

# A View FROM THE TOP



Issue No 186

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018

## The Principal's Update

Welcome back. I hope you all had a wonderful time over the half term holiday, whether you jetted off on holiday or enjoyed the crisp autumn days in Wales. It is great to be back at school after my Chinese fact-finding tour with Mrs Yilmaz. On our trip we started to develop links with other educational establishments and learned about the education system in China. I would like to say an enormous thank you to Mrs Chyba and the Leadership Team who ran the school so well while I was away.

The rehearsals for *A Christmas Carol* are in full swing today and the production is coming together brilliantly. The cast will all be in school again on Sunday for a final run-through, and I am incredibly proud of all of them for how hard they have all been working. Audiences next week are in for a real treat when Christmas comes to Howell's slightly earlier than normal. They will be playing to a full house each night, so please do pass on any tickets that you are no longer able to use, as there is a waiting list for every performance.



Tuesday morning saw the coffee machine in the Hub working flat out as it was the venue for both a Parent Pyramid drop in and the Hywelians in the Hub Coffee Morning. Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Parent Pyramid drop in; it was wonderful that so many new parents attended. Some fantastic event and fundraising ideas were shared and we were enormously grateful to everyone who has offered to help at the Christmas Fair. Hot on the heels of the Parent Pyramid, a group of Hywelians joined us for the first Hywelians in the Hub drop in coffee morning of the academic year. It was a lovely morning during which our alumni enjoyed refreshments while finding out the latest news from Howell's and catching up with friends in a friendly and informal environment. Alumni relations is something we do well and our thriving events programme indicates that even after leaving school, everyone remains part of the Howell's family.

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings we welcomed Year 11 students, both from Howell's and from local schools, to sit the Co-Ed College Scholarship Examination. Many thanks to everyone who supported these important evenings.

This morning, we held our Remembrance Service and two minute silence, which took place in the Stone Hall at 10.45am. During the service our head students commemorated Hywelians who lost their lives in the first and second world wars. It was a very moving occasion attended by students, staff and friends.

### Welsh Schools Pistol Championships

The Welsh Schools Pistol Championships were held on Thursday 1st November in Ffairfach, Carmarthenshire, and three girls from Howell's competed in the junior age category which is for students in Year 6-8: Amber P, Abi S and Alberta G. [Click here](#) for more information.

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### **National Dance Company Wales**

On Tuesday 6th November, a selection of our dancers visited the Dance House at the Wales Millennium Centre to watch the National Dance Company Wales dancers perform in their Autumn Tour, Roots. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **College and Staff Charity Netball**

On Wednesday 7th November, the College Rotary Interact Committee organised our annual College and Staff Charity Netball match in aid of Alalay, a charity we have been involved with for a number of years which supports an orphanage in Bolivia. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Celebration Tea**

Howell's Senior School and College students had much to celebrate on Monday when Mrs Chyba welcomed two groups of girls to Celebration Teas. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Good Luck**

Good luck to all the Howell's students who are involved in The Cardiff Gang Show 'The 4G Race' which is taking place at the New Theatre, Cardiff next week. Have a great time all of you.

### **Parent Blog**

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

#### **Amarah to conquer Scafell Pike**

On Saturday, 10th November, Amarah M (Year 11) is doing a challenge in memory of her brother Owess, who died tragically in a car accident in September. While I don't normally share requests for charities with the Howell's community I do feel this is an exceptional case and I hope you will agree. This is what Amarah says about her brother:

"He was a true humanitarian who devoted his life to serving those in need. His tireless efforts inspired both young and old alike.

Owess wasn't just my older brother. He was my source of inspiration and a phenomenal role model. He was someone I could always rely on for help and advice. Someone who constantly reminded me to be a better version of myself and encouraged me to help those around me to the best of my ability.

He always faced and overcame new and exciting challenges, going head-first into them without any hesitation.

Now I want to do the same whilst upholding his legacy.

My very first challenge is to conquer the highest mountain in England; Scafell Pike raising money for charity. The funds raised from this challenge will go towards a water project that will install a borehole well in Somalia and provide clean, safe drinking water to 3000 people.

If you would like to donate please [click here](#). Money can be donated after Saturday as well.

Thank you for all your support."

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## Diary Dates

### Wellies Walk Time Nursery Open Morning

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November, Howell's School, Llandaff is holding a Wellies Walk themed Open Morning in the Nursery from 10.00am – 11.15am. The open morning will provide an excellent opportunity for little girls to explore the creative, stimulating and nurturing environment of the Howell's Nursery, where we plant the seeds of curiosity, nourish them with experience and care and watch as our girls grow in confidence, compassion and knowledge. If you know of anyone who would like to join us please email [hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net](mailto:hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net) or telephone 029 2026 1825.

### Oxbridge Interview Workshop

This year's Oxbridge Interview Workshop for Co-Ed College students will be held on Monday 19th November in the Dining Room from 4pm-6pm. This year's workshop will follow a similar format to that of previous years, Dr Matthew Williams (Oxford) will be giving an overview of the admissions process then students will work in subject-themed groups on some practice interview questions. If students are interested please contact Mrs Harrison-Hughes by emailing [Hannah.Hughes@how.gdst.net](mailto:Hannah.Hughes@how.gdst.net).

### Christmas Fair

This year, the Howell's Christmas Fair is on Friday 30th November from 2-5.30pm in our Sports Hall. It will be a wonderful, very busy shopping event, with around 40 individual stalls and Father Christmas on hand to take present requests. Do pop in if you can and start the festive season in Howell's style.

### Carol Services

Llandaff Cathedral will once again provide the perfect setting for this year's Carol Services which will take place on Tuesday 11th December. There will be two services, one at 1.45pm and another at 7.00pm, which will include performances from the Year 5 and 6 Choir (afternoon only), Prep Competition Choir (evening only), Senior Choir, College Choir, Youth Choir, Wind Ensemble and Senior Orchestra. The services will also incorporate readings from students, staff and governors. There are no tickets required so we recommend arriving early in order to get a good seat.

### STOP PRESS: Christmas Jumper News

Do you have drawers full of Christmas jumpers that you family have outgrown? Early next month, we will be holding a Christmas jumper sale, where you can donate your outgrown festive knits and pick up replacements for a small donation. Date to be confirmed in next week's newsletter.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday which marks the start of Anti Bullying Week.

**Sally Davis, Principal**