

BULLETIN No. 2

The British School of Costa Rica
6th of January, 2026



UPCOMING DATES

Monday 9th February:	Start of Year 11 and Year 12 Cambridge English Proficiency Exams
Monday 9th February:	Start of afterschool clubs
Friday 13th February:	Year 11 Agents of Change workshop
Friday 20th February:	School Closed - Staff training day
Saturday 28th February:	International Fair



BSCR NEWS - GENERAL

International Fair

Our annual International Fair will take place on 28th February, and we are excited to welcome the BSCR community together for a day of celebration, culture, and connection. The International Fair is a fantastic opportunity for students, families, and staff to come together and celebrate what makes BSCR such a special community. All profits raised on the day go directly towards supporting our [service learning](#) projects throughout the year. Last year, funds raised at the fair supported a range of meaningful initiatives, including working with:

- Animales de Asís, Hogar Casa C.U.N.A, Caipad Aciosa, Escuela Montserrat, Chepe se baña, Fundación Giamala, Association Roblealto and more!

This year, we are also using the fair as an opportunity to strengthen our community engagement. We will be collecting for and showcasing the following student projects, each of which will have a stand at the fair:

- Change the Trend - Collection, sale (profit donated) and donation of prom dresses to Casa Luz and Proyecto Suri
- Steps of Solidarity: Collection of shoes (Bring on the day!) to be donated to Chepe se Baña
- Bookcycle - Collection of children's books. Spanish books directly donated to Fundación Génesis y Asociación Roblealto. English books will be sold with profits directly donated.
- Used battery collection - we will collate and recycle
- Adoption Fair with la Fundación Nómadas de Costa Rica.
- BSCR uniform collection/swap - Feel free to bring and take old/used uniforms!

More information about each of these exciting, student led initiatives will be in next week's bulletin!

Celebrating Student Birthdays at School

Following several recent inquiries from parents, please see our procedures for celebrating student birthdays, as detailed in our Parent Handbook, below:

Early Years 1- Early Years 3:

Parents may choose to send in some small individual cakes / doughnuts for their child's birthday, or personally attend a short celebration in the classroom, having made a prior agreement with the Form Teacher (at least 48 hours notice period). Please note that older siblings from Primary or Secondary are not permitted to attend the short celebration. Please also take into account any food allergies and ensure prior communication about the food being brought to school is shared with the whole class parent group in advance.

BSCR NEWS - GENERAL

Year 1 to Year 12

Parents may choose to send in some small individual cakes / doughnuts for their child's birthday. Please note that younger siblings from other year levels will not be permitted to attend the short celebration. Likewise, only under exceptional circumstances, and at the discretion of the relevant Leadership Team (Primary or Secondary), would parents be allowed to come on campus to celebrate their child's birthday. Please take into account any food allergies and ensure prior communication about the food being sent to school is shared with the whole class parent group in advance.

BSCR NEWS - EARLY YEARS & PRIMARY

EY & Primary Discipline Committee

For the 2026 academic year our EY & Primary Disciplinary Committee (pac@bscr.ed.cr) is composed of the following staff members: Mr. Gary Mallon, Teacher Milena Mora, Teacher Natalia Hernandez, Teacher Carlos Marcano and Teacher Irena Zlatkova.

EY & Primary Evaluation Committee

For the 2026 academic year our EY & Primary Evaluation Committee (disciplinarycommittee.primary@bscr.ed.cr) is composed of the following staff members: Teacher Roxana Lizano, Teacher Cleter Mattis, Teacher Raquel Palma, Teacher Jimena Bolaños and Teacher Katingo Vatis.

Gymnastics Success

Congratulations to Sophie Dabdoub (Year 1) and Alexa Martinez (Year 4) on their participation in the Simone Biles Invitational Gymnastics Competition which was held in Houston, Texas between the 23rd and 26th of January. In addition to both girls performing extremely well, they also had the opportunity to meet Simone Biles, the most decorated gymnast in history with 41 medals including 7 gold medals at the Olympics, in person.



Year 5 Camp - La Montaña Christian Camps

Year 5 arrived safely on Wednesday at their annual camp in San Ramon de Alajuela. Over the course of the three day camp, Year 5 students have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities that promote and reinforce school values such as Respect, Responsibility and Independence in a real life setting. We look forward to sharing more photos and updates next week.

BSCR NEWS - SECONDARY

Year 12, Y11IB and Y11NB English Language Cambridge exams

On February 10, 11, 12 and 13 the Year 12, Y11IB and Y11NB students will test their English language skills to obtain an additional international language certification, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. This test assesses their current skills of Reading and Use of English, Writing, Speaking and Listening. There is no need for students to further prepare for this test. This certification will further support our students in their future national or international plans for university or work. It is essential that they bring an official ID (national cedula, DIMEX or passport) in order to be allowed into the examination room. Further details about specific exam times will be in their inbox soon. The school ID, photocopies or scans will not be accepted.

Secondary Discipline Committee

For the 2026 academic year our Secondary Discipline Committee (disciplinarycommittee@bscr.ed.cr) is composed of the following staff members: Teacher Cleo Vasquez, Teacher Karen Moreira, Teacher Lady Gomez, Teacher Rachel Loughery and the relevant SDS member (Maria Jose Gonzalez - Year 6 to Year 8 / Jorge Sanchez - Year 9 to Year 12)

Secondary Evaluation Committee

For the 2026 academic year our Secondary Evaluation Committee (sac@bscr.ed.cr) is composed of the following staff members: Mr. Gareth Jones, Teacher Ana Rojas, Teacher Sundey Christensen, Teacher Maria Castillo and the relevant SDS member (Maria Jose Gonzalez - Year 6 to Year 8 / Jorge Sanchez - Year 9 to Year 12)

BSCR NEWS - Student Development Services (SDS)

SDS strategies

As we embark on a new school year, we'd like to share some helpful ideas and strategies to ensure a successful experience for your children. Tailoring these suggestions to fit your child's age will be key. Establishing a Routine: Promotes order and organization

- Use age-appropriate tools to outline daily activities and go over the daily plan each morning.
- Include different times each day for recreation and academic development (reading, studying). Older students may even want to create a revision timetable to prepare them for their exams.
- For younger children, incorporate games to build motor skills and follow instructions.

Supporting Physical Wellbeing: To allow the body and brain to be in optimal condition for learning

- Ensure a balanced and healthy diet
- Encourage duration and quality sleep habits.
- Promote age-appropriate physical activity.
- Limit screen time and social media exposure.

Supporting Emotional Wellbeing: To feel satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment, even when faced with challenges.

- Celebrate your child's efforts and progress, not just grades.
- Regularly ask how they feel about school and friendships to identify any needs for support. Avoid asking 'did you have a good day?' as you are very likely to get a one word answer; instead, ask them to tell you what their favourite part of the day was, or what the most interesting thing they learnt was.

BSCR NEWS - Student Development Services (SDS)

Encouraging Independence: It strengthens self-esteem and the perception of themselves as capable individuals who can handle various situations.

- Assign age-appropriate responsibilities: taking care of their belongings and tasks at home.
- Provide opportunities to make age-appropriate decisions (managing time, choosing clothing, activities, etc.).
- Promote consistency and commitment.

We invite you to put these recommendations into practice and remind you that if you have any specific questions, you may contact the SDS staff according to your child's respective grade level.

