



WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 2nd 2020



This week we welcomed back our children and staff who had been in quarantine - they had been missed and it was wonderful to see how happy they were to be back in the classroom. It serves as another reminder of the importance of everyone keeping to the guidelines in our COVID-19 protocols.

On Wednesday morning, Maria Andrea and I met the parent representatives and I presented my thoughts on how the school and parents could work together over the coming years.

It was an extremely positive meeting and I was left in no doubt as to the benefits a strong partnership can have for the school.

Each rep will have fed back to the parents via the infamous 'WhatsApp' so you will know how we will move forwards, but in a nutshell:

- Twice monthly meetings with reps - one or two year groups each time.
- Half termly presentations and updates from me to all reps
- Individual concerns from parents to be directed directly to the school, in a polite email to the Head of Phase, Maria Andrea or myself.
- General questions to be passed to Class/Form parent reps who will send them through to Maria Andrea. We will look through the questions and respond accordingly.
- We will be forming a separate parent group to raise funds for local charities, bake sales etc.
- We also hope that we can call upon parents to support with work experience and careers advice for the older students later in the year.

Please note: I have instructed the staff not to reply to any rude or aggressive emails. I have 100% faith and trust in all of our staff and expect them to receive total respect and support from parents.

Could I also remind parents that online lessons and support are for students who are in quarantine. We are receiving requests from parents whose children are poorly. Simply put, if a child is not well enough to come to school they need to be at home recuperating. If they are well enough to do school work, they should be in school. I am sure you understand that letting students join classes from their sickbed is not appropriate.

I would like to thank the Parents reps for coming into school last week and for the work they will be doing to help make the partnership a very strong and successful one.

Mr Mower



Dear Parents,

This week we held a Secondary Assembly with most year groups watching from their Form rooms on a live stream in order to keep in the class bubble.

The main theme was the Importance of Creativity led by Mrs Foreman and Ms Jenson and with various other teachers contributing their thoughts via video clips. It was a remarkable success and it is the start of a series of Assemblies on the Importance of Multilingualism, Nature and the Environment, Curiosity and Free Enterprise (yes, from the Business Club!).

As we improve our Academic Culture, we are also bringing balance and introducing themes we believe are important for holistic growth and development in all aspects.

I would also like to let you know how we are progressively using iSams to track all the positive aspects of what your children are doing in school and then celebrating their achievements in the Assemblies and in the classrooms. Teachers are awarding merits on a daily basis to pupils who are acting positively and in accordance with the 'Learner Profile' attributes of the International Baccalaureate. These include being Principled, Caring, Open Minded, Inquiring, Thinking, etc.

We celebrate their success in each Assembly on a rotational basis so that different pupils can be applauded each week. However, just to reassure you, we are also tracking negative behaviour and have a system which is staged whereby Form teachers call parents as issues develop and then I will intervene if matters persist.

This type of data tracking is essential to the running of the school and we are about to start comprehensive baseline tracking of academic attainment to follow our students year on year. There will be more to follow in future newsletters, but for now I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,
Mr Prince

Samba Band and Orchestra to begin next week!

We are very excited to announce the start date of our free lunchtime music clubs: Primary Orchestra, Secondary Orchestra, and Secondary Samba Band. We will follow the Covid social distancing rules in each of these activities, but I think we can all agree that this is a wonderful activity to enhance the daily lives of your children, especially at this time of so many restrictions.

Primary orchestra (Years 4 - 6) will be on Wednesdays at 12.45, after they have eaten lunch (members will have priority eating lunch first). Secondary orchestra will be at 13.30 on Wednesdays. The orchestras will be led by Montse Colome, our cello teacher (see bio below). Pupils are expected to have a basic ability to play an instrument and read music. There are limited places available for piano players, percussionists and guitarists.

Samba band will start from next Tuesday during lunch from 13.30. It is open to all staff and Secondary pupils, regardless of musical ability. The band will be led by our drums teacher, Victor Laguna (see bio below). The same social distancing rules will apply but pupils will stand in their bubbles according to their year group. Where possible we will rehearse outside in the playground with our new 30 piece Samba band!

Read about Montse and Victor here:

Montserrat Colomé, cello and orchestra



Montserrat teaches cello and orchestra at BCG. In 2009 she won a scholarship to complete her Masters Degree from the Royal Academy of Music, London. At the Royal Academy of Music Montse studied with the renowned baroque cellist Jennifer Ward-Clarke. She has played with European Baroque Consort, European New Opera, Charivari Agréable and European Baroque Academy of Ambronay (EBA). She has also performed as a soloist in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and has recorded her music with labels such as Divina Mysteria, and Vanitas Musica "Ingenium".

Montserrat combines her performing activities with her passion of teaching. She is a Suzuki trained teacher having trained at the British Suzuki Institute. She specialized in whole classroom instrumental teaching, working for the primary and secondary schools in London. In addition to many years of teaching cello, she has led high-quality, interactive musical workshops for cello, violin, viola and double bass in schools, as part of the "Strings Programme", which incorporates reading music notation, improvisation and performance through participation in a group ensemble that engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music.

Victor Laguna, drums



Victor teaches drums and Samba band at BCG and is very popular among his students of all ages, including staff members! He began playing drums by teaching himself at age 18. Very soon it was clear that he had enormous talent, and he enrolled in music school, learning music theory as well as various styles of playing such as funk, jazz, soul, reggae and rock. Victor currently teaches drums in other international schools in the Barcelona area as well as at the Sant Pere de Ribes School of Music.

For 15 years Victor was a social worker, working with underprivileged and socially disadvantaged teenagers, during which time he employed his drum teaching skills to help them explore a love for music and rhythm. Victor has recorded several albums and accompanied many famous artists. For 25 years he has played in various bands, and is currently the drummer in the successful reggae band called The Kinky Coos.

Listen [here](#).

Mrs Foreman



Year 1 - Parrot

‘What a lovely start to the school year we have had! We have had 5 new children join Parrot class this year and our class has grown wonderfully! This year we started by looking at ‘Toys’ as our topic. We couldn’t bring in our own toys from home, so we have enjoyed sharing photos on google classroom of our favourite toys! We have also had a go at making our own toys in class! We have made clay marbles and even our own modern cup and ball to play with using pompoms! In Spanish we are learning all about dinosaurs with Miss Jenny and are very excited to learn lots of new vocabulary! We are also working really hard in maths and literacy, getting used to a slightly different way of learning by doing a carousel, which means there are some lessons where we work independently and some with an adult.

This is a skill we will continue to grow across the year, but we are already showing huge progress with this! Well done year one, keep up the good work!’

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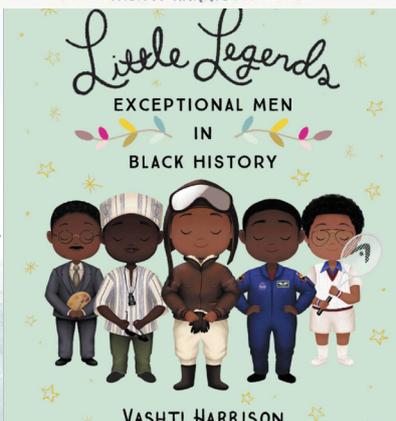
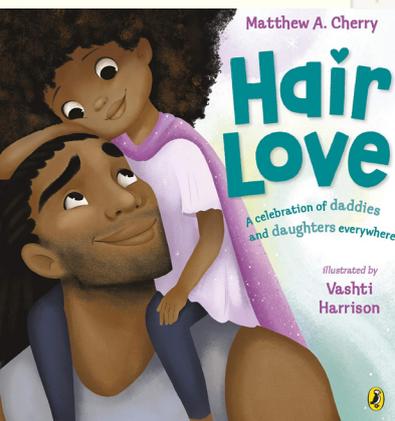
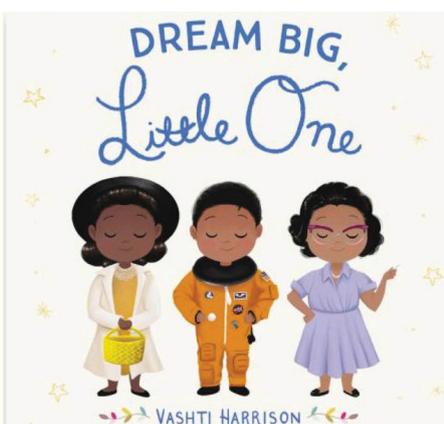
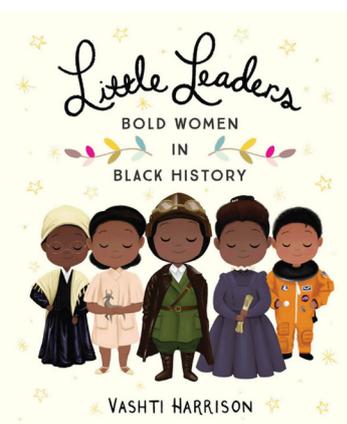
Ms Plummer



Welcome back Year 2

On Tuesday, Year 2 eagerly returned to the classrooms and it has been as if we never left! The children have built on the lessons that were delivered at home, as we have continued with our Roald Dahl theme. Our class book, 'The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me' has led to some excellent efforts at instructional writing as the children have worked in small groups to become 'The Ladderless Window Cleaning Company'! They have followed their own written instructions to the school windows! During this process, they have learnt to use time connectives, imperative verbs and not forgetting the opportunity to take care of their school environment. Well done Year 2!

Mrs Pilcher



October is **Black History Month** in the UK (February in the USA). It is an important international month of learning, celebrating and recognising the histories, cultures and achievements of Black people around the world. A month is set aside, as these histories, cultures and achievements are sometimes left out of the curriculum. But the month is just the start of learning and discussion about the diversity of the world around us.

This year across BCG, we are celebrating Great Black Literature- every class will study one author or book. For instance, Year 4 will discover the biographies of Vashti Harrison, whilst Year 6 will explore the poetry of Benjamin Zephaniah. In PSHE lessons, we will enjoy stories or poetry and learn about the authors behind the text.

Ms Osivwemu

We as the **student council** have 4 members and we seek to make sure that every student feels welcome and the learning experience is to the highest standard. We have numerous ideas planned for the future of the school including decorating the break area in front of the cafeteria.

We will have a direct line with Mr. Mower, so all complaints and suggestions will go to him, which will lead this school to be the best it can be, through this connection. We will work alongside the staff to make sure that the student body is happiest.

We will try our hardest in order to bring positive changes to this school, which will affect everyone in the best way possible.

Alexandr Grechman
Sixth Form



Wear your uniform with pride

Wear your uniform with pride
There are many positive reasons for a school dress code, including:

- A dress code encourages students to express their individuality through personality and academic achievements.
- A dress code puts the focus on academics because they project a neat and serious image.
- Dress codes eliminate the visible differences between children's backgrounds.
- Dress codes eliminate pressure to wear brand name clothing.
- Dress codes create a sense of school pride and belonging.

The College has high standards for its pupils and they are expected to be smartly and appropriately dressed in the school uniform at all times.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Find the uniform list [here](#)

Science

This week Year 7 were treated to a squidgy and goey practical investigation, looking at the various organs and tissues that make up a whole organism, in this case, prawns. Pupils carefully investigated various aspects of prawn anatomy and made detailed notes and diagrams. A lot of ooooo's and ahhh's could be heard as pupils applied their theoretical understanding into practice.

Ms Lane and Mr Russell

