

# BCG Newsletter

21 March 2023



It has been a very busy period here in school. Last week was kicked off in style with a wonderful display of music and dancing to celebrate St Patrick's Day. So many children were involved, mostly from the Primary School and it was so good to see so many parents able to join us for this joyous event. A huge congratulations to all of the performers and a particular thanks must go to Ms McDonald, Ms O'Connor and Ms Beauné.

We also had a week full of STEM activities last week, including Pi Day. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and is an opportunity for children to focus their minds on this fascinating area of the curriculum. The week's projects ended with a marble run where our youngest engineers had constructed a huge structure taking up much of the sports hall! They all gathered together and watched a marble successfully navigate their course!

Pi Day was great fun and so was the Pie Bake Sale - we raised almost 500 euros that will be donated to Save the Children for Turkey and Syria earthquake. Thank you so much to all of the children, parents and staff who baked all those tasty treats!

This week is Green Week and we have even more activities, this time focusing on the natural world and the ways in which we can protect it. This is a particularly important week for us given BCGs strong commitment to teaching our children about their environmental responsibilities.

All of these projects require much preparation and I would like to thank all of the teachers and students involved for making these weeks so enjoyable as well as great learning opportunities.

On Thursday we had the Year 12 Academic Integrity Workshop & Extended Essay Cafe Presentations which were extremely successful. We were treated to a visit by the CEO of Innova Space who came to introduce a CAS project for our students. Lastly, but by no means least we had a TOK exhibition where students presented their projects. Our Year 12 looked extremely smart and showed just how hard they have been working this year. Details of all of these great IBDP events can be found in this newsletter.

Last week also saw our cross country events and the teams of students, staff and parents ran in the woods by school. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful natural running track so close to school! It was lovely to see so many parents out helping and supporting. We look forward to more cross country events in the future.

**Simon Mower** School Principal

### EYFS AND PRIMARY NEWS

Dear Parents and families.

The Early Years and Primary have had a busy week taking part in many STEM activities. It has been wonderful to see so many enthusiastic participants. A huge thank you to Miss Mellar (Maths Subject Lead) and Miss Ford (Science Subject Lead) for all their hard work organising this great week.

Talking of thanks, it was great to see so many of you attend the St Patrick's Day show on Monday last week. Miss O'Connor, Miss McDonald and Miss Beauné put on an epic performance. Not only did the children wow us all with their singing and dancing, but the teachers put on an incredible performance too.

I continue to get into classes to teach lessons and support trips. Working with children and helping them really is my passion. I have also completed our termly cycle of lesson observations. This is to monitor and ensure quality teaching. I saw some truly excellent practice and it is very encouraging to see the children have such positive learning experiences.

With less than 2 weeks until the end of term, we continue our busy schedule. Assessment Week, trips and our annual Easter Egg celebrations will no doubt keep our pupils - and staff - very busy.

Wishing you all a fantastic week.

Un abrazo,

Miss Wakelin

### RECEPTION





The children in Little Fishes Class explored the 6 unlabelled tins. They were curious as to what could be inside and wondered how far they would roll down the ramps. Their predictions on what could be inside were a little wacky and I did have to ask if they'd ever been shopping in a supermarket and finally had to direct their thoughts in the way of food. Our closest prediction was 'Marbles, because i can hear round things moving around' for the tin of olives!!

BUT, their predictions on how far the tins might roll were much more scientific in nature! They talked about size, shape and weight and how this might affect where the tins ended up and how they would compare to each other. They wanted to compare the distance so decided to use bricks as their measurement. Their predictions were very good with 'the smaller is further and 'its closer, its heavy"

Ms Bifani

### YEAR 1

On Monday, we mixed together bubble ingredients to make some gigantic bubbles. There were some surprise ingredients in there and we had to measure out the different parts to get it just right.







Amaia brought in an

experiment from home to demonstrate how objects float in salty water - the more salt we added, the better the blueberries floated on top.

We also worked in groups to design and make our marble run. The marble needed to travel as slowly as possible along a windy, wibbly, wobbly route to get to the bottom. The children threw themselves into this activity, collaborating together by sharing ideas and resources and they made some brilliant creations.

Ms Kempner

### YEAR 3

As part of our Ancient Egypt topic Year 3 became archaeologists for the day!

They took a trip to Gava Mar beach after hearing the special news that some Ancient artefacts from Egypt had been washed up on the beach.

The children dug carefully in the marked out area and found a lot of artefacts which they have explored in class. They are looking forward to visiting the Egyptian















Museum of Barcelona at the end of March to see even more interesting artefacts from this time.

In Year 3 Crab class we really enjoyed building the marble run, there were a few challenges, especially joining the different parts together so that it would work but with a few extra boxes and a lot of teamwork we did it! The children had lots of creative ideas and worked in small teams to make several parts which we then joined to try to make sure the marble took 30 seconds or more to get from one end to the other. The final challenge was moving the final marble run from our classroom to the sports hall!

Ms Baker & Ms Stevens

### YEAR 4

Year 4 had a wonderful science based trip as part of STEM week activities. We went to Barcelona Zoo, where we took part in a very interesting workshop learning all sorts of interesting facts about animals, including a five senses test; how different animals reproduce; the different types of vertebrates and their distinguishing features, plus lots more. We then had a tour of the zoo, looking at many of the different animals that come from various countries. We even managed to see the quite elusive wolves, which links to our English topic - so exciting! We all had such a fabulous day, with lots of enthusiasm, excitement and smiles.

Ms Carter & Ms Pilcher





#### YEAR 5

It has been another busy fortnight for year 5. In the classroom we have been getting crafty making 3D Ancient Greek Temples that stand out against beautifully painted skylines. We have also been working in groups to engineer exciting yet challenging marble runs for STEM week and we have taken our science lessons outside to investigate how friction impacts the movement of objects on different surfaces.



On top of that, we went to the Olympic Museum as part of our Topic module on Ancient Greece and then we even competed in the year group cross country run. It was wonderful to see so many parents there taking part too. A brilliant day that was rounded off perfectly by eating lots of homemade pie!

Finally, a big congratulations to all of the children that took part in the Irish concert and dancing performance. Everyone really enjoyed it and it is very clear how much effort you have been putting in since January!

A reminder about assessment week - we will be setting some revision homework over the weekend to help the children feel as prepared as possible for the tests, as well as revisiting the topics in our lessons too.

#### Mrs Baron and Mr Ball





### **SECONDARY NEWS**

#### Dear parents,

Well, it seems that spring is springing into action and with it comes a time for growth and new beginnings. At BCG we are lovers of all things green because, hot on the heels of St Patrick's Day is our very own 'Green Week'! There will be themes interwoven into classes throughout the week as well as assemblies and an urge to embody the "think globally, act locally" mantra. We can all do relatively small things that cumulatively have a larger impact. Mr Scheepers, Ms Darby and a number of students from across secondary will be taking assesmbly both in Primary and Secondary and there will be activities and other competitions throughout the week with a sustainable, environmentally friendly slant.

On Thursday 16th March, the IB Core Day was a big success. The Year 12s came off timetable for a specially constructed day to really unpack the core aspects of the IB. There were talks, workshops, a TOK (Theory of Knowledge) exhibition and even a cafe. Themes surrounding Academic Integrity, the rise of Chat GPT and what it means for education were explored in an interesting and thoughtful way. Thanks go to Ms. Fenton, Mr Prosser, Ms Delmet, Mr Boden and of course Year 12 for making the day as useful and informative as it was.

The International Women's Day Lunchtime Concert was a real success and we will develop the lunch time format into next term. In the future we intend to film the concerts so that you can enjoy them from home too.

On Tuesday 21st March it is World Poetry Day and the students will be well versed(!) in this medium by the end of the day. Continuing our programme of external speakers we will have a mother of a child at the school, Olena Kazakova, speak about her involvement in a bilingual (Ukrainian and Spanish) anthology and her motivations for doing so. There will also be a Cafe Poetico set up for the Years 13's, this will be run by our very own published poet Ms Company de Castro.

As we are coming to the business end of the GCSE and IB courses. The students will be exhibiting their work at the Creative Arts showcase. The showcase on Thursday will give the students the chance to show off the wonderful artwork that they have been producing over their two years on the course. The exhibition will be available to view until the end of term.

Have an excellent Easter Break everyone!

Mr Ruddin

### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE NEWS

### Year 12 IB Core Day

After 2 weeks of assessment, Year 12 were out of normal lessons last Thursday to take part in an IB Core Day, participating in activities related to the Extended Essay, Creativity, Activity & Service and the Theory of Knowledge.

#### **CAS**

We were joined by the CEO of Innova Space this week who introduced an exciting collaborative project. Our students have the opportunity to design a satellite with the purpose of collecting data about a significant global issue of their choice. As well as requiring software and hardware designers and engineers, the project also calls for an artist to design the logo, a marketing lead to look at promotion and a student manager to ensure all roles and responsibilities are coordinated effectively. The project is open to all year 12 students with Mr. West joining as our in-house technical expert. Students should form their own groups and submit their ideas regarding the purpose of the satellite mission no later than WEDNESDAY 29th MARCH. Ideas should be emailed to <a href="mailto:carolynne.bell@bcgava.com">carolynne.bell@bcgava.com</a> or posted on the CAS google classroom.

#### **EE Café**

The EE café, a tradition in most IB schools around this time of year, was a great opportunity for students to share with their peers what they have been researching and how they are handling the Extended Essay process as a whole so far. Challenges, successes, tips: interesting and useful conversations were held and this helped some to refine research questions, discuss outlines, reflect on time management skills, to mention a few. Research is a lonely job and, for once, it was nice to see them all reflect collaboratively on individual research projects and learn about different topics, approaches and methodologies. I hope this will be food for thought before their next deadline (11 April) and their first 1500 words.

### **TOK Practice Exhibition**

On Thursday, the students of Year 12 dressed their sharpest and completed a practice of the 'exhibition' component of the Theory of Knowledge course. The exhibition involves thinking about three real-world objects and connecting them to an abstract knowledge question: Who owns knowledge? How does personal experience affect what we can say we know? A remarkable variety of objects were on display, from plants to rubik's cubes, snowboards to crucifixes, even IB textbooks! On the whole, the students were wonderfully engaged in the task and

put on a great exhibition for students and staff alike. Onward and upward for the official exhibition in June, which the entire school community is welcome to attend.

### **Academic Integrity Workshop**

The school is currently reviewing its academic integrity policy in light of significant technological advances in language model tools as well as the experience gained over our first 2 years of IB teaching and learning. The objective of this workshop with Year 12 students and parents was to explore the learning process, discuss the acquisition of knowledge and remind ourselves of the IB regulations concerning academic integrity.

The students participated in a variety of activities including an academic integrity quiz, comparing their own work to that produced by ChatGPT as well as familiarising themselves with Turnitin and learning about how it can assist them in the learning process. The students are working on some tips and guidance to share with other students, parents and teachers and their input will help us to update our current academic integrity policy.

### Year 13 - coming to the end!

We are currently uploading all Year 13 coursework to the IB for assessment and our students will start their official exams on 28th April. Individual timetables will be issued early next week and students will have official study leave from 21st April. Until then, it is vital that students are in school with the support of their teachers to prepare for the final exams and so that we can check on their welfare and wellbeing at this important time. We will be running sessions on IB exam conduct after Easter and attendance is obligatory.

**SAVE THE DATE** We are very happy to confirm that the Year 13 graduation ceremony will be held on Friday 2nd June - please save the date - more details to follow.

Ms Fenton



#### **CAS Corner**

Thank you to all families who joined in on our 8th March wear PURPLE theme in support of International Women's day. We will be handing over the total 188 euros raised to Gava City Council's Women's Support Centre in the coming days. Our next themed day is wear WHITE on 24th April in support of the International Day of Peace.

### PE NEWS - Cross Country

What a fabulous week we had in the forest! Our Inaugural Cross Country Race week was a huge success, so much so, some students are asking to go back and do it all again next week! For those who want to continue setting personal goals or want to try to beat their previous personal best, we will, of course, make this happen. Students have also requested an 'all-stars' race (over a longer distance!) where the top 3 in all year groups compete again. We will look into this option. At the time of writing our newsletter, the year 10 and 11's have yet to compete, therefore, the BCG Cross Country Records will be published in our next newsletter. A huge thank you to the parent supporters and runners who came along and took part. The PE Team and students are very appreciative of your time and encouragement.

### PE NEWS - Surfing only for Year 10

Only the year 10 students will surf this year. They will be going each Week 1 of term 3. Unfortunately, for all other year groups, the minimum number required was not achieved.

### PE NEWS - BISA Basketball

This year, BCG hosts the BISA Basketball event. Unfortunately, BCG were the only school able to field girls basketball teams and so their tournament has been cancelled. We will be hosting boys U12, U14 and U18 teams from BFIS, BSB and SEK on the courts at Can Tintorer. Best of luck to our boys!!! Families of the representatives have been emailed directly with more information.

Ms Bell





### **ECAP NEWS**

#### New to ECAP Term 3

Mondays Hockey with Jordi from FCBarcelona (U14 Catalonian Team Coach)

Years 3 - 7

Tuesdays Softball with Gava Softball Club

Years 3 - 8

· Wednesdays Science Club with TBKids

Years 3 - 6

• Thursdays Judo & Self Defense with Nestor Fralie from OKAERI

Years 7 - 12

Thursdays Public Speaking and Presenting Skills in Spanish / Catalan with Mr. Sales

Year 6 - 7

### **Changes to ECAP Term 3**

- Climbing Beginners now on Tuesdays
- Climbing Intermediates on Wednesdays
- Climbing Advanced on Thursdays

Spaces are available in all levels this term. Club is limited to 8 maximum. First come, first served!

The <u>school booking system</u> is now open for sign ups. Deadline for registration is Sunday 26th March 23.59hrs. As always, if clubs are below minimum numbers we will contact you before the end of term 2 to select an alternative. Clubs start immediately on return from break, Tuesday 11th April.

A comprehensive list of lunch time clubs in term 3 which are free of charge and do not require authorisation or sign up, will be available in the next newsletter.

Ms Bell











### Lego Club

We have had a fantastic 1st term of Lego club. There have been a mix of different year groups attending which has been great to see. The children have really enjoyed making lots of different things and working together.

A big thank you to those who have donated lego pieces to the club, it has made a big difference and we are very grateful. Please feel free to keep donating, as like the children have said, you can never have too much lego!

Here are some pictures which I promised I would share.

Mrs Taylor







### INTRODUCTION TO NEW STAFF

# Caith Olnick EAL interventions (Secondary)

Hello, my name is Caith and I am very excited to be joining the English department here at BCG.

I arrived in the autumn from London, having taught EAL for several years at an all-through school near Hampton Court Palace. My previous roles include Examinations Officer and History of Art teacher, so I am delighted to find myself here in vibrant Catalunya and keen to discover all of its treasures.

Having lived for a while in Paris and Sydney, I know something of what it feels like to be away from familiar places and faces. Together with my young sons and partner Ben, I like to spend weekends outdoors and immersed in nature, or soaking up cultural experiences.



At home, you can mostly find me weaving paper into 3-D pieces of jewellery whilst listening to music or a good podcast.

I look forward to getting to know the students and staff, and getting stuck into BCG life!

## **SPECIAL MENTION**

### **Gymnastics Tournament**

Ailin participated in the Gymnastics Tournament in Sitges part of the Club Rítmica Barcelona Castelldefels. She is in the category of Conjuntos Prebenjamín A.

Great Job!



### **MUSIC NEWS**

### International Women's Day

In Celebration of International Women's Day on 8th March 2023, female musicians across the school from year 7-12 came together and produced a very enjoyable concert. This concert included powerful performances, including solo voice pieces, group singing, piano performances and a duet performed by Ms Beaune and Miss McDonald. Pupils were dressed in purple, the official color associated with IWD, representing dignity, power, creativity and hope. This concert was the perfect example of confident young women performing, supporting and empowering each other! These talented musicians also received a purple envelope with positive quotes before their performances such as "May all women be free to dream, express, create and live their deepest heart's desires."



A special mention to the Maraike, year 12 who debuted her very own outstanding composition "Control" created especially for this event, the audience loved it!



### St Patrick's Day

On March 13th, our pupils at BCG marked St Patricks Day with a lively celebration incorporating traditional Irish music and dance. The concert transmitted us perfectly to Ireland, beginning with a devised piece to imitate the sound of rain, wind and thunder led by Ms Beaune accurately setting the scene. However, just like in Ireland, the weather didn't stop the fun, the show went ahead and was enjoyed by all! Below, you can read a beautifully written summary by *Laragh Larsen*, a parent from year 3. Thank you!

"As an Irish family loving life in Barcelona but keen to maintain cultural connections with our heritage, it came as a wonderful surprise to us when our daughter announced that she was learning Irish dancing at school. Karys jigged around the house practicing incessantly, and we all waited in excited anticipation for the St. Patrick's Day show.

When the day arrived, we were blown away by the performance. The singing was fantastic - the children even sang a song in Irish! Maraike's solo performance in Irish was movingly beautiful. And the dancing! We were endlessly in awe at how brilliantly and gracefully all the kids danced. There were some very impressive performances by Ms. O'Connor and Ms. McDonald too.

However, what struck us most were the huge smiles on the children's faces throughout the whole performance, and the way that they all wholeheartedly and enthusiastically flung themselves into it all. What lucky kids they are to be able to experience and embrace all the different cultures they are surrounded by.

We are already looking forward to next year's show! Happy St. Patrick's Day / Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona duit!"

Ms McDonald

### **OTHER EVENTS**





Come and join our community in Gavà Mar this Summer. From 3 to 17 years old. 100% in English with UK trained native teachers. Amazing facilities at our campus surrounded by green space and the beach.

Active, inclusive and project-based activities Sports Climbing (Sharma) The great outdoors Cooking Improve English Monitors in English, Spanish and Catalan Water Games and Inflatables Make new friends and build life skills Friendly environment Technology activities Cinema Room







Building a New World 3 to 10 years old

Leading the Change

English Camp 13 to 17 years old



Week 1 - WATER WEEK - July 3rd to July 7th

Week 2 - LIFE ON LAND WEEK - July 10th to July 14th

Week 3 - ENERGY WEEK - July 17th to July 21st

Week 4 - INNOVATION WEEK - July 24th to July 28th

### Sign up!

Regular Price\* 235€ (Full Day) | 185€ (Half Day) | From 08:30 to 16:30 (Early Drop Off Available) English Camp 210€ from 09:00 to 13:00 | All food included | BCG Students get 10% off |\*Price per week

summercamp@bcgava.com | Whatsapp +34 676 931 380 Carrer de Josep Lluís Sert, 32 08850 Gavà , Barcelona | www.britishcollegegava.com

### **Easter Multisport Camp**

- · Age 4 to 11 (Nursery to Year 6)
- Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th February
- · 08.30h to 16.30h

Our extra-curricular partner FUNdamentales are back with plans to run a Multisport Camp, during the Easter holiday, here at BCG. The camp will take place Monday to Thursday 0830h to 1630h and has a wide variety of extremely fun and inclusive sports activities as well as daily challenges, themes and, of course, the giant inflatable!

FUNdamentales have been working here at BCG since January 2022 and will run camps throughout the year, with the exception of summer. The main objective for the children that attend these camps is to keep active, try new sports and, most importantly, have fun!







The week's activities will be in English but support in other languages is available and all coaches are police checked and fully trained sports coaches or teachers.

For more information and to register please email <u>info.fundamentales@gmail.com</u> or follow on Instagram @fundamentales22

### New EAL (English as an Additional Language) Academy

In term 3, after the Easter holiday, from Tuesday, 11th April, we are going to be introducing twice weekly extra general English classes on Tuesday and Thursday between 4.30 and 5.30. These classes will be for all students from year 3 upwards who need a boost to their English level. Classes will focus on communication skills; trying to use our English as much as possible and having fun while we do it! Groups will be a minimum of 6 students up to a maximum of 10.

If you are interested or if you'd like more information please contact me on <u>stuart.fassam@bcgava.com</u>

Thanks!

Mr Fassam

### LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT EVENTS

#### El Monstruo de Colores

The little ones went to the theater to see El Monstruo de Colores (The Coloured Monster). Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 students have gone to see the theatrical show El monstruo de colores at the Centre Catòlic de Sants, in Barcelona. Through this original story and fun activities, such as talking circles and interactive activities, they have learned to become aware of and identify different emotions and their link to colors.

Miss Navarro and Miss Sadurní Language teachers

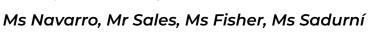
### International Mother Language Day and Mardi Gras

On Tuesday, February 21st we celebrated Mardi Gras. Miss Kruse, as a French teacher, organized a crêpes workshop for the Primary and Secondary students. They also studied the traditions of Carnival in French-speaking countries, and also had a dance competition.

**Ms Kruse** French teacher

### **International Mother Language Day**

On February 21st we celebrated International Mother Language Day. We celebrated it by talking about the importance of preserving and using the mother tongue and valuing linguistic diversity. All primary classes decorated a flower and on each petal we presented the language of each student, and painted their flag and a word or expression they liked.





### Consell dels Infants de Gavà (Y6 and Y7)

In order to decide which of the assignments of the mayoress will go ahead, each group of councilors has made a work of analysis where we have discussed the motivations and the capacity of action that we have for each project. First there has been a technical presentation of each proposal, then individually and freely have been pointing out the strengths and weaknesses of each, and then debate to finish voting on the chosen proposal.

### Next meetings:

- APRIL 17 Final logo voting + Meeting with the Mayoress
- 24 APRIL Citizenship and technical visit to the Mil-leni Park

**Mr.Sales** Language teacher

#### Visit to the school of the writer Oriol Canosa



On Friday, March 3rd, the Catalan writer Oriol Canosa visited the school and had a very interesting dialogue with the students of Y6 and Y7, who had read his novel, L'illa de Paidonèsia. They were not only able to ask the author about the adventures of the characters in this novel and his sources of inspiration, but also about the writer's craft and the process of writing.

**Ms Sadurní** Language teacher

### LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

From the Language Department we congratulate the students who have excelled in any of the 3 languages (Spanish, French and Catalan) as the best linguists of the week.

### LINGUISTS OF THE WEEK

### **EYFS and Primary**

- Reception: Melania S.y Alessandro T. (SPANISH)
- Y1: Edhar M. (SPANISH)
- Y2: Edoardo T. y Gabriel R. (SPANISH)
- Y3: Lucia D. y Sofia Maria T. (CATALAN)
- Y4: Alexandr M. y Thomas A. (FRENCH)
- · Y5: Gabriel B. y Grace W. (CATALAN)
- Y6: Julietta P. y Laia P. (SPANISH)

### Secondary and Sixth Form

- KS3: Victoria S. Y8 (CATALAN)
- · KS4: Sophia G. Y10 (FRENCH)
- KS5: Elin H. Y12 (SPANISH)























Ms Pou

### LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH

During March we have been celebrating Irish as our language of the month. We began with assemblies, learning about Irish and Celtic culture. We learnt, for example, that Irish is one of 6 Celtic languages, Irish, Scottish, Welsh, Breton, Manx and Cornish, and that some Irish words, like sláinte and craic, are commonly used in modern English. We also learnt about 3 famous Irish people, Bono, Oscar Wilde and Grace O´Malley, that Irish people love to eat shepherds pie, colcannon and stew and that sabhsaí is an Irish word for someone who works outside no matter how bad the weather is! A really big thank you to Maraike, who prepared and then gave a fantastic assembly, well done!





### FRENCH PROJECT - THE LITTLE PRINCE

Y10-13 students studying French at BCG have just finished their French project about the play The Little Prince. I'll let you check out their work that they translated into both languages.

**Ms Delmet** Secondary and IB French teacher

Read More here





































































































