

A View FROM THE TOP

Issue No 177

Friday 6th July 2018



The Principal's Update

The penultimate week of the 2017-2018 term has been an extremely busy and enjoyable one. Year 11 students have been dipping their toes into the world of work as their work experience fortnight started on Monday, which I hope they are finding beneficial.

On Wednesday, the Sports Hall was transformed into a spectacular concert hall for this year's Summer Concert. It really was an extraordinary evening of music making, made even more poignant as it was Mrs Phillips' final concert in Howell's before she retires at the end of this term. There were sensational performances from soloists, ensembles, choirs and orchestras and it was a very fitting way to say goodbye to this truly inspirational teacher. I don't think there was a dry eye in the house when, much to Mrs Phillips' surprise, over 60 alumni she had taught during her 27 years at Howell's joined in the final number, *Music is my First Love*. Thank you for the music, Mrs Phillips!



The sensational sporting successes of our Senior School girls was celebrated at a special assembly on Thursday morning. Many congratulations to all our students on their amazing achievements and thank you to Mrs Crawford and the Sport department for their tireless hard work and commitment. Look out for more information in my update next week.

Thursday afternoon was particularly poignant, as we officially opened Martha's Place, a courtyard in the heart of the school, which is a lovely space for students and staff to sit, reflect and chat. Under the expert guidance of Mrs Eddy, Martha's family, friends and teachers have created individual tiles, reflecting special memories of this courageous girl and are placed in the heart of the courtyard. A beautiful book of tiles has been produced and can be purchased for £15 so if you would like to buy a copy please email hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net. Later that evening the second Champions' Dinner in aid of the Martha Bursary Award took place in the Great Hall. This year we celebrated champions of television drama and our special guests were stars of the BBC's flagship medical drama, *Casualty*. Amanda Mealing (Connie), Derek Thompson (Charlie), and Cathy Shipton (Duffy) regaled guests with stories about their time working on this hugely popular show. A full write up about both these events will be included in my update next week.

This morning we celebrated Founders' Day with a special assembly for the whole school, College and invited guests. During Assembly, we celebrated the ways we have, over the last school year, built on the foundations laid by Thomas Howell more than 500 years ago, when he left provision in his will for the benefit of orphan maidens. Following assembly everyone enjoyed a lovely selection of treats during the Thomas Howell Break. Look out for more information in next week's update.



HOWELL'S SCHOOL

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European Youth Parliament Summer Session

Year 12 students Restam E-A, Hanya E, Ellie K, Caitlin M-C, Ffion M, Anoushka N, Rachel S and Natasha S travelled to Liverpool Hope University to take part in the European Youth Parliament Summer Session from Thursday 28th June until Sunday 1st July. [Click here](#) for more information.

Battlefields 2018

Early on Friday 29th June, thirty-two Year 10 Historians set off for Belgium and France on a tour of the First World War battlefields. [Click here](#) for more information.

A Visit to the Cardiff Gurdwara

Year 7 enjoyed a visit to the Cardiff Gurdwara on Friday 29th June. [Click here](#) for more information.

College News

Congratulations to: Molly H for winning a prestigious German competition; Louise S for winning an elite fencing competition last week; Caitlin M-C and Ffion M for being invited back to participate again in the next meeting of the European Youth Parliament. Well done everyone!

Many thanks to the stalwart members of Year 12 Rotary Interact who successfully sold cakes and cookies after the Cycle Challenge. Well done Freya, Anesha and Meg! They kept their cakes dry through the showers and kept their cool when the sun came out, raising money for local charities.

GDST Rounders Tournament

Nine girls from Year 10 and 12 travelled to Queenswood for the annual GDST Rounders Tournament on Wednesday 27th June. [Click here](#) for more information.

GDST Tennis Tournament

It was an early start to the day on Wednesday 27th June, with the U18 tennis team leaving Cardiff at 6am to get to Queenswood School (Hertfordshire) for the annual GDST Tennis Tournament. [Click here](#) for more information.

Physics Success

Congratulations to Connie in Year 7 and Larisa in Year 10 who are each being awarded, for their enthusiasm in Physics, the School Physicist of the Year 2018. The award is run by Cardiff University and The Ogden Trust, they will be invited to attend this year's ceremony at Cardiff University.

Hywelian Summer Lunch

It was a pleasure to welcome a record number of Hywelians to their annual Summer Lunch on Saturday 30th June, which took place in the beautiful restored Great Hall. [Click here](#) for more information.

Champagne Cycle Challenge and Summer Fair

The summer showers couldn't dampen the spirits on Sunday 1st July when over 100 students, parents, alumni, staff and friends donned their Lycra and got on their bikes for this year's Castle Cavalcade Champagne Cycle Challenge. [Click here](#) for more information.

Parent Blog

This week's Parent Blog is available by [clicking here](#).



Royal Society Young People's Book Prize Judging Panel

We are delighted to announce that Howell's has been chosen by the Royal Society to be part of a prestigious national panel of judges to select this year's Royal Society Young People's Book Prize Award. [Click here](#) to learn more about the amazing work the Royal Society does. [Click here](#) to find out the titles of the shortlisted books.

Rocket Car Experience

Do something different with the family during the summer holiday – enjoy a rocket car experience at the BLOODHOUND Technical Centre in Avonmouth, near Bristol. Hear all about the Project, and then children can design, build and race their own rocket car at up to 50mph. You will also see the real BLOODHOUND Car. [Click here](#) for more information.

Diary Dates

Please note that next week will be Week B.

John Lewis Fitting Event

There is a John Lewis fitting event taking place at their store in Cardiff at 3pm-6pm on Wednesday 15th August. Staff from both John Lewis and Howell's will be on hand to help. If you would like to book a school uniform fitting please call John Lewis on 02920 536088.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing students and staff on Monday for the last week of term before the summer holiday.

Sally Davis, Principal

