

A View FROM THE TOP



No 197

Friday 8th February 2019

The Principal's Update

I was so pleased that last week's snow didn't come to anything and that we were able to support Velindre Cancer Centre's Wear Red for Velindre and Wales campaign last Friday. School was transformed into a sea of scarlet and crimson; I was hugely impressed with the creativity demonstrated by staff and students in their outfits of choice.

It was great to see so many of our Year 12 students and their parents at the *Introduction to Oxbridge* talk on Tuesday 5th February led by Dr Jonathan Padley from Cambridge University. Dr Padley is a regular visitor to Howell's in his role as Schools Liaison Officer at Cambridge University and he has extensive knowledge of various faculties at both Oxford and Cambridge and is able to offer excellent advice about applying to these universities.



We were absolutely delighted that over 50 students and their families, both from Howell's and from other schools, joined us to find out more about studying for A-levels in our second *Co-ed College Open Night – The College Experience*. It really was an action packed evening: our doors were thrown open from 4pm and students attended taster lessons while their parents took tours and attended information sessions manned by various staff members to find out more about College life and the opportunities it brings. Many thanks to all the staff and College students who worked so hard to help the event run so smoothly.

Hot on the heels of the Chinese New Year, yesterday afternoon it was a pleasure to welcome 19 teacher training students from China. They were treated to magnificent musical performances from Prep School students; Mr Walters and Mrs Harrison-Hughes presented to the group on the teaching methods we use at Howell's and they then spent the rest of the day observing lessons before taking a tour of Howell's and enjoying tea and cakes prior to heading back to Cardiff and Vale College.

I was delighted to hear that Year 9 students Ritija B, Aleezah K and Merna M performed exceptionally well and went on to win last night's Public Speaking Competition. They will compete in the regional finals next month. Congratulations, girls.

This morning, it was Year 8's turn to raise funds for the vital work undertaken by Welsh Children's Cancer Charity LATCH at today's Big Breakfast. Many thanks to our catering team for providing a delicious and nutritious start to the day. A total of £70.07 was raised.

Rotary Youth Speaks Public Speaking Competition

Well done to Howell's Senior Rotary Youth Speaks teams who competed on Monday night at the annual Rotary Public Speaking Competition. [Click here](#) for more information.

Chrystall Prize 2019

The Chrystall Prize Public-Speaking Competition first began after Chrystall Carter, a legal adviser for the GDST, died suddenly in 1999. Year 11's Alice B. was honoured to have been nominated as Howell's speaker to compete this year's competition. [Click here](#) for more information.

Whizz Bang Science

On Tuesday 29th January, a group of Year 5 girls from the Prep School visited the Senior School for an hour of experimenting with the Whizz Bang Science team. [Click here](#) for more information.

GDST Day of Dance at Pineapple Studios

At the end of last term, four of our Year 11 dancers were invited to the GDST Day of Dance held at the prestigious Pineapple Studios in London's Covent Garden. [Click here](#) for more information.

Speech and Drama Competition

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Speech and Drama competition on Saturday 2nd February at Howell's. The winners were Laura H and Sofia G for Year 8 Drama, Sophie W and Katy S for Year 9 Drama. Year 11's Frances D T was awarded the cup for the overall acting performer of the day by the adjudicator, Mrs R Taylor.

Parent Blog

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

Kings Camps

We are happy to say that @kingscampsuk will be bringing the fun this summer. Get 10% off all bookings until the 28th February and change your dates for free. [Click here](#) for more information.

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.

Parent Pyramid

Would you like to know more about what goes on at Howell's? Are you keen to get involved in the events that we run at school? The next Parent Pyramid drop in session will be held on Wednesday 13th February 8.45-9.45. The sessions are hosted by the Marketing and Development team and held in the Hub@Howell's, and the coffee machine will be steaming away. We look forward to seeing you there.

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.

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 Thomas in the Senior School reception. We are particularly in need of Prep School summer dresses and Senior School PE kit.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Sally Davis, Principal