

A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No. 32

Friday 6th June 2014

The Principal's Update

I hope you all had a wonderful time over the half term break. This week has been hugely enjoyable. It was good to welcome parents to our Sports Forum on Wednesday evening when they had the opportunity to hear about the progress made over the term and meet members of the Sport department and coaches. I was delighted to hear such positive comments about our provision of sport. Today we have been commemorating the 100th anniversary of the start of World War 1 with a cross curricular day. Students and staff looked wonderful in outfits from the era. You can see some photographs on our Twitter feed by [clicking here](#) and look out for more information in my update next week.



Mrs Gosney, Deputy Principal, who has been on secondment with ESTYN for the last year has been appointed as an ESTYN inspector from September. I would like to thank her for her outstanding contribution to Howell's and she will be greatly missed. We all wish her well in her new role. I am delighted that Mrs Chyba and Dr Southern have been appointed as Deputy Principals. Mrs Ashill, Head of the Junior School, will also be a Deputy Principal. Mrs Yilmaz will be joining the Leadership Team. Miss Cook will also keep some of her additional responsibilities from this year, and will be known as Assistant Principal. Mrs Darnton and Mr Walters have been appointed as Senior Leaders. I hope you will join me in congratulating staff on their new appointments. Mrs Baker, our fabulous Junior School PE teacher, is retiring at the end of term.

This week's Gair Cymraeg yr Wythnos / Welsh Phrase of the Week is: Bydd yn ffrind da! (Be a good friend!).

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for our [Champagne Cycle Challenge and Barbecue on Sunday 22nd June](#). We would be thrilled to welcome lots of families to take part in this event, which was such a success and much fun last year. Howell's elite cyclists, Mr Biebrach and Mr Elmes, have planned three routes so that people with all cycling abilities can take part. We will also set up an obstacle course in the school grounds to enable the youngest members of our community (children under the age of 7) to join in the fun! Cyclists will be rewarded on their return with a glass of fizz and a delicious barbecue! If you don't cycle, do join us for the barbecue and cheer our cyclists on their return to Howell's. Full details and the registration form can be found by [clicking here](#). Alternatively contact Hannah Roberts on 029 2026 1825 or by email at hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net to register your interest. **Please do register in good time so that we can adequately provide for all participants and guests.** Friends, family and colleagues also welcome, the more the merrier!

Our Parents' Association is holding a Summer Fair at Howell's on Thursday 19th June from 3.00pm – 6.00pm. [Click here](#) for full details and the wrist band form. The wristband form enables you to purchase a wristband for £10 as a pre-payment for all the rides. I also would like to remind you that Parents' Association's AGM is taking place next Wednesday at 6:30 in the Board Room.

On Thursday 26th June we are delighted to be hosting a concert at 2.15pm followed by a vintage afternoon tea in aid of the [Noah's Ark Appeal](#). We hope you will don your garden party attire and hats, and join us for what promises to be a lovely afternoon. Tickets cost £20 (children free) and can be purchased at the Senior and Junior School offices next week or by contacting Hannah Roberts on 029 2026 1825 or by email at hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net.

On Tuesday 3rd June we were delighted to welcome four Hywelians, Muriel Jeremy, Vivien Liles, Mary Lister and Joyce Shields to film the latest instalment of our oral history project. They were interviewed by Year 8 students Caitlin C, Caitlin P, Elysia G and Anoushka N, and by Mrs Sully. [Click here](#) for more information.

Many congratulations to Louise S (Year 8) who qualified for the Pony Club National Championships in Endurance during half term. [Click here](#) for more information.

Howell's School will be flying the flag for Wales at the Team Tennis Schools' National Championship Finals at Graves Tennis Centre in Sheffield in July. Meryl B, (Year 12), Poppy D (Year 11), Holly F-L Year (13) and Ismay B (Year 11) won the Avon, Gloucestershire and South Wales region of the competition. Many congratulations and good luck girls! [Click here](#) for more information.

Dr Southern and I were delighted to host Celebration Teas for Senior School students this week. [Click here](#) to find out about the excellent achievements we celebrated.

On Sunday 18th May, Georgia B in Year 10 competed in the Cheersport Wales national competition in Newport with her team, CCA Cheer and Dance. Congratulations, Georgia. [Click here](#) to find out how she got on.

Howell's was delighted to welcome back the *RESOLVE It* team this week to work with Years 8 and 9. [Click here](#) for more information. The company will also be running a martial arts camp over the summer. The training is both practical and theoretical. Interactive discussion, games and activities are used to raise awareness of key safety issues. Participants will also learn practical self-defence techniques developed by qualified self-defence instructors. The camp will be a great way for your child to try an array of martial Arts while focusing on daily themes relating to personal safety. Children from ages 10-14 will spend 5 days at Cardiff Arts Academy, Fairwater Cardiff sampling and developing martial art and self-defence skills from highly experienced and skilled instructors. For more information [click here](#) or email sheleagh@resolveitcic.co.uk.

Textbook & library book returns this summer

All textbooks and library items should be returned via the Library before the end of this term. There is a 'book drop box' for items just outside the library. After 24th June, overdue reminders will be emailed to your son or daughter asking them to return outstanding items. If there are outstanding items after 30th June, you may receive an email/letter requesting that the items be returned or replaced and you may subsequently be invoiced for the cost of replacements from your deposit. If your son or daughter thinks they may have lost an item, please ask them to speak to one of the Librarians as soon as possible. If your son or daughter is using a textbook for the whole of their GCSE or A level course (i.e. they need it over the summer and for the coming year) and you receive a recall notice, please ask them to let us know and we will extend the loan for a further academic year. Library items will not be issued over the summer as we will be running a stocktake and need to recall all items. Please support and use your local public library and keep reading.

I do hope the sun continues to shine over the weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week, which will be week A.

Sally Davis, Principal