

A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No 185

Friday 19th October 2018

The Principal's Update

While Mrs Davis is continuing her educational visit to China with Mrs Yilmaz, the baton has been passed to me to update you on this week's news from Howell's and what a productive week it has been.

Much chatting and laughter could be heard coming from the Welsh room at break time on Wednesday when Mrs Reed and Mrs Prys-Davies hosted a very busy "Bore Coffi Cymraeg". They were joined by students from Years 10 - 13 and there was even a guest appearance from some native Breton speakers. Thank you to everyone who supported this successful morning.

On Thursday our hopeful medics, dentists, pharmacists and dental therapists attended Healthcare MMI Workshops. Students and guests enjoyed coffee and introductions before these valuable mini interview sessions began. Events such as these are hugely important in preparing our students for the formal interviews they will face when applying to university and beyond. I am very grateful to Mrs Wilks and everyone who supported the event.

Today, Howell's has been a sea of green in support of Go Green Day. Students and staff have been decorated in all shades of green and made generous donations to the Cardiff based environmental charity Size of Wales, which helps protect and sustain an area of tropical rainforest now equivalent to double the size of Wales. Thank you to all students and staff who supported the day raising funds for this vital organisation.

A Face to Face Community – A message from Mrs Darnton

As Head of Digital Learning at Howell's, I am a great advocate of devices, technology and all things IT. However, with a reminder last week of the importance of 'Heads Up' and limiting our use of devices and social media I have been considering carefully my own online use. I have spoken to students in many year groups about the challenge of this and we are all in agreement that you can never replace a good catch up face-to-face with those you care about. I spoke to Year 7 this week in their assembly about our desire to be a face to face community and that online groups can be quite hurtful if not all-inclusive. I hope as parents you will support our commitment to this and encourage your child to meet friends, read a book, play sport or go for a lovely autumn walk over half-term.

Apple Smart Watches

This is a reminder to all parents that Apple smart watches are not permitted in the Senior School as they are highly valuable and can access the internet during the school day. We permit fitness trackers as they are unable to receive notifications when away from a mobile device. Please remind your child about this.

The Great Howell's Bake Off

Many thanks to all students and staff who competed in this year's Great Howell's Bake Off which took place last week and congratulations to all the winners. [Click here](#) for more information.



Sport and Fitness Celebration

In assembly on Monday 15th October we promoted the sport and fitness offer at Howell's encouraging everybody to take part in either social, competitive or elite sport and fitness either as an individual or as a member of a team. [Click here](#) for more information.

Sailing Success

Many congratulations to Ellie C (Year 8) and Tilly R (Year 9) who, as two of the highest ranked girl sailors this year, have been awarded a place in the RYA UK National Optimist Sailing Squad—a fantastic achievement, well done! [Click here](#) for more information.

U12 Netball

Year 7 have played some outstanding netball this week. On Tuesday 16th October, the U12 teams beat St John's College 18-0 and 8-0. Well done everyone! Players of the match were: Abi, Bella, Frankie and Kezia.

National Dance Company Wales comes to Howell's

This term, we welcomed dancers from the National Dance Company Wales, as part of a tailored Dance Educational Programme. [Click here](#) for more information.

Welsh Schools' Ski Championship

Our intrepid skiers braved stormy skies and flooded roads to get to the Welsh Schools' Ski Championships at Llangrannog on Sunday 14th October, and it was worth the early start and challenging driving conditions. [Click here](#) for more information.

Cardiff and Vale Schools Cross Country

On Wednesday 17th October, students from Howell's took part in the final stage of the Cardiff and Vale Schools Cross Country. The final league race took place in Pontcanna Fields with perfect conditions. [Click here](#) for more information.

Love at First Sight!

Following on from National Poetry Day, Year 9's Ellie, Nadia, Ruhaima and Tilly challenged themselves to complete a Shakespearean love sonnet between Ferdinand and Miranda, when they first meet in *The Tempest*. [Click here](#) for more information.

Poetry Club's Words for Wellbeing

As part of HeadsUp@Howell's week, Poetry Club studied and wrote about the creeper that is tumbling over the wall next to the bandstand, as it turned to bright autumn colours. [Click here](#) for more information.

Stop Press!

On Thursday 11th October, 8P were delighted to welcome Rachel Eling to their English lesson. [Click here](#) for more information.

A Trip to the Cathedral

On Monday 15th October, Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies students visited Llandaff Cathedral to learn about the features of a church and the Holy Eucharist service. [Click here](#) for more information.

Bridges to Schools

Engineering was in the limelight at Howell's on Thursday 18th October, as we welcomed Costain Construction to lead our annual Bridges to Schools event in the Sports Hall. [Click here](#) for more information.

Congratulations

Many congratulations to Year 12's Megan V, who recently ran the Cardiff Half Marathon to raise funds for charities that supported Martha. Megan would like to thank the members of the Howell's community who supported her in this epic challenge. An amazing achievement, well done, Megan! [Click here](#) for more information.

Upcoming National Science Competitions

The Science 4 Society Week Competition is open to students aged 7 to 18 and asks students to research into globally responsible careers. [Click here](#) for more information. The Step into the NHS schools' competition offers Year 8 and 9 students the chance to win a tablet or a £50 Amazon voucher. [Click here](#) for more information.

Parent Blog

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

Diary Dates

Christian Malcolm Speed and Training Pop Up Comes to Howell's

At 19, Christian Malcolm was the fastest junior athlete in the world. Throughout his career he has been coached and worked alongside the best, and on 30th and 31st October 2018 he brings his pop-up speed sessions to Howell's School. The sessions run from 2pm - 5pm and are written and delivered by Christian Malcolm and his experienced team of coaches. They are transferable to all sport, including: Rugby, Hockey, Netball, Athletics, Football, Gymnastics, Cricket, Lacrosse, Basketball. Christian will provide a question and answer session with children, parents and coaches who attend the programme. For more information or to book your place [click here](#).

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? Join us at the next Parent Pyramid drop in session this term and find out about how you can get involved. The sessions are hosted by Vanessa Yilmaz, Director of External Relations, together with the Marketing and Development team and held in the Hub@Howell's. We look forward to seeing you there. The next Parent Pyramid drop in session is on Tuesday 6th November at 8.45am-9.45am.

Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination

Our Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination for current Year 11 students interested in joining our sixth form will take place on Wednesday 7th November for Howell's students and on Thursday 8th November for external students 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.

A Christmas Carol

From Monday 12th until Thursday 15th November Howell's will present a new production of the Dickens Classic, *A Christmas Carol*, in the Great Hall. Tickets are now on sale and you can buy them from Mrs Thomas at Reception Office. The cost of the tickets on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings is £12 for adults and £6 for children. Tickets for Thursday evening's gala performance, which will include a glass of bubbly, cost £15 and there is no discount for children.

Wellies Walk Nursery Open Morning

On Thursday 15th November, Howell's School, Llandaff is holding a Wellies Walk themed Open Morning in the Nursery from 10.00am – 11.15am. The open morning will provide an excellent opportunity for little girls to explore the creative, stimulating and nurturing environment of the Howell's 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 know of anyone who would like to join us please email hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net or telephone 029 2026 1825.

Christmas Fair

This year, the Howell's Christmas Fair is on Friday 30th November from 2-5.30pm in our Sports Hall. It will be a wonderful, very busy shopping event, with around 40 individual stalls and Father Christmas on hand to take present requests. Do pop in if you can and start the festive season in Howell's style.

Carol Services

Llandaff Cathedral will once again provide the perfect setting for this year's Carol Services which will take place on Tuesday 11th December. More detailed information will be available after the half term break.

I hope that you all have a wonderful half term, whether at home or away, and I look forward to seeing everyone—including Mrs Davis—back at school on Monday 5th November.

Mrs Natalie Chyba, Deputy Principal