



Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup> 2022

Dear Parent or Carer,

It has been a very busy half term and I would like to commend our students for their positivity and cheerful good nature. Particular praise must be given to our Year 11 and Year 13 students, whose behaviour and attitude in external exams have been exemplary.

Many of our Year 12 students participate in the Junior Achievement Company Programme, providing real-life experience of being entrepreneurs. I am delighted to inform you that team "Atlas" won the top prize! Using the school science labs and their own scientific knowledge, they created an environmentally friendly soap product, which we are currently using in our staff toilets. "Atlas" is keen to expand their product range and make them available to students later in the year. The winning team, pictured on the right, will be travelling to Estonia in July to represent the Isle of Man in the European finals. We wish them every success.



Thank you to the many parents who sent us photos of their children's successes in The Guild. We are always pleased to celebrate the achievements of our young people, whether it be news of their artistic endeavours, sporting activities, or raising funds for charity. If you are happy to share photos, please send them to our Facebook page: @BallakermeenHS.



Pictured here are some of the members of Xenakis, our choir, who under the guidance of Musical Director Extraordinaire, Mrs Crossley, won their class, scoring an impressive 88 marks out of 100.

Ros, our amazing Librarian, has been working her magic during Harry Potter Week. Year 7 students have been listening to extracts from the books, creating their own poems and spells, and generally having a jolly wizarding time!



### Mock Exams

Students in Years 10 and 12 will undertake mock exams between June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The Oxford Dictionary defines a mock as ‘a practice exam that you do before the official one’. As these mocks are a rehearsal for the real exams, they will be held under strict exam regulations in the exam venue. This will give our students the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the rules, such as sitting in numbered seats, only writing in black ink and ensuring that they only have permitted items in the exam venue. For example, if a student is found in possession of a mobile phone, or watch, in the real exam, they would be automatically disqualified from that paper and other exams in the same series could possibly be under threat.

These tests will also help students to review their time management and study methods. Once teachers have marked the papers, they will provide the students with a benchmark of where they are right now, how much work needs to be done, in a specific area, or whether they need to work on their exam technique. We wish them all well.

### School Uniform

Please find below a link to a message from Mr Corrin, Head Teacher Designate, regarding school uniform: [www.bhs.sch.im](http://www.bhs.sch.im) (Click on the “Information” tab and then on “Uniform” on the drop down menu). Hard copies are also available from main reception. Apart from reducing the number of branded items to a minimum, no other changes have been made.

School closes today for half term and will re-open on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Enjoy TT and please stay safe!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Adrienne Burnett'.

Adrienne Burnett,  
Head Teacher.