

# Prep School

## ROUND UP



Date 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019



A very happy new year to you all, I hope you had a lovely holiday. A warm welcome to our new girls and their families.

### JCC Hits the High Notes!

Girls in the Junior Competition Choir (JCC), which is made up of girls from Year 4, 5 and 6 from Howell's Prep School, were delighted when, on the first day back after Christmas, they heard they had gained a place in the finals of the Barnardo's National Choral Competition! The choir recorded an entry for the competition last November and have been eagerly awaiting some news. The pace hots up now as they prepare a programme for the final, held in the prestigious Royal Festival Hall in London in early March.

### Uniform Reminder

All uniform accessories such as hats, scarves and gloves must be plain navy.

### Snacks

A reminder that all snacks must be healthy for both school break time and after school clubs – **no chocolate or nuts please.**

### Attendance

We encourage your daughter to attend school regularly as poor attendance can have a huge impact on her future education. Your daughter should stay home for 48 hours following any vomiting or diarrhoea so that she is clear of symptoms, this is to ensure the other girls and staff do not catch the illness. Prescribed medicines required during the school day should be brought to the school office and the relevant form should be filled in. If your daughter is unfortunate to sustain a fracture or is immobile, please arrange a meeting with the school nurse through Mrs Hatcher so that a care plan can be put in place before returning to school.

### Internet safety

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind parents of the need to protect your children online, particularly when using a smart phone. At school the girls are protected by Internet filters, a secure virtual learning environment and regular reminders from their teachers about sensible online behaviour. As they get older and will start to have a smart phone this widens the threat to their safety and it is important to talk to them about this and their access to social media. As you will be aware the recommended age for Social Media membership is 13, an age where young people are a little more mature and resilient when faced with potential issues such as cyber bullying, grooming or identity theft. There are many resources on our Firefly site related to Online safety which you can access by [clicking here](#), including age appropriate CEOP clips to watch at home. If you have any concerns at all, please speak to her class teacher or Mrs Ashill.

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## Parties

Please could party invitations for smaller parties (ie when the whole class isn't invited) be distributed outside of school rather than in the classroom. We are sorry but we are unable to allow the girls to give out birthday cake or sweets on her birthday, due to allergies of some girls.

## Fibretastic Craft Club

Fibretastic is a weekly after school club where the girls can explore a wide range of different fibre arts. During last term, the activities included sewing needle cases and Christmas stockings, experimenting with wet felting and hand spinning using wool fibre, weaving on small looms and braiding. The club is open to girls from years 3 to 6 and takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 3.15 to 5pm. The aim is to foster the girls' enjoyment of fibre arts and lay the foundations for crafting outside the club.

Please contact Ruth Moore directly for more information and to book a place by emailing [ruth@ammoniteyarns.co.uk](mailto:ruth@ammoniteyarns.co.uk)

## Mysterious Maths Club

We are delighted that Seran Pearson (formerly of Spaghetti Maths) is returning to the Prep School in January to start her 'Mysterious Maths' club with Years 3-6. This creative maths club will start next Thursday at 3.30pm after school for 6 weeks and there are still places available. For more information or to book a place for your daughter in the club, please go directly to Seran's website

[www.mysteriousmaths.co.uk](http://www.mysteriousmaths.co.uk)

## Band Skills

There will be no Band Skills lunch time next Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January due to music staff involvement with the African Children's Choir concert. Band Skills will restart the week after, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January.

## Junior Orchestra

There will be no Junior Orchestra after school next Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January due to music staff involvement with the African Children's Choir concert. Junior Orchestra will restart the week after, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January.

Mr Beckett

## Curriculum Letters

If you would like to read what your daughter will be learning this term, then Curriculum letters will be available on Firefly next Friday.

## Music Matters

[Click here](#) to read the latest edition of our Prep School Music Newsletter, *Music Matters*.

## Parent Blog

The first Parent Blog of 2019 is available to read by [clicking here](#).

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## Diary Dates

### Year 7 Entrance Examination

Our Year 7 Entrance Examination will take place on Friday 25th January 2019. If you know of anyone who may be interested in sitting the examination please ask them to contact our Admissions Officer, Chrissie Hall-Davis, at [Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net](mailto:Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net).

### Howell's Co-Ed College Open Night

On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, we will be holding our second Co-Ed College Open Night, The College Experience, from 4pm. It will be an action packed evening beginning with an introduction to our Co-Ed College from Mrs Davis at 4.30pm. This is open to all students who didn't attend the first Open Night and also to those who want to try some different taster lessons. While prospective students attend taster lessons, parents will be offered tours with some of our current College students. There will also be Parent Carousels manned by College staff giving further information about College life and the opportunities it brings. To book a place and for more information please email [Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net](mailto:Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net) or telephone 02920 261832.

### Howell's Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination

The second Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination for current Year 11 students will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm – 6pm. Please contact Mrs Hall-Davis for details on 029 2026 1832 or by email at [Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net](mailto:Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net). If you know anyone interested in sitting the examination please do pass on the details. Please be aware that this is an opportunity only for students who were unable to sit the examination in November.

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## Prep School Dates

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents' meeting for Year 6 parents re transition in the Hub
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 Llansteffan Residential Trip Meeting in Year 5 classroom.
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 7 Entrance Exam
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 inclusive	Half term
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	End of Spring Term 1pm finish - no After School Care