



# Weekly Bulletin

March 5th 2021



## Welcome to our bulletin

I have to start the week with the most exceptional achievement by Aureli Foreman in Year 10 who was awarded a Distinction at Grade 8 Piano this week. Believe me, it is extraordinary and at the first opportunity we will ask Aureli to perform in public for us.

### Examination success

We also had great success in the January AS examinations with all students getting As and Bs in Spanish and in Mathematics there were 3Bs and an E. Some of these stu-

dents will resit the papers to endeavour to increase their mark even more but we should congratulate them for this great performance.

### COVID-19

As will know, despite our very best efforts we have had to close the early Years and Lower primary as a precautionary measure. We have a number of staff off sick and are unable to maintain the safety of the children in school. COVID-19 has finally caught up with us I am sad to say. Please can i politely remind you that children in quarantine must remain in quarantine. We know that some of the year 4s were out playing over half term while they should have been at home. It is unfortunate to have to ask but these are the situations which cause these outbreaks. I have reminded staff once again to ensure they (we) all follow the very strictest of protocols until the situation significantly improves.

We have had about eight staff members off this week and those remaining in school have been incredible - they have

taught their own lessons and covered those for colleagues so that all classes could run as normal. Remembering that they are also marking assessments, writing reports and preparing for two imminent inspections, I mention it here as a way of publicly acknowledging my appreciation. I am pleased to say that all of our support staff, kitchen staff, teachers etc have been contacted and are currently in the process of making appointments to receive their vaccinations, which is of course, great news for the continued safety of our school community.

### **Students looking after each other**

We have been talking to the Year 7s this week about helping each other and we have decided to set up a small student group to help stop some low level bullying amongst the students. As you know, bullying happens in every school and it happens as some young people try to navigate relationships and their place amongst peer groups. I explained to the students that often, students who bully others either verbally or physically, do so as a way of crying out for help. The student group will encourage students to help each other before such disagreements get out of hand. We are very excited by this initiative and am sure it will be an excellent opportunity for our younger students to learn how to help and support each other.

### **Inspections**

On Tuesday we have two inspectors from NABSS in school to inspect our 6th form. This is an important process in the school's short history and we have worked hard to be ready for it. The following week we have the long awaited IB Verification Visit, again we believe we are more than ready and are feeling confident for both.

### **Tell a friend!**

We are getting many visits from prospective students and their parents and i am delighted to say that the vast majority who visit, choose our school over others they have seen. This is fantastic news and I would encourage you all to tell your friends to visit us and see BCG for themselves.

### **Final note of thanks**

As I was reading the newsletter last week (what an epic that was!) it occurred to me that I have not thanked Maria Andrea Jacobo and Lidia Miron for the huge amount of work that goes into collating, formatting and translating the content each week. I am sure you appreciate the newsletters, especially during these times where you are unable to come into school. If you are reading this now you will know that I have managed Maria Andrea not to remove this paragraph (such is her modesty).

### **Simon Mower**

Dear Parents,

It was great to welcome back our students after the half term break on Monday. It is going to be a short and extremely busy 2nd half of term. I hope your children managed to get some rest before they started to prepare for their assessments.

During PSHE this week we spoke to Year 7 - 10 about exam stress and the importance of preparing the right way for exams. We gave the students revision techniques and exam skills that will hopefully alleviate pressure and stress that comes with preparing for assessments. We talked again about dealing with anxiety, and how using mindfulness can alleviate anxiety. We will continue with our theme of online safety, bullying and cyberbullying next week. I want to reiterate how important it is to us that your children feel safe and happy when they are at school. As soon as we witness or hear of any behaviour that does not fall under this ethos it is dealt with straight away and solutions are created. We want our community to be a safe and positive one in which we celebrate each individual.

I would like to celebrate a student's incredible achievement within the music department. Aureli Foreman achieved his Grade 8 Piano certificate scoring a Distinction (the highest possible

grade). This is an absolutely amazing feat and I am sure you will all join me in saying well done to Aureli.

If your children ever achieve an award or take part in a competition please let us know so we can celebrate as a community.

Year 8 & 9 parents evening will take place on the 22nd and 23rd of March. The booking system for these teacher meetings will go live on Monday the 8th of March and will stay open until Monday 15th March. I anticipate slots will fill up fast so please book as soon as possible.

Any questions regarding the Secondary School please email me on

[\*\*danny.steadman@bcgava.com\*\*](mailto:danny.steadman@bcgava.com).

**Mr Steadman**



## IB NEWS

This week we have been busy creating IB Pathways for our first September cohort. These Pathways will guide our students as they choose their IB Diploma Programme options and start to make decisions about Further Education and careers. They are designed to provide continuity of learning from GCSE to the IB Diploma and we are looking forward to sharing them with our community as soon as possible.

The DP subject videos that our teachers recorded will be shared with Year 11 parents shortly. These videos are a solution to the current Covid situation and we hope that they will help families assist their children as they make their IB Diploma Programme subject choices. Teachers have already presented each subject to the Year 11 students who were able to ask questions and engage with course content. The videos will allow parents to get a clear idea of the IB curriculum and assessment procedures - we hope you find them useful!

**Ms Fenton**

## UPPER PRIMARY

Dear Upper Primary Parents and Families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful half term. As always, the children have returned ready to learn. Certainly the older Upper primary pupils are demonstrating more maturity and better organisation. It is great to see their development.

Sustainability

This week, our assembly took on the theme of Sustainability. Miss Straton shared a range of resources with classes to raise awareness and got children thinking about what our sustainability goal should be. Before half term, pupils in all classes took part in various activities to support and improve sustainability in school. We have litter picking teams in Year 3, Years 4 and 5 took part in a beach clean before half term, and Year 6 will be doing a 'Trash Tour', cleaning our local area around school. It is fantastic to see and hear children so passionate and engaged with learning

about the environment, climate change and sustainability. Thoughtful insights were shared and I really look forward to seeing us taking action and doing our bit for sustainability.

### Housepoints

Congratulations to the Blues who collected a record number of Housepoints this week. Very well done to all of the Blue Team.

Looking ahead to a positive week next week, with some of the restrictions being lifted, so should our spirits too. Have a wonderful weekend.

Un abrazo

**Ms Wakelin**

## WORLD BOOK DAY

Dear BCG Community,

What a wonderful day we had at BCG celebrating World Book Day! Thank you all for your efforts dressing up, we had an amazing array of costumes, and the children loved to share their stories and characters with their respective classes! We had a little competition for the best dressed prize! The EYFS best dressed award went to Samuel Gomez in Reception Class and the Upper Primary award went to ?? Valentina in Year 4! Well done to you both; we hope you enjoyed your prizes!

We did some lovely activities, ranging from book reviews, to decorating front covers, bookmarks, and enjoyed a day centred around reading and stories! The book fair was a huge success and each class enjoyed getting the chance to buy their own books to keep!

The extreme reading competition has been judged for Upper Primary, however due to the current circumstances, we will extend the Lower Primary and EYFS reading challenge until we return. This will be a good quarantine challenge for those of you who haven't done it yet, the most usual place in your house! I am sure the teachers will have a go too from home!

Well done, and I hope you enjoyed World Book Day!

**Ms Plummer**





## EYFS & LOWER PRIMARY

What a fantastic first days of the week of the new half term we have had. To let you in on a secret, one of my favourite parts of being in the school is seeing the EYFS children rush into the classroom or onto the patio in the morning to greet their friends and see their teachers. It was truly delightful to see this on Monday morning after being away from school for a week. The children have settled back into the routine brilliantly and have been focusing on developing their story telling skills as we worked towards yesterday's 'World Book Day' celebrations. Well done to everybody for their hard work this week and we look forward to seeing even more as the half term continues !

In Nursery we were working with numbers up to 5 and exploring the different ways to make 5. We have been practicing writing , verbally counting and identifying different numbers throughout the week. Our story telling theme has led up to the Jack and the Beanstalk story . The children have loved learning the different parts of the story and were very brave when we met the scary Giant! Yesterday, we planted some beans to learn what the plants need to grow. We look forward to seeing how they grow over time as we care for them!

In Reception, we have been looking at numbers up to the number 7 and exploring different single digit numbers. We have had a wonderful time in the forest and have really enjoyed developing our storytelling skills with our book 'That ´s why we don ´t eat animals ´ . The children have been drawing and writing about sections of the book and have loved every second of it !

Year One have had a great first few days back this week! In our Maths lessons, we have been exploring counting in 2s and 5s and making different resources to help us remember this!

In English we have been reading and performing the Enormous Turnip and reading different versions of the story to explore how stories can be retold differently. On Wednesday we went to Forest School and created a self portrait using natural objects (and of course drank tasty hot chocolate!) What a great first week back for Year One!





Year Two have been busy exploring shape this week. The children have loved playing with the 2D and 3D shapes within the school. The children have been focusing on 2D shapes this week and learning all the appropriate vocabulary. The children have loved all the different shape names and found some of them very funny indeed! Octagon, quadrilateral and rhombus are among their favourites! Over the week the children have made 2D shapes using things found in Forest School, they have traced 3D faces to show 2D shapes, they have played online shape games and they have used rulers to draw their very own 2D shapes! We even went on a hunt for 2D shapes around the school! The children have been loving this topic and are excited to continue this learning (virtually) next week when we look at lines of symmetry and 3D shapes.

In our English lessons, we have been immersing ourselves into the story of Little Charlie as we develop our skills as storytellers. We have verbally retold the story using actions to help us remember key grammar points, repetitive story sections and key parts of the story... watch this space for more amazing work as we grow as storytellers and writers !

I must also say a huge congratulations to the Blue team who have won this week's EYFS House point award. Remember to keep working hard to gain house points for your teams !

**Mr Smith**



# WORLD BOOK DAY

## EYFS & Lower Primary



CLICK [HERE](#) TO DOWNLOAD THE IMAGES



# LINGUISTS OF THE WEEK IN THE LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

## EYFS and Primary:

The linguists of the week in primary for being excellent communicators in one of the 3 languages are:

### Year 2: Spanish

**Year 2 Owls** - Lengua Castellana - Clara Farmer

**Year 2 Robins** - Lengua Castellana - Aida Gasanova

### Y3: Catalan

Berta Gaisser

Alessia Berthet

### Y4: Catalan

Mar Ribas

Laia Cozzi

### Y5: Catalan

Noa Cedillo

### Y6: Catalan

Sophia Rodriguez

Juan Pablo Sykes

## International Women's day

Next Monday, 8th of March 8, is International Women's Day. To celebrate it, we will carry out some activities in the language classes. To prepare for this, we need you to think over the weekend, about a woman that you admire, love or inspire you –It can be any woman: from someone in your family to a famous woman.

**Very important:** Please, bring a photo to the school of the woman you have chosen on Monday the 8th.

Thank you.

**Mrs Pou**



# AS LEVEL MATHS SUCCESS

With the current situation many of the formal exams have been cancelled this year. However four keen Gava maths students took their AS maths exam early in January.

All worked very hard revising Pure Maths over Christmas, and were rewarded with good passing grades.



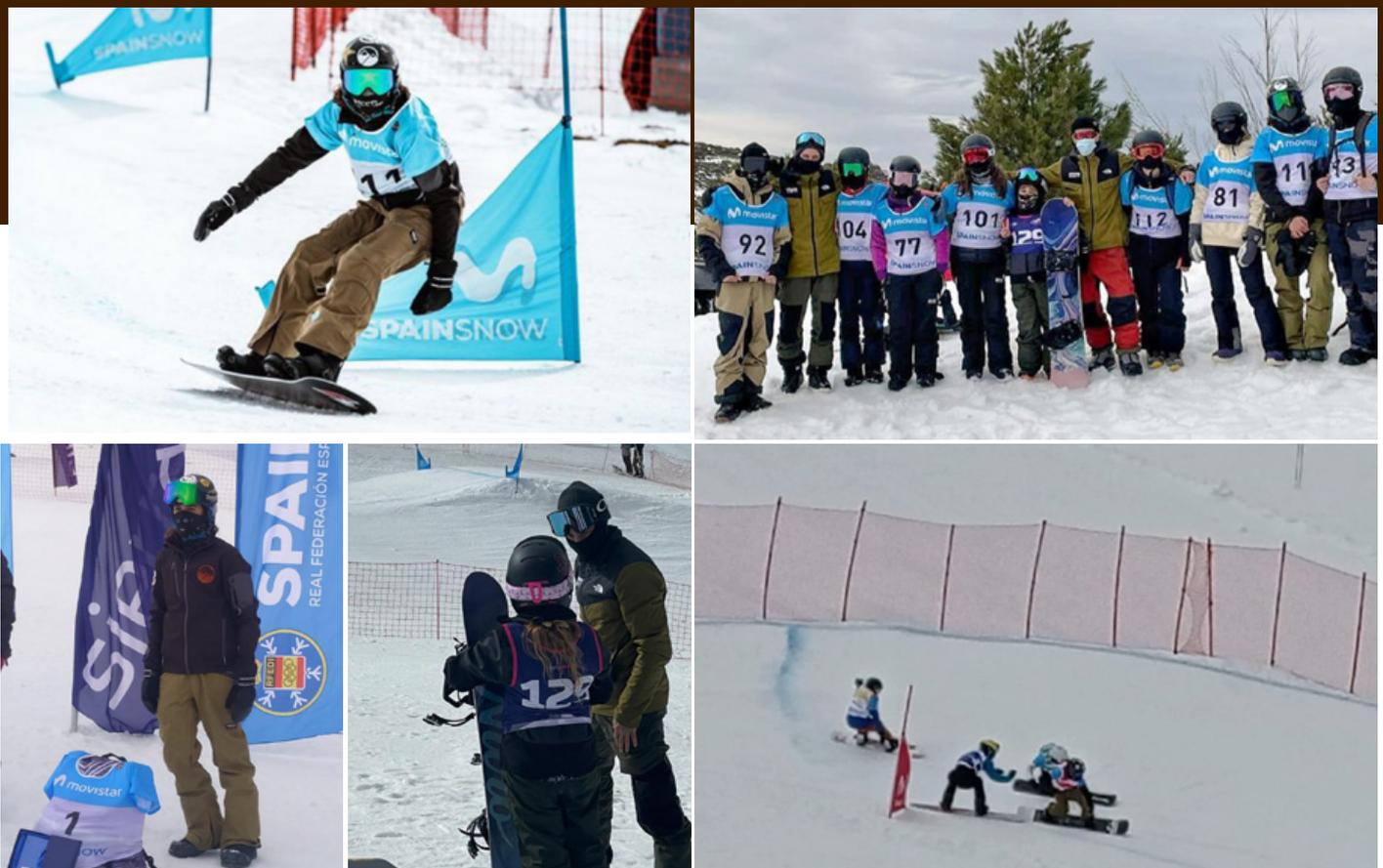
Twins Shiela and Neil Pradas both were awarded Bs. They said, 'We are quite competitive and compare and compete with each other, so it's fortunate we both achieved the same high grade!' Sacha Grechman said 'A levels are very challenging, and ultimately I'm aiming for the top possible grades. I achieved 75% on this exam, which is a B, and this will be the basis of future progress'. Max Tarasenko also passed the AS module, and as he had previously only taken Foundation level GCSE maths, this was an achievement. Max said 'A level maths was a big step up for me, so I was pleased to get a passing grade already'

**Mr Link**

# PE DEPARTMENT

Please join me in congratulating Marc and Noa Cedillo in their incredible achievements within snowboarding during the Copa de Espana. Marc finished 1st place and Noa 4th place. Well done to both of you, the whole school community is extremely proud of you!

**Mr Steadman**



# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## Secondary

