

BCG Newsletter

10 October 2023





IB World Conference

Last week I attended the IB World Conference with three of my colleagues, Ms Fenton (IB Programmes Coordinator, Ms Bell (Head of Academic Enrichment) and Mr Lester (Head of Mathematics). We went to Dublin for four days and met up with three staff from our sister school BCA. It was an extremely interesting conference with attendees from all over the world discussing all aspects of education, learning and teaching. It was invaluable to have the opportunity to share ideas with other teachers and school leaders and we have come back with lots of ideas and many contacts.We also had an opportunity to meet our IBCP partner SUMAS as well as explore some other exciting Pathways with some other very well known companies.

Secondary Sports Day

Whilst we were away the Secondary School held the annual Sports Day and in this newsletter you will be able to read a report and see some lovely photos of this great event. With Ms Bell in Ireland, it fell on Mr Pilcher to take over the running of the event with the help of Mr Alonso and a good number of secondary teachers. My sincere thanks to all those teachers that took the initiative to help whenever needed and to ensure the day ran smoothly..

Coffee mornings

We recently held our second Coffee Morning - our EYFS & Primary Overview. Many thanks to Ms Stevens, Ms Ford and Ms Franckeiss for their informative presentation. This event was well attended and the teachers, Ms Wakelin, myself and other colleagues enjoyed a relaxed conversation with parents afterwards. This week we are also looking forward to the Secondary Overview.

Charities

We have a range of fundraising activities happening over the coming weeks - I would encourage you and the children to support these very worthy causes wherever and however possible. More details can be found later in this newsletter.

> **Mr Mower** School Principal

EYFS & PRIMARY NEWS

RECEPTION

The children have had a wonderful start to the year. We have already enjoyed lots of fun activities including meeting some ducklings, making a bear cave (tepee), making clay models and fishing. Next week we will be exploring all things wormy and making an edible wormery as well as a real wormery!

Thank you to those parents who attended the Phonics Workshop, we hope you found it informative. For those parents who were unable to attend we will be organising another workshop over the next few weeks, A date will be confirmed on Google Classroom.

Miss Franckeiss

YEAR 3

Year 3 had an amazing day in Tarragona as part of their Roman topic. The weather felt like they were in Rome itself. They got to enjoy the fantastic Roman museum where they played traditional Roman games and learnt about what Romans wore. They then travelled over to the beautiful Roman amphitheatre and had a guided tour, learning about the types of events that happened there. They were all amazed to find out the Romans had tigers and lions at that arena. A fun day was had by all!!

Ms Stevens

YEAR 5

This has been a super exciting couple of weeks in year 5. First we had the wonderful trip to the planetarium at Cosmocaixa to learn about the planets, next we travelled to Mercabana to learn how to eat healthily. We got to taste a great selection of fresh fruit and vegetables and we even got potatoes to take home with us! Finally, we celebrated World Space Day on Wednesday by recreating the phases of the moon, building rockets and even making space food. A fantastic few days of learning.

Book Fair

Last week we celebrated our first whole school event of the new academic year, our BCG Book Fair and Bake Sale. As always, the event was well attended and many books across a range of genres were purchased. It is a real joy for me to see children eagerly scouring books and sharing their choices with their friends and family. I fostered a love of reading from a very early age and it is something we as a school feel extremely passionate about. Thank you to all of the families and staff that donated sweet treats for the Bake Sale. They literally ´sold like hot cakes´, as we say in England. From doughnuts to carrot cakes, pastries to lemon sponge and more, in just 20 minutes we raised 201,02 euro to kick start our fundraising for Cancer Charity in support of our dear colleague and friend, Sandra. We look forward to sharing more fundraising opportunities with you throughout the year in support of this very important cause.

Our next Book Fair will take place in the Summer term.

Miss Wakelin



Nursery Beach Morning Trip

Dear families,

Last Friday the little ones went on our first trip and it was very exciting! We were lucky enough to have most of the families in the class with us, so we all walked to the park together. Once there the unicorns had a great time on the zip wire, the see-saw and the slide, as well as eating our healthy snack.

When the sun started to get hotter we continued to the beach, the idea was to play a few games but it was so hot that we preferred to go into the sea for a swim! It was great fun!

Thank you all for a great day!

Ms Raquel









Children's Council

Dear parents,

This week the election of the two representatives of our school to the Gavà Children's Council took place in the Year 6 classrooms. They will join their Year 7 colleagues, Pol Chermés and Lola Chacon.

The Consell d'Infants is a children's participation body of the City Council of Gavà, an initiative that supports ideas for improving the city suggested by the younger generation. The main goal of the BCG councilors is to give their opinion, investigate, propose and make improvements for the municipality and its citizens.

For them our students had to have the following requirements:

- Understand and speak Catalan fluently.
- Have time to participate and attend meetings and activities.
- Have initiative and creativity.

From the language department we would like to thank all the participants and congratulate the chosen ones, Diego García and Berta Gaisser.

Mr Sales and Ms Paulina

Reading Club - Gavà Libraries

Dear families,

Gavà libraries have organised free reading and storytelling clubs in the afternoons. If you are interested in your children having more activities in Catalan and Spanish, this is a good opportunity. I am sharing with you a poster with all the dates and activities on offer. Please let me know if you have any questions and if you attend any activity, let me know how it went!

Have a nice week!

Miss Mireia



SECONDARY NEWS

The Autumn Term in Secondary school has now settled down a little! Year 7 students are managing to find their way around, and are getting used to different teachers and new routines. In KS3 (Years 7,8 and 9) we held assemblies where the older students shared some tips with the new Year 7s that they wish they had known about when they were in Year 7. We are going to continue this sharing of good ideas amongst students from all year groups, in assemblies and also in tutor time.

The biggest joy of Secondary Sports Day was just how many students willingly took part.The photos will show the enthusiasm that was on display, and some individuals competed in every available event for their age group. There were some very tired students in school the following day! Whilst there were several clear sporting stars of the future (not to mention the present), it was the breadth of involvement that was the most rewarding part of the day.

Thank you to the parents who came along to support their sons and daughters. The parent/teacher races at the end were the perfect end to the perfect day.

Now that we have an ever growing cohort of students in Secondary school, we have had to serve lunch to them at staggered times. Now we are a few weeks in to the new routine, it is clear just how much it has improved the lunch experience for all of our Secondary students.

Halloween is just around the corner, and there will be house based themes for the costumes, which the students will be told about shortly, by their tutors. We are looking forward to the usual very high standard of costumes, and decorated classrooms. Surely Miss Darby can´t win again...?

We look forward to touching base with you again after October Half Term. Happy holiday to you all!

Ms Edwards

DoFe

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's International Award expedition

17 students from Years 11 and 13 have been out in the countryside around Castelldefels and Gava Mar, taking part in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's International Award expeditions. So far in the planning stages they have demonstrated amazing resilience, teamwork, leadership and initiative, and I predict great things for the trip on the 10th and the 11th of October.

For four of these participants, it is their qualifying journey - a challenging experience that will span 12 hours of physical activity across the two days, and which will be a fantastic opportunity for personal growth and development. For the rest, it is their practice - the first of two journeys they will have to complete this year and an opportunity to build and develop vital life skills that will help them amazingly in the future.

Participants will engage in a hike through the beautiful countryside and mountains around Castelldefels, cook their own meals, camp overnight with their friends in a local campsite, and engage in other team building activities. For the practice group on the second day we then have the opportunity for them to delve into their kayaking skills to open this up as an optional mode of transport for their qualifying journey in April!

In other DofE news, I am thrilled that we have been able to organise the incredible chance for students in Year 12 to register for their SILVER Award, and to complete their practice and qualifying adventurous journey in the beautiful wilds of the Brecon Beacons in Wales during the Year 12 residential. It will be an incredible trip and will give all of our students the chance to make lifelong memories with their friends, and will open up so many different avenues for their futures. Taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an incredible opportunity for the young people in our community. It is a globally recognised, prestigious Award that helps to develop vital life skills such as leadership, resilience and collaboration. Achieving the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award will be a fantastic bonus for employment opportunities and university applications alike!

If your child is interested in registering for their Silver Award, please sign them up via the School Booking System as soon as possible.

Ms Lane



eATHLETES

This week 9 of our tennis playing eAthletes took part in the Circuit Absolut tournament held at Emilio Sanchez tennis centre. The tournament was an open age tournament which made it extremely competitive. In rounds 3 and 4 some of our students were even drawn against each other.



The tournament, which will see our students playing more competitive matches, will be held more regularly and is slightly unusual for the area as the playing surface is hard court instead of clay. We welcomed them back into the classroom as the tournament reached its latter stages.

Special mention for reaching the quarter finals and playing extremely experienced opposition to Eduard Khaikov and James Mcgloughlin. Well done!

Mr Pilcher





OTHER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Pink Oktober

Pink Oktober, also known as Breast Cancer Awareness and Women's Health Awareness Month is an international health campaign every October to increase awareness of women's health and the disease breast cancer.

With respect to age, race, religion and socioeconomic status, breast cancer knows no boundaries. Breast cancer affects everyone, not just the person diagnosed. Co-survivors, including family, friends and co-workers can feel the effects too, including within our school community.

In order to show our support, during the month of October, we are going to be raising money for the l'Associació Contra el Càncer a Gavà (Gavà's Cancer Association). You can now get your pink ribbon at reception and leave a donation in one of their money boxes - no amount is too small.

Also October 19th is International Day Against Breast Cancer. We encourage all our students to wear pink on that day.

Additionally, the local Cancer Association that we are collaborating with for this initiative will have a 5k race against Breast Cancer on Sunday October 15th. You can also walk if that's better for you! <u>Sign up here.</u>



OCTOBER HALF TERM, MULTISPORT CAMP

With the October half term approaching quickly, we are pleased to announce that our extracurricular partner, FUNdamentales, will be back with another multisport camp.

For children aged 4 to 12 the camp will take place Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November. It starts at 0830h in the morning until 1630h in the afternoon and children will be able to take part in a wide range of activities varying from traditional sports such as football and basketball to more unique hobbies like archery and circus skills.

Whilst sport is the main focus for the day there is also a chance to take a break with some art, lego or more relaxed activities. Every day of the week will have a theme and there is even a party on Friday.

FUNdamentales believe that the key to involving children in sport is enjoyment. Whilst having fun the children will be able to develop key physical, technical and social skills needed for the years to come.

For more information please contact FUNdamentales directly at info. <u>fundamentales@gmail.com</u> or via Instagram @fundamentales22

Whole School CAS Fundraiser Reminders

For those new to BCG or indeed, new to the IBDP or IBCP, CAS (creativity, activity, service) and Service Learning (SL) are core elements of the curricular programmes in the sixth form. Students are required to engage in raising awareness of issues of global significance to make an immediate positive change or impact on their local community. This year, the CAS and SL students have been working incredibly hard to develop their communication and collaboration skills and have put together a fabulous programme of events for this term. These serve to promote conversation, open-mindedness, critical thinking and more over, unite the whole school in working towards common goals. Some of our upcoming events are listed below. I sincerely thank the BCG community for supporting our senior students in their initiatives.

Miss Bell

World Mental Health Day

As you read this, the school is in a sea of GREEN! Each year on the 10th October the world unites to raise awareness about mental health. Since COVID, this has been especially prevalent to discuss as a whole school. In addition, students are surrounded by technology and social media that has been proven to have increased cases of severe mental health in children and teens in the past few decades. As the world changes so must our attitude to mental health and our awareness of how to approach this in our community, starting with communication and open discussion to rid any associated stigma and help students and their families to articulate their emotions.

Breast Cancer Awareness

On Thursday 19th October we encourage students to wear PINK to support breast cancer awareness day. There is a donation box at the reception desk where students can buy a pink ribbon. CAS students will also visit form classes on this day to collect any other donations students and their families wish to make in support of a very dear member of our community.

La Vuelta al Cole - Parent Registration and Event Details

This run will take place on the 20th October from 14.15 - 16.15hrs. Interested parents runners should <u>register here</u> in the school booking system so that we know how many to accommodate. Those not registered will not be able to participate nor enter the school grounds. Please register by Wednesday 18th October if you want to run. A reminder that this is an event that takes place in over 500 schools across Spain on the same day. The charity collects for children's Leukaemia.

Programme:

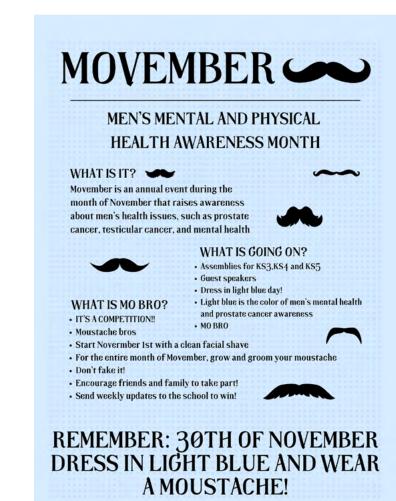
- Welcome (14.15 14.30)
- Years 5 & 6 10 mins (14.30 -14.40)
- Year 7 & 8 15 mins (14.45 15.00)
- Years 9 & 10 20 mins (15.10 15.30)
- Years 11 & 12, 13 and staff and parents 25 mins (15.40 16.05)
- Thank you and Close (16.05-16.15)

Donation system:

As you can see above, each age group will run laps of the school for the time indicated. Before the race, you will be asked how many laps you think you can run in the time given. EACH LAP OF THE SCHOOL IS 675m. For example, if a year 11 student estimates they will run 8 laps in 25 mins, we write an 8 on their race sticker. If they run to target, they pay a 2 euro donation to the charity. If they run under their estimate they pay 3 euros and if they beat their target, they pay a 1 euro donation! Please bring change on the bay to drop in the collection buckets after your run.

Movember

During the month of November we focus on raising awareness about Men's mental and physical health. CAS and SL students have worked incredibly hard to create assembly presentations, are trying to invite quest speakers and are running the incredibly exciting MO BRO competition. This is where we invite all men to grow an outrageous moustache! Any man from our community wishing to take part should send a clean shaven photo on the 1st November and then a weekly progress photo until November 30th. Students will then select a series of winners to celebrate BCG's first involvement in Movember. For those unable to grow a moustache, we ask that you wear a fake one on Thursday 30th November and something



light blue to celebrate the end of the event. The specifics will follow nearer the time. Check out <u>the official Movember website</u> for more general information.













































































