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HOWELL'S SCHOOL

Llandaff

A GDST SCHOOL

Nursery, Infant and Junior School Newsletter



8th February 2013

Dear Parents,

Curriculum Afternoon

Our curriculum afternoon on Wednesday was a great success. Those parents who were able to attend gained an insight into the new integrated topic approach that we have introduced in the Junior School. The Hall was transformed into 1940s Britain and our evacuees from Year 6 were fantastic tour guides! Thank you to Mrs Ludlam and Mrs Matthews for all their hard work in organising the afternoon. Over eighty parents attended which is fantastic; thank you for your support. A copy of the information booklet given out to parents who attended can be found at the end of this newsletter.



Internet Safety

Mrs Davis and Mrs Gosney talked to Years 4, 5 and 6 during assembly this morning about Internet safety. Their message was loud and clear – the Internet is safe and useful as long as we all use it sensibly. They talked about social networking sites such as Facebook, 'Kik' and other applications like FaceTime and Twitter and emphasised to the girls about never posting personal information online. Mrs Davis also recommended that at their age, there is no need for our Junior girls to be communicating with each other via social networks and using sites like 'Kik' during the evenings; the girls' time would be better spent talking to their families.

Nursery



After half term, the girls in Nursery will be focusing on the letter 'b'.

Charity Day

Thank you for your support last week. The donations for wearing own clothes to school have been counted and we raised over £215 for the RSPCA!

Junior School Eisteddfod



A reminder that the Junior School Eisteddfod will take place on St David's Day, Friday 1st March. Your daughter may wear traditional Welsh costume, a rugby shirt, her own national costume or dress in her house colour to show support for her house. Competition entries should be returned to school on Monday 25th February.

Proposed Concert at the Wales Millennium Centre on May 6th 2013 (Years 3 to 6)

Thank you for replying to the letter about the above proposed concert. Having reviewed the responses from both the Youth Choir and Junior School Choirs, it has been decided that we are unable to accept the invitation to take part this year.

Buy, Sell, Fundraise and Advertise on 'Jumblebee'



Welcome to 'Jumblebee', our new fundraising website which offers a service to Howell's school and its parents allowing communication, advertising, trading and fundraising. Our very own secure Howell's eBay and parent advertising portal!

It is free and easy to use and will be password controlled to invited users only. You will be able to buy and sell good quality second hand clothing, equipment, toys, bikes etc. amongst our community with the option to give a percentage of your profit back to the school's nominated fund (if you wish) - they even have their own App! You will also be able to advertise your business, to other parents for a small fee, which will also be donated to the fund. If you have a holiday property to rent, you can also place this on the site. All you need to do is visit: <http://www.jumblebee.co.uk/register/kU3l4HDSVt>
Register your details and accept the terms and conditions, and then log in and have fun, whilst benefitting the school at the same time.

School Tuck Shop for Years 3 – 6



I am delighted to announce that a 'Hazelwood Tuck Shop' will open after half term. Year 6 girls have researched the idea and will work on the stall which will operate from the foyer of Hazelwood every break time. Each item will cost 20p and girls will have the option of paying £1 on a Monday which will enable them to have a snack each day. Initially, the shop will sell plain biscuits, yoghurt pouches, raisins, apples, bananas and bottles of water.

And finally....



Good luck to Mrs Elias-Rees and family for their relocation to Jersey – keep in touch Mrs Elias-Rees!

I hope you have a lovely half term break,

Judith Ashill (Mrs)
Head of Junior School

Howell's Junior School



Curriculum Afternoon

February 6th 2013



Our New Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum is a carefully planned, thematic approach to teaching and learning designed to support children's natural curiosity and stimulate their creativity. It offers children the opportunity to work in depth, giving them the time they need to reflect, consolidate and transfer their learning.

Direct experience is placed at the centre of the curriculum so that teachers draw out and develop children's thinking and capacities in meaningful contexts. Knowledge, skills and understanding are expressed in a range of different media and ways, often making effective use of the creative arts.

Children, adults and parents work with each other, drawing resources from the school, locality and wider community to create a challenging, distinctive and exciting curriculum.

All children have an entitlement to a well – resourced and rich learning environment that promotes their sense of responsibility and autonomy.

What are our goals for the Creative Curriculum?

Preparing children for the world in which they are going to live – making learning relevant

Helping children learn – academically, socially, spiritually, emotionally and physically

Making learning active, engaging and meaningful to children

Creating life-long learners

Maintaining high standards and achievement

Our Topics 2012/2013

Year Group	Autumn Term	Spring Term
Nursery	All About Me/ Here I am	Turrets and Tiaras/ Monkey Puzzle
Reception	Moving Along	Whatever the Weather
Year 1	A Walk in the Woods	Yum Yum!
Year 2	Fire and Ice	Out of Eggs
Year 3	Storms and Shipwrecks	Walk Like an Egyptian
Year 4	Italian Adventure	Into the Forest
Year 5	Journeys (Ice worlds)	Tudor Treasures
Year 6	Rainforest Adventure	Hard Times

In the Junior School at Howell's, we are laying the foundations, the building blocks of the future. Through a creative curriculum we want to further our understanding of the interlocking ways that children learn and develop, and inspire the girls with a wide range of topics that will teach them how to study. In this way we hope to create life-long learners who possess the skills to advance and enjoy their learning and, with the additional help of Thinking Maps, go on to realise their potential and achieve their goals.

Our Programme of Activities this afternoon

Year Group	Topic	Lessons and Activities
Nursery	Turrets and Tiaras	Creativity - Castle Role play, themed activities such as pattern making and matching games, icing cakes, puppet show
Reception	Whatever the Weather	Knowledge and understanding of the world/Creativity/Maths - making a boat for Doctor Foster, exploring floating and sinking, pattern work on umbrellas and wellies
Year 1	Yum Yum!	History/Art – research into Greek Theatre, making Ancient Greek theatrical masks, drama
Year 2	Out of eggs	Design Technology/Science/Art – making electrical circuits, applying these in models, collage work
Year 3	Walk like an Egyptian	Religious Studies/English/Art/Music – The story of Moses through philosophical discussion, art work and role play, singing songs from ‘Joseph’ musical
Year 4	Into the Forest	English/Design Technology – model making based on ‘The Lion, the witch and the wardrobe’
Year 5	Tudor Treasures	English/History – writing own mini-plays and hot seating based on Tudor themes, hot seating, exploring Tudor clothing
Year 6	Hard Times	History/English – role play and research based on Victorian Britain and working children in the coal mines

Thank you for coming this afternoon, we do hope that you have found the information helpful.