

5 June 2024



BCG Newsletter





Teaching is all about the children, the students and the young adults. It is about nurturing, advising, keeping on track, putting back on track and celebrating success. Last Friday was the culmination of many years of hard work by our Year 13 students. Exams completed and dressed to the nines, they celebrated their graduation with their friends, family and teachers. It was a very special evening and they thoroughly deserved it!

Below you will find Ms Fenton's welcome address and my speech to the students.

'It is my very great pleasure to welcome you all to this very special occasion - the graduation ceremony for our class of 2024. Thank you for being here.

Firstly, I would like to say to you, our wonderful students, how very proud I am of what you have achieved in your time at BCG. I know that for the next six weeks you will be anxiously (or not) waiting for your IB examination results. I also know we have spent 2 years telling you how important these results are.

But, now that the deadlines are history and the exams are done, I can let you in on a little secret. And the secret is that we are not here to celebrate grades or scores or percentages, but to recognise a different kind of learning - a learning that comes through personal growth, resilience and friendship, a learning that we do together as a community of students, teachers and parents.

Because the truth is that whilst one day your knowledge of calculus, thin film interference, stratospheric ozones or dualling eulogies over Cesar's body may fade, it is the skills you have developed through your engagement with others: respect, open mindedness, perspective, diplomacy, empathy and trust, that will remain with you and shape who you are.

So, as you step forward into the rest of your lives, please remember who you are - but more importantly, consider carefully and consciously who you want to be and the mark you wish to make on the world - on your world.

Each one of you has already left your mark on ours and we thank you'.

Rachel Fenton



'Ladies and gentlemen, wonderful teachers, proud parents, and our fantastic Year 13 guests of honour.

Today is a momentous day—a day we have been eagerly awaiting and a day that marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. We are gathered here to celebrate your graduation from BCG, and I am honoured to stand before you as we reflect upon this incredible journey and embrace the bright future that lies ahead.

As I look along this row of talented and ambitious individuals, I am reminded of the beautiful diversity that defines our school community. We come from different corners of the world, each with our unique cultures, languages, and experiences. It is this tapestry of diversity that has enriched our learning environment and has taught us to appreciate and respect the perspectives of others.

Throughout your time in this school, you have not only expanded your intellectual horizons but also developed into well-rounded individuals. You have not only excelled academically but also demonstrated leadership, empathy, and a passion for making a positive difference in the world.

However, today is not just about acknowledging the past; it is also about embracing the future. As you leave the familiar surroundings of school, you step into a world brimming with opportunities and possibilities. Undoubtedly, challenges will arise, and obstacles may seem insurmountable at times. But I want you to remember that you are equipped with the skills, knowledge, and resilience to overcome anything that comes your way.

Embrace the unknown with courage, because it is when facing uncertainty that we discover our true potential. Take risks, pursue your passions, and dare to dream big. Remember that success is not solely measured by societal standards (money) but by the impact you have on others and the fulfilment you find in your own journey.

Let's not forget the responsibilities we bear as global citizens. The world is grappling with numerous challenges—climate change, social inequality, political unrest and of course war—yet, it is through our collective efforts that we can bring about positive change. Your international education has granted you a unique perspective, a global mindset, and the ability to bridge cultural divides. I urge you to use these gifts to become agents of change, to champion inclusivity, and to work towards a more harmonious world.

On behalf of Rafael Valverde and the rest of us I would like to extend our gratitude to your parents for trusting us and allowing us to guide you on this exciting journey.



In conclusion, today marks the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. As you leave this school, remember to cherish the memories you have created and the lessons you have learned. Carry with you the values of integrity, compassion, and curiosity that have shaped your character. Embrace the challenges that lie ahead with resilience, determination, and an unwavering belief in your abilities.

Congratulations, Class of 2024. Thank you for everything you have done to make The British College of Gava the school it is today.

May your dreams take flight, and may you continue to make your mark on the world'.

Simon Mower
Principal

CC ONG

CC ONG is a local NGO that conducts various activities with underprivileged populations around the world. Recently, they visited us to give a talk about the work they do in different regions. One of the areas where CC ONG is actively involved is Africa. Through our interaction with them, we were able to contribute by donating the uniforms that BCG families have donated together with other uniforms the school still had. The generosity of our community was evident in the substantial number of uniforms donated!

KS3 students received a talk during Assembly time, and we were impressed with how they engaged during the session, showing great interest and asking great questions.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated and supported this initiative. Your contributions have made a significant impact. Here you can find pictures from that day and from the following when organising everything.

We encourage you to visit their webpage and find out more about them:

[CC ONG](#)

They have a family volunteer programme which has amazing testimonies too!

Looking forward to receiving photos of those receiving the uniforms in África!

BCG Team





ATHLETES

Football

Iker Iglesias Fornós, from Year 7A, became the football league champion this weekend. Currently, Iker plays for Escola de Fútbol Gavá in the Alevín category, where he has proven to be an outstanding player.

In terms of his sporting history, Iker has an impressive track record. He began his football career at the Escola de Futbol del Barça, where he played from ages 6 to 10, training at one of the most prestigious academies in the world. Last year, he participated in the school league representing BCG in FUTSAL, and once again, he demonstrated his talent by helping his team win the league.

However, football is not his only passion. Iker also has a keen interest in tennis. He spent three years at the Sanchez Casal high-performance academy, where he attended school and honed his tennis skills.



Tennis achievements

As the end of the year draws closer we take a moment to appreciate the achievements of all of our eAthletes. Footballers finishing the season and tennis players ending a busy period of tournaments. The months of April, May and June are not only busy in school but a tremendous amount of focus is required in their sport.

Two particularly stand out performances came from our tennis contingent, Raphael Roche and Eduard Khaikov. Raphael competed for 3 weeks in the La Diamant ITF tournament in Martinique with the aim of gaining his first ITF points. He was entered into the qualifying rounds winning two matches. He eventually lost in the second round but his progress earned the points he wanted, vital to enter future tournaments and continue his development. Also during the same tournament he was part of a successful doubles pairing that reached the quarter finals.

Meanwhile, Eduard travelled to the Catalan Federation tournament in Vic competing in the Infantil age group. After a gruelling spring of training and preparation, he won the tournament!

Congratulations.



Dan Pilcher
e-Athletes Coordinator

SECONDARY NEWS

Assessments and Exams

Thank you to parents for supporting their children during the end-of-year assessments, which are taking place at the moment. It is particularly pleasing to see how seriously the students are taking them, and the mature way in which they are conducting themselves during their tests. This is all very good practice for when they take external exams later on in their school careers.

Their marks will all be formally recorded on their final full school reports, which you will receive on the last day of term. This gives teachers time to mark all the



assessments, and produce meaningful reports of your children's school year 2023/24.

Year 10 and Year 11 are both embroiled in exams at the moment. The Year 10s have experienced the sports hall for the first time, and it is the first of a series of exams to help get them match-fit for next summer's exams. Year 11, meanwhile, have completed the lion's share of their external IGCSE and GCSE exams. The Year 11s have been a real credit to the school in the way that they have conducted themselves during these exams, which puts them in good stead towards the step up to IB.

In the last week of term, they will step up to IB for our Pre-IB course, which is well received by students and parents alike. It will culminate in the much-anticipated Year 11 prom, where the students will be donning their best clothes for the occasion on Wednesday, 19th June.

Trips

Year 8 and 9 enjoyed very successful residential trips, and Year 7 will be going on theirs on 17th June. Photographs will accompany this newsletter. Trip outline plans for our next school year have been shared with parents. We hope that most of our students will be able to join their friends on those adventures.

Year 10 enjoyed an immensely successful trip to Tamarit and by all accounts was enjoyed by students and teachers alike.

Tutor groups

There will be changes made to tutor groups of Year 7 (going into Year 8) and Year 8 (going into Year 9). Two tutor groups will become three in both year groups, and we have put a lot of thought and care into trying to mix the groups to improve the dynamics and (in a small number of cases) the behaviour. Inevitably, the changes cannot please everyone, but please remember that they only affect approximately half of the lessons, with the other half in different groups altogether. Existing friendships need not suffer, and new ones will be made, with new students also joining us in September. The new tutor groupings will be made public to the students nearer to the end of term.

7B's Class Assembly

It was year 7Bs turn to give a key stage three assembly and we decided to focus on the subject of random acts of kindness. We explained that a random act of kindness is when you do something kind for another person without really thinking much about it first, just because it's a nice thing to do, like offering to do the shopping for an elderly neighbour or walking your friend's dog and that world random act of kindness day is on the 17th of February. Some of our class decided to do some random acts of kindness, so Martina and Valentina and Niragh and Alessandro decided to bake some delicious cookies for the class, Mar and Laia

posted some inspirational notes in English and Spanish around their apartment buildings and Alejandro, Adria and Alan decided to buy a plant for the class! We have named him Jeff and we water him once a week! This was a really positive experience for 7B and allowed us to reflect on the many benefits of being kind. For example we learnt that the positive effects of kindness are experienced in the brain of everyone who witnesses the act, improving their mood and making them more likely to improve the day of lots of people! A big thank you to Oto, Eden, Martina, Valentina, Niragh, Alessandro, Alejandro, Adria and Alan for taking part, well done!

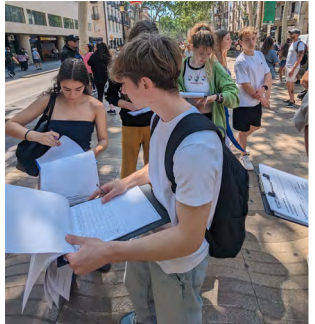
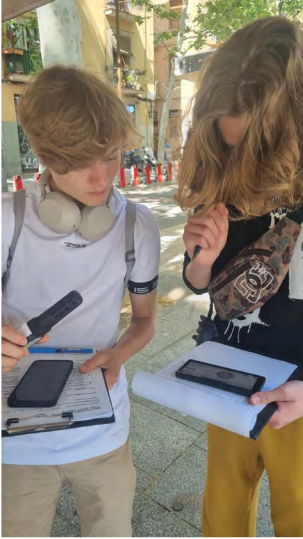
Ben Ruddin
Head of Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

YEAR 12 TRIP

On the 23rd May the year 12 Geography students went into Barcelona to undertake Geography fieldwork for their Urban internal assessment. The main aim was to explore the city's sustainable transport initiatives, with a primary focus on the Bicing scheme. As part of their investigation, they analysed the distribution and usage patterns of Bicing stations, comparing the bustling central business district with the quieter suburban areas. Year 12 used environmental quality surveys (EQS), traffic, pedestrian and Bicing counts, a carbon dioxide monitor, questionnaires and field sketches/ photos to collect data. They were very enthusiastic about undertaking the EQS, with them all declaring themselves the best at this method (quite a lot of bias in these declarations). They however were less than enthusiastic about the questionnaires! As always questionnaires are never the easiest especially when asking the public in their second language, however they managed to get some willing participants including one very chatty member of the public! Their research revealed some initial observations that there are variations in accessibility and infrastructure between the different sections of the city. Students will next use the data to analyse further and write up their report. The students will also delve into socio-economic factors, examining how income levels, employment rates, and demographic differences influenced the adoption and effectiveness of sustainable transport options. The year 12s were exemplary, working hard to complete 9 study sites which will enable them to have plenty of data to work with and enable interesting and reliable results.

Well done year 12 Geographers!

Sarah Darby and Jackie Mason





YEAR 10 BEACH TRIP

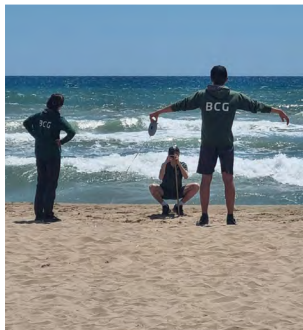
On the 21st February the year 10 Geography students went to investigate Gavá Mar beach and its surroundings. Students were instructed on how to undertake geography research and further their understanding of core geographical ideas, delving into various aspects of coastal geography. They conducted beach profiling, wave counts, environmental quality surveys and measured longshore drift to understand the dynamics of coastal erosion and deposition as well as different land use at the coast. Through teamwork, they measured and collected data on the predominant processes shaping the beach landscape. Additionally, students

explored the sand dune ecosystem through quadrat sampling techniques, thereby using their cross curricular skills as they need to be able to do this in both Biology and Geography.

The weather was lovely for a day at the coast and allowed our class meteorologist Jan to enjoy pointing out the storms that thankfully stayed out at sea. Despite a few challenging times such as saving a pen from the boardwalk and sacrificing Steven (a peach) to the waves for longshore drift measurements, the students exhibited exemplary behaviour and enthusiasm throughout. We also saw a large terrapin! The students made the trip enjoyable through their hard work and humour and I love getting to see the geographers develop their skills. The year 10's, once they finish their summer exams, will start to fully write up their geography coursework using the data they have collected. It was a truly enjoyable and enriching day that deepened the students' understanding and appreciation of coastal geography.

Thank you year 10!

Sarah Darby and Jackie Mason





GREEN AIR KS3 PROJECT

On the 23rd May students in KS3 were able to take part in an activity run by a few of the Barcelona Super Computer team who are focusing on air quality. The GreenSCENT air quality app was used to enable students to explore and understand the causes and impacts of air pollution. They got the chance to explore interactive maps of countries and cities. This included students walking through Barcelona (virtually) and exploring the air pollution in our local area. The students then were asked to discuss and look at solutions to the issues created by air pollution. The students described their experience investigating air pollution in Barcelona as “engaging,” “interesting,” “fun,” “impactful,” and “awesome.” They particularly enjoyed using an air pollution app to view real-time data, which provided them with valuable insights into the city’s air quality. Overall it was wonderful to see the students interacting with the most current technology to explore a current issue. The students who volunteered showed critical thinking and technological skills. The presenters were impressed and commented that the BCG students were very capable and enthusiastic scientific explorers. Well done to our volunteers!

Sarah Darby and Jackie Mason







ECAP

END OF THE YEAR PERFORMANCES

ECAP

MON
10

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS
8:15 PM
Auditorium
COOKING 4:30 - 5:30 PM
Kitchen

TUE
11

DANCE FUSION 5:15 PM
Performance Room 1

WED
12

MUGENDO 5:15 PM
Auditorium

THU
13

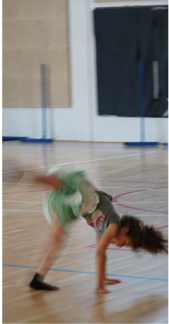
BALLET 5:15 PM
Auditorium
FUNDAMENTALES 4:30 - 5:30 PM
Basketball Court Outside

PARENTS INVITED.









LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH

I am Romanian, last month me and my friend Alejandra were helping students in every part of the school understand more about the Romanian language and culture. We gave assemblies to key stages 1,2,3 and 4 to help everyone learn a bit about my country. For example, we learnt how the capital of Romania is Bucharest, which used to be know as “the Paris of the East” and contains the Palace of the Parliament, one of the heaviest buildings in the world, weighing about 4 million tonnes! Then we described how Romanian is a romance language, so it’s similar to Spanish and French, and very similar to Italian. We talked about famous Romanians like Gheorge Hagi, Nadia Comaneci and Vlad Tepes, who inspired the character of Dracula! Finally we learnt some Romanian, for example, I taught everyone that hello is “Bună” and goodbye is “La revedere.” We enjoyed giving the assemblies, and in particular we enjoyed an activity we did with some of the primary language ambassadors, we decorated cupcakes with the Romanian flag, they were tasty!

Laura Olaru and Alejandra Guerrero
Year 12





EYFS & PRIMARY

As always these past few weeks have been incredibly busy with a whole range of activities happening throughout the school from an array of various trips to amazing class assemblies. This whole term has been filled with different class assemblies and it has been so lovely to see the pride in the students' faces and of course, the families and friends too. It takes real courage and resilience to stand up in front of an audience and perform so it has been such a pleasure to hear from so many class teachers how successful their shows have been.

We have also had the pleasure of welcoming prospective parents to the school in our recent Open Day. It is always so nice to have the opportunity to share with visitors all of the amazing things that we do and to showcase the fantastic efforts of all the children. A huge thank you to our students who greeted them, moved throughout school smartly and safely and really helped to show the very best of BCG.

The end of term is fast approaching and with it lots more fun events are planned especially our BCG Fest which the children have been busy rehearsing for over these past weeks. It looks to be a really enjoyable show with singing, dancing and impressive music to be heard. When we see events such as the BCG Fest we are reminded about the many talents our students have and how lucky we are to be able to enjoy them. We have also seen in Primary the students taking real responsibility with their recent assessments and putting in their best efforts to achieve. Well done to you, as we understand that assessments can be challenging and appreciate the hard work to complete them.

With only a few weeks left, we are now looking forward to enjoying the last part of our learning for the year and then having a well deserved summer rest. Thank you all, for your continued support.

*Miss Stevens
Key Stage 2 Coordinator and Year 3 Teacher*

YEAR 4 BEACH TRIP

Last week, Year 4 went on a short trip to Gava Mar beach to help tidy up the local community. The children did an AMAZING job collecting litter and they were surprised at how much careless waste there was. In particular, we found a huge area covered in plastic party confetti. It was a reminder to everyone of how we must be responsible citizens when hosting a party or even just going on a picnic or to the park. We must clean up after ourselves! Afterwards, we had a well-deserved picnic on the beach, some paddling and playing before heading back to school.

Miss Pilcher









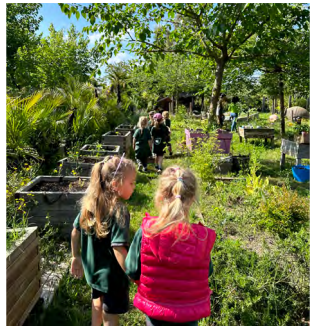
YEAR 1A CLASS ASSEMBLY





RECEPTION TRIP TO BORDAS





GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK



GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

