

Dear Parents and Carers,

The sun is out, the weather is warm (for now) – Spring, it would appear, has sprung!

Thirteen weeks have elapsed since we returned to school in January for the start of the new term, and they have flown by in the blinking of an eye – a reflection of how busy school has been since then.

The virus is still very much with us, and cases nationally are at a rather high level. Pupil and staff absence as a direct result have been very high, and have put considerable strain on the running of the school in 2022. However, I am pleased that we have been allowed to relax some mitigations in school, and hope that things will continue to progress in a positive direction in the summer.

On the academic front it has been great to host parental consultation meetings again, albeit by telephone rather than in-person. This is a big step forward from last year, and every year group has now had a consultation evening. In addition, all year groups have had another tracking report this term, with the exception of S3 who will receive two reports next term. I trust that these reports serve to keep you and our young people informed about their academic progress.

I am delighted that the SQA exams will take place again this year after a twoyear hiatus. March has been incredibly intense as we have worked hard to ensure that our Senior Phase pupils have their course work complete and are fully prepared to tackle these next month. We have been running a programme of after school supported study sessions, and will be offering revision classes over the Easter holiday. We wish our seniors the very best of luck! We will also be holding a diet of S3 exams in the second half of May, and more info on this will follow.

Our school values – Ambition, Respect, Responsibility, and Kindness – continue to be central to who we are as a community, and to guide our work and conduct. I continually reinforce this with our pupils, as do all staff, and I have no doubt that these values will support us in turning out skilled and qualified young people, with the right attributes and characteristics to succeed in learning, life, and work. We will do more with our values in the future. I'm pleased that this week we will be recognising and rewarding those pupils in S1 and S2 who have given the strongest display of our values in action.

As always, many thanks for your on-going support and for working in partnership with us. I wish everyone a restful holiday, and look forward to a successful and productive summer term.

With best wishes,

Jonathan Graham

#### **School Term Dates**

April 2022: Schools close at 2.30 pm on Friday 1 April

> Friday 15 April (Good Friday)

Monday 18 April (Easter Monday)

Schools return on Tuesday 19 April

*May 2022:* Monday 2 May (May Holiday)

Thursday 5 May (In-service day)

Friday 27 May

June 2022: Thursday 2 June

Friday 3 June (Queen's Jubilee)

Schools close at 1.00 pm on 24 June 2022





#### **Rights Respecting School**

Eastbank Academy has been awarded the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Bronze Award, indicating that we are Rights Committed. This is an excellent achievement and indicates that we have strong evidence that we support, respect, promote and live by the UNCRC. Our local MP, David Linden, officially presented us with an Early Day Motion to celebrate our success and he congratulated the school in Westminster last month. We are very proud of all our pupils and staff for this achievement and are now on the road to achieving the Silver award.

Some S2 pupils recently attended a trip to the Science Centre. There were lots of activities to keep everyone entertained. It was a very informative and interactive experience, and a fun day out for everyone. We are looking forward to returning with the next group of S2 pupils very soon.









# **Retailing Trip to Apple**

The S5/6 National 5 Retailing class were invited to the Apple store in Buchanan Street by Market Leader in Scotland, Chris MacNeill. When the pupils attended they received a tour of the store and then were taken up to the Boardroom (the only one in Scotland) and received a talk on Customer Service, job progression, recruitment processes and how Apple are employee welfare orientated. There was also time for a question and answer session towards the end. This was a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes of Apple which our pupils found extremely informative, as it was helpful in learning more in depth knowledge about this Retail sector.

# S1 Trip to the Cinema

A group of S1 pupils and the Modern Languages department recently visited the Glasgow Film Theatre to watch the French film 'Avril et le monde truqué.' What a fantastic day we all had!





#### **Hospitality**

We are very proud of these young people for putting on fantastic in school events over the past few months as part of their Foundation Apprenticeship in Hospitality qualification. The food has been delicious and beautifully presented. Well done to everyone involved!

#### Staff Kelpies Night Run A team of Eastbank staff are raising

money for a new school mini bus. They participated in the Kelpies Night Run. Well done team!





## Lamb Dissection A group of S4 pupils in the Biology department dissected a lamb's heart, kidneys and an ox pluck.

S1 Science Miley (1.9) is building a molecular model of ethanol. Great work Miley!



# **Care Home Visit**

Our Higher Drama pupils performed their Higher Drama acting exam pieces at Springboig Care Centre last week. We were delighted to be able to share the excellence of our young actors with the local community. The residents and staff at the home were delighted with the afternoon entertainment and Melody, Kim and Megan did Eastbank Academy proud with their performance skills in representing the school.



# Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal

The S4 PT Achieve Class are collecting for the Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal and are kindly asking for you to donate some things. Mary's Meals supports some of the poorest children in the world in their education. Mary's Meals provides children with a meal a day at school.

The backpack project provides school essentials and basic hygiene products. Items we urgently require:

- Backpacks (new/used in good condition)
- Notepad
- Pencils, crayons
- Rubber, ruler, sharpener
- Towel
- Shorts or skirt, t-shirt or dress (children aged 4-12)
- Flip flops or sandals
- Soap, toothbrush, toothpaste
- Small toy/ball
- Spoon



Any donations can be handed into the school office.

## Sports Leaders

The Sports Leaders have been delivering Rugby & Fitness to pupils in Eastbank and Wellshot Primary this term. The primary pupils visited the academy and took part in sessions on the pitch.





# EASTBANK ACADEMY

# Night Includes:

THREE COURSE MEAL DJ SPEECHES PROM QUEEN & KING CROWNING The Bothwell Bridge Hotel 7.30pm-Midnight Buses back to Eastbank @ 12

Ticket Cost £40. Please pay to Mrs. Miller



#### **Readathon**

We recently had a sponsored readathon at Eastbank Academy which was organised by Literacy Prefects. All money collected was donated to MindOut (mental health charity who works to improve the mental health and wellbeing of all LGBTQ communities).

# World Book Day

All S1 pupils received a free book to celebrate World Book Day.





<u>My Favourite Book (Sophie Jenkins, S3)</u> My favourite book is called The Boy at the Back of the Class. I love this book because it is interesting and I still get surprised by the twists and turns every time I read it. This book I found in my school library for Black History Month and then got my own copy and read it multiple times since then. Overall, I would recommend this book to people probably of ages about 11 plus as it also covers some relatively deep topics but still makes it fun to read.



