



Weekly Bulletin

January 29th 2021



Welcome to our bulletin

I have had a wonderful week in classrooms throughout the Secondary school. It has been an absolute pleasure to see our fantastic teachers in action and witness the students being engaged and motivated in their learning. Honestly, I knew it would be good but I have been even more impressed than I had thought I would be. The lessons are varied, cater for individual needs and are intensive - I am sure most children are

tired when they get home - and I know the teachers are too! The learning is purposeful and relevant. What impressed me the most was the focus the students had as well as the desire to improve their understanding. Some might say that with me in the room they were on their best behaviour, and to some extent that is possibly true, however, I am confident that I have had a real reflection of the education your children receive. Over the next three weeks I will have seen all the teachers twice and am really looking forward to it.

I would like to remind all parents that the students across the whole school should be correctly dressed on arrival each morning. We have very clear guidelines on the uniform as well as PE kit. Last term the uniform was better but so far this term it has been disappointing and many students are wearing incorrect uniforms and look very scruffy and untidy.

I am out of school during the second part of next week helping in Andorra with the recruitment of their new

headteacher. One of the things I have been discussing with candidates is the importance of future links between our two schools. Once we are free to travel again, there are so many opportunities for cooperation between BCG and BCA and it is a very exciting prospect for our students. I will keep you informed of our plans over the coming months.

Lastly, I am delighted that our new school video is ready. I think it portrays the school and our community very well and I am sure that it will be much appreciated by you and prospective families considering joining BCG. Please share the link with your friends around the area to show them what a fantastic school we have!

Simon Mower

Dear Parents,

It has been another busy week in the Secondary School. The key stage 3 students have been working hard and I am pleased to announce they are receiving many learner profile points for their good behavior and hard work. The key stage 4 students have been working hard on their GCSE subjects. Year 11 have been recapping answers and receiving their marks for their mock exams. Teachers are currently writing reports for the Year 11 and 12 students and these will be made available in the coming weeks.

PSHE and Assembly

We have started our new PSHE and Assembly program in the Secondary School. Last week we talked about mental health and how to deal with stress and anxiety (Year 10 received this assembly on Tuesday). This week Mr Fassam gave an incredible assembly and PSHE session on our new initiative Language of the Month. This new programme is such an exciting way for the BCG community to celebrate the vast selection of cultures and languages we have at the school. Please read below for more information.

Uniform Policy

Uniform plays a very important role here at BCG, as we want our students to feel like they belong to a special community. Students should be proud to wear a uniform with the BCG crest to show the wider community what an incredible school they are part of. I have noticed that uniform has started to become rather slack and students are not wearing what they should be. The uniform policy is very clear and it is available on the BCG website. During break time today I saw students wearing their PE jumpers with school uniforms and students in PE kits but wearing leggings with large letters on them. With regard to PE kit I understood at the start of the year that many students had grown out of their skorts and shorts. I allowed students to wear different colour shorts or leggings whilst they purchased new PE kit. It has been 5 months since September and students have had ample time to purchase the correct uniform or PE kit. I will start to give kit marks to students who are not in the correct PE kit. 3 kit marks in a half term will result in a lunchtime detention. Students who are not following the school uniform will be sent to me and I will be contacting parents to ask why this student does not have the correct attire for school.

Attendance and Lateness

Since being appointed as the Head of Secondary I have the time to pop into each form room every day to wish the students good morning. I have been very surprised with the low attendance of each group. Could I remind parents, that students need to be in their form rooms for 8.45am, the school gates open at 8.30am. This is ample time for students to go to their lockers and prepare for the day's lessons. Students that are 5 minutes late to registration or lessons will start to receive negative points on iSams (lateness due to traffic or bus routes will be taken into consideration). Form time is an important part of the day as messages are given out and it gives students a chance to see their form tutor and discuss any issues or problems they might be experiencing in school. Form time is also a time to celebrate students' successes or hard work. With regard to lesson time students may have a single lesson, which is 45 minutes long, if a student is 5-10 minutes late to this class this has huge impacts on their learning.

As always I am available for a meeting or video call about any concerns or questions you may have. Please contact me with danny.steadman@bcgava.com.

Have a safe and wonderful weekend.

Mr Steadman



Dear Parents,

We have had another exciting week in the PE department, the PE team has taken advantage of the sunny weather and there have been lots of exciting football lessons occurring outside on our incredible 3G-football pitch. We have 4 students who received the coveted Sports Performer of Week Award this week. In EYFS we have Max Rodriguez Alvarez Year 1 for outstanding shooting and passing whilst working with a partner. In Upper Primary we have Sofia Sadovaya Year 3 for outstanding team play and leading by example, and Anna Luneva Year 6 for outstanding effort and great tackle technique in football. In Secondary we have Eric Prado Fernandez from Year 8, for fearless defensive work and incredible work rate. Well done to everyone who was selected!

Mr Steadman



IB Diploma Programme Authorisation Update

Over the next 2 weeks we will be busily preparing the necessary video and photographic evidence that the IB request be made available for remote verification visits. This includes a tour of our school given by our wonderful pupils with particular attention being paid to our new science laboratories and multimedia - library suite. We will also be recording live lessons so that our teachers and students can showcase what they do best. These recordings will be sent to the IB team of inspectors before the visit.

Our first prospective Diploma Programme students participated this week in an IB Learner Profile and International Mindedness workshop in which they discussed the concept of values in education. We asked them to evaluate their personal development in relation to the Learner Profile attributes - what are their strengths and which aspects would they like to improve? Their feedback will be shared with their teachers so that we can address areas for growth within our classes.

Thank you to Miss Jensen for starting off our 'Teacher Talks' sessions by presenting the Diploma Programme Visual Arts course to Year 11 alongside the Theatre course which I also presented. The excitement in the room was palpable and we are looking forward to contributing to the growth of our Arts department over the coming years.

Finally, all Year 11 parents and guardians have been invited to join a 'Pre-DP' Google Classroom to keep up to date on our preparation for the verification visit - please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like more information.

Ms Fenton

Dear EYFS and Primary Parents,

It's been a very happy and sunny week here in the Primary school with the usual buzz for learning in and around classes. It's always so nice to see the children skipping into school in the mornings excited for the day ahead!

Staff Update

This week we have held interviews online and in person to the short-listed candidates for Nursery class teacher. The process has included the usual rigorous interview questions but also short lesson plans, observations of teaching and discussions about safeguarding and the EYFS curriculum. We are very pleased to announce that Ms Claire Baker has been appointed the position and will start her new role as Nursery class teacher on Monday 1st March.

E Safety and appropriate screen time

Please can we remind parents to take safety measures at home, as we do in school, to ensure that children who may have older siblings do not see or hear inappropriate images on household tablets and in turn pass this onto their peers. There have been a few instances where children in the phase have drawn pictures that indicate they have seen or played computer games or TV shows that are inappropriate for primary aged children. Screen time and accessibility must be monitored and there are various ways of safeguarding children on electronic devices, such as parent pin codes. Occasionally, even YouTube adverts in between harmless cartoons can be pitched higher than the audience watching so please be extra mindful of this. Similarly, language used by older siblings. No children in Primary should ever have the need to use swear words or bad language. We

take this very seriously in school.

EYFS LP Gardens

A big thank you to Vicu and Cesar who have been busy in the gardens this week putting up our wooden fence divide between EYFS playground and Year 1. The natural wood adds to our fabulous space and allows the gardens to have a definite purposeful EYFS area. Next week, teachers have dedicated time in our weekly staff meeting to add to each class garden area. The children have shared their ideas and wishes and so we will begin to make dens and mud kitchens as requested, of course leaving some areas for the children to help us with where appropriate. Future art and science lessons will include building and planting our class flower boxes and painting the wooden seats.

Housepoints

This week we've seen lots of effort across both phases with children being mindful and actively using good manners, as mentioned last week. House points have been awarded for good effort in learning as well as being a good friend. This week the raring ready to go REDS have won the housepoint cup for the second week in a row! Well done to all the Red team!

Special events

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, next week we launch Children's Mental Health Week. As well as a special feature in the week's newsletter, teachers will be sharing photos and information about the activities children will be participating in via Google Classroom.

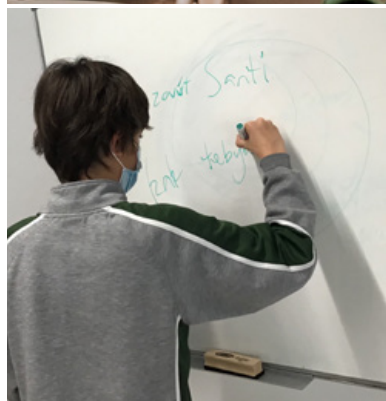
Academic Calendar

We are currently working on the academic calendar for the remainder of the school year. Due to the current pandemic, we are not able to plan ahead as we normally would. We have scheduled assessment and reporting weeks and some general events that will take place in school. This will be shared in this week's newsletter. Whilst we understand parents' frustrations, we really appreciate your patience and support with this. We will always endeavour to share diary dates in as much advance as possible. As the situation with the pandemic improves, we will be able to plan further ahead and will share details with you as

Language of the Month

This week we have introduced another exciting new project, the Language of the Month. The Language of the Month project concentrates on and celebrates a different language spoken by some of the pupils in our school community each month. February's language of the month is Russian. On Monday and Tuesday upper primary and years 7-10 had their first language of the month assembly. We learnt that we speak more than 35 languages in our school, with our students representing over 40 countries! We also learnt that more than 15% of our students speak Russian! We then found out a little more about Russian culture, before having a short Russian lesson with Mrs Berthet! This week we will be recording some of our pupils speaking Russian, so we all can learn some key phrases and vocabulary during the month. Later in February we will be having a Russian menu day, when our lunch will include some delicious Russian foods. We will also be doing some Russian themed activities in class throughout the month. This is another great opportunity for us to celebrate the fantastic diversity of languages and cultures we have here at BCG and give our children the opportunity to demonstrate the language skills they bring to school. Watch this space for the next language, next month!

Mr Fassam



LINGUISTS OF THE WEEK IN THE LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

EYFS and Primary:

The linguists of the week in EYFS and primary for being excellent communicators in one of the 3 languages are:

Reception: Spanish

James Fassam

Y1: Spanish

Kaine Afoa

Year 2: Spanish

Owls--Lily Mier

Robins - Antoine Menard

Y3: French

Andrii Pokrovskiy

Y4A: French

Lukas Dodd

Y4B: French

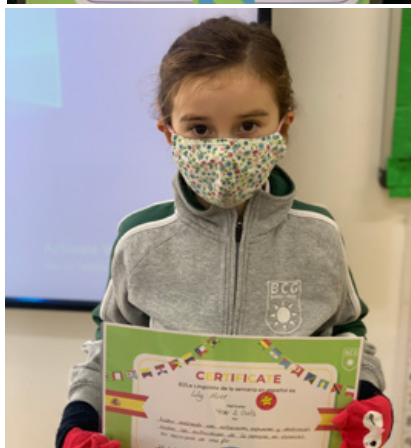
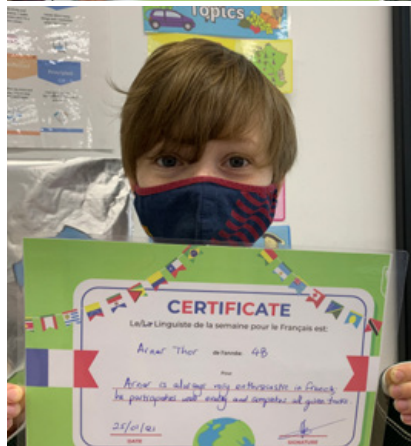
Anar Thor Kristinsson

Y5: French

Noa Cedillo

Y6: French

Laia Gaisser Gallo



Secondary:

The linguists of the week for our first value, CARING, are

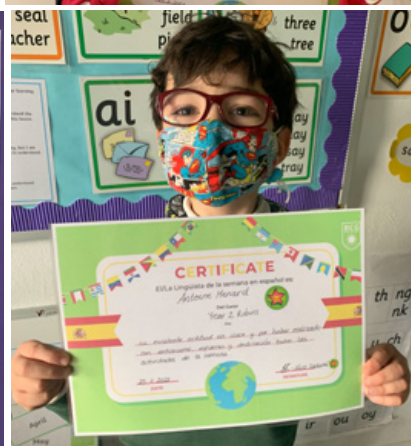
French: Niels Torrellas Year 8

Spanish: Philippe Boquet Year 7

Catalan: Adan Foreman Year 10

Congratulations to all of them!

Language Department



Primary Library

At last, our School Library is in use again, the children have certainly missed taking out books to share at home. We have had to make some changes due to COVID 19, and are taking precautions to maintain a high standard of hygiene in the library.

A schedule has been set up to ensure only 1 class at a time visit the library, and with no crossover of classes.

All children must use hand sanitiser as they enter the Library and again when they leave.

Returned books are placed in a labelled box with today's 'day' on it, at the end of the day this box is then placed in a secluded, airy room for a minimum of 72 hours before these books can be returned to the library. Each morning before the children arrives, a new 'clean box' with today's 'day' is put into the Library.

Our Librarians from Year 6 all wear disposable gloves when handling so many books and hand sanitiser when they have finished. They have been doing a fantastic job and the Library is looking fabulous. Thank you, Year 6.

Ms Scott



A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK



