

Ballakermeen
High School

2024

May
Monthly
News



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May



Dear Parent or Carer,

TT is an exciting time when the Island really comes to life with not only the roar of bikes but also the buzz of visitors really appreciating our beautiful island. Of course it's also a time when all of us, and especially youngsters, need to be really careful on and around the roads. We all hope that the TT holiday brings fine weather not only for the racing but also so that everyone gets a nice break, can get outside and away from devices!

It's been a busy May and a key event has been our external validation which I told you about a few weeks ago. We were really pleased to have an external eye on the school and equally pleased that they were able to recognise the work that we're all doing on creating a warm, welcoming and friendly environment in the actions, attitude and values of many of our students. We are under no illusions about things that we need to continue to develop but the validation endorsed the fact that we're in a good position to keep moving forward. See our website for the parental information. Exam season is well underway and for a Year 11 and Year 13 students it seems that the hard work that has been put in is now paying dividends. When we see students arriving each morning, we generally wish them good luck, but of course luck doesn't come into it, it's all in the preparation!

The last day of term was non uniform day for Maughold House. It was a nice atmosphere in school however, I would ask that if we are to continue having non uniform days, students should carefully consider their choice of clothing because although it's non-uniform it is still a normal working day. Specifically, we would ask students do not wear crop tops.

We got some amazing news on Thursday which you might have seen on Facebook regarding team Creed who won the Isle of Man Junior Achievement Companies programme. It has been announced that they have also won the Intel Innovators Online Award as part of Europe's largest entrepreneurship festival Gen_E. Massive congratulations once again to Ben, Miltos and Krishna.

A big well done also to Jackson in year 7 who was successful in the Faldo Futures Competition and is off to the Belfry in August. A fabulous achievement and good luck to him!

In the North American Manx Association awards, Evie won the Manx Community Award and Scott the Art Award which was further great recognition.

Lots to celebrate and plenty more enclosed in this newsletter! Have a great and safe TT.

Graeme Corrin
Headteacher





Looking Ahead



JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT TEAM CREED

Ben, Miltos, and Krisha from Team Creed, who won this year's Junior Achievement HSBC Student Company Programme with their incredible 'Sensoguard' glove to assist the visually impaired, are seeking your help!

The Team will be jetting off to Italy in July, representing the Isle of Man in Gen-E, Europe's Largest Entrepreneurship event, competing against 35 other countries who each won their own regional competitions. The team recently won the Intel® AI Innovators Online Award as part of Gen_E! This award recognises teams that have used AI tools and methodologies responsibly to create meaningful solutions, addressing both local and global challenges.

You can help vote for Creed in the Public Choice Award 2024 [here](#). Click on the 'Expo Arena' virtual trade stands, then select JA Company and search for the Isle of Man. There, you can learn all about Creed's product, and cast your vote. The winner of the public choice award wins an amazing trip to Brussels to get to know more European institutions and JA Europe!

GIRLS CRICKET

Girls cricket is now being played in all the Island's secondary schools. Any girls who want to continue to play outside of school are welcome to attend training sessions held by local clubs on the Island ([click here](#)).



WHAT'S ON JUNE

- MON 10** BACK FROM TT BREAK
- 10 - 12** DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRACTICE WALKS
- TUE 11** BHSA MEETING
Meeting begins at 6.30pm in the school library.
- TUE 11** 'ANDREA CHÉNIER' SCREENING
The Studio Theatre's final screening of this season- Giordano's epic historical drama of revolution and forbidden love: [More info](#).
- 20 - 21** HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR
Fair opens on Thursday evening, 6.50 - 9pm, in the Sixth Form Centre, with School specific visiting times allocated on Friday.
- THU 27** YEAR 8 ACADEMIC TUTORING

E-PRAISE LEADERS SO FAR...

MAY LEADERS: MAUGHOLD (104,527)



CONISTER TOP TUTOR GROUP	7CS4
LANGNESS TOP TUTOR GROUP	7LL2
HILLARY TOP TUTOR GROUP	7HS7
MAUGHOLD TOP TUTOR GROUP	7MS6
PATRICK TOP TUTOR GROUP	7PK6

May Roundup



YEAR 7 BOYS CRICKET

Well done to the Ballakermeen Year 7 Cricket team, led superbly by Captain Lucas, on their 2nd win of the season at QE2! All the boys should be commended for their attitude and hard work over the 2 games so far. We are looking forward to what the future brings for these fine sportsmen.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH TRAINING

82 students completed their training for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition section during May! They learned basic first aid and CPR, rucksack fitting and packing, country code, map reading, how to safely cook on a Trangia stove, and navigation.

The weather at Ardwhallan was perfect and we couldn't have asked for a more enthusiastic group of participants. Well done to all!



MENTAL HEALTH WEEK ASSEMBLIES



Isle Listen visited school during Mental Health Awareness Week (13th - 19th May 2024) to deliver assemblies all about 'Moving more for our mental health'. Many of us struggle to get enough exercise, but being active is important for our mental health and wellbeing.

Thank you to Isle Listen for coming in to speak to our students!



YEAR 8 GERMAN LEAFLETS

Year 8 students produced some fantastic leaflets to welcome German visitors to the Isle of Man this year, up for display in the airport's arrival zone! Wunderbar Klasse 8!



Toward the end of April, 30 students from Years 7 and 8 took part in the Junior Mathematics Challenge, along with students across the whole of the UK. This Challenge tests students' problem solving skills. We had some excellent results with several students gaining either a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate. Ansh and Ian won the Best in Year 7 award, and Aedan won both Best in Year 8 and Best in School awards. We especially want to congratulate Aedan, who scored highly enough to be invited to the next round of the competition, the first to do so at the Junior level for several years!



BHSA UNIFORM SWAP-SHOP

The BHSA's final uniform swap-shop of this school year will be taking place on Wednesday 17th July, in the school Seating Area, between 2 - 4pm. As always, please feel free to take what you need, or drop off any old uniform no longer needed.

May Roundup



Evie Roberts
Talking in the DARK
SHAW TRUST DISABILITY POWER 100 - SHORTLISTED CANDIDATE: EVIE ROBERTS

LISTEN NOW

The Shaw Trust
Disability Power 100

#DisabilityPower100

2024 SHORTLISTED

EVIE SHORTLISTED FOR AWARD

Year 10 student Evie was shortlisted for a top UK award for her podcast, 'Talking in the Dark'. The Shaw Trust Disability Power 100 is a platform for change and each year recognises the most influential disabled people in the UK, celebrating their ambition and achievements, and providing much needed encouragement to the leaders of tomorrow. Past winners include: Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, Alex Brooker, Rose Ayling Ellis, Nikki Fox, and Stephen Hawking (to name but a few!)

You can find out more about the Shaw Trust Disability Power 100 via their website [here](#).

You can listen to the latest episodes of Evie's podcast via the links here:

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



YEAR 9 GIRLS CRICKET

Year 9 Girls played their first ever cricket fixture against Ramsey Grammar School earlier this term! A win and a loss in the first games... Well done all who took part!



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Well done to Year 10 Global Perspectives students, Izabell and Rosie, who raised money for the Children's Centre as part of their Team Projects that go towards their GCSE. The students got the opportunity to go up to the Children's Centre themselves and deliver their donation in person and witness the amazing things that the Children's Centre do first hand.



SUCCESS AT MANX MUSIC FESTIVAL

Congratulations to all our students who took part in the Manx Music Festival between 27th April - 4th May. We loved hearing about all your many successes!

(More photos on our [Facebook page](#))



Our Fiction Library was once again transformed for Harry Potter week with a variety of books, costumes, and props all themed around Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry!