



## CONTENTS

### 1. Message from Mr. O' Connor

#### Primary Section

1. Dates for your Diary
2. Message from Ms. Jan Harvey

#### Secondary Section

1. Message from Mr. Drew Sparkman

## Message from Mr. O' Connor

Dear Parents and Friends,

Safety & Wellbeing is the heart of all schools and is the foundation from which the teaching and learning and exam preparation strategies are built from. Importantly, Safety & Wellbeing involves the students, the school and importantly yourselves, as parents and families. When we work together, we become effective and are able to build a strong, respectful, loving environment. Here, we

kindly ask for your help and awareness. In the Secondary School we have found nicotine patches in the student bathrooms. The Senior Leadership Team have organised assemblies and spoken directly to the students about this. Smoking is illegal for children in Spain. Obviously, we have talked about the health reasons behind this. Green Valley's behaviour guidelines clearly indicate that if any student is found smoking in school, suspension and possible expulsion will be implemented. Both students and teachers realise this.

Where do we need your help? It is essential that as parents you are aware of this situation and are aware of the steps that we have taken. As parents please do pay special attention to your children and certainly if in doubt please speak to your children and also look in their school bags. **We can apply the same logic onto the use of the internet and social media at home. Do we really know what they are looking at?** It is essential to have open, sincere conversations and create an atmosphere where truly we really know what is going on.

Therefore, I conclude with our famous acronym. **T.E.A.M** (Together Everyone Achieves More).

We wish you all a fun, peaceful weekend.

My best wishes as always.

Mr. James O' Connor

Headmaster and Co-Founder of GVS

## Primary Section

### Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 8th February: Year 4 visit to Caixa Forum
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February: Year 6 Class Assembly. Parents invited 14:30

- **Week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> February: Half-term**
- Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup>: Primary Friendship/Carnival Day
- Week beginning February 26<sup>th</sup>: Primary Science week
- **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March: School closed - Holiday**
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Year 5 visit to Sa Bassa Blanca
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March: Year 2 visit to the Ostrich Farm
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Year 3 visit to Gordiola
- Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Primary Eggshibition of Easter Eggs 14:30 - 15:00
- **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March: Last Day of Spring Term**

### Message from Ms. Jan Harvey

Dear Families,

I hope you are all keeping well. We are moving through the school year rapidly and only have one more week until the Spring half-term break.

This week the children have been excited to watch a display from both the Capoeira and Karate teachers who work in our After School Club. If you would like further information regarding these and other activities, please contact Ms. Tre directly on [tre.bresic@edu.greenvalleyschool.es](mailto:tre.bresic@edu.greenvalleyschool.es)

As you know, we aim to send our primary children on an educational trip each term as we know they gain so much from these. Next week on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, Year 4 will be visiting the Caixa Forum, to find out about sound in preparation for their upcoming new topic. I am sure they will have a wonderful time.

After the break, Year 5 are going to Sa Bassa Blanca, Year 2 going to the Ostrich Farm, Year 3 will be visiting the glass factory Gordiola, and we are organising for Year 6 to go to the Rafa Nadal Museum. You will be receiving further information regarding all of these trips closer to the time.

We were thrilled to hear some great news about one of our Year 5 students, Isabella, who is a member of our GVS Chess Club. Last weekend, in her first competition, she was runner-up in the regional under 12 Chess Championship and now qualifies for the final of the Mallorca Championship. Congratulations Bella! We all wish you well in the upcoming final.

As from last week, my weekly newsletter will only be appearing here. However, please ensure you keep checking your MarvellousMe notifications as we share all other information on there, especially if we want to contact you quickly. The Teachers especially send all the 'classroom' related information via this platform. It would also be amazing if you can remember to Hi5 once you have read the notification as then we can see it has been received.

Also do not forget to keep checking the photograph link for your child's class as the staff are adding new pictures constantly. I hope you enjoyed seeing the amazing art work created during our Art Week. The children really enjoyed it and I would like to take this time to thank Ms. Malaika, our Art Coordinator for all her hard work in organising everything.

Next week we are stepping back in time and looking forward to welcoming the Year 6 families to our assembly to watch a presentation, by Year 6, on life in the 1960's. Which as we know, was an amazing decade.

All that remains is to thank you as always for your amazing support and to wish you a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

Ms. Jan Harvey

Head of Primary

**Amazing Art from Art Week**





**Congratulations Bella!**



**Having Fun at GVS After School Activities**



## Secondary Section

### Message from Mr. Drew Sparkman

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The days are getting longer—bit by bit—which means we are rounding the very welcomed corner towards the beloved Mediterranean spring. Internally, that means we are in the middle of the

mock-exam period, and we are trying to keep tight on our routines and expectations in spite of the typical Term-2 fatigue.

Regarding routines and expectations, this week we slightly altered our timetable. We have changed the period length from 55 minutes to 50, allowing a very commonsensical five-minute break between classes. This has two benefits: 1) it allows for brief brain-breaks for both teachers and students; and 2) it alleviates some of the stress and congestion that typically occurred during class changes. Before making this change, we confirmed that we are still meeting the time requirements for both Cambridge and the International Baccalaureate.

Also within the scope of expectations, Head of Culture Mr. Llorenç Mercer, in collaboration with tutors, teachers, and even reception, is dedicating a lot of time and energy to tighten down on uniforms and phone use. From my side, this is one of those topics that ignites opinions and emotions on both sides, much like Madrid vs Barcelona or City vs United! The fact of the matter, though, is that, as part of our school culture, we have uniforms and we are a no-phone school. In support of Mr. Mercer, I would ask for mindful collaboration from our parents and guardians. Very frequently, confiscated phones will be buzzing in the office during the school day, and the unfortunate culprits are parents and guardians themselves. I realise that our lives have ingrained the ability of instant communication—it's clearly advantageous and even comforting to be able to speak immediately with a child. However, if we are to enforce our policies, which exist for many positive reasons, then we need 100% collaboration from our parents and guardians. In conclusion, I would add that if your student does try to send you messages during the day, please redirect them to the office, who will promptly get in touch with you.

### **A message from Mr. Llorenç Mercer - Head of School Culture**

This is our second week with our phone and uniform action plan, and I really would like to take



this chance to thank all the families in our community for your cooperation. We are really seeing a difference and the school atmosphere has clearly improved. Still, I also feel some clarification may be needed:

- If we are cold with our school t-shirt or polo on, then the zip up sweater or hoodie may be worn on top. And if we are still cold, then we can wear our personal jacket or coat on top of everything else as a final layer.
- If a student is not wearing our uniform he/she will not be allowed in any classrooms, so we will provide one for the day.
- If a student refuses to wear the school uniform, then they will not be allowed in any classroom and we will contact the parents.
- If any of the earlier cases repeat, it might lead to an in-house suspension.

Regarding our phone policy, we also would like to remind you that phones are not allowed at all and under any circumstances within the school premises. We understand our students have phones which they need during the rest of the day, but they must be kept in their bags at all times while at school. Only IB students can use their phones, and only when in the outdoor designated area.

- If we see a student using their cell phone we will ask the student to take it to the office, where he or she can collect it at the end of the day.
- If this experience becomes repetitive, then the phone will have to be collected by the parents.
- If the student refuses to give us the phone, we will contact the parents and this might lead to an in-house suspension.

Thank you again for your understanding and cooperation.

**International Baccalaureate PD Mock Exams - what are they?**

Mock Exams (mocks) are part of the academic preparation of students in the final months of the Diploma Programme. These exams do not determine the final grade of DP2 students, and this could be interpreted as meaning that they are not that important or that they are not very influential.

However, the dedication of our students and their perseverance in their studies are the first indicators to discover the fundamental value they have in their academic career.

The mocks are an essential tool for assessing whether students are adequately prepared for the formal assessment of the IB final exams and are an important part of the university application process.

### **What are the PD mock exams like?**

The main purpose of the mock exams at PD is to prepare students in every way for the official exams in May, with the same format and the same number of papers per subject.

The mocks actually simulate the final exams in all logistical and practical aspects. All IB requirements are met: from the way the classroom is set up, how students enter and leave the exam, the reading of the final exam instructions, and even the material to bring for each type of exam.

The instructions are very precise and specific; the questions require in-depth and well thought-out answers. Mocks are held in the month of February so that our students have enough time to correct and subsequently strengthen the points of improvement that are discovered with the help of their teachers and model tests from previous years.

Mocks help to reduce students' stress and worries about final exams by allowing them to understand the whole process, leaving nothing to the surprise or imagination of what will happen on the day of the real exam.

The dates and timetable for the Mocks for our DP2 students runs from next Monday 19th February until 29th February.

Below is the schedule for the mock exams: Thank you.

**David Méndez Rodríguez - International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Coordinator**

This week, Year 11 & Year 12 Business Studies students enjoyed a day away from the classroom on Thursday visiting three very different local businesses.

During the morning the students were guests of the team at Palma Pictures in Marratxí. Following a tour of the facilities the students received a presentation from the Managing Director, Paul Abrey, who explained the history, operating structure and strategic objectives of the business. Following a wide ranging question and answer session, the technical department provided a demonstration of some of their key techniques involving sound, camera work and computer generated imagery.

Lunch, provided by local restaurateur, Saloua Sfar, was enjoyed within the new Muse Gallery venue in central Palma. Sra. Sfar is co-founder of this social enterprise that is designed to provide a cultural space for local artists to showcase their artwork or performance skills in an area of Palma not usually associated with this type of facility. Sra Sfar provided a formal presentation to the students outlining both her professional background and key objectives in establishing the Muse Gallery venue.

The afternoon was concluded with a presentation from representatives of Associació Tardor, a local charity that provides food bank and catering services to homeless and less fortunate individuals and families located throughout the City of Palma. Students learned that the kitchen facilities provide over 400 meals a day, with peak demand during the winter months when seasonal workers are often unemployed. Work is

undertaken by a dedicated team of volunteers from the local restaurant and hotel sector. Funding these activities is a particular challenge for the Charity as very limited support is provided from local government resources.

These visits were planned to give the Business Studies students an opportunity to understand how core academic frameworks are applied within real businesses operating in three unique, and very different sectors. Ms. González and Mr Bennett expressed their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all the hosts for the opportunities extended to the Green Valley team. Students will be developing a number of the areas discussed as they prepare for the forthcoming IGCSE and IB examination programmes.

Our thanks to Mr. Bennett and Ms. Gonzalez for organising this interesting trip for our students.

Finally, just a reminder that I will be presenting on Assessment and Evaluation in secondary. That presentation will be on February 9th between 15:30 and 16:20. Below, you can register your attend on the link.

RSVP: [Please complete the RSVP form by clicking on this link](#) The link will close on February 7th, 2024 at 16:30.

Warm regards

Drew Sparkman, MEd

Head of Secondary

**KS3 - Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 - Assessments  
February 5 - 9, 2024**

Year Group	Subject	Date	Topics
Year 7/8/9	German B	9th of February	Chapter 4: Food
Year 7/8/9	German A	5th of February (Mo)	Medien, Passiv Präsens, Präteritum
Y7,8,9	French A	6/02	Writing
Y7,8,9	French A	7/02	Grammar
Y7	Catalan	05/02	Gramática y ortografía
Year 7,8,9	French B	9/02	writing

IB MOCK EXAMS 2024			
Component	Syllabus Title	Duration	Date
Paper 1	Business Management SL	1 hour 30 minutes	Mon 19 February AM
Paper 1	Business Management HL	1 hour 30 minutes	Mon 19 February AM
Paper 3	Business Management HL	1 hour 15 minutes	Mon 19 February AM
Paper 2 Liste	Spanish B SL	0 hours 45 minutes	Mon 19 February PM
Paper 2 Liste	Spanish B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Mon 19 February PM
Paper 2	Business Management SL	1 hour 30 minutes	Tues 20th February AM
Paper 2	Business Management HL	1 hours 45 minutes	Tues 20th February AM
Paper 1	Physics HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 3	Physics HL	1 hour 15 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 2	Biology HL	2 hours 15 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 2	ESS SL	2 hours 0 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 2	Computer Science SL	1 hour 0 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 2	Computer Science HL	1 hour 20 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 3	Computer Science HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Tues 20th February PM
Paper 1	SS Language A Language and Literature SL	1 hour 15 minutes	Weds 21st February AM
Paper 2	SS Language A Language and Literature SL	1 hour 45 minutes	Weds 21st February AM
Paper 2	Spanish A Language and Literature SL	1 hour 45 minutes	Weds 21st February AM
Paper 2	Spanish A Language and Literature HL	1 hour 45 minutes	Weds 21st February AM
Paper 1	English A Language and Literature SL	1 hour 15 minutes	Weds 21st February PM
Paper 1	English A Language and Literature HL	2 hours 15 minutes	Weds 21st February PM
Paper 1	English B SL	1 hour 15 minutes	Weds 21st February PM
Paper 1	English B HL	1 hour 30 minutes	Weds 21st February PM
Paper 2	Physics HL	2 hours 15 minutes	Thurs 22nd February AM
Paper 1	Computer Science SL	1 hour 30 minutes	Thurs 22nd February AM
Paper 1	Computer Science HL	2 hours 10 minutes	Thurs 22nd February AM
Paper 1	ESS SL	1 hour 0 minutes	Thurs 22nd February AM
Paper 2	English A Language and Literature SL	1 hour 45 minutes	Thurs 22nd February PM
Paper 2	English A Language and Literature HL	1 hour 45 minutes	Thurs 22nd February PM
Paper 2 Liste	English B SL	1 hour 0 minutes	Thurs 22nd February PM
Paper 2 Liste	English B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Thurs 22nd February PM
Paper 2 Liste	English B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Thurs 22nd February PM
Paper 1	Spanish A Language and Literature SL	1 hour 15 minutes	Fri 23rd February AM
Paper 1	Spanish A Language and Literature HL	2 hours 15 minutes	Fri 23rd February AM
Paper 1	Spanish B SL	1 hour 15 minutes	Fri 23rd February AM
Paper 2	Spanish B SL	1 hour 0 minutes	Fri 23rd February AM
Paper 1	Spanish B HL	1 hour 30 minutes	Fri 23rd February AM
Paper 2	Spanish B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Fri 23rd February AM
Paper 1	Mathematics AI SL	1 hour 30 minutes	Fri 23rd February PM
Paper 1	Mathematics AA HL	2 hours 0 minutes	Fri 23rd February PM
Paper 1	Mathematics AI HL	2 hours 0 minutes	Fri 23rd February PM
Paper 1	German B SL	1 hour 15 minutes	Mon 26th February AM
Paper 2	German B SL	1 hour 0 minutes	Mon 26th February AM
Paper 1	German B HL	1 hour 30 minutes	Mon 26th February AM
Paper 2	German B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Mon 26th February AM
Paper 1	French B HL	1 hour 30 minutes	Mon 26th February AM
Paper 2	French B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Mon 26th February AM
Paper 1	History SL	1 hour 0 minutes	Mon 26th February PM
Paper 2	History SL	1 hour 30 minutes	Mon 26th February PM
Paper 1	History HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Mon 26th February PM
Paper 2	History HL	1 hour 30 minutes	Mon 26th February PM
Paper 2 Liste	German B SL	0 hours 45 minutes	Tues 27th February AM
Paper 2 Liste	German B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Tues 27th February AM
Paper 2 Liste	French B HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Tues 27th February AM
Paper 3	History HL	2 hours 30 minutes	Tues 27th February PM
Paper 3	Mathematics AA HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Weds 28th February AM
Paper 3	Mathematics AI HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Weds 28th February AM
Paper 1	Biology HL	1 hour 0 minutes	Weds 28th February PM
Paper 3	Biology HL	1 hour 15 minutes	Weds 28th February PM
Paper 2	Mathematics AI SL	1 hour 30 minutes	Thurs 29th February AM
Paper 2	Mathematics AA HL	2 hours 0 minutes	Thurs 29th February AM
Paper 2	Mathematics AI HL	2 hours 0 minutes	Thurs 29th February AM

## Year 11 and Year 12 Business Studies Trip



## Links to GVS Social Media



**Follow us to be updated on our latest news and have fun with what is happening at our school. Click on the icon below to join.**



**LEGAL NOTICE:** This message and its attached files are addressed exclusively to its recipient, and may contain confidential information submitted to professional secrecy. Communication, reproduction or distribution is not allowed Without the express authorization of Green Valley School Mallorca S.L..If you are not the final recipient, please delete this and inform us by this way. **DATA PROTECTION:** In accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of April 27, 2016 (GDPR) and Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, Protection of Personal Data and guarantee of rights Digital (LOPDGDD), we inform you that the personal data and email address of the interested party will be treated under the responsibility of Green Valley School Mallorca S.L. for the maintenance of the commercial relationship and will be preserved as long as there is a mutual interest. The data may be transferred to third

parties to achieve the aforementioned purpose, with prior communication to the interested party and by legal obligation. We inform you that you can exercise access rights, rectification, portability and deletion of your data and those of limitation and opposition to your treatment by contacting Green Valley School Mallorca S.L., B16528762, Camí La vileta, 210, - 07011 Palma de Mallorca ( Illes Balears) or by sending a message to the email [kathy.schutz@edu.greenvalleyschool.es](mailto:kathy.schutz@edu.greenvalleyschool.es). If you consider that the treatment does not comply with current regulations, you may file a complaint with the authority of control at [www.aepd.es](http://www.aepd.es).

**AVISO LEGAL:** Este mensaje y sus archivos adjuntos van dirigidos exclusivamente a su destinatario, pudiendo contener información confidencial sometida a secreto profesional. No está permitida su comunicación, reproducción o distribución sin la autorización expresa de Green Valley School Mallorca S.L.. Si usted no es el destinatario final, por favor elimínelo e infórmenos por esta vía. **PROTECCIÓN DE DATOS:** De conformidad con lo dispuesto en el Reglamento (UE) 2016/679, de 27 de abril de 2016 (GDPR) y la Ley Orgánica 3/2018, de 5 de diciembre de Protección de Datos Personales y garantía de los derechos digitales (LOPDGDD), le informamos que los datos personales, dirección de correo electrónico del interesado y los que nos aporte en el correo, serán tratados bajo la responsabilidad de Green Valley School Mallorca S.L. para el mantenimiento de la relación comercial y para gestionar las peticiones que nos solicite. Los datos se conservarán mientras exista un interés mutuo para ello y siguiendo los criterios legales de conservación. Los datos podrán ser cedidos a terceros para alcanzar los fines antes expuestos, contando siempre con las medidas de seguridad oportunas. Le informamos que puede ejercer los derechos de acceso, rectificación, portabilidad, supresión, limitación y oposición a su tratamiento dirigiéndose a Green Valley School Mallorca S.L., B16528762, Camí La vileta, 210, - 07011 Palma de Mallorca (Illes Balears), o enviando un mensaje al correo electrónico [kathy.schutz@edu.greenvalleyschool.es](mailto:kathy.schutz@edu.greenvalleyschool.es). Si considera que el tratamient%o20no se ajusta

a la normativa vigente, podrá presentar una reclamación ante la autoridad de control en [www.aepd.es](http://www.aepd.es)



Green Valley International School, Camí de la vileta, 210, Son Puig - 07011  
Palma de Mallorca

Email: <http://www.greenvalleyschool.es/>

[Actualizar preferencias](#) | [Cancelar suscripción](#)