



Academy News



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well there we have it. Another 18 school weeks, from August until now, have passed in the blinking of an eye. Once again, Eastbank Academy has seen a whirlwind of activity in term 2, and there has been a palpable 'buzz' around the place. Since the October holiday we have seen numerous events, both of the fun and informative variety.

On 11 November we marked Remembrance Day with dedicated assemblies. It was wonderful to see young people take an active part in leading these, and participate with such respect – very much in keeping with our school values. We have also had a wonderful Talent Show – a showcase of a wide range of talents that our young people have and were willing to put on display, and which raised much needed funds for Children in Need. And of course, we held an amazing Christmas Fayre, which was a fantastic community event and which raised over £3000 for our school fund. Our Christmas concert this week was also a tremendous event to be part of, and I was delighted to be able to welcome parents and invited guests into Eastbank for this.

On the academic front, we held our first in-person parents' nights for 3 years in October and November, when we invited the parents of S1 and S2 pupils to meet with teachers to discuss progress. The S2 evening was preceded by an excellent Options Information Session. These were very positive and productive events, which were well attended, and I'm looking forward to hosting the same for S3 – S6 in 2023. Similarly, we welcomed in the parents of Primary 7 pupils in November for a transition information evening which was incredibly well attended. I was delighted to meet so many of our upcoming young people and their parents, and offer them a tour of the school. We are very much looking forward to them joining us in August.

By this stage all year groups have received two tracking reports, with senior phase pupils receiving their third on 20 January. Our senior phase pupils have just completed their prelim exams, and they will receive their results very soon, which will provide a platform on which to build and improve during the final few months of the session. I was incredibly impressed with how our senior pupils conducted themselves throughout these exams; they deserve to do well!

On the staffing front, there will be a significant change in the new year. Ms Karen McAulay, Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care for Burns house, is retiring after 31 years' service at Eastbank Academy. She will be sorely missed, but she leaves with our thanks and best wishes for her contribution to the Eastbank community.

It has been my absolute pleasure to work with you and your children in 2022! I am very proud of them, and it is great to see so much Ambition, Respect, Responsibility, and Kindness in their work each and every day. This newsletter gives just a glimpse of that, and I'm sure you will have an enjoyable read.

As always, I thank you all for your support in 2022. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing Christmas holiday, and look forward to working together for a successful 2023.

Yours aye,

Jonathan Graham

School Term Key

Dates

December:

Schools close at 2.30pm on
Thursday 22 December

Friday 23 December –
Tuesday 3 January 2023
(Christmas holidays)

January 2023:

Schools return on
Wednesday 4 January 2023



NPA Digital Media Animation

On 14 November NPA Digital Media Animation class welcomed Lena Vurma and Thorsten Klein. Lena is a Bafta member and a film producer ('The Little Red Paper Ship', 'Adventures of Mathematician'). Thorsten is a screen writer and director. They answered pupils' questions and consulted on Christmas animation the class is currently working on. 'The time we had with Thor and Lena was inspiring. They told us what it takes to become a part of the arts industry, specifically animation. They displayed how animating and filming is vastly time consuming as a great amount of effort is required behind the scenes. We got to know their background of how they made it into the filming industry and how many jobs are available in the industry. Their stories and lessons they learned while making their way into the creative arts world vastly expanded our view as a class and individuals, displaying how anyone at any point could make their way into the arts as they as they have the determination for it. We would like to thank them again for making the time to see us and our Christmas production'.



Musical Theatre Group

Some of our music & drama pupils (past & present) performed extracts from the show 'Hamilton' with their musical theatre group. The performance which was held at Eastbank Primary School was just outstanding! Well done girls!



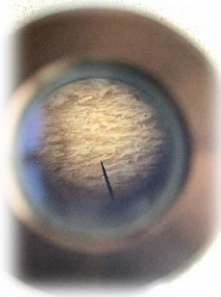
Gym-fest

A team of gymnasts participated in the Glasgow Schools Gym-fest event. This was the 10th annual Gym-fest and the team performed their routine to a high level, with balances, tumbles and choreographed dancing. Well done to everyone involved!



S1 Science Club

S1 pupils have been enjoying attending the Science Club which has just recently started. Pupils were using microscopes to look closely at crystals, coins, sand and other items.



S1 Engineering Workshop

A group of 40 S1 pupils were recently involved in an Engineering Workshop run by the Science Centre. We were very lucky to have the Science Centre Team spend time with us to teach and explain to S1 some of the key skills involved in an engineering project to build a 2-metre structure using bamboo sticks and elastic bands shaped as tetrahedrons. The 2 teams worked well together using many skills such as communication, leadership, team work, creativity and patience. Both teams succeeded in building their structure in the time given. Well done to all who took part! We hope to see more of the Science Centre in the school in the near future.



S2 Science Centre on Tour

S2 were given a chance to spend time with the Science Centre on Tour and show off their knowledge and competitive side using the exhibits. The Science Centre Team brought some samples of their exhibits that you can visit in the Science Centre. They explained how the equipment worked and the pupils were then able to work together on some of the exhibits.

The pupils worked hard to build a bridge and to generate electricity whilst having some fun. Well done to everyone that took part and the Science Centre were impressed with how much interest everyone showed and how well everyone worked together.



S2 Parents' Evening

It was great to meet with so many parents and carers at our S2 Parents' Evening. There was also an opportunity to learn about the S2 options with a presentation from some of our senior pupils.



P7 Information Event

Thanks to all who came along to our P7 information event. We had a great turnout. We hope that everyone found it useful and enjoyable. Thanks to our pupil tour guides and all staff who came along. We are looking forward to welcoming you back to the school very soon.



Careers Week

On the week commencing 14 November we had our first Careers Week in Eastbank Academy. Our young people really enjoyed the range of activities and got a lot out of taking part. The pupils were a real credit to the school; many of our partners who came along commented on how engaged and interested the pupils were. The activities included discussing option choices during Personal and Social Education (PSE) classes for S2 pupils, Enterprise Project for S3 pupils, CV Sessions for S4 pupils and a Careers Fayre for S2 to S6 pupils. These events benefited pupils and families from S1-S6, supporting them in making decisions about their future pathways.



Family Learning

Families of S1 pupils have been learning to cook on a budget and were given a voucher to buy ingredients and make the dishes at home. Thank you to Fare for providing the financial support for this event.



Home Economics

TikTok wraps went down a treat as part of the new S2 unit Food Product Development.



Pupil Council and Pupil Parliament

The Pupil Councils and the Pupil Parliament have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that the voices of each year group are heard. Pupil Councils have been busy helping out at school events and Parents' Evenings, as well as taking on pupil suggestions on changes that could be made to the school. The Pupil Parliament have enjoyed meetings with Mr Graham and look forward to making positive changes within the school.



Pupil Voice Forum

BGE Pupil Council Members attended the Glasgow Schools' Pupil Voice Forum at the City Chambers to discuss a variety of topics including how bullying can be better dealt with in Glasgow schools. The 4 pupils who attended were excellent representatives for the school!



Armistice Day

Pupils marked Armistice Day with some time for reflection. Pupils were the very embodiment of our school values.



Chit Chat Club

Come along to the Chit Chat club at lunchtime in the Home Economics Department. We would love to see you there. Catch up with friends or come along and make new friends.



Talent Show

We hosted our Talent Show on 21 November. This was a chance for pupils to showcase their talents. Well done to everyone involved. It was a great success, which raised money for Children in Need.



1st place – *Dance group 'Recovery'*
Joint 2nd place – *Johnny Zhou and Charlize Amoez*
3rd place – *Olivia Chiu*



Retirement News

After 31 years of wonderful service to the Academy, Ms McAulay, head of Burns House & Teacher of PE, is retiring. Ms McAulay leaves with our deepest thanks and best wishes.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Charles who has accepted his unconditional offer from the University of Glasgow to study Aeronautical Engineering. We wish Charles every success!



Celebrating Achievement Assembly

Well done to pupils in S1 who received recognition of their efforts in showing the school values of respect, ambition, kindness and responsibility. We are very proud of your hard work!



Christmas Fayre

We held the first Eastbank Academy Christmas Fayre (or at least, the first in a number of years) on Saturday 12 November. The event was a huge success, with an impressive range of stalls and products available. The turnout was magnificent with so many members of the school community coming along to support, and to enjoy the occasion. The atmosphere was truly wonderful and uplifting. We were absolutely delighted that we were able to hold this event, and very grateful to many people for supporting, and making it possible. The event was to raise money for school funds, which helps reduce the cost of the school day for our young people.



Christmas Fayre Feedback

"I had a good day sales wise and was impressed with the organisation of your fayre. You also solved the table problem for me very quickly which was a great help. The staff and pupils were amazing. Good luck with any future events and I would love to come back again. Well done on the money raised."

Campbells Cottage Crafts

"Thanks so much for letting us attend the school Christmas Fayre as a stallholder, we really enjoyed it and sold quite a lot of our stock. Amazing amount of money raised and hope it goes on to help the school. If the school is doing something similar in the future we would be willing to attend."

Susan's Handmade Soaps

"Thank you for having us. It was a great day. Very well organised. Keep us in mind for future events."

AS Carvings

"Thank you so much for having me there at the fayre had a great day also."

A lot of hard work was done by all, could see that. Thank you again."

Reiki29spirit

"I had a good day with a reasonable amount of sales. Was definitely worth while coming."

Gillian Greer Photography

"Thank you for today. I didn't have much to take home. Great turnout. Organised like clockwork."

Emma's Craft Diary

"A very well organised Fayre, your colleagues and pupils I spoke to were lovely too so a thank you from me for allowing me to participate in your event."

The Hot Chocolate Fairy

"I had great sales from the lovely people who attended."

Crafty Gemini

"I had a great day on Saturday and everyone was so lovely from the staff to the customers! My customers who visited said it was very well organised and they had a great day. Thanks again for letting me attend and hopefully I can come to any future events."

Handmade Hairbands

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

Recently PSYV (Police Scotland Youth Volunteers) Greater Glasgow East, have been assisting community groups to ensure that the elderly residents of the community will be warm and be able to eat this Christmas. All the hampers were made up by the Police Cadets themselves and all items included in the box were donated. PSYV love giving back to the community especially assisting with community groups within Greater Glasgow.



Human Rights Day

On Friday 9 December, Eastbank Academy celebrated Human Rights Day. S1 Social Subjects learned about the history of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and created informative posters. Pieces of work from across the school were displayed along with the rights they linked into on a display board. Lots of pupils visited the display and developed their understanding of the UNCRC. A huge well done to Grace Whitten and Grace Robertson of S2 for winning the quiz! Another well done goes to Miss McGee's S3 DYW class for designing and creating the display board and to Toni Kelly, Emily Franchetti, Olivia Ralston and Darci Murphy of S3 for setting up and running the stall during interval.



Christmas Lunch

Some of our S1 pupils enjoying their Christmas lunch.



Christmas Jumper Day

Staff and pupils were encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper on 2 December. A total of £91 was raised. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated money.



S2 Enterprise Project

S2 pupils have been working hard on an Enterprise Project during ICT and Technical periods. Each class came up with an idea and created a Christmas product they could sell at lunchtime to raise money for school funds. Pupils were creative with their ideas and were very enthusiastic about selling their product. Congratulations to class 2.5 who won with their fantastic block penguins.



School Christmas Card

As usual at this time of year, we will be sending our official school Christmas card. This year, our Photography students have once again shot the festive scenes. These will be making their way to our friends this week. Well done to all involved.

They look great!



Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas

Christmas Concert

Congratulations Eastbank Academy on a magnificent Christmas concert on Tuesday 20th December. We had around 120 young people performing on stage and a full house in the audience. We enjoyed a varied programme of Christmas music, solos and ensembles. Well done to all. You should be very proud.



Christmas Door Competition

Once again, staff at Eastbank Academy decorated their classroom/office doors with a Christmas theme. S1, S2 and S6 pupils voted for their favourite door. Staff also got the chance to vote for their favourite.

1st Place
Ms Owens

2nd Place
Miss McBride



3rd Place
Mr McNamee

