

A View FROM THE TOP



Friday 10th December 2021

The Principal's Update

This week has been an extremely special one at Howell's. On Monday, a group of dancers had a fantastic day at Base Dance Studios in London for the GDST Day of Dance, learning choreography and dancing with 150 girls from across the 25 GDST schools.

On Tuesday, we returned to Llandaff Cathedral, for the first time in two years, for our services of nine lessons and carols. There is nothing in the calendar that makes me feel quite so Christmassy as our annual carol services. Prior to the afternoon service, I was delighted to host a festive sandwich lunch for a group of alumnae who we then transported to the Cathedral for this very special service. It was a real treat to welcome them back to Howell's, many of whom have not visited us for more than two years. Meeting our alumnae and hearing stories of their time in school is a real privilege and I look forward to welcoming them back soon.



This week, the Leadership Team and I have continued to hold interviews for students who wish to join us in the College next September. It is absolutely one of my favourite jobs as Principal to meet these young people, hear about their interests and passions and find out what makes them tick. I look forward to seeing many of them in Year 12 next year, and to watching them follow their dreams.

Today my Senior School Assembly focussed on human rights, as we have celebrated international Human Rights Day. On 10th December in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), a document which proclaims the rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. This is something we are proud to support and promote at Howell's.

Online Safety News

We have been alerted to a video game by safeguarding company Ineque, being described by some users as an "introduction to horror." Videos, versions of the game, and associated material are becoming increasingly popular on YouTube, Roblox, and other platforms used by young children.

Poppy Playtime features frightening images and themes that are paired with child-friendly items. This may be especially upsetting to children who have not yet developed the resilience to deal with disturbing content.

To help parents, carers, and safeguarding professionals better understand these issues, Ineque have taken a deeper look at Poppy Playtime and the wider genre it belongs to, a helpful briefing guide can be found on Firefly by [clicking here](#).

Onsite Parking

I would like to remind parents that parking, dropping off or collecting students is not permitted in the area next to and behind the Great Hall, this area is for school bus use only.

Year 11 RS students enjoy a virtual lesson with Jane our Jewish speaker

On 29th November, Year 11 RS students enjoyed a virtual lesson with Jane our Jewish speaker. [Click here](#) for more information.

Audrey wins Fairtrade Quiz

Many congratulations to Audrey in Year 9 and Verity in Year 7 for winning chocolate in the Fairtrade quiz. Quizzes and information on Fairtrade can be found by [clicking here](#).

Brilliant Ballet Results

Many congratulations to all the Prep and Senior School students who recently passed their ballet examinations. [Click here](#) for more information.

Dance Challenge UK Competition

Very well done to the Senior School and College students who did fantastically at the recent Dance Challenge UK Competition in Blackpool. [Click here](#) for more information.

Celebration Tea – Monday 6th December

On Monday 6th December, Mrs Chyba thoroughly enjoyed hosting two Celebration Teas for Senior School and College students. [Click here](#) for more information.

Bromley High Medicine Insight Event

The Bromley High 'Medicine Insight Event' will take place virtually on Tuesday 14th December for students and parents in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. The event will start at 19.00 and finish at 20.30. [Click here](#) for more information.

InvestIn Advent Calendar

InvestIn offer their festive insight into industry with their Advent Calendar. [Click here](#) to find out more.

The Smallpeice Trust Engineering Courses

In 2022, the Smallpeice Trust are offering a mixture of residential, in-person and online courses. Our courses all include hands-on activities and working in teams with like-minded young people to understand the real-life impact engineers make. [Click here](#) for more information.

Next week is the final week of term. I am looking forward to joining Senior School students for Christmas Lunch on Thursday. On Friday, a reminder that there will be no after school provision. We will be closing down at 1.30pm. Don't forget to remind your daughter to wear her Christmas jumper.

Sally Davis, Principal