

#### LISTEN TO THE CHILD



As a UNICEF-friendly school, each year we incorporate World Children's Day (WCD) into our educational programme in a meaningful way.

The 2024 theme of WCD was 'Listen to our Future'. This day emphasized, "the need for intergenerational dialogue, encouraging children to share their visions for the future while urging adults to listen and incorporate these perspectives into the decisions that will shape the world the next generation will inherit" (https://www.unicef.org/).

There can still be a great deal of resistance to involving children in decisions that affect them, because of a belief that participation should be linked to maturity and that, up to a certain age, children should be shielded from the burden of making decisions. In fact, when children are encouraged to have their say in how things are run, it turns out that they are 'experts in their own lives'. Educators who engage in listening will empower the children for whom they are responsible, more quickly resolve any problems or address lagging skills, and better support their learning and wellbeing.

In Secondary, and inspired by some of the <u>resources</u> from UNICEF, children wrote a letter to their future selves or to adults, outlining their hopes for themselves and for the world. A number were read in assembly, and some will be included in a 'time capsule' project currently being prepared. In Early Years and Primary, the children reviewed the rights of the child and worked with the resources for schools provided by UNICEF (see the pictures that follow), with a particular focus on the right to healthy food. This included a cooking activity.

We have also been listening carefully to the students in our House Council. The Council has taken Wellbeing as its first theme on which to focus. The House Captains have provided feedback and offered suggestions on the daily snack, and reviewed in advance the lunch menu for the coming month, and will continue to do so. They have made reasoned requests for additional play equipment and this has already arrived. They have produced helpful posters around the school to familiarise all students with the key adults to talk to if there is a problem. They are now reviewing that content on the BCA public website which refers to the House Council.

BCA British Callege

BCA's motto, "Where happy children learn best", remains as true as ever. This happiness comes from a sense of self-determination (put simply, 'voice and choice') in regards to the world around them; "Every child has a right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously" Article 12, UNCRC.



BCA House Council 24-25.

### **EARLY YEARS AND KSI HOUSE EVENT**

### Building a bridge using recycled items.

- The task: build a bridge across a river, so that two communities, one each side, can help each other.
- The materials: junk to be recycled.
- The solution: children's creativity applied to a construction project.
- The teams: mixed groups of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.



# KS1 PARENT PHONICS SESSION



## Y3 PE WITH BALLOONS













































## Y4 STAR FISH







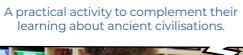
























### SECONDARY GREEN SCHOOL



## Y8 SELF-PROTECTION TRAINING COURSE





#### **Y9 TRENCHES DISPLAY**



### A DAYDREAMING MOM IN ANDORRA







## LEARNING TOGETHER ON THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



















### **NOTICES**

#### Early Years Christmas performance

For all families with children in Cygnets and Penguins.

• Thursday 12th December, 15:00 in the Sports Hall.

#### KS1 & KS2 Christmas Family Assembly

For all families with children in Years 1 to Year 6 inclusive.

• Friday 13th December-15:00 in the Sports Hall.

#### Y13's looking for summer jobs in June, July, August, and September 2025

After they graduate in June 2025, and before commencing university courses or other projects later in the year, some of our Class of 2025 seek temporary work to earn some money and gain experience. If you are an employer or know of opportunities for work over next summer, in Andorra or elsewhere, please contact <a href="mailto:admin@bcandorra.com">admin@bcandorra.com</a> to let us know. Thank you.