

Prep School

VIRTUAL ROUND UP



Friday 12th February 2021

The Head's Update

As we come to the end of the first half term of 2021, I would like to congratulate all the girls for working so hard and maintaining their enthusiasm for learning during these times. Their resilience has definitely been tested and I am extremely proud of them all. I am also very grateful to the Prep School staff who have worked incredibly hard, teaching from school or home or supporting the girls in Keyworker Care. I am also well aware of the incredible support that you, our parents, have given your daughter(s) to facilitate their Guided Home Learning and for your support of the staff, which has been expressed in many positive emails, thank you.



Online Safety

[Click here](#) to read the Online Safety at Home Newsletter.

Safer Internet Day – 9th February 2021

PC Jane met many of our classes online this week to deliver Internet Safety Sessions. [Click here](#) for more information.

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, people are relying even more on online technology. Due to lockdowns and high-level restrictions, children are spending more time at home and may not be able to see friends and family in person. This makes keeping in touch online extra important. Many children are spending more time online – and expanding the ways they use the internet. They may join online communities or start using new video-calling platforms.

While all this can bring benefits to children's mental health and wellbeing, children can be exposed to risk online. For further guidance and support please visit the NSPCC website [Online safety | NSPCC](#) where you can find information about how to keep your children safe, risks of online games and a link to 'Net Aware' which gives you a guide to the latest social apps, networks and games and their risks and age ratings

KS2 online lesson survey

We have sent the girls in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 a link today to a survey for them to complete to reflect on their online learning. This is so that we can find out how they are feeling, and we will use this information to improve our provision in the weeks ahead.

Wear Red for Velindre

It was lovely receive so many photographs of girls in red today, as students and staff participated in Wear Red for Wales and Velindre. [Click here](#) for more information.

Chess Selection Success for Sisters Amelie and Isabella

We were delighted to hear that following Isabella C (Year 6) representing Wales U12 in the Celtic Cup prior to Christmas and being the highest points scorer, she has been selected to represent Wales U14 in a friendly this week against one of the English regions. Amelie (Year 4) just missed out on full selection before Christmas being reserve for Wales U12, but her form since has rewarded her with selection to play for Wales U14 this week also. Very well done and good luck, girls!

Nursery Scientists

On Thursday 11th February, our Nursery girls celebrated the UN's International Day of Women and Girls in Science. [Click here](#) for more information.

A Spoonful of Smiles

Our Reception girls have been talking about what makes a good friend and have been baking gingerbread friends using all the key ingredients. A sprinkle of kindness and a pinch of generosity, with a light dusting of fun to finish. What would be in your recipe? [Click here](#) for more information.

No More Odd Socks

This week the girls in Reception have been counting in 2s, so they have been helping sort their socks out at home. [Click here](#) for more information.

Raindrops Keep Falling

As part of their Whatever the Weather topic Reception have made their own rain gauges. [Click here](#) for more information.

Sofia gets baking!

After learning about mass this week in her Maths lessons Sofia (2J) has put her skills into action and weighed out all of the ingredients that she needed to make some delicious looking valentine cupcakes! [Click here](#) for more information.

Emmy's Positivi-Tee

As it was Children's Mental Health Awareness Week last week, Emmy F and her mum decided to decorate each other's T-shirts with positive messages about the lovely talents and traits they have. [Click here](#) for more information.

Prefixes, root words and suffixes

Beware the terrible Odonjayarex and the Dinolizzyrpto! The girls in Year 2 have been learning about prefixes, root words and suffixes and this week they created a few new species of dinosaur. [Click here](#) for more information.

Year 3/4 Times Tables Rockstars Tournament

Congratulations to 4J on winning the Year 3/4 Times Tables Rockstars tournament! Year 3 were 2nd and 4S came in third. Special mentions to Gisella B, Safa H and Lily J for scoring the most points.

Art Collaboration Project Year 3

I am delighted to announce that our girls in Year 3 are taking part in an Art Project which involves working alongside girls in Year 3 from other GDST schools - Northampton, Sheffield, Newcastle and Streatham and Clapham. Up until Easter, the girls will have a look at the works of different female artists and create their own interpretations. There will be opportunities for the girls to share their work on TEAMS and we are very much hoping to display all the girls' creations in a GDST Gallery as a celebration of their work.

Year 6 Students Get Creative

On Tuesday 9th February, our Year 6 key worker students used their 'Unplugged' afternoon away from screens to write a script for a play demonstrating their fantastic creativity and imagination. [Click here](#) for more information.

Origami Hearts

India, Year 6, made origami valentine hearts with sweet messages inside to pass on the love to all the key worker children and staff. [Click here](#) for more information.

Key Workers' Students Enjoy a Walk with Disney

The girls in Key worker care were treated to a super exciting PE/Wellbeing walk with Disney on Monday afternoon. [Click here](#) for more information.

Prep School Eisteddfod 2021 – Individual Instrumental Competition for Years 3 to 6

Once again, there will be an Individual Instrumental Competition, but this year it will be a little different.

Howell's Prep School Virtual Eisteddfod 2021 Individual Instrumental Competition	
Section	Standard
A	Working towards Grade 1
B	Grade 1 and working towards Grade 2
C	Grade 2 and working towards Grade 3
D	Grade 3 and working towards Grade 4
E	Grade 4 and working towards Grade 5
F	Grade 5 and above

Section	Standard
A	Working towards Grade 1
B	Grade 1 and working towards Grade 2
C	Grade 2 and working towards Grade 3
D	Grade 3 and working towards Grade 4
E	Grade 4 and working towards Grade 5
F	Grade 5 and above

- The competition is open to girls from Years 3 to 6
- Each girl may only enter once
- You should prepare and video record a short piece of music for the adjudicators to watch
- The video recording must be no longer than 2 minutes and this must include you saying your name, your year group, your school House, the title and composer of the piece and the section you are entering - e.g. *"I am Amy Jones from Year 5, Dewi and I am going to play When the Saints in Section B"* (this means that you may not be able to play a whole piece – please find a suitable place to stop!)
- Any orchestral or brass band instrument, guitar or piano may be entered (not recorder)
- Your video recorded entry should be uploaded to the Teams site **by 12.30pm on Wednesday 24th February 2021**
- The file should have your name, your year group and the section you are entering as its title - eg *Amy Jones Y5 Section B* **This is really important!**
- The video recordings will then be adjudicated by different music teachers
- The video recording of each section winner will be played as part of our Prep School virtual St David's Day Celebration on Monday 1st 2021
- All this information and the link for the Teams upload site is on the Prep School Music page [here](#)
- Any questions, please email Mr Beckett!
- Good luck girls!

Live PE Lessons

Mrs Crawford is really excited to let you know that Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be having some online PE lessons after half term on Zoom. Your daughter's class teacher will let her know when these will be and the link to join the session will be on Firefly.

KS2 Support

With KS1 returning to school and staff being in school for Key Worker Care provision we are currently reviewing our KS2 support sessions, so if your daughter receives these there may be changes after half term.

Senior School Virtual Open Event

On Wednesday 3rd March we will be holding a Virtual Open Event for prospective Senior School students and parents. Mrs Davis will be hosting Zoom call for parents and students at 4pm and all our current Year 5 parents will be invited to attend. During the call, families will find out more about the academic offer as well as the extracurricular opportunities available. For further information about the event please email admissions@how.gdst.net. Please do pass the details on to anyone you think might be interested in attending.

GDST Talks – 18th March 2021

The speaker for the next GDST Talks event on 18th March at 6pm on Zoom is Emma Gleadhill, who will be talking about Getting Your Daughter Through Puberty. Emma Gleadhill is an educator and specialist in child and adolescent development. With over twenty years of experience in education, including 6 years as a Deputy Head, Emma's work centres on relationships, mental health, wellbeing and the emotional aspects of parenting. She brings research-based insights into what drives human behaviour and family dynamics, and how small tweaks can make a big impact in our relationships with ourselves and with others. She will be sharing her experience and advice on how the different types of modern family can support their children through puberty with family relationships and wellbeing intact. This event is suitable for parents with children in Years 6-13. To book your place, click [here](#).

Half Term with Cardiff Hubs and Libraries

15th - 20th February 2021

Date, Time and Language	Event	How to join us
Monday 10am (Welsh) 11am (English)	Story Time with Craft An extra story time and craft session especially for half term	Live on Facebook Welsh: https://www.facebook.com/gwasanaethllyfrgelloeddcaerdydd English: https://www.facebook.com/cardifflibrarieservice
Tuesday 3.30pm	Children's Author – Mike Church A fun interactive story time session with the hilarious Mike Church. He'll be reading his own stories with help from his feathered/furry friends.	Via Microsoft Teams. Contact Rhydypennauhub@cardiff.gov.uk to receive a link to join
Tuesday 5pm (English)	Chapter Story Time Our recurring read aloud event for juniors	Live on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/cardifflibrarieservice
Wednesday 10.30am (Welsh) 2pm (English)	Story and Rhyme Time Our weekly story and singalong session, for children aged 0-4	Live on Facebook Welsh: https://www.facebook.com/gwasanaethllyfrgelloeddcaerdydd English: https://www.facebook.com/cardifflibrarieservice
Thursday 10.30am	Origami Taster Session Are you interested in learning how to make simple origami? All you'll need to bring is some paper, scissors and your hands!	Via Microsoft Teams. Contact Sioned.jacques@cardiff.gov.uk to receive a link to join
Thursday 5pm (Welsh)	Chapter Story Time Our recurring read aloud event for juniors	Live on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/gwasanaethllyfrgelloeddcaerdydd
Friday 10.30am (Bilingual)	Shake and Wave Rhyme Time Join Margaret for a fun rhyme time and bring along something to shake and wave!	Live on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/gwasanaethllyfrgelloeddcaerdydd https://www.facebook.com/cardifflibrarieservice
Friday 2pm (Welsh) 3pm (English)	Animal Craft Workshop Come and make some craft animals at our workshop. All you'll need is paper, colours, scissors and glue!	Live on Facebook Welsh: https://www.facebook.com/gwasanaethllyfrgelloeddcaerdydd English: https://www.facebook.com/cardifflibrarieservice
Saturday 10am (Welsh) 11am (English)	Story Time with Craft Our regular story time with craft session	Live on Facebook Welsh: https://www.facebook.com/gwasanaethllyfrgelloeddcaerdydd English: https://www.facebook.com/cardifflibrarieservice



I hope you all enjoy the half term holiday and look forward to welcoming Nursery-Year 2 back to school and seeing Years 3-6 return to Guided Home Learning on Monday 22nd February.

Mrs Judith Ashill, Deputy Principal, Head of Prep School