

# 30 Oct

Ballakermeen  
High School

# 2023

## Dear Parent or Carer,

I hope that you had a great half term break whether you enjoyed our island or went off on your travels.

The half term has flown by and as you will see from this brief newsletter, there has been a lot going on in October. It has been great to see so many students, perhaps inspired by the rugby world cup, training, and competing against other schools on the field. It is clear how much that they have got from this and from the hockey, basketball and fitness clubs that have also been taking place.

You will also see included in this newsletter reference to our annual prizegiving. This was a wonderful and appropriate celebration, particularly of outstanding exam results, but also subject awards across the school that compliment the daily ePraise awards.

We look forward to November when year 11 have two important events; the Employment and Skills Conference at the Villa on the 14th and the UCM Taster Day on the 30th.

Enjoy the half term and good luck if you are carving a moot in preparation for Hop Tu Naa!



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# Looking Ahead



## WHAT'S ON NOVEMBER

- TUE 07**    **BHSA MEETING**  
Meeting begins at 6.30pm in the school library. All are welcome to join/attend
- THU 09**    **YEAR 11 EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS**  
Event at the Villa Marina, exploring different pathways into education, training and employment
- FRI 18**    **YEAR 11 INTRO TO SIXTH FORM ASSEMBLY**
- TUE 21**    **YEAR 7 - 9 FLU SPRAYS**
- WED 22**    **YEAR 10 - 11 FLU SPRAYS**
- WED 29**    **YEAR 7 AWARDS AFTERNOON**
- THU 30**    **YEAR 11 UCM TASTER DAY**  
Take a look inside UCM and learn about the various courses offered

## BHSA UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

The BHSA's pop-up Uniform Swap Shop returned in October, and the remaining dates for the rest of the year have now been published. For more information, check out the [BHSA Facebook group](#). The next shop date is Wed 20th December.

## YEAR 7 HANDBALL

Year 7 Handball Club has started on Wednesdays after-school in the gym but currently needs more players to get a team together ready for a tournament later in the year against the other schools!

## MAUGHOLD SPOOKTACULAR

Maughold Spooktacular takes place on Tuesday 31st October, raising money for Maughold house charities: The British Red Cross and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Taking place across both lunch periods in the Seating Area and Studio Theatre, there will be sweet treats, a lucky dip, a guess the teacher competition, a photobooth, and a spooky movie!



## E-PRAISE LEADERS SO FAR...



### OCT LEADERS: MAUGHOLD (26,402)

CONISTER TOP TUTOR GROUP	8CD2
LANGNESS TOP TUTOR GROUP	8LD4
HILLARY TOP TUTOR GROUP	8HM5
MAUGHOLD TOP TUTOR GROUP	7MS6
PATRICK TOP TUTOR GROUP	7PK7



# October Roundup



## MAUGHOLD FUNDRAISER

Hot Chocolate Bar

Maughold House's hot chocolate bar raised a fantastic £96.90 for house charities: the British Red Cross and Macmillan Cancer Support. Well done to all!



## GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

Year 12 Geography students headed out on fieldwork at the beginning of the month, studying mass movement and flood management in Laxey, river morphology and characteristics along the River Groudle, and microclimates in Conrheny Plantation.

The students worked well together as a team and showed great respect for our local natural environments and each other.



## CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKSHOP



Ex-BHS student Rosie Hanlon visited the school to speak to students about careers in Civil Engineering. Rosie works for ARUP in Belfast as part of the Water Team, carrying out studies on existing water infrastructure, and designing solutions to drainage problems and pollution incidents. Rosie delivered an interesting presentation to our students followed by a practical bridge building task.

## Y12 IT WORKSHOP

Meadow CrossFit gym owner Danny Kane delivered workshops to our Year 12 BTEC IT students, focusing on how his business uses social media and the pros and cons of it, giving the students lots to think about.



## Black History Month

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
Sixth Form Diversity Prefects

Our Diversity Prefects from the Sixth Form worked very hard to share their thoughts and feelings about why Black History Month is so important for us to celebrate as a school community. They delivered assemblies to all year groups as well as producing a fantastic and interesting display in the Sixth Form Centre.

## YEARS 7 & 8 SPORT

Our Year 7 & 8 girls hockey team won their first match of the season against QEII - a fantastic achievement!

Hockey training continues for Years 7 & 8 on Thursdays after-school at the NSC until 4.30pm.

Our Year 7 rugby squad played extremely well in their first fixture against KWC. Although the result may not have gone their way, huge respect was shown all round towards our opponents. A bright future ahead for these talented sportsmen!



**KINDNESS | HONESTY | RESPECT**



# October Roundup



## PRIZE DAY

On 18th October, we celebrated our annual Prize-giving in the Studio Theatre. A big thank you to all our distinguished guests and parents for honouring us with their presence.

Amongst the prize-giving, we were treated to fantastic musical performances from the talented Jess on the piano, and Bram, Leo and Conrad whose band performed Jimi Hendrix's "Little Wing". Performing Arts prize winner Joey also performed two brilliant pieces of poetry.

The most important people of the day were of course our incredible students. We were immensely proud to have the opportunity to formally recognise their achievements and to celebrate our vibrant and thriving school community.

Thank you to all our students who strive to do their best and who last year were rewarded with over 480,000 ePraise points. We salute you!



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Silver DofE students took to the outdoors in October, with 2 groups completing their expeditions just in time for the end of the season. Walking in the hills for three days, carrying all of their food and equipment was certainly a challenge, with night-time temperatures dipping to near freezing at times! Well done to all!



## NON-UNIFORM DAY LED BY CONISTER HOUSE

The last day of term has been Non-Uniform, with voluntary donations of £1 to raise money for Conister House's charity this year, the ManxSPCA.

Pictured are some of Conister's Form Captains.



**YOUNG HERO AWARD 2023**  
Congratulations to Evie Roberts!

Year 10 student Evie Roberts was bestowed the Mayor of Douglas' Young Hero Award 2023 for her podcast 'Talking in the Dark'. In her October episodes, Evie chats to H.E. Sir John Lorimer and Lady Lorimer, British broadcaster Fearné Cotton, and the Mayor of Douglas! We're very proud of Evie for all her hardwork and well deserved award!

You can listen to Evie's podcast via the links below:

[Facebook](#) | [Spotify](#) | [YouTube](#)