

This is the first of our monthly bulletins to keep you up to date with life in the EIC.

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# News from the Headteacher

Dear families,

On behalf of all the staff and governors ("patrons") of the EIC, I would like to welcome you warmly to the new school year, 2019-20, our eighth year. Last year was filled with many events, successes and developments for the entire school, staff and our community. This year, of course it will be even better, because improvement is part of our mindset for children, all our staff, and therefore the school as a whole.

I hope you and your children have had a good summer – it has been a very long holiday for the children, so let's get back into the swing quickly. They may not have been speaking one or more of Spanish, Catalan or English and will be rusty, so they will need practice.

It has been hot weather and not a day passed this summer without the international

media talking about heatwaves, melting ice, impact on animal and plant life, pollution and in particular the problems caused by plastic. You will see below that I refer to our themes for the year, but I must emphasize that sustainability, one of our four pillars, has to be a priority. We have talked a lot but now it is time to act in a more fundamental way, not just when it suits us – and to educate our children in sustainable thinking and good routines across the curriculum. As a school and as individuals we must seriously reduce our consumption of single-use plastics as well as facing issues such as food waste, recycling, diesel and cars, energy consumption (and more) and we will be raising the tone and the level of commitment this year. Children should have reusable drinks bottles and they can drink water in lessons. Healthy lifestyles are part of sustainability.

Teachers have been back at work since September 2nd including new colleagues too, planning and organising the curriculum, students groups and classrooms.

This summer all of our IB and BAT students have been able to secure places at the universities they were aiming for: Selectivitat, BAT and IB results as well as strong personal profiles helped open the doors to their futures, and our BAT/IB 2 students have

already set off to universities in the UK, Spain and the Philippines.

There will be more than 90 new students at the school this year, and we ask for your support to welcome students and their families and help them feel at home as soon as possible. You will remember what you felt when you were "new" (students and families). There will be an extra teaching group in ESO 4, so we now have 4A and 4B and in BAT 1 (A

and B).

September will be a month where we have to set good routines, get to know teachers, subjects and classes and focus on establishing good habits inside and outside the classroom. For example, we are further increasing our restrictions on mobile phones which may not be used anywhere in school and will be confiscated if seen, according to our policies.

Please read all the Newsletters ("Let's talk About...") which



you can find in the Alexia Gallery in 3 languages. We will focus again on three specific themes for the year 2019-20, and Primary/Secondary students will also see them in the planner. In reality, they are all closely linked.

First, a focus on sustainability, one of our 4 pillars, but with the aim of really integrating it into all areas of school life and serving as an example.

Second, a focus on courtesy which should be a life skill for all of our students, as it fundamentally means respect for others, for property, for the environment and being proactive in developing good relationships in the classroom, in the playground and outside school.

Third – our four pillars of Community, Internationalism, New Technologies and Sustainability – but going more deeply into these themes, making them part of our lifestyles and being good role models for others.

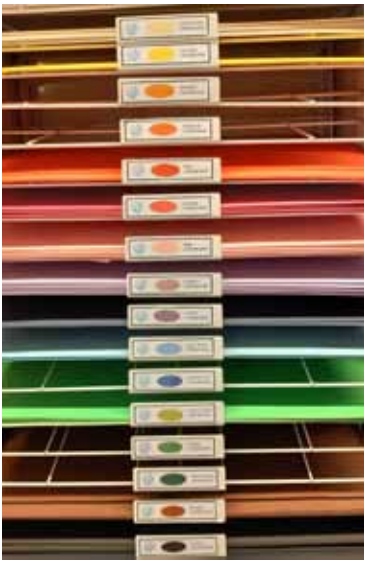
Our educational model Socrates Educa emphasises not only the community, but also the importance of individual and personal development.

From this point of view, your child's tutor is a key person. S/he will know how to talk to you about progress, challenges, daily routines... they see your child daily and will be able to tell you how he is developing. The tutor is always the first point of contact. Please speak with him/her in the Forum/by email, if you have concerns or if there is something you want to discuss or information you need to know from outside the school. Do not wait until a problem turns into a crisis – talk to the tutor.

You will be invited to parent information meetings during the next few weeks. Extracurricular activities will begin on September 23rd. The Extracurricular Activities Fair will take place on Monday 16th after school so you can see which are the activities on offer.

You can see them and register through Alexia. The deadline is September 22nd, but some activities will be full before, if you leave it until the last minute.

Don't forget: Apply online for School Lunches and Extra Curricular Activities, both in Alexia, clicking on "Extra



Curricular Activities" at the bottom of the homepage. You can download, fill in and email the forms for transport and after school care from the Alexia Gallery – it is very easy and quick. Instructions were in the letter sent to you recently. Have you seen the Special Transport Offers of (80% reduction for the second child and 90% for the 3rd child) Now is a better time than ever to use the school bus service! We attach the school calendar for the entire year. It can also be found in the Alexia Gallery, along with the menus. The detailed calendar for the next month will appear in each



Bulletin, published at the end of each month, along with news, practical information and events. Please note the long weekend at the end of October.

**Parent Curriculum Information 2019-20**

We are preparing this information and it will be published in Alexia. We will inform you when it is ready during the month of September.

Some practical points:

- The EIC is a chewing gum-free zone. That includes students, parents, visitors and school staff. We ask that you respect this.

- Mobile phones (students) must be invisible at all times and will be confiscated if seen.
- Do not forget that the uniform must be impeccable at all times for all students, including school regulation shoes (black/brown/navy blue/plain)!
- Reception assistants will start in September with ESO 1 students. This community service lasts from 8.35 until lunch time. Correct uniform and good presentation are essential.

As usual, you can find me at the beginning and end of the day at the entrance of the school.

Best regards,

**Jonathan Day**

# Calendar dates

## SCHOOL CALENDAR: September / October 2019

### September

5th - Welcome for Pre-School families 10-11h

5th - Welcome for Primary families 10-11h

12th - School starts, normal times

16th - Extra Curricular Activities Fair 4.30pm

20th - Talent Jove Competition (ESO)

23rd - Extra Curricular Activities start

24th - ESO 1 Parents' Information Meeting 4.45pm

24th - Pre School Parents' Meeting (P1-2) 5pm

26th - ESO 2 Parents' Information Meeting 4.45pm

26th - Pre School Parents' Information Meeting (P3-4-5) 5pm

30th - ESO 3 & 4 Parents' Information Meeting 4.45pm

30th - Reception Assistants start (ESO 4)

### October

1st - Primary 1 & 2 Parents' Information Meeting 4.45

2nd - Primary 3 & 4 Parents' Information Meeting 4.45

2nd - BAT 1 & 2 Parents' Information Meeting 4.45

7th - 11th - Grandparents' Week
11th - Grandparents invited in to school, 3.15pm in the Forum
15th - Alexia for families / ICT in EIC for families meeting, 5pm
18th - UK Universities Fair - British Council, Barcelona (BAT 1 & 2)
28th - Halloween
29th - Castanyada
30th, 31st, and November 1st - Local & Bank Holidays - School closed, (long weekend)
<b>November</b>
6th - ESO 2 Parents' Evening, 4.45pm

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## Alexia/ICT

I hope you have downloaded the Alexia app, which is now easier to use and will improve our communications with families, both for academic and administrative issues. The 2019-20 school calendar is in the gallery, as well as the newsletters ("Let's Talk About") which explains the main areas for the beginning of the year, including uniforms, materials, transportation, dining room, lockers and more. We have installed more digital projectors and purchased iPads, as well as traditional resources.

We will be introducing new security software for the school, teachers and for families, so watch out for news – there will be an ICT meeting for parents on October 15th to cover this and other areas such as Alexia and iPads.

## Resources

We order large quantities of textbooks, exercise books, workbooks, reading books and materials for use in classrooms thorough the year, including sport, music, art, science and more, so your children will receive materials as appropriate at the beginning of term.

If you have any books from previous years which you want to return to the school for re-use (recycling), then we will be pleased to receive them and you can de-clutter your child's room!

## Around the School

Much general maintenance has been done in the summer and many rooms and corridors painted so that the school feels fresh and cared for. We will encourage all children to help keep it that way, and the Student Council is assuming greater responsibility in caring for their surroundings, as well as in the content of the curriculum and the life of the school. It's courtesy to the whole community.