



Academy News



Dear Parent/Carer,

So the curtain falls on another academic session at Eastbank Academy. Once again, I find myself struggling to find suitable adjectives or superlatives to describe school year 2020-21, or the summer term that draws to a close.

I've been delighted that we were able to educate young people in the building again, after the restrictions imposed on us from January to March. It has been a very busy term, as senior phase pupils and staff worked *incredibly* hard to generate evidence to support estimate grades for the SQA. The work involved in this Alternative Certification Model was very heavy and stressful for all involved. Rather than sit five or seven exams over the course of May, pupils had to sit many, many more. And whereas these exams are usually marked independently, this year they were marked by teachers in the school. I commend everyone, pupils, their families, and staff, for their commitment, patience and resilience during this very difficult time. It's been tough; well done to you all!

Out-with the academic rigours of assessments and qualifications, we have continued with learning and teaching in the lower school, reacquainting young people with the routines and surroundings of the school, and ensuring that learning for its own sake continues – this is what education is all about! In addition, we have managed to hold a number of enrichment activities this term, some of which you can read about in these pages. We were able to hold some outdoor transition activities for our associated primary 7 pupils, we have marked Pride month, and S1 took part in some activities with the Outward Bound Trust. I was also delighted that we could formally mark the end of the school career of our S6 pupils by hosting a Graduation Ceremony last week – a tremendous occasion. So, we're not quite back to normal, but we are slowly getting there. I have continued to try to keep families updated throughout the term on an almost weekly basis, and hope you found these letters useful.

Looking ahead, our school day is changing next session, and I'm excited about the positive impact this change will bring. And while I think there will still be some challenges ahead, fingers crossed we will have no more periods of lockdown and that we can continue, slowly, to get back to some form of normality. I have no doubt that the Eastbank community can face and beat any challenges that come our way.

I hope that you find this edition of Academy News uplifting and informative. I thank you once again for your ongoing and unstinting support during this busy, challenging and crazy year. I trust you will have a pleasant and relaxing summer, and look forward to a productive and successful session in 2021/22.

Best wishes,
Jonathan Graham

School Term Key

Dates

June 2021:

School Closes at 1:00pm on
Thursday 24 June

August 2021:

Thursday 12 April (Return
Date for Teachers & In-
Service Day)
Friday 13 August (In-Service
Day)
Monday 16 August (Return
Date for Pupils)

September Weekend 2021:

Friday 24 September
Monday 27 September



EASTBANK ACADEMY



THE SCHOOL DAY IS CHANGING!

From August, our school day and week will be different. From the start of the new session:

- We will start at 08:50am, as we currently do;
- There will be seven periods every day;
- There will be no morning tutor time;
- There will be a combination of 45- and 50- minute periods;
- Morning break (15 mins) will be at 11:10am;
- Lunchtime will start at 1:05pm;
- We will finish at 3:15pm every day.

The school day will have the same set-up and timings every day of the week. There will be no long-days and short-days. For the visual learners amongst you, the week will look like this:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
0850 - 0940	1	1	1	1	1
0940 - 1025	2	2	2	2	2
1025 - 1110	3	3	3	3	3
1110 - 1125	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
1125 - 1215	4	4	4	4	4
1215 - 1305	5	5	5	5	5
1305 - 1345	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1345 - 1430	6	6	6	6	6
1430 - 1515	7	7	7	7	7

Please note that come August there will be **no morning tutor time**. Period 1 lessons will begin at 8:50am prompt and you must be on time for this!



Scottish Mathematical Challenge 2020-2021

A big congratulations to the pupils who participated in the Scottish Mathematical Challenge 2020-21. This challenge is a problem-solving competition which promotes achievement in Mathematics. Great work from Thuy Bui (S1), Alexandra Gostaviceanu (S1), Otito Michael-Nwadie (S1) and Sophie Jenkins (S2) for completing the Junior Division Challenge. Especially to Thuy and Otito who earned a bronze award!



EDT Industrial Cadets Bronze Project

A group of 4 S2 pupils graduated from their EDT Industrial Cadets Bronze Project on 15 June 2021, having designed a new 'Reinforcement Wi-Fi' concept. They took part in an online celebration, after 12 weeks of lunchtime and after school hard work. Congratulations to Darin, Greg, Brian and Kyle - your hard work paid off!

S5/6 Music

The S5/6 music students have worked very hard this term so we had a party in music to celebrate. A big thank you to Michelle He's mum for her amazing cake!



Virtual Police Work Experience

A huge 'well done' to Megan Dowds (S5) and Calvin Scott (S3) who participated in the virtual police work experience placement this month. It was a week-long placement and the 25 participants from high schools across Glasgow had inputs from the police dog section, mounted branch, road traffic unit, mountain rescue and many more.

Well done to our two Eastbank pupils who contributed really well and made us proud!



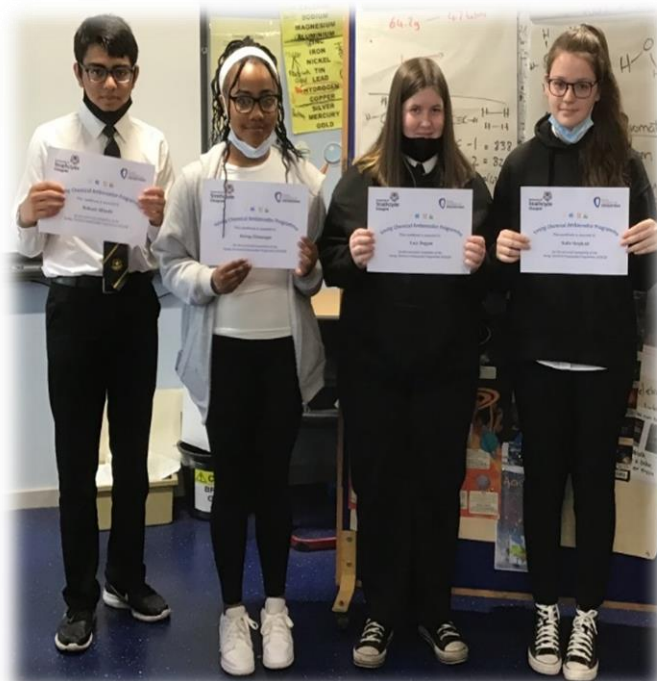
Outward Bound

In June this year, our full S1 cohort had the opportunity to experience a full day of outward bound activities. Pupils spent the full day learning about the local environment, how to build a shelter and developed their leadership skills by experiencing opportunities to lead other pupils during activities. During the day, pupils were also able to develop their communication skills as well as their confidence, self-belief and ability to work as part of a team.



Chemistry First Prize for Eastbank Academy

The Eastbank Academy team of S3, now S4, Baille Shepherd, Lucy Duggan, Soham Shinde and Keisy Zimunya **won first prize** for their nano-polymers (bouncy ball) project in the Young Chemical Ambassador programme run by Strathclyde University. They each won Amazon Fire Tablets. The organisers were very impressed by their teamwork, organisation skills as well as their well-rehearsed presentation to their classmates. This is great news – well done to the team for their excellent scientific knowledge and skills, for beating the opposition, and for representing the school. Well done – we are very proud of you!



Farewell and Thank You, Mrs Brooks

This year we must sadly say goodbye to one of our Depute Head Teachers, Mrs Anne Brooks, who will leave Eastbank Academy to begin a long and happy retirement. Mrs Brooks has been at

Eastbank Academy for a long time, so long that she can't remember exactly when she started here. We believe it to be around 25 years. In that time she has taught Classics to many young people, was a Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care, and for more than 10 years has been in our Leadership Team as a Depute Head Teacher. Her length of service in the city is considerably longer, having served the young people of Greater Glasgow for 40 years. Mrs Brooks is very much part of the fabric of the school, and in addition to teaching current and recent pupils, has also taught some parents back in the day. Mrs Brooks, you will be sorely missed, but you've earned your right to retire. We thank you for your massive contribution to the education of Eastbank Academy's and Glasgow's pupils, and wish you the very, very best. We know you won't be a stranger as you will be coming back part time to continue teaching Classics next session.



Graduation

On Tuesday 15 June the Class of 2021 met formally for the final time to Graduate from the Academy. Welcomed by Mr Graham, the outgoing S6 were enthralled by his words of wisdom for the future and grateful for his well wishes. The ceremony continued with the time honored tradition of replaying the favourite moments of the year group throughout their time at school and finished with the formal issuing of Graduation certificates.

My best wishes go to the class of 2021!

Mr Millar

**HAVE A FANTASTIC
SUMMER BREAK!**

