

The Eastwood

A c a d e m y

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2 (2015)

Message from the Principal

I would first like to welcome two new additions to the Board of Directors - Mr. Stephen Cummins and Mrs. Addela Fethi, both of whom bring considerable governance experience to the table.

Following the Academy's impressive GCSE performance in 2015, I have the great pleasure in informing you that, out of the 3500 secondary schools in the country, the Academy has been invited to represent Secondary Education in *The Parliamentary Review* 2015/16.



This is a publication in which a small number (up to 5) of outstanding or considerably improving schools are selected to appear alongside senior Cabinet ministers, including The Rt Hon George Osborne, in a report highlighting best practice and raising standards in secondary education.

What has also given me great pleasure is seeing the opportunities/experiences that the pupils have availed over the term. I feel passionately that this is paramount to the development of well-rounded individuals.

On a final note, I wish you all an enjoyable Christmas break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

English Schools Cross Country Regional and National Final

Congratulations to the Junior Boys' Athletics Team who won the English Schools Regional Cross Country Final on Saturday 7th November. Click here for the article in [The Echo](#).

The team competed in the National Finals on 5th December and finished 10th out of the 24 strongest schools in the country, including defeating local rivals SHSB, who finished 14th. A special mention must go to Max MacDonald and Charlie Purdy for their outstanding individual performances.



Sports Games Gold Award



The Academy has been awarded the Sainsbury's School Games Gold Award.

The School Games Award is a Government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community.

The Academy is the only secondary school in Southend to receive the award.

Believe, Succeed, Together

Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5UU - Tel: 01702 524341 Fax: 01702 508665

Web: www.eastwood.southend.sch.uk Email: enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk

Christmas Show - 'Elf the Musical Jnr'

On the 9th, 10th and 11th December, 118 pupils took part in the Academy's Christmas production of 'Elf the Musical Jnr'. This is a high energy show, packed with many songs, dances and comic moments. The leading role of 'Buddy' was played by George Dacosta, who carried the show effortlessly, gaining high praise from all who watched. He was in good company; Rebecca Barclay, Sky Cross, Rory O' Connor, George Hey and Sam Morris, who were also cast in lead roles, offered equally professional performances. There were 31 further pupils who had speaking roles and sustained the humour and festive feel-good factor throughout!

Alongside the large cast, the Academy had its biggest chorus in recent years, who lit up the stage with their singing, acting and dancing. What a wonderful way to welcome the festive period! Merry Christmas!



Believe, Succeed, Together

Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5UU - Tel: 01702 524341 Fax: 01702 508665

Web: www.eastwood.southend.sch.uk Email: enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk

The Eastwood

A c a d e m y

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2 (2015)

Handwriting Help

Handwriting sessions run every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during Form time. Pupils are nominated by their teachers and come along to ICT5 after they have registered. Currently we are helping 30 pupils per session improve their 'penmanship' and learn how to write neatly in script. There have been some fantastic leaps in progress as well as a sure and steady improvement in all writing. If you spot a pupil with handwriting that could be improved, and they are not attending already, email Ms L. Joseph or Mrs. L. Childs.



AMA & G&T

The Academy is in the process of distributing login codes for the IGGY website.

IGGY is an international, social and educational network for gifted and more able 13-18 year olds, created by the University of Warwick. It gives members access to interactive educational resources and allows them to work with top academics, student mentors and other young gifted and more able people around the world.



Maths Club

Since September, the Maths Club has been running with the aid of a few Year 10 pupils who are volunteering as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award.

Maths Club, held on Thursday afterschool, is open to Year 7 and 8 pupils. We have regular members who attend every week, including high-fliers!

If anyone wishes to attend, please let Ms Partridge or your Maths teacher know.



Spanish Club

Spanish Club's (Club de español) membership has grown to 13 and each have a Spanish nickname for use at the meetings!

Our meetings, held on Tuesday lunchtimes, are very informal; we have lunch together before learning the language and/or exploring aspects of Spanish culture.

Come along!!



Art Competition



A huge congratulations and a massive thank you to all entrants of the art competition: 'Inside/Outside'.

It was wonderful to see such a diverse range of ideas and art mediums being used.

1st - Sadia Khatun
2nd - Paige Livesey
3rd - Leanna Rainforth

Believe, Succeed, Together

Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5UU - Tel: 01702 524341 Fax: 01702 508665

Web: www.eastwood.southend.sch.uk Email: enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk

The Eastwood

A c a d e m y

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM 2 (2015)

First Lego League Competition

In December, a group of Year 8 and 9 pupils attended the First Lego League Competition. They did not fail to impress both the Ford engineers, who hosted the event, or the Lego representatives present on the day.

Despite some 'unlucky' events in the head-to-head robot competitions (one rogue brick even flipping over the robot!) the pupils took every opportunity to investigate other teams' designs, question Ford's engineers about their careers and gather hints/tips for their forthcoming robot designs.



Ofsted Triad Project

On Thursday 15th October, the Academy hosted the Ofsted School-School Improvement Project. The project involves Ofsted HMIs, National Leaders in Education (NLE) and 9 schools across Southend and Essex working together in triads.

On Wednesday 2nd December, the Academy acted as the lead school for the review of SHSG. This will be reciprocated on 20th January.



Trip to Ypres, Belgium

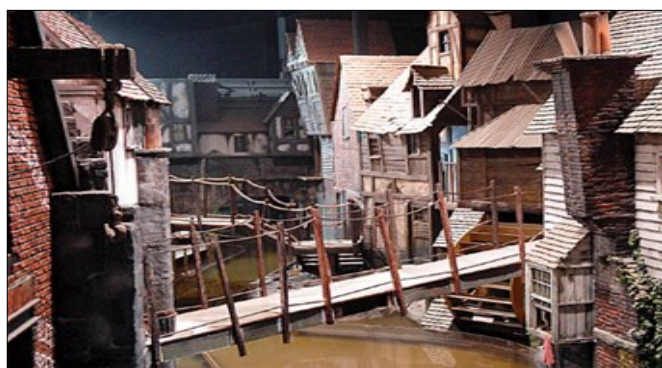
In November, Year 9 History pupils travelled to Ypres, Belgium, to explore the Commonwealth and German cemeteries, First World War trenches and visit the Passchendaele Memorial Museum.

Pupils spent one evening observing the ceremony held every night at the Menin Gate and, given the centenary of this important event, this was particularly poignant.

There are currently places on this trip for October 2016. See Ms Lang for further details.



Trip to Dickens World, England



Pupils in Year 7 and 8 journeyed to Chatham Docks and Rochester on Saturday 7th November, where they spent an exciting day discovering life in Victorian times.

Dickens World recreates the dark and dingy streets of Dickensian London: grocery shops, schools, graveyards and prisons awaited our eager pupils. Real life Dickens characters provide a colourful tour to stimulate all the senses, followed by a picnic lunch.

Believe, Succeed, Together

Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, SS9 5UU - Tel: 01702 524341 Fax: 01702 508665

Web: www.eastwood.southend.sch.uk Email: enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk