



Academy News



Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome to the Christmas 2021 edition of Academy News.

It has been a very busy session so far, and a lot has happened since last term's Newsletter in October. As we approach the holiday we must reflect on the months and weeks and events that have passed, and recognise the many achievements of our young people.

In spite of the restrictions, there has been a lot going on at the Academy this session, and over the following pages you will get a flavour of some of these. I'm grateful to all pupils for their positive engagement in all of this, and to staff for going 'above and beyond' and keeping the school a lively place and creating a positive environment.

Addressing the global COVID issue (I can't very well ignore it) things seemed to have been going in a positive direction until recently. Certainly, the new Omicron variant has presented a new challenge, but I remain hopeful that, by following mitigations, wearing masks, doing LF tests and generally staying safe, that the school year will remain uninterrupted. If we all do our bit, this can be a reality.

On the academic front, I'm delighted to report that a significant number of our senior students have already received offers for university, which is a tremendous achievement! We have also just completed our prelim diet. Our senior students conducted themselves impeccably during these exams, and I'm sure they've done themselves proud. Every year group has now received at least one tracking report, and it is a pleasure to see how engaged and interested our pupils are in their progress. There is always a buzz in the air when reports are issued, and I'm sure you had discussions at home with your children about these. In addition, I was delighted to be able to reintroduce parents' nights this term, with the S2 consultation evening taking place by 'phone at the start of this month. S4 and S5/6 parents' evenings will take place in the new year, again by telephone. Details will be issued after the holiday. Also, in the New Year, our S2, S4 and S5 pupils will begin making options for next session.

So, we draw the curtain on yet another busy, fast, exciting, and demanding term at Eastbank Academy. It's been hard work for us all, but we wouldn't have it any different. I hope that you and your families manage to have a restful and relaxing holiday. I look forward to us working together for a productive and successful 2022.

Greetings of the season!

Jonathan Graham

School Term Key Dates

December:

School Closes at 2:30pm on Wednesday
22 December

Thursday 23 – Tuesday 4 January
(Christmas Holidays)

January 2022:

Schools return on Wednesday 5 January

February Mid Term Break:

Monday 14 February

Tuesday 15 February

Wednesday 16 February (In-service day)



Uniform

Please remember to ensure that young people are wearing the correct uniform to school. Tracksuit trousers/jogging trousers/leggings are **not** part of the uniform, even if they are black. Our uniform policy can be found [here](#).

Attendance and Punctuality

These are very important. School starts at 8:50 am each day, and afternoon lessons start at 1:45pm. Late-coming means missed learning. We will be contacting those causing concern in the new year!

S2 Enterprise Project

S2 pupils have been working on an Enterprise project in ICT and Technical, where they came up with ideas for products they could create and sell during this festive period. During the week of 13th-17th December, pupils successfully sold these products and raised money for school funds. Thank you to the S5/6 retailing class for helping to set up the displays each lunchtime.

A massive well done to class 2.7 who won with their fantastic Angel Christmas tree decorations.



Below are some of the other products S2 classes made and sold:



Christmas Jumper Day

Staff and pupils were encouraged to wear Christmas jumpers on 3 December. A total of £100 was raised. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated money.



Candy Canes

The Senior Pupil Council organised candy canes to be delivered to staff and pupils. Candy canes were 50p and just under £100 was raised. Thank you to everyone who bought candy canes and to the Senior Pupil Council for organising.



Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leaders have completed their first placement in the primary schools. This term we have visited Eastbank, Quarry Brae and Thorntree Primaries for 6 weeks, delivering basketball, football and tennis skills.



Basketball Match

The S1/2 basketball club represented the school in their first match of the year. Great sportsmanship and team work throughout. Well done team!



Velodrome Success

This fearless group of cyclists have completed their block of training at the Sir Chris Hoy velodrome and have completed their level 1 and 2 certificates.



Football

The Eastbank girls football team have attended citywide school games at Toryglen Football centre and are currently undefeated. Well done girls.

The boys team have also competed very well and we are really proud and appreciative of our senior pupils who have helped coach both the teams this year.



Sirens For Success - Netball

The PE dept have also been working in partnership with Netball Scotland and completed the Sirens for Success program with a group of S2 girls. It was a great success and the girls attended a Sirens game at the Emirates to see a professional match.



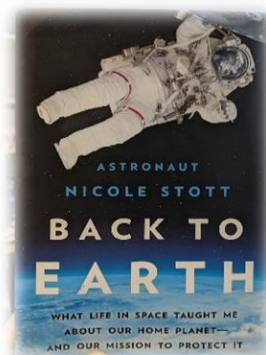
Glasgow City Council Pupil Forum

4 members of our pupil council attended the Glasgow City Council Pupil Forum on Thursday the 9th of December. The theme was recycling and the legacy of COP 26. Our pupils spoke confidently and the facilitators were very impressed with the work we are doing in Eastbank Academy. This will help the school on our journey to both the Rights Respecting Schools Award and the Eco Schools Green Flag. They represented the school extremely well and shared great ideas with other pupils across the city.



NASA Astronaut Visit

Our S1 and S2 pupils had the most amazing time meeting NASA astronaut Nicole Stott and Action Aid climate activists Monicah from Kenya and Ally from Tanzania. We discussed climate change, seeing Planet Earth from space and what we can do to protect it.



Pupil Council

Eastbank Academy pupil councils have been set up and are enjoying working together to make positive changes! Each year group has their own pupil council who meet regularly to discuss all things school related. As well as this, we have also launched the Eastbank Academy Pupil Parliament. This contains pupil representatives from across all year groups, who will work together to help shape any future changes within the school. Representatives had to write a campaign speech on why they should be chosen to represent their year group. It was a tough election with so many great speeches! 10 pupils were chosen to be the representatives for their year groups.

We look forward to seeing what amazing work they all do in the New Year!
For more information follow @PupilEastbank on Twitter



Christmas Card Competition

We were contacted recently by one of the businesses on Shettleston Road, 24-7 Properties asking if we would be interested in working with them to create their Christmas card for this year. The creator of the winning design would win a £50 voucher for the Fort Shopping Centre and have the glory of their work being transformed into a professional card. 24-7 then placed 9 finalists on their Facebook page and people could vote for the winner.

The winner was Viktorija Blumberga of 1.7 and at present her design has gone to press. Great work Viktorija!



Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

Carson has recently joined the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers and took part in his first volunteering event in November. He was selected to take part in the Fearless Festive Campaign which took place in Glasgow Central Station and aims to encourage young people to enjoy the Christmas Holidays safely. Carson's maturity, time-keeping and commitment has impressed PSYV staff already. Well done Carson, we're really proud of you.



Health & Safety Training

Some of our senior phase pupils completed Health and Safety Training with Luddons Glasgow and they all passed. A massive well done to all learners who participated.



Dragon's Den Challenge

Our fantastic S5 pupils won first prize in the climate change Dragon's Den Challenge. Well done to everyone involved!



Dance Workshop

A group of S3 girls enjoyed a workshop with dance teacher Nicola Thomson. This included elements of dance and discussions around being young and female in the Eastend of Glasgow.

The performance was fantastic, and Nicola was impressed by how well the girls contributed.



Book Week Scotland

As part of Book Week Scotland in November, the school held a writing competition with the title 'Celebration' (which was also the theme of Book Week Scotland). We are delighted to announce that the winner was Jakub Blaszk (S1), with Lucy Robb (S1) in second place and Toni Kelly (S2) in third place. You will see them in the photo with Mr Graham along with their prize of book vouchers! The school will be holding another writing competition in the new year that will be open to all year groups. You can read Jakub's winning entry below!



Theme: Celebration.

The constant dread continues, the dread of not being able to beat my brother at this game, I need to get a new strategy, he is not beatable with my current one, the enthusiasm I once had, was now a hollow shell of what it once was. I felt a shine, a shine of new energy I haven't felt before. The energy would push me on, to finally accomplish it, after all this time, I had done it. The sheer amount of disbelief I had was indescribable.



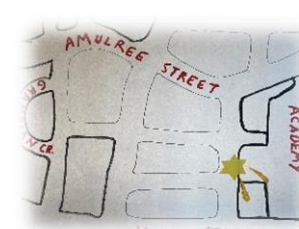
Hospitality Programme

Peter Cox, William McGloin & Aaron Morris have just completed a Hospitality Programme at Parkhill Secondary's Enterprise Academy. Over the 10 weeks the boys learned about various Scottish food products and outlets. They cooked lobster, sampled afternoon Tea at the Hilton, milked an artificial cow and many more wonderful experiences. The boys received glowing reports and were a credit to Eastbank Academy.



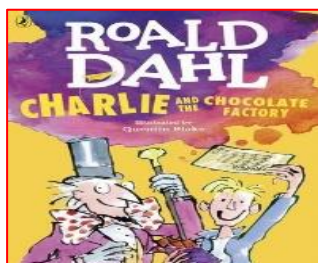
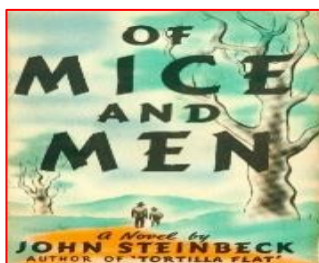
Christmas Animation

For a second year in a row, First Year pupils of Eastbank Academy have been involved in making a Christmas animation, which is going to be shared with Shettleston community. This year's story, characters and music score had been created and animated by pupils of class 1.5 and members of the Stop Motion Animation Club.



My Favourite Books

Two books I have read in the past and enjoyed are *Of Mice and Men* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
Calvin Scott – S4



Staff 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. As you can see from the photos below, it was a huge success. A big thank you to the Higher Photography pupils for taking photographs of all the doors.

1st PLACE



Support for Learning Staff

‘Miss I’m Stuck’

2nd PLACE



Mrs Clark

Gingerbread House

3rd PLACE



Miss Kennedy

Santa's Coming

