

Ballakermeen
High School

2024

19
July

Dear Parent or Carer,

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year.

I should say at this point a massive thankyou to Miss Firth who gathers all the information and presents it in such an engaging way, including the seasonal cover picture!

I am sending a separate letter to parents and carers plus a couple of links to information that will help us all to make a positive start to the new year in September. We will start the new year with high hopes and positivity as we continue to build a warm, welcoming and friendly culture. Everyone at Ballakermeen has a part to play in this and alongside politeness, attentiveness and confidence, we will surely build on what you have taught them at home and further prepare our students to have an outstanding impact on our local and wider communities.

It has certainly been a busy year with lots of successes and achievements. The monthly newsletters and the school has showcased many of these and many of our outstanding students.

I hope that all our students enjoy a wonderful summer holiday and that for year 11 and year 13, GCSE and A-Level results days I fully expect them to reap the full rewards of their efforts.

I hope you enjoy this final newsletter and once again I wish all the best to you and your family. Have a fabulous summer and let's all cross our fingers for some sunshine!



Graeme Corrin
Headteacher

July Monthly News



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Looking Ahead



BALLAKERMEEN HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Our PTA, the Ballakermeen High School Association (sometimes called 'Friends of Ballakermeen') is looking for enthusiastic new parents to join our group. We get together several times per year to discuss school life from the unique perspective of parents, organise fantastic social and fundraising events and explore other exciting projects that will benefit and enhance our childrens' Ballakermeen journey.

If you haven't been involved in a PTA before then why not come along, meet other parents and be an active part of the Ballakermeen community. Information about the Association can be found on the [school website](#) or the [Ballakermeen High School Association Facebook page](#). Our first meeting of the new school year will take place on Tuesday 1st October, 6.30pm in the library.



WHAT'S ON AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- THU 16** A LEVEL RESULTS
- THU 22** GCSE RESULTS
- WED 04** SCHOOL STARTS (YEARS 7 - 12)
- THU 05** YEAR 13 START
- MON 09** YEAR 12 JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT LAUNCH
- TUE 10** YEAR 13 UCAS/UCM APPLICATION EVENING
- TUE 10** 'MARRIAGE OF FIGARO' SCREENING
Mozart's comic opera, packed with plot twists, and unforgettable melodies: [More info.](#)
- TUE 17** DUKE OF EDINBURGH INFO EVENING
- THU 19** YEAR 12 INFO EVENING
- WED 26** YEAR 7 MEET THE TUTOR EVENING

E-PRAISE LEADERS END OF YEAR

JULY LEADERS: MAUGHOLD (119,800)



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

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

The Government is reminding parents not to let kids miss out on free school meals. People who claim Employed Persons Allowance, Income Support, or Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance are being reminded to get applications in. In order to make sure your child gets their school meals from September, you have until 31st July to put in an application- [click here.](#)

June Roundup



DUKE OF EDINBURGH TRAINING

Well done to all the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants who headed out at the beginning of the month for their training and practice walk. The weather was sometimes hit and miss, with quite a lot of hill fog for the students to navigate through. Despite this, all the students did themselves proud - they worked incredibly well to walk as a team, cook together and helped each other set up camp. Their third day was a hard push, but they got to Spooyt Vane in high spirits.



MAUGHOLD FUNDRAISER

Congratulations to the new Maughold House prefect team! Their first fundraiser was a sell-out success! They raised over £140 for their house charities, MacMillan Cancer Care IOM, and the British Red Cross. Thank you to everyone who supported the ice cream sale with a donation today.

TEAM CREED SUCCESS IN SICILY



Team Creed (Ben, Miltos, and Krishna) travelled to Sicily to represent the Island in the finals of the Company Programme at #Gen_E, Europe's largest Entrepreneurship Festival, competing against 41 other countries. Their product, the world's first smart glove for the blind named 'SensoGuard', earned them the Intel® AI Innovators Award. Miltos was also

awarded the Alumni Leadership Award for demonstrating outstanding leadership skills. Despite Mount Etna erupting and flights being cancelled, the group all made it back safely and should be very proud of their achievements!



YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

Year 7 Geography students were out on fieldwork in Castletown where they conducted questionnaires with the public, looked at environmental quality of the town and also visited the Silverburn River at Poulson Park. Well done to all students for representing the school in such a positive light!



EVIE WINS AWARD

Evie in Year 10 was recently awarded the North American Manx Association Manx Community Award for her inspirational podcast series "Talking in the Dark". The judges said her "talent and dedication" has served as a "beacon of empowerment and understanding" for the Manx blind communities. All eight winners received an engraved silver medallion from NAMA's Jane Sailor-Morey.



ORCHESTRA TRIP

Several of our talented musical students, and Mrs Roome went on tour in the Netherlands with the Manx Youth Orchestra, playing concerts in Delft, Leiden and Beverwijk to very appreciative and impressed crowds! We're very proud of them for representing Ballakermeen and the Isle of Man!

KINDNESS | HONESTY | RESPECT

June Roundup



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

7 Bronze and 2 Silver DoFE groups went out on expedition during the last week of term. The Bronze groups finished on Tuesday afternoon and deserve a massive pat on the back for their teamwork, resilience and good humour. We're massively proud of all of them. Silvers finished the day after. Over 60 participants from Ballakermeen took part. Well done all!



FOODBANK DONATION

Many thanks to all students and staff who contributed to this year's Foodbank collection.

Pictured are some of the new Year 10 prefects and school council members who helped present the donation to the Foodbank.

SUMMER READING

All BHS students have access to a student friendly, balanced news publication called 'The Day!' This summer, they can take part in 'Around the world in 30 days' and be in with the chance to win a £100 Amazon voucher! Simply login to 'The Day' every day between 22nd July - 30th August to read the newly published article, discover the clues, and get your passport stamped. All entrants will receive a certificate.

www.theday.co.uk

Username: balladay

Password: Ballakermeen

Please send any completed passports to:

editorial@theday.co.uk



GERMAN TABLE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Ballakermeen German Department held a Primary Year 6 Kickertisch (table football) tournament in the Dome. Each of the 4 primary schools of Braddan, Henry Bloom Noble, Kewaigue, and Manor Park entered several teams and great fun was had by all. After all 13 teams had played each other once, the winning team came from Kewaigue – well done! In the afternoon approximately 160 students from Years 7 - 10, were invited to a fascinating and motivating talk about how languages can help both with future careers and with cultural understanding. A special thanks must go to Steve Eadon from Mingalaba for running both events as part of the PASCH initiative.

Have a wonderful
Summer Holidays!

