

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 Patrons of the EIC, I would like to wish you a **very big welcome** the new school year, 2017-18, our sixth year. We have passed a landmark and now we are beginning the second five year phase - to complete our decade. Last year was full of many events, successes and developments, personal and whole school - for all of our community. This year will of course be even better - that is our mindset and a new Development Plan is in place to underpin planned progress in all areas, still concentrating on learning and the individual, high quality professional development and feedback to staff.

The staff returned refreshed on September 1st, including new teachers and colleagues in other areas who will develop our capacity. We launched 3 specific themes for the year 2017-18 which are firstly a focus on **sustainability**, one of our 4 pillars, but aiming to really embed it across all areas of school life and to lead by example. Secondly, a focus on **"courtesy and good manners"** which should be a life skill for all our students. We will be looking to develop kind and considerate behaviour and attitudes - it's all about respect for others, good attitudes for learning and when you extrapolate, you can see how it fits in with the third focus, the UN **Human Rights** Charter, of which you will see the main points in student planners.

From here we quickly get into areas such as tolerance - (but not tolerance of intolerance), and themes which are particularly relevant at the moment with recent events which affect us all and our lifestyles. You will hear more about these themes and we ask you to support us at home discussing them with your children and supporting them when they come up in or outside the classroom.

Our significant news from the summer, as you may have seen in the media, was our excellent set of ex-am results for BAT/IB2.

Our IB (International Baccalaureate) exam results were **excellent**: EIC pass rate: 100% again, World average: 79%, Spain average: 88%



EIC average points score: 32,5 - World average: 29,95 - Spain average: 31,2.

All of those who attempted the Bilingual Diploma succeeded

(100%).

Our **results** prove again that we have the quality of teaching, support, coordination and administration to reach the levels of the best anywhere in Spain or elsewhere, and our challenge is to maintain and improve on levels of excellence as well as offering the best courses and the most appropriate options for all of our students as well as those who arrive from outside.

All our Batxillerat / IB students, through Selectivitat and/or IB exams, were able to enter the university of their choice - in Barcelona, Tarragona, Madrid, Germany, the UK ...

There are more than **100 new students** in the school this

year, so please make a special effort to welcome them and their families and help them to feel at home as quickly as possible. You will remember what it was like when you were "new" (students and families). This has enabled the creation of three more teaching groups in Primary 4, ESO 1 & ESO 2 and reduced class sizes.

We have also launched our "PAT" - the **Tutorial Action Plan** across the school, to help teachers be consistent in developing personally and with social and academic skills, individual talent and guidance for their individual future planning, academically and professionally. The teachers now have a "toolbox" to enable them to work proactively with children of all different ages.

I hope that you have downloaded the app for Alexia which has made it more user friendly and it will improve our communications with families, both academic and administrative. The **school calendar 2017-18** is in the Gallery as well as the **Newsletters** which explain all the key areas for the start off the year - including Uniform, Resources, Transport, Dining Hall, Lockers and more. **Don't forget that you must register** for school lunches, transport and extra curricular activities through Alexia.

You will see step by step improvements in our communications, including through Alexia.

There have been physical **changes** over the summer:

- General maintenance and much painting and

cleaning have been undertaken so that the School feels fresh and cared for - we will encourage all children to help keep it that way, and the Student Council are taking a greater responsibility in looking after their surroundings as well as in the content of the curriculum and the life of the school. We also ask for your support in passing on the messages to your children - their school should be treated as they would treat their home.

- New changing rooms due to the expanding number of students and sports activities and teams.
- A lift in building A3, to be installed in November, for handicapped access.
- Extra classroom capacity.
- New bus parking and car park for teachers at the back of the school - this will reduce congestion and improve safety in front of the school. Children taking the bus will be accompanied by the supervisors into the school as usual, in improved and safer conditions, starting on 18th September.
- The school garden has been expanded.
- More digital projectors and iPads as well as traditional resources.

New Staff

Welcome to:

- Kimberley Neal (England)
- Janette Adams (Scotland)
- Gustav Axelson (USA)
- Sylvia Gutiérrez (local)
- Catherine Mader (South Africa)
- Aina González (local)
- Amanda Favre (local/

Canada)

- Noé Forés (local)
- Raquel Rabassa (local)
- Sara Herrero (Spain, arriving from Colombia)
- Laia Aznar (local)

You will see that September does not appear to be a busy month on the School Calendar. That is because we need to settle into **good routines**, get to know teachers, subjects and classes and focus on establishing good habits in and out of classes.

Our educational model **Sòcrates 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. They will know about progress, challenges, day today routines and they see your child daily so they have a good feel for how they are progressing. The tutor is always the first point of contact - please talk to them in the Forum / by email if you have concerns or if there is anything you wish to discuss or information that they need to know from outside school. Do not wait until a problem becomes a crisis, just have a chat.

You will be invited to Parents' Information meetings over the coming weeks.

Reception Assistants' duty will start on September 18th with ESO 1 students. This service to the community last from 8.35 to lunchtime. Don't forget to be very smartly dressed, including school shoes!

Extra Curricular Activities

will start on 25th September. The Extra Curricular Activities Fair will take place on Friday 15th after school so that you can see which Extra Curricular Activities are on offer. You can view and register online through Alexia from September 1st. The deadline is 22nd September, but some activities will be full before then if you leave it to the last minute.

Communications

We attach the school calendar for the whole year and it can also be found in the Gallery in Alexia, along with the menus. The detailed calendar for the next month will appear in each Bulletin, published at the end of every month.

This Bulletin will be published at the end of each month with the detailed calendar for the next month as well as information, practical aspects and news.

Curriculum Information for parents 2017-18

This information is being prepared and will be published in Alexia. We will let you know when it is ready during

September.

Some practical points:

- The EIC is a chewing gum free zone. That includes students, staff, parents and visitors. Please respect it.
- Mobile phones (students) should be invisible at all times and or will be confiscated.

EIC Clubs

Throughout the year you will receive information directly from the Clubs which will propose events and activities. There will be many opportunities to participate and contribute to the life of the School. Don't forget that on the same day as the Extra Curricular Activities Fair, the Clubs will hold their Fair in the Forum - Friday 15th September after school.

We encourage you all to meet them, contact them and participate with Clubs, so you can enjoy and see school life from another point of view. Unique at EIC!

As always, you know you will find me at the start and end of the day at the school entrance, Kind regards,

Jonathan Day



Calendar dates

SCHOOL CALENDAR: September 2017

8th Pre School Open Day 9am-1pm

8th Primary Open Day 9am-11am

12th - School starts at 8.30am for a normal day

12th - at 4pm, in the Forum we will take a whole school photo - official welcome to the new School Year - families welcome from 4.15

15th at 4.30pm - Extra Curricular Activities and EIC Clubs Fair in the Forum

18th ESO Reception Duties begin

20th ESO 1 Parents' Information Meeting at 4.45pm

25th Extra Curricular Activities begin

26th Pre School Parents' Meeting P1-3, 5pm

27th Pre School Parents' Meeting P4-5, 5pm

October 2017

3rd Primary 1 & 2 Parents' Meeting, 4.45pm

4th - Primary Swimming starts

4th Primary 3 & 4 Parents' Meeting, 4.45pm

5th Primary 5 & 6 Parents' Meeting, 4.45pm

9th - 13th Older People's Week - our first "Special Week"

12th - Public Holiday, school closed

October 13th (Friday) Grandparents invited to the Forum, 3pm - including refreshments

and traditional "coca amb xocolata".

19th - Alexia and ICT Information Meeting for Families, 4.45pm

25th - Cultural Outing, ESO classes

30th - Halloween Party

31st - Castanyada

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

MENUS FOR SEPTEMBER

The menus for this month are available to view in Alexia, our virtual platform. If you have any difficulty accessing Alexia, please contact the Front Office where Maria Mascaró will help you.