



Weekly Bulletin

March 12th 2021



Welcome to our bulletin

NABSS Inspection

After months of preparation we finally welcomed our two inspectors from NABSS (National Association of British Schools in Spain) this week - Mr Cook and Mr Wickham, both Senior Leaders from the International School of Madrid visited BCG on Tuesday and spent the day observing Y12 lessons and talking to staff. Prior to their visit they had scrutinised policies, planning documents, assessment strategies, de-

velopment plans and all sorts of other important documents we have to evidence the way in which we structure the school. It was only one day in school because of the COVID restrictions but they were very impressed and extremely complimentary. I am looking forward to sharing their findings with you in one or two weeks' time.

It was very humbling to hear such experienced school leaders telling me how impressed they were with our school, our students and our staff. I told them how wonderful our parents are too!

IBDP Verification Visit

On Monday and Tuesday we have the long awaited verification Visit for the IB Diploma Programme. It too, has been a long journey - the original planning started years ago but the last year in particular has been extremely demanding on staff. We are very confident

that we will be approved as an IB World School. Once we get confirmation we will share more details with Year 11 parents regarding the IB Pathways and final subject choices we will be offering.

Year 9 GCSE Options

Earlier in the week I did a Presentation for all Year 9 students answering questions they had raised regarding subject choices for GCSE. Their questions were excellent and very fair and I hope that I managed to answer them to their satisfaction! Following that explanation, we asked them for their latest options ideas and using this information have made final changes to the Option Blocks to ensure as many as possible are able to do their preferred subject choices. Of course there will be one or two which will not be able to do everything they are currently wanting too but almost of of them can



Head of Teaching and Learning

Throughout this week we have had the interview for the Head of Teaching and Learning position for the Secondary School. This is an extremely important role and I look forward to sharing the outcomes with you in the next newsletter. I am delighted that so many teachers are applying for internal positions and whilst they cannot all be successful, it is a strong indicator that the staff are all committed to our school. I have to say that your children are extremely fortunate to have these fantastic teachers to guide them through their school life.

Simon Mower

Dear Parents,

I hope you have been able to enjoy the sunshine this week. We have had an extremely busy week but the outstanding learning continues across our three phases.

Teachers are currently busy writing reports. These reports will give your children an effort grade, a working grade, a written target and a summary of their performance over the past term. Year 8 & 9 reports will be sent out on Friday the 19th of March, Year 7 & 10 reports will be sent out on Friday the 26th of March.

Our tailored PSHE programme continues with Year 7,8 and 10 celebrating international women's day. The students were learning about influential women in our society and how to break stereotypes. It was great to see how mature and internationally minded our students are. Year 9 had an interesting Q&A session with Mr Mower regarding their GCSE options. The Year 9 students are taking their choices very seriously and they are obviously very excited to start their GCSE programmes. Year 1 continued with their preparation for the IBDP and thinking about their futures, universities and career paths.



We are continually striving to improve the Academic Culture at BCG. A large part of this culture is coming to school on time ready to learn. Unfortunately, many of our students are coming into registration from 8.55am or entering period 1 after 9.00am. This may not sound like a lot of time, but 5-10 minutes every day soon adds up. In light of this we will now be locking the front gate at 8.50am. Any students arriving to school after 8.50am will have their name taken and will have to sign in at reception. If this student is late again an email will be sent home. From Monday the 22nd of March any students that are late will have to miss period 1 as we do not want them interrupting the learning of their peers. These students will then join class at the start of period 2. This of course would have a huge impact on their learning missing a 45 minute class. We need our students to be mature and excited about their learning which means being punctual. A reminder the school gates are open from 8.30am.

Mr Steadman

Secondary Important Dates:

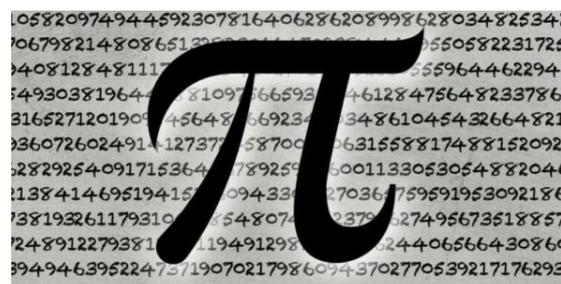
- Year 8 & 9 reports - 19/03/21
- Year 8 parent meetings - 22/03/21
- Year 9 parent meetings - 23/03/21
- Year 7 & 10 reports - 26/03/21

Pi DAY

This Sunday, March the 14th, is Pi day, a day to celebrate a very important mathematical constant. For any circle, the circumference of that circle divided by the diameter of the circle is 3.14 to 2 decimal places. This number actually goes on infinitely and this constant is given the Greek letter "pi".

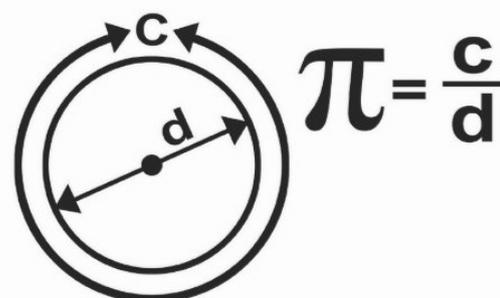
As it is a constant, Pi is the same no matter what circle you are measuring. Be it an atom or a planet, Pi is the same. So on Sunday, I hope you have a piece of pie or pizza to celebrate this very special number!

Dr Jim



First 500 Digits of Pi

3.1415926535897932384626433832795028841971693993
 75105820974944592307816406286208998628034825342
 11706798214808651328230664709384460955058223172
 53594081284811174502841027019385211055596446229
 48954930381964428810975665933446128475648233786
 78316527120190914564856692346034861045432664821
 33936072602491412737245870066063155881748815209
 20962829254091715364367892590360011330530548820
 46652138414695194151160943305727036575959195309
 21861173819326117931051185480744623799627495673
 5188575272489122793818301194912



SIXTH FORM

Year 12 exams can be very stressful, even more so for our current cohort of students who have long had to consider the implications of COVID-19 on their final exam results.

BCG takes the impact of stress on our students very seriously and as such dedicate a good portion of our PSHE time to helping students be able to identify their own triggers of stress as well as helping them to identify ways to help them deal with too much stress.

This week saw Sixth Form students taking part in an active session where they were encouraged to identify four stress indicators personal to them such as loss of appetite, trouble sleeping, increased heart rate etc and then spent time finding ways to help reduce stress when it becomes overwhelming to them.

Students spent time taking part in some stress relieving activities such as chess, origami, mindful colouring, working out and recreational reading, all while listening to classical instrumental music.

Sixth Form students have also been offered the opportunity of taking part in what we term 'Wellness Wednesdays' with our current wellness expert Mr Russell. This has been a popular activity for students as well as having access to our school gymnasium throughout the day to encourage a holistic approach to wellness. Mind and body.

Some of the main ways of dealing with too much stress are listed below. We encourage our students to continue working on these from home as well as in school.

- 1. Sleep is your (best) friend**
- 2. Study in 20-minute intervals**
- 3. Say it and think it out loud**
- 4. Breaks are good, constant distractions are bad**
- 5. Feed your brain**
- 6. Water your brain**
- 7. Exercise is essential**
- 8. Stress is okay in small amounts but don't let it build up**

Mrs Hall



UPPER PRIMARY

Dear Parents and Families,

I can't believe we are halfway through this term already; although it is short one before we break up for Easter. Our classrooms remain to be a constant hive of activity. One of the highlights for me has been seeing the children using the school library again. We encourage a love of reading in all we do but I am pleased to say that we have many 'bookworms' at BCG who are already avid readers. Whilst we are on the subject of reading, I would like to congratulate Claudia Truncal in Year 4 Swans for her winning entry in the Extreme Reading competition. There were many creative entries and it was very hard to choose but her reading whilst skateboarding really stood out. Super brave too! Excellent extreme reading Claudia!

Housepoints

The Housepoints battle rages on in the Upper Primary school with children going all out to earn points. Our specialist teachers have given out a record number of Housepoints this week. It is fantastic to see children trying their best in ALL subjects with ALL teachers. Keep it up! So who won? Well, this team have always seemed to make an incredible comeback to gain the Winners' Trophy, so I am proud to announce the winners this week are the RED team! Very well done to all those children in Red Team.

Values certificate winners

This week, we celebrated the value of 'Caring'. Both our great team of teachers and our wonderful pupils demonstrate this on a daily basis. You will find 'caring' around every corner at BCG. Children helping each other with their work, being a good friend and showing great empathy is something we excel at. Congratulations to this week's winners:

Year 3 Magpies: Victoria Van Schaik and Diego Garcia

Year 4 Swans: Luke Jennemyr and Valentina Bousetta

Year 4 Ravens: Ettore Marigo Denoyelle and Mar Ribas

Year 5 Parakeets: Nelson Taylor and Ellie Jim

Year 6 Kingfishers: Juan Pablo Sykes and Biel Valle Teruel

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Un abrazo,

Miss Wakelin



EYFS & LOWER PRIMARY

Dear families,

We are sharing with you some videos that we have prepared especially to explain to new families how wonderful our BCG EYFS & Lower Primary stage is.

We hope you can share it with your families and friends and that our BCG community continues to grow.

Mrs Pilcher

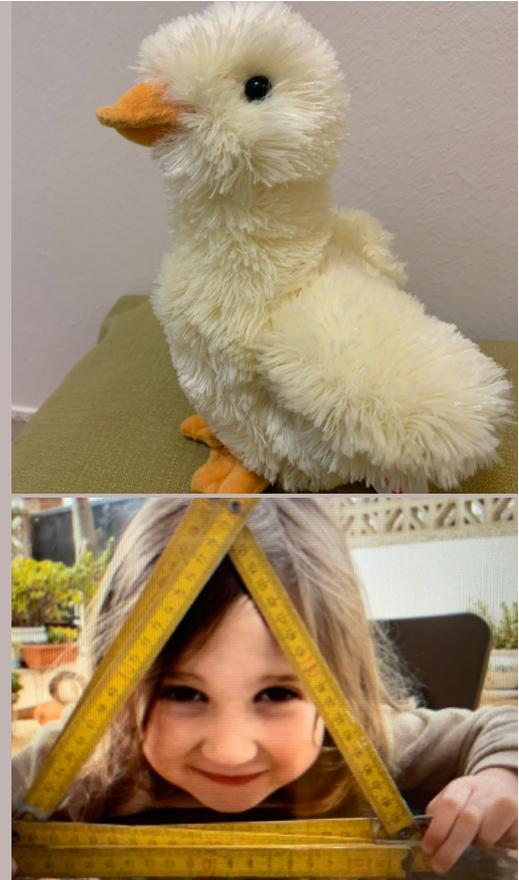


NURSERY

This week in Nursery in Ducklings class we were working from home and learning about the different shapes using very funny objects from home. We talked about different colours and we have started our great experiment planting seeds. We want to see if we can grow large plants, I have been checking my seeds every day excited to see them sprout. We also had a visit at home from the class mascot who came to Miss Yaiza's house to propose a fun activity of in, on, under and behind. The class mascot was named Vicu because the children love seeing Vicu working hard in and around EYFS. The real Vicu feels really privileged to have the Ducklings mascot named after him. Vicu the pet and I had lots of fun taking part in this activity.

Well done for a great week of online learning Duckings!

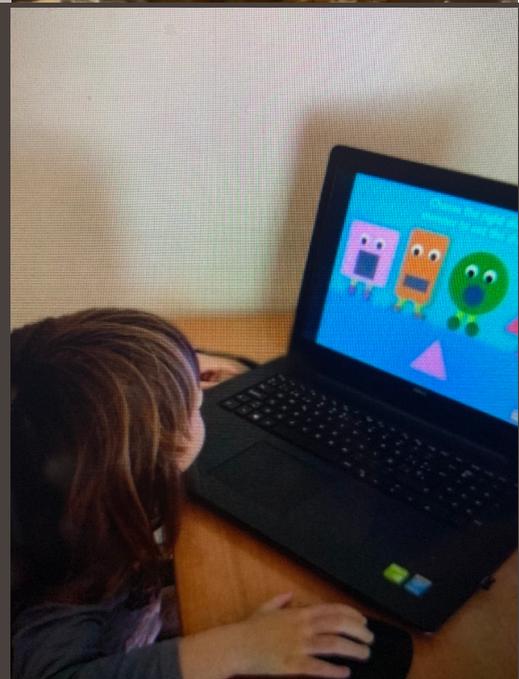
Miss Yaiza



RECEPTION

This week in Reception, Penguin class we have been learning the story of the Enormous Turnip! We have drawn and labelled the turnip, looked at the characters and chosen one to draw and write a sentence about, we have made the background, puppets and acted it out! In maths, we have been exploring, adding, subtracting and sharing with number 8! We have enjoyed lots of creative fun with The Enormous Turnip by making soup, doing a science experiment and making the backdrop for our puppets! Forest school at home is not the same, but we had an exciting experience of meeting and seeing a slow worm!

Miss Bifani



Year 1

What an amazing week in Year One this week! Before we left for a week of online learning, we decided to focus our week on the topic of Antarctica. We have focused our learning around this and I have been so impressed with the attitude and enthusiasm from everyone in year one! You did not let online learning distract you, and we had a lot of fun this week! From singing and dancing our wake and shake video, to naming the parts of the body by playing operation, and building a ramp and measuring the distance objects can travel. A great effort from everybody, and I look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday! Well done everyone.

Miss Plummer



YEAR 2

Wow! What a great week of online learning we have had in Year 2! Both Ms O'Connor and I have been amazed by the adaptability and resilience shown by the children and they have truly excelled themselves in a set of circumstances that could have proven to be tricky. We have, once again, been growing as storytellers this week and the children have been learning, rehearsing, performing and innovating their own fantastic versions of the Little Charlie Story!

In Maths, we have been looking at lines of symmetry and the children have really taken brilliantly to the shape topic as a whole. We have seen some fantastic learning and brilliant attitudes from everybody this week and we can't wait to be back in school with the children on Monday!

Ms O'Connor and Mr Smith



Mask REMINDER!

Dear Parents,

We remind you that it is mandatory to keep at least one spare mask in your child's school bag.

Thank you for your cooperation.

MEATLESS MONDAYS

Recently BCG has joined the global campaign Meatless Mondays. The campaign encourages people to reduce meat in their diet, by choosing plant-based meals once a week, for their health and the health of the planet. The campaign is present in more than 40 countries and schools in cities such as New York and Edinburgh have massively adhered to it.

It has become popular because it is suitable for individuals who may not want to radically change their diet, by becoming vegetarian or vegan. The idea is that a reduction in 15% our meat consumption would already bring many benefits to our health and to the environmental crisis, reducing our carbon footprint, water consumption, and protecting biodiversity and territory.

Introducing new and healthy food to children and teens is not an easy task, but offering delicious plant based dishes as alternative protein sources at school can help :) If you want to extend Meatless Mondays to your family dinners there are many websites (like this one) where you can find easy kid-friendly recipes like soups, pastas and vegetarian burgers.

MOTI - Marina y Alexandre Piquet

6,800 GLASSES OF FRESH DRINKING WATER. CHEERS!



To produce a single 1/4 lb. burger requires 425 gallons of water. That works out to 6,800 glasses of water. This Monday, skip the meat and drinks all around.

#MeatlessMonday



MeatlessMonday.com

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LEGUMES

Turns out people who eat legumes four times a week had a 10% lower rate of heart disease. So be heart smart. Choose to cut down on meat and add more legumes to your plate.

#MeatlessMonday



MeatlessMonday.com