

A View FROM THE TOP



Friday 26th March 2021

The Principal's Update

During this last week of the Spring Term, I have been taking time to reflect, not only on this term but on this extraordinary year during which so much has changed. I am so very proud of and grateful to all our students, staff and community who have been so resilient and adaptable. I would also like to thank you, our parents, for your support during what has been the most challenging year of my entire career. One year on from the first national lockdown, the entire Howell's community took part in the national Day of Reflection on Tuesday. Students and staff observed the one-minute silence at 12pm and in the evening the school building was lit in yellow to remember all those who have been affected in any way by the pandemic. [Click here](#) for more information.



It has been fabulous to have so many of our students back in school over the last few weeks and we are anticipating the full return of all students after Easter. As part of the Reconnect activities, all girls in the Senior School added their own leaves to a Gratitude Tree. The Howell's community has much to be grateful for and while the world stayed apart, I do feel we have stayed connected. For those of you who didn't watch the short film that illustrates the Gratitude Tree please click [here](#). Assembly this morning gave me the opportunity to express my gratitude to members of staff including Mrs Darnton, who I was delighted to present with a very special award from the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan. The award was in recognition of her exceptional service and outstanding performance of duties to the community during these uncertain COVID-19 times.

Make this a better world!

I stand with Cheryl Giovannoni, Chief Executive of the GDST, in her pledge to help make this a better world for our young people. [Click here](#) for more information.

Howell's Achieves Fourth Healthy Schools' Leaf

We are thrilled to have achieved our fourth Healthy Schools' leaf this week. [Click here](#) for more information.

TAP Talk with Heather Fell

On the evening of Wednesday 24th March, we were delighted to welcome Olympic modern pentathlon silver medal winner Heather Fell to give our second TAP (Talented Athletes Programme) Talk on Microsoft Teams. [Click here](#) for more information.

Softball Sessions

As part of our Reconnect sessions back in school, students have been taking part in softball activities with Coach Holly from RBI Wales. [Click here](#) for more information.

Letters of Kindness

Inspired by the Gratitude Tree, Creative Crunch this week invited everyone to write a 'Letter of Kindness' inspired by the Children's Laureate Eloise Williams. [Click here](#) to read Yabesra's lovely letter.

Year 9 Show Racism the Red Card

Year 9 have been working on a creative competition designing and making a piece of clothing to promote anti-racism after studying Show Racism the Red Card in Religious Studies. [Click here](#) for more information.

Life on the Ocean Wave for a Hywelian's Return to Howell's

On the morning of Tuesday 23rd March, we were privileged to be joined by alumna Lieutenant Fran Howes, Commanding Officer on HMS Blazer, to talk to students about her career in the Royal Navy. [Click here](#) for more information.

Year 8 Impress at Careers' Day Challenge

Year 8 showed tremendous creativity and enthusiasm in the Careers' Day Business Challenge on Friday 19th March on Microsoft Teams. [Click here](#) for more information.

Live Oxbridge Admissions Q&A Sessions aimed at Year 12 students (Year 11 and parents also welcome)

Registration link: https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cSFWJKzC1H9E3Eq

Date: 17:00-18:30, 7 April, 5 May, 2 June, 16 June

Registration deadline: 36 hours before each event

Each of these sessions will give attendees the opportunity to ask questions (via the Zoom chat function) to Admissions staff. The sessions will be delivered by Mr Richard Partington, the Senior Tutor and Dr Jonathan Padley, Admissions Tutor or another member of the Admissions Team.

Students may wish to attend one session or more than one session: either is fine. The target audience is Year 12 students, but Year 11 students may also be interested in attending. Teachers and parents are also welcome.

The Easter Careers Hunt

We are delighted to share with you The Easter Careers Hunt, a bespoke quiz created by InvestIN to help students determine their ideal career type. Once completed, students will be given a host of exclusive career-coaching content based on their results. [Click here](#) for more information.

Law and Criminology

Swansea University is running a two-day showcase event for students considering a career in the Law or Criminology. [Click here](#) for full details and to book.

GDST Talks

The GDST Talks series continued this week with Dr Sinéad Devine-French on The Psychology of Sleep. You may be interested in accessing a recording of the talk available [here](#). This will be available to GDST parents until 24th June.

Forthcoming GDST Talks Events

The next GDST Talks event takes place on Thursday 29th April and will be on the topic of Helping Your Daughter to Navigate Friendships with speaker Andrew Hampton, founder and CEO of award-winning initiative Girls on Board. This event is suitable for parents with children in Year 3 to 13. To book your place, please click [here](#).

Nutritional therapist Marissa Carrarini returns on Thursday 13th May as part of our Healthy Eating series. This event is suitable for parents of and students in Years 7-11. To book your place, please click [here](#).

If you would like to find out more about the GDST Talks events, there is information [here](#).

We would also welcome [your feedback](#) on the topics you'd be interested in seeing covered by future GDST Talks.

Wishing you a lovely Easter holiday and I look forward to welcoming students and staff back to Howell's on Monday 12th April.

Sally Davis, Principal