



BCA Parent Newsletter

Our Learning Journey





Our Learning Journey

High Quality Learning is our central focus, and in the last two weeks, now that we are well into the school year, students and staff have been working very intensively. We have launched our first curriculum visits beyond the classroom, to the local forest for our younger students, and to local museums for our older students. We have hosted a successful visit from the British Ambassador to Spain and Andorra, who conveyed his recognition and admiration for what we have achieved here over the last years, and especially for the strong growth in the school this year. The planned relaxation in some of the hygiene protocols last week has been welcomed by all of us, but we will remain vigilant and careful in adhering to the new regulations.

'Non-uniform Day' (Before half term)

We will have a non-uniform day on Thursday 28th October. Students should bring a minimum donation of 1 Euro to participate. Monies will be collected by the Student Council and donated to a local charity of their choice, approved by the school leadership. In addition, on this day students may wish to wear fancy dress in advance of Halloween. Teachers may choose to include some Halloween-related learning activities around this time.

The word 'Halloween' comes from 'All Hallows Eve', which falls on 31st October and refers to the day before All Saints Day (November 1st). For many years in the northern hemisphere, many different festivals have been associated with gathering in the harvest, preparing for winter, remembering loved ones who have died, and preparing for the time of longer nights and winter cold. Halloween celebrations are increasingly becoming part of British, European and North American secular culture. Some Christians do not agree with any involvement by adults or children in Halloween celebrations, and we take note of that. At schools where there is a dressing up day, it is intended only as a novel and fun community day. We are not 'celebrating' Halloween, but marking its passage at this time of the year.

Students who arrive at school in inappropriate or offensive fancy dress will be required to change.

This is a new initiative for the school, and we will review afterwards.



Early Years and Primary Parents' evenings

Save the date!

Our parents evenings for children from Nursery through to Year 6 will take place on:

**Tuesday 26th October, 17:15-19:30 and
Wednesday 27th October, 17:15-19:30**

The meetings will be online and you will receive a schedule and further details, including how and when to book (not yet), at the beginning of next week.

Secondary parent evenings will follow in November, and will be announced in due course.

Class representatives

We will develop a network of class representatives, one parent representing all the parents of each class. There will thus be 12 representatives in total. The purpose of this initiative is:

- To strengthen the partnership between parents and staff
- To support the children's learning
- To facilitate parental understanding of the curriculum of the school
- To share and celebrate the successes of our community
- To provide clarification over any issues in order to avoid confusion
- To involve parents in the decision-making process for various improvements and changes within the school
- To act as a forum for feedback and a voice for suggestions
- To help make links with the wider community;
- To capture the unique and varied skills, interests, knowledge and experience that parents can offer.



The school leadership will meet at least once every two months with each representative (so, five times a year). In turn, the representative will be expected to ensure open, inclusive and regular communication with the parents whom they represent. They should seek to represent the views of the whole group, including differences in opinion or perspective within the group. They should acknowledge that some parents will wish to be more active participants, and others may wish to be less active participants. The role is one of representation rather than leadership, thus they should not seek to influence the group, but remain as impartial as possible. In addition, the school leadership or class teacher may reach out to the representative for support at any time, and to keep them informed.

At this point I invite parents to volunteer for this role, or to nominate others. We will also require consent from parents to allow their contact details to be shared with other parents in the class. Please use the Google Form on this [link](#) to volunteer, nominate, and give or withhold consent. We request that you do this by Friday 22nd October. The school leadership will then review the survey results, and extend invitations to selected parents to act as representatives, with the names hopefully confirmed and announced by Monday 8th November, the week after half term. Thank you in advance for your support in this initiative.

New After School Activities (ASA) Coordinator

I would like to introduce Mr. Gerard Verdú to you as our new ASA coordinator. Please reach him at [him@bcandorra.com](mailto:asa@bcandorra.com) on asa@bcandorra.com. We kindly ask families to no longer send ASA requests to admin@. Children can continue to join any activity at any time as long there is space available.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'H Lock'.



Mr Harry Lock
Principal

Ambassador Visit



Ambassador visit



Penguins



Penguins' learning this week has involved diverse activities, including building 'monsters' using Lego pieces, sorting colours based on their feelings, and making some artistic symmetric art creations.

Their literacy board also looks wonderful.

Great job!



Owls



This term Owls' class is learning all about Dinosaurs.

They are enjoying lots of different activities based on this theme.

An exciting project they have just started is to create a large dinosaur using recycled materials. Can you guess which dinosaur it is?



Peacocks

In Peacocks' class the students have been studying science and substances, learning about 'solutions' and 'dissolving'.

They investigated whether temperature affected the rate that sugar dissolves, and why that might be.

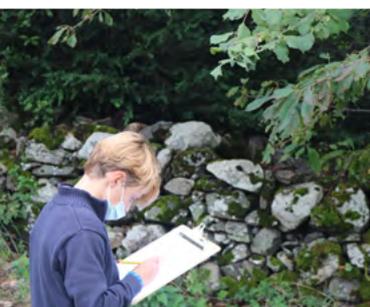
Surprising results!



Hawks' class continued to study the classification of living things.

This time they went out into the field to take detailed sketches of plants and trees.

They noted the similarities and differences of plants, and discussed how Carl Linnaeus would have done similar in his field expedition to Lapland.



Secondary Trip

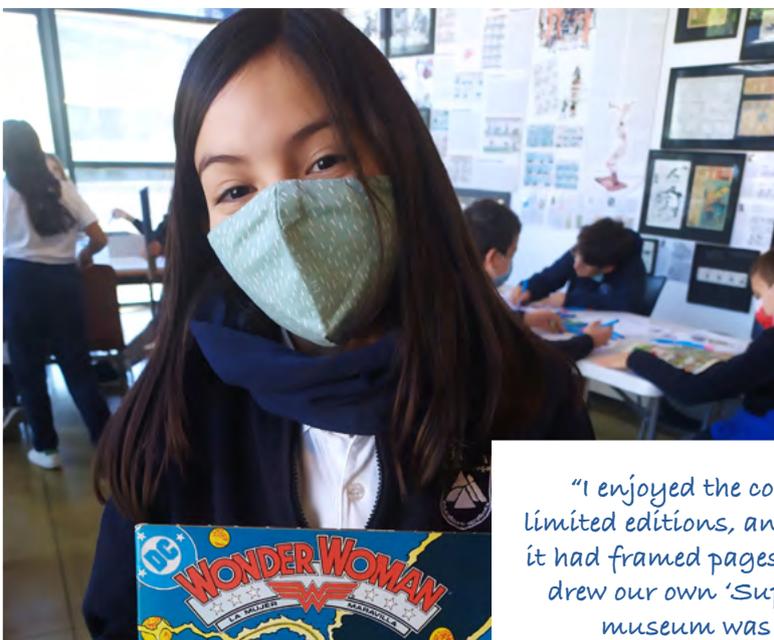
As part of the Art and Design curriculum, Falcons and Condors enjoyed the trip to the Comic Museum in La Massana. They had an English guide who offered them a very complete tour of the museum, including a comic drawing workshop. Here they report back on their trip:



"I really enjoyed the museum because there were a lot of things to see: there was a statue of James Bond and of Iron Man. But the thing that impressed me the most were the Súperlópez and other comics, which was amazing because they were the real drawings!"



"I liked the way we had to try to find three different things that were in the museum and that we needed to draw"



"I enjoyed the comic museum because it had thousands of classic comics, limited editions, and sculptures. The 'Super Lopez' section was extraordinary as it had framed pages of the first comic book from the outstanding series. We also drew our own 'Super Lopez' and the thing which I incredibly loved about this museum was that nearly every wall contained a page from a comic"

Secondary Trip

"What I liked about the Comic Museum were the Obelix and Tintin comics as well as James Bond."



"There were three floors, and my favourite was the first because it had a lot of colours and the sun came through the big windows. The museum was about Super Lopez. Another thing I loved were all the colourful drawings, and I liked that so much because I love drawing"



"The experience at the museum today was very nice because there are only two of the magnificent sculptures we saw in the world! There was so much detail, so much effort that the person put in! All of the books had gorgeous drawings with watercolors. a material that is difficult to use. And so realistic! I loved this visit!"



"On the trip, I really liked the fact that the museum belonged to a person who collected comics. I especially liked the bit where you could draw a Super Lopez and when we could read some of the comics; I read Asterix and Obelix"

"The thing I liked the most was the first ever Superman comic which cost 3,000,000 euros. Also I loved all the Wonder Woman comics, and the Marvel comics collection was also amazing!"