

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the first newsletter of the academic year.

During what has been a very busy first half term, we have seen our new Year 7 pupils settle into school life, Year 11 pupils start their final examination year and initial rehearsals for both "Grease" and the Christmas Concert (n.b. tickets are selling fast!). We have also celebrated World Mental Wellbeing Day, European Day of Languages, and several sporting and individual successes.

I would like to pass on my personal thanks to all staff for their hard work this half term and wish them a relaxing break.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those parents whom I have not yet had the opportunity to meet. I moved to the area in 1994 straight from university to teach history at The FitzWimarc School. In the twenty-nine years since, I have had the pleasure of working at various schools in and around Southend and have served as an Ofsted Inspector for the Eastern Region since 2011. I have worked at Eastwood since 2012 when I was appointed as Vice Principal.

My career to date has ensured that I have gained the appropriate skills and knowledge that will allow me to work with you all to continue to move the academy forward. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with staff if there are questions or concerns. I promise that we will get back to you.

In short, I/we will continue to do all that we can to ensure that your child is safe, happy, challenged, and successful.

Mr D Piercy
Acting Principal

ATTENDANCE

House	% Attendance
Ashdown	95.6
Bowland	95.3
Elveden	95.6
Kielder	95.5
Richmond	95.2
Sherwood	95.3
Whinfell	94.4
Overall	95.3

Click here for the [Attendance Policy](#)

MESSAGE FROM GOVERNORS

We are always looking for parents who may be interested in supporting the academy by becoming a governor. The time and commitment required might surprise you.

The Local Governing Body meet three times a year and play an important role supporting and challenging the academy.

If you believe that you may have the experience, qualities and time please contact Mrs Botley our Clerk via e mail on: rbotley@eastwood.southend.sch.uk



Pupil Success

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Student Leadership Team commenced the academic year working with the Lead Prefects and Prefect Team. They have been out checking duties are being completed and supporting the new Year 7 pupils.

They are currently preparing for the first round of Student Voice and identifying areas they would like whole school feedback on. These areas will be discussed with Mr. Piercy at the start of the Spring Term.

PANATHLON BOWLING



On Thursday 12th October, 10 pupils represented The Eastwood Academy at the Panathlon Bowling Competition in Basildon. They competed against 26 other secondary schools and scored a

whopping 947 points with everyone's score added together! Joseph C. (9B), Olly K. (8W), Freya O. (7B), Amelia P. (8R) and Danny R. (9A) all hit over 100 points each. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves and spent the afternoon bowling



strikes, cheering each other on and indulging in slushies.

Pupils involved were Freya O. (7B), Mac M. (7B), Layla F. (7W), Amelia P. (8R), Olly K. (8W), Charlotte A. (9R), Emily L. (9R), Joseph C. (9B), Danny R. (9A) and Faith T. (10S)



LIFEGUARD AWARD

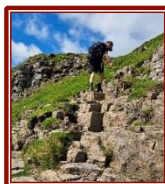
Well done to Megan S. (8R) who achieved her Level 1 Lifeguarding award over the summer holidays.

YORKSHIRE 3 PEAKS CHALLENGE



Over the summer Jack D. (8S) took on the Yorkshire 3 Peaks, to raise money for Kidney Cancer UK in memory of his Nan. Along with family members, Jack walked 81,000 steps over 60km and 5000ft

of ascent to complete the challenge. In doing so he raised over £1000 for the charity. We are extremely proud of him for doing this. Well done Jack!



FORM CAPTAINS

At the start of an academic year, each form group elects a new Form Captain. Candidates in each form must complete an application, give a brief presentation, and then put themselves forward for the 'form vote'. Congratulations to the following pupils who will constitute the 'Student Voice', providing feedback from their form group on how pupils' school experience can be improved.

Year 7 Form Captains



Year 8 Form Captains



Year 9 Form Captains



Year 10 Form Captains



Pupil Success

NETBALL



Year 7 and 8 Netballers

It has been great seeing so many girls at netball practice. They have been working hard to improve their skills including dodging and defending. We have been very grateful for the Year 9 girls support with coaching the Year 7 and 8 netballers. They have been brilliant showing confidence and sharing their knowledge. Next half term will be busy with league fixtures starting for all year groups. Keep an eye on the PE board for fixtures and team sheets.



Florence R. (7A), Phoebe C. (7R), Florence T. (7B), Savannah M. (7E), Dexi M. (7E) Skye B. (7B), Hayleigh C. (7B), Isabelle A. (7B), Violet F. (7E), Siena S. (7R)

Well done on your 7 – 0 win against Shoebury in your first match. Congratulations to Siena S. (7R) on being awarded player of the match.



Isla H. (7R), Amelia T. (7W), Emmie P. (7W), Kitty C (7W), Katie C. (7K), Harmony Q (7E), Rosie M. (7S), Elsie B. (7B)

Well done on your 21 – 9 win against Shoebury in your first match. Congratulations to Katie C. (7K) on being awarded player of the match.

CHARITY FOOTBALL EVENT

On Tuesday 18th July, a charity football game between teachers was led by Hannah M. (10W), Jodie M. (10A) and Brandon M. (10R) Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and came to watch. An amazing total of £200 was raised for Trust Links.

RUGBY SUCCESS

On Sunday 8th October, Chloe B. (7K) and her team won GOLD in the finals of the U12's Girls Festival of Rugby. There were around 1400 girls there



(around 93 different teams) competing in the different age categories. Chloe and her team smashed them in a series of different matches against various clubs around the county. She was the only one from Rochford Hundred rugby club that attended in her age category and joined Dartford Valley to enable her to compete. Congratulations Chloe!

SEA CADETS

Layla M. (9W) was invited by the Sea Cadets to attend a week long Offshore Training experience. For this week Layla was at sea on board one of the cadet's training vessels. She



received general sea experience and was involved in all the tasks required to operate the vessel. Activities on board included working with ropes and fenders on the deck as the vessel leaves and enters harbour, duties on the bridge steering, navigating the ship and keeping lookout watches.

As well as this there was time spent understudying the ship's engineer with pre-sea checks and system monitoring, and with the ship's cook conducting domestic duties. There were also visits to museums and other sites of interest. Layla not only thoroughly enjoyed every second but had an amazing educational opportunity and we are all very proud she was selected for this trip.



FRENCH MERITS

Congratulations to Lily-May S. (7S) and Rosie W. (9A) who have earned their 10-merit award in French. This is a fantastic achievement – well done!

Eastwood Week of Languages

During the week of 25th September, the Eastwood Academy celebrated their Eastwood Week of Languages with classes throughout KS3. It is estimated that over 6,000 languages are spoken across the world today and the Eastwood Week of Languages was an opportunity to raise awareness of our linguistic diversity and learn more about different languages and cultures. Pupils were invited to participate in a range of class and group activities, ranging from general knowledge of European countries to learning greetings and cultural information from different countries.

KS3 – LANGUAGE AWARENESS



KS3 pupils completed Language awareness activities, learnt new languages, and completed quizzes.

All Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to participate in a fun and exciting challenge. Which group could build the “tallest”, “sturdiest” and “lookalike” Eiffel Towers using only paper straws and tape? We were so proud of how the Year 8s worked together to design and make their towers and were really impressed with the designs they came up with.



INTER-TUTOR COMPETITION

This year’s Eastwood Week of Languages inter-tutor competition was designed to raise awareness of different languages and their origins. Lots of tutor groups participated and the winners this year were 9W, closely followed by 7B in second place and 10K in third place.



Well done to all and thanks to all the tutor groups who participated. Pictured are Form Captains Emma D. and Joseph B. (9W), Albie S. and Freya W. (7B) and Alfie W. and Matilda V. (10K)

YEAR 7 LANGUAGES CHALLENGE COMPETITION

During the Eastwood Week of Languages, we set the Year 7 pupils a challenge competition to find as many correct languages for each letter of the alphabet. We had over 70 entries! Each pupil scored 10 points for each language they found, plus bonus points for completing all letters.

The winners were:

Joint 1st - Harry B. (7B) and Sofia M. (7B) 1120 points

2nd - Rudy P-K. (7A) 750 points

3rd - George B. (7S) 610 points



EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DAY

To celebrate European Language Day (26th



September), the Language Club took part in a series of podcast recordings organised by the School Podcast Team: Rosie W. (9A), Amaya W. (9B), Ruby H. (9A) and Sarah S. (9B). Over 20 Eastwood Academy pupils from all years were interviewed about their native or chosen country and then spoke a few sentences in their language. A diverse range of languages were recorded, including Malayalam, Tamil, Japanese, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Arabic, Sindhi, Urdu, Punjabi, and Saraiki. To listen to such a diversity of languages spoken by pupils at Eastwood Academy was truly impressive. Our thanks to Mr Harrison and his team for organising such a great event. If you would like to learn or share your knowledge of a language and culture, please speak to our language ambassadors, Elsie N. (9E) and Gracie-Rose B. (9K) or come along to MFL I on a Wednesday lunchtime.



Events

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL



At the end of the Summer Term Eastwood's band club took Glastonbury (Eastwood's field) by storm and put on a mini festival for pupils and staff. The sun was shining and there were good spirits all around. As warmup acts Frankie L. (11R) and Leo W. (11P) took to the stage and played magnificent solo pieces. Then the band club took to the stage! Playing three rock classics the band jammed out to the tunes of Creep by Radiohead, Zombie by The Cranberries and While My Guitar Gently Weeps by the Beatles. The band were met with big applause, smiles, and screams of encouragement. Rumours are even Simon Cowell turned up to sign the band! A big thanks and congratulations must go out to the pupils of the band: Ash E. (8K), Tatiana-Vee B. (11A), Gabrielle H. (11K), William E. (10W), Ned J. (9R), and Bradley E. (9B). All these pupils are from different year groups but have gelled together into a fantastic band creating a brilliant sound together as a unit. Special thanks to Mr. S. Harrison for arranging sound and tech for the event.



Following a successful Sports Day, especially for Richmond House, pupils were offered an afternoon of events, ending this year's Enrichment Week. Just Dance had pupils jumping in the main hall while others were out on the fields, tackling an obstacle course, trying to catch flags, or playing rounders with either a football or a frisbee, both of which saw many creative winning catches. Those wanting a quieter setting had the option of engaging in problem-solving activities indoors, as well as a variety of board games and colouring in - a popular option for many of the Year 10s after hurtling round the track for flags. With a new school band concert on the field on Monday (supported by Mr W. Piercy) a charity staff football match on Tuesday (4-0 Mr Clark's team), and Sports Day on Wednesday, pupils certainly had a great wind down for the summer.

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WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY



On Tuesday 10th October, the Eastwood Academy celebrated World Mental Health Day. Pupils and staff were invited to attend a variety of workshops to promote their mental health and well-being.

These workshops included:

Mindfulness Reading - A chance to read a book in a peaceful and calming environment.

The Meditation Station - An introduction to the practice and benefits of meditation, focusing on tackling stress and anxiety.

Mindful colouring - An opportunity to colour pictures and listen to relaxing music.

Jar of joy - Decorating a jam jar and filling it with positive messages.

Chill Out Zone - Listening to relaxing music and discussing the importance of music's positive messages and usefulness for calming mental health.

Positivity Pebbles - Decorating pebbles with inspirational and positive quotes or drawings.

Basketball Session - Pupils participating in a variety of Basketball activities with music played in the background.



Cartoon Character Drawing - An opportunity to draw your favourite cartoon characters.

Warhammer Painting - A relaxed setting for pupils to paint Warhammer figures and discuss the hobby.

A big thank you to the staff who ran these workshops and gave our pupils and staff the opportunity to experience different ways of promoting their well-being.



Extra-Curricular

YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE



Five Year 11 pupils had the opportunity to take part in one week's work experience. The work experience started on the 25th September, with pupils attending a range of different employers. Nigel N. (11W) working at Paul's Studio in Victoria Plaza, Emily-May L. (11K) spent time at the Trinity Family

Centre, Hope E. (11E) was serving customers at Phabulous café, Adonis I. (11A) visited South East Autos and finally Ollie W. (11A) was working at Hairclubbin. The work gave pupils valuable skills and a better understanding of the world of work.



CAREERS

On the 19th July, 15 pupils were invited to visit Ipeco. Founded in 1960, Ipeco is a world leader in aircraft crew seating and executive jet passenger seating, with an expanding presence within the electrical galley insert sector. Pupils were told about the company's history, apprenticeship opportunities, toured the facilities and were also given an assembly challenge. Ashton M. (9B) received very high praise for his speed and accuracy.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH



For the first time in the history of Eastwood the Duke of Edinburgh lessons have moved to the Year 9 cohort. Our excited pupils have been working hard and this half term they have



been learning vital first aid skills that will equip them not only for the expeditions but enable them to gain valuable life skills that really can make a difference. The lessons have enabled the pupils to learn how to prevent, and treat, minor illnesses and conditions as well as treating cuts and head injuries. As we progress through the lessons the pupils will learn about choking hazards, treating fractures and then move onto the recovery position and CPR. Our new cohort are certainly impressing us with their practical first aid skills



LEADING OPPORTUNITIES

Ten Year 9 pupils went to assist at the KSI & KS2 Southend Cross country race on Friday 6th October. The pupils were tasked with assisting on the course to ensure pupils kept on the route. They also acted as pacers, haring races and they supported as tortoises, encouraging pupils to keep running and not give up. They were a credit to the school. Nell T. (9K), Amy P. (9B), Macy R. (9W), Violet B. (9B), Patience S. (9B) Noah T. (9K), Frankie S. (9A), Finlay R. (9A), Adrian S. (9B), Joshua H. (9 E) Relaxing before the hard work started!



Noah T. (9K) haring the race



Patience S. (9B) motivating the pupils to keep going.

Celebrating Success

Congratulations to all the pupils who were presented with certificates in the end of term House assemblies.

ASHDOWN



BOWLAND



ELVEDEN



KIELDER



RICHMOND



SHERWOOD



WHINFELL



POST 16 PROVIDERS ASSEMBLIES

The Eastwood Academy has played host to a range of local Post 16 providers. They visited the school over a 2-week period and introduced their VI Forms/Colleges directly to year 11 pupils. Each provider gave details of college and VI form life, the different qualifications they provide and the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities they each offer. Year 11 pupils were encouraged to visit providers open evening events. Providers included South Essex College, Chase High, Southend Boys, Belfairs Academy, USP Seevic, St. Bernard's, Sweyne Park and FitzWimarc School.

PERIOD EQUALITY

The Academy is taking part in the Period Equality Scheme. We can supply a variety of sanitary products including packs of Towels and Period Knickers. These can be collected from the Medical Room at Break and Lunch.