



BCG Newsletter

26 September 2023





Coffee Morning - 27 September

After the success of our first Coffee Morning two weeks ago, we look forward to welcoming you again tomorrow, 27th September from 9am-10am. Miss Wakelin, Ms Ford and Ms Stevens will be giving an EYFS and Primary overview and will be available afterwards for any questions you may have.

Secondary Sports Day

Our new House Prefects are already busy getting their teams together for the very competitive Secondary Sports Day which takes place in the Estadi Bobila on the 5th October - good luck to all competitors - I'm sure it will be another fantastic day!

Gate 3

We have now opened Gate 3 for Secondary students and this is already making a big difference to the pick up and drop off. Please can I ask that parents not stop (or even park) on the zebra crossing as we are trying to encourage the students to cross the road safely.

We will be closing this gate at 8.40am from next Monday - the reason is that students arriving at Gate 3 after that time cannot be in class by 8.45 for the start of lessons and so are already late. Please ensure you are dropping your children off in plenty of time for them to be in class on time.

Dangerous parking

Lastly, on pick up and drop off, it has become clear that a small number of parents are parking on the slip road off of the motorway - not only is this highly dangerous, and frankly irresponsible, it is not allowed. Please do not park illegally anywhere around school.

Uniform

Now we have the new school uniform. I would ask that your sons and daughters wear it correctly, this includes wearing school black (totally black) shoes. There is a clear difference between the PE kit and the school uniform and we expect all students to be dressed accordingly.

Thank you.

Mr Mower
School Principal

EYFS & PRIMARY NEWS

Dear BCG Families,

Welcome back to a brand new school year filled with excitement, growth, and endless possibilities! I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones in good health and high spirits. We are thrilled to have you as part of our BCG family and look forward to a fantastic year ahead.

First and foremost, we extend a warm welcome to all our new families who have joined our school community. We are delighted to have you on board and are confident that you will quickly feel at home. Please do get in touch with your child's class teacher if you have not yet received the presentations from our very successful Meet the Teacher events which took place a few days ago.

At BCG, we value the partnership between home and school. We encourage open communication and collaboration to ensure the best educational experience for your child. We believe that a strong home-school connection is essential for their academic success and overall well-being. Throughout the school year, we will provide various opportunities for you to engage with us, such as our parent-teacher meetings that will take place next month in October, parent curriculum workshops (details to follow), and school events. We encourage you to take an active role in your child's education and join us in building a strong sense of community.

We have an exciting lineup of events and activities planned for the year. From trips to special visitors, from fairs to sports competitions, there will be ample opportunities for your child to explore their interests, develop new skills, and make lasting memories. As we embark on this new journey together, I want to assure you that your child's safety and well-being are our top priorities.

This week I have had the pleasure of seeing learning come to life as across the school our exciting range of topics have begun. I have been teaching about Vikings and dragons in Year 4 and in Year 3 they have been learning all about the Romans. Our younger children in Early Years have been thoroughly enjoying the increased space in the garden to play and explore. As many of you know, teaching is my passion and I look forward to getting into classrooms this year to teach and experience your child's learning journey with them.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me: kelly.wakelin@bcgava.com

Once again, welcome to BCG! Together, let's make this school year a memorable one filled with growth, discovery, and success.

Warm regards,

Miss Wakelin
Head of EYFS & Primary School

SECONDARY NEWS

As summer turns to autumn, our Year 7 students are settling in admirably, with many teachers commenting on their maturity and enthusiasm during the first few weeks of the term. Students in Year 11 are diligently preparing for the mock exams scheduled for December. They are also excited to participate in the highly anticipated Secondary Sports Day on October 5th, featuring a multitude of trips and other activities, all taking place between now and Christmas.

What a pleasure it has been to welcome both our returning and new Sixth Form students back to school! We eagerly anticipate building upon their past achievements and providing support as they discover their passions and draw inspiration from the exciting opportunities we have planned for them, including University Fairs, the Barcelona Smart City Expo, Stage combat sessions, Theatre trips, and Entrepreneurship Bootcamps, among others. We would like to remind families that participation in academic enrichment activities is essential for the holistic education of our students and is obligatory.

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of Heads of Houses and House Prefects, who will play a vital role in strengthening our community in the years ahead:

- Lidia Villanueva is Head of Lita House.
- Felix Lehtonen is Head of Dali House.
- Bohdan Khmelnytskyi is Head of Miro House.
- Maraike Watson-Daltun is Head of Gaudi House.

Congratulations to them all!

Mr Ruddin
KS 4 Coordinator



CAS, ECAP & SPORTS NEWS

Year 13 CAS Project - Challenge Fun Run, SAVE the date!

On Friday 20th of October from 14:15-16:30 we will hold the national solidarity run against child leukaemia - La Vuelta al Cole.

Age groups are split for the run as follows:

- Year 5 and Year 6
- Year 7 and Year 8
- Year 9 and Year 10
- Year 11, Year 12, teachers and parents

This will be a house event so please wear house colours for the event. An entry fee of between 1-5 euros will be expected per participant. More information will be communicated later as the 'fee' will be paid in retrospect, depending on each runner's personally set goals and targets and their results on the day. We are finalising these finer details and hope to share them with you soon.

Many thanks,

***Lilly** (Marketing Lead), **Fahad** (Media Manager) and **Thibault** (Course Organiser)*



Year 12 CAS Babysitting

Gaya and Samanta are both offering babysitting duties to make some extra money in the evenings and weekends and to gain credit towards their learning outcomes for CAS. They are both 16 (almost 17 years old!) and have experience with their own siblings and external children. Both girls live in the Gava Mar area and can work together or separately depending on the needs of your family. Please let me know if you would be interested and I will pass on details to the students.

carolynne.bell@bcgava.com

IBCP Service Learning - World Mental Health Day, Tuesday 23rd October

“As part of my advocacy service learning project, I hope to raise awareness and funds for a local mental health charity. This project ties in with the UN International World Mental Health Day on Tuesday 10th October. On this day, I invite everyone in the school who wishes to participate to wear GREEN. This is the internationally recognised colour to unite in appreciation and awareness of this globally significant issue which impacts all ages and genders and affects individuals and families all over the world. The theme for 2023, set by the World Foundation of Mental Health, is ‘Mental health is a universal human right’. Raising awareness of mental health is the key to driving positive change. Please join me in wearing green and if you wish to donate (not mandatory), this is 2 euros.”

Sincerely,

Margarita
Event coordinator

IBCP Service Learning y Year 12 CAS Project - Movember (during the month of November)

“Dear Families,

This is advanced notice of a series of events that will take place across the month of November organised by year 12 CAS students and led by me, Pedro, from the IBCP as part of my advocacy service learning project. We aim to lead assemblies, invite guest speakers and perhaps organise trips or visits all of which promote men’s health. You can read more about Movember’s history and goals here <https://es.movember.com/> or <https://es.movember.com/en/>. This is primarily a secondary school event but where it is deemed content appropriate, we may run activities in the primary school. The full itinerary is still in the planning stages.

To help us plan and to ensure a successful Movember, we would appreciate it if:

- 1. Anyone working in the area of men’s health and who could perhaps provide an informative assembly or demonstration for our students, please let my teacher know by email a little about yourself and what you could contribute. This may also include men in our community who wish to share a story of strength and courage, determination or overcoming adversity/stereotypes or cultural challenges.*
- 2. Everyone attempts to find a stick-on moustache, if unable to grow your own! This is for the whole school, primary included.*
- 3. The men in our community ALL PARTICIPATE in our moustache/beard growing competition. We expect a clean shaven photo on the 1st November followed by a weekly progress photo. At the end of the month we will pick a winner per category (categories of competition still to be decided!). This will be a house event.*

Please send any responses to no. 1 on this list to carolynne.bell@bcgava.com and she will forward them to us.”

Kind regards,

Pedro
Project manager

Secondary School Sports Day, Thursday 5th October

All staff, students and parents should wear house-coloured sports clothes to be easily identified in races. Please ensure to wear your colours as it helps with the smooth organisation of events on the day. We depart from school shortly after 09.00 and will start the first track and field events at 10.00 at the running track in Gava. The event will finish at 15.45 and we will return to school for normal dismissal.

All students are expected to attend sports day and travel to the track and back with their fellow house members. We do not encourage students to be dropped or collected from the track, we wish to promote a team spirit! If not present, an unauthorised absence will be issued. Remember, even with an injury, you are expected to come and support your peers and you may also be able to help the PE

department with a series of jobs, roles and responsibilities that need to be done on the day.

Parents... This year, we invite you to participate in the full programme. You can enter any of the open aged events with the year 11 - 13 students. These are:

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, long jump, triple jump and the 4 x 100m relay (for this event, we will allow parents to run as a mixed house group).

We apologise in advance for the inconvenience but the shot, discus and javelin events will take place at school the following week as we are not permitted to use the grass due to maintenance issues. Unfortunately, parents will not be able to compete in these 3 field events as a result.

We hope for full attendance and many parent participants this year.

U14, U16 & U18 MIXED BISA Volleyball, 17th October at SEK

This event is open to students in **years 7 - 13**. Training will take place during our lunch time volleyball sessions on Friday week 1 and Wednesday week 2 with the teams being selected a week prior to the event. There is also an after school volleyball club every Wednesday after school, currently only open to students in years 7 - 8, to develop their skills and improve their chance of joining a squad either this year or in the near future.

Please remember that selection is dependent on attendance, behaviour, academic deadlines being met and overall collaboration and sportsmanship as well as sporting ability.

Trips Annual Authorisation

Please ensure to visit [the school booking system](#) to authorise the annual trip attendance. You will have received the trips calendar for term 1 with all the costs shown. A huge thank you to the 50% who have already done this. The deadline (before the first day trip eagerly sets off!) is Wednesday 27th September 23.59hrs.

ECAP Lunch Clubs

All clubs are up and running and attendance is bigger than ever! We also have many lunch clubs that are active at the minute and we encourage all students to take part in at least one of these to broaden their skills and interests! Some examples of those currently on offer in Secondary are: French, Chess, Volleyball, Basketball, Boxing, Circuit Training, DofE practice, Safe Space Club, a variety of music clubs and soon to be added are debate and MUN classes. Primary Clubs will follow soon!

NEW STAFF



Daniel Flynn

Mathematics Teacher

I have been teaching internationally for the past ten years including IB Maths and IGCSE for eight of those years. I have also been Head of Maths Department in two international schools. My experience is specialised in small to medium size international schools where I am well versed in catering to small class sizes and personalised learning experiences. I come from Ireland and have previously worked as a teacher in Austria, Malaysia and Mallorca.

My teaching philosophy is based around the student-teacher dialogue and the constructivist paradigm. Both student and teacher must play their part in a successful outcome. I am here to listen, to signpost and to facilitate the student on their personal learning journey.



Marta Pareja

Spanish & Catalan Teacher

I embarked on my professional journey as preschool teacher, nurturing and educating young minds. However, my passion for education led me to pursue an additional degree in Primary Education, allowing me to broaden my teaching horizons.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of working in both preschool settings and primary schools in the city of Barcelona. This diverse experience has enriched my teaching skills and deepened my understanding of different age groups, making me a versatile and well-rounded educator.

I have a strong affinity for teamwork and enjoy contributing ideas that can be beneficial in the field of education.

I see myself as a teacher who strives to personalize and respect the individuality of each student. Additionally, I make a conscious effort to utilize play as a valuable tool for learning.



Lidia Paulina Pla

Spanish & Catalan Teacher

My name is Lidia Paulina. I am a teacher and humanist. Passionate about education, art, literature, history and philosophy. I define myself as a person with energy and vocation for my work, with a great desire to teach and learn.

My philosophy as a teacher has been formed thanks to my excellent education, in the double degree in Primary Education and Humanities at the International University of Catalonia.

Regarding methodologies for teaching language classes, I do not think that there is a single valid strategy. From collaborative work, interdisciplinary projects, as well as presentations, books or practical and dynamic activities. All of them can be timely, as long as they are appropriately focused based on the learning objectives. Discovering and working with new methodologies is part of the continuing education that a teacher must have.

I feel very happy to start a new stage as part of The British College of Gavà team.



Carla Rovira

EYFS TA

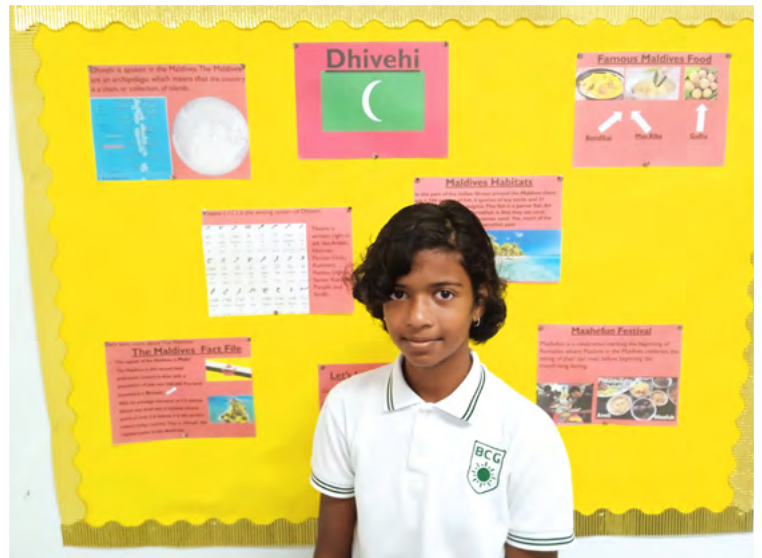
My name is Carla Rovira and I am very excited to join the BCG team. This year I will be working as a Teacher Assistant in both reception classes. This year I have finished my double degree in Early Childhood and Primary Education at Abat Oliba CEU, with a major in English. Apart from my internship at the university, I have been an English teacher in an academy and I have also worked in a school at lunchtime.

I am very grateful for this great job opportunity, which I face with a lot of enthusiasm and energy. I consider myself a cheerful, hard-working and involved person, who always tries to improve herself. As a piece of advice, I would use a phrase that I usually say to my students, which goes like this: "Believe in yourself and everything will be possible".

LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Language of the Month - Dhivehi

During September and October we will be celebrating Dhivehi as our language of the month. We began with assemblies, learning about the Dhivehi language and the culture of Dhivehi speakers. We learnt, for example, that Dhivehi is spoken in the Maldives, and that the Maldives are an archipelago in the Indian ocean. We also learnt that the Maldives is the second least populated country in Asia, after Brunei, and is the lowest lying country in the world (Vilingili, the highest point in the Maldives, is only 2.4 metres above sea level!). A really big thank you to Lara, who gave a fantastic assembly, helping me explain some things about Maldivian culture (we learnt that Gulha, a type of spicy fried fish dumpling, is Lara's favourite food from the Maldives and that there is no Dhivehi word for goodbye, instead they say "I'm going" (Dhane))



After half term we will be celebrating Japanese. If any of our Japanese families would like to get involved, or if you have any new ideas, please let us know!

Mr Fassam



Year 4 Spanish

Hi students and families!

Last week we started our term's reading, a book entitled: Maldito renacuajo. To introduce it, we have gone outside to read the first chapter together and talk about the characters and the book topic. We have also talked about when we read at home and the books we like. It would be highly recommended that students find time to read at home, as in the next few weeks they will have to read a chapter of the book for homework and then we will discuss it in class.

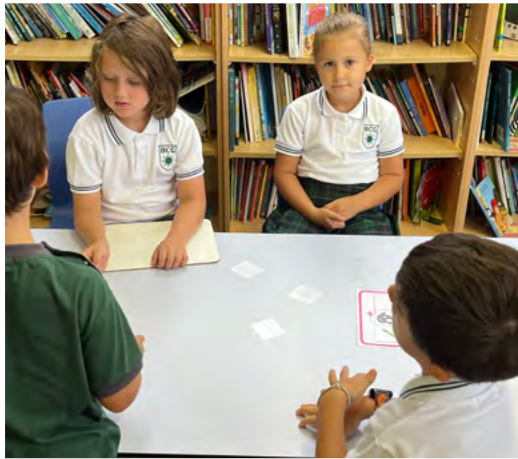
Ms Mireia
Spanish Teacher



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