



EDITION 8 -  
August 2016

THE PEN

# القلم



## The Principal's Welcome...

Assalamu Alaikum / Hello and welcome to our latest edition of Al Qalam (The Pen) the final term at Tauheedul Boys' has been as busy as ever, as the boys and staff take a well-deserved break, behind the scenes work continues in preparation for our new academic year.

During this edition our student magazine team looks back on our two years at the Blakewater site and explores how the site looked in the summer of 2014 and how systematically the site has been refurbished over the past two years to create a modern learning environment for our learners. They capture in pictures our very first Year 11 Leavers Gala Dinner, talk about work experience, driving high performance cars and much more...

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish our Year 11 students all the best for the forthcoming results day, I wish them all the best for the next stage in their journey and pray that they go on to fulfil their dreams. Whilst I am on the topic of journeys and best wishes, I would also like to wish Mr S Mitha (Head of Maths) all the best as he embarks on a new life in the United Arab Emirates, Mr B Patel (Learning Support Assistant) as he embarks on fulfilling his ambitions of becoming a PE Teacher, Mr I Ramsay (Teacher of English) and Mr M Bencherife (Assistant Director of Learning Languages) on their promotions to Eden Boys' Preston - two recent graduates of the TIBHS school of leadership and management!

Our staff are our biggest assets and I would like to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to our boys during what has been a very difficult year in terms of bereavement for our staff. During the academic year Mr Z Mitha (Assistant Director

of Learning Technology), Mrs B Kamal (Director of Learning Pastoral Care) and Mr R Nunns (Teacher of History) all lost their fathers, Maulana H Hassan (Assistant Principal) his sister, Maulana U Kothia (Teacher of Humanities) his grandfather and Mr M Damail (Learning Support Assistant) his grandmother. May Allah grant the families sabr (patience) and the deceased eternal peace (ameen).

Looking forward, I would like to welcome on to our team Hafiz I Wadee (Director of Languages) who was a former Head of Languages at Pleckgate High School and Mrs A Ahmed (Director of Learning Mathematics) former Head of Mathematics at Preston Muslim Girls' High School. I have no doubt that the new colleagues will complement a highly dedicated and committed team that we already have in place at Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School.

I would like to thank our parents for the support that they have shown us over the past academic year and look forward to working with them in the new academic year and finally a big thank you to our governors who work tirelessly in support of the school and provide wise counsel in difficult times.

I hope that you enjoy reading the latest edition of the Al Qalam magazine and continue to remember the school in your prayers.

Mubaaruck Ibrahim (Principal)

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# SPORTS UPDATE



As the school year draws to a close, we look back at the impressive opportunities the PE department has provided us with over the past half-term. There were some fantastic events and the students really enjoyed being part of what was a memorable half-term for sports at TIBHS.

On the 1st of July the joint Year Nine and Ten TIBHS cricket team participated in a cricket tournament. This was the qualifying stage and only two teams out of the four would eventually qualify for the semi-finals. There were two games and to qualify the team needed to win at least one of them. TIBHS batted first and despite getting off to a slow start the team managed to make a good recovery and salvage the innings. To win, the team would need to bowl extremely well to stand a chance in the match, and they did. The other team needed four runs off the last over, but TIBHS just fell short, as the other team managed to win on the last ball.

The next game was a must win game and the team bowled extremely well to knockout the other team for just 45 runs. The batting line-up knocked the runs down easily, which meant they qualified for the semi-finals. They played the semi-finals and batted extremely well, when they came out to bowl they totally outclassed the opponent winning by a massive margin of 30 runs. However, in the final they did not have the same luck, after being hit for 120 runs the TIBHS team went out to bat and fell short, thus losing the match. They left the ground proud with silver medals to show for their hard work.

Mr Damail commented, "To see the way the boys played was fantastic. They showed great determination to get themselves through to the final and to come back with silver medals."

On the 13th of July TIBHS invited a sports company in to school and gave the GCSE PE students the opportunity to put their fitness levels to the test. The students went through a series of many tests and examinations to try and succeed. There were 5 stations, each one tested a different part of fitness. Despite the tests being hard many of the pupils enjoyed taking time out to practise and test aspects of their fitness. At the end of all the tests the boys were told to pick one aspect of their fitness they would like to improve. They would be given a username and password for the company's website and provided with a series of activities which would help them improve an area of fitness of their choosing.

A participant, Uwais Wadiwala commented, "It was a great way to have fun whilst actually doing something productive in testing my fitness. It was very intriguing to see the level of my fitness and to see how all the state of the art machinery worked."

In the last week of the school year, on the 20th and the 21st of July, the TIBHS PE department wrapped up the school year with a memorable Sports Day. Students were taken to the Witton Sports Track where they participated in a number of activities which ranged from athletics to football. On the first half of the day the boys took part in activities to do with athletics, including events like sprinting and high jump. After lunch the students played a Euro 2016 inspired football tournament.

By Jameel Waghat

## Final GCSE Exams

As the school year comes to a close, it marks the end of the academic year and the start of summer for students in Year Ten and Eleven who will have sat their GCSE exams. It could have been either their first taste of success or their last chance to impress a range of chosen colleges.

The wonderful thing about being my age is that you have so many options – but if you turn your back on formal education then you have, in one fell swoop, closed a multitude of doors. Hence, GCSEs seem a mandatory and necessary item that needs to be acknowledged. Today, if you miss a number of “A grades” you limit your choice of university and even a career. Isaac Newton himself couldn’t get into Cambridge to read Physics if he was weighed down with a ‘C’ in French!

Therefore, exams can be stressful and tense; testing your mental ability and your capacity to cope with pressure and badgering parents.

Either way, finishing your GCSEs is a momentous occasion, and one that will take you on a rollercoaster of emotions. You may be counting the final minutes of the last exam but as soon as you’re reunited with your friends outside of the exam hall, you start jumping up and down with excitement and race out of there as quickly as you can.

## Freedom!

By Zainul Adam

## Ramadhan and Charity Events

“Give charity without delay for it stands in the way of calamity.” (Muslim)



Tauheedul is a school based wholly on fundamental human and Islamic values and principles. During the sacred month of Ramadhan our boys took part in many different activities that helped boost the spirituality and knowledge of this distinctive month; from inspirational lunch time lectures, ‘The Food Collection Programme’ to ‘Every Kid a Quid’. This year the school’s innovative ideas really helped the students get involved with charity events for Ramadhan.

The ‘Every Kid a Quid’ programme has been set up to run throughout the whole year and every student is encouraged to bring in one pound a week to support those less fortunate than themselves. During Ramadhan the donations to this cause have increased dramatically. The students have once again been extremely generous and charitable towards this cause and the charities; Cancer Research and Lancashire Hospice, were exceedingly grateful for the student involvement in these events.



Non-Uniform days during the school year have also raised considerable funds for the Gift programme which is set up for the benefit of children in Blackburn Hospital. The Charity club visited Blackburn Hospital's younger patients and presented those gifts as a part of the charity events this Ramadhan; the joy on the faces of the children certainly showed us their appreciation and gratitude for the generosity of the boys at Tauheedul.

Finally, the lunch time lecture programmes turned out to be a great success with flocks of students attending daily to listen attentively to the advice, stories and ways to improve their spirituality during this holy month. Great appreciation was shown towards scholars and esteemed members of staff for taking time out to deliver these speeches; though also tired and in the state of fasting themselves, may they be rewarded abundantly.

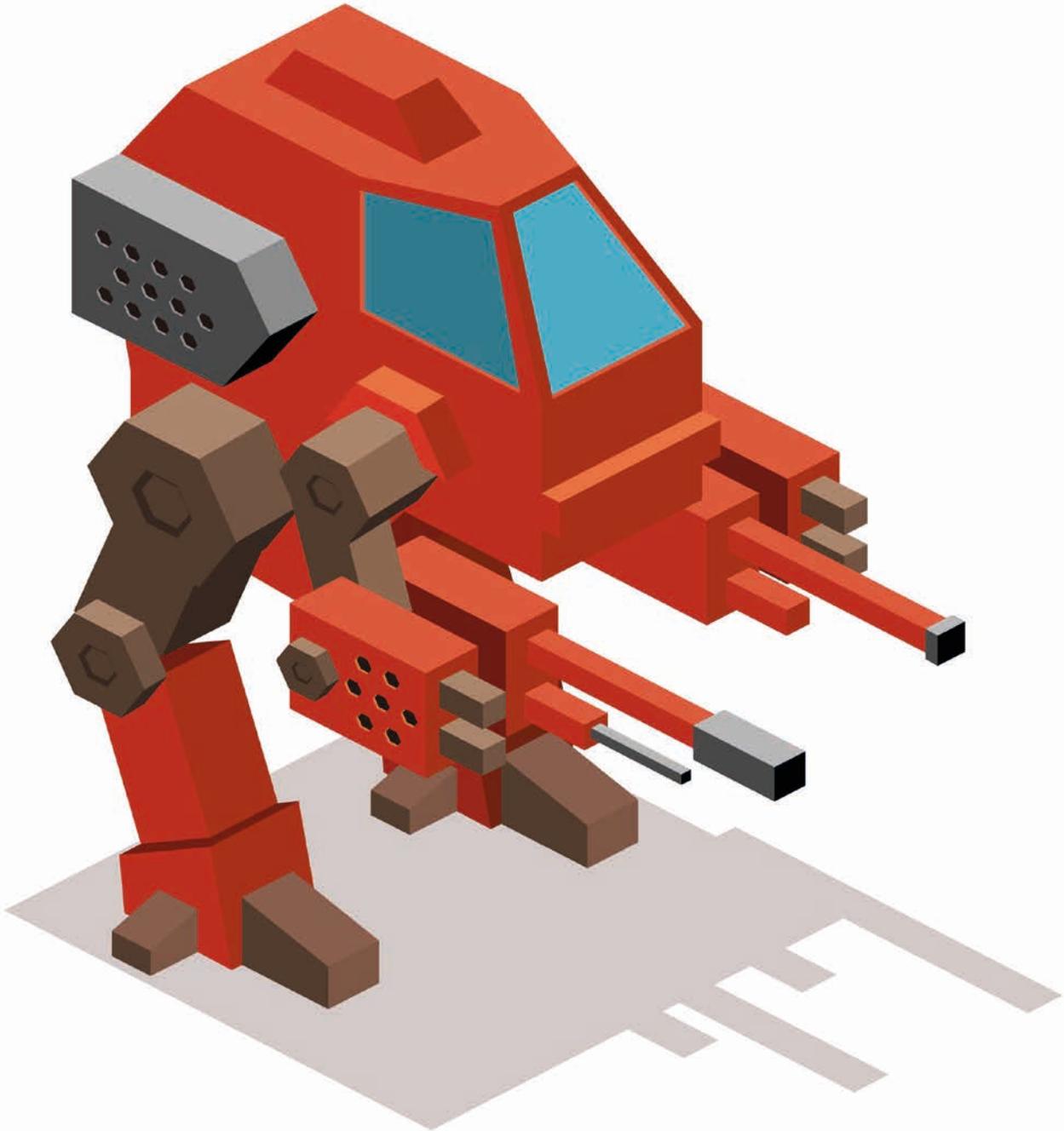
Overall, this month has been an experience for both students and staff and will remain as a firm base to improve our spirituality and piety in our everyday lives.

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” (Anne Frank)

By Ismail Patel



# Robot Wars



Robot Wars... a British technological game show that was first broadcast in 1998. A classic television programme that many of your parents will possibly recall. A series, centred on the sport of robot combat, involving teams of amateur and professional roboters operating their own constructed robots to fight against each other in both friendly and tournament matches. At Tauheedul Boys' School, this company worked alongside our boys and delivered a fulfilling educational experience.

On the 22nd June 2016, the Robot Wars legend, 'John Findlay', had taken out some of his time to visit some of the Year Nine boys at our school as part of the Prince's Trust Charity. The boys had participated in a full-day session, learning about the different mechanics and aspects of robots. They

had participated in different activities throughout the day; including controlling the £6000 monstrous machine 'Matilda', as well as joining in with robot combat!

One of the participants, Yamin Muhammad, said, "It was a fantastic experience! The entire day was exhilarating, and my enthusiasm lasted from beginning to end. This has opened my eyes to looking for a career which works with creating new technology."

Overall, the school appreciates the time given by the dedicated staff from Robot Wars, and the students were extremely positive about their experience.

By Muhammad Satia

## Super Cars Trip



When it comes to supercars, few marques instil the passion and excitement that Ferrari do and the Ferrari 360 offers passion and excitement in bundles, which the fortunate Year Eleven had the unique opportunity to discover.

They slipped behind the wheel, empowered the throttle and four hundred prancing horses wailed with delight just six inches behind their shoulders. Nevertheless, it was not just all about noise, the Ferrari 360 had all the ingredients of a classic supercar. Nought to sixty was achieved in a mere 4.5 seconds and if they kept their feet firmly planted, the Ferrari would top out at a staggering 183 mph.

Their Supercar Driving Experience began with a technical briefing, followed by four miles in a sports saloon driven by an experienced instructor who taught them the circuit lines and car positioning, thus ensuring they get the most out of their drive when finally behind the wheel. With the familiarisation over, it was time for the Ferrari experience to begin! With four hundred brake horsepower under their right foot it was time for them to take to the 'Three Sisters' race circuit for the drive of their life.

Another top choice was the astonishing Lamborghini Gallardo. Stunning lines, beautiful coachwork and a howling V10 all combined to make driving the Lamborghini Gallardo an experience that would never be forgotten. This really was a once in a lifetime opportunity to tame the raging bull.

Powered by a five litre V10, this masterpiece of Italian flair and style launched from nought to sixty in a meagre 4.2 seconds, went through the gears and this fire spitting beast eventually topped out at a staggering 196 mph. Combine these facts with a four wheel drive system that almost glues the car to the track and it becomes obvious why the Lamborghini experience left the participants grinning from ear to ear.

The Lamborghini experience began with a technical briefing, followed by four miles in a sports saloon, driven by a professional instructor. During these laps the instructor taught them the circuit lines and car positioning, thus enabling them to make the most of their time behind the wheel of the Lamborghini. With the familiarisation laps over, it was time to put everything that's been learned into practice, as they took to the Three Sisters race track in this stunning supercar.

By Uwais Ougradar





# Blakewater Refurbishment



Before...

On Tuesday 2nd September 2014 the students at TIBHS moved from their old building - St Stephens' School on Robinson Street - to the newly refurbished Blakewater site.

When TIBHS secured the site the building was fatigued and exhausted. As the new intake of Year Seven, Eight, Nine, and Ten arrived in their buses and car loads, a new lease of life was given to the old building.

In 2014, the classrooms were given a fresh lick of paint to match the subject colour, Humanities were painted brown, Maths were red and the Science classrooms were blue. The Promethean whiteboards were carried over from the old St Stephens site, as were the chairs and tables. New toilets were fitted in the corridors and navigation signs were added.

In 2015, a contemporary Technology Suite was appended to facilitate the new influx of students from primary school. New Dell computers were bought to use with BenQ monitors and the empty classrooms were reconditioned into architecturally designed suites to support the students on their road to GCSE success. The former Year Ten students were also provided with new 'Tab-tops' to assist with their work at home.

In 2016, a state-of-the-art Wudhu (ablution) area was specifically designed for the students to perform their ablutions in order to pray their Quran and Salaah (prayers). New corresponding tables and chairs were brought into the classrooms analogous with the wall colours, leaving vibrant and purposeful school rooms.

By the end of the 2015-16 school year, the school has proceeded from a timeworn, old building to a refurbished facility wholly intended for learning. The displays boast educational excellence and the environment is one of achievement and originality. The outcome has been facilities conducive to learning and one in which staff, students, parents and governors can be proud of.

By **Qaasim Suleman**



Before...



...After



...After



...After



...After



...After



...After



## Invictus



### University of Central Lancashire

Now, you may have read a previous article regarding the Young Enterprise Project. So, let's just recap...

The Year Ten cohort were given the exclusive opportunity to create a business idea and present it to a host of 'dragons'. The triumphant teams then went on to create a united group which were now to take part in The Young Enterprise project. 'Invictus'- which is Latin for 'unconquered' – were then to invent a product, which they would have to create, market and sell to customers across the country. The final agreement each member of Invictus eventually came to was – their product needed to have meaning. It must be new, innovative and make a difference. They decided to pursue the route of education. The subject each member knew to be the most difficult was English – mainly literature.

The GCSE English Literature results of the country are declining each year, and Invictus wanted to change this. As a consequence of the changes to the English GCSE criteria – there aren't many updated revision materials for students to use. They created a book which would include an annotated version of timeless classics such as 'A Christmas Carol' and 'Macbeth'. It would include all the notes they need to pass their GCSEs with flying colours.

After months of hard work, dedication and determination, the budding entrepreneurs then proceeded to present their

illuminating journey to an intimidating panel of judges. The eleven students were to travel to the University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN). Everything they had tirelessly worked for came down to a five minute presentation. There were eight other schools taking part in this perilous competition, and this increased the pressure on our boys to be the best!

After an outstanding presentation, the young entrepreneurs did not return home empty handed. Deservedly so! They were able to convey their great passion for their informative product, and this was of course observed by the judges. Those sleepless nights and stressful hours of work paid off, thankfully, and they returned with a marvellous award: 'Best Presentation'.

The hard-work from the pupils was also recognised by the teachers: "They are truly a credit to our school and the feedback we received from the judges was outstanding. I first thought that the mix of personalities could cause some conflict between them, but instead it made them stronger as a team." Mr Kazi (Head of Year 10)

The students' journey has finally come to a conclusion. They have left a lasting legacy and we sincerely hope they will inspire the future generations of our school to partake in this magnificent journey, also.

By Umair Patel

## Year 10 Blackburn College Taster Visit

On Thursday 30th June, the Year Ten cohort experienced a taster session at Blackburn College. This helped students to think about the choices they will be making in the future and how those choices will enable them to grasp academic success. They took part in a college lesson, this opportunity ultimately allowed them to gauge the feel of college life.

The supportive teachers at Blackburn College ensured that all TIBHS students were appointed a lesson of their choice. Lessons which were available for tasters included; all three sciences, English and maths. To augment that, the perplexing science of psychology was also available.

As students from multiple schools - located from across the borough - collaborated together in the college classrooms, they swiftly realised that college life was not as tedious as they had expected; as the teachers delivered the lessons in a student friendly manner. Feedback from the Year Ten students was invariably positive as they described the experience as phenomenal, remarkable and simply impeccable.

"It was a fantastic experience and most definitely unforgettable," elucidated Muhammad Vali. "The building, the staff and the environment - all aspects which will certainly put me at ease come the time to leave high school."

Ultimately, this imperative visit transpired into a real success. Exemplary teaching standards, a lively atmosphere and an original opportunity to develop a picture of the life to come (after leaving Tauheedul) was all gifted to the young pupils. However, despite the immense uncertainty, the students' trepidation was offset by the faultless assistance offered by staff members. The experience indicated the doors to a new era for the students, ensuring the success of tomorrow begins today.

Truly, there is only one single way to describe the experience: life-changing.

By Aqeel Master and Uwais Wadiwala

## Year 10 Work Experience



It is undoubtable that the "work experience" programme which Year Ten undertook was an enormous success and a huge credit not only to the students, but also undeniably a credit to the school. As many of the students returned back from their work experience, the feedback received from their temporary employers was extraordinary - over 90% of the companies praised our students for their hard work and efforts.

Year Ten Head of Year, Mr Kazi, said, "Firstly, I have to say a big thank you to those who have gone that extra mile and provided support by visiting the boys on work experience. I have received some really positive feedback from different placements."

One of the placement companies, Euro Garages, said: "They have been the best work experience students yet. They have really worked well and helped us to complete so much work."

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs: "We do not really take on Work Experience students normally, but you may send work experience students next year too."

AMT Lawyers: "We will allow your students to come and do work experience anytime, they have made a real effort especially with presentation and initiative."

Walker Preston: "We were really worried taking on five students at one particular time, but we haven't had a single issue and they have been a credit to your school - we wouldn't expect anything less from Tauheedul boys."

Year Ten Head of Year, Mr Kazi, stated "As you most probably know, this is the first time any of our students have participated in "work experience", and hopefully, it will be the first of many for years to come. This is a fantastic opportunity to encounter working life first-hand for our students, before we can let them go into the big (and sometimes bad) world. As a first experience, it will be one they will never forget!"

By Muhammad Vali



# The Big Iftaar Event



The school's first cohort of Year 11 boys went back to school one last time to celebrate the end of a fast in the month of Ramadhan. A gathering of well-known faces across the Tauheedul circle joined us for this memorable occasion.

After the long, demanding and stressful days of sitting GCSE exams in Ramadhan, this was it. Maghrib time, on Saturday, June 25th, 2016, the first sons of Tauheedul Boys' School bid farewell to their much-loved teachers and staff who elevated the boys to their full potential; ready for the world. Emotional speeches were given, tears were shed and the food was eaten!

As pupils made a sentimental journey into the building, one at a time, they sat and watched as esteemed members of the Tauheedul family showed their gratitude to all of the family, both past and present. The gathering of pupils, teachers and governors alike, truly showed the unity the school built over a period of four years. To think that only a few years ago, these boys were boys from different schools. Now, coming together as men representing their families and becoming ambassadors of their religion. It marked an end of an era – and such a momentous occasion was to be written in the school's history books. Laughs were shared and grievances were left behind. From the Head Boy

to Chair of Governors, the speeches that were given will echo throughout in the legacy of the school.

At precisely 9:45pm it was time to eat. The canteen was reconditioned to something resembling a banquet as the boys sat to eat their last supper (in school!). A range of exquisite cuisine was prepared by the school, the delicious food uplifted the spirits of the young men both physically and spiritually.

When asked, Prefect and founding student Aadil Waghat stated that, "It was a very memorable evening and I enjoyed it a great deal. The food was amazing and the speeches were very heartfelt and profound."

Finally, the students were taken from the canteen and back into the hall for their final goodbyes. The old building, the students, the sentiments and the friendships made in the school yesterday will always be remembered tomorrow.

With heavy hearts, the boys left the building for the last time, looking back, content with the magic they helped create.

By Hamzah Isap

# The Spring Fair

The first ever Spring Fair took place on Saturday 26th March this year and proved a resounding success.

Despite inclement weather in the morning, families and students flocked to join the festivities, helping to raise nearly £3,000 pounds for The East Lancashire Hospice and Cancer Research UK. A host of activities to entertain the visitors was on offer, including; face painting; Henna decoration; chocolate fountains; sponge the Maths teacher; a professional BBQ and bouncy castles. The noise and excitement was palpable with so many tantalising food stalls and games to participate in that visitors stayed much longer than they had originally planned. Local ambulance staff gave demonstrations and there was even a Lamborghini super car to look round

The organisation of the event on the day appeared seamless, but behind the scenes Mrs Kamal and the Pastoral team

had worked tirelessly for many months to foster support amongst families and local businesses who willingly gave up their valuable time and expertise to support the TIBHS event. Indeed, individual tutor groups had worked on a stall design and unique activities to raise money as part of a pastoral team-building project. The students' ideas ranged from football games and table-tennis to interactive bracelet design and home-made bake stalls. On the day itself professional stall holders worked side by side with the boys, helping to generate a lively and supportive entrepreneurial spirit. Indeed it was remarkable to observe how their confidence rose and their pride swelled as they sold far more than they had originally expected. All who came to the Spring Fair left light-hearted and filled with warmth, having given so generously to such very worthwhile charities.

By Ms Wildgoose

**Sat 26th March 2016**  
**11am - 3pm**

**TIBHS** 50p Entrance Donation Under 12's free

**SPRING FAIR**

Supporting and Fundraising

In aid of **CANCER RESEARCH UK** **East Lancashire Hospice**

BBQ, CAKES, SAVOURY FOODS, ICE CREAM, HENNA, BALLOONS, CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN, BOUNCY CASTLE, CLOTHING, JEWELLERY, FACE PAINTING, SPONGE THE TEACHER AND LOADS MORE! DON'T MISS OUT!

Tauheedul Boys

**TAUHEEDUL ISLAM BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL**  
Shadsworth Road, Blackburn, BB1 2HT

If you would like to book a stall, please contact the school.  
Tel: 01254 918670 Email: info@tibhs.trust.org

## Alton Towers Trip



On Tuesday 19th of July, lucky individuals from TIBHS embarked on a breath-taking journey to Alton Towers. The sun stared garishly at us for the entire journey.

Adrenaline rushed through us at the first sight of the monstrous rides – no one could remain still. We were quite lucky to have experienced a few; from thrilling Rita to stimulating Oblivion. The queues were hectic; wild children rushed past each other before your very eyes. The stirring atmosphere bubbled around you.

**"I was so excited, I couldn't wait to go on the first ride."** (Muhammed Raees 9M2)

Swept up in an overflow of anticipation; the coaches finally reeled into Alton Towers. As you would guess, it was bustling, but that didn't stop anyone from having fun. Everything was such a rush, you know what they say, "Time flies when you're having

fun" (literally). What could be more fun? A day off school and a chance to run wild.

**"It was so warm throughout the whole day but I had to keep moving through the massive crowds and queues."** (Amaan Ismail 9M2)

Despite the fun, time marched on... As soon as it hit 3.30pm, group by group, everyone started to assemble, ready for the journey home. Of course, there were plenty more rides we were hoping to go on. However, most people were just glad they were out of the scalding glare of the sun.

Alton Towers is a great place for laughter, enjoyment and fun. It is perfect for running wild and letting loose. You have to get a taste of the electrifying action!

By Ibrahim Patel



## Thank you to the Student Newsletter team:

Uwais Ougradar, Year 10  
 Ismail Patel, Year 10  
 Faheem Issa, Year 10  
 Muhammad Satia, Year 10  
 Zainul Adam, Year 10  
 Umair Patel, Year 10  
 Muhammad Vali, Year 10

Jameel Waghat, Year 9  
 Ibrahim Patel, Year 9  
 Qaasim Suleman, Year 9  
 Hamzah Isap, Year 9  
 Uwais Wadiwala, Year 9  
 Hamzah Desai, Year 9

## Dates for your Diary:

### Autumn Term 2016

School Re-opens Thursday 1st September 2016  
 Eid ul Adha 1437\* Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th September 2016  
 Half Term Closure Monday 24th – Friday 28th October 2016  
 Christmas Holiday Wednesday 21st December – Wednesday 4th January

### Spring Term 2017

School Re-opens Thursday 5th January 2017  
 Half Term Closure Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February 2017  
 Easter Holiday Monday 10th April – Friday 21st April 2017

### Summer Term 2017

School Re-opens Monday 24th April 2017  
 May Day Closure Monday 1st May 2017  
 Half Term Closure Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2017  
 Eid ul Fitr 1438\* Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th June 2017

### Staff INSET Days

Wednesday 31st August 2017  
 Wednesday 4th January 2017

\*Eid holidays may be revised slightly according to the sighting of the moon

