

A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No 189

Friday 30th November 2018

The Principal's Update

I am feeling particularly festive this week as Christmas has definitely arrived at Howell's, just in time for us to open the first doors of our advent calendars tomorrow. On Tuesday, our young leaders decorated the tree in the Stone Hall and they have certainly showed their artistic flair as it is looking beautiful; do come and have a look next time you are at school.

Wednesday was a particularly festive day: our Year 12 Young Enterprise teams, clad in Christmas hats, headed to IKEA to sell their products at the annual Christmas Market, where their entrepreneurial skills were evident. The Senior Choir braved torrential rain to lead the community carol singing at the switching on of the Christmas lights on Llandaff High Street, and Year 5 and 6 sang at the Tenovus Lovelight concert at St John's Church in the Hayes. As you receive this newsletter, our Christmas Fair is in full swing in the Sports Hall, Drama Room and Day Room. Parents, students, alumni, staff, governors and friends are having a great time browsing the stalls, tucking in to the delicious cakes at our Christmas Café and stopping off for a selfie with Santa. Many thanks to Mrs Eling, staff, students, parents and everyone who has made the day so special. Do visit our [Twitter](#) feed to see some photographs from the day and look out for a full write up in my update next week.



It was a pleasure to welcome colleagues, who joined our own teachers, from across the region to our inaugural Teachmeet event on Tuesday, which took place in the Sports Pavilion. The aim of the event was to share best practice, with a focus on developing MAT (More Able and Talented) provision for students. I was delighted that so many attended and am very grateful to Mrs Harrison-Hughes, Miss Hagerty and Mr Walters for all they did to make the evening such a success. You can read more about the Teachmeet by [clicking here](#).

A View From the Middle

I am delighted to share with you *A View from the Middle*, an evocative account of life at Howell's from a Senior School student's perspective, Alice B in Year 11. [Click here](#) to read the account.

Anti-Bullying Month

We have been promoting Anti-Bullying Month with a wide variety of activities taking place throughout Howell's. Thank you to Mrs Chyba who has made this hugely important initiative such a success. [Click here](#) for more information.

UKMT Senior Mathematical Team Challenge

After several weeks of intense preparation and feeling quietly confident, Ffion H, Chris L, Miriam R and Ruby R set off on Monday 26th November to take part in the UKMT Senior Mathematical Team Challenge at Cardiff University. [Click here](#) for more information.

Young Enterprise success at the Ikea Christmas Market

Christmas came early for the Young Enterprise teams at the IKEA Christmas market on Wednesday 28th November. [Click here](#) for more information.

RS Trip to the Lam Rim Buddhist Centre

Year 12 and 13 Religious Studies students enjoyed a visit to Lam Rim Buddhist Centre near Raglan on Monday. [Click here](#) for more information.

Visit from the Japan Society of the UK

On Friday 23rd November, volunteers from the Japan Society of the UK visited Howell's to run a session with Year 8Q to support their English Literature study of *Across the Nightingale Floor*, a novel set in medieval Japan. [Click here](#) for more information.

Llandaff Christmas Lights

On the evening of Wednesday 28th November, Howell's Senior Choir braved torrential rain to take part in the celebrations to switch on the Llandaff Christmas lights. [Click here](#) for more information.

Sporting Success

The weekend of 23rd – 25th was an incredible time for Sport at Howell's, so many congratulations to all our sporting stars.

Rowing

Howell's are Welsh schools' WJ16 indoor rowing champions, Lucy C, Katie G, Lottie S and Isabelle W. Talia G was crowned the Welsh WJ18 Indoor Rowing Champion. Isabelle W finished 3rd in the WJ16; Lottie S finished 4th in the WJ16; Caitlin E finished 4th in the WJ14; and Sophie D finished 7th in the WJ14.

Under 18 Hockey News

It was a week of mixed fortunes for the Under 18 Hockey squad. [Click here](#) for more information.

U16 Hockey Team crowned champions of Cardiff & The Vale of Glamorgan

The Under 16 Hockey Team were crowned champions of Cardiff & The Vale of Glamorgan on Tuesday 27th November following a thrilling three-way final with Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf and Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg at the National Hockey Centre. [Click here](#) for more information.

GDST U14 Hockey Tour

At the annual GDST U14 hockey tour in Bath, Howell's finished fourth out of sixteen teams. [Click here](#) for more information.

Gymnastics News

On Friday 23rd November, Howell's took part in the Cardiff and Vale Novice Qualifiers at the Sport Wales Centre. [Click here](#) for more information.

British Schools Ski Championships

On Sunday 18th of November, Lucy M (Year 8), Laura H (Year 8) and Ziraili U (Year 11) had the amazing opportunity to travel to Edinburgh to represent Howell's in the British Schools Ski Championships. [Click here](#) for more information.

Stem Career News

On Tuesday 27th November, we were delighted to welcome Mr Ben Thomas, Marketing Executive with ESTnet, to our Year 10 assembly so that he could present prizes to Ayesha C and Rhianne H. [Click here](#) for more information.

Year 11 Work Experience

All Year 11 students undertake two weeks of work experience Monday 8th – Friday 19th July 2019, after all the GCSE examinations have been completed. This allows students to experience the world of work and to develop new skills and other aspects of their work related learning. Further details about this and parental consent for the experience can be found by [clicking here](#). All replies should be received by Monday 3rd December 2018.

Diary Dates

Christmas Jumper Sale

Is your reindeer getting a little snug? Have you outgrown your jingle bells? A week today, on Thursday 6th December, 8-9am and 3-4pm, the Parent Pyramid will be holding a Christmas jumper second hand sale in the Hub, where you can donate your outgrown festive knits and pick up replacements for a small donation. Any donations of jumpers can be brought into school between now and next week, and left in the Main Office, or with Mrs Hatcher in the Prep School.

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. There will be two services, one at 1.45pm and another at 7.00pm, which will include performances from the Year 5 and 6 Choir (afternoon only), Prep Competition Choir (evening only), Senior Choir, College Choir, Youth Choir, Wind Ensemble and Senior Orchestra. The services will also incorporate readings from students, staff and governors. There are no tickets required so we recommend arriving early in order to get a good seat.

I hope you all have a very enjoyable weekend and look forward to seeing staff and students for another productive week starting on Monday.

Sally Davis, Principal

Reminder: On the last day of term, Wednesday 19th December, there will be no after school provision in the Library and Howell's will close at the earlier time of 2.00pm.