



# Bellver International College Newsletter

June 2013



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Newsletter edited by ;  
Miss Sweeting

Dear Parents,

Although I have had the opportunity to work with most of you over the last 7 years, this is the first time I address you all as the Principal of Bellver International College.

To begin with, I wish to express how privileged I feel to have been given the opportunity to be part of such a supportive and committed community and lead such a dynamic team of professionals.

We are now reaching the end of the school year and our children have been taking their exams, which is the culmination of all their hard work. I wish them all the best! As a teacher, it is wonderful to witness every day the progress of each child.

This month has seen many changes in our school which, in one way or another, have affected all of us, parents, children, and members of staff. But this school has always placed a strong emphasis on the welfare of the children and will continue to do so.



It is now time to look forward to things to come. This school is determined to ensure that the teaching and learning that is happening is of the highest standards.

To do so, the school will continue to invest. This investment will be carefully planned and serve only one purpose: making the learning of our students more effective (staff, material,...).

I am pleased to announce that the school has already appointed experienced and qualified members of staff to replace Miss Sweeting, Miss Roden and Mr Lettice, and is currently interviewing for the position of Modern Languages Teacher.

I wish you a good summer and look forward to seeing you all at Prize Giving.

Yours sincerely,

Vincent Déperrois

# Whole school News

## Annual Visit of the GB Paralympics Swimming Team

Last week we hosted some of the British Paralympics Swimming team for their GCSE and A-Level examinations whilst they are in Mallorca on their warm weather training camp. This is the third year we have done this and are proud to be associated with them.

This year we hosted Josef Craig MBE, gold medalist at London 2012 and BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year. Oliver Hynd MBE, gold, silver and bronze medalist. Amy Marren, who finished 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and Morgyn Peters who finished 5<sup>th</sup>.



Josep Craig  
MBE



Amy Marren



Oliver Hynd  
MBE



Morgyn  
Peters



# Early Years

Infants and Reception had lots of fun in the sun yesterday when they went to the beach where they all enjoyed playing in the sand, looking for shells and generally having a fantastic time!





## Year 5 Excursion

Year 5 travelled to Porto Cristo with Mrs Taylor and Miss Roden to visit The Historic Caves of Ham. The children were keen to explore the underground world, with its beautiful dripstone formations, as part of their 'Wonderful Water' topic.



When they arrived, the children walked through the lush fauna and botanic gardens before entering the 'Digital cave' which is a unique underground auditorium. The children were treated to a spectacular slide show called 'Fantastic dreams' in which they learned about Jules Verne, the father of Science Fiction.

They then went down to the deepest part of the caves, 30 metres underground, to discover the 'Sea of Venice'. This is the largest of the underground lakes where there was a 'Magical Mozart' show on the water.

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## Year 5 Excursion



Finally, the children were free to explore the rest of the caves, which were first discovered in 1905. They were amazed at the sight of the stalactites and stalagmites, which were formed by water flowing and dripping through the rock.

Then it was time to come up out of the caves and into the sunshine for some lunch, before heading back to school. An interesting and enjoyable day was had by all!





## Primary Extra Curricular Activities

### Kool Kids Knit

At last some brave boys have shown that they can knit too!

Enrique Vila Mertens Year 2 is working hard on his "Barça" scarf whilst Ollie Williams Year 4 is donating the blanket he knitted to Mediterranea for children in need.

Well done lads, Bellver International College is proud of you!



## Secondary School News

### Year 7

Binifaldó, one of the most idyllic areas in the Tramuntana Range, has been visited by a group of adventurous students of Year 7. On the first day they learned about the thriving local wildlife and enjoyed the bucolic scenery as they hiked through dense forests of holm oaks and pine trees from the Binifaldó hostel to the monastery of Lluc. On their way back to the hostel the group got a taste of speleology when exploring the karst cave "la cometa des morts".

On the second day the relentless group was challenged by an orienteering race. The guide who had organized the activity said that the winner team had been the fastest of all times, even faster than trained mountaineers! And he wasn't kidding....

Year 7 cant wait for another exciting trip next year !







# Bellver Chess Club



Calling all Chess players - Bellver Chess Club meets every Friday at lunchtime in B11. All pupils are welcome!

Why play Chess? Chess is an exercise that develops the mind. It develops a person's mental abilities: concentration, critical thinking, abstract reasoning, problem solving, pattern recognition, strategic planning, creativity and evaluation, amongst others.

Chess can be used as a tool to teach problem solving and abstract reasoning. As in Mathematics and Science, learning how to solve a problem is more important than learning the solution to any particular problem. Through the game of chess, we learn how to analyze a situation by concentrating on important factors and by eliminating distractions. We learn to be creative and search for solutions and put a plan into action.

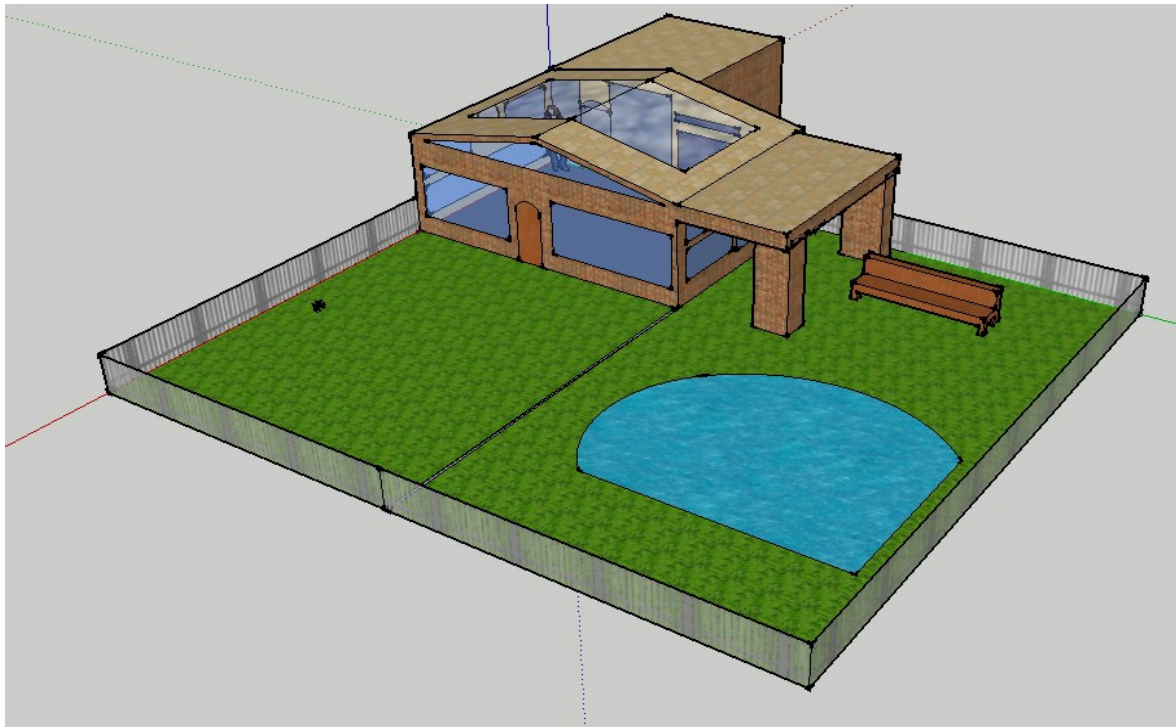
The game has been played and studied in depth for almost 2000 years, and the goals of attack and defense, culminating in checkmate, inspire us to dig deep into our mental reserves.





# ICT

KS4 students have been learning about 3D Design and how to create designs on the computer. The students used Google Sketchup to create furniture and houses. See the sample houses (above) that were created by our students.





## Art & Craft

The year 8 craft class have designed and made lino block prints. They have experimented with colour and mixed them together for some interesting results.

