

A View FROM THE TOP



No 194

Friday 18th January 2019

The Principal's Update

The first full week of the Spring Term has been a hugely enjoyable and productive one. This afternoon, the "Silence, Examinations in Progress" signs were taken down, as mock GCSE and A level examinations finished for Years 11 and 13. I know the students have worked extremely hard and they all deserve to have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Yesterday, we were joined by Karen Kimura, the GDST's Learning & Development Manager, who led several career events for students throughout the day. In the morning she was joined by Year 9 students for their Careerstart workshop, which you can read about later in this update. Karen then went on to lead a session for Year 12 students to help them develop their leadership skills. Finally, at the end of the school day she gave the first Howell's Lecture of 2019 for our Co-ed College students, entitled "Sushi for Beginners; Starting Your Own Business". Many thanks to Karen and to all the staff who made the day such a triumph.



It has been a busy week for Year 7. Yesterday evening the Year 7 Parents' Meeting took place in the Sports Hall. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this invaluable opportunity to meet your daughter's teachers and hear about her progress. We launched our mindfulness curriculum with each of the Year 7 classes and this morning, Year 7 students were delighted to be raising funds for the vital work undertaken by Welsh Children's Cancer Charity LATCH at this morning's Big Breakfast. Many thanks to our catering team for providing a delicious and nutritious start to the day. A total of £76 was raised.

Vanessa Yilmaz

It is with great regret that I must inform you that Mrs Vanessa Yilmaz, Director of External Relations, will be leaving us to take up a new position at the educational recruitment company Eteach later this term. This new role is a fabulous opportunity for her but of course a great loss for Howell's. For more than 15 years, Mrs Yilmaz has made a significant contribution to the school helping to shape its development and arranging wonderful experiences for our students. I can't thank her enough for the unconditional commitment and enthusiasm she has shown throughout that time. She will be with us until the end of March, so everyone will have the chance to say their goodbyes and give her their best wishes for the future.

Jasmine Dances to Victory

On the first weekend of January, Year 9's Jasmine W travelled to Blackpool to compete in two high profile dance competitions. [Click here](#) for more information.

Maisie to represent Whitchurch Hockey Club in EuroHockey Indoor Club Challenge I

Great news from Maisie R, Year 11, who has been selected to represent Whitchurch Hockey Club in the EuroHockey Indoor Club Challenge I, being played in Douai, France between 15th and 17th February. Bonne chance, Maisie!

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Ellie selected for the RYA Girls Squad

Congratulations to Year 8 sailor Ellie C, who has been selected for the RYA Girls Squad for the Optimist Class.

Cava and Canapés

On Friday 11th January, we returned to the splendid surroundings of the Lansdowne Club in the heart of Mayfair for our fourth evening of Cava and Canapés for alumni in London. [Click here](#) for more information.

Howell's Piano Peripatetic Recognised in the New Year's Honours List

Howell's talented piano peripatetic, Jan Ball, was awarded a BEM (British Empire Medal) in the recent New Year's Honours list for her services to Music. Many congratulations, Jan.

Careerstart

Year 9 were stimulated into discussion during their Careerstart session with Karen Kimura who is the GDST's Learning and Development Manager. [Click here](#) for more information.

Career News

New and improved this year, the National Schools Employability Challenge 2018/19 aims to not only quiz students on their employability, but help prepare for the modern workplace. There are also some great prizes to be won. The challenge is open and runs until 29th March 2019 at 5pm, and is aimed at students aged 14-18 years old. [Click here](#) for more information.

Students in Years 10 - 13 have been e- mailed information about PwC launching their new "Females of the Future" programme which is designed to inspire and support women who are starting to think about their future and navigate potential career opportunities. The programme is a one-day event and the closest one to Cardiff is at the Bristol office on 21st February.

Please be reminded that this is not an event organised by Howell's and students will need to seek permission to attend from their year tutor as it is taking place during curriculum time. [Click here](#) for more information.

Parent Blog

This week's Parent Blog is available to read by [clicking here](#).

Diary Dates

Year 7 Entrance Examination

Our Year 7 Entrance Examination will take place next Friday, 25th January 2019. For more information or to register please contact our Admissions Officer, Chrissie Hall-Davis, at Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net. If you know of anyone who may be interested in sitting the examination please do pass on the information.

Howell's Co-Ed College Open Night

On Thursday 31st January 2019 we will be holding our second Co-Ed College Open Night, The College Experience, between 4pm and 7pm. It will be an action packed evening beginning with an introduction to our Co-Ed College from Sally Davis (Principal) at 4.30pm. This is open to Howell's students who didn't attend the first Open Night and also to those who perhaps might like to try some more lessons. Prospective students will then have the opportunity to attend taster lessons and current students will be on hand to take tours for parents. There will also be Parent Carousels which will be manned by various staff members to find out more about College life and the opportunities it brings. To book a place and for more information please email Chrissie.Hall-Davis@how.gdst.net or telephone 02920 261832.

Diary Dates

Howell's Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination

There will be another opportunity for current Year 11 students to sit our Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination on Monday 11th 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. If you know of 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.

Whole School Open Morning

Keen to know what goes on behind the doors at Howell's? We will be holding our first Whole School Open Morning for Nursery, Prep School and Senior School on Tuesday 19th February from 9am-11am, so why not come and see for yourself? Just pop in on the day, or for further information email admissions@how.gdst.net or telephone 029 2026 1832. Please do pass on the information to anyone you think may be interested in finding out more about life in Howell's School.

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.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing students and staff on Monday.

Sally Davis, Principal