

BULLETIN No. 11

The British School of Costa Rica

24th April, 2026



UPCOMING DATES

- Monday 27th April: Year 4A Primary Assembly
- Monday 27th April: Year 3 to Year 6 Boy's Football Vs. Colegio St. Clare
- Wednesday 29th April: Year 5 & 6 Boy's Football Vs. Lincoln School
- Wednesday 29th April: Secondary Parent-Teacher meetings
- Thursday 30th April: Year 10 IGCSE Geography field trip to Zarcero
- Thursday 30th April: Year 4 & 5 SDS Parent workshop on Puberty
- Friday 1st May: School Closed - National Holiday



BSCR NEWS - GENERAL

Health and Safety Update

During Quarter One, we further strengthened Health and Safety both on and off campus, in line with our commitment to continuous improvement, including emergency drills, inspections, and risk assessments. We also delivered internal health and safety training to staff and students and certified first aid and AED training for selected staff members. Finally, our Primary Student Health & Safety Committee made a positive contribution through inspections and delivered a health and safety presentation to Primary staff and students.

Health and Wellness Week

From the 11th to the 15th of May, we will celebrate Health and Wellness Week. We are planning many activities and would love to have the collaboration of health professionals who are part of our community: parents, grandparents, and caregivers who would like to share their knowledge with our primary and secondary school students are welcome. If you would like to give a short talk, share your knowledge at a fair, or have a conversation with parents about topics related to the physical, mental, and emotional health of adolescents and children, please contact Roxana Lizano (rlizano@bscr.ed.cr) for primary or Cleo Vásquez (cvasquez@bscr.ed.cr) for secondary school students.

BSCR NEWS - EARLY YEARS & PRIMARY



Primary & Secondary Student Council Collaboration

Last week provided an opportunity for the new Secondary Student Council members to introduce themselves to their Primary counterparts and discuss some initial ideas and suggestions about how they can work collaboratively moving forward. Watch this space for news of exciting new whole school ideas generated collectively by our students across both sections of the school.



Te y Charla

Last Friday was the first installment of the Spanish version of "Tea & Talk" with Mr. Mallon putting his Spanish speaking and listening skills to the test as he welcomed the following students from Year 5 who had been nominated by Teacher Milena for their consistent effort and recent progress. Mr. Mallon enjoyed listening to, and learning more about, both poetry (sonnets) as well as figurative language sentences. Congratulations to the following students: Miranda Soto (Year 5B), Karry Gong (Year 5C) and Mats Moewes (Year 5A).

Workshop for Year 4 and Year 5 Parents: 'Puberty: Changes and Challenges'

We gladly invite all parents from Year 4 and Year 5 to the workshop "Puberty: Changes and Challenges", which will be delivered by the Psychologists Amy Urroz and Andreína Azofeifa from our school's Student Development Services (SDS). The workshop will be on Thursday April 30th from 8:20 to 10:00am. This workshop serves as a complement to the activities which our Year 4 and Year 5 students will be participating in. In this workshop, we will examine subjects such as: the physical and psychosocial changes during puberty, the social patterns that emerge in the conformation of gender roles and the role of sexual education within the family.



Year 1 Assembly

On Monday, April 20th, Year 1A celebrated International Mother Earth Day with a play that demonstrated how to care for our planet through simple everyday actions. Students shared messages, and ideas about protecting nature, reminding us all that even small changes can make a big difference.



Year 4 Assembly

On Monday the 27th April, Year 4A is hosting a Superhero Day assembly. As a result, students in Primary are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite hero (superhero, pop star, athlete, family member, artist etc). As a part of this day we will be collecting donations for Chepe se Bana, the Year 4 service project, so please encourage your children to support this cause.

IGCSE exams for Year 10 students - Save the dates

The official final IGCSE exams will take place between Monday, September 28th and Thursday, November 5th. These are dates set by Cambridge and cannot be changed. As a result, and as attendance is mandatory for all Year 10 students, we ask all families to make sure that there are no family plans during these dates that might affect student attendance to these exams.

Year 8 Parents: Save the Date!

Year 8 students will be putting on a theatre production on May 28th at 10:30am in the auditorium. They have written their own adaptations of classic Science Fiction stories and have already begun rehearsals and stage designs. All Year 8 families are invited to see the production. More details to come.

International Christian School MUN Conference

We are pleased to congratulate Arturo Latouche Araya (Y11D) on his outstanding participation in the recent Model United Nations conference held at International Christian School, where he was awarded the Best Delegate prize for his performance in the Asamblea Legislativa Committee.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences for all Secondary students will take place on [Wednesday the 29th April](#) between 1pm and 4pm. Please see the instructions sent by email on [Monday the 20th April](#) if you would like to sign up for an appointment with one or more of your child/children's teachers. Please note that all meeting reservations need to be made by 3pm on [Tuesday the 28th of April](#). To facilitate these meetings, classes for all Secondary students will end at midday on [Wednesday 29th of April](#). Classes and afterschool clubs for EY and Primary students will run as usual.

Year 10 - BridgeU Platform Onboarding

Over the past two Fridays, [Year 10](#) students have been working with our University Counselor, Ana Lourdes Baumgartner during their form period to get started on the BridgeU platform. BridgeU is an online university and careers guidance tool designed to help students explore their interests, strengths, and future study options. It supports them in making informed decisions about potential career pathways and university choices.

As part of these sessions, students have been completing personality and interest assessments. These help build a clearer picture of their individual profiles and guide them toward career paths that align with their skills and aspirations. We encourage parents to ask their children to share their assessment results and engage with them in reflecting on their future academic and career pathways.

Visit to the Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica - Vocational Fair

On Thursday, April 16, a group of [Year 11](#) (Bachillerato Nacional) and [Year 12](#) students, who registered to take the TEC admission test, traveled to the main campus in Cartago to participate in the 2026 Vocational Fair, where they had the opportunity to speak with professors and students from all academic programs, as well as take tours of the facilities related to their areas of interest.

This experience allowed them to gain first-hand insight into the academic offerings, clarify questions about their future careers, make more informed decisions, and explore the campus facilities, resulting in a high level of motivation and satisfaction among the participating students.

International University Visits

Since returning from the holidays, we have been welcoming several university visits to our campus. Last week, we hosted a U.S. University Mini Fair featuring the University of San Diego, Hope College, Loyola University Maryland, and the University at Albany (State University of New York). This week, we welcomed representatives from the University of Rochester and the University of Kansas, which is offering in-state tuition fees—a significant discount—to Costa Rican students.

Attending these events allows students to engage directly with university representatives, gain valuable insights into academic programs, admissions processes, and scholarship opportunities, and connect with the very individuals who may review their applications, while exploring international study options that align with their goals. We encourage parents to actively motivate and support their children to take part in these valuable opportunities.

BSCR NEWS - Student Development Services (SDS)

This week we would like to share some strategies to build a maths brain at home.

1. Use "Maths Talk" in Daily Routines:

The best way to develop maths skills is to make them a natural part of conversation.

- *For Young Kids:* Count the steps as you walk, or ask them to help you set the table (e.g., "We have 4 people, how many forks do we need?").
- *For Older Kids:* Talk about percentages during a sale, calculate the tip at a restaurant, or estimate how long a road trip will take based on speed and distance.

Why it works: It removes the "fear" of maths by showing it is a functional tool, not just a school subject.

2. Play Games That Require Strategy: Board games and card games are "hidden" maths practice.

- *Logic & Reasoning:* Games like Chess, Checkers, or Blokus.
- *Probability & Arithmetic:* Games like Monopoly, or simple card games like "War" and "21."
- *Spatial Reasoning:* Building with LEGOs, solving puzzles, or playing Minecraft.

Why it works: It develops mathematical resilience—the ability to stay with a problem until it's solved—while keeping the stakes low and fun.

3. Focus on the "How," Not Just the "Answer"

When your child is stuck, avoid giving the answer immediately.

- *Ask "How did you get there?":* Even if they get the answer right, ask them to explain their process. If they get it wrong, say, "That's an interesting way to think about it. Let's see where the logic shifts."
- *Kitchen Maths:* Measure, divide, and double recipes together.

Why it works: Real maths is about logical paths. Understanding the "why" allows them to apply the same logic to much harder problems later on.

The most important thing you can do is stay positive. It is also vital to avoid comparisons. Every child's mathematical journey moves at a different pace. Focus entirely on their personal milestones and "lightbulb moments" rather than how they measure up against siblings or classmates. If you project confidence and curiosity, they will too.