



The Principal's Update

The first half term of the academic year really has gone by in the blink of an eye. I am hugely grateful to all staff and students for adjusting to the new systems and routines so quickly; everyone has proved themselves to be so adaptable, rising to new challenges on an almost daily basis.

This week has been HeadsUp Week, during which we have revisited the importance of wellbeing and provided opportunities to have conversations about mental health and to strengthen our personal wellbeing toolkits. A number of activities have taken place including assemblies, mindfulness, conversations and the launch of a new College group, the Wellbeing Warriors.

Today, Howell's has been a sea of green in support of Go Green Day. Students and staff have been decorated in all shades of green and made generous donations to the Cardiff based environmental charity Size of Wales, which helps protect and sustain an area of tropical rainforest now equivalent to double the size of Wales. Thank you to all students and staff who supported the day. We have raised over £500 for this vital organisation to date and there is still time to make a donation.



Healthy Schools

I am delighted to let you know that we have achieved the Healthy Schools accreditation phase 4 this week. Thank you to all the staff and students who were interviewed on Microsoft Teams by the assessors. A special mention to Mrs Chyba who coordinated the award entry with enthusiasm and drive. They were enormously impressed with everything and everyone they met.

Black History Month in History Lessons

During Black History Month our History students are learning about a wide variety of important topics and celebrating the contribution black people have made to the history of the UK and the rest of the world.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Celebration Tea

I was delighted to host two Celebration Teas for College students this week. [Click here](#) to find out more about Monday's tea and [click here](#) to find out more about yesterday's tea.

Howell's alumna Chloe Smith wins GDST Alumna of the Year Trailblazer Award

We are absolutely delighted to share with you that Chloe Smith from Howell's Class of 2013 has won this year's GDST Alumna of the Year Trailblazer Award. [Click here](#) for more information.

National Poetry Day

The entries are in and now it is time to bring together the incredible poems from National Poetry Day. This year's entries have ranged from Year 6 to Year 13, as well as staff. Notably, along with the theme of *Vision* there has been some excellent experimentation with visuals, as demonstrated by Year 9's Lucy. [Click here](#) to read Lucy's poem. The winners will be announced after half term. Good luck everyone!

Co-ed College Scholarship Examination

Our Co-Ed College academic scholarship examination for students in Year 11 will take place on Monday 16th November from 4pm to 6pm. Please contact Chrissie Hall-Davis for further details on 029 2026 1832 or by email at admissions@how.gdst.net. If you know of anyone interested in applying for a scholarship do pass on the details.

St James's Place – Virtual Work Experience

St James's Place Early Careers team is hosting a virtual 'Work Experience Week' available to students wishing to learn more about a career in financial services. Any students interested can find full details and register by [clicking here](#).

National Health Careers Conference

Students interested in careers in health may like to register for this national conference on Saturday 7th November 2020. There will be keynote talks and panels as well as workshop sessions and a mentoring and networking zone. [Click here](#) for full details and to register

Schools and Colleges Nursing and Midwifery Conference

Students considering a career in nursing or midwifery are invited to join the University of South Wales' Schools and Colleges Nursing and Midwifery Conference, which will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 21st October at 10am - 12noon. [Click here](#) to register.

I hope everyone has a wonderful break and time to relax over the half term holiday.

Sally Davis, Principal