



BCG Newsletter

13 June 2023



The Year 13 Graduation Show

Friday evening saw the formal graduation dinner of the current Year 13 IBDP cohort, the first to leave BCG. It was a fabulous evening with teachers and parents there to celebrate with the guests of honour. We had speeches from Ester Pou, Nick Boden, Rachel Fenton and me, then Judith Rey (Head Girl) and Yuvgen Zinchenko (Head Boy), an extremely good video compilation of teachers, past and present, sharing their thoughts on this wonderful group of students. It was a special evening fitting for a very special group of young women and men who now leave for pastures new.

Presentations all round

Thursday afternoon exemplified BCG. The smartly dressed Year 12 students were holding their Theory of Knowledge (TOK) exhibition in the Hall. Each of the 30 students stood behind a table from where they presented their 3 chosen items. The items were carefully selected and meaningful objects that they used to explain their thoughts on a particular question. Questions such as - *“What is the difference between knowledge, belief and opinion?”*, *“Who owns knowledge?”* and *“What role do experts play in the production of knowledge?”* were explored and then opened up for debate with the visitors. Constantino drew the biggest crowd of the day, with a performance akin to a circus ringmaster. A great event.

An hour later the end of year Ballet performance took place in the Auditorium. A delightful display of our very youngest, all looking fabulous in their matching tutus, dancing and displaying some great technique to a room full of proud parents. Thanks to their super teachers Lydia Leeson and Fernanda Tarriba from “Lydia English School of Dance”.

The Summer Fair (Saturday 17th June)

We are looking forward to the Summer fair and very much hope to see you all there supporting all those that have put so much work into making this a great event. Let's hope the weather is as good as the date we canceled!

Trips Plan for 2023-2024

Last week Carolynne Bell gave a presentation to parents about our plans for Trips over the coming years. Thanks to all of the parents that came and contributed to the discussions. We wholly support the idea of residential trips. They are hugely beneficial to the children and we ask that parents support them wherever they can. Please remember that in a British School, an annual residential trip is very much part of the curriculum and holistic school experience, aligning to our Values.

The link to the meeting recording is [here](#).

Mr Mower

EYFS AND PRIMARY NEWS

MUSIC

Groove'n'play Concert

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended the Groove'n'play School Music Concert featuring our talented Year 2 and Year 3 students. The concert was a resounding success, showcasing the remarkable progress our young musicians have made since they began their musical journey in January.



The concert commenced with an enchanting performance by our Year 2 students, who displayed their newfound mastery of string instruments. It was a delight to witness their confident playing and see how they have grown as musicians over the course of the year. The rhythmic beats and infectious energy emanating from the stage had the entire audience on their feet, clapping and swaying along. The audience was moved by their emotive

renditions, which showcased their vocal range, control, and artistic expression. Their dedication and hard work truly shone through in their harmonious melodies.

Next, our Year 3 students took the stage and captivated the audience with their extraordinary performances. It was evident that they had put in countless hours of practice to achieve such remarkable results. The beautiful sounds, ensemble playing and ability to take to the stage like professionals was a true testament to their musicality and teamwork.

One of the most memorable aspects of this experience was the visit from Sally Greaves, a celebrated composer who visited our school as a special guest. Sally's

expertise in contemporary music composition added an extra layer of excitement and inspiration to the event. She shared her experiences and insights with the audience, providing invaluable knowledge and encouraging our young musicians to explore their creativity and to enjoy performing!





We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to all the teachers, parents, and volunteers who supported the concert, with a special mention to Miss Montse, our string teacher! Your unwavering dedication and commitment to nurturing our students'; musical talents have made this event possible. We are immensely proud of our students'; accomplishments and grateful for the community's support.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone who attended the Groove'n'play School Music Concert. Your presence and applause fueled the enthusiasm of our young musicians and made the evening truly memorable. We look forward to more musical events in the future, where our students can continue to showcase their incredible talents.

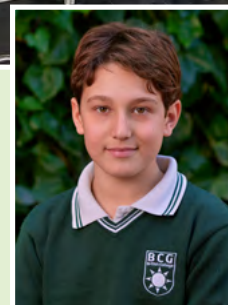
Ms McDonald

SPECIAL MENTION

Catalonian Championship of swimming

On Sunday, June 11th, Year 6 Student Alessandro participated in the Finals of the Catalonian Championship of swimming representing The British College of Gava. Alessandro finished in 3rd position, in the 50 meters freestyle swimming competition of "Final del Campionat de Catalunya" (Catalonian Regional Championship), under the "Jocs Esportius Escolars de Catalunya".

He also participated in the final of the 50 meters butterfly finishing in a brilliant 9th position.



SECONDARY NEWS

Dear Parents,

Summer Fair

We hope that you can attend the rescheduled Summer Fair on Saturday 17th June, from 12 to 4 pm. Please refer to our email for details about the Fair programme; it would be great to see as many of you there as possible!

TOK Exhibition

The Theory of Knowledge exhibition was a fantastic BCG event. It brought together a lot of learning and the philosophy underpinning the Theory of Knowledge. The students chose a specific cue from their IB knowledge 'prompts' and presented three objects they had some affinity to. The exhibitions are a third of the total mark for the core components of the IB Diploma programme.

Trips to London and Normandy

At the time of going to press, more international residential trips will be underway. Fifteen Year 12s will be in London, and we have the Normandy Trip out too for twenty three Year 7s - we do wish them the very best and we know that, even though they are away from home, they will uphold our core values.

Taster Days for Y6

On Wednesday and Thursday this week, the students will have a specially constructed timetable which will utilise the Year 7 teachers. The current Y7s will be away from school on the Normandy trip. Ms Bell and Mr Alonso will be their go-to Form Tutors for those two days. This is intended to give the students an authentic taste of life in Year 7.

Pre/IB and IA Intensives

The groundwork laid out by the Y11 pre-IB course is based around the core of the IB programme; there will be an adjusted timetable over the period next week, so the students will know what to expect from the new curriculum. The Y12s will have specific preparation for what they need to do in Y13.

REMINDERS

- Ensure that your Year 7 to Year 11 child has brought in their Chromebook by **Tuesday 20th June**. There will be a schedule for handing them into Ruben according to Form class. The window to do so is between Monday the 19th and Tuesday the 20th of June. We will have to charge for them if not handed in by that date. We will accept students' Chromebooks from Thursday of this week.
- Students must empty their lockers for the school refresh over the summer.
- Remember, this was a transition year for the new uniform. All garments to be worn in school must be from the 'new' uniforms range.

SECONDARY KEY DATES

- 13th June - Book Fair and Bake Sale
- 13th-14th - Year 6 to Year 7 - Secondary Taster Days
- 14th - 15th June - Y12 Group 4 Project Week
- 14th June - 9 am to 10 am - Parent Rep Meeting Key Stage 5
- 14th June - Y10 & Y12 - 12pm Full Reports to HoFs
- 15th June - ECAP Term 3 Ends
- 16th June - Y10 Y12 - 12 pm - Full Reports to Tutors
- 19th-21st June - Y11 Pre-IB Courses
- 20th June - Group 4 Exhibition - Afternoon
- 21st June - Music Day Celebrating Dia del Abuelo (mostly Primary with some Secondary)
- 21st June - Y11 Graduation
- 22nd June - Newsletter
- 22nd June - Full Reports to Parents
- 23rd June - Last Day - School Closes at 12:30 pm

Mr Ruddin



ESD Fair

The ESD enthusiastically presented their projects that they have worked so hard on over the last term. They have ranged in themes but all were centralised around sustainability. Students should be very proud of their hard work. Many students are going to continue to keep their projects ongoing. All were interesting and engaging and the non ESD students enjoyed seeing the activities their friends had undertaken.

Sarah Darby and Matthew Scheepers



Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Silver Qualifying Adventurous Journey

On Monday 29th May, 4 of our Year 13 students set out on their Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Silver Qualifying Adventurous Journey: Marsal, Yuvgen, Julian and Augusto. Their aim? To be self-sufficient and to thrive for three days with nothing but what they carried with them. They started with a challenging hike along the coastline from Garaff to Sitges, past active quarries, up hills and through woodland. They enjoyed a nice stop at a viewpoint, before descending down into the town of Sitges and walking along the coast to their campsite for the evening. Once there, they pitched tents, cooked dinner, and prepared for the second day.

Day 2 was the longest day of the expedition, but potentially the most exciting! In the morning the boys were up early. Breakfast was cooked and tents were packed up, and then they were off on another hike - this time from Sitges to Vilanova Port. From the Port they then embarked on the next stage - they kayaked across the bay and explored the coastline again, this time from the sea. Intense teamwork was required for the group to stay together in the two person kayaks, especially when enthusiasm resulted in the kayaks tipping over! Once back on dry land (and dry!), the group set off on their third and final part of this day's activities - they hiked back to Sitges along the coastal route. Once at the campsite, with tent up and food made, the group were given a well deserved chance to relax and recover.



Day 3 dawned bright and early... very early! The group was up and eating breakfast by 5am, and by 6:45 were packed up, tent and kit stowed, and ready to embark on their final route. Working incredibly as a team, they navigated inland, and hiked from Sitges to Sant Pere de Ribes, before looping around to Vilanova following hiking routes. Finally, three days, 21 hours of activity, and over 40km by land and sea, they made it to the finishing point and achieved a well deserved break.

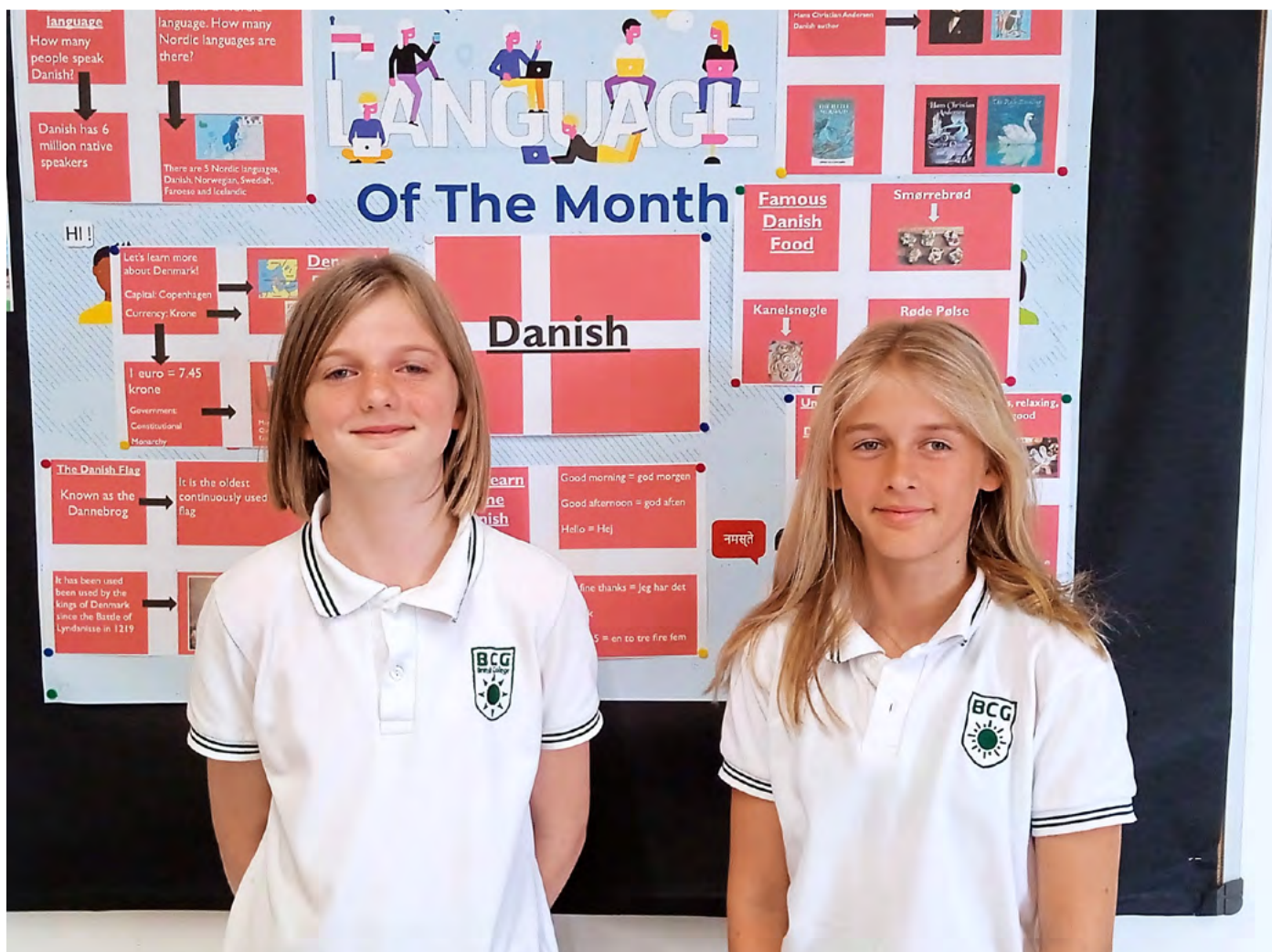


The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Adventurous Journey challenges young people to challenge themselves and to discover new aspects of themselves that they had not previously known. We were all very impressed with how well the boys did. Throughout the entire journey, Yuvgen, Marsal, Julian and Augusto would amazingly as a team. They looked out for each other along every step of the journey. They navigated unfamiliar terrain with an enviable level of confidence and proved to themselves that they were able to be successfully self-sufficient, while also demonstrating a wonderfully mature attitude at all times.

On behalf of everyone, I would like to congratulate them on everything that they achieved. A very big well done to them all!

Ella Lane
Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Coordinator

Registration for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program is currently open for all students in Year 10 upwards. If you would like more information on what it entails and how to get involved, email Ella Lane at ella.lane@bcgava.com



MAY LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH: DANISH

During May we celebrated Danish as our language of the month. We began with assemblies; learning first about the Danish language, for example did you know that Danish is one of 5 Nordic languages, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic and Faroese? We also learnt that 7.45kr of the Danish currency, the krone, equals 1 euro, that the Danish flag, the Dannebrog, is the oldest continuously used national flag in the world, that Danish people love to eat Smørrebrød (open sandwiches) and Kanelnegle (cinnamon swirls) and that, although the Danish word hygge can't be literally translated, we use it quite often in English! (it means having a relaxing, enjoyable time in good company) We also learnt to say "How are you?" (Hvordan har du det?) and "I'm fine thanks." (Jeg har det fint tak) A big thank you to Helene and Emma who helped a lot with the assembly and the display we put up. We are all looking forward to our next language of the month in September, if any families would like to get involved, or have any new ideas, please let us know!

Mr Fassam

ECAP & PE NEWS

ECAP

This is the final week of clubs. The last session is on Thursday 15th June. Thanks to all of our teachers and coaches for providing such wonderful opportunities for our students to work collaboratively in a range of worthwhile activities that help them to learn and grow. Many of our clubs involved mixed year groups where students worked in new environments with new people. As well as learning valuable life skills, many students have met new friends too bringing our community closer together!

The new ECAP schedule will be sent soon for 2023-2024. Please note that the sign up system will not be open until the current year ends. We need to transfer current year groups across to their new ones in our school registration system. In the meantime, you can get to planning and organising your child's after school programme, encouraging them to perhaps take risks and try something new!

Trips and Visits

Thanks to all the parents who attended our Trips meeting last week. Mr. Mower has linked the video presentation in his opening pages. As the booking system cannot be updated yet, we will send a google form for parents to register their initial interest and open the booking system later in the summer for final authorisation. Please be reminded that we must commit to these trips by September or risk disappointment as places will be taken by other schools.

PE News

Please be reminded that secondary students will be going to the beach in their PE time. If you wish your child to make their own way home afterwards, emailed requests must be received by Miss Bell (carolynne.bell@bcgava.com) or Sandra (attendance@bcgava.com) in advance.

MND Awareness, Wednesday 21st June (Donation Theme Changed)

This coming 21st June at BCG, we will be encouraging everyone to get involved with global MND awareness day by wearing the colours blue or yellow. Blue is the colour of the MND association in the UK and blue and yellow represent the tartan of a famous rugby player, Doddie Weir, who recently passed away due to MND.

MND is short for Motor Neuron disease and it is also known as ALS, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. You might have heard about it from a few years ago when lots of people got involved in doing the ice challenge to raise awareness or you might

have heard of it more recently through the amazing friendship of Rob Burrow and Kevin Seinfeld, 2 ex rugby players who are best friends. Rob Burrows first told everyone he had been diagnosed with MND in December 2019 and since then he and his friend have campaigned to raise money and funds for the disease.

What is MND and what happens when you are diagnosed? Well, it's a disease that affects the nerves known as motor neurons. These nerves are located in your spine and help tell your brain what your body needs to do. They are important as it is these neurons that help tell our bodies how to move, breathe, swallow, enable us to talk and lots more. With MND, your body is no longer able to do all these important things by itself and so you need lots of help. Because of the complexity of the disease, many people once diagnosed with MND will only live for 3-5 years.

We have decided to raise money for this important cause because it not only affects those who are famous and we learn about in the media but also those around us in our everyday lives. I am lucky enough to have two wonderful older siblings, a sister, Melanie and a brother, Neil. Our family grew up being encouraged to love travel and see the world. This led Neil to meet and marry his Chinese wife, Tianbi and move to China where they had two beautiful daughters. He is also a teacher and was working at an American International school until he was given an MND diagnosis last February. As hard as this news has been for us as a family, my brother has approached it with strength and positivity.

He was already my hero as a younger sister but more so now. One of his passions has always been to write poetry and this is one way he is helping to spread awareness of the disease. Branding himself The ALS poet, he has worked tirelessly to record his poems and share them with the world. His poems appeal to all ages and were always loved by the children he used to perform to. One of Neil's goals is to not let this disease spoil his love of fun and bringing joy through his poems. As well making people more aware of MND so that hopefully, in the future a cure can be found.

So, please, get involved and dig out your blue and yellow for the 21st and help to raise awareness. Perhaps we will share a poem or two from my brother as well.

Ms. Stevens

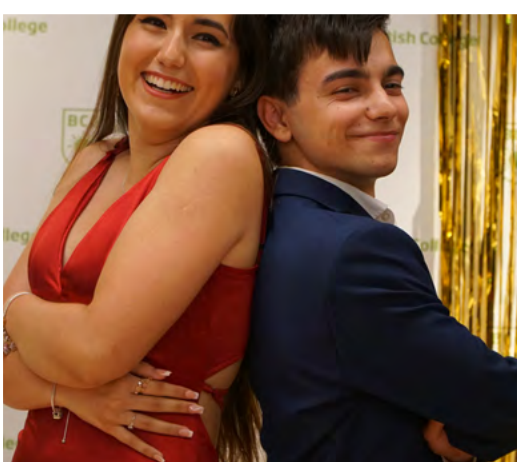
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