



BCA Newsletter



LIVE ADVENTUROUSLY

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Live Adventurously

In looking back at the huge diversity of activities and opportunities offered to our students over recent weeks, and recorded in this newsletter, all in support of a rich and authentic learning experience, it is clear that our children and their educators are truly living adventurously.

We are always up for a challenge, with our school values (this term, 'courage and tenacity') to guide us on our way. If the children are learning about food, go to a restaurant and make a pizza! (Nursery). To engage parents in children's reading progress, open the classroom doors and run an information session (reading workshop for Year 2 families). If the children are learning about life in polar regions, go and build a real igloo! (Year 6). If you want teenagers to understand democracy, have them participate in the Consell dels Joves (Year 10). If you want students to understand the artistic process, invite them to stage their own art exhibition, open to the public in the centre of town (Year 13).

Of course, this is just the visible part of hours and hours of less photogenic learning in the classroom, but it is what frames and drives the learning process: an authentic, meaningful context or assessment task. Let the adventures and excitement of learning continue!



Mr Harry Lock
Principal





NOTICES

The school ski programme for the 2024-25 season has now finished. Snow conditions remained favourable throughout, even though once again there was less snow than usual. The addition of a snowboarding option in Secondary was popular.

For the Early Years and KSI, weekly swimming lessons will begin next term.

EY and Primary Student Led conferences

These are scheduled for the upcoming week (April 9th & 10th) and booking information was shared earlier. The purpose of the conferences is to place the authentic voice of the child at the centre of the conversation, as they share their successes and challenges and discuss their learning with the parent, thus establishing a reflective approach that will accelerate learning in the years to come. Follow up 1:1 appointments with the teacher are always available at a later time, if there are issues of concern that parent or teacher wish to share.

World Book Week, 14th-16th April

BCA will celebrate World Book Week in the last week of term. We are doing it early because this year St. George's / St. Jordi falls during the Easter vacation. Lots of fun events to inspire young readers. Wednesday 16th April will be a themed dress-up day with a donation for charity requested.

We must nurture a culture of reading both at home and in school.

Researchers in the United States who had looked at the impact of parents reading with their children quoted the following figures in a news release about their findings:

"Here's how many words kids would have heard by the time they were 5 years old: Never read to, 4,662 words; 1-2 times per week, 63,570 words; 3-5 times per week, 169,520 words; daily, 296,660 words; and five books a day, 1,483,300 words."

Science Daily (2019)

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/04/190404074947.htm>

Will you be reading with your child this evening?

The role of the school is, similarly, to nurture both the joy of reading and to teach it in a systematic, research-informed manner. At BCA our phonics programme, which serves this purpose exactly, is now well established in the Early Years and Lower Primary, with clear evidence of accelerated progress.

International Day

We have an exciting proposal for the first ever BCA International Day to be held on 19th June for all Early Years and Primary children and their families. A celebration of diversity and togetherness. More to follow!

SAVE THE DATE - Primary Shows next term

- Thursday 29th May: KS1 Play Performance
- Friday 30th May: KS2 Play Performance

Reminder:

Let the school know if your child will be absent by sending an email to the school office.

Collection timing for all stages is posted in the ISAMS Parent Portal (School Docs).



**APRIL
SECONDARY
HOUSE EVENT**

**TALENT
SHOW**

**SHOW US WHAT
YOU CAN DO!**

AUDITIONS: APRIL 10TH & 11TH: 11:00- 11:30

**FINAL PERFORMANCES:
APRIL 16TH IN CLUB**

NURSERY - PIZZA TIME!

Children from Nursery, whose current topic is 'Food and the Supermarket', went to the restaurant *Fora Pizza* to learn how to make delicious pizzas.



RECEPTION - DIFFERENT COUNTRY WORKSHOPS

Children from the Penguins' class learned all about different countries. To conclude, they deepened their culture by tasting some typical food, such as '*Pa amb tomàquet i fuet*', crepes, and a Scottish dish.



KSI ANDORRA SOSTENIBLE

Year 1 and Year 2 had a special guest in their class. Mr. Alex, from Andorra Sostenible, came to see them with his friend, a little squirrel, who explained how to look after the environment.

These workshops were very interactive and interesting for children.



Y5 READING CHALLENGE



Year 5 students were challenged to read from Andorra la Vella to New York City as part of their Amazing America topic.

The challenge was designed to increase the amount of home reading children are completing whilst also developing student independence.

Students received 25km for each home read they did, and needed to accumulate 6000km over a 4-week period... Which they achieved last Friday! Well done Peacocks.

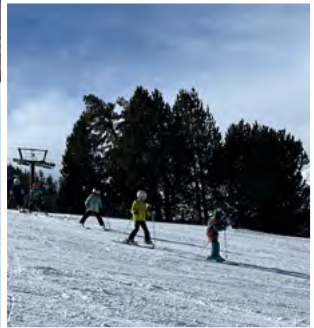
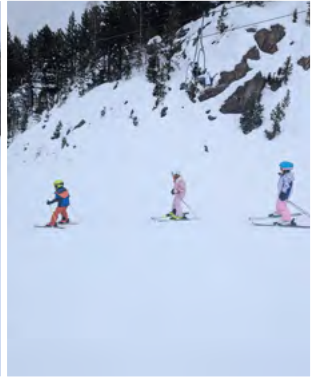
Y6 IGLOOS

Hawks' class went to Grau Roig as part of their learning about the continent of Antarctica. By themselves making igloos with snow they learned something of life for people who live in a polar environment.



PRIMARY SKI - LAST WEEK





CONSELL GENERAL DELS JOVES

This school year, for the first time, the British College of Andorra is part of the Consell General dels Joves. Recently our representatives of Year 10 went to the first information session and attended the committee work session, in which they work together with the other schools in the country on the proposals to present to the Consell General this year. The plenary session will take place on April 9.



THEATRE - YEAR 10

Year 10 students went to the Teatre Comunal in Andorra la Vella to see the show Strawberry Frapuccino, a play about Sara and Nil, two teenagers who follow each other on Instagram, despite not knowing each other in person. Finally, Nil confesses that he is being cyber-bullied by a classmate. This is forcing him to consider some drastic measures that put Sara in a state of deep-worry.



ADVENTURE CLUB-FOREST



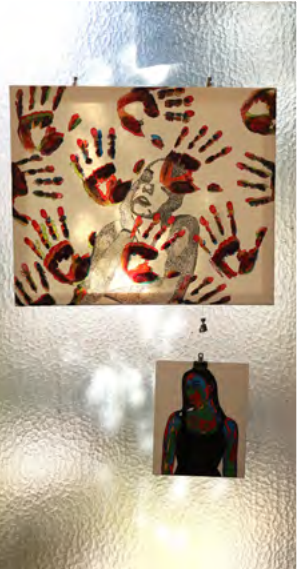
INTERNATIONAL AWARD (DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD) ASSEMBLY

The International Award Duke of Edinburgh cohort celebrated achieving their Bronze Awards. Over the course of the last year, students completed voluntary service, improving a skill, and participating in a physical activity over a period of time. Not to forget their adventurous journey, where students navigated their way through the Sorteny valley, cooking their own meals, and working towards their team goals.



IB ART EXHIBITION

Our IB Visual Artists, supported by their teacher, saw the culmination of their work in an exhibition at the L'institucional gallery in Andorra la Vella's Central Park. They tackled often challenging and contemporary themes. Courage, tenacity, and artistic talent got them to this point. They responded with confidence to the interviews in front of the Andorra TV camera!



COLLAGE - SNOW DAY



