



BCG Newsletter

21 February 2023





We finally reach the beginning of a very busy half term and hope students and staff enjoyed the well deserved break.

Our Etiquette

I have felt that over the last few months many secondary students have not been reaching the high standards we expect at BCG. Some are still arriving late and many are wearing incorrect uniforms. In class, too many are speaking languages other than English. I expect all of these things to improve immediately after the holiday and I would request that all parents talk to their children about why standards are important.

Linked to my points above, we have published a set of classroom rules called Our Etiquette. We publish it in this bulletin and would suggest secondary parents read it with your children. Students are now in no doubt about their expectations and have no excuse to ignore them.

The great news is that the Primary students have been extremely well dressed in their uniforms and look very smart indeed. Thank you to parents for ensuring this is the case - it does make a difference.

Model United Nations

Our students excelled again at this exciting event which was held at Oak House School. I was delighted to hear they were all excellent ambassadors for BCG. Read more later in this bulletin

Parent meetings

After a very successful Year 9 Options and Parents evening I saw many parents and students actively discussing future plans. My thanks to all students, parents and teachers for making this a great event. Option forms have now been sent out to all Year 9 families.

Thank you too to everyone involved in the Year 8 Parent evening on Thursday. It was well attended and I hope parents found it informative and useful.

Upcoming events

We are excited about our upcoming Y12 Careers Workshop for Parents on Feb 21st, sustainability event with keynote speakers + SUMAS on Feb 23rd and the talk on Online Safety on Feb 28th. More info later in this bulletin.

Please confirm your attendance -

Sustainability Event [here](#)

Online Safety Talk [here](#)

Simon Mower
Principal

EYFS AND PRIMARY NEWS

It has been a short and busy half term but one that has been packed with learning and as ever, lots of fun. We have welcomed new students and a new teacher into our EYFS teaching team. Miss Laura Franckeiss joined us in January as the new Reception teacher and has been having lots of fun with her class ever since.

Throughout EYFS and Primary, students have been working hard on a whole variety of topics to engage them in their learning. One of the best parts of working in EYFS and Primary is being able to tailor your topics to the interests of your classes and plan fun ways of delivering that learning. Take for example, the final day of this half term which had the Upper Primary corridor filled with Greek Gods and Goddesses otherwise known as the Year 5's. They made an impressive looking audience during the final Upper Primary Celebration assembly of the half term. Miss Baron and Mr Ball also made quite an impressive effort with their costumes too.

Our Celebration assemblies across Lower and Upper Primary are an important part of our weekly timetable. It is a chance for us all to come together, celebrate our amazing students' achievements, learn from each other, and share the current BCG value. Our current BCG Value is "Caring" and this is most certainly something I see regularly around the school from Nursery all the way through to the Year 6's. As part of our assemblies, we have a regular "SHOUT OUT" slot in which students can give shout outs to their peers. It is so nice to hear the way our students care and look out for each other- well done. It has also been lovely seeing the students of EYFS and Year 1 playing together in the amended playground. It has been extended on one side and the dividing fence that had been put up during the COVID restrictions has been able to be taken down. All of the students are loving having more space to play and learn in.

Once again students across the school have been able to attend a number of trips linked to their classes. These are a vital part of our curriculum and offer huge opportunities for learning. We have a number of exciting trips coming up in the next half term, kick starting with our Year 5 and 6 ski trip.

In this our first week back, we are celebrating "Carnival Week". The BCG Carnival theme this year is, "Robot, Rainbows and Royalty". We cannot wait to see the imaginative ways our students and staff will choose to dress up thinking about this theme. We will be having our regular crazy hair and sock days, as well as our carnival parade and finishing off the week with the BCG House Colour Dress up day. This year for Carnival week, families can donate a euro towards the playground project. Our house captains will be collecting these each day and will have the responsibility of counting up each house's donations.

We hope that you all had a wonderful half term holiday and welcome you back for this new half term. Let the carnival celebrations begin.

Miss Helen Stevens
EYFS and Lower Primary Coordinator

NURSERY

Trip to the Chocolate Museum

Dear families,

On Wednesday 8th of February we had an unforgettable adventure! We went by bus singing our favorite songs until we reached our destination, The Chocolate Museum.



Once there we enjoyed a delicious snack and got ready to become artists. We have been able to paint with chocolate and once it was dry, we ate our own creations. We also had delicious dark chocolate, milk chocolate and white chocolate, among others.

So much chocolate!

We had a great time and we hope to repeat soon!

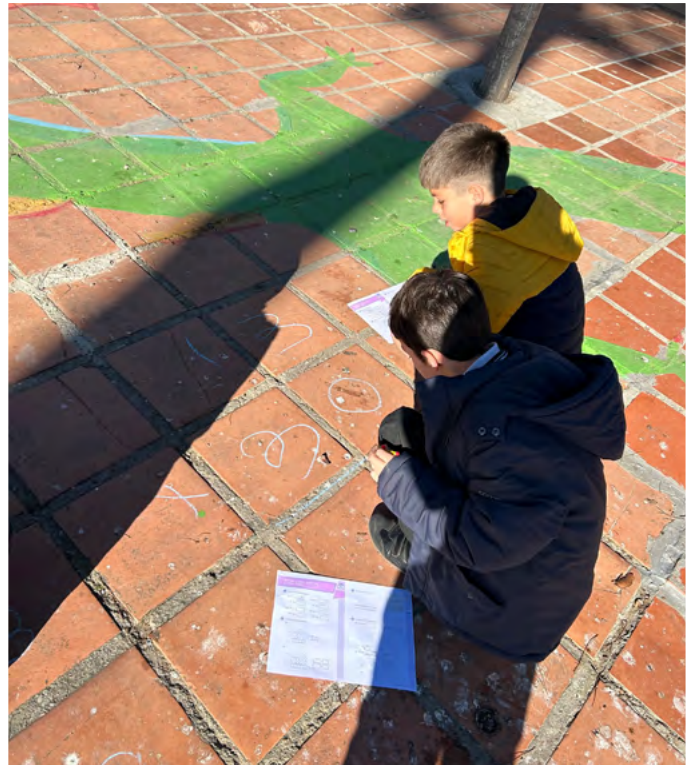
Ms Raquel



YEAR 5B

This week in 5B, we've taken our learning outside. We imagined that the patio was a giant Maths book with squares which helped us to set out our multiplication problems correctly. The class really enjoyed working together to solve the calculations in the sun!

Mr Ball



SECONDARY NEWS

Dear Parents

Well, what a bumper action-packed half term that was. There have been a multitude of different events and activities and now, after the half term holiday, there is more to come with the warmer weather.

Our Etiquette

We have a new code of conduct which is displayed around the building. Its aim is to clearly lay out what we expect from the students. We are looking at behaviour policy in general as well as Secondary school-wide sanctions. It has been included in this Newsletter.

MUN

Such an impressive showing from the students. They conducted themselves wonderfully and with verve. They were indeed a credit to themselves and the school. We hope to build on this success with other events in the not-too-distant future.

Y9 Options Evening

Students and parents gathered in the Auditorium to navigate the sea of GCSE options. After a brief introduction, each teacher explained the optional IGCSE courses. Afterwards, students and their parents were encouraged to speak to the options teachers on an individual basis.

We also had a volleyball tournament, important mock IGCSE and IB exams, Parents' Evenings, a theatre trip and much, much more.

This Half Term

This half term as we move into Spring there is much to do and even more events in the Secondary school. This week alongside Carnival we have external talks, tournaments, the launch of our sustainability CP courses, poetry readings, and the launch of the SUMAS link, to name but a few.

Key Secondary Dates

February 20th - First day of the Half Term
February 20th-24th - Carnival
February 21st - International Mother Language Day
February 21st - School Newsletter
February 22nd - Parent Rep Meeting Key Stage 3 & 4
February 23rd - SUMAS Launch Day and Sustainability talks
February 24th - 9am – 1pm - Y7 Visit to Police Station
February 28th - Science Day

Mr Ruddin

Our etiquette

Punctuality & Preparedness

- You should arrive in class no later than 8:45 am each morning.
- Use form time effectively - read, talk to your tutor, prepare for your day.
- Go straight from one lesson to another without delay, and line up quietly to one side of the corridor.
- You should bring the correct equipment to each lesson.

Attitude to Learning

- You should be positive, motivated, and engaged in learning.
- Ask questions and get involved in lessons.
- Focus and do not distract others.
- Bags and coats should not be on the desk during your lesson.

Presentation

- You should take pride in your work, keeping your books in good condition, and all must be titled, dated, and underlined, including online work.
- All students up to Year 11 are expected to wear full school uniform including appropriate footwear. No hoodies or hats indoors.
- Year 12 and 13 are expected to be smart.

Lingua Franca

- English should always be used in classrooms and corridors unless there is a specific instruction given or it is a language class.

Behaviour

- Please move around the school in a sensible manner. There should be no shouting or running in the corridors.
- Lavatories should be used sensibly and are not places to socialise in. You should only use lavatories allocated to your year group.
- You must not have chewing gum.

Good manners & respect

- At all times, you should be respectful and courteous to each other, all staff and visitors.
- Classrooms should be left tidy with chairs under the tables, rubbish in the bins etc.

Technology

- No mobile phones - keep them in your locker.
- Sixth form may use mobile phones in the common room only.
- You should bring a fully charged Chromebook each day. You must treat these expensive devices with care and respect. Do not touch anyone else's Chromebook.
- Chromebooks are only to be used for academic study.

SUSTAINABILITY FOR CHANGEMAKERS

Thursday, February 23rd

14:15 - 15:00 - Year 7 to Year 9 (students only) - Keynote speakers

15:00 - 15:45 - Years 10 to 13 (Parents Welcome - RSVP required) -
Keynote speakers

15:45 - 16:30 - Years 10 to 11 (Parents Welcome - RSVP required) - SUMAS



Lisa Stenvinkel | Sweden
Head of Sustainable Impact
at Another Tomorrow



Soleil Sabalja | New York
Environmental activist teacher
& Founder of Nasty New Yorkers



Ivana Modena | Switzerland
Founder & President
SUMAS Sustainability Management School



Joachim Fendt-Newlin | Switzerland
Administrative Director
SUMAS Sustainability Management School

Location - BCG Auditorium

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE NEWS

As we start a new half term, we will be asking our IB students to reflect on their learning and experiences so far in the Diploma or Career related Programme and focus their attention on expectations, perceptions and understanding of what lies ahead for the rest of the year.

For our Year 12 students, the Extended Essay will play a big part of this experience and periodic reflection, with each other and with supervisors will help guide them through this very challenging yet rewarding experience. Our Year 13 students are of course way ahead and will move into the next few weeks with Internal Assessments to finalise and exams on the horizon. For both groups, clear planning, good time management and organisation are key.

Academic Integrity

Over this half term, we will be updating our **Academic Integrity Policy** in order to make it more accessible to students, parents and teachers. We teach our students about the importance of acknowledging the work of others in their writing but there are many factors which make this tricky for students such as forgetting to log the research materials they use, misunderstanding what constitutes plagiarism or rushing work at the last minute and not having the time to cite or reference correctly. With this in mind on **March 16th** we will be running workshops for parents so that they too understand the requirements of academic integrity and can learn how to best support their sons and daughters with academic writing.

Year 12 Careers

On February 21st we will be inviting Year 12 parents to a Careers session run by Mr Mower with the objective of helping parents and students understand and discuss University options together. Information will be sent by email.

Theory of Knowledge

What you TOK'IN ABOUT?

What counts as knowledge? Nick Boden

A central question from the Theory of Knowledge course this week is “What counts as knowledge?” This is an epistemological question. We can approach it in various ways. For example, you may want to consider the difference between ‘knowing how’ and ‘knowing that’. For example, you may ‘know’ that it is possible to surf 5-metre waves at Nazaré in Portugal, yet, you may not know ‘how’. Furthermore, applied to individuals you may ‘know’ everything there is to know about a specific historical figure such as Golda Meir, the ex Prime Minister of Israel. However, if you

have not met her can you claim to 'know' her?

Exciting Links for further exploration at home:

[Epistemology](#)

[Mary's Room: A philosophical thought experiment - Eleanor Nelsen](#)

CAS - Student Profile - Valeria Tarasenko, Year 12A

Hello dear parents and students! My name is Valeria Tarasenko and I am an IB student at BCG. During this exciting academic year I have been introduced to many new subjects, one of them CAS - Creativity, Activity and Service. I wouldn't say that this subject is hard but it requires a great deal of care and motivation, because one of the requirements to pass CAS is to reflect on what you have done personally and what is socially valuable. I have done a lot of interesting, useful and self-reflective activities such as participating in a volleyball tournament which requires great team work and good communication skills. I have also taken part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award which requires absolute focus and well planned manoeuvring and volunteered in the Iglesia de San José y Santa Mónica which required, personally, emotional resources but globally, I was helping my country and the entire Ukrainian nation through this harsh time. In this subject I found myself of value for others and myself included. CAS showed me that things will often benefit myself, but also made me consider how I can make it beneficial globally.

Focus - Business Management - Luke Woodcock

This half term our business students have been focusing on the importance of statistical data and the human resource management aspect to organisational management, in particular the role external factors have in affecting decision-making and planning. As an opportunity to put theory into practice, the class researched and gave presentations on the subject of an ageing domestic population, and the consequences this society-wide shift will undoubtedly have on business human resource planning. Groups were tasked with finding and using relevant data to support the creation of both tactical and strategic objectives for a company working in the automotive industry in Spain, and share their proposal via a presentation to the class.

As a reward, the winning group were given the responsibility of managing the human resources in our classroom by deciding the seating arrangement, as well as designating classroom jobs. On top of this there was a real life practice of the appraisal process, as this is a key duty of any HR department, as well as being useful experience for when the students enter the world of work.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in creating an excellent set of well researched, designed and delivered presentations which were knowledgeable, thorough and innovative. If anyone wants to see for themselves, the links to both

the Google Slide presentations, as well as recordings of each group can be found below:

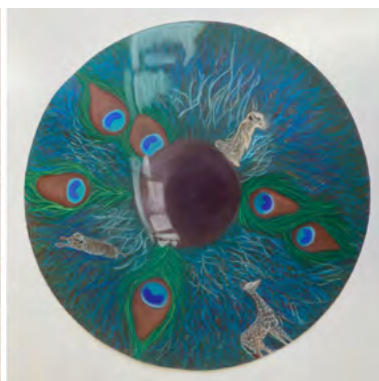
[HR Ageing Population Presentations](#)

Visual Arts

It is exciting times for the IB Visual Arts students. Our Year 13's are busily working towards their exhibition which opens on Thursday 23rd March, you are all invited to see their wonderful work. They have been working for nearly a year on their personal projects. Marsal Guerrero is exploring Contrast within the formal qualities of different media and will be presenting work in printmaking, sculpture and casting and focusing on folding, surface, mass, volume and shape. Florencia Ibanez is investigating Dreams and the fantastic. Look out for her pastels and paintings



Marsal Guerrero



Florencia Ibanez

depicting the subconscious, animals, and recurring dreams. Both Florencia and Marsal have developed their individual style and proficiency in the media they work with. It is wonderful to have seen their progress over the last year and we look forward to welcoming you to the exhibition.

Year 8

The year 8s have been studying weather and climate and have concluded their topic with a challenge. They were asked to present information about extreme weather in a creative way. They did not disappoint. They demonstrated excellent knowledge and initiative. Students created amazing models, beautiful pictures/ cartoons and clever videos. Year 8 students never fail to impress me with their ideas and efforts when they try their best.

Well done year 8!

Ms Darby



DoFe Competition

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Qualifying Adventurous Journey for Bronze Participants

Hello everyone! It's that time - we are starting to prepare for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Qualifying Adventurous Journey for our Bronze participants. Students from Year 11 and Year 12 have been invited to register their involvement for this prestigious step in the Award.

On Thursday 30th March we will be going on our Adventurous Journey, leaving from Garraf in the morning of the 30th, camping overnight in Sitges, before journeying on during the day of the 31st. This will be a fantastic experience for all participants, and lifelong skills will be built and developed during this time. Successful completion of the Qualifying Adventurous Journey will mean that, if all other sections of the Award have also been completed and signed off, students will be able to have this internationally recognised, prestigious award fully certified!

In order to be successful, all participants have to be fully engaged with planning their route and the outcome of their adventure, designing their meals and preparing their kit lists. Students will have to work with their groups effectively in order to be successful. Over the next term we'll be running lunchtime planning sessions which are open invitation to all participants, and which is where they can develop their plans as a group. We also encourage students to work on their Adventurous Journey plans at home. Maps, kit information, and a route planning template have all been provided over Google Classroom. Routes must be submitted for approval and safety checks before **Wednesday 15th March** (the earlier the better!).

If your child is interested in attending the Award, please make sure you register their attendance on the School Booking System before Friday 24th February. If your child is not yet registered with the Award, information on how to register and the cost involved has been sent out in a letter, and once full participation is authorised we will work with students in school to get their Award accounts set up.

Please note that if a student is registered but **does not plan their route before the Wednesday 15th March deadline, this journey will not be able to be used for their Qualifying Journey and they will not have their Award signed off this year.**

A Silver expedition will happen in May. Details will follow soon!

Ms Lane

ENRICHMENTS NEWS

Mother Tongue Language Activities and Some February Winter Fun

If you have not already done so, please [click the link](#) here to access a folder of activities that you can participate in with your child at home. These are designed to encourage students to develop their mother tongue language skills or develop confidence and abilities in their second or, even, third or fourth language. The activities listed can be adapted for all ages and we hope that you enjoy quality family time as you try some activities during the month of February! Any good work or examples of work you wish your child (or whole family!) to be recognised for should be sent to your child's form tutor before Tuesday 28th February. We will collate and award praise for participation in our language activities in assemblies during the first week of March.

MUN

The students at Oakhouse school hosted a magnificent conference that allowed delegates of all abilities to participate and achieve success. Student-led events such as these never fail to amaze and this year was no different. BCG entered 21 of the total 160 delegates who spoke articulately and fiercely about complex topics which included women's rights, UNESCO fast fashion and human rights. Students from BCG were well prepared, open minded and fully immersed in the role play event that, without doubt, immersed them in holistic life skill learning. Some of our students had to adopt personas and perspectives that were in direct contrast to their own which challenged their communication skills. Some took risks in overcoming a fear of public speaking, and others formed friendships through forming alliances and making deals through informed negotiation. For the second year in a row, Yuvgen Zinchenko, year 13, won best delegate in the Security Council's Palestine Conflict Committee - huge congratulations! There are many students from our BCG group who shone and will definitely be key players in changing the future in the most positive of ways. Well done to all delegates, you truly were fabulous representatives for the school and should all be incredibly proud of your achievements.



Climbing and engaging in local activities in PE

12 of our senior students have opted to climb during their PE time on Friday afternoons. This is part of a new initiative to engage students in opportunities that are available in our local community that they can perhaps pursue a lifelong interest in. Over the coming weeks we are looking to make links with the Padel Centre in Gava, Horseriding Castelfels and of course, details will follow shortly regarding our revised Surfing and Water safety Unit that will take place at Port Ginesta from April.



Cross Country

Students from years 3 - 13 will participate in the inaugural BCG cross country event when we return from the holiday. We will do a practice during the first week back with races during the week 27th Feb - 3rd March (weather permitting). The race times will be sent shortly. PLEASE REMEMBER to sign and return the school day trip permission form. This will authorise your child to take part in events such as these which are close to school and free of charge.

Table tennis tournaments

If your child is between 8 and 17 years old, and he or she would like to participate in Table Tennis competitions on Saturday mornings from 9 to approximately 1pm, through the "Juegos Escolares Comarcales" please email ecap@bcgava.com and we will give you more information. The calendar for the next competitions are:

- Session 6 (11/3/23) at Castelldefels
- Session 7 (25/3/23) at Hospitalet de Llobregat
- Session 8 (22/4/23) at Hospitalet de Llobregat
- Session 9 (6/5/23) at Vilanova i la Geltrú

Ms Bell

MUSIC NEWS

In January, children in Y2 and Y3 started the strings programme at BCG. During the next 6 months, we will work together learning to play one of the string instruments, in a music classroom setting.

The programme is designed and composed by Sally Greaves, a London Based composer and co-founder of Groovenplay. I had the privilege of meeting and working with Sally, during my time as a student at the Royal College of Music.

Y2 are enjoying the “fiddle, sticks and songs” programme, where we learn to play the violin and sing beautiful songs from different musical styles. This is a very exciting experience incorporating a world music tour with a special visit to the moon on a musical mission to learn the “rest position”.

Every week, Y3 rehearses some extraordinary tunes, developing the basic instrumental technique and reading some notation. The most important aspect is the children enjoy making music and performing as a group.

This programme aims to give the children the experience of learning music directly in a group setting and provides an all round hands on fun experience.

I'm so excited to share this wonderful work with you, at our Spring Concert.

Miss Montserrat Colomé

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