



BCG Newsletter

7 March 2023



We have had a very busy few weeks and you will get all of the updates in this newsletter - ski trips and carnivals too front stage but we had some excellent talks in the auditorium too. My sincere thanks to everyone involved in the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 parents evenings which went very well. Tucked in amongst all of this we also had two Open days for parents which were very well attended.

iSAMs Parent App

We have an important update! We are launching the new parent App which will be your single point of information from now on. Please see details in this newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email paulina.valverde@bcgava.com

NABSS Conference 2023

I am writing to you from the incredible city of Seville where a very fortunate group of staff have been attending the NABSS Conference 2023. This is an opportunity for all of the British Schools in Spain to meet and share ideas as well as attend, what have been, fantastic workshops and talks. It has been an extremely productive few days and we will return to school with lots of ideas to share with colleagues.

After School talks

We have had some truly excellent after school talks over the last couple of weeks. Our Sustainability Special attracted a lot of interest and we were able to introduce details of our new Sustainable Pathway too. Thanks to Lisa Stenvinkel, Soleil Sabalja and Joachim and Ivanna from SUMAS. Online Safety for Children and Families was a very practical and eye opening look into protecting all of the children from online harm, very special thanks to Darren Smith for sharing his expertise with us. Alba Rosas did a really interesting ADHD workshop too. Thank you to everyone that came to listen and we look forward to more talks and workshops in the near future.

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Starting on March 13 we have Marvellous Mathematics and Science week and we will have many different activities happening right across the school. March 14 is Pi Day, so continue reading this newsletter to see what we have in mind!

Simon Mower
School Principal



EYFS AND PRIMARY NEWS

Dear Parents and families,

What a colourful start to our half term! The Carnival spirit was very much alive across EYFS and the Primary school. An impressive array of crazy socks and crazy hair. My favourite day has to be Royals, Robots and Rainbows. What an interesting display of costumes! This year we saw more homemade costumes than ever. The children were very proud of their outfits and rightly so. We ended our week of celebrations with a Wear your House Colour Day. The school was a wonderful sea of red, blue, yellow and green. This made for an exciting reveal for our House winners - Green Team! Very well done!



School lunch has been a hot topic since we started the new term and this time it's for all the right reasons. I have introduced several new initiatives to promote a better experience for all at lunchtimes. Food is served hotter, classes wait less time to eat, additional playtime and the children's table manners are improving every single day. Win, win!

We have always encouraged our pupils to eat their lunch and try new foods so it has been really good to see them focusing on this. In addition to this, we now have a bin in each House colour to help the children take more responsibility for their waste. They now empty their trays themselves into the bin that represents their team colour. Each day the rubbish is checked to see which team has reduced the most waste. They have responded well to this and I have loved seeing them take responsibility in this way. The Blue Team has reduced the most waste since we started this. Amazing effort! The team who achieved the most over the term will get a very special picnic at the eve of term.

A final initiative has been the introduction of the 'Top Table'. Each week a child from each year group is chosen for the Top Table. This means they will be seated at a specially laid table complete with tablecloth, flowers and a special treat. They also get to choose a friend to eat with and are joined by a member of staff to share this new lunch experience. Children are chosen based on who has shown excellent manners while eating. Congratulations to the winners!

Finally, I wish you all a wonderful week. Thank you for your ongoing support and feedback. The communication I have received has been very encouraging.

Un gran abrazo,

Miss Wakelin

RECEPTION

We have had so much fun and learning in Starfish Class the past 2 weeks from exploring sinking and floating, learning about penguins, composing questions, making nature necklaces to comparing length, ordering numbers and going to see The Colour Monster!

Ms Franckeiss



YEAR 4

This term, in Year 4 science, we are learning about the simple functions of the digestive system in humans. We had a fantastic, practical lesson where we acted out the various stages with children pretending to be different organs and explaining their roles! Then the children worked in groups to show the journey of food through the digestive system using a variety of apparatus such as bananas and crackers (food), lemon juice (stomach acid), some clear tubing (oesophagus) and tights (large intestine). This was very messy and, of course, a lot of fun!

Mrs Pilcher



SECONDARY NEWS

Dear Parents

So much has happened since the last time I wrote, not least the warm breath of spring and all the promise that it carries.

National Association of British Schools in Spain (NABSS) Conference

I attended the NABSS conference in Seville over the last weekend. It was an excellent event and a brilliant opportunity to connect with the diaspora of British schools in Spain, fortifying our ties. It was also a forum for sharing of ideas and good practice, which we look forward to discussing in more depth with our BCG colleagues.

Our Etiquette

This has now been fully embedded in lessons and around the school. Punctuality and attendance are key.

Transition

As an all-through school, we ensure that there is a transition between Primary and secondary phases, Ms. Wakelin and I have been having meetings to ensure that this happens.

Study Leave

I can confirm that IB Study Leave starts on Friday 21st April and that GCSE Study leave starts on Friday 12th May. Exam timetables will follow, once finalised.

March - for the next couple of weeks

- March 6th-17th - Secondary Informal Assessment Fortnight (Year 7 - 10)
- March 6th-17th - Year 12 Formal Assessment Weeks
- March 6th- 9am – 12pm - Physical Education Moderation Morning
- March 6th - Y8 Theatre Trip
- March 7th - School Newsletter
- March 8th - International Women's Day
- March 14th - Pi Day
- March 16th - Year 12 Academic Integrity Workshop - and IB Core Day

Mr Ruddin

YEAR 7

On Friday 24th February Year 7 were invited to Policia Municipal de Gavà for a tour and a talk about working in the police force. We had a really interesting morning; we began by being told about the types of things the Gava police are responsible for, before being given a tour of the station, including seeing the inside of a police cell and having the chance to sit inside a police van. Unfortunately, despite their best efforts, both 7A and 7B failed to get either Mr Fassam or Miss Darby arrested!

Mr Fassam



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE NEWS

Year 12 Service Learning & CAS

Please watch the promotional video for our Year 12 project - [here!](#)

Our first themed day is **Wednesday 8th March** to celebrate **International Women's Day**. We invite you all to take part by **donating 2 euros and wearing purple**.*

All money raised goes to a good cause as well as helping to give us first hand experience in accounting to complement our academic Business Management course.

*Please remember that if you do not donate 2 euros, you must wear normal school uniform.

TOK Student Project

For the month of March, our critical thinking **BIG Question** is **'How does the language we use affect or influence what we know?'**

We encourage you to think about **knowledge and language** in all areas of life. Related specifically to International Women's Day, we might consider why some men who are strong-minded and dominant may be considered 'assertive' whilst women of the same nature are often labelled 'aggressive'. What does it actually mean to 'run or throw like a girl'? [Watch this video](#) for more stimulus and discussion ideas.

Equally, think about phrases such as 'man up' and its possible implications for men's mental health. We might consider the use of language during childhood leading to continued stereotyping, for example, 'dolls are for girls, cars are for boys'.

Thank you for supporting our learning,

Year 12 CAS & Service Learning Team

Thursday 16th March - Year 12 IB Core Day

As part of their formal assessments, Year 12 will take part in various IB Core activities throughout the day. Attendance is obligatory.

9am - Talk on Academic Integrity

This talk is for Year 12 students and their parents to learn more about what constitutes academic integrity, how to ensure work is authentic and how best to

support students with academic writing and assignments. We understand that not all parents will be able to join us at this time but we will make all materials and resources available to parents afterwards.

9:30 - Extended Essay 'Cafe'

Year 12 students will informally present their Extended Essay research to their peers. Parents are invited and refreshments will be provided.

11:45 - International CAS Satellite Project

Alejandro H. Cordero, CEO of Innova Space will present The International Educational Picosatellites Project to students. This is an incredible opportunity for our students to participate in a scientific CAS project. See more information about Innova Space [here](#).

14:15 - Practice TOK Exhibition

Students will do a practice run of the TOK Exhibition for other secondary students and teachers. Parents will be invited to the final exhibition in May.

Ms Fenton



ENRICHMENT NEWS

Enrichment STEM Week

From 13th - 17th March BCG celebrates STEM week. The curricular focus is on all things Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics! Here is a [folder of fun activities](#) that you and your children can explore at home.

MUN Student Feedback

Dear parents,

Our names are Thibault, Lidia and Arnau. We are pleased to inform you about the enriching experience we undertook at the Oak House School Model United Nations (MUN) conference, where we addressed the topic of women sex workers. The conference provided us with the opportunity to engage in a simulation of a UN debate and learn about all the formalities required in this sort of event. We discussed and analysed several causes and consequences of this global issue and its effects in various countries, since we all represented a different nation with contrasting political and cultural beliefs. We were able to showcase our critical thinking abilities and research skills by proposing solutions to address the challenges faced by women in this industry such as human trafficking, violence and abuse, and substance addiction. After hours of debating, we came up with a resolution which included many clauses to combat the different areas regarding this matter which was selected through a voting process. Overall, the MUN was an exceptional learning experience which broadened our values and allowed us to develop our debating skills. We are grateful that the school gave us the chance to partake in this event.

Sincerely,

Thibault, Lidia, Arnau

PE News

Cross country season is underway in PE. Our students have been magnificent. We must give a special mention to Kane in year 3 who completed his 1km practice run in 4 mins 11 secs! Year 3 in general has embraced this activity. Kane, Hendrix and Martin demonstrated excellent sportsmanship by clapping and encouraging all of our other finishers. In year 9, every runner managed to beat their previous practice time. In year 8, Elie has mastered the concept of pacing and in year 7 Eve, Jessica and Marc have demonstrated that they know how to set personal goals and train to achieve them. Well done everyone!

Below is our race week schedule. If parents want to join the fun, meet us outside the main Green Gate at the times shown below. Parents, don't forget your water bottles!

<u>Year Group / Distance</u>	<u>Day and Date</u>	<u>Parent Marshalling Time</u>
Year 7 3 km	Monday 13/03/2023	15.00
Year 3 1 km	Tuesday 14/03/2023	11.45
Year 5 2km	Tuesday 14/03/2023	09.00
Year 6 2 km	Tuesday 14/03/2023	14.15
Year 8 3 km	Tuesday 14/03/2023	15.00
Year 4 1 km	Wednesday 15/03/2023	11.00
Year 9 4 km	Wednesday 15/03/2023	15.00
Year 10 4 km	Thursday 16/03/2023	15.00
Year 11 (plus staff) 4 km	Friday 17/03/2023	15.00

PE Surf & Water Safety

Currently, only the year 10 Surf lessons will go ahead. The surf school has generously extended the deadline for registration to Wednesday 8th March, 12.00hrs (lunchtime).

Current numbers are:

Year 7, 10 students

Year 8, 8 students

Year 9, 6 students

Ms Bell

INTRODUCTION TO NEW STAFF

Christine Park **Psychology Teacher**

Hola, Bonjour, Hello,

Cheshire born and bred, but farming, not footballers wives country. However, I was keen to go and see what the world was about, which I did, literally. Widely travelled with experience teaching internationally in Kenya and Taiwan, I am now pleased to join the BCG community as a Psychology teacher. I have one daughter forging an independent life at Glasgow University where she is reading Immunology. I am also an apprentice Gersoise with my much more established fiancé.



I have embraced a variety of experiences from which I hope I can continue to positively develop. I am adaptive and apply this to teaching and learning by enthusing and engaging learners acknowledging that while my chosen subject, Psychology can sometimes be hard work, it is also great fun.

Rhiannon O'Grady **Secondary English Teacher**

My name's Rhiannon and I'm delighted to be joining BCG as a teacher of English. I completed my initial training in the UK, and have taught internationally in South Korea, Italy, and Spain. I am now happy to call Barcelona my home.

As well as teaching English, I'm a qualified yoga instructor, and also recently completed my PhD related to English literature and education.

Outside of school, I like to spend time looking after my little boy and meeting friends for coffee or a walk.



SPECIAL MENTION



Football match

Nikita, Luca and Tomas from Year 7, that play in the league with Castelldefels football Team, won 2-0 to Barcelona football team in Ciutat esportiva Joan Gamper (Barcelona football team training camp) on Saturday. It was amazing!



Children Race

On Saturday, 18th February, the "Cursa Escolar de Gavà" took place. This was a day in which all school-aged children that wished to, participated in races adapted to their age in the Municipal Stadium of La Bòbila. Some of our families went over and we received some photos from our students Milo, Diego and Iker who had a great time! We congratulate them for their efforts and achievements!



INTRODUCING THE iSAMS APP

ISAMS PARENT APP TESTER

We are delighted to announce that we are making progress in improving our communication with parents. We are getting the ISAMS PARENT APP up to speed.

This App in the testing phase, so please check it and share with us anything that you feel might be missing according to you as a parent.

We have added news, a photo gallery and important dates. Also all academic information should be there and contact information.

Find below info on how to navigate the app.



First, Download the app
ISAMS PARENT APP. CODE: [GAVA](#)

IMPORTANT LINKS

For important links like

- Tapestry
- Google classroom
- School booking system
- Century tech
- Calendar
- Handbooks
- EYFS Handbook (needs to be uploaded to web)
- Manuals
- Policies
- Lunch Menus
- Uniforms

Go to:

APP > Info icon > Bookmarks & Weblinks

DOCUMENTS NEWS IMPORTANT DATES

For attachments and downloadables like Newsletters or Menu - lunch

Go to:

APP > Info icon > Latest Documents

For School News

Go to:

APP > Dashboard or APP > Info icon > View School News

For School important dates & events

Go to:

APP > Info icon > Daily Bulletin Options > View Bulletin By Date

ACADEMIC INFO PHOTO GALLERY CONTACTS

Academic Information

Reports APP > Child Profile > Assessments & Reports

Timetable - APP > Child Profile > School Schedule

Reward and conduct - APP > Child Profile > Reward and conduct

Email communication history - not available for the moment on the app

Photo Gallery

APP > Info icon > BCG Photo Galleries

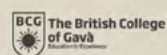
Key school contacts

APP > Child Profile > Key School Contacts

- Academic
- Pastoral
- School

SEND YOUR COMMENTS AND
SUGGESTIONS TO
PAULINA.VALVERDE@BCGAVA.COM

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT



MUSIC

String Extravaganza

Our very first String Extravaganza took place on Tuesday 28th February, in the auditorium. This concert was a beautiful mix of violin and cello pieces, performed by Miss Montse's talented string players.

I would like to thank Miss Montse and the musicians who have been working hard preparing for this concert. Thank you to the parents and friends who joined us on the day, having such support is so important for our budding musicians!

During our musical month of march, we have a variety of concerts taking place including music, dance and drama. Stay tuned for more.



Carnival

Carnival is an annual festival celebrated in many different ways in many countries around the world. At BCG, our primary children were resourceful and creative in their approach to creating a carnival ambiance, this was achieved by creating a variety of recycled percussion instruments.

The primary pupils had a lot of fun playing Samba music with their homemade instruments, as did our talented and energetic primary music specialist Ms Beaune who rehearsed and directed the ensemble so beautifully!

Ms McDonald

AFTERSCHOOL TALKS

Afterschool Talk - Online Safety for Children & Families

On Tuesday 28th February, Darren Smith, a Tech Expert and BCG parent, came to our school to talk to our community about Online Safety for Children & Families.

Being a consultant working for some of the biggest companies around the world with over 25 years of experience solving complex IT challenges, he knows the challenges and threats of the net inside out.

Most importantly, he is a dad willing to share his own personal experience.

For those that couldn't attend, please find the presentation [here](#).
Watch the session at school [here](#).

Thanks to Mr Smith for this amazing talk.



Are you a BCG parent willing to share important knowledge about a topic that you think is relevant and of interest to others parents or students?

Whether that's about a skill, career/life choices or a subject that you're passionate about.

Let us know!



PI(E) SALE



IT'S **PI DAY**
on Tuesday March 14th



Because the numerical date 3/14 is the same
as Pi - 3.14.



Bring Pies/cakes in the morning and leave them at school at drop off (or reception until 13:00) on that same day.

Pie Sale starts once the lessons are over.

EYFS Parents welcome to come in at 16:10
Primary and Secondary parents welcome to come in at 16:15

**All funds raised will go to Save the Children to help
people affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria**



THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF GAVÀ

2023/2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR



July

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

November

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27	28	29	30			

December

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April

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29	30					

May

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

COLOUR KEY

School Holiday

Bank Holiday

Teaching Days

Weekend

New Students Day
Y7 Induction

Half Day
School Closes at 12:30

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: Zofia H. and Myron B. (Spanish)

Y1: Michal H. (Spanish)

Y2: Pola L. y Eugenio J. (Catalan)

Y3: Máximo R. y Kalyan A. (French)

Y4: Clara P. y Elena A. (Catalan)

Y5: Emma F. y Hania L. (Spanish)

Y6: Niragh N. y Clara Y. (French)

Secondary and Sixth Form

KS3: Nathalie Z. Y7B (French)

KS4: Niels T. Y10 (Spanish)

KS5: Thibault T. Y12 (IB SPANISH A)



Ms Pou

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