



# BCG Newsletter

January 21st 2022



LA VANGUARDIA

AULA - ELEGIR COLEGIO

## “Quien visita la escuela percibe que somos una gran familia”

• Entrevista a Simon Mower, director de The British College of Gavà (BCG)



Simon Mower en las instalaciones exteriores de The British College of Gavà, un entorno verde y agradable. (Imagen de The British College of Gavà)

### Welcome to our Newsletter

Welcome to the first newsletter of the term. We have had two very tough weeks but all of the

students and staff have soldiered on. Last week we had many staff off and whilst many are now back, the number of students away this week has risen. With classes being taught online from the UK as well as in the classroom the flexibility and versatility of our staff has been extraordinary. Each evening

we assess the needs for the following day and communicate these to staff, this is then revised each morning as new staff and students COVID updates come in. The plan was changed and communicated again. This requires staff to be flexible and willing to go from one class to another at short notice. It is a great testament to their professionalism that they continue to do this to ensure we keep delivering excellent education to the students. This week we have three year groups in quarantine but are looking forward to welcoming the Year 5s back on Tuesday.

Many of you will have seen La Vanguardia on Thursday where BCG was included in their education supplement for parents looking for great schools. More details can be found later in the newsletter and the full article can be found on the [BCG Online Blog](#).

On Wednesday morning we were delighted to host our Parent Rep Update. With most reps able to attend we presented a range of updates that are now available for all parents to see. We discussed COVID (again), the challenging VISA situation for new staff, the soon to be published Welfare Strategy as well as overviews on Language teaching from Ms Pou and PE in the curriculum from Mr Steadman.

Ms Paulina Valverde has joined us as Head of Marketing and will start working on a number of projects with parents as well as companies within the wider community. Please look out for her regular contributions in the newsletter to see how you can get involved.

We have a good number of new staff who have joined us this term and we will start introducing them here. I would like to wish them all a very warm welcome to the BCG family.

We are very excited by the development of the IB Career related Programme that we are currently in the process of having authorised. The IBCP will start in September and offer students more practical pathways into Business related courses.

### Dates for your diary:

- GCSE meeting for Year 9 on February 1st at 5pm
- Primary Parents Reps meeting February 2nd at 9am
- IBDP meeting for Year 11 on February 14th at 5pm

**Simon Mower**



Every year, the newspaper La Vanguardia (one of the top five selling papers in Spain) publishes a special, giving guidance to parents on what to consider when choosing a school for their children. This year, The British College of Gavà had the opportunity to be part of this curated list of schools worth visiting.

[READ ARTICLE IN ENGLISH](#)

<https://bcgonline.blog/2022/01/20/the-british-college-of-gava-recognised-by-la-vanguardia/>

## SECONDARY

Dear parents,

I hope all of our families had a relaxing Christmas and New Year. It has been a busy two weeks with a lot of Covid-19 cases so I hope everyone is safe and healthy. If you or your children have contracted the virus I hope you are not feeling too sick.



I would like to celebrate some sporting news with the community. Noa and Marc Cedillo competed in the Copa de España for snowboarding last weekend and both performed extremely well, with Noa finishing 2nd in her age category! Arnau Masclans has been selected to represent the Catalonian Hockey team, a huge well done to him also. Finally we have Andrei Bozniakov, he won 1st place in a Catalonian chess tournament, a huge achievement, well done!

Last call for surf lessons, if you would like your child to attend (Years 7,8 &9) please fill out the google form or email me directly. Unfortunately the sign up has been small so if we do not get any more confirmed participants next week we will have to cancel the programme.

Thank you,

*Danny Steadman*



# NEW STAFF



**Hector Alonso**  
*Primary Teacher*  
(Y4)

I am Hector Alonso Martinez, and I am a Primary School Teacher specialised in Physical Education. Although I am from Madrid, Spain I have been living and teaching at a school in the UK for the past eight years where I was a subject coordinator.

I am very passionate about sports and I love learning about new cultures and languages.

I am new to BCG, however I have felt very supported and welcomed both from staff and students. What a great community!

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**Paulina Valverde**  
*Head of Marketing*

My name is Paulina and I am delighted to be the new Head of Marketing at BCG. After living in China, Dominican Republic, Switzerland, United Kingdom and New Zealand, I decided to come back to Spain (where I was born and raised) after 10 years of living abroad. During the past years, I got the opportunity to develop my professional skills within a multicultural community, which I find of great value. I am a people's person and love filling up my days with fun activities like scuba diving or horseback riding. I always welcome a good book recommendation and a chat over coffee.

The first days at BCG have been great fun, as I got to meet an amazing team of professionals (teachers and admin) that go above and beyond to give students the best education possible. I was also lucky to meet some parents and children. If you see me, say hi!



**Tony Morrison**  
*Primary / Secondary*  
*Teacher*

Hi, I am very excited to join the amazing team and students at the British College of Gavà. I have worked as a teacher for 12 years and I hold a Degree in Computers Science and Masters Degree in Education. I have been both trained in Primary and secondary level education.

Throughout my teaching career I have mostly travelled internationally and enjoy working with such amazing staff and students from many different cultures, I am Irish and still have my accent so you may notice me. Since joining the British College of Gavà I have been welcomed with such friendly professional staff and very polite and motivated students.

I know I will embrace working at the school and I am looking forward to meeting parents and other members of the community. I am a very approachable person and would be glad to answer or help you in any way. Let's all have a fantastic year of learning, inspiration and achievement.

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**Matthew Downie**  
*Secondary*  
*Chemistry Teacher*

I am a chemistry teacher originally from Leicester in the UK with experience teaching in the UAE, Japan and Mexico having taught the UK, IB and US curriculum.

I am really happy to have the opportunity to be here at BCG and enjoyed every minute of my time here so far.

Outside of school, I am a big rugby fan, supporting my home team of Leicester Tigers and the England national team.

# ENRICHMENT

Dear parents and guardians,

We start this week's news with a congratulations to Andrei Bozniakov in Year 13. After his top 10 place in November's International Chess Tournament he followed up with an amazing **1st place** in the Catalonian Chess Online Championships held in December! We have such amazing chess talent in our school and the new ECAP chess clubs will benefit from Andrei's guest appearances over the term where he can share his knowledge and strategies with his fellow students.



The enrichment ECAP programme in general is up and running with the students benefiting from a range of holistic after school experiences. We added the weekend football league to our list of events this year and our year 5 & 6 squad played their first match on Saturday. Despite losing, they had a wonderful time meeting new friends and socialising together. Coach Ruben will take the 7-0 scoreline as seven things to work on in training and we are sure this team will make progress as the season continues. To add your child to any of the ECAP sessions please email [ecap@bcgava.com](mailto:ecap@bcgava.com) and we will be happy to help.

Our educational trips begin next week with year 6 visiting a volcano to enhance their current Geography and Science learning. On the same day, years 7 and 10 (plus our year 11 IGCSE PE student) are out on a cross-curricular P.E., Science and Art trip starting the day with the Human Bodies Exhibition and ending with a tour of the interactive Van Gogh museum. Please be reminded to check your emails and information posted on the school's website to see the range of trips and visits open to your child this term. If you have not authorised these already, please do so this week via [trips@bcgava.com](mailto:trips@bcgava.com) as the school booking system has now closed.

Wishing everyone a happy weekend,



***The Enrichment Team***

# HOSTING PROGRAMME

## RECIPROCAL HOSTING PROGRAMME

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The enrichment team is excited to announce a new opportunity for our students to meet new friends, demonstrate open-mindedness and support the launching of a collaborative community project. We are looking to build a **reciprocal hosting programme with our sister school in Andorra** and **we require the goodwill and support of our BCG families to make this a success.**

We would like to invite the British College of Andorra's secondary school students (Year 7 and up) to join us here in Gava for a week of educational and cultural activities. We are perfectly placed in May 2022 to provide the BCA students with a week filled with water sports and sightseeing; truly appreciating and making the best of our school's amazing location and our local environment. BCA would then accommodate our students in February/March of 2023 allowing us the opportunity to take advantage of their school's proximity to amazing ski resorts and to be introduced to some of the unique qualities of life in Andorra.

To make this happen and keep costs to a minimum, we will rely on the families of our BCG students hosting peers from BCA and making them feel like part of your family during their stay. We ask that your BCA guest is absorbed into your way of life and welcomed like an extended member of your family for the 4 nights and 5 days they will spend with you.

We created this expression of interest (Eoi) form in order to find out how many BCG families would be considering this opportunity. We will be sharing more information with you soon.



[FILL OUT FORM](#)



\*There is no financial support or payment offered for hosting.

# ECAP - CLIMBING

## CLIMBING ACTIVITIES

With our Sharma Climbing extracurricular club thriving during term time, they have decided to launch a week's camp that coincides with the BCG half term holiday.

From the 21st to the 25th of February students aged 4 to 12\* will be able to try climbing for the first time or explore the sport even further. During the day each child will take part in fun activities with expert climbing coaches as well as art and group games.

Discounts for BCG students available and more information below.



**FEBRUARY 21ST TO 25TH**  
**WINTER**  
*Camp*



AT SHARMA CLIMBING, YOU CAN ENJOY OUR WINTER AND SUMMER CAMPS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

THROUGH GAMES, WORKSHOPS, CRAFTS AND MUCH MORE, WE WILL ENTER THE WORLD OF ADVENTURE AND CLIMBING, HAND IN HAND WITH OUR TECHNICIANS AND MONITORS.

THROUGH GAMES, WORKSHOPS AND MUCH MORE, WE WILL OPEN YOU TO THE CLIMBING AND ADVENTURES WORLD, ALWAYS SUPERVISED BY OUR INSTRUCTORS

**PRICE:**

- 1 day: € 30 / kid
- 2 days: € 50 / kid
- 3 days: € 75 / kid
- 4 days: € 100 / kid
- 5 days: € 125 / kid

**\*FOOD NOT INCLUDED\***



**BASE HOURS:**  
**9-13 h\***

**EXTENSION\*\*:**

- Until 14h: +10€
- Until 16h: +15€

**\*\* INCLUDES: FOOD + GAMES + SNACK**

**10 % discount**

On the base price for siblings  
**DISCOUNT CODE: HERMANOS\_CASAL**

**10 % reservation discount on the base price**

Reservations before January 20 have a 10% reservation discount on the base price (not combinable with other discounts)  
**DISCOUNT CODE: RESERVA\_ANTICIPADA**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
Comfortable clothes, sports shoes.

Lockers available to leave your backpack (it works with a padlock)

Please book your place at the link below

<https://ticketing.tripadmit.com/book?tourId=61dd6f5f16b8d2020f08f166&language=es>

\*If your son or daughter wants to attend but is older than 12 please contact Mr Pilcher [dan.pilcher@bcgava.com](mailto:dan.pilcher@bcgava.com)

# FOREST SCHOOL





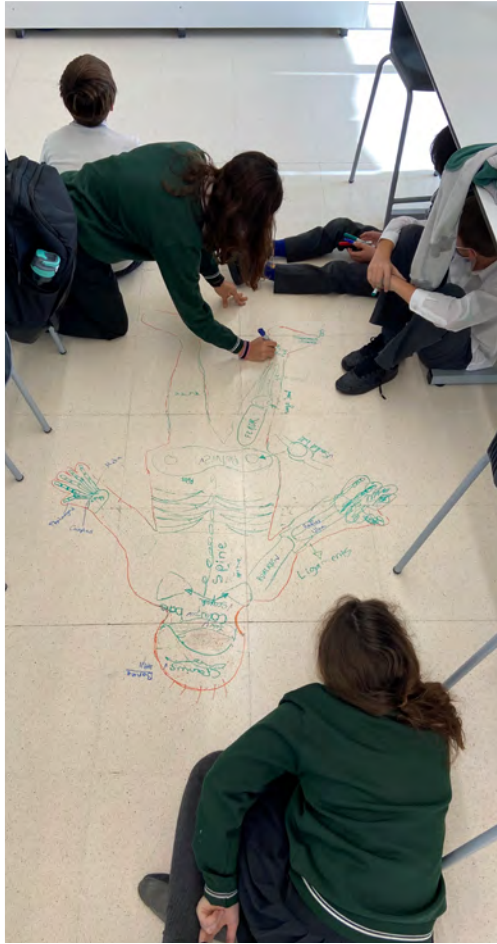
# FOREST SCHOOL



# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEKS



# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEKS



# OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

## 4Voices - Public Speaking Competition

[MumAbroad](#) and [Educate to Communicate](#) are bringing together a wealth of talent from the world of public speaking, broadcasting, education and marketing by launching the competition [4Voices](#).

This year's theme is 'Make a Difference' and is specifically aimed at **Year 11 and Year 12 students**.

The deadline for initial entries (a 60-90 second video on their idea about how to Make a Difference) is **February 21st**, after which 12 stand-out students will be selected, given specialist training online by our handpicked communications coaches and go on to partake in the final on April 30th.

\*This competition is not endorsed or associated by BCG and this is only an informative note. BCG takes no responsibility or liability.



A brand new public speaking competition  
with the theme '**Make a Difference**'

**30 April 2022**

**Barcelona**

[www.4-voices.com](http://www.4-voices.com)

# UPCOMING OPEN DAYS



Our leading international school in Barcelona, just confirmed its upcoming Open Days. Providing first class education in a green and friendly environment, this is an IB World School where your children are encouraged to become empathetic, confident global citizens.

Visit our campus, meet the School Principal and get the opportunity to speak to our teachers.



## JOIN US & VISIT OUR CAMPUS

<b>Open day</b>	4th February	14:30
<b>Assessment day</b>	11th February	9:00
<b>Open day</b>	11th March	14:30
<b>Assessment day</b>	18th March	9:00

