

A View FROM THE TOP



Friday 17th December 2021

The Principal's Update

Happy holidays! I really can't believe we have reached the end of an incredibly busy and productive Autumn Term. This final week has seen us fully immersed in all things festive and I'm sure that students and staff will be finishing the term ready to enjoy the holiday with their families.



Senior School students have all enjoyed special pizza and Christmas film events over the past week, many of which I was delighted to attend. It was lovely to hear so much chatter and laughter coming from the Great Hall.

Yesterday, photographers from Colorfoto set up their studio at Howell's to take the Year 11 formal photographs. The students looked extremely smart, and I very much look forward to seeing the photographs when they are returned to us in the coming weeks.

Yesterday, our amazing catering team served students and staff a delicious Christmas lunch of turkey and all the trimmings followed by Christmas pudding and mince pies. Thank you so much to Mrs Price and her team. They really are wonderful.

This morning, Mrs Chyba thoroughly enjoyed hosting our final assembly on Zoom, during which we were joined by the whole school from Nursery through to the Co-Ed College. This jam-packed occasion included fantastic festive virtual performances from students. One of the highlights had to be the uplifting performance from the staff band who gave us rousing renditions of Run, Run Rudolph and Merry Christmas. I really do hope the entire school is able to come together in person again soon.

Today, we have loved seeing the fabulous selection of Christmas jumpers on display to raise funds for City Hospice, a charity that provides medical, nursing and end of life care to patients with life-limiting illnesses, and support to their families. Thank you to everyone who supported this special Christmas Jumper Day.

We hope to open the school as planned on 6th January as planned but I will be in contact with you before school starts to confirm this. I will also confirm the revised protocols that we may have in place depending on the situation with Covid and the advice from Welsh Government.

Year 7 Library Lessons

Mrs Wilks has thoroughly enjoyed her time with Year 7 in Library lessons this term and particularly the fun of last week's Christmas Hot Chocolate fuelled winter quiz. [Click here](#) for more information.

Sophie raises £475 for LATCH

Many congratulations to Year 11's Sophie S who has raised a terrific £475 for LATCH. [Click here](#) for more information.

Debating News

Many congratulations to Year 11's Connie C who has been selected to be a member of Team Wales Debating. This is a tremendous achievement, well done, Connie!

Very well done to the Senior School students who took part in the recent south west regional round of the Cambridge Debating Competition. Yabesra and Aarushi are only in Year 9 and in the first round they came second. Ana and Abi in Year 10 are relatively new to debating and they won one of their rounds. Connie and Nayana are seasoned debaters despite being only in Year 11 and won two rounds and came second in the third round. They finished third overall and are waiting to hear if they have been invited to the finals in Cambridge in April. Congratulations all!

Lisvane Advent Window in Aid of LATCH

In Lisvane during advent there is a wonderful Advent Window Trail for family and friends to explore. All you need to do is follow the stars around Lisvane to find the decorated windows telling you the story of Christmas. The trail, organised by Bec and Paul Pugh, raises funds for Welsh Children's Charity, LATCH. [Click here](#) for more information.

Holiday Reading Challenge

Students are invited to take part in the Holiday Reading Challenge. Complete all four tasks to be put into the raffle for a January Prize. Completed sheets should be handed to your English teacher by Wednesday 12th January. [Click here](#) for full details.

GDST Creative Writing Competition!

Students can draft, craft and create their own 1000 word stories on the theme of 'Bouncing Back', over the holidays. [Click here](#) for more information.

The Smallpeice Trust

The Smallpeice Trust has launched its programme of engineering courses for students in Years 8 to 12, giving an insight into life as an engineer in every area, from Aerospace to Sustainable Housing. [Click here](#) for more information.

Arkwright Engineering Scholarship

An Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is the most esteemed scholarship of its type in the UK, designed to inspire students to pursue their dreams and change the world as a future leader in engineering. [Click here](#) for more information.

I really hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas holiday and I look forward to welcoming students and staff back to Howell's in the New Year.

Sally Davis, Principal