

# Prep School

## ROUND UP



Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

# The Head's Update

This week we said goodbye today to Miss Hawkins, who has been covering Miss Robyn Taylor's maternity leave since March. Miss Hawkins has been amazing, and we wish her all the best for the future. She won't mind me telling you that she has been accepted on a PGCE course next September. Good luck Miss Hawkins and thank you; you will make a fantastic teacher! We are looking forward to welcoming back Miss Taylor next week.



### Blue Peter Badge for Anusha

Many congratulations to Year 4's Anusha F who recently received a Blue Peter music badge. [Click here](#) for more information.

### GDST Christmas Card Competition

Very well done to Year 5's Tiffany T whose entry has been selected to represent Howell's Prep School in the GDST Christmas Card Competition. [Click here](#) to see her card design.

### Special delivery from Ana and Elsa!

The girls in Reception were so excited on Wednesday, when they received a letter and a mysterious package from Ana and Elsa! [Click here](#) for more information and to see some photographs.

### Foraging for Foliage!

Year 2 had a wonderful time in the school grounds finding evergreen foliage for their advent wreath. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Swimming

It has been wonderful over the last 2 weeks to see the girls back in the water, swimming and having fun, but we have been disappointed that quite a few have not joined in. Whilst we fully understand that there can be a number of genuine reasons, we would like to emphasise that swimming is a vital life skill, great exercise and, as we discussed recently in our water safety lessons, being able to swim can save your life. Not only is swimming part of our school curriculum, it is also the only sport that is a mandatory part of the national curriculum, as set out by the Welsh Government and so it is very important that wherever possible the girls regularly attend their swimming lessons.

We are of course living in strange and worrying times, but please be assured every measure is being taken to keep your children safe from the virus during their swimming lessons. The girls only come to the pool with their class and teacher. We now only swim every other week, this allows greater gaps in-between lessons, therefore classes do not mix with other years before or after their lesson. During these gaps all the changing rooms, toilets and touch points are cleaned.

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Swimming instructors are adhering to social distancing rules from the swimmers and wear face coverings when the swimmers are on the side and are, of course, following government guidelines with regards to hand washing etc. Equipment is cleaned after each class and please note that in order to reduce the risk of spreading the virus, we no longer lend out any swimming kit, it is therefore important that the girls bring their complete kit to every swimming lesson. In addition, the good news is, several studies have shown the coronavirus does not survive in chlorinated water, hence swimming is one of the safest sports in the current situation.

Following on from our water safety lessons this term, we are hoping to do some pool based water safety sessions to help ensure the girls are safe in and around water. We will be working towards various Swim Wales Nofio Ysgol awards over the coming months, which we are looking forward to presenting later in the year. If you do have any questions or concerns regarding swimming, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Griffiths or myself.

*Mrs K Roberts*

### **Swimming next week**

Next week it will be the turn of the J classes.

### **Message to Parents of Years 3-6 from Mrs Crawford**

I will be holding gymnastics trials for the squad session held on Wednesdays on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 3:15- 4:00pm. If they could bring a leotard to the trial if they have one, otherwise shorts and a t shirt will be fine. Please can you email me directly at [c.crawford@how.gdst.net](mailto:c.crawford@how.gdst.net) if you would like your daughter to attend the trial. If she is successful there is no charge for this club, as in normal times they would be attending competitions representing the school.

### **Individual Photographs**

You should have received your daughter's photograph from Colofoto yesterday. If you would like further orders, please visit [www.clickfoto.co.uk](http://www.clickfoto.co.uk) and your orders will be delivered to your home.

### **Face Coverings – New Welsh Government Guidance**

I am sure you are aware that the Welsh Government has updated its guidance in terms of face coverings in schools. To reduce the risk of transmission amongst parents and relatives, please wear masks at drop-off and collection times. Maintaining a clear social distance at all times will also reduce risk and set a good example to the girls. Please follow these guidelines and encourage your child to follow theirs too. Along with regular hand washing/sanitising and social distancing, this will reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 at school as far as possible.

### **Howell's Crescent Gate**

The gate will remain closed at the end of the school day until further notice. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Speech and Drama exam results**

Many congratulations to all the girls who took their LAMDA exams on 17<sup>th</sup> October. All the girls achieved distinction in a range of different exams in Speech and Acting.

The girls involved are: Chloe B (Year 3), Lydia T (Year 4), Sophie B (Year 5), Sophie D (Year 5), Ffion S (Year 5), Mollie R (Year 6) and Nell P (Year 6).

### **Last Day of Term**

On the last day of term Howell's will close for Prep School students at 12.30pm and there will be no after school provision. Buses will be running and will be leaving as soon as possible after the Senior School finishes at 12.45pm.

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## St Cecilia's Day Concert

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November, we celebrated St Cecilia's Day (the Patron Saint of Music) with an online recital given by the talented Music Scholars in the Senior School and Co-Ed College. [Click here](#) to watch the concert.

## HoHoHo@Howell's Prep

During the last week of term, we have organised lots of festive fun! Please make a note of the following information:

<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2	Girls may wear party clothes to school (remember to wear a coat and sensible shoes).	Visit Santa, Christmas Disco in the Great Hall and party games!
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	Girls may wear party clothes to school (remember to wear a coat and sensible shoes).	Visit Santa, Christmas Disco in the Great Hall and party games!
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery – Year 6	Girls may wear a Christmas Jumper over their uniform	Christmas Lunch!
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery – Year 6	Virtual Assembly broadcast to classrooms  <b>12.30pm School closes.</b>	

## Virtual Lovelight Concert

Howell's has for many years supported the Cardiff Lovelight Christmas Concert held to support the charity Tenovus Cancer Care. Traditionally Year 5 and 6 have had the pleasure of performing in the magnificent surroundings of Llandaff Cathedral. This year things are different, but Lovelight continues online! A virtual Lovelight will be aired on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7.30pm and Howell's is very proud, once again, to have been invited to take part. The concert will consist of some items recorded by current Howell's students during the early summer lockdown. (*True Colours, When You Believe & Bridge Over Troubled Waters*). In addition to this, some new Christmas items are being recorded by the Prep School. Howell's items will appear alongside the Tenovus Sing With Us Virtual Choir, TV and radio personality, Wynne Evans and special surprise guests! If you would like more information and to purchase a household viewing 'ticket', please [click here](#). Many thanks for your continued support.

## Sleeping Beauty

The Original Online Panto Company, in partnership with Polka Dot Pantomimes and Ticketmaster Universe, are streaming a beautifully filmed version of Sleeping Beauty with an all-star cast full of spectacular sets, wonderful costumes, song, dance and fun that will run from Mon 14 Dec – Sun 3 Jan. Tickets cost £14.99 plus a 50p processing charge per family, and for every ticket sold Howell's will receive up to £4, which will go to our Bursary Fund. When you buy your ticket, you will be sent a streaming code, and once you activate it you can watch Sleeping Beauty as many times as you over a 4 day period on a smart TV, tablet or phone. You can also upgrade with your very own individual Christmas video message from Father Christmas.

For more information including a trailer and a link to buy a ticket, visit [www.universe.com/howell](http://www.universe.com/howell)

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

**Judith Ashill, Deputy Principal, Head of Prep School**

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