



BCG Newsletter

30 May 2023



Sports Stars!

Congratulations to the Yellow team and the Green team who won the EYFS and Primary sports Days respectively! Such great events and it was lovely to see parents here this year. These events are always so well organised and I would like to thank all the staff involved. In the race next year I will actually change into sports gear so I can run a little faster!

The Residential Trips

These have been a real success and it is so lovely hearing the stories from the children on their return. We had year 9 and 10 students out in Rome, The Year 5s in Mas Pinsach, the Year 3s spent the night under the sea at the aquarium and Year 6 discovered Madrid. Everyone was exhausted when they returned and everyone did a lot of walking but what fantastic memories they will always have!

We have made note of a few things that can be improved for the coming years but all in all these well organised trips have been hugely well received. Please do have a good look in the newsletter at the great photos!

Examinations

After 3 very busy weeks the IB exams are now over, the GCSEs are well underway and this week the Year 10 and Year 12s are doing their end of year mock examinations under exam conditions in the exam hall. Children across the school have been doing end of year assessments - it has been great to see everyone take these exams and tests very seriously.

Year 13 Graduation

Our first IB cohort, and our largest Year 13 cohort will have their graduation dinner this Friday evening. I look forward to sharing an update and photos with you in the next newsletter. These students have worked so hard for so many years and they thoroughly deserve this celebration, with their parents and teachers.

Uniform

The uniform policy has been updated and we ALL expect students to wear full uniform from September onwards. There is a 10% discount during the month of June for in-person sales

Upcoming in June

The end of year is full of events with music concerts, ballet performances, the Summer Fair and so much more. Remember to check the Parent App to stay updated.

Enjoy the long weekend!

Simon Mower
School Principal

EYFS AND PRIMARY NEWS

Dear Parents and Families,

I am writing this fortnight's newsletter as I am sat on the bus back to school from the Year 5 residential trip. It has been a wonderful few days away, not least because of the beautiful setting we stayed in but having the great privilege of seeing our Year 5 children amongst nature and fresh air.

I really feel I have witnessed something great as each and every child stepped outside of their comfort zones and tried things for the very first time. Horse-riding, Zip Wire and driving quad bikes were the real highlights. The children organised themselves really well and were fantastic ambassadors for BCG. I want to thank all of Year 5 for allowing me to be part of something really special.

Even with Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 each having their residential trip in the past week, it has been still all systems go back to school. There was a special Ancient Benin art day in Year 4 and both our Reception and Year 1 classes enjoyed their nature-themed trips out.

Have a lovely day.

Un abrazo,

Miss Kelly Wakelin
Head of EYFS & Primary School

Reception school trip Starfish and Little Fishes

What a fantastic trip we enjoyed this week!

The children explored the different aromatic plants, learnt how to look after them and how to plant seedlings successfully, they planted their own veggies in the allotment, went on a running tour through the maze, enjoyed their picnic lunch under the shady trees, decorated and planted their own flower before enjoying a good play in their fabulous park!! We hope you enjoyed the beautiful flowers they brought home with him.

Ms Franckeiss





Year 1 Trip to La Granja

Last week, Year 1 went on a trip to La Granja and we had a truly magical experience.

When we arrived, we met our personal tour guide, Yoli, in the middle of the woods. She told us that we had to go on a mission to collect some precious and colourful stones. We accepted the challenge!



Using the magical power we collected (and ate) from the large, shiny purple stone, we unlocked the invisible door to the forest with a magical spell and went to meet the wandering Queen of the Elves, Miss Lily. She told us that the naughty elves had stolen all of her special items and that we had to get them back: The Heart of Kindness, the Mirror of Courage and the Sandtimer of Patience.

To get the Heart of Kindness, we had to walk along a net very high in the air and meet our friend in the middle. It was a bit scary, but we all did it! To get the Mirror of Courage, we worked as a team to complete the obstacle course and stay out of the shark-infested water. Finally, we gained the Sandtimer of Patience by staying very still and waiting for the little bunny rabbits to come and eat grass out of our hands. After recovering the stolen items for Queen Lily, we placed them in a bag and they magically transformed into special gems which we took home to remind us of our day and how strong and brave we can be.



Ms Kempner



Year 3 Residential Trip to the Aquarium

For their first ever residential trip the Year 3 classes visited the Aquarium in Barcelona. We children had a tour of the aquarium learning about different plants and animals in the aquarium and then enjoyed a delicious dinner of pizza!

It was a particularly special trip as two children had their birthdays on that day and we celebrated with cake! We then took part in a treasure hunt and found out even more facts as well as exploring different objects and trying out a range of challenges and games.

The children then got ready to sleep right next to the shark tank and the children woke up to see the amazing views of sharks and fish swimming past as though we were under water.

All of the children did well and had an amazing time on their first ever residential trip - well done Crustaceans!

Miss Baker and Miss Stevens





Year 4 Residential Trip to Mas Bado

On Wednesday 15th May, our Year 4 children arrived at school super excited, all ready to set off on their first school residential and it did not disappoint! We had an absolutely AMAZING trip! The facilities including fantastic experienced monitors, healthy and delicious food, the wonderful outdoor natural environment and the exciting activities all contributed to make magical memories. For us, the teachers, it has been a real pleasure to spend these 3 days with the children. Seeing them work together, try new activities, take risks, show independence and most of all spend so much time outside in the fresh air has been wonderful! The children have been so active from pre-breakfast forest runs (due to a small teacher error waking them up an hour too early on day 2!!!), human foosball, high ropes, quad bikes, archery and so much more! We have seen new friendships form and children showing resilience and patience. We have also been very impressed with how the children have supported each other in different ways and their maturity. Well done and thank you, Year 4 for a very happy and successful first residential trip.

Ms Pilcher



Mas Pinsach 2023 - A wheely good time had by all of year 5!

Oh my quad! What a fun and hill-arious few days away we had in the mountains of Girona. Being away from technology allowed the children to really recharge their batteries and harness their interest in the outdoors. With a focus on team building skills and trying exciting new activities we were able to really peak the children's interest. They found the treasure hunt to be a real walk in the park but when it came to horse riding many of the children were naturally hesitant. "To ride or not to ride?" that was the equestrian. The bravery continued on every new activity and despite apprehension, we were able to rope all the children into ziplining through the forest. Exploring new heights left the children pining for more. Later the children tried their arm at archery to which Alex and Victoria's accuracy was on point. As the sun came out on the second day, the children floated the idea of jumping in the swimming pool and when the teachers jumped in to join them they made a real splash! The food was fresh and healthy so none of the went hungry. To ensure we didn't oversleep and miss the bus on the last day, the center kindly woke the children with a 07:30am fire drill – to which Mr Sales had just enough time to remove his face mask!

On a more serious note though, I would like to thank Miss Marta, Mr Sales and Miss Wakelin for supporting me on the trip and showing nothing but care and support towards all of the Year 5 children. With so much to do and so many wonderful new experiences nearby, Girona is definitely a place we will visit with BCG children in the future!

Mrs Baron



SECONDARY NEWS

This is the penultimate newsletter of the year, and as we move into the final weeks of term, ahead of us are the various activities, graduations, concerts and the other inalienable parts of school life. It has been a year well spent.

BCG's Summer Fair will be held on the revised date of Saturday 17th June. There promises to be a lot of artistic showcases, along with live music, exciting food and entertainment. Please support this fundamental community event in the school calendar.

Exams

In the background meanwhile, I am pleased to report that we are now over halfway through the total number of GCSE sessions. This week sees the first mock exams for the Year 10s and 12s. In line with the UK half term, there are no GCSE exams scheduled this week. In their place, we are looking to give as realistic an experience as possible to those year groups who will be sitting their exams next year in the Sports Hall.

Trips

The students from Years 9 and 10, by all accounts, had a great time on the recent Rome Trip. They visited many historical sites, which will doubtless live long in their memories. Year 12 will travel to a little village called London (the hometown of a fair few of us) at the end of next week. Another highlight was last week's very successful Ocean Day where the KS3 students went to Sitges Ocio Park and spent the second half of the day beach cleaning, and having a wonderful time! I am delighted to confirm that we can continue to use our unique setting to ensure the students can enjoy the facilities both at school and on the beach.

A few reminders

Do make sure the students wear helmets to school if they bring their bikes or scooters. They must also lock their vehicles securely. Please check the lost property as there are many items of uniform that have not been claimed.

Mr Ruddin



UKMT Maths Challenge

Last month our students took part in the final UKMT Maths Challenge of the year. This time it was the turn of the Year 7 & Year 8 mathematicians who took part in the Junior Challenge and the results were phenomenal. Over half of those who took part achieved enough points to win one of the medals, and their overall return was 11 bronze medals, 4 silver medals and 2 gold medals.

The list of medalists is too long to print all of the names, but we should make special mention of our two 'golden girls' who achieved the top award - Helene (Year 7) and Victoria (Year 8).

We are incredibly proud of all of our young mathematicians who stepped outside of their comfort zone to take on this very challenging competition. The future of mathematics here at BCG looks very bright indeed!

Thanks,

Mr Lester





Duke of Edinburgh's International Silver Award

On Wednesday 24th May, our group of four Silver Duke of Edinburgh's International Award participants completed their final practice expedition and the required training for the kayaking section of their expedition. Julian, Augusto, Marsal and Yuvgen enjoyed a pleasant walk, with relevant kit, down the beach from Gava Mar, and then went on from there to Canal Olympic where they had an hour session on the water. We engaged in different activities to test the participants' kayaking ability, swimming strength and teamwork skills, and it was fantastic to see everyone was prepared and ready for their qualifying journey.



Why was a kayaking practise required? Well, part of their second day's travel on their qualifying expedition will be by sea kayak! In fact, as you are reading this, our Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Silver group is more than half way through their three day qualifying expedition. This is the last expedition of this school year, and it's right to end with a challenge! They will have completed a day's hike from Garraf to Sitges, one night camping, then a second day with a shorter hike followed by a section traversed by sea kayak. They will still have one camping night to go and one final day's hike to Vilanova. I hope you join me in wishing them all of the best luck for the rest of the expedition! What a wonderful way to end their school journey!

Registration for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is still open for students in Year 10. If you would like to register your child, you can do so over the School Booking System.

Ms Lane

Physical Education - Beach Time in June

We would like to remind students in years 7 - 10 that in the month of June, all PE lessons will take place at the beach. We will be taking an array of equipment to Gavà Mar and enjoying some sport in the sun. A hat, water bottle and sunscreen is recommended as well as swimming clothes, a towel and a plastic bag to put your wet clothes in after the session. **All students** will be returning to school for the normal 16.30 departure.

Ms Bell

ENRICHMENT NEWS

Enrichment News - Trips

It has been a super busy and extremely exciting few weeks in the BCG Enrichment Department. The year 9 and 10 students had an amazing time in Rome, the year 6's had a marvelous trip to Madrid, the year 4 to Mas Bado and the year 5 to Mas Pinsach. Our year 3 students also enjoyed their awesome annual sleepover at the aquarium. In a few days we say 'buen viaje' to our year 12's travelling to London and year 7's to Normandy. The secondary students not attending residents this year, had their fun day out last Wednesday at Ocio Adventure and then at the beach where much hilarity was had turning Linus into a sand mermaid!

The staff on trips thus far have reported that the behaviour of our students was, for the most part, exemplary. Well done to our BCG students for being excellent ambassadors of the school and its ethos. Moniek and I would like to sincerely thank the staff that accompanied and will accompany upcoming trips this year. We appreciate this is a stressful, challenging and exhausting yet rewarding experience when you have both the responsibility for students and the privilege of getting to know them outside our school environment. Thank you, thank you and thank you again, for your energy and ensuring our children made memories that will last a lifetime.

The trip's plan for 2023-2024 is already in motion and sees us exploring local culture and environments. Please join us to find out more on Thursday 8th June at 09.00 in the auditorium.

Enrichment News - ECAP

Our term 3 ECAP programme ends on Thursday 15th June. Our programme for next year is in place and will be shared shortly. Sign up will be open on Monday 19th June and remain open until 1st September 2023. We will also be modifying the signup process. From next academic year, should you enrol in a club, your place will automatically roll over to the next term. This will avoid termly sign up reminders. More information will be sent to families when we open the signup process.

Ms Bell



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