

A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No 231

Friday 17th January 2020

The Principal's Update

As we reach the end of the first full week of the Spring term, students in Years 11 and 13 can breathe a sigh of relief as all their mock examinations have come to an end. I am sure that they are looking forward to getting back to their usual timetables on Monday.

Last Saturday, rehearsals for our inaugural dance show began in earnest and I am very much looking forward to seeing the fruits of their hard work on Thursday 30th January. Full details can be found at the end of this update.



This week has seen Year 9 students looking to the future as they begin to make their GCSE option choices. I enjoyed speaking to the girls on Thursday about the pathways that are open to them, and it was wonderful to hear from them about the plans that they have for the future. They now have two weeks to think about their plans for Year 10, and their teachers are all available to answer any questions they may have about the next exciting stage of their time at Howell's.

Rotary Young Musician Competition

We were proud that two of our talented musicians took part in the recent Rotary Young Musician Competition. [Click here](#) for more information.

Ballroom Success for Tilly

On Friday 3rd January 2020, Tilly T, Year 10, competed at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool and came 6th in the United Kingdom in the under 25 age category. [Click here](#) for more information.

Christmas Creative Writing Challenge

8L had great fun with their Christmas Creative Writing Challenge: a 200 word flash fiction piece with the title 'A Weird Christmas.' [Click here](#) for more information.

Weekend in Monaco

Last weekend, Year 9's Ellie C was picked to take part in the Monaco Optimist Team Race, an event hosted by Monaco yacht club over four days. [Click here](#) for more information.

Rotary Youth Speaks

Congratulations to our Year 8 and our Year 9 public speaking teams, who competed in the Rotary Youth Speaks competition this Tuesday at Llanishen High School. [Click here](#) for more information.

GCHQ returns for the Spring Term

Our fortnightly series of GCHQ (Girls Contemplating Hard Questions) talks, will recommence at 2pm on Tuesday 28th January. The Spring term features discussions about the benefits and challenges of multilingualism, differences in education systems across the world, how we know what we think we know, and the gender data-gap. These talks are open to all students from Years 8-11.

Educating Girls – Approaches That Help Girls Thrive

The GDST's online course "Educating Girls: Teaching Approaches to Helping Girls Thrive" begins again on Monday 20th January. Aimed at teachers from across the world, the course shares the GDST's own research and insights into classroom techniques that support girls' academic success in school and future success in the workplace. Parents may also sign up through the FutureLearn website to get an insight into the ethos of GDST schools in tailoring education to create an environment where girls learn without limits. Mrs Harrison-Hughes is a course mentor and will be happy to answer any questions from parents interested in knowing more.

Howell's Enjoys Reaching Out

On Tuesday 21st January we will be welcoming Dr Knowles to give our first Howell's Lecture of the Spring term: "A marriage made in heaven or uneasy bedfellows: the relationship between art and literature in 19th and 20th century culture". Academic scholars from our Co-ed college enjoy the range of lectures offered through this programme which are also open to Year 11 students and the wider Howell's community. The Spring term programme also includes "Working with schools in Southern India" (11th February), "Celtic Connections: Exploring Welsh and Breton" (3rd March) and "Time flies when you're having fun and in areas of low gravitational field strength: An introduction to Einstein's theories of relativity (24th March)".

Diary Dates

Co-Ed College Taster Evening

Our second Co-Ed College Open Evening of the academic year will take place on Thursday 23rd January from 4pm until 6.30pm. It will be an action packed evening providing prospective students the opportunity to attend taster lessons. Parents can attend information sessions, during which they can find out more about College life and the opportunities it brings. To book a place and for more information please email admissions@how.gdst.net or telephone 02920 261832. Please do pass on the information to anyone you think might be interested in coming along.

Year 7 Entrance Examination

Our Year 7 Entrance Examination will take place on Friday 24th January. For more information or to register please contact our Admissions Officer, Chrissie Hall-Davis, at admissions@how.gdst.net. If you know of anyone who may be interested in sitting the examination, please do pass on the information.

Fusion Dance Show

On Thursday 30th January at 6pm, Howell's will present its first dance show, Dance Fusion, in The Warehouse venue on Trade Street, Cardiff, CF10 5DT. Involving over 60 Senior School students, the evening will showcase a wide variety of dance styles. Tickets, costing £10 for adults (which includes a glass of bubbly in the interval), and £5 for school children (which includes a soft drink), are now available from Senior School Reception. At the event, doors will be open from 5.30pm and the café will be open if you wish to buy refreshments before the show.

Whole School Open Morning

We will hold our next Open Morning for our Nursery, Prep School and Senior School on Tuesday 25th February from 9am-11am, so why not come and see for yourself what goes on during a morning at Howell's? Call 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.

Diary Dates

Save the Date: Spring Concert

This year's Spring Concert takes place on Thursday 26th March at 6pm. It promises to be a very special musical evening, culminating in a performance of Faure's beautiful *Requiem*. The following groups will be taking part: all Year 7 students, Senior Orchestra, Senior Choir, College Choir, Flute Group, Senior Jazz and the Performing Arts Group. Please do keep the date free; further information regarding tickets will be available in February.

I hope you all enjoy the bright winter days that are forecast for this weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday for another productive week.

Sally Davis, Principal