

Update from the Head

Isn't it great news that Leeds United's Premier League status was assured last weekend? We can all now look forward to following their fortunes next season. All is well at Balcarras...here is our brief update on the week...

Vacancies

We are looking for Teaching Assistants, both qualified and unqualified. If you are interested or know someone who could be interested then all the information can be found here:

<https://www.thebaltarrastrust.co.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=12&vacancyid=210>

Duke of Edinburgh

At the weekend some 100 Year 10 pupils took part in the D of E practice expedition. It was lovely weather and went very well. The pupils face the real test this weekend completing the Bronze Assessed Expedition. Good luck to them and thanks to all those staff who are going as well.

Start of Exams

Last Friday the GCSE exams started with Drama and on Monday we had the first big exam with English Literature. The A level exams have started also. It will be busy now right up until the final exam in June. My thanks in advance to the school's invigilation team who do a super job. So far they have all gone very well. Fingers crossed!

Mini Trip

On Monday the Year 12 Product Designers went on a trip to the Mini Factory in Oxford. Here is a nice photo of the group:



Teacher Taster Day

On Tuesday Balcarras hosted a teacher taster day for 7 people who are interested in teaching as a career. They attended a couple of talks before observing some teaching. Teaching is a great job...so if you are interested look out for our next taster day.

Cheltenham Education Partnership Debating Masterclasses

On Wednesday Balcarras hosted the first of series of debating masterclasses run by the Cheltenham Education Partnership. Five schools, Bournside, Balcarras, Cheltenham College, Pates and Pittville sent pupils along. Each team were given different motions to prepare at very short notice. It was amazing to see just how well they were able to put such polished presentations together. The next event will take place at Bournside School. Well done to all those involved. Here are a couple of photos of the Balcarras teams:



House Captains Unveiling



On Thursday evening we had the unveiling of the House Captains Boards. The 2026-27 House Captains were officially appointed by the Headteacher Mr Burke in the presence of their parents, the House Heads, the tutors and the senior staff. It was a lovely occasion. See news article here:

<https://www.balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=1481>

Right that's it. I hope you all have a very nice weekend. Leeds v Brighton on Sunday. Come on Leeds!

Dominic Burke