

Ballakermeen
High School

2024

December Monthly News



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Dear Parent or Carer,

As we get to the end of a long term, I would like to wish you, your family and your loved ones a peaceful and happy Christmas and a joyous 2025. A reminder, school re-opens for all students on Monday 6th January!

Our Carol Service on Wednesday was a beautiful event and it really did begin to feel a lot like Christmas from that point! Wonderful musical performances interspersed with fabulous readings made for a lovely evening. Great thanks to Mrs Crossley for her planning and organisation and Mr Karran, Mr Craige and Miss Carter plus returning friends of the school Dannii Bridson and Ian Quayle.

Students and staff have been working hard right up to the end of term because we believe that every second counts. However, as I write, we are enjoying a lovely final day. Many students and staff have chosen to wear Christmas jumpers in support of Macmillan IOM which is fabulous. Top forms in each year group enjoyed a well-earned rewards breakfast, students watched a festive movie at the start of the day whilst 6th Form had their own celebration presentations.

House competition has been a feature of the year so far with Mr Lewis encouraging various departments and staff to run friendly competitions where students can earn points for their Houses. Our intent is to foster a sense of belonging to both individual houses and Ballakermeen as a whole. Recently the mighty Maughold won the Y7 Futsal competition and today we have a house swimming gala which has been eagerly entered across the year groups.

I should finally like to recognise two colleagues who leave us today. Miss Molyneux is moving to become Drama Subject Lead at King William's College. She will be very sadly missed by all of us, but we all wish her the very best of luck in her new promoted post. We also say goodbye to Miss Mylchreest from Geography who has been fabulous and will be equally missed. We also wish her good luck as she takes a permanent position at Castle Rushen.

Looking further ahead into January, we have year 13 and year 11 mocks which will provide good feedback regarding progress towards the grades that students are aiming for. Good luck to all students and we hope that they enjoy some relaxation and family time around their revision.

May I finally once again thank you for your support and wish you a happy and healthy Christmas break and a fulfilling new year.

Graeme Corrin
Headteacher

Looking Ahead



What's On in: January

SCHOOL EVENTS

- MON 06** SCHOOL RE-OPENS
- 07 - 18** YEAR 13 MOCK EXAMS
- 14 - 20** YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS
- THU 28** YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING
- WED 29** YEAR 8 PSHE DROPDOWN DAY

MONTHLY EPRAISE LEADER:



DECEMBER: LANGNESS HOUSE (51,394)

LEADING CONISTER	7CK7
LEADING LANGNESS	7LK5
LEADING HILLARY	7HS7
LEADING MAUGHOLD	7MS6
LEADING PATRICK	7PK6

December Roundup



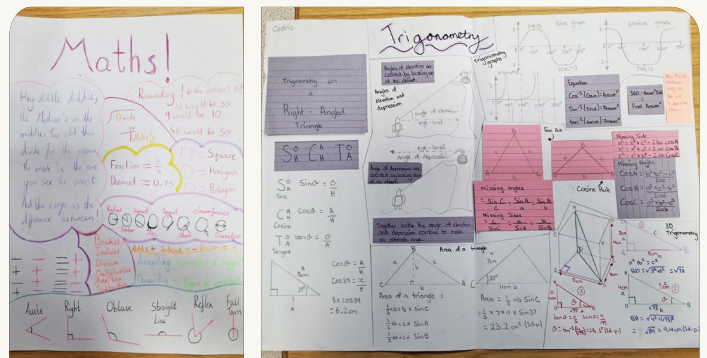
YEAR 7 FUTSAL BRONZE MATCH

Conister and Patrick battled it out in the House Futsal Tournament bronze medal match on 12th December. The game was very close for the first 8 minutes of play, and both teams had multiple chances to take the lead. However, it was Conister who took precedence with a great strike from Jacob, hitting the top corner. Patrick house tried to battle back and attacked with high pressure straight away. This pressure led to Patrick being awarded a penalty. Unfortunately, the shot went wide. Pressure continued from Patrick, but Conister managed to hold off until the final whistle! Conister take a 1-0 win and have finished the tournament in 3rd place! Well done to all involved.



DESIGN AN AD COMPETITION WINNERS

Some of our students had a great night winning awards at the 2024 Design an Ad competition! Congratulations to Alesha, Molly, and Erin (Group Winners), and to Jasper, Evan, Jiayue, Gertie, and Kiella who were all highly commended. An extra special well done to Dangelica in Year 10 who was named the Overall Campaign Senior Winner!



MATHS REVISION POSTERS

Conister students Daisy (Year 7) and Cedric (Year 10) were named winners of the Maths department KS3 and KS4 revision poster competition! Cassie in Langness placed 2nd, Keelyn in Langness placed 3rd, and Katie in Maughold placed 4th. Well done to all who took part and secured points for their house totals! The winning designs will be displayed in the maths corridor.

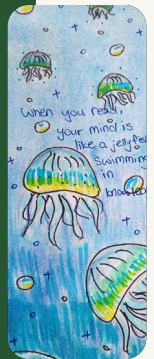


SHOW FUNDRAISER

Alice in Year 9 organised a fundraising event for Macmillan Cancer Support which was held on the last night of this year's school production of Fame Jr! Alice helped to raise £174.08 for the charity and is pictured here presenting the cheque to Anna Williamson. Well done Alice!

HOUSE BOOKMARK DESIGN COMPETITION

Pictured are some of the winners across different year groups for our Design a Bookmark Competition! Ashley in Year 7 was named overall winner for her jellyfish bookmark. All who entered the competition received a laminated copy of their bookmark, and the winners also received a certificate and free book as a prize. Well done all on your fantastic designs!



XMAS READING

Pictured are some of our Year 7 students taking part in the Library's Christmas Reading! They will each unwrap a brand new book on Christmas day to read and review to earn ePraise/ House points and a prize!



December Roundup



INTERS BASKETBALL

At the beginning of the month, the Inter's basketball team took on SNHS in our final fixture of the regular season. The team started well with a great tip-off from Caleb, getting the ball to Leon who scored within 5 seconds of the game starting. This strong start continued with great efforts from the starting 5 working together to all score points in the first quarter. By half time we were up significantly due to fast drives to the basket by James A, strong rebounding and putbacks by James G, and great shot selections by Caleb. For his second game this season, Blake came on and provided instant impact, and Sonny's confidence developed significantly for his second game, showing his skill set and knowledge of the game at many stages. The 3rd quarter did see SNHS close the gap within the score, which meant we had to make sure we extended the lead in the 4th. The game ended 58-33 to Ballakermeen. Well done to all the players that have been involved in the Inters team; it has been a fantastic season, and now we focus on getting to the final!



SECRET SANTA

7CS4 celebrated Christmas Jumper Day and their final day of term with a joyful tutor group Secret Santa! A special thanks and heartfelt festive wishes go to Miss Molyneux, their wonderful tutor, who is leaving us after five incredible years of teaching. We wish Miss Molyneux all the very best as she embarks on an exciting new chapter - she will be greatly missed by students and staff alike!



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

On 18th December, we held our annual Community Christmas Carol Service at St George's Church. The evening featured stunning musical performances from our talented students, interspersed with fabulous readings, creating a warm and festive atmosphere.

A huge thank you to Mrs. Crossley for her incredible planning and organisation, and to Mr. Karran, Mr. Craige, and Mr. Shirliff for their contributions, as well as returning friends of the school, Danni Bridson and Ian Quayle, for helping make the event so special. Thanks to everyone at St George's Church for their support and generosity in providing their facilities and assisting us in bringing this wonderful service to life.



KINDNESS | HONESTY | RESPECT

December Roundup



YEAR 7 FUTSAL TOURNAMENT FINAL

The 18th December saw Maughold vs. Langness in the Year 7 House Futsal Tournament final! Both teams were very passionate about the chance to lift the trophy.

The game was a thriller straight from the whistle. Both teams showing great moments of skill and excellent moments of play which really got the crowd going. It stayed 2-2 for the majority of the match with both teams having multiple shots on target. It came down to the final seconds of the game where Buddy hit a rocket which the keeper had no chance in saving, securing both the win and the trophy for Maughold! Final score Maughold 3 v 2 Langness. Player of the match goes to Buddy. A fantastic tournament for Year 7, and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

7MS6 EPRAISE WINNERS

A huge well done to Afsheen and Aditya in 7MS6 for earning the highest number of ePraise points in their tutor group this term, with an incredible combined total of 900 points!

Congratulations as well to the entire group for their consistent hard work and for demonstrating the school values throughout the term. Keep up the fantastic effort!



EPRAISE AND REWARDS MORNING

The last week of school has seen us celebrating our students' successes by recognising and rewarding them for going above and beyond in lessons and around school. A massive 241,847 points have been awarded since the term started in September. Epraise assemblies were held for all Key stage 3 & 4 students with prizes awarded for the top points earners and to students earning points for our school values of kindness, honesty and respect. The week culminated with a rewards breakfast for the top tutor group in each year group and a Christmas rewards film for the top 50 points earners in years 7 – 9. Well done to all!



Nollick Ghennal as Blein Vie Noa!