



# Weekly Bulletin

February 5th 2021



## Welcome to our bulletin

I am writing to you from the mountains of Andorra where I have been helping select the new Principal of our wonderful sister school, BCA. The pandemic has prevented me from visiting the school until now and it has been a real pleasure to do so. Now that I have actually got here it is so very clear that we have many opportunities for collaboration and it is exciting to think of our children spending time here and experiencing

mountain life while we can also invite BCA students to Gava to experience the Catalunian hospitality.

James Russell, our teacher of Physics, is a man of many talents, one of which is teaching meditation. Earlier this week he ran a session for staff after school as a way of introducing this form of mindfulness to our teachers. It was extremely popular and I am sure it will be repeated. This follows Mr Russell's very successful mindfulness sessions with our students. This is one of many ways in which we are exploring student welfare, something we take extremely seriously at BCG.

It has been another very busy week in school and I would like to thank all of our staff for everything they continue to do to keep our children inspired in and out of the classrooms.

**Simon Mower**

Dear Parents,

It is Friday again! I don't know about you but the weeks are speeding fast and half term is almost upon us. I would like to thank you all for your continued support in this difficult time, the students are so positive and willing to learn. It is a pleasure to walk around the school and see the outstanding teaching that is being delivered to your children and the incredible attitude your children have even in the midst of a pandemic.

It has been Mental Health Week here at school and the students received a tailored PSHE session on mental health, what it is and how to be aware of their own and others mental health. The session was incredibly positive and the students came away with a new perspective of mental health and learning how important it is to talk about their feelings. Year 7 and 8 students learned about the importance of expressing themselves and not worrying about feeling judged, they also learned the importance of not judging each other. Year 9 & 10 looked at the challenges that teenagers face when moving into adulthood. Students covered strategies in dealing with the range of changes and opportunities in adolescence, also analysing how mental health can change throughout life often due to external events. We will continue this theme in next week's PSHE and assembly session.

I want to say a huge thank you to the parents who read last week's newsletter and have ensured their children have the correct uniform for school. The teachers have worked with parents and the uniform is looking much better. Just a reminder for PE kit, the kit is white BCG polo, grey BCG jumper, green shorts/skort or grey tracksuit bottoms. I do not mind which colour trainers the students wear for PE as long as they are safe and suitable for sport. Just to clarify, leggings, black or blue shorts are not school uniform, therefore if your child wears these to school they will receive a negative point for the uniform.

Have a lovely and restful weekend. I will see your children on Monday before 8.45am please.

**Mr Steadman**

## PE Department

### Performer of the Week

With two new sports being started at school it has been great to see some students come out of their shells and impress Mr Pilcher and I with their amazing skills. In Year 2 we have Queralt Romero Cantero for leading by example in hockey with great close ball control and using the correct technique with the hockey stick. In year 4 we have Claudia Truncal Munso for always giving 100% effort and having a great shooting technique in basketball. In Year 10 we have Thibault Torrellas Storm Van Leeuwen for unwavering effort and great techniques throughout a range of skills in hockey. Well done to everyone!



**Mr Steadman**



Dear Parents,

We changed sports this week to basketball in Upper Primary and Secondary, hockey with lower primary and for Year 10. It is always a pleasure to start a new sport as it gives students another opportunity to grow as athletes and impress Mr Pilcher and I with their vast range of skills.

I want our school community to celebrate two students' success in the sporting world, the world of snowboarding to be exact. Noah and Marc Cedillo took part in the Copa de Espana last weekend with Marc finishing 3rd overall! This is such an incredible achievement and please join me in congratulating both Marc and Noah. They will be competing again in Round 2 next weekend and we wish them the best of luck. It would really help Noah and Marc if you were to follow their progress on social media, the more followers they have the more likely they will receive support from sponsors! Please search these accounts and follow our elite snowboarders:

@Marc\_cedi  
 @Noa\_cedi

#### **Mr Steadman**



# IB News

This week has seen a flurry of activity in preparation for the IB verification visit in March. We have filmed teaching and learning in Year 11 and 12 and have been making exciting plans for displays and murals in classrooms and around the school.

Our teachers are spending their collaborative planning time revising Diploma Programme course outlines and documentation and we are meeting regularly as a faculty to explore IB approaches to teaching and learning and continue to make connections across subjects and the IB core.

Our 'Teacher Talks' for Year 11 continued this week with a presentation from our language department who explained the difference between Group 1 and Group 2 language studies at both Higher and Standard level. This is an interesting time for our students as they start to think ahead to the future. We will advise each one of them on their options on a case by case basis to ensure that the choices they make are appropriately challenging, coherent and relevant.

For any information regarding the IB Diploma Programme authorisation process, don't hesitate to contact me: [rachel.fenton@bcgava.com](mailto:rachel.fenton@bcgava.com)

## Year 11 Class Representative

We thank those Year 11 parents who have contacted us about representing the class in the parent forum. This is a hugely important step and will mean that we can communicate plans and processes to our Year 11 families more effectively as well as take the time to listen to their concerns and queries.

**Ms Fenton**



# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## Secondary



# EYFS & Primary

Dear EYFS and Primary Parents,

What a bright and cheery end to the week it has been today with the sea of colour from all of the different clothes that the children have chosen to wear to express themselves. It has certainly been a fun and meaningful first week of February as we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week.

## Values certificates

Over the last two weeks all EYFS and Primary students have been learning about the learner value 'Well Balanced'. In class assemblies and PSHE lessons, teachers and children have discussed what it means to be well balanced socially, physically and intellectual. This has tied in nicely with our focus week and the importance of a healthy mind.

Congratulations to our certificate winners who have shown that they can be well balanced in school.

## Nursery Ducklings

- Platon Kravstov and Amelie Diaz Pena

## Reception Penguins

- Lola Roca Garde and Vega Garcia Paton

## Year 1 Parrots

- Ayden Moussaoui Arroyo and Marcos Chacon Ruz

## Year 2 Robins

- Maia Carro Coca and Derek Gorea

## Year 2 Owls

- Bastian Algara Von Klopmann and Olfa Hafaiedh

## Year 3 Magpies

- Sofia Sadovaya and Pablo Hernandez

## Year 4 Ravens

- Adria Hernandez Quintarios and Alan Rodriguez Gress.

## Year 4 Swans

- Laia Premuda and Isabela Margarit

## Year 5 Parakeets

- Luca Ramirez and Noa Carro.

## Year 6 Kingfishers

- Anna Luneva and Miguel Victoria

## Housepoints

This week children have been awarded housepoints for showing resilience in their learning, by not giving up when things are tricky and for trying their best. It has been a

very close week but the housepoint cup goes to the GREENS! Well done to all for your hard work this week.

## Special events and diary dates

**Carnival Week-** Monday 15th - Friday 18th February

This year our carnival theme will be Amazing Animals! We have something special planned each day to celebrate this local festival.

Monday 15th-Animal assembly to introduce Carnival

Tuesday 16th-Crazy Hair

Wednesday 17th-Silly Socks

Thursday 18th-Pyjamas

Friday 19th- Animal themed dress up

For new families and staff that have not experienced a BCG carnival yet, the effort here is huge! Go as big and silly as you can! It's a time to come together and have a lot of fun!

**World Book Day** - Thursday 4th March 2021

More information will follow nearer the time but another date for the diary! Children will be invited to dress as a book character on this day.

## Nursery Parent Meetings

The booking system has now opened for Nursery parents to book their remote meeting with Miss Hurford and Ms Baker on Monday 15th February. This is a handover of information meeting where parents have the opportunity to meet Ms Baker and discuss their child's progress with both teachers. As before, appointments will be 10 minutes. An email has been sent to guide you through the steps for the booking. Please sign up by Friday 12th February, clearly stating if you require a translator.

## EYFS and Lower Primary Reports and Parent Meetings

Nursery parents evening-Monday 15th February 2021

End of Spring term report- Friday 26th March 2021

Summer term parent meetings-Monday 10th and Wednesday 12th May 2021

End of Summer term full report-Friday 18th June 2021

We wish you a wonderful sunny weekend.

**Mrs Pilcher and Ms Wakelin**

# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## EYFS & Lower Primary



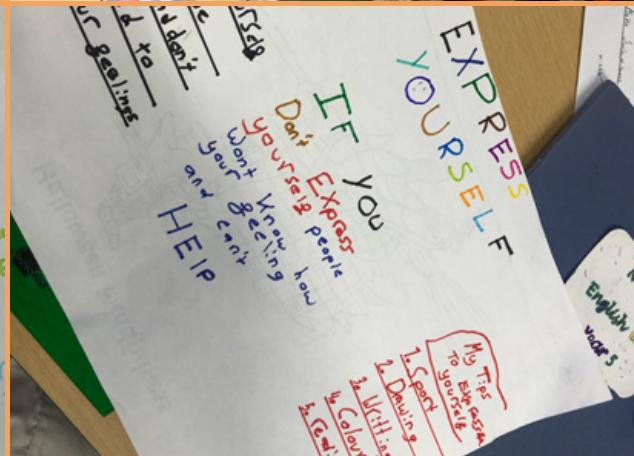
# A GLIMPSE OF THE WEEK

## Primary



# Children's Mental Health Week

In Y5 we have completed lots of activities for Children's Mental Health Week. We've been to the forest school for a mindfulness walk and circle time. We had an 'exhibition' yesterday of our self-expression posters and videos. We've been doing sing-alongs to Labrinth's song 'Express Yourself', and today of course we are dressing up to express ourselves. We've also completed lots of PSHE activities: our mental health check in, we did a mindfulness 'Happy Place' activity, and have talked about turning negative thoughts into positive thoughts. I've attached some photos below of what we've been up to.



## The Egg Drop Challenge

This term Year 5 has been learning about forces. We worked in groups to design different parachutes, testing out hypotheses (string length, material, canopy size). The winners of each group got the chance to test out their parachute by using it to "parachute" an egg off the balcony. We had lots of fun and made quite a mess! The overall winner was Noa Martinez, so a big well done to her and her group. Noa's parachute managed to stop her egg from splatting on the floor. Well done :) Special mention to Nicole Boquet, Chiara Duek, Eve Fassam and Ellie Jim for being the winners of their groups.

**Ms Muirhead**



# Language Ambassadors

We are starting an exciting new project at BCG called Language Ambassadors! Starting with years 3,4,5 and 6 we have selected and started training a group of pupils to provide help and support to new arrivals and any other pupils who need support with their English.

The Language Ambassadors are being trained to use their first language, pupil friendly English and body language to show new arrivals around the school, demonstrate school routines, play games, spend break and lunch times together and provide assistance in lots of other ways.

Last week we introduced the idea to our upper primary pupils in a special assembly, we had lots of applications to be part of the scheme and this week we had our first training session!

At the end of their training, the children will be awarded a badge and certificate and I will then continue to meet with them regularly to guide them in their role. Together we will be thinking about lots of ways we can continue to support and celebrate all the languages and cultures we have within our school community.

Being a Language Ambassador will be a really fun, positive experience as well as developing empathy, confidence and leadership skills!

**Mr Fassam**



# A look inside the classroom-Year 1

In Year One this term, we have been learning all about Fantasy! This is a broad topic which means we have had the opportunity to follow the children's interests, which have ranged from listening to fantasy instrumental music to looking at different fairy tales and features of a fairy tale. We have been writing and performing our own fairy tales, and thinking up our own fantasy creatures! We have also been learning about fantasy stories around the world from different countries within the 7 continents! In art, we have been designing our own fantasy creatures and have used different modelling techniques to make them out of clay! We will continue this theme into next term, focusing on tales and stories from Africa, Oceania, Antarctica and Asia!

## Miss Plummer



## Dance club

We are pleased to announce that there is a new and exciting club being offered at BCG. Due to a high number of interested students, **Dance Club for Year 5 and 6\***, will start with a trial class on Tuesday 16th February and then every Tuesday after Half Term.

\*Year group bubbles will be maintained.

Dance is such an important way for children to express themselves without feeling judged. It offers children a way to exercise whilst enjoying the rhythm of music increasing the release of endorphins (the feel good chemical).

The teacher, Yaiza Lopez, is a qualified dance teacher and has been teaching dance for 10 years, dancing herself for many more. The club will offer a wide range of dancing genres from hip-hop, contemporary, ballet and many more.

At the moment we can only offer this class to the groups with the most interested students and as we move through the year and restrictions are eased we plan to open it to more year groups.

Dates – Tuesday, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd March

For information on price or to register please contact [ecap@bcgava.com](mailto:ecap@bcgava.com)

## Tennis Club

After no after school activity for so long those children attending the new tennis club couldn't wait to get back to action with Roby Cozzi! Students loved working on their footwork skills as well as perfecting tennis shots in so many exciting activities. Beginners or experienced players are able to come and work on skills at their own pace.

For year groups 4 and 6, places are still available in the class and you can register at [ecap@bcgava.com](mailto:ecap@bcgava.com)

If a student would like to come and see the activity, accompanied by Mr Pilcher, before coming then please contact us on the email above.

### Mr Pilcher

