

# A View FROM THE TOP



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## The Principal's Update

A very warm welcome back after the half term holiday. I really do hope you all had a fantastic time and were able to make the most of wonderful weather. I also hope that all students who have been sitting assessments this week had the chance to balance revision with spending time outside in the fresh air.

It has been unusually quiet in the corridors this week while students in Years 7-10 have been sitting their summer assessments. I have been enormously proud of how students have handled this week; they have worked so very hard which I am sure will be rewarded.



When your daughter completes her assessments, please note that she will be expected to return to wearing the normal school uniform. If your daughter has PE, a match after school or a sports club to attend, she can, however, wear PE kit that day. This includes skorts or leggings. As you are aware, we are not currently able to provide changing facilities but hope to do so in the near future.

### Senior School Zoom Meetings

I will be holding the following Zoom meetings for parents and students to discuss plans going forward for each year group at Howell's:

- Year 7 - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 5.00pm
- Year 8 - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 5.30pm
- Year 9 - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 5.00pm
- Year 10 - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 5.30pm

Joining details will be sent by email nearer the time.

### Last Day of Term

Just a reminder that our term ends on Thursday 8th July. Students in the Senior School may leave/be collected at 1.30pm. There will be no after school care on this day. Buses will still be running on this day.

### Diversity Week

In the run up to School Diversity Week 2021 which takes place during the week commencing Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June, we were delighted to be mentioned in the national e-letter from Just Like Us. School Diversity Week is Just Like Us' annual celebration of LGBT+ equality in education, celebrated by thousands of primary schools, secondary schools and colleges across the UK during Pride Month. At Howell's we have lots of activities planned during the week including running LGBT+ assemblies with the support of Just Like Us ambassadors.

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### **Tennis Triumph for Elizabeth**

We were delighted to hear that Year 8's Elizabeth E achieved great success on the tennis court at the end of last week. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Success at the GDST Laurie Magnus Poetry Prize**

We were delighted that Howell's students have done extremely well in this year's Laurie Magnus Poetry Award with Year 9's Shifa S winning the Year 7-9 category with her poem, *A Dragon, A Girl and a Knight*. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Virtual Summer Concert**

The following music groups will be performing in this year's summer concert:

- Years 7-10 Choir
- Years 7-10 String Orchestra
- Years 7-10 Wind Orchestra
- Youth Jazz
- Flute Group

If your daughter plays in one of these groups, please ensure she has a plain black top (no strappy, cropped tops or hoodies), blue jeans (no rips) or black leggings/trousers. Trainers/daps are fine for footwear. Filming will take place in the Great Hall on 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June (days/timings will be emailed to the students).

### **Senior School Open Evening**

We are delighted to be holding a Senior School Open Evening on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 4pm – 6pm. Prospective families can book a tour, meet staff members and find out what makes a Howell's education so special. Please email [Chrissie.hall-davis@how.gdst.net](mailto:Chrissie.hall-davis@how.gdst.net) to book a place.

### **GDST Talks**

A GDST Talk with Lorraine Candy on *School's Out: Helping Your Teen Daughter Navigate Post-Covid Freedom This Summer* will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm on Zoom. This event is suitable for parents with children in Years 6-13. To book your place please click [here](#).

### **Remembering Martha**

Many of you will know who Martha Pugh was, but families who have only recently joined us at Howell's may never have heard her name. Martha arrived at Howell's when she was three years old, skipping into the playground, brown curls bouncing. In January 2017 Howell's lost one of its brightest stars when Martha died just after her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday, after six years of treatment for cancer. Martha will remain forever a Howell's girl, and her parents Bec and Paul, as well as her baby sister Maud, remain very involved with the school.

In assemblies next week, Martha's friends, who are now in Year 12, will be talking to students from Nursery to Year 12 about their friend Martha and why remembering her is so important to them. Martha's mum, Bec, will also be joining us to talk to the students. The Martha Bursary Award was set up in Martha's memory to ensure that a student whose family are unable to pay the schools fees can benefit from an education at the school that Martha loved so much. Martha was someone who saw the best in everyone and the fun in everything, a quality we celebrate at Howell's.

In previous years, we have held a black-tie Champions' Dinner to raise funds for the Martha Bursary Award, and students have climbed Pen-y-Fan in her memory. With current restrictions, we have been unable to do either of these events, however this term, in Martha's memory, we will be holding the following events:

- Disney Dress Up and Activity Day in the Prep School—Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June

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- Walking the equivalent height of Pen-y-Fan around the school grounds, Nursery to Year 12— Friday 25th June
  - A cupcake sale to raise money for LATCH, the Welsh Children's Cancer Charity—Thursday 24th and Friday 25th June

Parents are invited to make a donation to the Martha Bursary Award. Information on how make a donation will be shared in the newsletter next week.

A date for your diaries, next term we will be holding a Champions' Dinner to raise money for the Martha Bursary Award on 19th November 2021 with Top Gear presenter Chris Harris. Tickets will go on sale in September.

Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone next week which marks the end of assessments.

**Sally Davis, Principal**