

WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 12th 2020

What a truly wonderful week we have had! I have said before that even the beautiful campus and the fantastic, committed staff, we are not BCG without our students and this week we have seen them again. They were all clearly delighted to return and you can read what they have been doing later in the newsletter. A huge thank you to all the staff involved in reopening the school in such a safe and straightforward way.

Next week is the last full week of term and it is also our last Online Project Week. Many of you will know about our long term commitment to teaching the children about their social and environmental responsibilities. Our campus is certainly unbeatable as a green and natural environment and the perfect place for the students to learn about the world around them.

As you know we have a very close partnership with MOTI (Museum of Tomorrow International) which is an Amsterdam based foundation dedicated to help organisations become more sustainable, resilient and adaptable in times of uncertainty and rapid global changes. The recent pandemic has been an excellent example of where our BCG community has responded in many ways.

Next week our students have an amazing opportunity to learn about some of the key issues facing the world today as well as start exploring their own solutions. They will be encouraged to stop and listen to the world around them, to look down and take time to explore the world at their feet. It is such a wonderful project and I would very strongly encourage all students of all ages to get involved.

Our joint projects with MOTI are only just beginning and they are also helping lead out Summer School, which is now confirmed, and what a fantastic programme we have for the children. Places are going quickly so please do not hesitate to sign up - and don't forget BCG parents get a special 40% discount this year as our way of thanking you for your continued support.

Simon Mower

Dear Parents,

This week we have had the pleasure of welcoming Year 7, 8 10 and 11 back into school. Each year group has come in for one morning to see each other again and to meet their Form teachers, Simon Mower and I. We listened and shared experiences of lockdown, the positives and negatives. We have heard of two siblings walking their dog in the woods and escorted home by the Police, three friends who would regularly share recipes and cook and eat together (on screen) and some interesting reflections on life in general. The enforced calm has been tedious at times but it has also been a period of reflection and, I sense, inner change.

With each class we introduced Careers by asking them to reflect on their own skills and interests, discussed the concept of Multiple Intelligences and how self knowledge and awareness will guide them to find an appropriate Educational pathway. We are here to guide and support them, now and in the years ahead.

Mr Steadman livened up the mornings with a burst of Physical Education and everyone was soon back into the swing of things.

Each morning was full of smiling faces, and all with the appropriate hand washing and social distancing.

John Prince





As we enter the penultimate week of school, I must take a moment to say how proud I am of all of the Primary children. You have really shown our values of resilience and adaptability in some really challenging times and you have not only managed the situation, but also thrived and excelled as learners. All of your teachers are incredibly proud of your efforts since we became online learners. We have all been overjoyed to see those of you that managed to get into school this week and we have missed you all dearly.

This would normally be the time of the year where we would be getting a bit tired, but everyone has carried on working incredibly regardless.

Next week, we have our final project 'Time for Nature' (organised by our school's sustainability partners - MOTI) running in the afternoons, so please see your new timetables for next week and check them carefully.

Have a great week. I look forward to seeing your wonderful creative work as we enter our final week of the year.

Miss Wakelin

Welcome Back!

What a fabulous first week back it has been here at BCG! On Monday, the boys and girls from Nursery to Year 1 arrived at school looking taller than I remember and very excited to be back! Some were slightly cautious as to what lay ahead at school but after approximately 30 seconds it was straight back into the familiar surroundings and class routine as normal-well the new normal! The children have been so happy to see their friends and teachers and have all been guite thrilled to have their own tray of goodies in their own personal learning toolkit! From individual Lego boards, to maths cubes and water colours, we have been very impressed at how mindful and understanding the children have been about keeping slightly distanced from each other-a tricky task for any 3-6 year old! They have certainly enjoyed using their designated areas of the garden and we have seen some great team spirit amongst our small groups.

This week our theme has been Bubbles! We have explored different activities around the idea of being safe in a bubble and, of course, we have linked this with our art where we have had lots of (messy) fun with bubbly paint pictures! English activities have included imaginative thinking and writing about what we would see and where we might go if we floated up high into the sky inside a bubble, as well as 'popping' red words and bubbly verbs such as drip, gulp, splat and burst. This has provided lots of opportunities to recap on sounds and blending skills. We also had special distanced visits from Mr Smith and Ms. Monica, who set up team relays and outdoor vocabulary treasure hunts. This new way of learning has been fun and refreshing for us all! I wonder what questions, thoughts and learning next week will bring?

Our Year 2 Woodpeckers have also enjoyed being back and had a wonderful Thursday morning being reunited with Ms. Bernardo. There were sounds of laughter and music coming from the classroom, and the children were so very happy to be back. As part of the transition to Year 3, there was also a sports lesson with Mr Steadman on the field. With plenty of space and fresh air to run and play it was the perfect end to the morning. Next Thursday, those Year 2 children in school will have the opportunity to meet their Year 3 teacher, Miss Straton.





e-books questionnaire

Following popular demand, we have created a questionnaire for pupils, parents and teachers in order to enable the BCG community to share e-books during the summer and beyond! Amazon allows you to share certain Kindle books with anyone you want, as long as you have the email address associated with their Amazon account. We thought that this would be a good way to share your favourite summer reads. But before we explore further into the logistics of setting up a lending system exclusively for the school community, and begin finding ways in which we can make the titles available to browse, we would appreciate your answers to three simple questions about e-book use. Thank you for participating!

Mr Foreman

Maths examination

Last week Year 8 and Year 9 sat the official Pearson's (Edexcel) end of year Maths examinations, Students opted to take either the 'Core' version, which assesses the expected end of year position, or the extended 'Depth' version, which is the toughest level.

Dr Jim and Mr Link assisted the examination process and marking, ensuring it was double checked by two teachers, and were very encouraged by the results overall.

Particular mention and congratulations go to the following pupils:

- In year 8 **Banu Malak** scored almost 100% on the Depth paper, an astounding result and this placed her at the absolute top of Pearson's National assessment ranks. **Ariadna Rey** achieved a very strong second place.
- In year 9, **Thibault Torrellas** and **Natasha Worthington-Zapata** came in with impressive top marks. The results showed development in mathematical skills across the year groups.

Thanks to everybody for the efforts they made getting the exams in. The submission rate was excellent, with almost every registered student returning a fully completed paper.

Mr Link

Project: Time for Nature

Hello everyone! It's time for another activity week, and this is one that I am super excited about, and that I know you will be excited about too!

On June 5th the World Environment Day was celebrated - a celebration that has the intention of encouraging awareness and action for the protection of our environment. Following this, the organisation MOTI have organised something incredible for us. From Monday 15th June we are going to be hosting a Time for Nature week as an invitation for all members of our BCG community to "learn how all living things on Earth are connected in the web of life and how we can act for nature".

Each day our students are going to be set different challenges and projects, all designed to encourage our children to discover the wonders of the natural world around them. There are going to be a range of tasks, including creating arts and crafts using the colour of nature, participating in a citizen science project of the dawn chorus, exploring the reasons for protecting the natural world, and playing a game of Biodiversity Bingo that the entire family can enjoy!

We hope that you are all able to engage and join in with the great projects that we have lined up - build, read, watch, research, draw and make items and topics that develop our love, understanding and appreciation for the natural world around us... and we look forward to seeing photos of everything that has been achieved!

Let's mark the end of the school year with a final week of fun!

Miss Lane



Green light to our BCG summer school!

We can now confirm that our BCG Summer Camp 'Movement to the Future' will start as planned on the 29th June and still with the BCG family discount of 40%.

Due to following the COVID guidelines we have been forced into a few changes, the main change being that there is no whole day trip. I can assure you that this free time will allow us to host even more valuable experiences on site. BCG staff have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to communicate with parents and ensure the running of the camp is, most importantly, safe and enjoyable for the children.

It is now also available to families that do not attend BCG and if they would require more information please email summercamp@bcgava.com

The deadline to register for the 1st week of camp is Monday 22nd June and BCG families will be charged on or around June 25th.

For more information, the timetable and registration please go to: https://britishcollegegava.com/en_EN/servicios/summer-camp

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mr Pilcher

