



Bellver International College Newsletter

Principal's News 8th March 2013



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I am very pleased to report that we have now installed three more interactive whiteboards in the Primary Department with just one more to go. This is excellent news as we are way ahead of schedule.

On this same note, all Bellver staff will be receiving in-service training on the use of the interactive whiteboards as well as "e-learning" and "moodle" later on in the year to ensure that every advantage can be gained from this new technology as well as providing teachers with meaningful professional development.

The Conselleria de Presidencia of the Govern Balear has been selected to celebrate this year's "Youth on the Move" here in Palma. As part of the celebrations Bellver

will be fielding two senior debate teams to compete against each other. The motion of the debate is "This house believes that the European Union should open its borders to ALL immigrants" and will be held on the evening of Tuesday 26th March in Plaza España... it promises to be very lively!

Our AS and A2 unit examination results have just come in from the January session which will give our senior students the sense of urgency required to ensure that they all achieve of their best this summer. Clear focus and a firm commitment to their studies is now the order for the day.

Watch this space for news on Bellver's "Summer School Initiative" in the next edition of the newsletter.

Whole School News

The Pasodos Dance Company visit Bellver.

On Tuesday 5th March the whole school was privileged to witness a wonderful performance by the *Pasodos Dance Company* who performed a ballet version of *Don Quixote* for both the Primary department and the Senior department at school. They were accompanied by members of the Balearic Symphony orchestra who made up a string quartet and our students were wowed by their talent and dedication to their Art. More of the same please!



Early years & KS1

In Key Stage 1 it is not all hard work. They had the pleasure of some students bringing their pets to school.

They looked at a beautiful bird and some sweet turtles. It certainly promoted conversation about animals and how to take care of them.

They really enjoyed the session and produced some lovely pictures and writing.



Primary School News

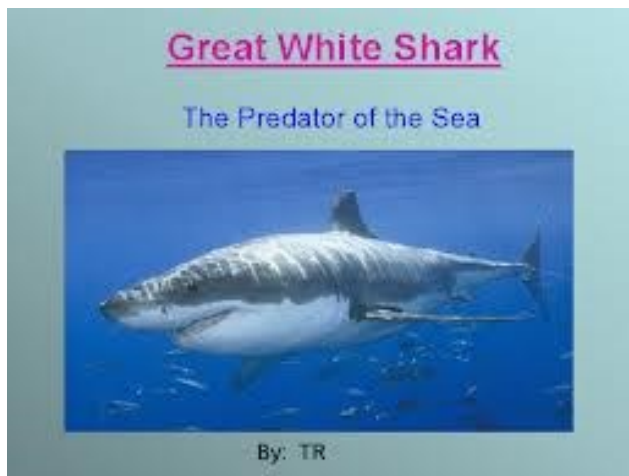
P.E

This term years 1, 2, 3 and 6 have been doing gymnastics. They are enjoying this activity very much and they are working towards a routine to perform at the end of this term.



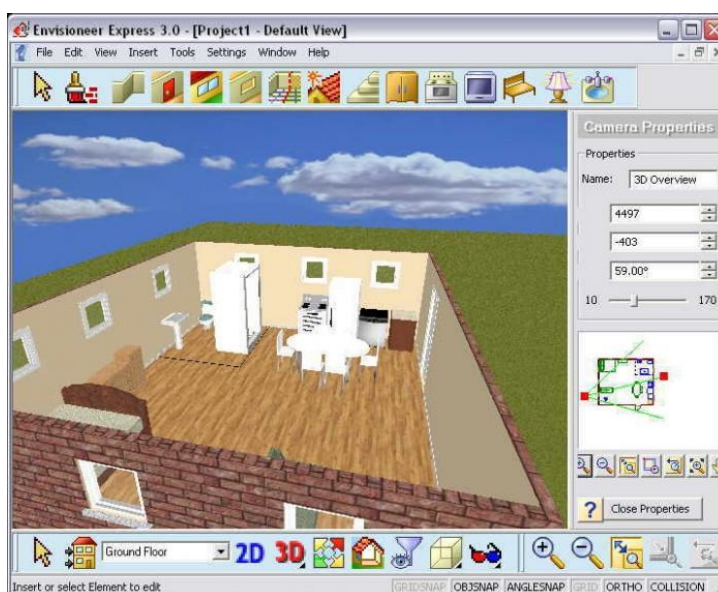
KS2 ICT

Following their enjoyable visit to the Palma aquarium year 4 are now carrying out independent internet research on various shark species and presenting their findings in a series of slides.



Year 5 are investigating the use of simulations in the real world and will evaluate the learning outcomes of various educational simulations. Rather than experiment on their own teeth they are using simulations to see what happens to your teeth when you don't look after them.

Year 6 are becoming budding architects and are designing their own dream homes with computer aided design software.



Year 3

Year 3 'Marvellous Mallorca'

Our topic for this half term is 'Marvellous Mallorca'. We are looking at how the island has changed over the years and what some of the developments have been. We have enjoyed looking at then and now photos of Mallorca but as you can see there are a few 'Mallorca Then' photos missing. Do you have any photos of the island and the school that we could borrow? We will take good care of them- we promise!



As part of our topic we are looking at the artwork of Joan Miro. We have recreated some of his works including Bleu II, Head and Spider, Painting, Siesta and White Glove. Joan Miro used blue as the background for a lot of his works as it was the colour of his dreams. We have used our favourite colours- the colour of our dreams!



Year 4

Natural Disasters

Year 4 have been learning about natural disasters as part of their topic work this term. They have all researched and prepared presentations on historical natural disasters like the destruction of Pompeii in AD 79 and the Indian ocean tsunami in 2004.



Extra Curricular Activities

Primary Drama Club

Every Tuesday lunchtime Primary Drama Club happens. We have just started work on a play that we hope to put on at the end of the school year- The Witches by Roald Dahl.

Here we are getting into character by being scary as witches or being scared by the witches.

We will keep you up to date on our progress!



As part of the Duke of Edinburgh award the students are preparing for their expedition. This requires them to complete first aid training so they can keep themselves safe when completing their journey.

As you can see the students had great fun learning this essential life skill and we are now one step closer to achieving our bronze award.



SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS



The Student Council finds its voice...

The very first Student Council meeting convened at 1:40pm on Thursday, 28th February.

Every year group, from Year 7 - Year 13, was represented by their respective Student Council representative and the senior team included heads of House and Head and Deputy Head Girl.

During the meeting, we discussed and established key roles, responsibilities and procedures. In addition, the representatives put forward their views on what, exactly, the Student Council should stand for and the type of issues to be raised.

It was generally agreed that The Student Council should be, essentially, the voice of the student body as well as a vehicle to enrich and support the students' experience as they grow and develop during their time at Bellver.

The Council will meet every two weeks at 1:50 pm on Fridays and the meeting will take place in B9 (Miss Scholes' Form Room).

We invite all students to submit to their form representative any ideas (for example, charity events or fund raisers) as well as any concerns or issues to be raised and discussed.

The Minutes and Points of Action from each meeting will be passed to each representative and subsequently, on to their form members.

We also intend to give regular updates via the school website.

We anticipate that this initiative will be immensely successful and give every student a true voice.

So, don't be shy, speak up! We are listening.



Creative writing corner



We have decided to give a section of the website to the creative side of our student body. A number of our students are budding writers and we think they should have their talents appreciated by you. Read and enjoy.....

Our first writer is Cassie Wallace from year 8



Time

Seconds, minutes, hours

Flowing like waves in the endless time-turner of life.

Weeks, months

Piercing the cosmos like daggers - as if they had nothing better to do.

Years, centuries, millennia

Rushing past me, smiling, crying, shouting.

Memories - old but young, ancient but infantile

Rolling past me, behind me, in front of me.

Time: midwife, murderer.

Immortal and everlasting, living alone,

Unique in the colossal continuum of power.

Inert yet functioning, twisting and pulling

Life and death purpose and thought.

It is time and energy,

The fourth dimension, powerful,

Clutching your destiny.

It shall make you and it shall break you.

Your dreams, enclosed in time's hard shell.

It is as it is, do not wish it otherwise, do not change it.

Time is punishment, and time is reward.



Bellver Rock Band

Bellver continues to rock Mallorca!

It has been a busy start to the year for our rock band. Before Christmas they performed a two hour rockin' spectacular down in Puerto Portals as part of the pre Christmas festivities. Not only did they perform their regular rock numbers, but we had a few surprises as well, including material written by the band members.

They took centre stage at the now established Bellver talent show on the last day of the Christmas term and have since then had a break due to external exams for all the musicians in the group.

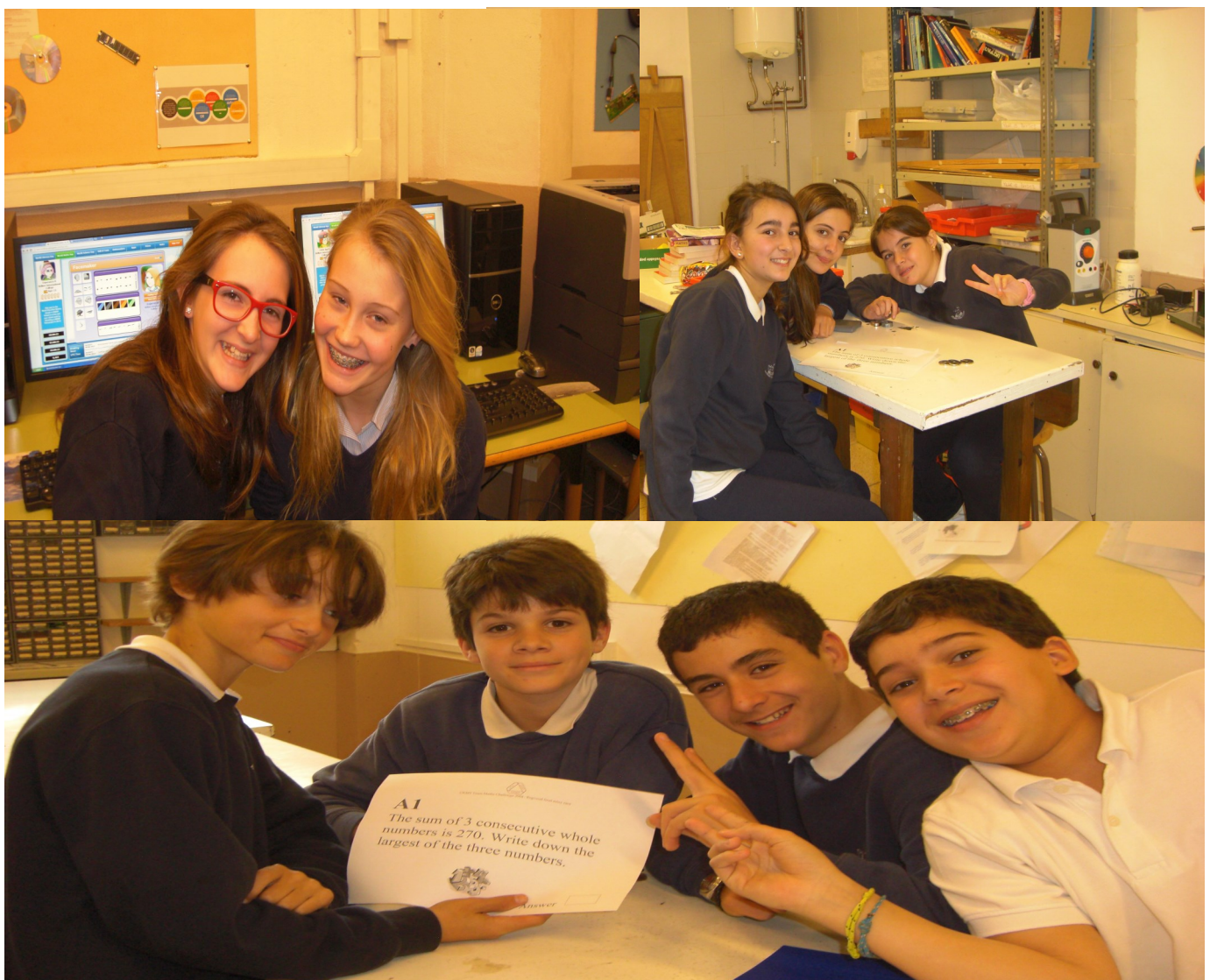
However, due to ever popular demand, the rock band is back! Watch this space for where and when they will be performing.....



unicef World Education Games 2013

The World Education Games is an annual global online challenge to get all students (4-18 years of age) across the planet excited about learning, and to give the top students in all schools an opportunity to see how they measure up against the best in the world. Last year, over 5 million students were a part of what is now the world's largest online education event.

This year, the games took place online on the 5th, 6th and 7th of March. In Bellver International College, pupils from Years 7-11 took part, answering questions on the areas of Literacy, Maths and Science. Over the three days that the pupils participated, they managed to answer over 25,500 questions correctly! The pupils really enjoyed the experience, eager for the challenge and to be the best.



Business Studies

For this terms assessment students have to put together a business plan for a "smoothie bar" in Mallorca. The assessment was open ended, as it was designed for students to learn independently, show initiative and be creative.

Three students work stood out as having demonstrated these skills:

Carolina, Samuel and Winnie

Well done, you will be given future opportunities to develop these skills .

