



BCG Bulletin

September 10th 2021



Welcome to our bulletin

Welcome to our first bulletin of the new school year!

You will all have noticed already that the big news is that we now have 20% more students than last

year which means the word about our wonderful school is spreading fast. We have welcomed new children and their families into every year group from Nursery to Year 12.

This is a very important time for our Year 13 students and I would like to wish them well for the year ahead. We are very proud of them and I am sure they will make themselves and their parents proud next summer when they get their A Level results and finalise their university places. I would like to thank Mrs Hall (Year 13 tutor and Head of

Careers) and the rest of the team for all of the work they do to support these great students.

We also welcome a wonderful crop of new teachers, all who have arrived with experience and passion. We are delighted by their contribution to date and have been impressed with how well they have settled in and got to know the students.

You will have seen the new Enrichment ECAP programme which has been put together. I wholeheartedly encourage you to sign up your sons and daughters for these exciting range of activities, some of which will be familiar but many of which will be new. The Enrichment programme is the ideal way to explore new areas and try things for the first time.

Our Music and Drama programmes are also already underway and our programme for individual music lessons is bigger than ever. It is wonderful to see so many of our students involved in the Arts.

Over the coming weeks we will be inviting parents of Reception to Year 9 to meet their child's class teacher or tutor as well as meeting parents of other children in their class. More details to follow.

Chromebook Programme

Over the summer I announced a Chromebook Programme for secondary school, after listening to feedback from parents and students we have decided to make the following changes to our proposal.

All Year 7 and Year 10 students will be issued with a Chromebook free of charge. This will happen in the next few weeks.

Chromebooks will be issued for 4 years and will remain the property of the school. Students in Year 7 and 10 may not use other devices in school and will be required to bring their Chromebooks into school, fully charged each day.

The devices are excellent tools for learning and are protected so that they can only be used for official educational activities. I know the students will find them extremely useful and enjoyable to use. They are fully insured.

This programme will continue to Year 8 and 9 in the future. Currently Year 8 and 9 do not need to bring in a device and we recommend that they wait until they get a Chromebook, probably at the start of next academic year. When Year 8 and 9 students need technology in the classroom they will use the schools Chromebooks or Laptops. Of course, these will now be more available due to the Year 7 and 10 not requiring them.

Laptops

Year 11s and Sixth Form are strongly encouraged to bring in their own devices, iPads, Laptops etc for use in school.

Insurance

- We recommend that all devices that come in from home are insured. All parents wishing their sons or daughters to bring in a laptop, iPad etc must sign a waiver that means that they take full responsibility for the equipment.

Battery charging

- These devices must be fully charged before they come to school and should be protected by a suitable case. All equipment should be clearly labeled with the students name.

We look forward to inviting parents into school on a regular basis this year and really hope that the COVID-19 situation will allow us to hold some wonderful events -concerts, plays, sports events etc. The term has got off to a very busy but exciting start and I hope that all of you in the BCG Community have a great year.

Simon Mower

HEAD OF SECONDARY

Dear parents,

A very warm welcome to our new families and welcome back to our existing families, I hope you all had a great summer and all managed to get some rest. It was great to see all the students back in school, most of them came running in and were extremely excited to kick the new year off and see their friends again.

We have started off the year in great fashion with each student settling into their new year, this is due to the hard work of all of our teachers and form tutors. Please remember if you have any questions regarding your child please contact the form tutors directly. I am also always available to help or answer any questions you may have.

We started off our PSHE lessons this year with a great assembly and meditation session with Mr Russel. We will continue to teach your children the tools of mindfulness throughout the year to give them valuable resources to battle anxiety, exam stress etc. Mr Russel introduced gratitude journals, in which your children will write three things they are



grateful for every day. Research has shown grateful minds are happy ones!

I wish all of our students the best of luck with their new course, whether it be Year 7, GCSE's, A levels or embarking on the IBDP journey.

I would like to remind parents that students need to be in school for 8.45am. If a child arrives after 8.50am they will have to miss P.I. We want our students to be punctual and ready to learn. It is vital they are in their form rooms for registration and to hear the day's announcements. I would also like to ask parents to give their children spare masks to keep in their bags. We have had to give out over 50 masks to students already this year as they break during lunch times or in class.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mr Steadman

IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME LAUNCH

Year 12 have finally embarked on their exciting IBDP journey and after two induction days are now settling well into their new routine. They have a very busy timetable and will develop excellent self management skills over the next two years. Each student can count on the

support and guidance of Mr Hooley, the Core team and their teachers as well as the pastoral care of the Year 12 tutors and Mr Steadman. We are delighted to welcome five new students to this wonderful cohort and wish them all the best of luck.

Rachel Fenton

SECONDARY - TEACHING AND LEARNING

“It’s been a busy and productive start to the academic side of things for our secondary students in their first full week of the year at BCG. All students have been managing and organising their new academic and homework timetables, and it has been great to see our longer attending students help our group of new students find their way around the school campus - showing that true BCG ethos of teamwork and togetherness.

There has been a real buzz around the school academically, with our Year 13s entering their final year of study with us and our new IB cohort in Year 12 starting their journeys on what promises to be a memorable and life changing learning experience for them all. Lower down the school, Year 10 and 11 have made very impressive starts to their first and final years of their (i)GCSE programmes respectively,

showing maturity, focus and proactiveness to the start of their learning this year. And let’s not forget our lower secondary cohorts, who have begun their first classes this week in Educational Sustainable Development learning, focusing on what is sustainability and why do we learn it at BCG???

Unequivocally, I have been very impressed with how all secondary students have started their learning journey’s this year, and as we continue to support, collaborate and communicate with each other we will ensure a very successful year’s learning ahead for all”.

Kind regards,

Mr. Hooley Cgeog
Head of Teaching and Learning for
Secondary



ENRICHMENT

Dear parents,

This week we introduced the enrichment ECAP for term 1. Staff at BCG are excited to get back to offering a range of activities that allow students to access their holistic potential and extend learning opportunities. The purpose of our ECAP is to allow students to challenge their interests, try something new and open their minds to diversified interests. We have utilised all available staff and external expertise available to us this term and maximised our use of campus and off-site facilities within the COVID restrictions we must follow.

We appreciate that there are many students who wish to join team training at BCG and enter competitive events. With current restrictions, we are unable to arrange such fixtures at the moment but as soon as we can, we intend to offer a team training

programme. These sessions will take place at lunch times (to ensure ALL players can attend) where students, leading up to the event or tournament, will take part in intensive training with their coach.

Sign up for ECAP has now closed. We notice that there are some clubs with only a few signed up. These are in danger of being cancelled. If you have missed the deadline and still want to take advantage of our ECAP, email ecap@bcgava.com to be added over the next week. Please note the price remains the same for late additions. On **Friday 17th September**, we will cancel clubs whose numbers remain low.

Should you wish to join the below activities added to the programme today, please email ecap@bcgava.com and we will register you manually.

Newly added sessions are:

Nursery & Reception Play and Explore Club is now also available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 16.30 - 17.30 (as well as Monday as previously advertised).

For Play and Explore Club the prices vary depending on the number of sessions you attend.

- 1 session per week = 80 euro
- 2 sessions per week = 120 euro
- 3 sessions per week = 150 euro

Secondary Supervised Homework Club has been added to the programme on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 16.30 - 17.30.

For Supervised Homework Clubs the prices vary depending on the number of sessions you attend.

- 1 session per week = 80 euro
- 2 sessions per week = 120 euro
- 3-4 sessions per week = 150 euro

Year 7 - 9 Basketball on Tuesdays from 16.30 - 17.30

- This will be 45 euro for the term.

Year 5 & 6 Football on Thursdays from 16.30 - 17.30

- This will be 45 euro for the term.

New Tennis Coaches

We have new tennis coaches this term joining us from the Barcelona Tennis Academy. Tennis is now once per week to allow us to extend the activity to all age groups across the school from nursery to year 13. You can read more about the academy here www.btatennis.com

We are already collating and organising the term 2 club rota according to feedback received and the limits we are faced with

regarding restrictions, facilities and staff availability.

We are looking forward to an exciting enrichment ECAP beginning this Monday. Remember to pack a snack! Next week the enrichment team turns their attention to the upcoming educational trips and visits. Information regarding these will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

The Enrichment Team

EYFS AND PRIMARY

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be able to write my first newsletter of the school year - and with a slight change to my role. I am now the Head of the Primary phase and will be supported by our fabulous new Year 3 Teacher, Mrs Helen Stevens, who is the new EYFS Coordinator. In this role, Mrs Stevens will be supporting teaching and learning development in the EYFS and Lower Primary school. Mrs Stevens was Deputy Head in the British School of Romania for many years and brings to BCG 22

years of teaching experience. She is extremely excited to be joining the team. Please contact me in the first instance for any further information, queries, questions or feedback on kelly.wakelin@bcgava.com

Due to the expansion and growth of our school, we are now a 2 form entry school which means each year group has 2 classes (there will be 1 parent rep per year group, not per class as last year). As a result, we have recruited many new teachers who bring a vast array of experience. **The classes for this year are as follows:**

- **Nursery: Turtle Class** - Miss Becky Plummer and Mrs Nicky Taylor
- **Reception: Little Fish Class** - Miss Jess Bifani
- **Year 1 Dolphin Class** - Mrs Nina Pilcher
- **Year 2 Jellyfish Class** - Miss Alexandra Dyson
- **Year 2 Starfish Class** - Miss Baker
- **Year 3 Lobster Class** - Mrs Helen Stevens
- **Year 3 Crab Class** - Will Smith
- **Year 4 Narwal Class** - Abi Carter
- **Year 4 Orca Class** - Miss Kerry Ford
- **Year 5 Shark Class** - Mrs Louise Baron
- **Year 5 Octopus Class** - Ms Louise Culshaw
- **Year 6 Stingray Class** - Miss Zoe Mellar
- **Year 6 Seahorse Class** - Miss Liz Fleming

We also welcome our great new team of support staff: Isabel Maria Sanchez, Daniela Odisho and Charlotte Kempner. In the next couple of weeks I will be announcing a 'Meet the Teacher' event where you will be invited into school to meet your child's teacher and learn more about their learning journey for the year ahead.

I warmly welcome the many new families that have joined our 'BCG family'. It was lovely to meet you all at our special day for new pupils last week. It is fantastic to see so many new faces and there are lots of new names for me to learn.

Together with the unwavering support of the school team and our community we are extremely excited about the journey ahead. The needs of our pupils are always paramount in the life and decision making within our school. As key educators in your children's lives, I feel that it is important that you have a voice and that as a school we are approachable and allocate time to listen to your concerns, worries or thoughts about the school.

I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.

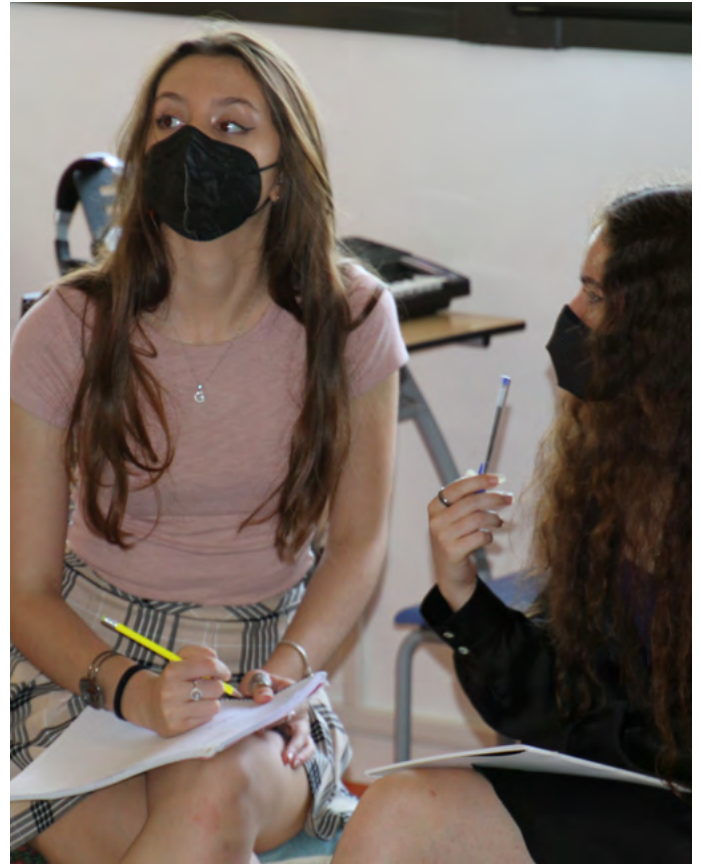
*Miss Kelly Wakelin
Head of Primary*



DRAMA DEPARTMENT

This year sees the expansion of the BCG drama department, with KS3 groups now having specialist drama lessons, two GCSE drama groups in KS4 and a very exciting IBDP Theatre cohort of ten students.

As we build up our resources, we are on the lookout for props to use in our devising and performances - and we need your help!



Props can come in any shape or size - here are some ideas:

- old lamps, telephones, crockery, clothes hangers, clothes, clothes rack, wigs
- old furniture - desks, tables, chairs, armchairs, cupboards, wardrobes, small sofas
- Mirrors, picture frames

If there is a carpenter in the community, a free-standing door on wheels and steps on wheels would be amazing ;)

Please contact us if you would like to drop any items off at performingarts@bcgava.com

Mrs Foreman, Ms Fenton, Ms Darby



A NEW CATERING COMPANY IS HERE

We are delighted to introduce the new catering company that will be preparing and serving meals to our students and staff from Monday 13th September. We welcome Comertel, with the aim of improving our services and the quality of the products we offer to our community. Please [click here](#) to see the informative presentation.



All the kitchen staff who were already at BCG and know our children and their needs, will remain with us and we will welcome some new team members. BCG keeps growing and working to keep improving.

NOTES

BOOKS

We would like to remind all our students from last year to return their textbooks and reading books (in all three languages) as soon as possible, please.

MASKS

Please remember that all students should come with masks from home and please have extra masks in their backpacks. They can take them down at playground time (keep them in their ears so that they don't lose them), while they are outdoors.

WEEK 1 AND 2 CALENDAR

Please find [here](#) the updated printable version of the Week 1, Week 2 calendar for this school year.

A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK



A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

