

Ballakermeen
High School

2026

June Monthly News



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June

Dear Parent or Carer,

As we reach the final weeks of the academic year, this edition of the newsletter provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements, successes and experiences that have defined June at Ballakermeen. From sporting accomplishments and academic enrichment to careers education and leadership opportunities, our students continue to demonstrate the enthusiasm, resilience and ambition that make our school so special. Their efforts, supported by dedicated staff and families, remind us of the importance of providing opportunities both inside and outside the classroom for every young person to thrive.

This month has showcased the breadth of talent, ambition and determination that exists across our school community. In sport, we have celebrated impressive successes in athletics and cricket, with students representing Ballakermeen with distinction both locally and beyond. Congratulations to our Year 9 girls' cricket team on reaching their final, to our athletes selected for the prestigious English Schools' Athletic Association Championships, and to all those who took part in inter-school competitions with such enthusiasm and commitment.

Our students have also excelled in a range of academic and enrichment activities. Year 9 students impressed during the Junior Achievement 'Challenge for Change' programme, developing innovative solutions to environmental challenges, while others gained valuable insights into careers and financial awareness through a visit to Barclays Bank. These experiences help develop the skills, confidence and aspirations that will serve our young people well in the future. A particular highlight was Ballakermeen's hosting of the Isle of Man's 40th Higher Education Fair. The event brought together universities, on-island providers and employers, offering students exceptional opportunities to explore future pathways. My thanks go to all staff, students and visitors who contributed to making the event such a success.

As we look ahead to July, there is still much to enjoy, including Year 11 and Year 13 Proms, Balla's Got Talent, academic tutoring sessions, transition events for our new Year 7 students, university trip, Oxford Uni trip, a D&T visit to London and of course the first Enrichment Week since 2019. We can expect a bumper newsletter in July!

A final word should go to our exam cohorts who prepared for and sat their exams with great fortitude over what seemed an immensely drawn-out period for them. We now hope that every student gets the rewards that their efforts deserve. As a reminder, A-Level/Level 3 results are available on 13th August and GCSE and Level 2 results the following week on the 20th August.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school as we strive to challenge ourselves and our youngsters to be the best that we can be.

Graeme Corrin
Headteacher

Looking Ahead



What's On in: JULY

FITNESS CLUB

A reminder that Fitness Club continues every Tuesday and Thursday morning, in the school gym, from 7:45am to 8:30am with Mr Hardie and Mr Corlett. All students are welcome to attend!

Please wear appropriate fitness clothing and trainers (PE kit is not required). Guidance and support with using the equipment will be available throughout each session. Changing facilities will remain open before, during, and after the club to allow students to get ready for the start of the school day. We look forward to seeing you there!

GERMAN SPELLING BEE

The German Spelling Bee Tournament for Year 7 students starts on Thursday 2nd July, during lunchtime in K7. Win prizes and praise points!

BALLA'S GOT TALENT

Yesterday saw the return of Balla's Got Talent with the first round of auditions taking place over both lunchtimes in the Studio Theatre! Good luck to those auditioning tomorrow.



SCHOOL EVENTS

01 - 03

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELDTRIPS

02 - 03

YEAR 7 WELCOME DAYS

THU 02

YEAR 11 PROM

SAT 04

YEAR 13 PROM

MON 06

TYNWALD DAY (BANK HOLIDAY)

FRI 10

BHS CHESS TOURNAMENT

WED 15

YEAR 8 ACADEMIC TUTORING

THU 16

YEAR 7 ACADEMIC TUTORING

THU 26

BHSA UNIFORM SWAP-SHOP

In the seating area between 2pm - 4pm

THU 18

YEAR 10 JA 'GET A JOB' DAY

20 - 22

ENRICHMENT WEEK

THU 23

PATRICK LED NON-UNIFORM DAY

Raising money for Patrick's House charity: ManxSPCA

THU 23

BALLA'S GOT TALENT FINAL

THU 23

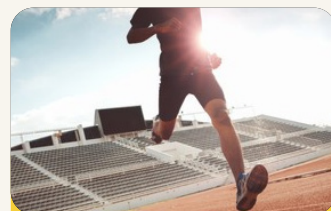
LAST DAY OF TERM

June Roundup



YEAR 9 GIRLS CRICKET

The Year 9 girls' cricket team have had a fantastic season, winning 4 out of their 5 games. This means they have qualified for the final to be played on Friday against QEII. The girls have shown real strength and determination during their fixtures and have had to work really hard at times to get the runs on the scoresheet. Good luck to all for the final!



ESAA ATHLETICS

Huge congratulations to Tara in Year 9 (High Jump), Rory in Year 8 (1500m), and Deena in Year 10 (Triple Jump) who were all selected to compete in the annual English Schools' Athletic Association National Track & Field Championships in July. This prestigious event is now going into its 95th year and is one of the largest schools athletics events in the world. Best of luck to all!

JA CHALLENGE FOR CHANGE

Year 9 students took part in the Junior Achievement 'Challenge for Change' environmental programme, working in teams to develop innovative solutions to real-world sustainability challenges. Congratulations to Dana, Anna-Maria, Lewis, and Victor of Team Low Expectations whose product, Scan Chef, was named the winning project! They will now represent Ballakermee at the Inter-School Finals at Games Global in July. Thank you to JA and the volunteer mentors who helped make the day such a valuable experience for our students.



YEAR 7 GIRLS CRICKET

The Year 7 cricket festival took place last week as a season finale to the league matches. The girls have progressed so much over the season and developed from having no cricket experience to players that demonstrate a variety of skills and tactics, and some impressive bowling. Rylee, Katie, Tasnim and Eve were named as players of the match in the festival games. It was fantastic to have such a great turnout of girls each week and they represented the school and demonstrated its values brilliantly.



BARCLAYS BANK TRIP

15 students attended a tour of Barclays Bank, where they learned about a range of careers, from cashier roles through to analysts, as well as gaining valuable insight into money mules, fraud awareness and the importance of staying safe with their finances.

As part of the visit, students worked in teams to design their own banking app ideas, demonstrating great creativity and teamwork throughout. A huge well done to Aleena, Liana, David and Marcus, who were named the winning team and received a trophy for their excellent work on 'GradFund', an app concept they designed for university students.

Well done to all students for their engagement and enthusiasm throughout the trip, and thank you to everyone at Barclays and Junior Achievement who helped make this opportunity possible.

June Roundup



40TH HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

Ballakermeen was proud to once again host the Isle of Man's annual Higher Education Fair, now celebrating its 40th year. With 40 representatives from a wide range of UK universities, on-Island providers and career pathways, the Fair continues to be an invaluable opportunity for students to access expert advice, ask questions and explore the many options available to them beyond school.



Huge thanks to our fantastic Canteen team, led by James, who provided wonderful catering for delegates and guests; to Miss Hall, Deputy Head of Sixth Form, whose hard work and dedication once again ensured the smooth running of the Fair; to our Senior Prefects, who were excellent ambassadors for the school and provided invaluable support throughout; and to all the delegates who travelled to be with us. Your continued support helps ensure that this event remains such an important part of the educational calendar for young people across the Island.



INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS

The Year 7 & 8 inter-school athletics competition took place last week with some fine individual performances including:

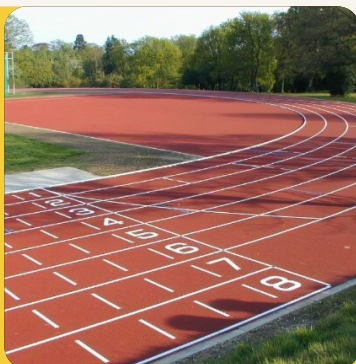
Year 7 girls:

Jade 1st place 75m Hurdles
Ava 1st place Javelin

Year 8 boys:

Sam 1st place 100m
Rory 1st place High Jump
Sam 1st place Javelin

The boys team finished 2nd place overall which is a fantastic achievement and testament to the quality of athletes. The Year 9 & 10 team will compete on Thursday this week and we look forward to hearing similar success stories!



WHAT IS THE BHSA?

The Ballakermeen High School Association is a registered charity (No. 336) and an independent organisation established by parents, for parents.

The Association meets several times each year to explore ways of enhancing opportunities and experiences for students, plan social and community events, and develop fundraising initiatives that directly support children's education. The ideas, skills, and enthusiasm of parents are central to its success.

The BHSA is keen to encourage more parents to become involved, whether by attending meetings, helping with events, contributing their time and expertise, or taking on a more active role within the Association. Elections for BHSA Officer roles will be taking place soon, and the Association would particularly welcome expressions of interest from parents who may wish to serve as Chairperson, Treasurer, or Secretary. Expressions of interest can be sent to ballahighschoolassoc@gmail.com.