

A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No 236

Friday 28th February 2020

The Principal's Update

It has been lovely to see a glimpse of sunshine this week, when we returned following the half term holiday. I hope everyone had a wonderful break. The second half of the Spring Term has started with Climate Week and Fairtrade Fortnight and it has been pleasing to see awareness raised about these two hugely important issues. Highlights of the week have been the amazing selection of cakes that were on display at our Fairtrade baking competition on Wednesday, which raised a fantastic £106. What talented students we have at Howell's! Many thanks to all those enthusiastic students and staff who took part in our drop-off walk/cycle to school event which took place today; it was a sterling effort by all involved.

Eisteddfod fever has hit Howell's in style this week. Full of song and celebration, and with all the students livening up the building in their House colours, it really is one of my favourite days of the school year, showcasing the many and varied talents of our students, and this year they did not disappoint. Following a morning of friendly competition, the day concluded with the fiercely competitive House Choir Competition. I loved hearing the different interpretations of the Elton John hit *I'm Still Standing*. The winner of the House Choir Competition was Baldwin and the overall winner of the Eisteddfod was also Baldwin. An enormous thank you to Mrs Reed, the House Captains and all students and staff who worked so hard to make the day such a wonderful celebration.



The hail storms didn't deter families from joining us for our Open Morning on Tuesday, which saw Howell's bustling with visitors to the Nursery, Prep School and Senior School. Our guests enjoyed tours with our exceptional and enthusiastic tour guides in Years 5 and 8. They then returned to the Hub @ Howell's where they met with staff over a tea or coffee to find out more about what an education at Howell's can offer. Thank you to Mrs Hall-Davis and everyone who made the morning such a success.

Last night the Year 10 Parents' Meeting took place and it was great to hear about the progress the students are making as they approach their GCSE year.

Unravelling the Universe

On Tuesday 25th February we were delighted to welcome three PhD students from Cardiff University to present our latest Howell's Lecture to students from Years 11-13. [Click here](#) for more information.

Alpine Ski Championships

At the end of January, Year 9's Lucy M, headed to Champéry, Switzerland for the Welsh Alpine Ski Championships. [Click here](#) for more information.

Welsh Volleyball

Many congratulations to Year 10's Sofia M R who is a member of the Welsh Volleyball U18 squad. [Click here](#) for more information.

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Tilly's British Championship Crown

Congratulations to Tilly T, Year 10, who was crowned British Champion for the under 16 Jive at the All England Open Championships 2020 dance competition earlier this month. [Click here](#) for more information.

Celebration Tea

On Monday I was delighted to welcome a group of College and Senior School students to my office for a Celebration Tea. [Click here](#) to find out what we celebrated.

Eco School Bag-2-School Collection

Just to remind you that there is a charity Bag-2-School clothing and textiles collection next Wednesday, 4th March. For Senior School and College, bags are available from form tutors. Donations of all sizes are warmly welcomed. The bag drop-off point is at the bandstand in the main car park.

Mali to appear on *Blue Peter*

I was delighted to hear that Year 7's Mali J will be appearing on *Blue Peter* on Thursday 19th March as part of the press launch for the BBC's forthcoming production of *The Snow Spider*, in which she is starring.

Careers News

Week beginning Monday 2nd March is National Careers Week. The Careers Department will be carrying out an e-campaign updating students on job roles, opportunities, apprenticeships etc. Please ensure that your daughter checks her emails regularly.

Year 11 are reminded that their HSLWEXFORM2 must be returned to Mrs House from their prospective work experience employer by 20th April which is the first day of the summer term. Guidance appointments are available on Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes by booking in at the Library or emailing Mrs House.

Diary Dates

Second Hand Uniform Sale – Tuesday 3rd March

The next second hand uniform sale will take place on Tuesday 3rd March in the Hub from 8-9am and 3-5pm. Prices will be between £1 and £5, cash only, no cheques. All funds raised go to the Bursary Fund.

Donations of current uniform are very welcome, and can be left with Mrs Hatcher in the Prep School or brought to the main reception in the Senior School.

Mothers' Day Breakfast

On Friday 20th March, we will be holding our annual Mothers' Day Breakfast at 8-9am. We would love to see as many students as possible bringing their mums, grandmas and female carers along to start the day with a delicious breakfast.

Spring Concert Tickets On Sale!

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. Tickets (£10 for adults and free for under 18s) are on sale from the Senior School reception and include a drink in the interval. Please note that on this occasion the seating is unreserved.

Have a fantastic weekend and I look forward to seeing staff and students on Monday.

Sally Davis, Principal