

# A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No. 147

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## The Principal's Update

Willkommen, bienvenue, welcome to this week's *View from the Top*. Languages have been at the forefront of life in Howell's in what has been a wonderful Languages Week. French boules has been played, Latin films have been watched and quizzes have taken place to mark this special week. Many thanks to our fantastic catering team for taking us on a culinary journey around the world in celebration of Languages Week. [Click here](#) for more information.

On Monday, our Year 7 parents joined us for their Welcome Meeting in the Dining Room where they met members of staff and discovered more about life in our Senior School.

Delicious smells and much laughter could be heard coming from the Dining Room on Tuesday morning, as it was Year 12's turn to raise funds for Latch at their Big Breakfast. Thank you to students and staff for their generous donations for this extremely worthwhile charity.

I was delighted to host *Welcome to GCSE Breakfasts* for Year 10 students and parents on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, during which I shared the important lessons I have learned during my 25 years at Howell's to help them with their studies. One of the most important lessons I have learned in more recent years has been that students who limit their social media achieve the best results, and this is something that I believe all students should take on board.

Thursday was a particularly busy day, as we welcomed prospective parents and students for our Whole School Open Afternoon and College Fair. There was a real buzz throughout the School and College. Many thanks to all the students and staff who made the day so successful.

This morning we held our annual Harvest Festival for the whole school and college in the Sports Hall. I am extremely grateful to students, staff and parents for their generous offerings, which will be shared between the Salvation Army, Barnardo's and the City Hospice. During assembly we were entertained royally by our Junior School Choir and Whole School Orchestra. Many thanks to Year 5's Isobel P who donated the beautiful harvest loaf.

Our Young Leaders, accompanied by Mr Allen and Mrs Yilmaz, departed for the Royal High School Bath this morning for the annual GDST conference. They will be put through their paces by leaders from all walks of life at an "Apprentice"-style leadership event, designed to help this new generation of change-makers prepare for the challenges ahead. For the latest updates on the conference please follow the Twitter hashtag [#gdstYLC](#). Head to the [@GDST Facebook](#) page at 8am on Sunday, by [clicking here](#), to see who takes home the gold.

I would like to thank Mrs Rees, Mrs Phillips and all the staff and students involved in our forthcoming production for Annie. As well as practising after school, they have been coming in every Sunday since the beginning of term for further rehearsals. From what I have heard, it is going to be a show to rival those in the West End.



### Ffion's Six Days Of Summer in Oxford

At the end of August, Year 11's Ffion H, went to Oxford University for six days to attend an UKMT Summer School for Girls. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Year 11 Working Hard For A Living

The Year 11 Enterprise Day focused on the impact of ethical, economic, geographical and political issues. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Sport Stories

It has been another successful week for sport. [Click here](#) for more information.

### College Mixer Party

Our industrious Rotary Interact Committee kicked off the year's fundraising on Thursday 21st September with our very popular College Mixer Party. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Celebration Tea

Disney and I thoroughly enjoyed hosting a Celebration Tea for Senior School students on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Careers News

Students in Year 10 have all received a letter containing details on the visit to Skills Cymru at the Motorpoint Arena in Cardiff on Thursday 12th October 2017. Please ensure that it is signed and returned by Monday 2nd October. This exhibition is part of the UK's largest series of interactive careers, jobs and skills events. Parents are welcome to visit the Motorpoint Arena to attend the open evening for families on Wednesday 11th October 4.00-6.30 pm. Students will gain maximum benefit if they go along prepared with some knowledge or questions. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Parent Blog

This week's instalment of our Parent Blog is available to read by [clicking here](#).

### The Great Howell's Bake Off

Don't forget that the wait for the eagerly anticipated Great Howell's Bake Off is nearly over as it takes place next week. Just to remind you that the categories this year are as follows:

Monday	Year 7	Cupcakes
Tuesday	Year 8	Tray bakes
Wednesday	Year 9	'The Ultimate Cookie'
Thursday	Year 10 & 11	One-layer decorated cake
Friday	College/Staff	Two-layer decorated cake

Submissions need to be taken to the Dining Room at the beginning of the day where they will be judged by Mrs Price and the catering staff, then sold for charity at break.

### Advertising Opportunity

As you are no doubt aware, the School has a forthcoming production of *Annie* being perfected as we speak, and we have a fantastic opportunity to purchase advertising space in the programme, to promote your business and also to demonstrate your support for our School. The audience will number over 1500 people across three performances, and the programmes are a memento of a wonderful evening, so previous sponsors have benefitted from the excellent platform to communicate their message to our parent, governor, alumni and staff community. The cost of advertising is £500 for a full page A4 colour advert, and £250 for a half page colour advert; if you would like to book, please contact Hannah Roberts at [Hannah.Roberts@how.gdst.net](mailto:Hannah.Roberts@how.gdst.net) by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

## Diary Dates

### Parent Pyramid

Our next [Parent Pyramid](#) drop in sessions will take place on the following days in the Hub @ Howell's:

Wednesday 11rd October at 8.45am

Thursday 23rd November at 2.30pm

### Whole School Open Day and Year 7 and Year 12 Taster Days

Our next whole school Open Day for prospective parents and students will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October from 9.00am until 2.00pm. Visitors will register in the Hub @ Howell's before being taken on tours by our current students. Following the tour, visitors will have the opportunity to talk to staff members over a coffee and a Welsh cake. No booking is required for the Open Day, and tours will be running all day.

During the Open Day, we will be running our popular taster days for Year 7 and Year 12. Current Year 5 and Year 6 students can join us for Hogwarts at Howell's, a chance to experience the magic of a Howell's education, punctuated with explosions from the potions labs.

For current Year 11 students keen to have a taste of life in our co-ed college, our College Taster day offers young people the chance to take part in lessons in their favourite subject, meet with the subject teachers and spend time getting to know everyone at Howell's.

For more information or to book a place for either taster day please contact Chrissie Hall-Davis on 02920 261832 or by email at [Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net](mailto:Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net).

Please do pass on the details to anyone who may be interested.

### [Annie Tickets on Sale](#)

Tickets are now on sale for our production of *Annie*, which takes place for three nights from Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> until Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Set in 1930s New York during The Great Depression, young Annie is forced to live a life of misery at Miss Hannigan's orphanage but her luck changes when she is chosen to spend a Christmas with famous billionaire, Oliver Warbucks. With lots of memorable songs including *It's The Hard-Knock Life*, *Easy Street* and *Tomorrow* it really will be a production not to be missed. To purchase tickets, please ask for a member of the Marketing team at the main reception in the Senior School. They will also be on sale for students to buy in the Day Room at break from next Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

### Christmas Fair

This year, the Howell's School Christmas Fair is on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December from 1.30-5.30pm in our Sports Hall, and I am now taking bookings for stall-holders. It is a wonderful, very busy shopping event, with around 40 individual stalls, Father Christmas on hand to take present requests and our well known, and very well-stocked, cake stall! Booking is now open for stall holders so if you, or someone you know, would like to take a stall at the Christmas Fair, please email Rachel Eling in the Marketing Department on [r.eling@how.gdst.net](mailto:r.eling@how.gdst.net)

### [Booking Now Open for the Great Hall Crystal Ball on Friday 8th December 2017](#)

Tickets are now on sale for the Great Hall Crystal Ball on Friday 8th December, organised by the Howell's Parent Pyramid. This glittering black-tie celebration of the restored Great Hall promises to be a fantastic night for parents and friends of Howell's School. Tickets are £65 each, which includes a drinks reception, a three-course dinner and dancing to a live band. To purchase individual tickets at £65, or to book a table of up to 12 people, please contact: Katrina Manuel 07989742010 or Joanna Hurley 07971405525.

## Diary Dates

### Carol Services

Llandaff Cathedral will once again provide the perfect setting for this year's Carol Services which will take place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. More detailed information will be available after the half term break.

Have a very enjoyable weekend and I very much look forward to seeing everyone on Monday which marks the beginning of Book Week and Bake Off week.

**Sally Davis, Principal**