



**The British College
of Gavà**
Education in Excellence

WEEKLY BULLETIN

May 22nd 2020

With each day comes an ever increasing sense that we will soon be back in school where we all belong. I was fortunate to have been able to go into school each day this week and it was wonderful to see Cesar and Vicu working hard to prepare the school grounds for us. The school is looking wonderful and I can't wait to see all of the children running around again (2 metres apart of course!).

Today is the deadline for the GCSE Pathway choices for Year 9 students and we still have a number of you that have not replied. Please can these be done before Monday - if these are not done it is possible that your sons and daughter will not get their preferred choices, which would be a very great shame.

As you know, every three weeks we have a whole school topic or theme and this week was Survival week. It has been a hoot (as my mother would say) and the students have clearly loved it. Judging by Mr Steadman's contribution as the pilot Captain Rhubarb Crumble, the staff clearly did too! Weeks like this have been done to give the children some variety during this very challenging time, however, they take a significant amount of preparation from teachers and I am extremely grateful to them. Survival was devised by Miss Wakelin and I know that she spent many many hours preparing the various projects. many thanks too

to Mr Boden who adapted the theme for the secondary students.

I was delighted to join in a Hangout with the Year 6s as they started their transition week on Monday - it was a great success, thanks to Ms Fenton, Mr Timothy and all of the secondary teachers who gave the students a taste of life next year.

I am extremely excited about the future of our wonderful school and I hope you are too.

Simon Mower

IB Update

We are pleased to announce two new appointments to our IBDP team: Ms Delmet as Extended Essay Coordinator and Mr. Foreman as Theory of Knowledge Teacher/Coordinator. They will play a pivotal role in organising and delivering these core aspects of the Diploma Programme, ensuring that our students and their parents understand the requirements and supporting staff in integrating the IB philosophy and approaches to teaching and learning throughout the curriculum. Both have a strong academic background and will train with the IB for this role. In further steps to support all our students, we are also happy to communicate the appointment of Mrs Mason as BCG Librarian. She will play an important role throughout the secondary school, helping our students with study and research skills. She will also support Ms Delmet and our IBDP students as they undertake their Extended Essay. We welcome all to our IB team!

Ms Fenton

EYFS and Lower Primary

Ahoy there Mateys! This week's survival theme has seen our students transformed into PIRATES! We started the week on a rather authentic treasure hunt in Ms. O'Connor's garden, learning to plot and follow a treasure map and become codebreakers to get to the treasure! The children learnt to use a key to plot landmarks and of course mark their treasure...X marks the spot! Children created their own maps to guide their families to their hidden treasure around their homes. It's been a week full of survival tasks including making shelters for washed up crew, making pirate hats and eye patches, writing 'HELP ME' letters in a bottle and finally, creating 'Wanted' posters for Pirate Pedro!

Mrs Pilcher



We have had a fantastic few weeks in EYFS, learning all about amazing animals! This has taken us to the depths of the ocean, looking at 'The Rainbow Fish' and 'The Snail and the Whale', to the deep, dark forest where we met the terrifying Gruffalo! We've been working on lots of different aspects of our learning, developing our literacy skills by writing 'who am I?' stories and cracking the Snail and Whale's secret code! We have also been honing in on our maths skills, making beach scenes to practice positional language, placing the Rainbow Fish in different areas and practising sharing by sharing out the Rainbow Fish's scales equally! We even had a go at making Rainbow Fish pizza and made our own instruments to play along with story songs! We are going to continue looking at amazing animal stories, moving next week into looking at Rumble in the Jungle, where we are going to go on a virtual zoo trip!

Ms Plummer

Year Two have been working hard in all areas of their academic studies and I would like to give say a big congratulations! Last week in music, they tackled a particular challenging concept of singing a 'round'. We talked about what a round means and chose the most basic song to demonstrate our knowledge. We listened to an animated version of girls singing at different sections and finally a choir using the same method on a much larger scale. Then, it came time for our students to demonstrate what they had learned. I was able to record each group of three or four children as they came in during different parts of the song. They demonstrated a great amount of focus and concentration as they had to memorise the song and keep singing their part as others were singing something completely different. Not an easy task!! Well done Year 2. What a magnificent accomplishment. Congratulations!

Ms Bernando



Year 3

This week Year 3 Robins survived the extreme conditions of a mountain hike in a freak storm!

Day 1: The children decided what three items were the most important to bring. They discovered where in the world they were; from Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, to Hvannadalshnúkur in Iceland.

Day 2: Now they had a survival plan, Robins got to building their shelter. They used a range of materials from sticks and poles, to rocks and tents.

Day 3: Thursday, they were running out of food and getting cold on the mountain edge, so they wrote SOS letters of help to family. Some rolled up scrolls in bottles to float down the river. Others used pebbles on the beach to be seen by the rescue helicopter.

Day 4: Finally, they got to make models of their surroundings. We had a range of 3D design work and minecraft creations.

Day 5: Celebration Day! They SURVIVED the mountain and made it safely home, sharing all the work they had done.

Miss Osivwemu



In Year 4, we were stranded in the Rainforest with very few supplies and no way of communicating with the outside world!

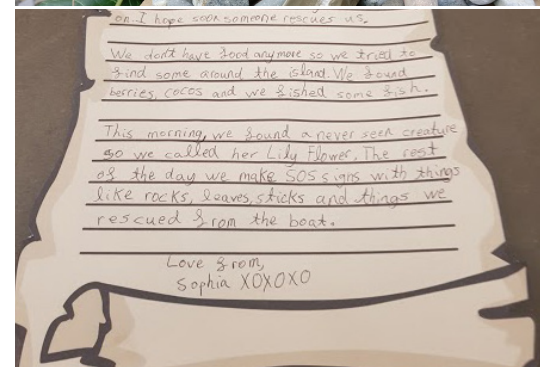
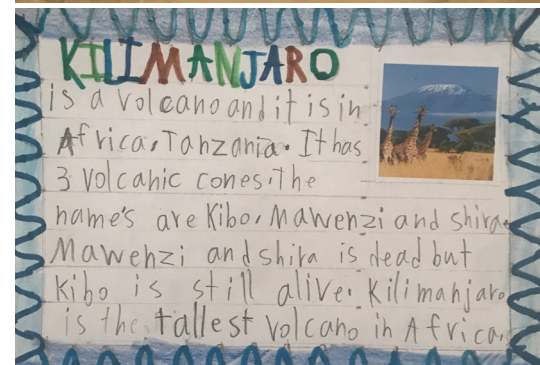
We had to find a way of surviving until we could get home. We collected water, read coordinates and even built shelters to keep us safe at night... here are a few examples of our shelters.

Mr Smith



On Monday when the Eagles class got lost and were stranded together on a side of a forested mountain they faced a huge task to survive. They knew their only hope of making it off the mountain was to work together as a team to come up with ideas for survival. To say they rose to the challenge would be an understatement. I could not be more impressed with how they dedicated themselves to survival. The students completed task after task, each one better than the last. They drew maps of their location, created shelters to rest in, wrote SOS messages to send for help and built models of the forest to help them better understand it. With such an incredible team effort it is no surprise that the Eagles managed to escape the clutches of the mountain.

Mr Ocasaid



YEAR 5 SURVIVORS

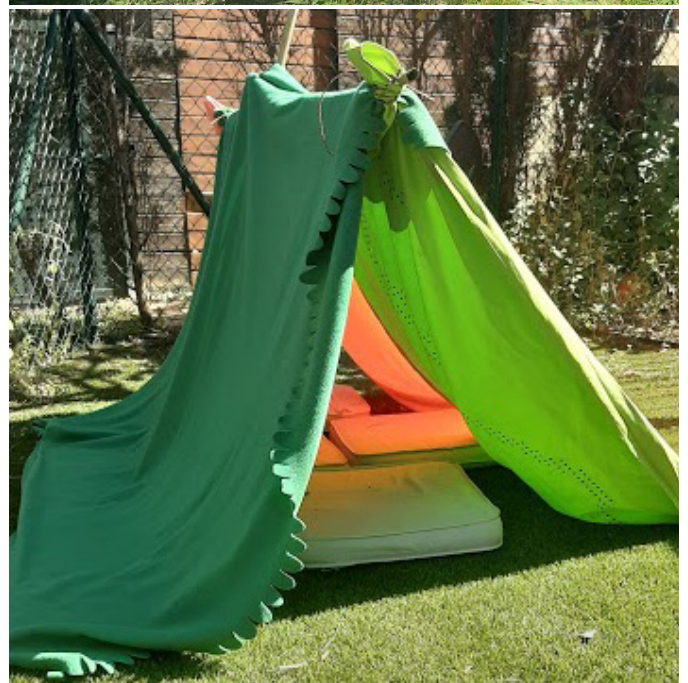
Wow! What a week Year 5 Flamingos have had! After their boat caught fire and surviving the shark-infested waters of the Indian Ocean, they finally made it to a deserted island. They endured a challenging night sleeping under the stars before making a shelter to protect them from the extreme environment they had found themselves in and a whole range of pesky night-time predators.

After surviving the night, they bravely ventured from their base camp to explore the island. They used all the Maths skills they had learned from the week in reading, writing and plotting coordinates to create a very handy map. Whilst walking they stumbled upon a new not-yet-discovered creature. They wrote about this in their journals as well as some very interesting diary entries. Worn out with exploring, they returned to catch fish for their dinner before settling down in their shelters for the night.

Tired of eating bugs and missing home, the group decided to try and signal for help. They came up with many interesting and creative ways to try to attract attention. Reflecting on their time stranded on the island, they decided to write SOS letters home. These were wonderfully warm and heartfelt and showed how much they were clearly missing their loved ones. Whilst sat on the edge of a dune, they noticed a small gathering of people in the forest. On closer inspection, they realised that these were a tribe who inhabited the island. Approaching with caution, the group introduced themselves. They noticed that the tribe did not understand English so they created a code using emojis to explain who they were. This was the beginning of a wonderful friendship with the tribe who helped them escape from the island.

The Year 5 Flamingos have worked tirelessly all week, using every ounce of creativity, critical thinking and reasoning skills, plus heaps of their natural flair to survive in extreme conditions. Children never cease to amaze me and the children in Year 5 are no exception. They have demonstrated motivation beyond their years and maintained their wonderful spirit throughout the project. Congratulations Flamingos on being fantastic survivors.

Miss Wakelin and Year 5 Flamingos



Year 6 Transition Week

This week was Transition Week for year 6. This is where they get a taste of what it will be like in the secondary school next year. This taster provided a chance for the children to not only meet their future teachers but also to sample first-hand the style of the lessons they would experience.

The week started on Monday with a Careers lesson led by Ms Fenton. Both classes were introduced to Unifrog, an online platform which will help students plot their career path through school. The children were asked to bring to the lesson an idea of the jobs or careers they would like to have when they are older. It was amazing to see so many interesting and varied choices from vet and nano-technologist to designer and programmer. There is also a budding astronaut in the group!

Mr Boden led a geography lesson about ecosystems. It involved the pupils planning an expedition to their preferred ecosystem and explaining their reasons for going and what they might need when they got there.

On Tuesday Mrs Foreman and Ms Fenton took the classes for Music and Drama respectively. The children were given exciting projects and, judging by the noise and fervour coming from the hangouts, everyone had an amazing afternoon.

Wednesday was a Science day, and in particular, Biology and Physics. The lessons were led by Ms Kirby and Ms Lane. In Biology the children learnt all about plant and animal cells. In Physics they investigated Solar Energy and had to make a solar powered oven.

The lessons on Thursday were led by Mrs Foreman (History) and Ms Delmet who teaches French. Mrs Foreman taught a fascinating lesson about the tragic story of the Titanic from its launch to the point it struck the ice-berg and the aftermath. Ms Delmet's French incorporated the sounds of the French alphabet with a fiendish quiz, which even Mr Timothy couldn't solve.

Dr Jim carried out an online Chemistry lesson with the two classes. The children were invited to carry out the experiment at home by following his instructions. The week will end with Ms Giner and the students getting creative in an art lesson.

It was undoubtedly a wonderful experience. I know everyone I spoke to, both children and teachers, had a fabulous time and as a result will not only be talking about it all weekend, but will also be looking forward to September all the more eagerly.

Mr Timothy



Project Work in Distance Learning at BCG

The teachers at BCG are thinking outside the box, and working hard and creatively to provide a full and balanced education for all pupils. This involves a range of teaching tools and activities which benefit the pupils in a variety of ways. In addition, through peer assessment, peer and teacher modelling of work, collaboration, and creativity, the students continue to be stretched and challenged, as well as connected with each other. Through changing the pace and working on fun and memorable activities and projects, their learning is proving to be a full and rich experience despite the potentially one-dimensional medium of online learning. This is in accordance with the progressive, 21st century educational model of the 4 Cs (Communication, Collaboration, Creativity and Critical Thinking), which places enormous importance on these human skills that must be nurtured and celebrated in order for our young people to succeed in the modern workplace and beyond. Here are just a few ways in which pupils across the curriculum and school have enhanced their learning in these ways these past few weeks.

Year 7 History Projects

In History this week the pupils in Year 7 completed research projects on topics related to the Middle Ages, such as "How Smelly were the Middle Ages?", "Football", "Food and Fashion", "Knights and Tournaments", "Entertainment", "Castles", "Women", "Joan of Arc", "Weapons", "Life in a Medieval Village", "Eleanor of Aquitaine", "Matilda, Lady of the English", "Robert the Bruce", and "Law and Order". The pupils have spent the last few lessons gathering information about their research area and creating PowerPoint presentations which they then recorded with their own narration using the screencasting software, Screencast-o-matic.

Using the Google Slides editing, commenting and chat tools, the pupils have been able to share work and receive teacher guidance along the way. The results have been incredible. The presentations range from 6 to 14 minutes long, with images, bullet points, embedded videos, quizzes and enthusiastic young historians expertly narrating their subject. The presentations are now being formally assessed according to the success criteria initially given, and viewed by the rest of the class, who have to complete a quiz at the end of each, compiled by the student-authors themselves, to test their peers' knowledge and understanding of the topic. Skills such as independent research, presentation layout and design, editing, in depth learning about a chosen topic, computer and presentation-delivery skills, have been developed by these young historians, and Ms. Foreman is very proud of the effort, enthusiasm, and hard work that has gone into these projects. Well done!

21st Century Skills 4 C's

- COMMUNICATION**: Sharing thoughts, questions, ideas and solutions.
- COLLABORATION**: Working together to reach a goal. – putting talent, expertise, and smarts to work.
- CRITICAL THINKING**: Looking a problems in a new way, linking learning across subjects and disciplines
- CREATIVITY**: Trying new approaches to get things done equals innovation & invention

ALL IN ONE, REAL WORLD, INTEGRATED PROJECT DELIVERED IN THE CLASSROOM!

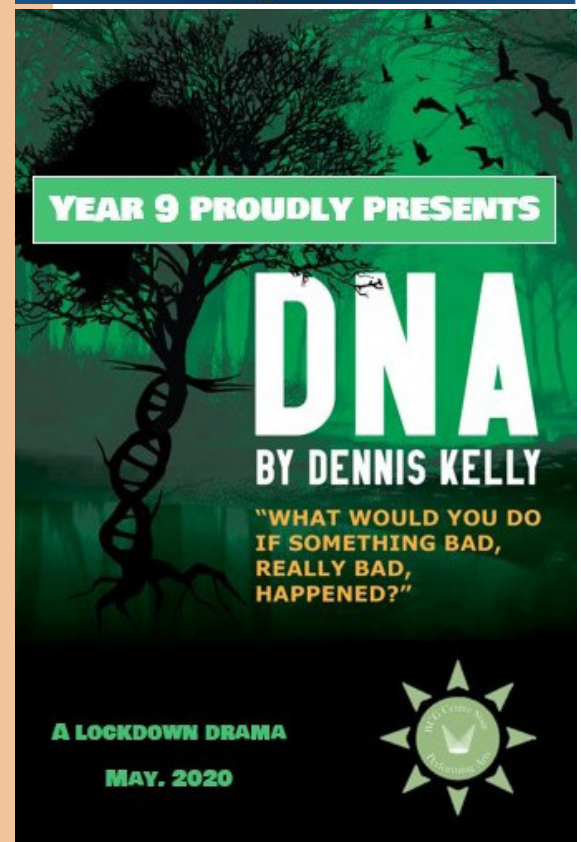
<p>loosing Scotland Robert the Bruce</p> <p>Mathys Derix</p>	<p>Women in the middle ages</p> <p>By Núria Foreman</p>	<p>Knights and tournaments</p> <p>By Tiago victoria</p>
<p>Entertainment in the middle ages</p> <p>By niels tonreilas storm van leeuwen abtjac</p>	<p>Football in the Middle Ages</p> <p>By Santi</p>	<p>Law and order in the medieval times.</p> <p>By Thales</p>

Online tools in KS3 English, Drama, History and Music

This year the BCG invested in a subscription to a fantastic online platform called Soundtrap.com. Originally it was purchased for the purposes of KS3 Music composition, but since Lockdown, Secondary English and History teachers have also found it to be an invaluable tool for online learning and creativity. In History, Soundtrap has been used to record speeches and role plays written by the students, as well as short radio plays devised in order to bring famous historical events and happenings such as the Peasants' Revolt, the Black Death, and the Vietnam War protests to life. In Music, pupils have been composing soundtracks to action and horror movie scenes. And pupils have not been short-changed due to online learning regarding the "Drama and Speaking" element of the Key Stage 3 English curriculum, as well as Creative Writing. In fact, it has been quite the opposite!

In Year 7 the pupils have been working collaboratively in pairs or groups to adapt a fairy tale of their choice into a modern radio play, following precise, formal instructions employing the rules of the script-writing genre. Once the plays were written, proofread, edited, formatted, and improved into very professional-looking scripts, the pupils began the process of acting out the plays using Soundtrap.com to record and edit, adding sound effects and music. Time will be spent now sharing their work with their peers and receiving peer and teacher feedback - an essential part of learning in the "normal" classroom, and one which can still be achieved despite these circumstances. We hope this has been a fun and memorable activity for all!

Year 9 have been studying the play DNA by Dennis Kelly, a KS3 and 4 English curriculum text. As plays are meant to be actively experienced, and pupils' understanding of plot, character and emotion can be enhanced through drama, the pupils then began the process of "acting" it out in small groups as a radio play using Soundtrap. Again, the editing, collaboration, and sound effects tools made available through online software and apps such as Google Meet, Google docs, Sound Bible, and Soundtrap, have been employed by teachers and students alike, and the process has been challenging, rewarding, and eye-opening. I'm sure the pupils are curious to share their work with other groups in the class, and compare notes on their character interpretations and creativity!



Survival Project

This week the students in 7, 8 and 9 took part in a survival themed project. Year 9 were challenged with a number of moral dilemmas to solve including the grisly tale of the sunken ship and cannibalism. Links were made with the present situation and the ethical dilemma of removing people from hospital beds to save more lives. Classic utilitarianism in action!

Year 8 were also involved in a shipwreck, choosing items to save and not save and checking the results against the coast guard's point system. Geography skills were stretched with calculating distances, plotting charts, noting the weather and categorising animals.

Year 7 was challenged to survive on a desert island. Eating, sleeping and eventually planning a mission to leave the island, survival instincts were tested! Magical creatures were discovered on the island with many strange and unseen before adaptations.

All students were challenged to survive away from their screens and make a shelter in their homes or outside. Here are some of the results!

Nick Boden



Come and visit
our
New Building

BCG OPEN DAY

Friday 12th June
14:30 to 16:30

Book your place now on our Website:
www.britishcollegegava.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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A collage of six photographs. The top row shows three students in school uniforms jumping joyfully in a gymnasium. The middle row shows a group of students working at computers in a classroom, and an exterior view of a modern building with a glass facade. The bottom row shows a large outdoor area with a building in the background, and two students in a kitchen or lab setting.