



# Weekly Bulletin

December 4th 2020



## Welcome to our bulletin

Well, the tree is up so it must be nearly Christmas!

I love the excitement that comes with the times of year. I am writing this just having left a year 6 class excitedly making decorations and I can hear the Year 3s learning their Christmas song in the room opposite. After the tough year they have had it is wonderful to see the children happy and enjoying the moment. Of course, Christmas is a time for families and sadly, due to travel restrictions, many will not be able to gather together this year, this is particularly the case with many of our teachers.

There are plenty of activities lined up for the coming weeks. On Friday 18th December there is Christmas Jumper day. Santa has already started work on his grotto and there will be singing and festive snacks galore. There will be a carefully planned Christmas Bubble Fair where Upper Primary will be running stalls. The secondary Bubble Fair will be on the 22nd December which is a non-uniform day for the whole school too. I am also looking forward to a traditional Christmas lunch then as well.

### **Monday 7th December**

As we missed so much face-to-face time with the children last term I felt it was important that we teach on Monday rather than making a long weekend. We are ending the term on December 22nd, earlier than normal to compensate.

**Simon Mower**

Dear Parents,

Welcome once again to the Secondary instalment of the Friday newsletter.

Throughout this week and next week we have on going testing and assessment in Year 7 to 10 and the data from these will be used to inform the end of Term reports you will receive in December. These reports will be more substantial than those you received in November, as each subject teacher will be writing a comment to inform you of your child's progress and give an appropriate target for improvement.

Year 11 and 12 will also receive a summary report in December. These year groups will have a formal Assessment period from 11 January and they will sit exams of the same length and format that they can expect for the formal Exam series for IGCSE and A level in May/June. For year 11 and 12, a complete report will follow on from this exam series. In December and January we will also have a small number of Year 12 pupils taking A level modules in Spanish and Mathematics in advance of the main exam series in the Spring/Summer.

Christmas Fair! Despite the Covid restrictions we are planning a Christmas fair including stalls, lighting of the Christmas tree, falling snow and appropriate singing of festive songs. Unfortunately, we are unable to invite parents into school this year but we will be recording the entire event for you to watch at home. Father Christmas will be visiting us, but as Bob Dylan sang, the times they are a changing.

We could be honoured to have Mother Christmas with us this year too!

Finally, we have been listening to students and their ideas, and the long cherished dream of having a vending machine in school has now been realised. The products are on the healthy end of the spectrum (100% ecologic products from Verd-Vending) and pupils are not allowed to use it before eating lunch. The machine is welcome and looks likely to be very popular.

Have a lovely weekend,

**John Prince**



# IB Diploma Programme

## Application for Authorisation Update



For the last few weeks we have been busily preparing the final documentation for our application for authorisation to teach the IB Diploma Programme. The application has now been submitted to the IB for evaluation and we are awaiting confirmation of the verification visit which we expect to take place in February or March.

Our next step will be to continue our staff workshop programme to address the IB philosophy and approaches to teaching and learning within the Diploma Programme. We will start our Year 11s on a 'Pre-DP' course to familiarise them with DP expectations and requirements and we are already having conversations with them about possible further education pathways and appropriate DP subject combinations.

Our staff presented the Diploma Programme to colleagues a few weeks ago which was a wonderful opportunity for us all to further understand the educational experience that awaits our students. Our teachers will have the opportunity to present their subject to our first cohort next term and relevant information will be made available to their parents/guardians and our school community as soon as possible.

We will keep you informed of any updates or news.

### Ms Fenton



# EYFS & Primary

## The countdown to Christmas has begun...

This week to mark the start of December and the countdown to Christmas, each class has been learning about Advent. The boys and girls from Nursery to Year 6 have been eagerly waiting to see whose turn it is to open the door of their class advent calendars each day. Year 2 Owls and Robins have made their own calendars and drawn beautiful Winter images behind each door. It's been a treat to see whose picture is revealed at home time each day.

In all classes, we use this time of year to learn about all winter traditions including but, not limited to Christmas, such as Caga tio! Some of our younger classes have even been searching for this famous log in their forest school sessions!

In music lessons, each class has been busily rehearsing their class songs for our performance around the big Christmas tree. Please remember that each child is invited to make a homemade decoration to hang on this tree if they wish to. Please put your child's name on it if you would like it returned. Behind the scenes Santa's elves and Maria Andrea have been working very hard to prepare our Santa's Grotto for the surprise visit for children in EYFS and Lower Primary. Complete with red carpet and signs to the North Pole it is fast becoming more magical each time I go in.

Our House Cup winners this week are the Yellow Team. Congratulations! Teachers have been awarding housepoints for effort in class but this week with a particular focus on children using good manners. Please work with us on this at home. A simple please and thank you can go a long way!

## Reminders

Please bring a coat every day..it is simply too cold not to!  
Christmas card class competition-all cards must go to the class teacher by Friday 18th December at the latest.

Have a wonderful weekend.

**Mrs Pilcher and Ms Wakelin**

# EYFS and Lower Primary

## End of Term Reports

All EYFS and Year 1 and 2 teachers have also been busy behind the scenes this week completing on-going teacher assessments in preparation for the end of term reports. These will go out on Friday 18th December. I truly love leading this phase because it's such a wonderful age group to teach and observe. The cognitive development of young children is so interesting and as teachers we get to see progress daily and sometimes such obvious leaps in different areas of development. Often this can seem like overnight when something just 'clicks'! All teachers are in agreement that this term has been especially happy and successful, and a joy to see the children 'catch up' and flourish being back at school.

**Mrs Pilcher**



# Sports Department

Dear parents,

I am excited to announce our 4 performers of the week. This week Mr Pilcher and I were so impressed with the everyone's performances in football. It is incredibly hard to choose one performer from each phase. There were two stand out performers this week in the Primary School and they both came from the same class. One student in the Secondary School showed how grit and determination can make you a better player. Finally a student in EYFS keeps on improving his goalkeeping skills.

A big well done to Javier Hernandez De La Riva in Year 1 for impressing Mr Pilcher with his goal-keeping techniques. Well done to Arnar Thor Kristinsson and Martim Victoria in Year 4 for great effort in PE all week and scoring a goal each against Year 4 Ravens. Well done to Michael Raz in Year 7 for always giving 100% in lessons and having an incredible game in goal on Monday.

I cannot wait to see how the students progress next week and who will win the awards!

Thank you,

**Mr Steadman**



## Christmas photo pack

Work in progress...

The pack includes:

- 1 photo of 20x30 individual or siblings
- 4 photographs (15x20) of each child
- 4 Christmas cards with individual or sibling photos.
- 4 bookmarks.

The pack will cost 24 €.

More details to follow.



# French at BGC



French was introduced in September 2020 as a new subject in Years 3 to 6 and as a core subject in Years 7 to 9. As we reach the end of our first term, we would like to share with you our students' achievements and enthusiasm for this additional language. Simply put, their response has been overwhelmingly positive. Years 3 to 5 find themselves singing in class and at home songs to help them remember new words, Year 6 ask for additional vocabulary even in the playground, Years 7 and 8 develop links with languages they already speak, Year 9 have explore Paris virtually to develop their understanding of tenses when Years 10 and 11 are well on the way to reaching their full potential at GCSE. It's been a refreshing and humbling experience to see how students at BCG are open to new languages and cultures, seeing the benefits beyond the classroom. We would like to thank you for your continuous support and are looking forward to developing their ability to communicate in French even further.

## Mme Mower and Melle Delmet



# The Senior Maths Challenge



Members of Y12, Y11 and some KS3 children took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge 2020 on the 4th November. The Senior Maths Challenge is the highest level of challenge aimed at Year 13 students and below. The results are in and I would like to congratulate Danny Jim from Y7 for Best in School with a silver award, Ariadna Rey from Y9 for achieving a bronze award and our other students, who deserve recognition for giving it their best effort, received participation certificates.

The next Challenge will be the Intermediate Challenge, due to take place on the 1st of February 2021, and will be open to Year 11 children and below. We hope to see many more of our young mathematicians taking part.

**Dr Jim**

## *A solidarity story: “A very special year”*

As we explained to you a couple of weeks ago, **Year 3** students participated in the contest ‘A solidarity story’, organized by the National Spanish Radio and ‘Crece Jugando’ Foundation. We want to share with all of you the magnificent and original song-poem entitled “A very special year”, and to **announce that BCG is one of the five finalists of the first cycle!**

Now we need all your help, as the winner will be chosen by popular vote.

Here is the link where you have to scroll down at the very end and click on “Finalistas primer ciclo - Vaya añito-2º British College of Gavà”. Make sure that you click on the “enviar” button afterwards. Deadline to vote is December 9th: <https://www.rtve.es/radio/20201203/xvii-concurso-cuentos-solidarios-vota-favorito/2059136.shtml> (Please do it from a computer).

Please click here to see the video: <https://youtu.be/cE579O2UBHs>

Thank you very much for your support,

**The Language Department**

# Glimpse of the Week

