



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

It has been an extremely busy week in school as we prepare to welcome our students back. There is a very exciting and dynamic feel about the school - like a dormant larvae about to burst out into a beautiful butterfly with its wings spread wide ready to explore the world.

We have carefully selected the most appropriate classrooms to use and have prepared other large spaces so as to help the children observe the social distancing regulations. We had masks and gloves and the school has been cleaned, we have signs and hand gel and guidelines - in short, we are ready!

The end of any school year is a time for change but these last few months, in particular, has put a tremendous amount of pressure on everyone, not least of all our staff, most of whom have been separated from their families. Everyone has been affected in different ways and I understand how challenging it has been for all. There are a small number of staff moving on at the end of the year.

Unfortunately, at the end of term we will say farewell to Ms. Bernardo as she returns home to Italy. Her Year 2 online lessons were very much appreciated by her students, and it was clear she had built up a good relationship with them all. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for all of her hard work this year at BCG.

Mr O' Caisade has been at home in Ireland during the lockdown and we are extremely grateful for the outstanding online provision he gave the Eagles over the last few months. His warm, fair and friendly approach has made him not only popular amongst the children he has taught but amongst our whole BCG community. He is a brilliant teacher who has been an asset to our school and who is clearly loved. However, Mr

O' Caisade has decided to permanently relocate back to Ireland to be with his much loved family.

Ms Giner has decided to focus on other areas of her very varied and considerable talents. She has taught Art and Media to a small but motivated group of students who have very much enjoyed her passion and who have learned so much from this very experienced artist. I would like to thank her for being so flexible and accommodating early in the year. Ms Giner is well known in the education world with her field in Barcelona and we look forward to hearing how she is getting on.

Ms Kirby is a passionate science teacher with a particular love of Biology and the environment. She will be fondly remembered for initiating the remarkable hatching of the duckling eggs, an event that brought joy to the whole community and enlivened the Friday newsletter over several months. Year 7 and 8 could often be seen observing the ducklings at breaks and lunchtimes and I am sure we have sparked a flame of interest in several Ornithologists of the future. Ms Kirby will return to France and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Mrs Pilcher, Miss Wakelin and Mr Prince are sharing with you the new class teachers and form teachers for September.

**Simon Mower**

## SECONDARY

### Form Teachers/Tutors for Academic Year 2020-21

Dear Parents,

We think carefully before allocating Form teachers/tutors as this is a role of fundamental importance in all schools but one that also is particularly important for the BCG Secondary School at this moment in time. We are establishing a culture of academic rigour within an environment of trust, respect and kindness towards others. All students are expected to take personal responsibility for their learning and the Form teachers will support and encourage them towards this goal with an approach which is often called 'tough love'. The duties of the role are diverse, but the pastoral element is key. Tutors should know their students and the families, and be there to support and advise.

The role involves:

#### Managing Administration

Morning registration involves taking the register and checking that uniform is correct and ongoing administrative tasks. Absences should be noticed and followed up as necessary, lateness observed, commented upon, and followed up as necessary.

#### Making Connections with home

Form teachers are the first point of contact for parents and are expected to get to know the families of the students

#### Be aware of issues

As one of the adults that students see most regularly, form tutors are in a good place to spot when there are any issues or difficulties. They also keep in regular contact with all subject teachers and have an overview of the situation for each student.

#### Build an ethos

Form teachers play a crucial role in building a positive culture (socially, culturally and in terms of the class values). In the best of cases, form classes can come to feel like an extended family.

#### Mr Prince

Current Class	Year 2020-2021
Year 7:1 Year 7:2	Mrs Foreman Ms Benito
Year 8	Ms Delmet
Year 9	Ms Lane
Year 10.1 Year 10.2	Mr Prosser Mr Pilcher
Year 12/13	<b>Sixth Form team</b> : Mrs Hall, Mr Mower, Mr Prince, Mr Foreman

## UPPER PRIMARY

### Classes and Teachers for Academic Year 2020-21

The allocation of teachers and classes for the next academic year is an extremely important decision. Much care and consideration goes into deciding classes, with our pupils' needs as our number one priority. Due to Covid-19, and this extraordinary period in your child's education, we have decided that some of our teachers will continue to teach their current class in the next academic year. We feel it will be enormously beneficial for your children to start the school year knowing their teacher.

Our teachers know their pupils extremely well and have forged positive and trusting relationships throughout not only this time of crisis, but throughout the entire year. We are very excited to have Mr Timothy teach in Year 4. He has many years experience teaching this age range and he knows the class well. I am delighted to announce the return of Miss Muirhead, who will teach in Year 5. Miss Muirhead completed her exceptional teaching practice here with us last year, where she spent some of her time with the current Year 4 class that she will be teaching in September.

#### Ms Wakelyn

Current Class	Year 2020-2021
Year 3 - Miss Osivwemu	Year 4 - Miss Osivwemu
Year 3 - Mr O'Caisade	Year 4 - Mr Timothy
Year 4 - Mr Smith	Year 5 - Miss Muirhead
Year 5 - Miss Wakelin	Year 6 - Miss Wakelin/Mr Smith

# EYFS & LOWER PRIMARY

## Classes and Teachers for Academic Year 2020-21

We have given a lot of thought to classes and teachers for next year and have decided that in the best interests of the children, given the current experience and time away from school, they will remain with

Current Class	Year 2020-2021
Nursery-Miss Plummer	Reception- Miss Jess Bifani
Reception-Miss Plummer	Year 1-Miss Plummer
Year 1a (Parrots) - Mrs Pilcher/Mr Smith	Year 2a- Mrs Pilcher/Mr Smith
Year 1b (Hummingbirds)- Ms. O'Connor	Year 2b - Ms. O'Connor
Year 2 - Ms. Bernardo	Year 3- Miss Straton (New Teacher)

### Nursery to Reception

Last year Miss Jess (Bifani) joined Duckling class as a teaching assistant. Miss Bifani is a qualified Early Years teacher and we are thrilled that she will now be part of the teaching team. She knows the children very well having worked closely alongside Miss Plummer and so this will make for an easy transition.

### Reception to Year 1

Miss Plummer will take the current Reception children up into Year 1. This will be invaluable for the children. Miss Plummer knows exactly where the children are in their learning and will be the perfect person to settle them back into school, providing an early years environment whilst introducing the Year 1 curriculum gradually.

### Year 1 to Year 2

Mrs Pilcher and Ms. O'Connor will take the children up into Year 2. Each teacher knows their class very well and will be ready to 'hit the ground running' in September. Mr Smith will share teaching with Mrs Pilcher as before Covid. The children know and respect Mr Smith and are very used to the shared teaching which proved very positive in Year 1.

### Year 2 to Year 3

Year 2 children will have time to say goodbye to Ms. Bernardo either online or in school next Thursday 11th June. We wish Ms. Bernardo all the very best in her new teaching position as she returns home to Italy and thank her for all of her hard work this year at BCG. The children will have the opportunity to meet their new teacher, Miss Straton, on Thursday 18th June as she will visit the school for a session during the morning. For those children choosing to stay at home, a video will be sent at the end of term so they can feel at ease having seen and heard their new teacher.

**Mrs Pilcher**

## IB NEWS

**These are exciting times in our preparation to become an IB World School!**

Next week we will host an IB Project week for our current Year 10s which will consist of both online and face-to-face workshops with our core IB team. Our students will explore the IB philosophy, including the IB Learner Profile and international-mindedness and learn more about the content and specifications of the IB core subjects; Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS) and the Extended Essay (EE). They will have career guidance sessions to help them choose the best available IB subject options and we will detail national and international University entry requirements.

There will also be an online questions and answer session for Year 10 parents on Thursday 11th June at 15:30.

Year 10 students or parents with queries are invited to contact me at [rachel.fenton@bcgava.com](mailto:rachel.fenton@bcgava.com)

**Mrs Fenton**





## Moon Landing

This week Year One have been learning about the first Moon Landing. Through this learning the children made rockets, learnt about famous astronauts, experimented with making craters and much more. It has been wonderful to see all the moon learning throughout the week. The children have been so creative with their learning and this was never truer than when they recreated the moon landing. Some children wore motorbike helmets as astronaut suits, some climbed down little ladders to symbolise climbing out of a 'The Eagle' and everyone remembered to say the famous words; "This is one small step for man. One giant leap for mankind."

A week full of fun and learning, Year One have continued to show amazing commitment to their online lessons. We the teachers and staff could not be prouder of all the girls and boys in Hummingbird and Parrot class.

Well done everyone!

Ms Caitriona

## The Music Department

BCG has two exciting new additions to the Music Department! A beautiful grand piano in the auditorium and an elegant upright piano in the music room. We will now be able to become an exam centre for the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM). This means our own music students, as well as those from other schools, will be able to take their grade exams in a variety of instruments without having to leave school.

From September, we also plan on implementing a programme of pupil-led mini concerts in our monthly Midday Music lunchtime recitals, in which our musicians at BCG will be able to perform in front of their classmates and teachers. Performance is an important part of children's development, the benefits of which are building self-confidence, overcoming nerves, self-expression, and embracing individuality, to name a few. Furthermore, all the skills and qualities learned from not only performing, but also practising, will also benefit children in their academic pursuits and achievements. We are sure that the new grand piano will inspire many of our pianists to volunteer a performance in an informal, comfortable and friendly setting.

Finally, many of our musicians volunteered to film themselves playing a piece on their instruments during lockdown so that we could produce a video of our Spring Music Recital that was due to take place at the end of March. Thank you to all those who participated. It is heartwarming to see these dedicated young musicians playing their instruments so beautifully.



### These are the pupils who contributed:

Matvei Bagno  
 Sophia Hock  
 Aureli Foreman Martin  
 Núria Foreman Martin  
 Anna Soffia Olafsdottir  
 Mark Horbach  
 Leo Horbach  
 Nil Tutum  
 Ece Tutum  
 Mia Natalia Villacres Otamendez  
 Isabel Carolina Salvatore  
 Gregory Petrov  
 Ariadna Rey Moreno  
 Samanta Mendoza  
 Natasha Worthington  
 Leah Foreman Fenton  
 Pola Plutecka  
 Iwo Plutecki  
 Nadja Plutecka

Mrs Foreman

# IMPORTANT: Reopening Form

Dear parents,

Thanks to the parents that confirmed attendance of your son/daughter for the following weeks. We are looking forward to seeing the children back at the school. **Following the government regulations, it is mandatory to bring the form you received filled in and signed, on the first morning the children will come to school.**

EYFS and year 1: **PARENTS will hand in the form to Gabriela García at the entrance of the school (white gate).**

Primary and Secondary: **STUDENTS will hand in the form to Maria Andrea Jacobo at the entrance of the school (green gate).**

Thank you.

## Open Day just for NEW families



Come and visit  
our  
New Building

# BCG OPEN DAY

Friday 12th June  
14:30 to 16:30

### COVID 19 Security Protocols

Book your place now on our Website:  
[www.britishcolleggava.com](http://www.britishcolleggava.com)

Learn more about British education, discover how our students develop a true love of learning, see our facilities including our new building, meet the teachers and ask us questions.

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[School Calendar 2020/21](#)