

Prep School

ROUND UP



8th March 2019



Barnardo's National Choral Competition

On Monday, Howell's Prep School's Junior Competition Choir (or JCC as it is known), travelled to London to take part in the final of the Barnardo's National Choral Competition 2019. After setting off early from Howell's, accompanied by our splendid red dragon mascot, JCC made their way to London's Southbank Centre to take part in the national final and concert in the magnificent Royal Festival Hall. One of JCC's members, Casi D was also competing with her choir, Cor Heol Y March and we arrived just in time to sit in the vast auditorium and enjoy their beautiful performance. JCC gave Casi's choir rapturous applause and their support for her was clearly evident. After a short warm up in the Green Room, our 38 strong choir, made up of girls from Years 4, 5 and 6, conducted by Mrs Clouter and accompanied by Mr Shewring, stepped confidently out onto the huge stage to perform for the four adjudicators and a large contingent of supporters! And perform they did! They gave an absolutely stunning performance of *Can You Hear Me?* composed by Bob Chilcott. This moving but unsentimental piece describes the wonder of the world as seen by a deaf child. The addition of sign language in the choruses, makes the song even more poignant. In complete contrast to this, the girls' faces took on a warrior look as they performed an arrangement of *Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho*, displaying not only tight musicality but also some quite fearsome battle moves, carefully choreographed by Mrs Manning! Our supporters, who had travelled with us from Wales, made it very clear that they had thoroughly enjoyed the performance and also greeted the choir extremely enthusiastically with a guard of honour as they returned to the foyer! After a break for food and fresh air, it was back for a rehearsal of the massed choirs, ready for the evening concert. Led by eminent conductor and composer, Douglas Coombes, the 800 strong massed choir sang a specially commissioned piece, *Barnardo's* and the stirring, *World in Union*, accompanied by the mighty Royal Festival Hall organ. Each choir performed one piece from its repertoire at the concert in a very slick operation which saw some 18 Junior Choirs and 8 Senior Choirs perform. Once again, Howell's' JCC blew their audience away with a repeat rendition of *Joshua*. When the competition results were announced, everyone at Howell's were delighted to learn that fellow Welsh coir, Heol Y March had been awarded runners up in the Junior Choir section. Congratulations to Casi D and her choir! The late night journey back to Cardiff saw many girls, parents and staff falling asleep, tired but wholly elated and honoured to have had the experience of taking part in the national final of what has become a prestigious youth choral competition. A memory which will remain with them for many years to come. Flapjack enjoyed his adventures in London too! Thank you Sophia for looking after him. [click here for photographs](#)



GDST Sports

Howell's made the annual journey to Bromley High School in Kent for the GDST gymnastics, Cross country and football. We are always faced with fierce competition at any GDST event and it was no different on Thursday.

The cross country was a tough course, very wet muddy and with lots of strong willed girls aiming for the top spot. Olivia C went out hard and strong and held her 2nd place position for the whole race. Tallulla made it into the tunnel at 5th but then got push down to 15th in a heated finish. These are the highest place finishes we have had a GDST cross country event. Girls from year 6, 7 and 8 all ran, showing that Howell's is a school that develops strong athletes. Well done to all the girls that raced.

The gymnastics event was as strong as ever, with GB level gymnasts from some of the London schools the standards were set very high. The Howell's team performed beautifully on floor with some outstanding scores from Aleighka, Georgie, and Daisy Mo. Izzy and Sophia dominated the vault both scoring over 15.00 out of a possible 16.00 which was excellent. Last year the U11 team finished 13th. We were aiming for a top 10 finish and Howell's finished in 9th.



Hywelians Return to Howell's – Lily Eckersley-Jones

On Monday 4th March, we were delighted to welcome back alumna Lily Eckersley-Jones, along with her colleague Robin Jenkins. Lily and Robin are co-founders and directors of Atlantic Pacific, an international charity that provides "Lifeboats in a Box" (a 12 metre shipping container kitted out with a rigid-hulled inflatable boat, a maintenance workshop and changing room) to coastlines where no adequate lifeboat service exists. They spoke at special assemblies to Prep School, Senior School and Co-Ed College students about their latest campaign which aims to raise £100,000 to provide a Lifeboat in A Box to Mozambique. They are inviting 100 schools from around the world to each raise £1,000 and we are delighted to be one of the schools taking part and are sure our students and staff will come up with innovative fundraising ideas to raise the required funds for this vitally important project. [Read more here](#)

English-Speaking Union Public Speaking Workshop

How much noise do 90 10-year-olds make? Rather a lot, if you get them all in the Great Hall and teach them how to use their voices to full effect. This month, Howell's is joining forces again with the English-Speaking Union to host the annual Primary School Public Speaking Competition for children from local primary schools, which will take place on Wednesday 20th March. This year, we are delighted that students from Baden Powell, Herbert Thompson, Howell's, Kitchener, Lakeside, Marlborough and Whitchurch Primary Schools in Cardiff are taking part. It is also a pleasure to welcome two new schools, Llanederyn and St Mary's. [click here to read more](#)

Hywelian Returns to Howell's – Lady Reardon Smith

In celebration of both World Book Day and International Women's Day, it was a pleasure to welcome back alumna and children's author, Lady Reardon Smith on Thursday 7th March. Lady Reardon Smith made her way to Prep School, where Year 3 were eagerly waiting in their library to welcome her. She brought to life the wonderful stories in her newly published novel, *Juliet Jones and the Ginger Pig*. The girls were captivated and were bursting with questions which Lady Reardon Smith was only too happy to answer. It really was a very special occasion and we look forward to welcoming Lady Reardon Smith back to Howell's again soon. [click here to read more](#)

World Book Day

The Prep School was an anthology of book characters on Thursday as we celebrated World Book Day. The girls (and staff!) had really made a fantastic effort to bring to life their favourite character from a range of authors. The theme of this year's book day was 'Share a Story' and in assembly the girls were invited to think about who they'd like to read with if they were given the chance. Thank you to everyone for making such a wonderful effort and also for your support for our Book Fair. The fair will continue next week from Monday – Wednesday in the Prep School Hall.

Fairtrade in Howell's Prep School

The Fairtrade representatives have had a busy time this week, helping raise awareness throughout the Prep School. On Tuesday, the older girls visited the Fair Dos shop in Canton, where they chose stock for our stall. They were mindful to choose items, which were of pocket money prices. On Wednesday, they led an assembly to explain the aims of the Fairtrade organisation and to encourage everyone to look out for the Fairtrade symbol when shopping. Thursday and Friday were busy staffing our Fairtrade stall in the Junior Hall, displaying our items for sale, taking money, working out totals and change and tidying up afterwards. Phew! A busy week. The Fairtrade stall is run to raise awareness within school. We sell the items at the shop prices and all the money and any unsold items go back to the shop. Well done to all the Fairtrade representatives from Reception up to Year 6.



Junior Radio

There will be no Junior Radio at lunchtime, next Monday 11th March.

Red Nose Day

Girls may wear red noses and encouraged to bring a £1 donation for Comic Relief. Normal uniform is to be worn. Our School Council will be holding a 'Bring & Buy' sale at 2pm to 3pm in the school hall. Girls will need to bring in some money for this – items will be priced between 10p-£1. They will also be holding a lucky dip.

Advance Notice!

Howell's Prep School Instrumental Evening 2019

The Prep School Instrumental Evening will be held on **Thursday 9th May 2019 at 7pm** in the Prep School Hall (2nd week after the Easter break). The following ensembles will be taking part:

- Junior Orchestra
- Junior Wind Band
- String Machine
- Junior Rock
- Band Skills groups (*those who are ready to perform*)
- Shake, Rattle & Roll
- Junior Flute Choir
- Y3 class violins
- Y4 class brass (both classes)
- The winning instrumental soloists from the recent Eisteddfod Individual Instrumental Competition

Further information regarding tickets will be available before the Easter break.

Prep School Dates

Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief – 'Red Nose Day' – Wear a red nose with your uniform.
Tuesday 12 th and Wednesday 13 th March	6L Parents' Evening
Thursday 21 st March	JCC competing at GDST Young Choir of the Year in London
Tuesday 26 th and Wednesday 27 th March	Nursery to Year 6 Parents' Evenings (except class 6L)
Wednesday 3 rd April	Whole School Photograph
Friday 5 th April	End of Spring Term 1pm finish - no After School Care
Thursday 9 th May	7pm Prep School Instrumental Evening

Diary Dates

Story Time Nursery Open Morning

We are delighted to be holding a Story Time themed Open Morning in our Nursery from 10.00am – 11.15am on Thursday 14th March. The Open Morning will provide an excellent opportunity for little girls to explore the creative, stimulating and nurturing environment of our Nursery, where we plant the seeds of curiosity, nourish them with experience and care and watch as our girls grow in confidence, compassion and knowledge. If you or if you know of anyone who would like to join us, places can be reserved by emailing hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net or telephoning 029 2026 1825.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

The next Second Hand Uniform Sale will be held on Thursday 28th March in the Hub, 8-9am and 3-5pm. Donations of uniform can be left with Mrs Hatcher in the Prep School reception. We are particularly in need of Prep School summer dresses and Senior School PE kit.

Mothers' Day Breakfast – Save the Date

On Friday 29th March, we will be holding our second Mothers' Day Breakfast. We would love to see as many students as possible bringing their mums, grandmas and female carers along to start the day with a delicious breakfast. Full details will be available next week.

Les Misérables, at the WMC

After the brilliant success of our evening at the Wales Millennium Centre before Christmas watching *Matilda*, we will be returning to the WMC on Tuesday 10th December 2019 for the performance of *Les Misérables*, Cameron Mackintosh's acclaimed production of the musical based on the Victor Hugo novel. We have an allocation of 150 tickets for this fantastic production, which are available for the Howell's community to buy at a discounted price of £55. Tickets include access to a private room from 5pm where you can buy drinks and food as well as order your interval refreshments. We are also hoping to have the Stage Director and members of the cast come to talk to us at this time. A private room is also available during the interval. Tickets are available to the Howell's community only on a first come first served basis; to reserve

TOOT Holiday Club over the Easter holidays - Monday 8th - Friday 26th April 2019

After a very busy TOOT over February Half Term, we are now booking for Easter.

Over Half Term, the children enjoyed a Springwatch theme with lots of colourful activities and a trip out to Tredegar House where we made our own birdboxes and enjoyed going back in time.



Over **Easter**, TOOT is open for the 3 week holiday. There will be one 5 day week and two 4 day weeks around the Bank holidays, and it takes place in Prep School Hall. There is a different theme each week, and activities and events are based around this to include art, craft, cookery, yoga, dance, gardening, drama and outdoor exploration. Unfortunately, we are not able to swim over Easter as the swimming pool is out of action due to essential utilities work.

The Club provides inclusive, exciting, high quality holiday care for pupils of the school aged 3-11 years in the Nursery, Reception, Years 1 - 6 and also their siblings. Both boys and girls, within the age range, are welcome if there are places available. We also offer 'one-off' taster places for those girls considering coming to Howell's School. The TOOT Club has a maximum of 40 children with a staffing ratio of at least 1:8 (3-7 yrs) and 1:13 (8 - 11 yrs).

TOOT is open from 8am to 6 pm daily and breakfast, a cooked lunch and fruit snacks are included in the cost with trips out of school or visitors in on Thursdays. If your child is staying after 4 pm, they will need to bring a packed tea or snack.

The cost is £45 per day, £200 per 5 day week (Mon – Fri) and £160 per 4 day week.

On the website you can enjoy more photographs taken in TOOT and out on trips through the year.

Additional information can be found on Firefly in our Statement of Purpose Booklet for Parents or by emailing TOOT@how.gdst.net.

The Booking Form is attached and, prior to TOOT, parents are asked to complete the Medical/Registration Form also on Firefly.

Future dates - Summer 22nd July – 23rd August (5 weeks)

Autumn Half Term - Monday 28th October – Friday 8th November (2 weeks)