

# eastparkpatter

Your newsletter for East Park



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## Welcome to eastparkpatter

**Judy Cromarty, Executive Director**



On the 9th of September East Park warmly welcomed John Swinney, Deputy First Minister & Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, to meet children, families and staff as well as tour our wonderful new facilities, which have recently been completed.

As many of you know, the £3 million development of additional classrooms and residential accommodation has increased facilities to enable East Park to support more children with complex additional support needs from across Scotland.

The new service has been specifically designed for children with highly intensive behavioural support needs related to their learning disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), who struggle to make sense of the social world around them and have difficulty sharing their living and learning space with others. The service provides a nurturing

calm environment, where sensory stimulation can be readily controlled, minimizing the child's anxieties and supporting the child to develop coping strategies which will facilitate and enhance their socialization skills.

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education John Swinney said: *"I am extremely grateful to the pupils, families and staff of East Park for inviting me along to help them celebrate the launch of these fantastic new facilities. This development will make a real difference to the lives of the children and young people here. It is clear a huge amount of work has already been done to ensure that the young people of East Park have the support and resources they need to reach their full learning potential and these new facilities will only enhance that."*

Our consistent child-focussed approach and ethos which is

promoted and practiced across all of East Park services, has resulted in positive outcomes, even for those young people who have come to East Park having challenged other services to the point of exclusion and breakdown, and has contributed to our ability to sustain those placements until the young person moves through a successful transition to adult services. Our new facilities are invaluable in helping us to improve our service and meet growing need into the future.

Everyone at East Park is extremely grateful for all the support that has been so generously given. Many organisations and individuals have donated the much needed funds to enable these wonderful new classrooms and residences to be built. We now look forward to being able to help even more young people as we move into 2017 and beyond.

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**East Park**

1092 Maryhill Road  
Glasgow G20 9TD

T. (0141) 946 2050

Scottish Charity No SC012838



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[eastpark.org.uk](http://eastpark.org.uk)

## FAREWELL BUILDERS

After an exciting year where our young people have enjoyed watching, interacting and learning what our builders have been doing in the school grounds, it was time to say goodbye. To send them off in style,

our young people welcomed the builders once again into East Park for a 'Farewell Tea'. This was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to all of the builders for engaging so well with our young people!



Sammy with two of the brilliant builders

## A WHOLE NEW WORLD... Sara works at BHF



Krishna playing on the magic carpet with support worker Megan.

This term, we have had a fantastic new learning material which has arrived at East Park. 'The Magic Carpet' helps our young people to learn about cause and effect whilst most find it relaxing at the same time. The Magic Carpet consists of a projector which projects interactive games and images onto the floor that users can control

simply by moving on or over the projected image. This is an amazing sensory learning tool as it can be included in the young person's current topic and engages many of our young people at all ages and abilities. Keep an eye out on our social media for more pictures and videos of this great learning tool.



Sara at work in the British Heart Foundation Shop

Sara, who attends Workmates, has been helping the charity British Heart Foundation for around three years. Sara works in one of their Glasgow shops and carries out the important tasks of sorting, categorising and tagging the clothes which are then sold to the public to raise

much-needed funds for the charity.

Sara working at BHF has given her a real feel of independence...

She works one day every week and says "I love going to work at the British Heart Foundation, the manager Gerry is so nice to me and makes me feel very welcome. I enjoy meeting lots of new people and my favourite task to do is to hang up all the different clothes on hangers for people to buy".

Resource Manager, Nicola McCann said "Sara working at BHF has given her a real feel of independence and sense of achievement. I can see that she enjoys the opportunity to really make a contribution to the community".

## SUMMER OUTINGS

During the lovely summer holidays the staff and young people at one of our residences had some fantastic days out, trying out new activities and visiting new places, as you can see in the photos!



Marcus, staff member Raye and Ewan playing a xylophone at Almond Valley

# Outcomes at East Park

**Charlotte Wilson, Care Services Manager**

At East Park, we have adopted the EtCS (Educating through Care Scotland) outcomes framework; this was developed in collaboration with a number of other independent residential schools, and will be officially launched at an event on 22nd September. The framework was independently evaluated by CELCIS (Centre of Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland); the report is available here: [https://www.celcis.org/~celcis/files/6114/4553/3556/Measuring\\_Young-Peoples\\_Outcomes\\_in\\_Residential\\_Education.pdf](https://www.celcis.org/~celcis/files/6114/4553/3556/Measuring_Young-Peoples_Outcomes_in_Residential_Education.pdf)

An outcomes measurements system is useful for a number of reasons. It can help us to identify the needs of young people, increasing clarity and focus in the work carried out with young people; help us to evaluate the effectiveness of the approaches and interventions we use; inform practice and generate reflective discussions about

young people's progress; allow us to capture progress, and prove we are making a difference to the lives of young people we are working with; provide important information for

quality assurance purposes e.g. for inspection bodies; promote our relationships with commissioners and funders; and provide essential quantitative and qualitative data for future strategic commissioning of services.

To support the implementation of an outcomes framework, we have identified the need for a supporting IT system which will allow us to monitor and track young people's progress. After researching a variety of products, we have made the decision to utilise 'Onwards & Upwards', an online solution for school

pupil progress reporting & analysis needs, developed and delivered by Escendency.

It tracks all progress and learning outcomes (academic, life skills, independence, certification

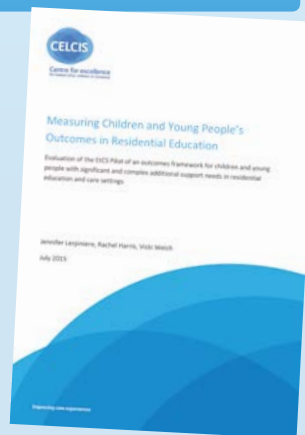
the monitoring of both whole school and individual progress, with the generation of highly visual and colour coded reports.

For more information visit <http://onwardsandupwards.com/>.

This system is currently only in use in England, and we are delighted to be the first school in Scotland to utilise it. Escendency are in the process of adapting the system to make it fit for purpose for East Park by adding in an elaborated Curriculum for Excellence with customised 'I can' statements, Getting it Right for Every Child Wellbeing Indicators, and East Park's own outcomes bank (taken from the EtCS framework).

Additionally, Escendency are adapting the system further to make it a good fit for residential schools by adding in sections which allow 'care' recordings such as daily notes, contacts and health recordings, amongst other information.

'Onwards & Upwards'... tracks all progress and learning outcomes to the smallest steps...



etc.) to the smallest steps (experienced / physical prompt/gestural prompt/ verbal prompt/ achieved), allowing evidence or media to be uploaded for each learning outcome. It enables



Liam and Marcus on the dodgems at Soar (Xscape)



Marcus at Woodend



Krishna having a paddle at Ayr beach



## Fundraising & Volunteers

### THANK YOU ZURICH!

Thank you so much to the wonderful volunteers led by Gavin Strathearn who volunteered at our allotment and did a fantastic job. The team put up a new fence,

painted our decking, carried out weeding and filled our tyres up with compost - thank you so much again and we hope to welcome you back soon!



Zurich certainly got the weather!

### BONNIE LASSIES JOIN THE KILTWALK



Anna and Val with Paul Cooney (left) Kiltwalk CEO and Sir Tom Hunter, Kiltwalk Investor

A huge thank-you and congratulations to Anna and Val, who very kindly braced this year's Glasgow Kiltwalk in April, and Tracey who successfully completed the Edinburgh Kiltwalk in September - all to raise funds for East Park. Overall, the ladies managed to raise an incredible amount of just over £700! We hope you all had a well-deserved rest after your walk and hope to see you all participating again in 2017!

### Ho! Ho! Ho!

Yes, it's that time of year again when our annual Christmas card is for sale. This year, our very creative card made with a foot print and finger prints is designed by Cameron Freeburn. Well Done, Cameron! If you would like to purchase some of these, please fill out the attached form and return to the fundraising department.



## Over and Above for East Park!



Kim gets all geared up to Skydive

A massive thank you and well done to our fundraising assistant, Kim who was brave enough to do a 10,000ft skydive to raise money for East Park. Kim managed to raise a brilliant £973.75 towards our Capital build. Thank you so much to everyone who

sponsored her. If you would like to see the video of her skydive, check it out on our website. If you fancy taking on a challenge for East Park, the Fundraising Team would love to hear from you on 0141 946 2050 or email fundraising@eastpark.org.uk

### Threesixty shine bright again



Class 2 on Yellow Tuesday

Once again, Threesixty Architecture hosted a fantastic Rainbow Week Challenge to raise money for East Park. A phenomenal amount of just over £5,000 was raised this year, exceeding all expectations. A huge thank you to all businesses and individuals who took part by part dressing in specific colours each day of the week. On the Saturday a brave

group (including some of our residents!) climbed Conic Hill in Balmaha. And to finish a colourful week off, Threesixty held a delicious 'Back to Black' breakfast at their offices for all those involved. What a week it was, and we hope that everyone enjoyed it as much as we did! And of course, thank you very much to all at Threesixty for your amazing efforts!



Threesixty Looking Good!