



# Weekly Bulletin

June 15th 2021



## Welcome to our bulletin

### Chromebooks

We have now reached the ideal time to move into a new technological phase in our teaching and learning. In secondary school our students are using

technology in almost all lessons for a whole variety of exciting purposes. We will be gradually introducing a Chromebook for All policy where each student will be required to have their own Chromebook at school. We have sourced an excellent machine which provides very high quality, reliability and useability. We will send specific details, including cost and payment option to parents in the coming weeks but this exciting programme will start for the Year 7 and Year 10 classes starting in September (ie students currently in Year 6 and Year 9).

Once we have established that programme we will continue to roll it out for other year groups in the secondary school.

Year 12 students starting their IBDP course will also be required to have laptop for the course as most of their work will require a high level of technology for reports, presentations, research, collaboration etc

As I say, more details and FAQs will be sent out in the coming weeks.

### **Residential**

Last week saw a whole host of residential trips and I know that the students had a fantastic time - a huge thank you to all of the staff that helped plan and run these trips, it does take a huge amount of organisation and I know you all appreciate it.

### **Open days**

Interest from new families continues to grow - we have had a large number of visits recently and I would encourage you all to tell your friends about our school. The growth of the BCG community will benefit us all.

### **Pre DP**

The Year 11 students have been very busy with their PreDP programme over the last couple of weeks and are preparing for the BCG Arts Festival next Monday. They have really stepped up and worked very hard on a whole range of activities. This year group really has come on so far over the last 12 months and it is wonderful to see them thriving now.

*Simon Mower*



# RESIDENTIAL

Last week Years 7 - 10 went on an adventure-based residential trip in which the students went rafting, kayaking, mountain biking, hiking, orienteering, caving, rock climbing, and dirt tracking.

We stayed at Alberg La Bruna in Bellver de Cerdanya in the Pyrenees - a beautiful, tranquil spot with breath-taking views of the mountains all around.

We were able to walk out the door of our hotel into the mountains

for most of the activities. It was a wonderful four days in which the students bonded with each other, forged new friendships, challenged themselves and helped each other overcome limitations and fears.

We are so grateful to have been able to go on a trip like this, after not knowing if it would be possible for so many months.

*Claire Foreman*



# YEAR 12 IN PORT AVENTURA

The Sixth Form Students along with myself and Mr Fassam went on our first residential trip to PortAventura in Salou. A wonderful time was had by everyone both inside the park and back at the hotel where we all enjoyed luxurious rooms, outdoor pool and buffet Dinner and Breakfast.

Whilst it was extremely difficult to keep up with the students as they ran around the park using their fast passes, we all caught back up to each other at some point in the afternoon where everyone had great stories to tell about how many times they went on Shambhala (The highest roller-coaster), who was the most sick after a ride (Sarah) or whose shoes were most ruined from the water splash rides (Neil).

Myself and Mr Fassam were extremely impressed with the way that the Year 12's conducted themselves during this trip. They showed a huge amount of maturity and responsibility and I as their form tutor was extremely proud of them. We are very lucky at BCG to have such wonderful students who represented our school so well. Thank you Year 12.

**Karine Hall**



# UPPER PRIMARY

## CLASSES FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

I am pleased to announce the new classes for the new school year. This time of year is always very exciting with lots of fun end of year activities going on. In addition to this is the anticipation of the year ahead and who the new teachers will be. As I mentioned in my previous newsletter, the Upper Primary school has welcomed many new students to the school over the past year. As a result, we will have 2 classes per year group (this is called 2-form entry) starting in September. What does this mean? This means that the current classes will split into 2 smaller classes and benefit from increased pupil:teacher time. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have been split to move into their new class. Although there are currently two Year 4 classes, we have mixed and reorganised them to even out the dynamic of ability, gender, social groups and to accommodate the new pupils that will join us in September. All Upper Primary children have been told which class they will be in and have responded with maturity and enthusiasm.

The expansion of our school means that as we welcome new teachers, we must also say farewell to those who are ready to move on and progress in their careers in different places. We will be saying goodbye to Miss Osivwemu, who has decided to return to Higher Education to complete a Masters degree back in the UK. She has been with BCG for 2 years and has done a truly great job of teaching the same class since her time here. Miss Muirhead has completed her first full year of teaching and is returning to the UK to pursue her passion as a Secondary Spanish Teacher. She has made a remarkable impression on her pupils and all of our staff too. Finally, Miss Straton is pursuing her teaching career at a school closer to her home in Barcelona. Her leg-

acy and work on embedding Sustainability through the school will live on for many years to come, I am sure. It really has been a pleasure to work alongside these wonderful teachers who will be very much missed by us all.

We have been very busy recruiting new teachers and teaching assistants to our ever-growing team and am delighted to announce the new staff for next year:

- **Year 3a - Mr Smith**
- **Year 3b - Mrs Helen Stevens**
- **Year 4a - Mr Jude Timothy**
- **Year 4b - TBC**
- **Year 5a - Miss Louise Baron**
- **Year 5b - Ms Louise Culshaw**
- **Year 6a - Miss Liz Fleming**
- **Year 6b - Mr James Dunn**

There are some familiar names on this list of our current class teachers: Mr Timothy and Mr Smith. We are very happy they are continuing their journey at BCG. We welcome Louise Baron to the teaching team in Upper Primary, who began her journey with us as a Teaching Assistant whilst she was completing her teacher training. Having passed with her course with a Distinction, coupled with her great knowledge of the pupils and team here, she will now be taking on her own class in Year 5. Congratulations Louise on your newly appointed role. We extend a 'gran abrazo' to all of our new staff. We have met you online (some in person) and all seen videos of your excellent teaching. We cannot wait to meet you all in person.

# UPPER PRIMARY

Mrs Pilcher and I have invested a lot of time into recruiting new staff to complement our teams. Our top priority has been selecting teachers who come with a range of experience and skills to further enhance our excellent team and more importantly, give our pupils access to a wider range of current teaching strategies, new ideas and limitless learning opportunities. We are really excited that the school is now in a position to grow and develop in this way.

Many parents and children have been asking about being in my class next year and may have spotted that my name is not on the list of teachers. It is with great excitement (with a sprinkling of trepidation) to announce I will be stepping out of the classroom next year and into my role of leading the Upper Primary school full time. I will no

longer have a class but this will enable me lots of time to dedicate myself even more to the smooth running of the phase, to work on my passions which are curriculum design and child development and to ensure that all pupils are supported, encouraged and nurtured to be the best they can be. I have a sneaky suspicion that I will be getting into classes to teach some lessons at some point throughout the school year and will continue to be there for every single pupil, member of staff or parent that needs me.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

***Kelly Wakelin***  
***Head of Upper Primary***

# HOUSE POINTS

I'm sure many of you have been wondering what's been happening with Housepoints. Are they still awarded or have they disappeared forever? NO, is the answer! Housepoints are very much here and here to stay. With the many activities going on in school and with the Year 6 House Captains away at residential, then their busy transition days in Secondary, the Captains have still managed to collect the totals from each class but they have not had time to report the scores. Today they are back! I am very happy to announce that each House has now collectively reached over

1000 Housepoints! That's phenomenal. What that actually means is the children have clearly worked hard, put in heaps of effort, been extremely helpful to friends and staff, demonstrated our Learner Profile values AND been all-round amazing (I secretly already knew all of this). 'Just hurry up and tell us the winning House' I hear you say. Soooooo...with a whopping 1024 points, the winning House is...the bashful, the bold, the brilliant BLUE team! Congratulations everyone in Blues!

***Miss Wakelin***

# YEAR 4

## RESIDENTIAL

Last week the children from Swans and Ravens enjoyed 3 lovely days and 2 amazing nights at Can Pere de Ribas, on their residential. Can Pere is a farm and as well as activities where they learnt all about the local wildlife they were also exposed to a variety of animals from horses to rabbits and ducks to Peacocks.

Also, they hiked through the beautiful Garraf Mountains to the 'Black Cave' which

they explored with hard hats and torches. The other activities included making cheese, a fantastic water fight and applying 'mud masks'.

All the children had a wonderful time, never to be forgotten, and returned home suitably exhausted.

*Year 4 Team*



## UPDATE ON EYFS LP CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

### Year 1 to 2

I am extremely happy to announce that we have a large number of new students joining our current Year 1 class, going into Year 2 in September. This means that in Year 2 we will split the class into two smaller classes of approximately 12 students. Our new children are coming from a local school where they are all currently in the same class. In the interest of a smooth transition, settling and building relationships for all the children, it is important that we mix new and current students, girls and boys and when doing this we will, of course, look at friendship groups. This is an exciting time for the children to have new friends in the year group! It is important to know that the whole year group (both classes) will be considered one bubble and will mix for various lessons and times throughout the day such as in Spanish, PE, lunch and playtimes, music and in Catalan-which is introduced in Year 2. In September, both classes will work on a shared topic using both classrooms and the garden area as a way for all children to settle into this new idea slowly. There will be trips, projects, assemblies and shows where the whole year group will come together and so there will be plenty of opportunities for old and new friends to play and learn together.

As a result of this, the Year 1 to 2 Move up day will now be on **Monday 21st June** when our new friends will be joining us for the morning from 9-11am. During the morning we will have a rotation of activities across both Year 2 classrooms and gardens including a taster Catalan lesson with Miss Jenny and Music workshop with Ms. O'Connor. Miss Baker will share a video to the whole year group of our second Year 2 teacher -Miss Alexandra Dyson, who is currently teaching in Abu Dhabi and will be joining BCG in September. Alexandra is trained at Forest School trained, with a background in EYFS and Lower Primary and together with Miss Baker's experience of the school and creative teaching, I am very excited for the year ahead in Year 2.

Next week we will be asking the Year 1 children to write down 3 friends that they would like to have in their class and will be guaranteed 1. Miss Plummer knows the children incredibly well and will help with the final class lists. These will be finalised and communicated by the end of term.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Nina Pilcher*

# RECEPTION

## ART EXHIBITION

The week of June 4th, in reception class, we learnt all about the occupation of being an artist. We explored different famous artists, looking closely at Kandinsky and Vincent Van Gogh. We thought about the colours, shapes and styles and how they made us feel. We really enjoyed having our whole classroom set up as an artists studio with lots of different media out and available for us to explore. When talking about artists, we explored the idea of an exhibition and the enthusiasm to hold our own was so intense we just had to do it! So we used our

writing skills to write invitations to Nursery, Year1, both Year2 classes, Mrs Maria Andrea and Mr Mower and personally delivered them. On Friday afternoon we worked so hard to set up our very own exhibition and then welcomed each class to come and see our fabulous work. It was a huge success and the children were learning in such an amazing direction. Congratulations Penguins, what an effort!

*Jessica Bifani*



# YEAR 11

## ARTS FESTIVAL

Year 11 students are really excited to organise and run BCG's first ever Arts Festival - a full day of exciting events, performances and workshops! This has been an amazing opportunity for us to learn how to organise and run an event, one we hope will allow us to develop our skills ready for the IB Diploma Programme and the world of work. We have been working very hard to bring this project to life for primary and secondary students.

Please find below a provisional outline of what the day will look like.

### Upper Primary

Students are invited to participate in a Talent Show and we already have some amazing acts!

The show will take place in the auditorium with Year 11 students and staff as the judges.

Students are invited to watch the Year 7 drama performance and will be able to access stalls to buy festival-themed goodies and snacks during their break and lunch.

We recommend that they bring no more than 15€ each to spend.

### Secondary

Events that will occur throughout the day for secondary include:

- **poetry workshop to create a mural outside the cafeteria**
- **dance workshop to practice for the final flash mob that will happen at the end of the day**
- **samba workshop**
- **samba performance**
- **band performances**
- **year 10 play of A View from the Bridge**
- **year 7 play**
- **year 8 play**

There will be stalls for secondary open at lunch and break with festival-themed goodies and food for them to buy.

Entry to enter the festival costs 10€ and includes a BCG Arts Festival t-shirt designed by one of our students - perfect for remembering this exciting day.

To finish the day there will be ice cream stalls that parents and students can buy from at the green gate at 16:30.

Money raised from this event will go to [Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance](#) and our end of year Prom.

More details to follow soon!

*Year 11*

## DANCE ACTIVITY

As you may know, Year 11 will be organising an Arts festival on the 21st of June that will involve the whole school. One of the biggest and main events will occur in the last period of the day (3:45 to 4:30). This event will be a whole-school dance that the students will already have learned and will be performed simultaneously by everyone. The following video is the choreography that we encourage all students to begin to learn. There

will also be planned activities during the day where they can practice. More information regarding the Arts festival will be published next week.



*Year 11 students*

# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## EYFS & Primary



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# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## Secondary



# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## Staff

