



# BCA Newsletter



FLOURISHING SPRING

## PRINCIPALS' LETTER

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### FLOURISHING SPRING

The Summer term is, as always, action-packed, with all kinds of events planned to support and celebrate the learning experience. Some of this is reported on in this Newsletter or through regular posts on the Seesaw platform for Early Years and Primary. Some big events coming up include Secondary Sports Day (10th June), EY & Primary Sports Day (12th June), the celebration of the Graduation of the Class of 2026 (13th June) and International Day (25th June). Our well-established and diverse programme of End of Year trips, including ambitious residentials, near and far, will all depart within the next month. Parents have already been provided with detailed information. On a smaller scale but no less significant for student learning are the competitions (Primary and Secondary chess competitions next week, plus the recent Maths inter-school Maths Competition) and the frequent visitors giving workshops (this week we had the Cos de Banders for an amazing talk on the wildlife of Andorra). There is much excitement among the children!

And meanwhile our pioneering first cohort of students is at Finborough School UK, making a big and very positive impression and learning lots themselves from this unique experience, which will be a regular feature going forward.

The summer examination session has begun at the school. Our Year 10 and 11 students are taking their IGCSE exams and our Year 13 students are taking their IB Diploma exams. BCA staff, students and parents are united in wishing all of our students every success as they take on this challenge, after two years of preparation. We are confident that your efforts will be reflected in your results. Good luck!

The summer building works programme is poised ready to start, with further renovations and improvements to the campus, both indoors and outdoors, alongside the wider Forfar project of expansion, through additional buildings and classrooms.

*Finally, we have received a few questions from parents and students querying why the last day of term on the school calendar falls in July (Friday 3rd July). It's true that usually we finish in the last week of June, but this year, because of the way the other holidays and dates fall, we end on July 3rd. The actual number of teaching days for the school year 2025-2026 is much the same as the number of teaching days in the school year 2024-2025. We follow the calendar published by the Govern d'Andorra for all schools.*



Mr Harry Lock  
Principal

## EARLY YEARS AND KEY STAGE 1

This point of the school year is one where we reflect on the children's growth over the school year: intellectually, emotionally and of course physically. Our shared aim with parents is for children to become ever more independent, capable and to develop their own sense of agency. With the Cygnets and Ducklings, some of whom arrive aged only two in September, routines are now understood and we see greater confidence as they arrive at school in the morning and come downstairs eagerly on their own, often greeting adults and friends with a "Good morning" or "Hola". We notice how their play becomes more sophisticated and inclusive, working with others, rather than alongside as it was earlier in the year. The level of English has moved from understanding spoken words to speaking those words themselves. The children often move with ease between Catalan, Spanish, French or English. Interestingly, though this might seem confusing, research consistently demonstrates that a 'translanguaging' approach, between the home language and English, strongly supports language acquisition.



In KS 1, Owls are embracing their interesting curriculum of topics, such as Animals and Continents. Robins are getting ready to move next year into KS 2 and continue to apply their phonics skills to both reading and writing. At this time of year, there is a renewed interest in observing bugs and creepy-crawlies on the weekly walks in the local forest. Now we just need some more sunshine!

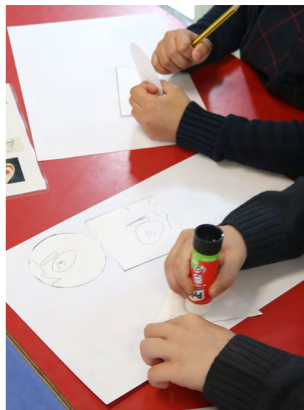
*Anne Newlin  
Head of EY & KS1*



## THYSSEN MUSEUM

Early Years and Primary students took part in several to learn about avant-garde art and created artworks like true artists. Thank you very much for your visit!





## KEY STAGE 2

The children have recently enjoyed collaborating with other classes across the school. Some classes have visited the Year 7's "Wax Museum" project and learnt about the life or inventions of a famous character. They were really impressed with the costumes, props and amount of information that the Year 7 class were able to share about their role model. Other classes have been sharing reading time in the library with older students during club time.

KS2 classes are also preparing (or have already presented) information and activities to share with their parents in the form of an open afternoon at some point this term.

*Julia Costin*  
Head of KS2



## KEY STAGE 3

KS3 students have been involved in a range of projects this term.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have completed a personal project on an issue that they believe matters to young people. Examples of these projects have included:

- encouraging students to play chess, instead of being on their phones;
- supporting young athletes to balance their studies and sports;
- educating young people on the dangers of social media.

Students have presented presentations in class, have created informative videos, have created pieces of art or have written news articles.

Year 7s have also been involved in the Amina's Song Living Wax Museum Project, where they chose a role model to research and then became that person for a day. The students were dressed up, with props and put on an exhibition for students in Years 4 and 6 and for teachers. Their audience was very impressed by the effort, professionalism and communication skills that the Year 7s demonstrated.

*Chelsea Spillane*  
Head of KS3



## SECONDARY-SPANISH PROJECT

As part of Sant Jordi and with the aim of promoting literary reading, Years 7 and 8 have joined a project that has been traveling around the world for ten years: *Borges for Children*.

The initiative celebrates both the 10th anniversary of this project and the 40th anniversary of the death of Jorge Luis Borges and is titled *Borges Intercontinental*. Schools from all continents will have read and recreated the story *The Unending Gift*. An exhibition will be held in August at the Legislature of Córdoba, Argentina, and Andorra will have its own space to showcase the children's work. BCA, together with Years 7 and 8, will act as representative ambassadors of the country.

*Camila Rabasedas*  
Spanish Teacher

Celebramos los 10 años de  
 2016-BORGES PARA NIÑOS- 2026  
 con el taller  
**BORGES INTERCONTINENTAL**  
 Un encuentro literario donde los niños de todo  
 el mundo conocerán a J.L.BORGES, de la mano de  
 Lorraine Berrone




Con mucha alegría presentamos este taller  
 el día **21 de abril**  
 en la escuela.

**ANDORRA LA VELLA-EUROPA**

## FINBOROUGH SHORT STAY PROGRAMME

We are excited to see our BCA pupils take part in the first Forfar Short Stay Programme at Finborough School in the UK. This is an initiative designed to embed connections across our schools and create meaningful, shared learning experiences. Furthermore, this unique experience offers an opportunity to learn in a new environment, form international friendships and grow in confidence and independence.

We look forward to welcoming students from across the Forfar family to Andorra in the future.

A new chapter in cross-school collaboration is underway!



## KEY STAGE 4

### Endings and Midpoints

KS4 is a demanding two-year journey. In Year 10, there is perhaps a greater emphasis on adjustment, as students move into a new structure with the expectations of IGCSE study, and begin to manage increased challenge and responsibility. By Year 11, the emphasis tends to shift more towards application and readiness. Students may be more confident to take risks in their learning and make use of everything they have built up over the two years as they prepare for their final IGCSE examinations. While KS4 is one key stage, it is not experienced in exactly the same way throughout; different aspects of learning naturally come into focus at different times, whether that is developing understanding, consolidating knowledge, or preparing for final assessments.

Success in education is rarely straightforward or immediate. It develops over time through persistence, reflection, and a willingness to keep improving. Alongside academic progress, students are encouraged to develop a clearer sense of self-awareness. This includes reflecting on what they are strong at, where they need to improve, and what opportunities may be ahead. They are also supported to think realistically about their goals, and how to respond to challenges or circumstances that may be outside of their control.

Education is not only about knowledge, but also about developing confidence, reflection, and purpose in a way that supports long term growth. Through holistic support and students' own willingness to commit to the process, this two-year period helps to establish habits and perspectives that can extend well beyond this stage of their education and even into life beyond school.

***Nastasia Mastilo***  
*Head of KS4*



## YEAR 11 BUSINESS STUDENT-PLANNED FIELD TRIP

Year 11 students recently took part in an engaging business field trip designed to bring their classroom studies to life. As part of the experience, students developed presentations and completed tasks that directly linked to key theoretical concepts from their course.

During the visit, students explored how real-world organisations operate, with a particular focus on marketing strategies and operational efficiency. This hands-on approach allowed them to see first hand how businesses apply the principles they have been studying in lessons.

We hope this experience deepens their understanding of how companies attract customers, manage resources and their operations.

A key focus of the trip was also the development of teamwork skills. Through collaborative tasks and group presentations, students worked together to analyse their findings and communicate their ideas effectively.

Overall, the afternoon provided both an enjoyable and interactive learning experience for all involved.



## DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

### Duke of Edinburgh International Gold Award

Y12 students completed their Gold training expedition hiking in the Costa Brava region. They started from Torroella de Montri and hiked on average 20km a day with heavy backpacks along a mix of forested trails, beaches and coastal paths along the Camí de Ronda. They passed the towns of Begur, Allafranc, Palamós and San Feliu de Guíxols.

Students carried all equipment including tents and cooking equipment, ensuring they were fully self sufficient along the way. Navigation was difficult with many decisions to make, and all students worked fantastically to successfully navigate the 60km over three days.

**Robbie Waugh**  
*International Award Coordinator / ESS and Biology Teacher*



## Spanish Film Workshop

In their Spanish lessons Year 12 students had a film analysis session with one experienced cinema lover, and explored in depth all the broader elements as authentic cinematic features.



## Information for families

**Creand**® Fundació **Persones com tu**

TALLER PER A MARES, PARES I DOCENTS

### Un pes esgotador anomenat ansietat

ESCOLA DE FAMÍLIES DE L'AMPASA

Els trastorns d'ansietat han augmentat especialment entre els adolescents més vulnerables. Aquesta ansietat pot evolucionar en depressió, estrès posttraumàtic, autolesions o intents de suïcidi, entre d'altres.

- L'ansietat, s'expressa de la mateixa manera en els adults que en els infants i els adolescents?
- Com es manifesta entre els adolescents?
- Com podem detectar-la mares, pares i docents? Podem reconduir-la?

Taller impartit per Jordi Rojo, psicòleg, especialista en psicologia clínica, trastorns de la conducta i patologia dual en l'àmbit infantojuvenil. Cofundador i director clínic d'Amalagama7.

**11/5 - 18 h**  
Edifici Creand

**Informació:** 72 25 09 - 88 88 80 / [www.ampaea.edu](http://www.ampaea.edu)  
**Inscripcions:** [inscripcions.ampaea.ad](mailto:inscripcions.ampaea.ad)  
**Inscripció:** 6 € La inscripció queda formalitzada una vegada s'hagi efectuat el pagament.

# #CUINASENPARES

Tallers de cuina per a adolescents al Rusc

**Dimecres 13 de maig, a les 17 h**

**#CuinaBlinis**  
amb l'Associació Cultural Russoparlants

**Dimecres 27 de maig, a les 17 h**

**#CuinaPastaFresca**  
amb el restaurant *La Família*

**Dimecres 10 de juny, a les 17 h**

**#CuinaCòctels**  
amb alumnes del Bac Pro d'hostaleria del Lycée Comte de Foix

Activitats **gratuites** amb inscripció prèvia

**Places limitades**

Reserva la teva plaça enviant un WhatsApp al +376 611 842

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# "SANT JORDI"



# "BOOK DAY"

