



Academy News



Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm delighted to be able to welcome you to the latest edition of our termly publication, Academy News. It has been some 10 months since our last edition, "due to COVID" (I look forward to never hearing THAT phrase again), so it's great to be able to collate and communicate some positive news stories about the life and work of the school. I'm most grateful to Miss Reilly for leading on the production of this.

It's now 9 weeks since we returned in August after the extended interruption. It really was marvellous to be able to welcome our young people back, and it was great to get reacquainted with pupils, and recommence with learning!

A lot has changed in 2020, and there have been more changes imposed during the session. However, I'm delighted to say that everyone is adapting and trying very hard to make the best of the situation. While there are significant restrictions, staff are going to tremendous lengths to ensure young people enjoy the best learning experiences and get the most out of school.

I'm pleased to see that school attendance has been high, and, while there is still some room for improvement on the masks front, I must congratulate and thank those who have worn theirs diligently and showed concern for others.

The term ahead from October to Christmas will be busy, and there will continue to be challenges as we adapt to the 'new normal'. However, I have no doubt that we will all continue to work together and ensure that we will bring 2020 to a positive end at Eastbank Academy.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter.

Best wishes,

Jonathan Graham
Head Teacher

School Term Key Dates

October:

Friday 9th October
(In-Service Day)

Monday 12th- Friday 16th October
(October Week)

December:

School Closes at 2:30pm on Tuesday
22nd December

Wednesday 23rd – Tuesday 5th
January 2021

(Christmas Holidays)



Face Masks

Please remember to ensure that your son/daughter brings their facemask to school and that they remember to wear it between lessons. The overwhelming majority of our pupils bring them, but some are not putting them on between lessons, or are removing them after leaving lessons. We're all about working together at Eastbank, so let's all do our bit and ensure those masks stay on as required. Well done to all those pupils who show responsibility and wear them at all times, like our senior pupils below.



It is with great sadness and regret that I have to inform our school community of the passing of former Head Teacher James Dalziel. Mr Dalziel is the longest serving Head Teacher at The Academy, and was here for almost quarter of a century. He was held in very high regard amongst his peers, the staff and the pupils of the Academy and the parents and local community he served. He will be sadly missed by all those who knew him.



Language Week 2020

As in previous years pupils have celebrated European Day of Languages in Modern Languages. The European Day of Languages takes place on 26th September every year. This event encourages people across Europe to celebrate all languages on this day. There have been a number of events taking place in the department during the week such as taster lessons in Spanish, Italian and German, competitions quizzes and Mr Tartaglia's QR codes treasure hunt for S1 pupils.



iPad Deployment



We are very excited to enhance the learning experiences within Eastbank Academy with help from our new iPads!

Please ensure you are able to log into Microsoft Teams as you have been added to a separate Team for each of your classes.

Class teachers will be regularly updating Teams with classwork, homework reminders and resources.



Prince's Trust Achieve Class



Message from Ms Morrison

The S3 and S4 Prince's Trust Achieve classes continue with their efforts to improve the school and local community this session.

We carry out weekly whole school recycling, collecting paper, card, plastic bottles and cans from all classrooms. In addition to this we litter pick in the local area twice a week, which helps to improve surroundings and raise awareness about the importance of putting rubbish in bins by setting a positive example. This is helping to reduce waste and look after the environment, and is part of our journey towards achieving the Eco-Schools Award.

Eastbank Academy supports the Period Poverty campaign which seeks to remove stigma by providing free menstrual products in schools. The Prince's Trust Achieve classes contribute towards this by ensuring that towels and tampons can be accessed in all fifty-one female cubicles/changing rooms and accessible toilets throughout the building. We also maintain the school courtyard garden, which provides a quiet, outdoor space for pupils to enjoy at interval and lunch.

We are really proud of the work that we do and see that we are making a practical contribution to the positive and inclusive ethos of our school!

Message from PC Ashley Toner-Maxwell (G2049)

Campus Officer, Eastbank Academy

Hi everyone, just a quick message to introduce myself to those of you I haven't met yet. I'm Ashley and I'm your new campus police officer. Please feel free to come and speak to me about anything; my office is on the ground floor or you can chat with me at break and lunch time when I'm out and about. I look forward to getting to know you all and working with you this year!

Road Safety

Please be extra cautious when crossing Shettleston Road and surrounding streets in the morning and after school. Avoid listening to music / wearing headphones / using your mobile phone when crossing the road as this distracts your attention and can result in accidents. Shettleston Road is the 2nd busiest road in Glasgow and we need to make sure we keep ourselves safe.

Hate Crime Awareness Week

The national police 'Hate Crime Awareness Week' takes place during the October holidays this year. I've been delivering hate crime inputs to S2 and S3 over the past month and hope to speak to all year groups before the end of the academic year.

"Hate crime is any crime perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated wholly or partly by malice or ill will towards a social group."

There are currently five social groups protected under hate crime legislation:

- Disability
- Race
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Transgender identity



Please be mindful of the language you're using towards one another (including on social media). If we remember to be kind and respectful we won't go far wrong.

Awards Ceremony 2020



In spite of the restrictions we faced, we still managed to hold a scaled down and physically distanced Awards Ceremony to recognise the many wonderful academic achievements of our young people this year. Although we weren't able to invite parents and carers as we usually do, we did, and still do, have a recording of the event on our YouTube channel. As teachers, seeing young people engage, try hard, improve and develop gives us a great deal of job satisfaction, and the award winners of 2020 have certainly done that. Mr Graham reminded those present that the absence of a final exam diet in 2020 was irrelevant, as these achievements have been worked towards **every year** since the start of Primary 1. These awards are the culmination and recognition of that work.

The ceremony ended with the presentation of the School Dux Award for Academic Excellence, which is awarded to the highest attaining pupil in fifth year. This year the winner of the Prize was Molly McFadyen (pictured being presented with her award by Mr Graham), who achieved five Higher passes at grade A, and is now studying Advanced Highers. Well done Molly!

Pupil Leadership Team

Following a ballot of staff and pupils, as well as a rigorous interview process, we are delighted to have our Pupil Leadership Team in place for session 2020-2021.

Our Head Pupil is Ellie Turnbull, who will be assisted by a team of Depute Head Pupils consisting of Ciara Cairney, David McIvor, Rio Aluko, Andrew Ferrie, and Robyn Gallie.

Well done to Ellie and the team. We look forward to working with them, and to them leading Eastbank's pupil body over the session.



R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

Remember that everyone has had different experiences throughout the coronavirus pandemic

Everything you do, try to do it with a smile. It has the power to brighten someone's day!

Social distance and sanitise

Please and thank you go a long way

Ensure that you follow the one-way system at all times

Cover your mouth and nose with a mask

Think carefully about how your words and actions may affect others