



Academy News



Dear parents and carers,

And just like that, another 18 weeks of the school year, from August to now, have flown by. Term two at Eastbank Academy has once again been filled with energy and activity, creating a real sense of excitement and positivity throughout the school. Since the October break, we have enjoyed a wide range of events that have been both enjoyable and educational in nature.

On 11 November, we commemorated Remembrance Day through an S1 assembly. It was a pleasure to see our young people play an active role in leading this, demonstrating great respect and maturity in a way that reflected our school values. We also hosted a fantastic Talent Show, which showcased the diverse talents of our pupils and raised valuable funds for Children in Need. More recently, our Christmas concert was a wonderful occasion, and I was delighted to welcome parents and invited guests into Eastbank to share in the celebration.

Academically, we were pleased to hold our first parents' evenings of the session in October and November for S1 and S2 pupils. These provided valuable opportunities for parents and teachers to discuss progress, with the S2 evening preceded by an informative and well-received Options Information Session. Both events were well attended and highly productive, and I look forward to hosting similar evenings for S3–S6 in 2026. In November, we also welcomed parents and Primary 7 pupils for a transition information evening, which was extremely well attended. It was a pleasure to meet so many of our future pupils and their families and to offer them a tour of the school. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them into S1 in August.

By this point in the session, all year groups have received two tracking reports, with senior phase pupils receiving their third on 16 January. Our senior pupils have recently completed their prelim examinations and will shortly receive their results, which will provide a strong foundation for improvement during the final months of the academic year. I was extremely impressed by the manner in which they approached these exams and the maturity they displayed throughout.

It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you and your children throughout 2025. I am immensely proud of them and consistently see our values of Ambition, Respect, Responsibility and Kindness reflected in their daily work. This newsletter offers just a snapshot of our work, and I hope you enjoy reading it.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support during 2025. I wish everyone a safe, restful and enjoyable Christmas holiday, and I look forward to working together again for a successful 2026.

Best wishes,

Jonathan Graham

School Term Key

Dates

December:

Schools close at 2.30pm on Friday 19 December

Monday 22 December - Friday 2 January
(*Christmas holidays*)

January:

Schools return on Monday 5 January 2026

February:

Monday 16 February and Tuesday 17 February
(*Mid term break*)

Wednesday 18 February
(*In-service day*)



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

Santa Dash 2025

A huge well done to everyone who took part in the Santa Dash and helped raise funds for the Beatson. It was a fantastic day supporting such a worthy cause! Over £500 was raised.



Well done!

Talent Show

A huge congratulations to all our talented performers who took part in this year's Talent Show. The variety and quality of the acts were outstanding, proving once again that Eastbank Academy truly has talent!

Special recognition goes to Jensen Aitken (S4), who impressed the judges and audience alike with his original song *Eden*, earning him first place in the competition.



Well done!

BAE Systems

On Tuesday 18th November we welcomed BAE Systems into school to speak to S2 about Artificial Intelligence.

The team from BAE Systems, along with representatives from the RAF and the Royal Navy, presented relevant applications of AI that both pupils and teachers can use in school and in everyday life. S2 created their own song by providing the team with suggestions for song lyrics, instruments for the sound track, style of music and style of band for a music video – all of which led to Eastbank's very own creation of "Triple Cheese Sky" by a band they called Definitely Maybe Not.

A huge thank you to Mr Tartaglia who kindly volunteered to be blindfolded and follow the pupils' instructions to show how clear their instructions need to be when using AI.

The star of the show was Lexi the robotic dog and some of the pupils were given the chance to give Lexi commands to make her sit, stand on her hind legs and do a back flip!



National Space Academy Trip

On Thursday 13 November, Ms Neilson took 14 S3 Physics pupils to the National Space Academy at Glasgow Science Centre. They enjoyed learning about careers in the space industry in Scotland as well as programming robots and a planetarium show. The pupils were a credit to the school.



Dogs Trust – S2 Values Ambassadors

Our S2 Values Ambassadors visited the Dogs Trust in Mount Vernon supporting the local community through providing donations of dog treats and toys to the trust. S2 Value Ambassadors started with a kindness walk down to the Dogs Trust reflecting on the school values and how these can be incorporated into our daily lives.



Poland Trip

In November, S6 pupils Matthew Dollar and Oskar Waring were chosen to represent Eastbank Academy on a one-day history trip to Poland as part of Lessons from Auschwitz. The experience involved preparation seminars, online workshops and an intensive visit to sites of the Holocaust near Krakow. Our pupils developed their existing knowledge of the history of the Holocaust and the role of camps such as Auschwitz-Birkenau in WW2. As Higher and Advanced Higher Historians, this experience was poignant and impactful in making so much of their learning tangible and visible. Matthew and Oskar were exemplary in their representation of the school whilst abroad and will take a lead in Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations in January.



S1 Pantomime Trip

Our annual S1 reward trip to the pantomime took place last week. Ninety pupils who have embodied the school values since joining Eastbank Academy travelled to the Platform Theatre to see *A Christmas Carol*. Pupils and staff alike had a fantastic time.



S2 Values Ambassadors' Pantomime Trip

The S2 values ambassadors had a wonderful experience at the Kings Theatre watching 'The Little Mermaid Christmas edition'. This was a reward for all their hard work this term.



Christmas Concert

Congratulations Eastbank Academy on another magnificent Christmas concert which took place on Tuesday 16 December. We enjoyed a varied programme of Christmas music, solos and ensembles. Well done to everyone who made the night a success.



McAulay Cup

It was a fantastic day of sporting spirit as pupils took part in football, basketball, dodgeball, and badminton, all earning valuable points for their houses. The level of skill and enthusiasm on display was outstanding, with every participant giving their best. After a series of exciting matches, Dalziel House emerged as the overall champions—congratulations to them and well done to everyone who competed!



S1 Football Team

The S1 Boys' football team made a strong impression on the Glasgow Boys' S1 7s league. Competing in 3 outings the boys managed to finish 8th out of 15 teams. A great achievement given they joined the league late and hopefully a sign of things to come for the spring league.

Pupils involved:

*Kai Gillon
Boto Bojang
Saho Bojang
Hayden Gillanders
Steve Miller
Ace Allison
Lyle Wilson
Danny Vu
Redford Stirling*



Excellent Effort!

Podstars: Go Radio

Congratulation to S3 Alexander Young who has made it through to the Go Radio Podstars final with his Podcast 'Tartan Trials' which is based on travelling up and down Scotland to find great places to visit. We are all so proud of Alexander and wish him every success.



World Junior Darts Championship, Gibraltar 2025

S3 Logan McIntosh performed at the recent World Junior Darts Championship in Gibraltar. We are all so proud of your achievements.



Well done!



St Joseph's Parish Foodbank Tollcross

We would like to share a heartfelt thank you to our community partners at St Joseph's Parish, Tollcross who have again very kindly donated towards supporting some of our young people and their families this Christmas time. May the joy and peace of the season be with you all.

Thank you!

Remembrance Day

We recently gathered for our annual remembrance service, a time to reflect and honour those who served and sacrificed. As part of the commemoration, poppies were offered, symbolising our collective gratitude and remembrance.



Art Club

Art club have been working on some festive winter landscape paintings learning how to use acrylic paint. Art club is on every Wednesday lunchtime and S1 - S6 are welcome to attend.



Christmas Jumper Day

Some of our S3 King's Trust Class who collected food donations for the local foodbank as part of our Christmas Jumper day event. They also raised £71.85 which they will donate to Save the Children.



Woodwind Group

The woodwind group meet every week to practise.



S1 Disco

Our S1 pupils had great fun at their disco on Thursday 17 December. The dance floor was buzzing with energy, laughter, and plenty of great moves. It was a fantastic way to celebrate and kick off the festive season in style.



Christmas Door Competition

Staff at Eastbank Academy decorated their classroom doors with a Christmas theme. The S2 Values Ambassadors voted for their favourite doors and came up with the ideas for the prizes.

1st prize – Miss Young and Miss Borek (Technical)



2nd prize – Mrs Armstrong (Social Subjects)



Well done to everyone who took part in the competition and congratulations to the winners!



Have a Happy Christmas everyone!