



Message from the Head of Boys Hall

MR ECCLES
Head of Boys Hall

Dear POWIS Boarding Community,

Christmas has been celebrated for hundreds of years among Christian countries, with its roots in time believed to have been set in the 4th century. Since

then, the festival has grown beyond its beginnings and is now an important festival in many different countries and cultures around the world, each with its own unique customs and traditions.

In my home country of the UK, families will often gather to exchange gifts and share a large meal with roast turkey, roast vegetables and a huge variety of side dishes - all finished with a delicious Christmas pudding! Similar traditions are followed around Europe and the US - each with their own small differences. In recent years, Christmas has become a bigger festival in Asia too, with countries such as Japan and Korea having their own way of celebrating -

often with meals with friends or even going on dates!

The thread that connects all this is togetherness and spending time with those you care about the most. These past few weeks, in the spirit of the season, we have been able to focus on this theme and build our community bonds stronger than ever. I hope that wherever you are and whether or not you observe the holiday, you too are able to share in the spirit of togetherness with your family and friends over the break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year!

Mr Eccles

Baking Madness!

They say nothing brings people together like baked goods and our boarders definitely put that to the test recently with a few different baking sessions over the last few weeks. First up - cookies - where the students learned how to make the king of baked goods. They did a fantastic job with their creations with crisp and crunchy outside and wonderfully gooey chocolate centre - be sure to ask them to whip you up a batch when they get home! Next up were some festive classics with Christmas chicken sausage rolls and fruit tarts that definitely helped everyone get into the holiday spirit!



Boarding Staff Gathering



At the end of each term, the boarding staff come together to bond and engage in team-building activities away from the students. This term, we enjoyed a delightful pottery class.

As we shaped our creations with clay, we not only connected with one another but also tapped into our creativity. The atmosphere was light-hearted, yet it was clear everyone was deeply engaged in the process. After our session, we handed our artistic pieces over to be fired in the kiln, and now we eagerly await their return.

This gathering serves as a wonderful reminder of the importance of teamwork and camaraderie among the boarding staff. We look forward to seeing the fruits of our labour and can't wait to share the finished pieces with the community!

Ms Bennett - Head of Girls Hall



Clay Fun

Not content to let the staff have all the fun, a group of our boarding students also took the opportunity to try their hand shaping clay. The students showcased their creativity and patience as they worked towards creating their own products and we look forward to seeing their spectacular creations once they are fresh out of the oven!

Mr Eccles - Head of Boys Hall



Get Ready..... for POWIIS Ball!

Last month, many of our boarders got suited and booted and headed out to the glitz and glamour of the POWIIS Hollywood ball. Our boarding students definitely looked the part and could hit the dance floor in style. A wonderful event and it was very nice to see our community looking their best!



Weekend Activities

Our boarding students were given the chance to develop their collaboration skills through some games and challenges in one of our weekend activity programmes. Some took on the challenge of building the tallest bridge and strongest tower while others decided to embark on a storytelling adventure together through the game of dungeons and dragons! Many successful bridges were built, both literally and figuratively, and you will be pleased to know that, thanks to our adventurers, the wizard was able to retrieve his pie recipe and live happily ever after!



End of Term Celebration at the Beach

This term, the boarders decided to celebrate the end of term together with a trip to Batu Ferringhi beach for food and games. The weather held out just long enough for everyone to share some delicious pizza while enjoying the sea and sand. On their return to campus the students were treated to a surprise visit from Uncle Bob and his fried chicken food truck - always a popular treat!



Christmas Party



Last weekend, POWIIS boarding held its very own Christmas party for the community. The students got to sample some festive foods and take part in a range of activities fit for the season such as Christmas cookie decorating, reindeer games and grinchie gift giving! The students had an amazing time and it was certainly one of the highlights of the term. A big thank you to Mr King and the rest of the team for organising such a wonderful event!



Kindness



At the end of November, our boarding council organised a kindness week in line with the US festival of Thanksgiving. They put on offer a range of activities for boarders to join in including creating positivity posters, a wellbeing walk and even kindness bingo! Here you can see the winning poster entry from Ivy, Year 10.

November Celebration Dinner Highlights

Our November Celebration Dinner was a festive occasion, elevating the spirit of gratitude, kindness and togetherness. Ms Yokie continued to awe with a remarkable cake designed in the shape of a turkey, honouring the Thanksgiving tradition—a time for expressing thanks for the harvest and blessings of the past year.

Many boarders joined in the fun, playfully debating whether the cake was real or expertly crafted, leading to plenty of laughter and photo opportunities.

We also took a moment to celebrate all our November and December birthdays, wishing everyone a joyful year ahead.

