



# Academy News



Dear parents and carers,

A very warm welcome to the October 2021 edition of Academy News. I'm delighted to be able to share with you a flavour of the many 'goings-on' at Eastbank over the last eight weeks. It has been an incredibly fast and busy term so far!

In August I was relieved and happy to see that the SQA had accepted our estimates and had awarded our young people the qualifications we informed them they merited. Summer 2020 was quite a stressful term, and I'd like to congratulate all the young people for their resilience and hard work in getting through their assessments. I'm also grateful to the staff who had to work incredibly hard to get the pupils through these. Well done to all! This week we were able to personally congratulate some of these young people at our awards ceremony. The continuing restrictions meant we were unable to include as many as we would have liked, but we're hopeful for next year.

On the staffing front, we welcomed a number of new colleagues to Eastbank this session, including our new DHT Dr Leigh-Ann Scott. Dr Scott will have responsibility for first year, learning and teaching, and a number of other strategic priorities. I look forward to working with all our new colleagues in the months and years ahead.

I'm very hopeful that we will have an uninterrupted, lockdown-free academic session this year. As we always do, we spend considerable time evaluating and reflecting on our work, and identifying what we can do to improve. Some of this involves seeking the views of parents, carers and young people, and I'm pleased that so many were able to respond to our survey in the summer. As a result of this self-evaluation, we have planned a number of improvements for the coming session, and these can be found in our School Improvement Plan, a copy of which can be found on our school website [here](#). It is my expectation that by implementing these improvements we will be better able to meet the needs, and improve outcomes, for your sons and daughters going forward.

On the academic front, S4, S5 and S6 pupils received their first tracking report this week. S2 and S3 will receive theirs at the end of this month, with S1 following thereafter. These will be issued regularly throughout the year to keep you informed about your child's academic progress and prospects. I'm hopeful that we'll be able to reintroduce parental consultations in some form this year.

The time between October and Christmas will be fast and furious. SQA exams are scheduled to go ahead in the summer, and in preparation for this we will be holding prelims for S4-S6 pupils in December. There are seven teaching weeks until these begin, so everyone will need to be working hard and stay 'on the ball'.

Before I close I must thank Miss Kennedy, who is leading on the publication of Academy News in Miss Reilly's absence, and from which we all benefit! I'm sure you'll enjoy this edition of Academy News. I wish everyone a wonderful October holiday, and look forward to working with you in the term ahead.

Warm wishes,  
Jonathan Graham

## School Term Key Dates

### **October:**

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> October  
(In-Service Day)

Mon 11<sup>th</sup>-Fri 15<sup>th</sup> October  
(October Week)

### **December:**

School closes at 2:30pm on  
Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> December-Tues  
4<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
(Christmas Holidays)



## Face Masks

Pupils should remember to bring their face mask and a spare to school. These should be worn at all times when in the school building.



## Developing the Young Workforce

S3 DYW classes began a four-week series of lessons with Barclays Lifeskills where they will be developing a range of skills for life, learning and work such as communication, personal strengths for employment, goal setting and personal branding. This is an exciting and worthwhile initiative for our S3 pupils and we look forward to seeing them develop their skills as they progress through the course!



## Street League

Street League are in school on Thursdays P6 and P7 going forward to deliver Employability classes to our S5 and S6 pupils, including CV writing and interview techniques. This is to ensure they are ready to enter a positive destination when leaving school.



## Eco Club

Miss Stewart is starting an Eco Club, with COP26 coming up, it's a prime time for people to get involved. Please see Miss Stewart for more information on this.



## Reading Schools

This session at Eastbank, we will be working towards achieving the Reading Schools accreditation as we build a culture of reading with our learners and community. Research proves that reading for pleasure has positive impacts on learners' attainment across the curriculum, supporting **wellbeing, critical thinking, creativity, empathy** and **resilience**. The Reading Schools group, made up of teachers and pupils, plans on engaging families and the wider community of Eastbank Academy as we work to achieve the accreditation. If you would like to know more or get involved with creating a reading culture (you do not have to be an experienced or confident reader to do so), please get in touch with Miss McKeating, PT Literacy at [gw10mckeatingdearbhl@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10mckeatingdearbhl@glow.sch.uk)

## Scottish Book Trust

Eastbank Academy has won a fully funded residency from Scottish Book Trust. Our author in residence will be BAFTA winning writer Michael Lee Richardson who will be working with some pupils on a creative LGBT+ project. He said "I've worked with Eastbank Academy in the past, and I'm incredibly excited to be working on this longer-term project with them." We look forward to welcoming Michael.



## iPads

We are very excited to share that S1 iPads will be coming soon! 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.



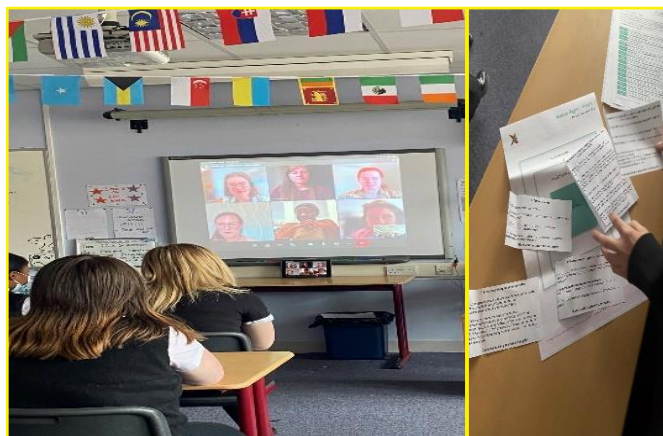
### Drama Club

Drama Club has now started with pupils enjoying the games and fun in the Drama studio after class on a Tuesday evening! We have started with a radio play on "Harry Potter the Cursed Child", which we will be recording with sound effects in October. In December we are starting working on a Glasgow Panto which we can't wait to perform for the school! Any pupils that would like to be involved please contact Ms. De Rosa or Mr. Nolan.



### Modern Studies

Miss Wright's S3 Modern Studies class have been taking part in a Young Lawyers programme run by Young Citizens and CMS Law. The class have been learning about different aspects of the law and its impacts. They also got to speak directly to legal professionals during 3 live Q&A sessions and ask their own questions about the law and legal profession. This has been a great experience for all pupils and they have really enjoyed it!



### Breakfast Club

Eastbank Academy recently started a breakfast club, which has been running every day of the week, from Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 8.35am in the Home Economics restaurant area. All pupils are welcome to attend any morning and receive a variety of breakfast items completely free of charge.



### School Library

The school library has won a Lit in Colour giveaway organised by Penguin books which means we will receive over 100 books by authors of colour for the school.



### Home Economics

We are piloting a Foundation Apprenticeship in Hospitality working alongside City of Glasgow College and Compass group. A few Thursdays ago, they had a launch event at the college which was enjoyed by all.





### Pupil Leadership Team

Congratulations to **Robyn Longmuir** who was successful at interview and takes up her role as Head Pupil. Robyn will be ably assisted by five Deputies: - **Jacob Kennedy, Jenna Drennan, Chloe Donnelly, Abby Beautiman** and **Jay McCarthy**.

We will be looking at the Pupil Leadership Team and senior prefects undertaking various support roles and being involved in aspects of supporting our school community.



### Science

**Sienna Lamont** and **Devon Henderson** from 1.9 have been working hard on their model of gas particles in science. Keep up the good work!



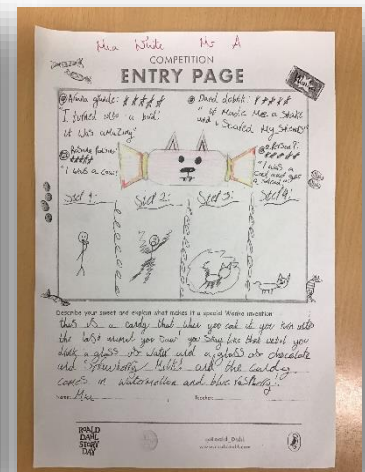
### Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

**Calvin Scott (4D1), Peter Cox (4S1) and Carson Johnston (3D1)** were successful in their recent applications to join the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV). PSYV is Police Scotland's uniformed youth organisation. The young people involved assist the police at high profile events in their local communities. The Eastbank young people will be assisting the policing operation at COP26 later in the year. Very well done!



### Roald Dahl Day

This month in the English department we celebrated Roald Dahl Day on the 13th of September! We did a number of Roald Dahl themed activities, and S1s all took part in a competition to design a new sweet invention to be made in Willy Wonka's factory. The overall winner was **Mia White** from 1D2, who designed a candy that turns you into an animal! The individual winners from each S1 class include **Tina Kanca (1L), Grace Whitten (1B2), Nerea Lopez (1D1), Logan Wood (1B1), Aaron McAnnany (1T) and Miley Graham (1S)**. Well done everyone!



## Senior Awards Ceremony Celebration

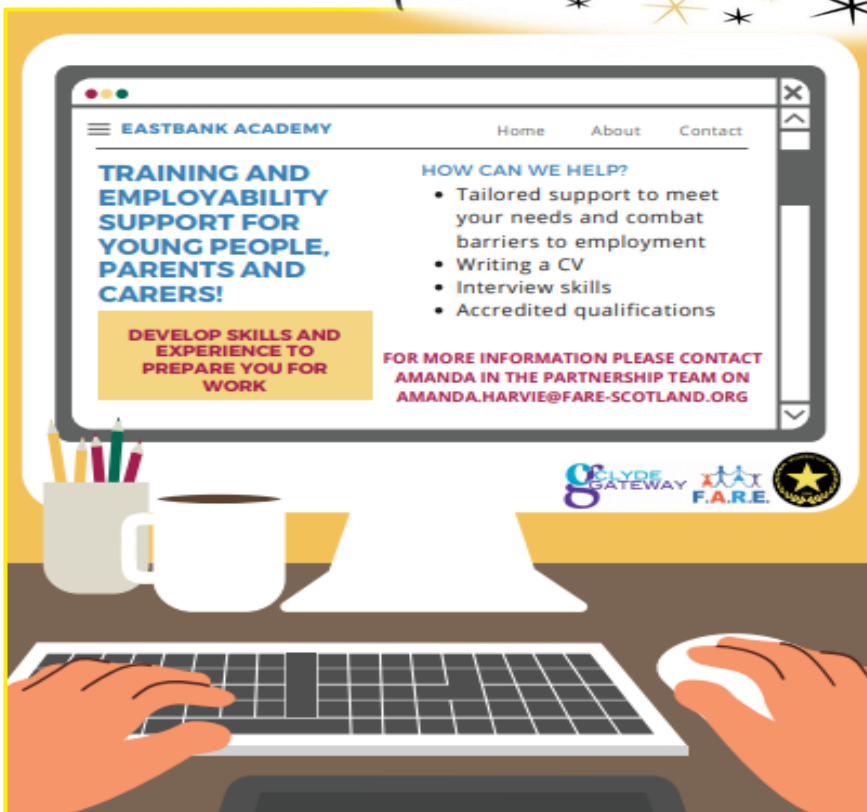
We managed to hold a scaled down and physically distanced Awards Ceremony, similar to last year, to recognise the many wonderful academic achievements of our young people. You can view the recording of this event on our YouTube channel. Our young people have worked exceptionally hard over the past year. It has been a challenging experience for everyone, however with perseverance and determination, pupils at Eastbank Academy have shown resilience and a positive attitude to the challenges they faced.

This year, we were joined by a special guest, Jane Arthur (daughter of former Head Teacher, Mr Dalziel) who presented the Jim Dalziel award for Achievement within Eastbank Academy. It was a privilege to have Jane with us to present this award to **Skye Duncan**. Well done Skye!

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of the School Dux Award for Academic Excellence, which went to **Robyn Longmuir** who achieved fantastic results in English, Chemistry, Maths, Physical Education and Physics. Well done Robyn!



*Time to Celebrate!*



**S T A Y**  
**POSITIVE**  
**WORK**  
**H A R D**  
**MAKE**  
**IT HAPPEN**