 June

August:

Mon 12 August
(Inservice day)
Tues 13 August
(Inservice day)
Wed 14 August
(Return date for pupils)

September:

Fri 27 & Mon 30
(September weekend
holiday)



S4 Sport & Recreation Group

Our new S4 Sport & Recreation group along with the Duke of Edinburgh group helped run our annual P7 athletics festival. The leaders organised and led the 260 Primary 7s into groups and delivered sporting activities to all 10 groups. It was a fantastic event because of their enthusiasm, teamwork and leadership skills.



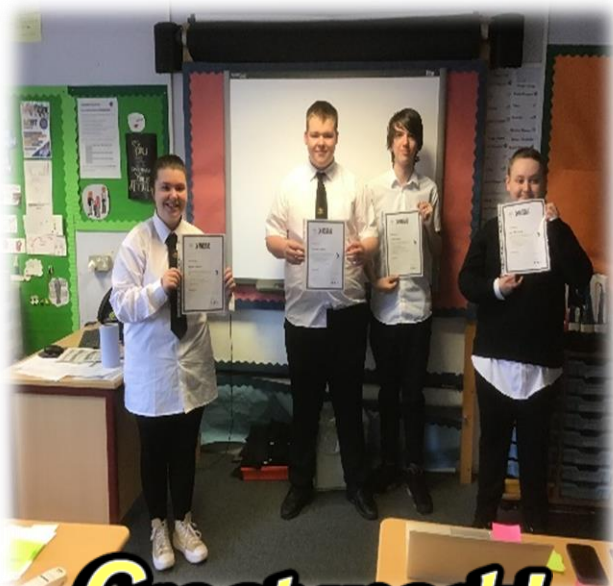
Well done team!

Prince's Trust

S3 pupils took part in an 8-week Mosaic programme with Prince's Trust. They had weekly group sessions with business mentors and worked on developing skills such as:

- *Confidence and self-belief*
- *Self-awareness and self-management*
- *Decision making*
- *Social awareness*
- *Employability skills*

The pupils were congratulated on their participation, team work and enthusiasm.



Great work!

Powering Futures Qualification

Ten Senior Phase pupils from Mr Higgins Criminology class successfully achieved their Level 6 'Powering Futures' qualification at the end of March. The pupils had to work as part of a team to come up with a viable solution to a sustainability challenge set by sector leading businesses. Over the course of the Challenge Programme, they researched and collaborated on a solution, concluding with a presentation to a panel of industry judges. During the programme they developed 'meta-skills' such as teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking and resilience - skills vital for their future. The judges all commended the pupils on their excellent presentations.

FOCUS West

On 18 June, 60 of our new S4 pupils were involved in the FOCUS West Higher Education Guidance Sessions held in school, which followed a 30-strong cohort who attended the FOCUS West Campus Day at Strathclyde University on 30th April. Everyone enjoyed the interactive experience of both events! FOCUS West is a schools' programme that aims to widen access to Higher Education.



Focus on College and University Study
West of Scotland

University of Glasgow

3 –7 June: **Kyle Morton** of S5 attended a **University Taster Week** at Glasgow University.

10 – 21 June: **Chantell Aiguedoueau, Yousef Al-Bazoni, Nikita Bhandar, Sahra Chouder, Kieran Duffy, Turan Huseynov, Cany Malazada, Cyndi Martins Montu, Rhys McMullan, Chloe Morrison, Cameron O'Donnell, Wiktorja Szer** and **Lucia White** all attended a **University Experience Week** at Glasgow University.

17 – 21 June: **Yousef Al-Bazoni, Nikita Bhandari** and **Amy McTurk** all attended their **REACH Programme** Campus week, again at University of Glasgow. The REACH Programme supports access to four professional degrees offered by the University - Dentistry, Law, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. Pupils' participation in the programme takes place over the three years of their senior phase (S4 to S6), and they cover everything from introducing pupils to the four professional subject areas in S4 to supporting their applications to these degrees in S6.

Just before Easter, 40 S4 pupils took part on an in-school **Reach Intro** session which also included information about the **ACCESS to a CAREER Programme**, focussing on those who are interested in a career in Accountancy, Primary Teaching or Engineering.



LGBT+ Pride Bake Sale and Picnic

Eastbank's LGBTQ+ group organised a pride picnic and bake sale which happened on June 18th to raise funds for LGBT Youth Scotland and celebrate Pride month.

The picnic took place in the Eastbank gardens and was open to all students and staff to attend.

One student who attended said "With baked goods filling the table and a tub overflowing with donations, the community showed their support massively today. Doubtless the event was more than a success."

The picnic was a hit and was well attended by both students and staff, some of which were generous enough to donate baking for the bake sale to raise money. Overall we raised £154.

This event helped to display Eastbank as an inclusive school experience for all and has helped to show parents that their children will be safe at Eastbank.



No Scotland, No Party

On 14 June, Mr Graham allowed pupils to wear their Scotland top over their uniform to support our national team.



Glasgow Maths Challenge

Four of our new S2 pupils went along to Shawlands Academy to compete in the Glasgow Maths Challenge with 26 other Glasgow schools. **Zhe Yu, Christine, Adam** and **Andrew** displayed exceptional teamwork as they tackled two rounds of Maths questions and puzzles. Their resilience, logic and exceptional skill were evident as they ran the hosts, and eventual winners, close until the end. All four were a real credit to the school, and the Maths department. Well done!



Excellent Effort!

S4 Health Sector

The new S4 Health Sector class worked alongside William in FARE to obtain a Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work. The department are very proud of them all for participating in a full day of theory and practical training.



Maximise May

Some 4th year pupils took part in a movement called Maximise May. This took place during the time period of the SQA exams and gave pupils the opportunity to develop teamwork and resilience. This was done in school, on the hills and even in town! Well done to all pupils involved.



Teamwork makes the dream work

Pupil Voice Forum

Young people developed their knowledge of the UNCRC, learned some conversational Gaelic and discovered more about sustainability by attending a presentation about an edible garden. They used this knowledge to feedback to pupil councils and spoke confidently about this during the RRSA accreditation visit. Well done to **Alfie Phillips, Yu Chen, Ogo Olapegba, Kylie Zheng, Yin Chen, Adrianna Tarnowska, Ariston Lourenco, Ray Sharp, Ella Thomas, Mason Lavery, Omima Benhach, Jessica Boardman, Lennon Hill**



Well done!

Trades House Competition

We had the following pupils have their work recognised in the annual Trades House competition. The Trades House awards pupil's work across Technical departments in Glasgow. This was our most successful year yet!

S3 BGE Awards – Woodwork - **Grace Whitten** Commended
S3 BGE Awards – Plastic - **Lauren O'Neill** 1st Prize
National 5 Awards - Woodwork - **Robin McDonald** 1st Prize
National 5 Awards – Design and Manufacture - **David Law** Commended
National 5 Awards – Design and Manufacture - **Iris Wong** 1st Prize
National 5 Awards – Design and Manufacture (Folio) **Jessica Linn** 2nd prize
Higher Awards – Design and Manufacture (Folio) **Jonah Brooks** 1st prize



Fantastic!

North East Glasgow Schools Athletics Final

Team Eastbank won the North East Glasgow Schools athletics final at Crownpoint for the first time ever. The pupils performed amazingly and won 16 medals (10 gold, 1 silver, 5 bronze).



Amazing!

Glasgow/Scottish Track & Field Championships

Jack Gillon has participated in both Glasgow Schools track and field championship and the Scottish schools track and field championship.

He ran the 800m in both events.

At both events Jack recorded a time of 02:30 which secured him 3rd place at Glasgow Schools.



Rights Respecting School Award – Silver

In May, Eastbank Academy were awarded the Silver Status of the Rights Respecting Schools Award. This involved a rigorous accreditation process by UNICEF who read through our evidence pack and self-evaluation. It also involved a group of 12 young people and a panel of staff being interviewed by UNICEF to examine if Eastbank Academy met the criteria. Our feedback stated that *'The enthusiastic groups of young people were confident and assured in discussing rights, especially so when exploring important rights concepts such as universality and unconditionality'*. We were awarded a very strong silver and look forward to progressing to Gold in school year 2024 - 2025!



ACCREDITATION OUTCOME

Outcomes for Strands A, B and C have all been achieved.

Amazing!

Eastbank Academy has met the standard for UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting Schools Award at Silver: Rights Aware.

Outstanding Contribution

Many congratulations to **Lewis Russell** of S5 who attended the City Chambers on 14 June to receive an award from Glasgow Kelvin College for outstanding contribution in his Senior Phase College course. Very well done to Lewis! Splendat lux!



Well done!

Theatre Trip

Some of our S3 music students went to see a performance of La Traviata at the Theatre Royal with Miss Wilson and Mr Bruce.



S2 IDL

Our S2 pupils recently embarked on an interdisciplinary learning (IDL) project focused on diversity. This initiative integrated various subjects, encouraging students to explore and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultural, social, and individual differences within their community and beyond. Through engaging activities, collaborative research, and creative presentations, pupils developed a deeper understanding of diversity, fostering empathy, inclusion, and global awareness. This project not only enhanced the academic skills of pupils, but also nurtured personal growth and social responsibility, preparing students to be thoughtful, inclusive citizens in an increasingly interconnected world. On Monday 17th June we held our very own EastBanksy Exhibition to showcase the amazing work that our S2's created and presented during the IDL project.



BGE Awards Ceremony

Our Prestigious Awards Ceremony took place on Tuesday 11th June and there were three musical items. Firstly, "5 Guys" from S2 composed their own songs based on "Diversity" during a whole school IDL project. Their songs were a Rap, a Reggae Song and a Classical Song. Our 2nd musical item was **Johnny Zhou** of S4. He played "Anitra's Dans" on the Cello and lastly, we had The Funk band, The School Orchestra and The Choir joining forces to sing and play Kool and the Gang's "Celebration". Thank you also to our new senior hospitality class for providing the refreshments. It was a fantastic evening and all involved should be very proud of themselves.

Congratulations to all the prize winners.



Library Awards and Reading Motivation

The library has been celebrating in colour just before the summer holidays. In June, it was Pride Month and it was a great reason to show off our amazing collection of LGBTQ+ books. They were very popular with the pupils and many went out on loan too. Hand in hand with the LGBTQ+ club's wonderful Pride Picnic, it was a fantastic time for the school.



More importantly in June, it is a time to celebrate the work of successful pupils in BGE who have really excelled in their reading this year. It is amazing to see the library well used, but even more amazing seeing pupils enjoying reading and starting on the journey of a lifetime. Reading can indeed take you anywhere, and reading regularly will definitely help with all of your schoolwork as you progress. To recognize their exceptional reading over the year, a certificate and gift card were given out. The pupils who impressed Mrs Marshall, Mrs Morrison, Mr Forlow and the English Department were many, however we did manage to come to these outstanding award winners:

S1 Reader of the Year - ***Autumn Bailey Kenny***

S2 Reader of the Year - ***Rebekah Blackshaw***

Fresh Start Reader of the Year - ***Bentley Black***

Also, for their continued and consistent help in the library over the school year, Mrs Marshall awarded 2 Reading Leaders with a certificate and gift card. They are:

Reading Leader of the Year (joint) - ***Amber Galloway***

Reading Leader of the Year (joint) - ***Kaci MacLean***



As we sign off for summer, Eastbank would love you to enjoy the break, and what better way to do that than by relaxing with a book. Happy holidays!

University of Strathclyde Glasgow

Two of our seniors, **Keiran Duffy** and **Cany Malazada**, took part in the Young Strathclyder Accelerate Programme at Strathclyde University. Accelerate is a week-long programme for pupils who will move into S5 or S6 just before summer to find out more about specific University subject areas that they might be interested in going on to study. There will be nine Accelerate subject areas in 2024, representing all of Strathclyde's four faculties.



Cost of the School Day: Thank you

Eastbank Academy sends its heartfelt gratitude to **HCS Water** who has afforded our young people a kind financial donation in an attempt to further reduce and remove any financial barriers to full participation in school. This donation will go towards purchasing some uniform for our much depleted uniform bank, some toiletries and the like.

Lianne Corrie from HCS Water kindly handed over the cheque to **Mrs Gray** which was then greatly received by **Mr Graham** and some of our S6 young people: **Biatris, Chloe, Cameron** and **Riley**.

Thank you!



We also extend our deepest gratitude to Mrs Corrie who, with kindness in her heart, also made a favourable donation to our School Fund in order to support the Cost of the School Day.

Uniform donations welcome

We welcome donations of any uniform item to our uniform bank and so, if you have any items that have been outgrown, such as shirts, skirts, trousers or the like, please feel free to hand these in to the School Office where they will be gratefully received.



BARCLAYS “B in TECH” DAYS

40 of our S2 pupils followed by 40 S1 pupils attended the “B in Tech” days which were hosted by Barclays in their very impressive premises in Glasgow city centre.

There were talks from inspirational industry leaders in the Barclays Technology team, explaining what it’s like to work in Tech. Pupils rotated around the following activities:

- A tour of the Barclays Eagle Lab, where tech innovators and digital creators work on the latest, greatest tech.
- A tour of the Barclays workspace, showing what it’s really like to work in tech (they don’t just hide in dark rooms writing code!).
- A fun, practical coding activity – even if pupils had never coded before, this was a great chance to try some fun coding games with Barclays coders.
- Pupils heard from Graduate Apprentices who work in Technology at Barclays, and why they chose an apprenticeship.

All pupils had a great time taking part in the technical activities and seeing round the building. Not even a fire alarm could spoil their fun!



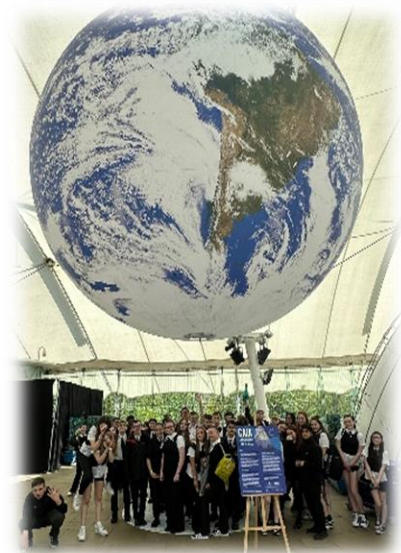
Senior Phase College

Upwards of 60 new S5 and S6 pupils have applied for and been accepted for Senior Phase College Places as part of their school timetable next session. Most have now attended their Induction Day and will be all set and looking forward to becoming part-time college students next session!



Dynamic Earth Trip

Participants of our S2 reward trip to Dynamic Earth are on top of the world with excitement (or should that be below the world).



Graduation 2024

The class of 2024 met formally for the final time to graduate from Eastbank Academy on 6 June 2024. Mr Graham awarded certificates of achievement to pupils. It was a very positive and uplifting occasion and we were delighted to see so many parents/carers in attendance. A big thank you to the Art department for making the mortarboards. Class of 2024, you've been a fantastic year group!



Prom 2024

What a fantastic night was had by all at the scenic Westerwood Hotel in Cumbernauld!

After a fantastic meal we danced the night away and finished our event with a super charged rendition of Loch Lomond.

Our thanks go to the staff at the Westerwood for making us so welcome and to all staff who helped to make the event a success. We wish all our senior pupils the best of luck in their future endeavours.



Congratulations Class of 2024!

BGE Reward Trips

This year, we have had two BGE reward trips to M&Ds and Blackpool. The weather was great and our pupils conducted themselves incredibly well, ensuring our values were fully in evidence at all times.



Activities Day

On 25 June, we had our activities day where pupils were able to choose from a variety of activities such as create your own friendship bracelets, dance, comic book creation etc. It was a fun day and pupils thoroughly enjoyed getting creative during their activities.

