

The Eastwood

A c a d e m y

NEWSLETTER SPRING TERM 1(2016)

Message from the Principal

On 22nd January, the DfE School and College Performance Tables were published.

The Academy was once again the highest performing non-selective school in Southend, however, perhaps more significantly, was its performance when measured against similar schools nationally. It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Academy was ranked 2nd in the country, with only Seaford School in East Sussex ahead of Eastwood in the league table. This unprecedented achievement is a historical moment for the Academy and confirms its status as a high performing school nationally.

Well done to all stakeholders who have contributed to this momentous achievement.



Department
for Education

ESU Public Speaking Competition



Congratulations to Amber Streamer, Scarlett Reeve and Lauren Maliff who came runner-up in the ESU Public Speaking Competition held at The Sandon School in Chelmsford and competed in the branch final on Monday 8th February at Braintree Town Hall.

Eastwood Alumni



On 6th January, ex-pupil, Sharna Willis, visited the Academy to give a presentation to Year 11 pupils about 6th Form, aspirations and university life.

Sharna left the Academy in 2013 to attend Southend High School for Girls Sixth Form. She is currently studying Linguistics at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and is the first pupil in the Academy's history to gain a place at Cambridge University.

Sharna is part of the Academy's growing alumni network. We are confident that the precedent she has set will be an inspiration to others and the beginning of a legacy of pupils who gain places at Russell Group universities.

BBC School Report

BBC News School Report gives 11-16 year-old pupils in the UK the chance to make their own news reports for a real audience.

Using lesson plans and materials from BBC website, and with support from BBC staff and partners, teachers help pupils develop their journalistic skills to become School Reporters.

Pupils from the Academy will be making the news for real on 10th March. They will aim to publish the news by 1600 GMT on the News Day, so watch this space!



Literacy

'Literacy in the Community' are putting pen to paper this Spring to write about 'Hope'. The Academy is blessed with the most wonderful writers and they have been prolific in their production of poems, speeches and stories. These will be distributed in and around the local area, along with the stunning displays pupils have created.



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

U13 Girls' Football Team –The Essex Cup

The Essex Cup is an extremely prestigious event with over 50 teams entering the competition.

The Academy's U13 Girls' Football Team worked their way through the early rounds before encountering Tendring in the semi-final. At the end of normal time, the game was tied at 1-1 and extra-time ensued. Eastwood quickly took the lead but, unfortunately, Tendring scored twice inside 5 minutes, resulting in them leading the game 3-2 at the end of the first half of extra time.

In the second half of extra-time, relentless pressure resulted in a goal, and the game was tied at 3-3; however, the drama wasn't over yet. With 2 minutes left to play, Bethany Brogan found herself inside the box with her back to goal. With a sharp turn and an instinctive toe poke towards goal, she scored to make it 4-3!. Defensively stoic from beginning to end, the girls refused to surrender their lead and they were eventually triumphant.

The Academy's U13 Girls' Football Team will contest the final for the third time in four years— come on girls, bring the cup home!



Ofsted Triad Review

On 20th January, as part of the Ofsted School-School Improvement Project, the effectiveness of the Academy's marking and feedback was reviewed externally.



The outcome of the review was exceptionally positive, reaffirming the Academy's self-evaluation and trajectory for further development.

E-Safety



On 9th February, during their Computing lessons, pupils undertook a series of activities to mark Safer Internet Day.

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the event sees over a 1000 organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

Parental Feedback

The Academy is keen to source parental feedback and continues to offer the opportunity for parents to complete an e-survey during scheduled parents' evenings.

The Academy is pleased to report the following from the Year 11 Parents' Evening held on 25th January:

95.2% said that their child was well taught.

95.1% said that their child made good progress.

94.1% said that their child was well looked after.

94.1% said that they felt their child was safe at the Academy.

93.9% said children were well-behaved at the Academy.

93.7% said they would recommend the Academy to another parent.



The range of topics covered included the following:



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