



WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 11

**Dear
parents,**

Welcome to the BCG Friday newsletter. Each week we will be bringing you updates on school life, reminders of upcoming events and a focus on Educational aspects of school.

This week I am very pleased to showcase the recent developments regarding Studies, Music and sports.

We are working very hard to develop all aspects of our curriculum, however I am particularly thrilled with the great strides we are making in support of Music. The benefits of school Music programme are well documented and supported by extensive research.

For the individual pupil, increased neural activity and development of the left side of the brain supports language and reasoning, tests results across core subjects improve and the focus on creativity develops skills that are much sought after by future employers. Emotional development, increased coordination, sense of achievement and development of identity are other important elements of growth that are supported.

For the school as a whole, Music brings the school alive, brings community cohesion and a sense of joy. Visitors to the last floor can often be seen to pause, listen, then go to look through the window of the door into the Music room. This week, for example, in Year 7, pupils played cello, violin, guitars, drums, recorders, piano and glockenspiel to create group ensembles illustrating how to create a memorable song using a catchy riff, harmonic structure and melodic shape using the band Oasis as their model. This is just the start of our development of Creative Arts at BCG.

On Tuesday we had the school General Director, Andrew Atkinson, present to Secondary parents and pupils on the theme of the International Baccalaureate

Diploma Programme (IBDP). We are presently in the Candidacy Phase for authorization and the present Year 10 will be the first cohort at BCG to start the programme as they enter Year 12 in September 2021. I can attest that the IBDP is a truly outstanding program of study and interested parties are invited to contact Steven Lockwood (Head of Secondary) or me for further information. Please find the presentation attached on the email.



Finally, it is a pleasure to be on the gate in the mornings and please feel free to stop and introduce yourselves as you pass. Feedback is always welcome.

Have a great weekend,

John Prince

Primary and Secondary Sports day

Last week we had the first Sports Day of the year. It was a great event and I would again like to say thank you to everyone involved and the students who competed. As promised we will announce the winners. In 1st place we have the Red Team, in 2nd place we have the Green Team, in 3rd place we have the Blue Team and in 4th place we have the Yellow Team. The Red house were surprised winners as everyone thought the Blue house would bring home the gold. Over the academic year the students will be training and improving for the next Sports Day, I am sure the Blue, Yellow and Green house have scores to settle. We hope to see you at next years event.

Danny Steadman
PE Teacher



Our New Building

Cots i Claret, the construction company that is working on our new building, celebrated last week reaching the maximum height of the whole construction. They invited Mr Valverde and Mr Prince to a special lunch, together with all the construction team and architects, where they confirmed they will finalise and deliver the building on the month of December. Thanks for their hard work and commitment on making the plans and dreams of our new building, become a reality.



Our Sixth Form

These are exciting times to be in Year 12 and 13 at The British College of Gava and much has been planned to develop and help the students as they drive forwards towards life after school.

Our first careers lesson focused on the formatting and production of a current Curriculum Vitae. This guided the students to present on one page what they have so far achieved, and helped them understand the intricacies and importance of producing a precise and succinct resume of their lives so far. Once accomplished, they underwent interview skills training. This highlighted the highs and lows of the 'Dreaded Interview,' and covered many generic questions that they could be possibly asked once a future employer has inspected their CVs.

They watched examples of mock interviews and a few humorous interview moments, such as Rachel's interview for Ralph Lauren in an episode of Friends. They will undergo one more session of this before we will have, on Thursday 24th October, mock interviews with them in front of an invited panel. Any parents with interviewing experience should contact me at the school if they would like to be involved. The students have been asked to present themselves as they would a real interview.

On October 17th, BCG is hosting a University Careers Fair and several universities will be in attendance to advertise their courses and inform and persuade the students as to why they should choose their particular university. This will be swiftly followed by a trip into Barcelona on October 18th to a larger University Fair where the students will once again have the opportunity to explore the various options open to them.



I leave you in this particular news bulletin with memories of the whole school Sports Day on 4th October. Seven of the Sixth Form Team (which I believe we now are) turned up to help Mr Steadman's hugely successful first Sports Day. Their willingness to help was gratefully appreciated - Klara with the camera; Polina and Arian collecting the discus and shot putts; Kim and Andrea tirelessly measuring the distances of the throws; Adam helping on the Long Jump. Lucia was wonderful at collecting student data and recording the results - three hours in hot sunshine on a beautiful Gava day is no easy task.

My final words are to comment on the solid and impressive leadership skills displayed throughout the whole day by Joaquin. At the helm of the teams carrying the mountains of packed lunches onto and off the bus, then into the shade, then back onto the bus at the end of the day. Rallying students, supporting staff. A very good choice for Leader of the Student Council. Team BCG 6 - A Great Effort!

Katherine Ikonen
Team BCG 6 Tutor



Musical BCG

Exciting developments are kicking off this year in the Music Department! We have started many projects and are on track to fulfil our aim of being the best performing arts school in the area!

This week we began our instrumental lessons in piano, guitar, drums, violin, viola, and cello! There is still time to sign up your child for lessons. We also offer flute and singing lessons subject to demand. Keep in mind, from January we will offer an orchestra and we need violinists and cellists! On Tuesday, 15th October, at 9am there will be a Music Presentation to the Primary children, where students and some instrumental teachers will demonstrate their instruments. If you would like to come along and meet them, you are most welcome!

In Primary music classes we are learning how to read rhythm notation, and have been playing rhythms on the drums, and melodies on the keyboards and glockenspiels. The children have been exploring how music is descriptive, and Years 3 and 4 will soon embark on their own group compositions to describe a scene or a story of their own invention! Years 5 and 6 are learning about the History of Music, and are about to write their own compositions using medieval notation! We have also begun to learn a beautiful 3-part song from the Renaissance period in Latin!

Did you ever wonder why some songs are memorable and well known and others aren't? In Year 7 the children are analysing elements of how to write a great song, and are learning how to read and write melodic and rhythmic notation. Soon they will combine their knowledge and skills to write their own songs using a computer notation programme called Musescore, and online electronic composition software called Soundtrap.



Other news: a group of Secondary pupils ranging from Year 7 to 10 have started a band at lunchtime, supervised by Mrs. Foreman. They have already covered "These Days" and "Demons" and will begin working on "Bohemian Rhapsody" soon! They will be performing at the BISA (Barcelona International Schools Association) talent show in April.

Glee Club, or choir, is starting as an after school club this year, and we encourage more pupils to sign up for this. They will learn to sing in harmony and parts, and will be introduced to a range of genres from throughout the ages and around the world.



Musical Theatre Club has proven to be extremely popular on thursdays. A total of 28 children have signed up from Year 2 - 10! The younger pupils are learning songs, scenes and dances from a range of musicals, with the idea of performing to an audience at the end of the school year. The older pupils are working towards a full production of High School Musical to be performed in May or June! We have our full cast, except for the main male role of Troy Bolton. So if you're a Secondary boy who can sing and act and dance, we need you!

Concert time! We are preparing a Winter Concert for primary pupils, and from January hope to initiate a monthly lunchtime concert led by students who wish to play a piece informally in front of their peers. We are also organizing trips to the Palau de la Música in Barcelona so the children can see professional musicians of different genres performing in the elegant concert hall.

For the future the music and drama facilities in our fantastic new building will open up many more possibilities that we are looking forward to such as a samba band, choir and orchestra, among other things.

Claire Foreman
Music teacher



e-Athletes program

Our first week back in September saw the launch of the e-Athlete programme. The new initiative aimed at secondary students hoping to excel in sport alongside their studies has made an excellent start. Now, fifteen students ranging from tennis to football, Japan to Mexico arrive at different times of the day to study an online curriculum at school.

This programme allows a flexible approach to learning and makes use of our ever increasing technological capabilities in school. Students are able to choose courses that suit their needs in order to progress in sport or university and uses an online platform with people from all over the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new students on a fantastic start to life at BCG and adapting brilliantly to this new style of learning.

Dan Pilcher
e-Athletes Coordinator

Upcoming events

HALLOWEEN

October 25

Fancy Dress (Non-uniform Secondary)

All students are welcome to wear fancy dress or casual clothing on this day.

STUDY ABOARD FAIR

October 17

Students from **Year 10, 11 and 12** will meet representatives of International Universities at BCG.

Parents invited.

UK UNIVERSITY FAIR VISIT

October 18

Our sixth formers will visit this important fair in Barcelona

