

24 April 2024



# BCG Newsletter





### **Plans for an exciting new IB Career Related Pathway in the Sports Industry**

We are holding conversations to discuss a new agreement with Barça Innovation Hub. Barça Innovation Hub is the home of sports knowledge and innovation. It offers online training programs in various fields of sports, such as Advanced Performance, Coaching, Connected Venues, Health & Wellness, New Media, Nutrition, Social Impact, Sports Analytics, Sports Business, Sports Science, Sports Tomorrow, Tech & Innovation. Our students can learn from the best experts and professionals in the sports industry. Stay tuned because new information will be revealed soon!

### **Inspired Global Camps**

As we approach the summer months, we wanted to inform you that some limited spaces are left in our phenomenal global summer camps, which are experiencing high demand. Last year, we had amazing feedback from Inspired families, who decided to enrol their children, so we wanted to offer the remaining spaces to you first! If you are keen for your child to join this July or August, we encourage you to secure your child's spot as soon as possible.

Whether your child thrives in academic pursuits, enjoys sports, or loves expressing themselves through the arts, we have something for everyone.

Even though spaces are limited, we continue to offer our exclusive Inspired 10% discount, applicable to each camp booking. This is an opportunity not to be missed!

To secure your child's place simply visit our [website](#) or contact use the [contact form](#) to ask a question directly.

We can't wait to welcome your child to a summer full of fun, learning, and unforgettable memories.

### **Study Skills**

Thank you to the parents that attended our Study Skills coffee morning last week. Ms. Fenton, Ms. Edwards, and Mr. Ruddin explained how the IB learner profile skills spirals through the school to Key Stage 3, offering helpful hints and tips. This was very timely as this week sees the official start of the IB examinations for our Year 13 students. They have been working very hard and we wish them all the very best.

Please see the video of the Parents coffee morning - Study skills [here](#).



### **Sant Jordi**

This has to be one of the most special days in the BCG calendar. International education is all about bringing together children from around the world and giving them different cultural experiences. We had a school full of Princesses and Dragons as well as a good number of heroic, sword bearing St Georges! The activities throughout the day were wonderfully organised by our wonderful staff. With beautiful roses and exciting books on sale everyone was able to take part in this fantastic occasion. Thanks to all staff but in particular Ms Pou and the super Language department.

### **Year 6 to Year 7 Transition**

With so many children having older siblings, the fear of moving from primary to secondary has lessened over the years but it is still an important time for the students and can be a cause of anxiety for a few. It helps a lot that they are already familiar with the secondary building, auditorium, sports hall etc and later this term they will be meeting their new teachers too. We have a fabulous Year 7 tutor team with Ms Darby, Miss Moncayo Bou and Mr Fassam and so you can be confident they will be very looked after.

### **Furry friends and Dangerous sharks**

Animals seemed to be the theme for trips recently. The Year 7s had a very enjoyable visit to the zoo and the Year 3s spent the night in the aquarium with all sorts of creatures! Waking up to the amazing sight of the hungry sharks waiting for breakfast must have been exciting! There have also been a number of musical trips recently, as well as the Duke of Edinburgh expedition. You can read more about these later in this newsletter.

*Simon Mower*  
Principal



## SECONDARY NEWS

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The trip season has begun in earnest. Just a couple of weeks ago, we enjoyed some amazing weather and a taste of summer warmth. We have a wealth of events, trips, residentials, and other activities lined up. Please refer to the calendar below.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Trip for Years 10 and 11**

Our students had some excellent experiences in the wilds of Garraf, navigating to reach a camp where they were self-sufficient. They also kayaked 6 km along the coast from Vilanova.

### **Exam Preparation**

The exam season is just days away, with IB exams starting on Thursday and continuing almost until the end of term. During this time, the main exam room will be the sports hall. By now, all students should have a revision timetable and be actively preparing for their exams.

### **Trips**

Key Stage 3 scientists visited Barcelona Zoo to study the animal kingdom, following an excellent trip by Year 8 students to Cosmo Caixa, where they enjoyed trying out the exhibits. The Years 7 and 8 musical trip to L'Auditori was also a great success.

### **Dali Pizza and Picture PM**

At the end of the first week back, members of Dali House from Year 1 to Year 13 enjoyed their special treat as a reward for their success at the Christmas Fair. They relished their pizza at lunch followed by a showing of 'Cars'.

### **Coming up**

- Thursday 25th - April IB Exam Start Date
- Friday 26th April - Year 11 and 12 Scavenger Hunt in Barcelona Trip
- Tuesday 30th April - Key Stage 3 Summer Prom (organised by Year 12 CAS)
- Wednesday 1st May - Bank Holiday
- Thursday 2nd May - Year 11 and 12 Guttman Institute Talk
- Wednesday 8th May - Year 11 Study Break
- Saturday 4th to Friday 10th May - Year 12 Duke of Edinburgh Trip to Wales
- Monday 6th to Friday 10th May - Year 9 and 10 Residential to Tamarit
- Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th May - Year 8 Residential to Albatros Llafranc

*Ben Ruddin*  
Head of Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

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### **The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Updates!**

On Thursday 11th and Friday 12th April, a group of Year 10 and 11 students embarked on their qualifying journey - a key moment in their Duke of Edinburgh's International Award journey. Students had worked tirelessly over the previous weeks to plan their journeys, including everything from route to what they were going to have for dinner. They had a beautiful hike from Garraf to Sitges, followed by a night camping under the stars, and then on day two everyone threw themselves into a voyage by sea kayak.

The groups demonstrated excellent problem solving skills, coming up with innovative ideas on how to tackle challenges such as a spilt dinner, an uncooperative tent and a broken shoe. They helped each other and showed resilience in the face of these tricky tests. They built strong bonds of teamwork, all while having fun and enjoying being in environments different to the norm. We would like to congratulate all teams on their successful journeys!

That is the end of the Bronze expeditions for this school year... the next step in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program is the expedition for our Silver participants. In under two weeks, we are going to be flying to the UK in order to complete the expedition in the stunning backdrop of Wales. Students and staff alike cannot wait!

Until next time!

*The DofE Team*





## MATHS COMPETITION

### ASB Maths Competition

On Saturday 20 April, six of our students formed two teams to enter a maths competition which took place at the American School of Barcelona. Here they competed against other Barcelona schools in three challenging rounds - individual, team and quickfire questions - over the course of the day.

The standard of the competition was very high and our students' problem-solving skills were really put to the test. Maria Pishnyak in Y11 was BCG's top placed student finishing in an excellent sixth position in the overall individual standings; and she was incredibly unfortunate not to make the top five.

### Our super six were:

- Maria Pishnyak Y11
- Emilio Magoga Y11
- Noelia Villanueva Barrasa Y10
- Kasra Shuttleworth Y10
- Mikhail Roshchin Y10
- Anna Luneva Y9





The maths department would like to thank these students who gave up their Saturday to take part in this event and conducted themselves impeccably, as always. I was particularly pleased with the attitudes of our Y9 and Y10 students who were competing exclusively against Y11 students from the other schools.



They demonstrated real determination and positivity throughout the day, and this experience will stand them in good stead for future events.

It is inspiring to see such passion for mathematics in the BCG community and we are all very proud of these students.

**Mr Lester**  
Head of Mathematics



## ZOO TRIP

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### Year 7 Zoo Trip

On Thursday 18th April, Year 7 went on an exciting adventure to Barcelona Zoo as part of their science curriculum. We enjoyed a guided tour of the different animals living in the savannah exhibit, culminating in front row seats to the sea lion feeding! We saw lions, tigers, giraffes, hyenas, capybaras, gazelles... and many, many peacocks!

» Raffy from 7A said:

"The prairie dogs were very fat and chubby."

» Lola from 7A said:

"I loved the giraffes. They were very tall!"

» Mia from 7A said:

"When Julietta and I found the komodo dragon we thought it was a statue, it was so still!"

» Nico (7A) and Adria (7B) said:

"We enjoyed seeing the biggest sea lion jumping off the rock!"

» Pol from 7A said:

"I saw a lion's back and I saw the hair."

» Niragh from 7B said:

"I saw the capybara sleeping and it was cute!"

» Mikolaj (7A) said:

"I had the best day and I saw the biggest gorilla in the zoo and his name was Bobo."

» Minzai (7A) said:

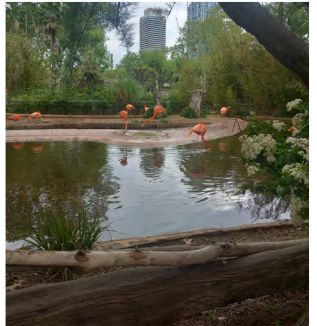
"Me and Baran saw an angry monkey. He was pulling funny faces at us! It was really interesting!"

» Connor and Ettore (both from 7A) said:

"We enjoyed seeing the mongoose play!"

Year 7 were model students and they should feel proud of how they represented themselves and our BCG community. They have now chosen one animal they saw at the zoo and are working on their science project, which they will present to the rest of the group in a few weeks. We cannot wait to see what they come up with!

*The Science Faculty*





## ARTS EVENING



### **BCG Arts Showcase - A Diverse and Captivating Fusion of Creativity**

On the evening of March 14th, the BCG Arts Showcase unfolded with a dazzling array of talent, featuring a mix of visual arts, art and design exhibitions, and captivating performance.

The IB Visual Art Gallery and IGCSE Art and Design Final Exhibition presented an array of creativity, each piece resonated with its own unique narrative, showcasing the depth of artistic expression cultivated by our talented students.

Complementing this visual spectacle were the talented Year 11 drama performances, through their impeccable delivery, the young actors breathed life into their characters, leaving a lasting impression on all who witnessed their talent unfold on stage.

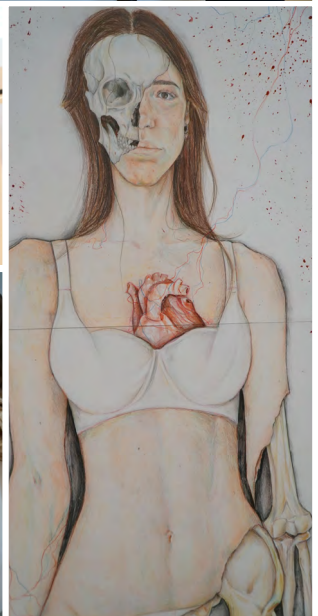
In addition, the GCSE music performances ranged from heartfelt vocals, acoustic solos and duos, each performance was a testament to the dedication and passion of the musicians. Particularly noteworthy was the composition inspired by Chinese traditional music, which served as a bridge between cultures, captivating the audience with its traditional features.

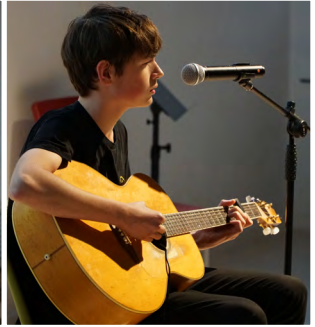
This collaboration between the various art forms showcased at the BCG Arts Showcase was truly remarkable, creating an immersive and unforgettable experience for all in attendance. As the curtains drew to a close, it was evident that the event had not only celebrated the talents of the students but also fostered a deeper appreciation for the arts within the community.

This BCG Arts Showcase on March 14th was a resounding success, showcasing the boundless creativity and talent of the students across visual arts, design, drama, and music. It was a testament to BCG's commitment to nurturing the next generation of artists and performers, leaving a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of being part of this evening.

Thank you to the students, teachers and parents for their hard-work, support and motivation which led us to this wonderful showcase.

*Claire McDonald*  
Head of Arts





## STRINGS RECITAL

In a delightful afternoon performance on April 10th at 3:00 PM, Miss Montse's string pupils took the stage, showcasing their skills in a charming recital. From Year 3 to Year 7, students of all levels captivated the audience with their musical abilities.

Playing violin and cello, these young musicians demonstrated remarkable growth, some having picked up their instruments as recently as September. Despite their varying levels of experience, each performer displayed confidence and dedication, emphasising the importance of playing for an audience.

The concert finished in a harmonious ensemble performance, highlighting the power of collaboration and teamwork in music. As the audience applauded their efforts, it was evident that this afternoon concert was not just a display of talent but a celebration of perseverance and the positive influence of music education.

In this brief yet enchanting recital, our school community witnessed the beauty of young minds nurtured through music. Let us continue to support and encourage these budding musicians on their journey to musical excellence. Thank you to Miss Montse for all of your hard work!

*Miss McDonald*  
Head of Arts



## PROM GRADUATION

Dear parents,

We are excited to announce that we are organizing a summer prom! It takes place Tuesday 30th (Wednesday is a National holiday - no school), in the school tent, for students in Years 7-9. The event will include snacks, drinks, music, games, and prizes. The theme is Hollywood Glam so stick to the dress code! The tickets have been sold this week, and it's going to be a success!

The funds we gather will be allocated directly to support our upcoming Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition scheduled for May in Wales. Your collaboration is greatly appreciated, and we are thrilled to organize an exciting event like this for our younger schoolmates!

If you have any questions, let us know [samanta.mendoza@students.bcgava.com](mailto:samanta.mendoza@students.bcgava.com) or [zoe.marchant@students.bcgava.com](mailto:zoe.marchant@students.bcgava.com), we hope to see your children there!





## KALUNDBORG FRISKOLE VISIT



BCG was delighted to welcome visitors from the Danish School, Kalundborg Friskole, in early April. The year 9 pupils had come to Barcelona on a cultural trip, visiting the famous city monuments and soaking up the Spanish sun. Our year 8 pupils were lucky enough to spend a day with the visitors participating in a variety of activities such as volleyball, basketball and for some, their first experience of cricket. The Danish students then joined their new BCG friends for a Spanish lesson in which they discovered some different ways to communicate in English, Spanish and Danish, and the visitors had a taste of what wonderful work is done in a BCG classroom. The sun was shining, so we took the opportunity to enjoy our local beach, playing beach games and even braving the cold sea! It is safe to say the visitors were impressed with our locality and thought BCG pupils had all the luck. This was a wonderful experience for both schools, and life long memories were made.



## BCG SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

We are thrilled to announce that Samanta has been selected to represent the U18 Catalan Team in the upcoming Catalunya Softball Week! This prestigious event brings together top talent from across the region, and Samanta's inclusion speaks volumes about her skill and dedication to the sport. As she prepares to take the field next week, we wish her the best of luck and know she will make her team and supporters proud. Go Samanta, and go Team Catalonia!

### Zalán's Outstanding Sports Achievements

Zalán, a remarkable athlete, has achieved significant milestones in his sporting career:



- **Hungarian Champion Titles:** He clinched the Hungarian championship three times, winning in the U15 category in 2020 and both the U12 and U15 categories in 2021.
- **International Representation:** Zalán represented Hungary on the national team in 2022 and 2023, demonstrating his skills on an international stage.
- **Spanish Champion:** In 2023, he expanded his success internationally by winning a championship in Spain.
- **Current Role:** He is currently showcasing his talent as a player for CB Barcelona at Camp de Béisbol Pérez de Rozas.
- **National Recognition:** In 2021, he was honoured by the Hungarian ministry with the title "Hungary's Best Student and Best Athlete," acknowledging his dual excellence in academics and sports.

Zalán continues to excel and inspire as both a student and an athlete, making significant contributions to his teams and sports communities.



## LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

### Visit and workshop in Catalunya en Miniatura with Y6

As part of the “Coneixem Catalunya” project that we are carrying out this year in Year 6, we went to visit the Catalunya en Miniatura theme park, where we had the opportunity to put into practice all the geographical and cultural knowledge we have learnt about our region, through workshops, guided visits to the models of the characteristic monuments of each part of Catalonia and finally recreational activities such as zip wires.

*Mr Sales & Miss Sadurní*  
Social Primary teachers

### We are reporters! Y8

This week the Y8 students in Spanish with Miss Silvia have been studying “La noticia” (The news). After learning the structure and the 5 questions that every journalist must take into account when researching and writing a news story (who? where? when? where? why?) the students have left the classroom to put into practice what they have learnt this week.

*Ms Silvia Company*  
Secondary and IB Spanish teacher

### Vision 2023 workshop, given by ESIC- Y12 university



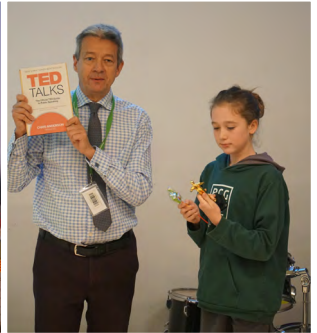
On the 8th of April, Professor Ivan Rebull from ESIC University, a private business and marketing school based in Barcelona and Madrid, visited BCG to give a workshop entitled, Vision 2030, to our Year 12 students.

First, the students were informed about the degrees, Masters and various studies offered by this university centre



















## LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH

I was born in Latvia, so I thought it would be fun to organise a Latvian Language of the Month. I gave assemblies to key stages 1,2,3 and 4 to show off Latvian culture. For example, I explained how Latvia has been an independent republic for 32 years but used to be part of the Soviet Union, this is why many Latvians speak Russian, like me.

Then I described my favourite Latvian drink, Kvass. It's hard to describe the taste, because there are a lot of varieties, but it's absolutely delicious! I also described Aukstā Zupa, which means "cold soup," it's a pink soup you eat on hot summer days. It is also delicious, I like it a lot.

Finally we learnt some Latvian, for example, I taught everyone that "good morning" is "labrit." I really enjoyed giving the assemblies, in particular with the younger children because they interacted with me; it was fun! It's nice to share some of my culture.

Uz redzēšanos!

*Platon Goilo*  
Year 12



## PRIMARY NEWS

Dear parents and families,

Gratitude is the theme for my newsletter this week. For me, it is more than just saying 'thank you'. It's about showing those around you that they are seen and their efforts acknowledged. Whether I say thank you to a child or a member of staff, I always like to tell them why. Something that is very visible in our school is how well the staff support each other and how well the children help each other too. These moments are even more special when they are unprompted. It is both privilege and a pleasure to observe these.

Last week, Miss Stevens, Miss Alejandra, myself and the wonderful Year 3 Nessies braved the Year 3 Residential Trip 'Sleeping with Sharks'. For many of the children it was their first experience ever of staying away from home. They demonstrated a level of resilience I had not yet seen. Not only that, they held each other up from start to finish. From a reassuring pat on the back if someone was a little scared to helping friends pack away their sleeping bags after they had done their own was lovely to see. A huge thank you to Miss Stevens and Miss Alejandra for giving up your evening to support this trip. The value of this trip to our younger pupils is immeasurable and I'm certain the memories created will stay with them forever.



As we plough forward through our final term, I would like to thank our 'admin angels' for their hard work. A lot of their work is unseen but is definitely not unnoticed. So much goes into daily school life at BCG. Things don't just happen. The team of dedicated staff are so committed to our children and go out of their way to ensure that they have the most positive experience of school, day in day out. From school events to trips, school photos to admissions, these cogs would not be so well-oiled without our dream team. A heartfelt thank you to you all.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to our families. Thank you for your trust and your support. Successful schooling can be significantly attributed to successful home-school partnership. We value your feedback and actively encourage you to continue working alongside us to give your children the very best.

Have a wonderful week and I look forward to seeing you at many of the upcoming events.

Un abrazo,

*Miss Wakelin*  
*Head of EYFS & Primary School*

## PRIMARY AUTHOR VISIT





# GLIMPSE OF THE WEEKS





# GLIMPSE OF THE WEEKS



# GLIMPSE OF THE WEEKS

