

December 6th, 1958

ROSE LAWN,
KINGSGATE-ON-SEA,
BROADSTAIRS,
KENT.

Dear Mr. McLoughlin,

Thank you for your letter this morning, sent on from the Amalgamated Press. I am very pleased to learn that the author of "Billy Bunter's Mystery Christmas" is an old reader of Greyfriars: and so well acquainted with the subject. Certainly I wish you every success with the play: and very sincerely wish that I could see it when it comes on, but since I turned eighty the garden-gate has been my limit. As you perhaps know, I have written a good many Bunter plays for TV. in recent years; but I have never tried my hand at a live stage play, and have some doubt whether I could pull it off: so I am all the more interested in your enterprise. Go in and win, my dear boy.

Yes. I am very interested to hear that your children like the old "Holiday Annual". It was rather a jolt to the author when the War knocked it on the head: but Billy Bunter has his own Annual now, which I hope will go on as long as I do.

About Lord Mauleverer, your friend the Friar was much

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out in his reckoning. Mauly was an orphan at a very early age, and his parents were never mentioned: but he had a couple of uncles who appeared from time to time.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Frank Richards

Frank Richards.