

# A View FROM THE TOP



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

## The Principal's Update

As we enter December, the festive feeling has well and truly arrived at Howell's with the fairy lights filling every corner and final rehearsals taking place in preparation for next week's Carol Services. I really am looking forward to returning to the Cathedral for what is always a very special date in the Howell's calendar.

Nayana, Year 11, and Himani, Year 12, represented Howell's brilliantly at the GDST Undivided Schools' Council online meeting on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. The Undivided Council works to ensure the GDST and Howell's communities are united and to ensure that everyone is included.



On Thursday, the Fairtrade group successfully held a pop-up stall selling Fairtrade chocolate. Thank you to everyone who supported the stall. As ever the chocolate was very popular!

This morning it was wonderful to dig out my favourite Christmas jumper in celebration of our first Christmas Jumper Day of the year. I was delighted to see that staff and students joined me in embracing this special, festive day.

### **Tickets for Beauty and the Beast at the Wales Millennium Centre**

We have had a small number of tickets for the opening night performance of Beauty and the Beast at the Wales Millennium Centre returned to us. Guests for this special evening of theatre can join us in the Preseli Room for a private drinks reception, and we will have a photobooth available for children—and their parents—to take some fun souvenir photos before the performance. Tickets are £75 per person for opening night of this fantastic production on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. If you would like to book tickets for this very special evening for the Howell's community, please email [hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net](mailto:hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net)

### **'Things a Bright Girl Can Do'**

As part of their work on 'Things a Bright Girl Can Do', by Sally Nicholls, 9C wrote a creative piece to explore a chapter in greater depth. There was an excellent range of responses to the task, and two of these were written by budding authors Mia R and Yabesra G. [Click here](#) to read their work.

### **Howell's Senior Choir performs at University Hospital Wales**

Howell's Senior Choir performed at the light switch on event at University Hospital Wales on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Sophie running a stall to raise funds for LATCH**

Sophie S in Year 11 is holding a stall to raise money for LATCH after school on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December in the bandstand next to the car park. She will be doing a tombola with flowerpots, a name the teddy competition

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and some sweet treats will also be on sale. LATCH is an amazing charity that supports families and children who are going through cancer treatment, and has supported many families in our Howell's community, so it is an honour to support them.

### **STEM Awareness Event**

On Tuesday 30th November, ten Year 11 students attended a very insightful virtual session morning on what it is like to be a Medical Student, hosted by the African Caribbean Medical Association at Cardiff University. Many thanks to the Engineering Education Scheme Wales, who invited us to take part.

### **Howell's Eco Team**

We are excited and proud to announce that Lydia P's appointment as Youth Ambassador for Wales for Transform Our World has now been asked to continue her work with this organisation, post COP26 and remain as their Welsh ambassador. We are also very impressed to hear that Lydia's PowerPoint presentations were also shown to delegates during the COP26 conference in Glasgow. We would also like to take this opportunity to raise awareness for any students wishing to engage in this forthcoming on-line Q & A climate discussion lead by well-known environmental and political journalist George Monbiot.

There is a UK Sustainable Schools Network (UKSSN) meeting with journalist George Monbiot on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm-6:45pm. If students are interested, they can register to join the conversation. The meeting will be entirely a discussion so do come prepared with questions & thoughts. There will be teachers in attendance for safeguarding and there won't be any breakout rooms so everyone will be in one call. There are limited places so please do sign up soon by [clicking here](#).

### **Alumna Hannah Mills and sailing partner Eilidh McIntyre voted 2021 Rolex World Sailor**

Many congratulations to Howell's alumna Hannah Mills and her sailing partner Eilidh McIntyre who have won the 2021 Rolex World Sailor of the Year competition. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Alumna, Tasneem awarded the prestigious Degree of Doctor of Medicine**

We were delighted to hear that Tasneem Khatib, Howell's and Lady Margaret Hall alumna, has been awarded the prestigious Degree of Doctor of Medicine. Many congratulations Tasneem! [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Presents for Barnardo's**

As you know, we are currently unable to collect for the Toybox Charity as they are unable to store any further donations currently. We are planning to collect used toys and games in the new year for this charity. In Howell's tradition, we would very much like to provide support and gifts this Christmas and will be collecting presents to send to Barnardo's. The charity will distribute them to families in the Cardiff and Vale area. Please could you bring in any donations by Friday 10th December and leave them under the Christmas Tree in the Stone Hall. The age range of the children the donations will go to is 8-15 years and some suggestions would be:

- games & toys
- stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets)
- books
- puzzle books
- hair accessories
- gift vouchers for a suitable shop to buy any of the above

For reasons relating to COVID, please can you ensure items donated are new and where possible in their original packaging. All items will be quarantined for 48 hours before being delivered to Barnardo's.

We know how much the charity will appreciate any donation you make, no matter how small and we would like to thank you in advance.

### **Wrap Up**

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Wrap Up Cardiff, a charity which operates a coat collection campaign for homeless and vulnerable people, is looking for warm, clean winter coats for all ages to help people in crisis. If you are able to help you can find more information here: [Wrap Up Cardiff \(wrapupuk.org\)](http://wrapupuk.org)

### **Raise Her Up**

Should we be prioritising creativity over exams when it comes to learning? In episode 8 of the GDST's podcast Raise Her Up, neuroscientist Cathy Jane Rogers speaks about creativity at home and in school and how this can help with learning and development. [Click here](#) to listen to the podcast.

### **Opening Doors to Accountancy Competition.**

Introducing a nationwide student competition: Opening Doors To Accountancy.

This competition is a game of matching pairs, with the following prizes on offer:

- £200 Curry's voucher
- 1 year subscription to Calm or Headspace
- Sustainability prizes, such as a Chilly's bottle or a solar-powered phone charger
- AND employability prizes with an accountancy organisation

[Click here](#) to enter.

### **Success Beyond School: Level-Up with Law**

Parents are invited to sign up for a free webinar to help their child's career path (aged 12-18) in Law on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. [Click here](#) to register.

### **Summer Career Experiences: Law & Politics**

Does your child dream of standing up in the Supreme Court to argue in a high-profile human rights case? Or want to negotiate climate change policies at COP26 and change the world? [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Apprenticeship Opportunities at BAE Systems**

[Click here](#) for more information about apprenticeship opportunities at BAE systems.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing everyone on Monday for the penultimate week of the Autumn Term.

**Sally Davis, Principal**