



Dear Parent or Carer,

As the end of the school year is upon us, I would like to thank you for your support throughout the year. We know that there is nothing more precious than your children and we recognise the responsibility that we share with you to guide and nurture them. Outside of class, much of what we do is simply building on things that you've taught your children at home. Just like you, we want our youngsters to be kind, respectful and polite. Our core values mean a great deal to us and we emphasise them every day in our daily message. We believe that each interaction is a chance to be kind and pleasant, so we try to encourage as many interactions as possible! If you are ever visiting the school you will find that it feels very warm, welcoming and friendly.

It's been a positive year with lots of successes and achievements. One look at the blog on the school website will show you the sheer range of activities that have been going on. We're proud of all our students and their achievements, both in and out of school, and recognise the effort that it takes to be successful. So, congratulations to all the youngsters who have achieved great things this year.

You will find in this newsletter some of the great things that have been going on in July. Our Memorial Walk has been a particular highlight this week, however, alongside this we have enjoyed slightly more unique activities including welly throwing for year 12 and the House Battle Boats competition in the swimming pool where students built and raced their own boats. It was quite a spectacle!

So, it has been a positive year but clearly we want next year to be even better and we all have a part to play in that. Staff are working hard to ensure that teaching is as effective as it possibly can be and that every student, no matter how positive their results have been this year, will have areas to improve. From a family point of view, I would ask that you support the school and your children by purchasing correct uniform, particularly shoes that are all black and skirts that are not body contour or too short. We will also be doing a push on equipment next year as this supports one of our BHS learner attributes of readiness. We would ask that all students are provided with at least 3 pens, 2 pencils, a ruler, a rubber and a calculator for September.

We all wish you a fabulous summer break and we look forward to a fresh new year in September. Enjoy this final newsletter of the year and look after yourselves and each other.

Graeme Corrin
Headteacher



July Monthly News



Ballakermeen High School
St. Catherine's Drive
Douglas
IM1 4BE

(01624) 648700
bhsenquiries@sch.im

Looking Ahead



What's On in: AUG/SEPT

SUMMER SUPPORT

Whilst School now closes for the summer holidays, FACE will remain open for ongoing online advice, information, and support on a range of topics including anxiety, autism, ADHD, communication, screen times, and much more. No waiting lists, no referrals, just a friendly face. Visit: facefamilyadvice.co.uk for more information.

ACTIVITY SCHEME

Manx Mencap in collaboration with Autism in Mann have released details of their 2025 Summer Activity Scheme, intended for school-aged children and young people who are autistic, have social communication challenges, or have learning disabilities and attend a Specialist Provision Centre.

The scheme is intended to support children and young people who find participation in mainstream clubs and activities particularly challenging or, in many cases, unfeasible.

Further details can be found [here](#).



SCHOOL EVENTS

THU 14 AUG

A-LEVEL RESULTS DAY

THU 21 AUG

GCSE RESULTS DAY

WED 8 SEP

SCHOOL STARTS

2024-25 HOUSE WINNERS

Congratulations to the House team champions of 2024-25: Langness House!

A big well done to all students who participated in house competitions this year.

On 16th July, we held our bi-annual **Memorial Walk**, following the Heritage Trail from school to Marown Memorial Playing Fields and back. This year, we chose to raise funds for the IOM Salvation Army and the Foodbank, in memory of Peter Quayle, our school gardener, who we lost in January. Congratulations to Conister House, who earned first place with 65% of students present in their house colours. Langness placed second, Hillary third, Maughold fourth, and Patrick fifth.

Congratulations to Conister House for winning the inaugural **Ballakermeen Boat Race Championships!** We saw some incredible entries, including a fully built boat created from scratch. Langness secured second place, followed by Patrick in third and Hillary in fourth. We look forward to an even larger event next year!



July Roundup



YEAR 9 JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

Well done to all our Year 9 students who took part in the Junior Achievement 'Challenge for Change' environmental programme. The day was full of creative thinking and brilliant ideas for tackling real-world environmental challenges. Congratulations to the winning team from 9MM3 who went on to represent the school in the Challenge for Change finals.



MEMORIAL WALK STONES

Our new Prefect Team designed and painted a stone for each House to be placed on the Heritage Trail during our Memorial Walk. This was the first task given to our newly elected Prefects and what a wonderful job they have done!

Hillary ended up with two stones!

Maughold's Prefects are pictured with their House stone.



POWERLIFTING

Congratulations to all our incredible students who took part in their first ever powerlifting competition earlier in the month! The camaraderie on display was inspiring, and many students smashed their own personal bests. A big thank you to Manx Powerlifting for organising and hosting the event.



TEAM ARTHESY IN ATHENS

Year 12 students Guy, Jacob, Shenton, Oli, and Isaac from Junior Achievement Team ArthEsy proudly represented the school at Gen-E in Athens - Europe's largest entrepreneurial festival!

The team impressed on the international stage with their passion, teamwork, and professionalism, standing out among some of the most promising young entrepreneurs from across the continent. Their innovative pitch showcased EsyCutter and EsyFueler - two thoughtfully designed products created to support individuals living with arthritis and similar conditions. Both inventions are aimed at restoring independence and simplifying everyday routines.

A special congratulations to Team Leader Guy, who was awarded the 'JA Alumni Europe Leadership Award' - an outstanding and well-deserved recognition! We are immensely proud of what these talented students have accomplished.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITIONS

A huge WELL DONE to the Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh groups that ventured out in the last week of term.

Despite some challenging weather this week, our students showed incredible resilience, determination, and teamwork on their expeditions - a fantastic effort all round, and we couldn't be prouder of everyone involved.

For those who haven't done so yet - don't forget to get your paperwork in so we can sign off your Awards!



July Roundup



SCHOOL SHOW IN REHEARSALS

The last Tuesday of term was an exciting milestone for the talented cast of our 2025 school show, as they spent a full day rehearsing in the Studio Theatre!

The space came alive with music, movement, and some wonderful stand-out performances. The show is already shaping up to be something truly special!

Dare to Dream JR. is a vibrant musical revue that follows a spirited group of trainees on their first day at a fictional Walt Disney Imagineering Studio. As they embark on a journey of self-discovery, they learn how dreams, when shared, have the power to unite, inspire, and turn the impossible into reality. Featuring a dazzling selection of songs from a century of iconic Disney films, Dare to Dream JR. includes beloved favourites from The Princess and the Frog, Coco, Encanto, Frozen II, and many more!

With its joyful blend of contemporary hits, timeless Disney classics, and fresh new medleys, this show promises to surprise and enchant Disney fans of all ages...



YEAR 9 JA WINNERS

Congratulations to Year 9 students Moamen, Tommy, Keaira, and Phoebe who won Junior Achievement's Challenge for Change Interschool Final with their idea for an AI-powered smart socket that helps reduce energy consumption!



Have a great Summer!