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THE PEN

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A New Chapter

It is with great excitement that I share my thoughts on our new site. As you will all no doubt be aware, the school opened for the first time in 2012. The location was Robinson Street and to say that the building had a few challenges would be an understatement. However, through hard work, efforts and endurance, the school stayed at the site until 2014 when the school relocated to Shadsworth, a second temporary home.

Renovations, repairs and restructures were all part of the work needed to make Shadsworth the estate it is today. From the outside, it looks drab and unkempt but from the inside it is a warm, stimulating and uplifting environment, full of colour, vibrancy and oozing with celebration and high expectations. The Shadsworth estate has witnessed the school achieving some exceptional grades over the last three years - performance has been phenomenal in regards to both attainment and progress. Additionally, the school boasts impressive data on attendance, placing the school in the top 5% of all schools nationally.

There is a firm commitment that the estate will continue to be maintained by the exceptional and hardworking estates team, to the highest of standards, until our very last day at the site. This is because we firmly believe as a school - and this is something which has already been demonstrated by many of the STAR Free schools - that it is not the bricks and mortar, or the building itself, which produces the results; it is the expectations, the culture of self-belief, and the security of knowing that each and every individual within the school acts in the best interests of every single pupil.



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Nevertheless, one cannot conceal the excitement of what is around the corner. After seven years of waiting and two temporary accommodations, TIBHS will be housed in a state-of-the-art new build. The building work started on 11th June 2018 and is currently being built by the renowned contracting company, Wates. With the doors of the new build set to open in September, 2019, the new building will host highly impressive art and technology facilities, alongside an enviable sports arena for our young boys to foster their sporting talents. Whilst the new building marks an important milestone in the narrative for Tauheedul Boys' High School, it will be a significant addition to Blackburn's landscape.

Although we have become accustomed to the simplicity of our current site, we look forward to our move to the new building, more purposefully built to suit the needs of our growing school and pupils. Designed to accommodate spacious corridors and stairwells, larger recreational spaces and a reflection area for prayers, the new build will provide a more holistic learning experience for our boys.

Much thought and planning has been invested in creating a bespoke learning environment for the new build. Endeavouring to equip our pupils for life beyond school, and to promote digital literacy, we have taken a futuristic approach with the facilities we have chosen: advanced technology including 3D printing and robotics, an exciting engineering design space, and opportunities to create further learning spaces in readiness for the Tauheedul Boys' Sixth Form, planned to open in September 2020.

The school is an exceptional place to flourish. Our staff, parents and pupils make each and every day unique, special and remarkable. The staff work diligently with passion and commitment, working meticulously to ensure every pupil is treated as an individual. I am proud to lead a school where there is a relentless pursuit in ensuring that our pupils excel academically, socially and spiritually. I look forward to continue working alongside parents to ensure our boys have valuable learning and enrichment opportunities.

As we have journeyed through our experiences of yesterday, today and tomorrow, I am extremely excited to take the school to its next stage - a new chapter in the journey of TIBHS.

Principal
Majid Ditta

A Lakeside Adventure

"How will TIBHS ensure my son has a smooth transition into high school?"

This is the question at the forefront of every parent's mind. Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School has excelled further than any other school. This year, the lucky new pupils were given the opportunity to attend an exciting team-building experience. It was an opportunity to experience, live and uphold the STAR values that TIBHS stands for and an opportunity to unite; creating lifelong friendships.

Tired, cold and full of excitement, the eager year 7s began to arrive during the early hours of the dark morning. In their groups, they waited impatiently for the coaches to arrive whilst discussing the upcoming adventures and reminiscing past residential.

YMCA Lake District in Cumbria was laid out before them; the view was breath-taking. The woods, the hills and the calm blue waters all amalgamated to create beauty and serenity like no other. Pupils pulled their eyes away from the entrancing view to eat breakfast and play a game of basketball, all the while anxiously waiting for the real fun to begin.



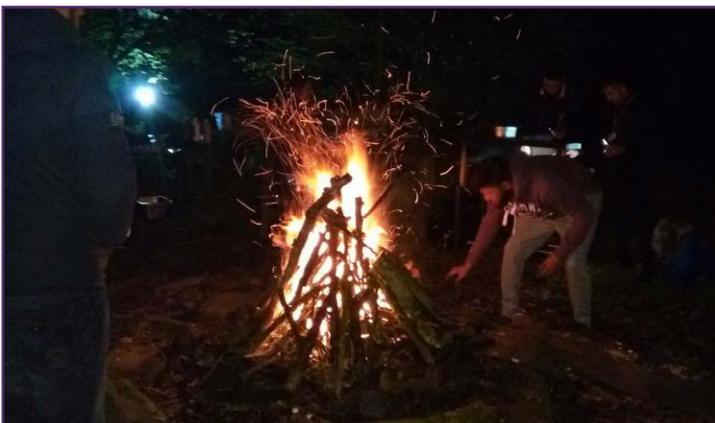
During their stay, pupils had the opportunity to take part in exhilarating activities such as abseiling, kayaking, zip lining and rock climbing, each requiring utmost concentration, strength, determination and most importantly: **teamwork** – one of the STAR values!

Pupils braved the heights and the waves and overcame all obstacles opposing them and unsurprisingly, they were all exhausted. They dragged their feet resiliently up a dark and winding path, surrounded by tall luminous trees. Finally reaching at the clearing: a monstrous, raging bonfire blazed at the centre. The aroma of barbecue filled the air; a treat for all the boys who, fatigued but content, went home after a hard day of work and adventure.

It's easy to fall into the trap of linking learning solely with the classroom and this trip made sure to challenge that misconception. Learning is so much more; every opportunity in life is a moment to observe, to perceive and to develop skills. These skills that can only be learnt by doing, and this is exactly what the boys did – they got out and got stuck in: a lesson worth remembering!

The journey for the Year 7s is one term in and although they have a long way to go - the memories of this journey - this absolutely incredible outdoor experience will stay with them forever.

Kaleem Desai 10E1



Anti-Bullying Week 2018

Every year, millions of people fall victim to bullying, whether it is physical, verbal or cyberbullying. Though many adults may see bullying as "just part of growing up," it is a serious problem that leads to many negative effects for victims. According to statistics reported by BBC News, nearly 30 percent of pupils are either bullies or victims of bullying, and 160,000 children stay home from school every day because they fear bullies. For every suicide among young people, there are at least 100 suicide attempts. Over 14 percent of high school pupils have considered suicide, and almost 7 percent have attempted it.

This is why Star Academies and Hutton Grammar High School partnered to run a twinning project to lower this figure. This year, the theme of Anti Bullying week was #ChooseRespect- a major religious teaching and one of TIBHS' STAR values.

When the Hutton Grammar High School pupils arrived on Monday 12th November at TIBHS, Mr Ditta gave them a brief overview of the activities they would undertake. Shortly after, the two groups of pupils, from completely different backgrounds, cultures and religions came together as one, to make a project fighting a great problem in all of our societies: bullying.

Over the course of the morning, the pupils discussed the types of bullying and the ways they could prevent the effects of bullying such as depression, self-harm and suicide. They were also taught about exploring the root causes of bullying behaviour and encouraged pupils to reflect on why people feel the need to bully others. It allowed us to consider potential methods of combatting bullying through tackling the root

causes. The root causes are many, but the main one is when the bully was bullied, abused or groomed themselves in their own lives.

TIBHS has a very comprehensive approach towards bullying and combatting it:

"Our staff are trained to be vigilant for all kinds of safeguarding concerns, including bullying, online safety and emotional or other abuse. We have clear procedures in place where any potential safeguarding concerns are identified, and appropriate action taken. Where a pupil is deemed to be at significant risk and we need to involve other agencies, we share information with other public bodies such as Children's Social Care. Where information is shared, we work within the agreed local information sharing protocols to make sure that information is shared in line with local and national rules." - TIBHS.com

Eesah Adam 10E4





Remembering Srebrenica

On the morning of Thursday 22nd November, Year 10 pupils were fortunate enough to meet Resad, a survivor of the Bosnian genocide; the unforgotten genocide which lasted for three brutal years. We had the opportunity to listen to his first-hand experience and his haunting memories of war.

The pupils were truly saddened by the history of his hometown, Sarajevo; a safe, happy and friendly town turned nightmare overnight. It was after the declaration of independence that everything changed.

Resad, then only aged 19, had always dreamt of being a professional basketball player and like many of us he lived his youth working towards his dream. And it was as he played with strength and determination one night that he suddenly heard loud explosions; the first of the shelling only less than a mile from his home.

Resad described to us how incredibly difficult life became in order to survive the horrors of war; more difficult than you and I could even imagine. Just to obtain basic necessities like water posed a great threat to their survival as they looked over their shoulders in constant fear. His aspiration of becoming a professional basketball player had become nothing but a distant dream overnight.

Life was now all about survival. As there were sparse resources, Resad's father, and many others, used car tyres which were unused due to the siege, and burnt them as their source of heat during these very difficult times. The same rubber tyres were burned in order to warm food and water for the family to eat and drink. The consequences of inhaling dangerous fumes for three years wasn't even something they feared in comparison to the threat of the ongoing massacre.

After listening briefly to the upsetting and traumatic experience of Mr Trbonja, the pupils were left feeling heartbroken. Pupils and staff discussed how not even a multi-million pound Hollywood film could depict or portray the true realities of war. One of the many pupils who heard the sad story, Zayd Wadee, left the talk feeling troubled asking, "Why? Why do these things happen?" As with many incidents around the world, we learn that this is the sad reality of life, and the best we can do is support those that are troubled, oppressed, and in danger and thank and continue to pray to the Almighty for the safety and protection that he gives us in our daily lives – something we often take for granted.

Abu Bakr Vali 10E4

This presentation was part of the school's STAR value of Respect.





Armistice Day

It's been just over a hundred years since the massacre of millions of brave soldiers, who gave their lives so we could have our freedoms. Yet, despite all their sacrifices, we tend to forget how much they really did for us.

And that is why we have Armistice Day, why we hold and safeguard it, why we value it so much. At TIBHS, we commemorated Armistice Day by taking part in a ceremony held at Corporation Park by placing wreaths in memory of those who never returned from the battlefield.

As the poppies were placed down, a moment of silence was held in which we imagined the nightmares of these soldiers, as if we were them. But we weren't, and the horrors they went through can never be matched with the struggles we will ever go through- so truly, Armistice Day shall always be with us.

The day was also recognised with pupils from TIBHS & Hutton Grammar School who released 100 red balloons each with the name of a local WW1 veteran. 100 balloons to remember a 100 local heroes.

Farhan Munshi 10E1





A Bitter Sweet Morning

On Friday 28th September, there was a buzz of excitement as pupils queued up impatiently, eager to get their hands on some of the delicious cakes on offer. Once again - much to the delight of the pupils - TIBHS held its annual Macmillan Coffee Morning in an effort to raise money and help support the many individuals and families facing cancer. Thanks to our generous pupils and staff, TIBHS managed to raise a fantastic £1083!

The school gym was transformed to accommodate this wonderful event. Laid out beautifully on the tables, there was something for everyone; from custard creams to blueberry cupcakes to Victoria sponge cakes and even hot chocolate. For everything that was sold, 100% of donations went straight to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Although there were jokes, smiles and laughter, there was a real sense of sadness, mixed with hope as we remembered those that have become victim to this deadly disease; as we remembered the one's that lost their battle but also those that are still here to tell their story.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of people are diagnosed with cancer; a disease where cells rapidly mutate and attack the body. Most of us know someone or have heard of someone that has been affected by this illness and know how heart-breaking and difficult it is to deal with and so this event wasn't just a sweet coffee morning but an opportunity to reflect, to think about others and most of all, to show gratitude to the Almighty for the great blessing of good health and loved ones.



Our Exams and Data officer, Mrs Patel, commented,

“It was a great success - all thanks to the generous donations from staff and pupils. Without it, we wouldn't have been able to raise anywhere near £1000 - £1000 which will make a huge difference to the lives of so many”

Macmillan Cancer Support is one of the largest British charities and provides specialist health care, information and financial support to people affected by cancer. Macmillan holds its Coffee Mornings every year to raise money for the charity. In 2017, Macmillan raised just under £250 million which was invested into improving the lives of people living with cancer.

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: "The believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity." - Al-Tirmidhi, Hadith 604.

Raihaan Bhika 10E1

A Day at PRISM Wates Head Office



On Thursday, the 6th of December, a group of Year 8 pupils had the exciting opportunity to visit PRISM Wates head office in York. Starting the day with the design team, it was fascinating to watch the process of designing and completing a computer-generated architectural design of how buildings are constructed.

Giving us the opportunity to have a real hands-on experience, we then worked alongside the product manufacturing team to construct a mini-scaffold – it made us feel as though we were really working: planning, constructing and reworking it again! This visit was part of the community engagement work organised by Wates, the contractors for the new build.

We wrapped up the day in a conference with the operations management team, having the privilege to ask the questions swarming in our heads: the timescales of completing building projects; planning innovations and utilising the ever rising technological services.

I don't think many of us had anticipated a career in building and design engineering professions before our visit, but now I know most of us have already amended our career aspirations – I certainly have!

Muhammad Adam 8S1



The National Apprenticeship Show

Year 10 has finally arrived! The most exciting part of a pupil's learning journey; all you can think about is careers, opportunities and most importantly of all: FREEDOM. Freedom to make your own decisions; freedom to choose and freedom to do what you think is best. To begin this exciting careers adventure, the Year 10 pupils at Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School were lucky enough to be offered expert advice from professional organisations on which direction they should take in their career path.

Enthusiastically and eagerly, on Thursday 18th October 2018, the Year 10 pupils set off on their journey to Bolton Arena where an organisation- 'The National Apprenticeship Show'- held an exclusive event for young people in the North West. Their mission was to guide pupils about careers in different areas and apprenticeships, in particular aiming to help young pupils #SEEDIFFERENT. They also helped by answering lots of questions regarding career related decisions and choices.

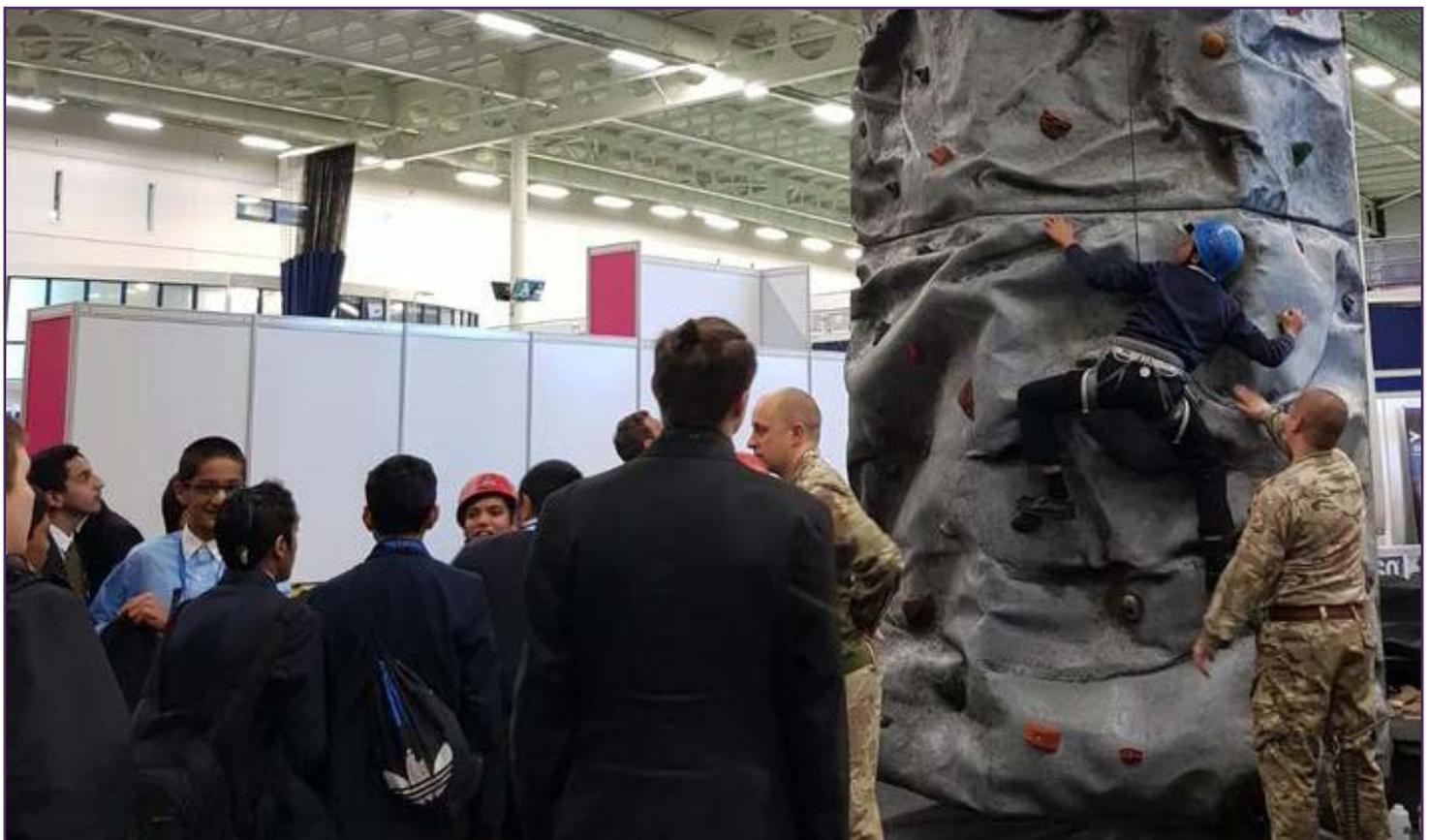
There were many successful companies and firms: high profile engineering companies such as Airbus, who make many of the planes you and I fly on to our favourite holiday destinations; major pharmaceutical companies like Astra Zeneca who create our everyday medicines that we take when we have a headache; renowned Royal Forces like the Royal Navy who play one of the most important roles in protecting our country. All of these companies and organisations, who play a pivotal role in today's economy, gave us the opportunity to ask for guidance and support on which direction to take in shaping our future.

As the session progressed, the Year 10 pupils had hands on experiences in workshops focusing on real life experiences such as sustaining living costs, dealing with bills, rent and even the responsibilities that come with buying a house! The penny finally dropped on how pupils' hard work would allow them to go for the top end houses and drive swanky, top of the range cars! This session gave them a true taste of reality.

Many of the pupils in Year 10 found this session invaluable. It was an eye opener for the boys. Muhammad Sadik Patel, who took part, commented, "The event gave us the zeal to go further in our learning and gave us an insight on opportunities for our future."

The National Apprenticeship Show certainly inspired and guided pupils towards future opportunities available to our young pupils – it sure did give the boys a nudge in the right direction!

Abubakr Vali 10E4



The Art of Debating



Engaging in debates help pupils to develop a range of highly valuable life skills, skills that are further boosted through exposure to new ideas, challenges and unfamiliar surroundings. Debating offers a great opportunity to push pupils right out of their comfort zones; it helps to nurture independence and boost self-confidence. It is for these reasons that Head of English, Mr Patel, and English teacher, Miss Khansab, organised a Debate Club.

In preparation for a debate on whether or not meat should be banned, nine pupils from Year 9 and one from Year 11 stayed behind after school for an hour every Wednesday in order to plan and organise for the upcoming debate which was to take place on Thursday 29th November 2018 at Blackburn College. The after school sessions were enriching but required careful planning, preparation and thought. Thus we must thank and appreciate Mr Patel and Miss Khansab for the time and effort put into making such an experience possible for us all.

Young people can naturally be immature at times but debating taught us that maturity too is possible. The change in the attitudes of the pupils attending the debate was astonishing as their horizons were broadened. Just the fact that they were representing TIBHS and the wider community had a remarkable effect allowing the pupils to discover a new side to themselves!

There were many skills learnt: research was the responsibility of the pupils; they were forced to question preconceived views; nobody was there to spoon feed them with information; and they had to learn via question and discussion. All of this resulted in TIBHS boys performing incredibly well at the competition.

There were three debates to take place and TIBHS' pupils, Hasan Khan (Year 9) and I, Amine Gherensi (Year 11) were to participate in the first debate against fierce competitors - Bolton School. Though the opposition were sixth form pupils, Hasan and I put up a great display and we held our own. Ultimately though, it wasn't enough and although we didn't make it to the next heat, the experience in itself was a real achievement. And yes, we can only improve through making mistakes and thus it is certain that TIBHS can only put on an even greater performance next year. In the end the goal was not to win the argument but rather reflect and learn and simply get better.

"It is the mark of an educated mind to entertain a thought without accepting it," Aristotle. This is exactly what Hasan and I did when we argued in favour of banning meat. As we move forward, we must look back at this event and learn from it. But we must also raise awareness so that a culture of debating can continue to flourish at TIBHS allowing pupils to lead others in the quest for skill and knowledge.

Amine Gherensi 11L1



TIBHS: The Future

The double doors open and you're welcomed by soothing sounds of Maher Zain playing outside the library. The light smell of detergent doesn't go unnoticed whilst you nod hello to the cleaners working tirelessly to make sure the school is immaculate for the day ahead. Though you look around at the building around you, humbling with its aged walls and fluctuating temperature... it is home.

We spend a total of eight hours a day in school – that's a total of 40 hours per week which would result in a total of 7600 hours throughout the year. Multiply that by 5 years and you'll end up with a lot of hours spent in one building. Whilst we know pupils have been excelling year after year in our humble abode, our new home brings forth even more exciting prospects.

The inception of our new building began with a group of pupils travelling across the pond to America to take part in the 'School of the Future' competition in 2013. They performed incredibly, resulting in 2nd place after competing with schools from across the world! They envisioned how they would like our new school to be and what it would stand for. After all these years, the dream, their dream and our dream is finally coming to life.

Our journey so far at TIBHS has been an extraordinary one. Since walking through those double doors, we heard the same phrase blurted by pupils in that same monotonous tone: "it's never going to happen" and "we'll still be in the same building come Year 11." These phrases echoed in our heads as we completed year 9, particularly when hopes of the new school on the horizon faded slowly. The inception of Year 10 brought with it new exciting news for the pupils – the build was well underway. We were finally able to see the vision the boys sold in America brought to life on the streets of Blackburn.

Like many pupils, we were slightly apprehensive when we saw the school for the first time; it was much smaller than we expected. But soon we learned that good things come in small packages. Our experiences in this building have been nothing short of memorable, unique and propelling. Nonetheless, all good things must come to an end and we're confident this new, exciting build will offer that which many pupils (past and present in the Robinson Street and Shadsworth sites) have hoped for. There is no doubt that it will be an abode where we can truly excel as the young leaders our parents, teachers and mentors envisioned. An abode which will always ensure that we are firstly God-fearing and excellent citizens to society.

Six years ago, pupils went to America to exhibit their dream for Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School and now, six years later, six years after our alumni showcased their dream for our school in America... the dream is finally coming true.

Muhammad Sadik Patel 10E3 & Kaleem Desai 10E1



The Road Ahead

It was with great excitement and honour that I met with Duncan Rarity, the man we have trusted to help deliver our dream school; a school which meets the demands of its ever-growing pupils and their needs; a school which will really place TIBHS on the map; a school which will boast state of the art technology.

As I sat in awe, pondering over the plans laid out in front of me, I felt transported to the new building straightaway. With central spaces, café areas and open views there were fewer long corridors (yes, no more being squashed by the towering Year 11s) bigger learning spaces, bigger recreational areas, the school might just become a second home to us!

Dubbed by many as the computer-age children, I know all the Year 7s will be left speechless when they step into the digital room. Fully equipped with 3D printers, the latest computers with high-tech equipment, and access to software to enhance our learning experiences, I know for certain what my favourite subject is going to be at the new school. Whilst I am really cherishing my memories as a new TIBHS student in the current estate at Shadsworth, I must confess: I can't wait until we move to the new building!

Zakariyya Vali 7M3



Almost there...

**I am on countdown.
8 months and 10 days till I move into my new school.
I cannot wait.**

Yes, that's how long we have left until we move to the long-awaited, exciting new premises of our school.

Trust me when I say this: our seniors have gone to great lengths to ensure we are the luckiest kids in town, blessed with learning in what promises to be the best school building in the borough. Here are a few of the peeks:

Spectacular Science Departments:

A strong contrast to the dull, cramped Science classrooms we have to endure, the Science department in the new build have been sleekly designed to create stimulating learning spaces and designated areas for practicals. New discoveries and learning in Science will take on a new dimension as we immerse ourselves in the world of discovery.

Stimulating Sports Department:

Yes, it's a stereotype. But it's a stereotype that largely fits the bill – boys love sports. Well, I certainly do! Being on the school's football team (we have been doing pretty well), I almost did backflips in excitement when the plans for the sports department were unravelled in front of me. With astroturf pitches to show off our sporting talents, we will have the opportunity to flex our muscles in the new gym with hi-tech sports equipment. At the moment, a quick run around the playground seems to be the only bit of fitness we can do. The new building offers so much more – I think some of us will safely be able to aspire to venture into sporting careers with the opportunities and enrapturing sports facilities that are planned.

Tremendous Technology

What really excites me is having access to a 3D printer; I've never used one but I am intrigued at what it can do – the wait really does feel too long.

8 months and 10 days.
I cannot wait. I bet you can't either.

Farhan Abed (Year 7M4)

Design, Plan, Create

As TIBHS prepares to open its brand-new doors in September, the design team has finally shared the gruelling and relentless process of designing and making the new build. Take a look below for a very brief overview of the journey so far:

Stage 1

- Engaging with contractors (Wates Construction) and recruiting a design team: this process alone took twelve weeks to complete.
- Contractors competing to take on the project are given timescales; expectations and other key requirements.
- Competition won by Wates
- Planning permission submitted to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council as this is needed for all new buildings.
- Planning permission granted
- Work finally started on the much awaited new build on the 11th of June 2018.

Stage 2

- Once Wates Construction are confident the roof and windows are finished with no leaks, they will confirm the power on date- and all necessary equipment will be installed and tested to ensure it is safe and in working order.
- The final stage is the installation of the furniture and equipment. For example, kitchen, IT equipment and all the fancy gadgets the school have chosen.

September 2019 - *the much anticipated moment* - all TIBHS staff and pupils to be relocated to the new building!

Raees Ismail 10E3



Interesting Facts

A big thank you to the design and build team who have been working phenomenally hard to get our new school ready for us! Take a look at some of the very big numbers below:

- A Massive 6500m³ (cubic metres) of earth has been moved so far!
- Piles have been equivalent in length to 55 football pitches!
- 360 Tonnes of steel has been erected so far.
- Total time that the work will be carried out over is 210000 hours!
- The amount of time spent designing and managing the build so far has been 6500 hours!

May the Almighty grant us with best of everything in this world and the next. Aameen.



The Lancashire Make It Enterprise Challenge!



In December, 8 pupils from year 9 took part in an educational trip to Burnley College – The Lancashire Make it Enterprise. It was an opportunity to put our knowledge from Computer Science into use as we were given a Dragon’s Den style business opportunity. We went head to head with other schools and even our own teachers! The task was to send vans filled with ice cream (yes, ice cream!) from Burnley to Italy. Roles such as: managing director, designer, engineer, quality controller etc. had to be assigned in a short space of time.

The Task

We had 50,000 pounds to construct a prototype. Although we had unlimited money for the real van, marketing and other resources, we had to be able to justify the amount spent and ultimately make money so it had to be a reasonably priced investment.

The Pitch

Once we completed our project, we then had to pitch our ideas to 3 dragons. These were 3 very talented members of staff from the engineering department at Burnley College. With confidence we pitched our ideas and demonstrated our learning from participating in the project. Although we didn’t win, the staff were keen to comment on some of our fantastic achievements, in particular our team work! Teamwork is one of our STAR values at TIBHS so that acknowledgment was well received by all!

Zubair Ahmed 9H4

A Trip to UCLAN

The University of Central Lancashire is one of the largest universities in the UK, with a pupil and staff community of over 38,000. Ever since UCLAN established their university in 1828, their motto has been, ‘Ex solo ad solem’, or in translation, ‘From the Earth to the Sun’. Since the very beginning, they have been accommodating first-class quality education, providing a diverse and exciting range of courses.

It was the first-time Year 7 had visited the University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN). The specific focus of the trip was to study the different uses of chemistry in everyday life. Lining up outside the school bus, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, the thirty pupils could hardly contain their excitement eager to learn what UCLAN had prepared for them. Their imaginations were fired up and full of excitement of the unknown.

The pupils spent the morning of their visit creating bath bombs. Yes, bath bombs and lip balms. Not something our young boys would buy from the shops, but the pupils revelled in the excitement of creating such popular, everyday products. The highlight of the activity was changing the colours and the pupils coyly competed with each other trying to create the best bath bomb amongst them.

After a quick lunch, the young learners were presented with a variety of puzzles and games, challenging the brightest of our pupils. One of the challenges included using uncooked spaghetti and marshmallows to create a structure that would be high and could hold a small object for the longest time. The boys seemed to unanimously agree this was the toughest challenge they had ever been set, but these young enthusiasts thrived under the challenge with the winning team coming first by just half a centimetre – it had been close!

Umar Vali, one of the participants, and the co-creator of the only multi coloured bath bomb was still buzzing with the excitement of the trip, stating, “It was a great day, and I was quite impressed at how much chemistry we use in everyday life. The outcome was amazing, awe-inspiring and unique. I hope I am part of any UCLAN trips in the future. Going forward, I can really see myself pursuing a career in science.”

It was a fantastic event for the newest and youngest members of our school. Our budding young scientists were overwhelmed with the insight the trip provided them with and developed a good understanding of how their lessons in Chemistry are so vital to the development and innovation of everyday products. They certainly will be looking forward to the next opportunity they have to get creative again.

Huzaifa Kamal 10E2



Oxford or Cambridge? Hmmm...



On the 22nd of September, TIBHS were invited on an amazing experience, courtesy of the best university in the UK: Oxford. This complemented a visit to the University of Cambridge in July 2018. A small cohort of select Year 11 pupils and former adept pupils were taken on an inspirational journey to Newham, London, provided by Oxford University ISOC (Islamic Society). Hamzah Isap, who got a clean sweep of grade 9s in all of his subjects in 2018, was among those who were given this special opportunity. The event was aimed at encouraging and inspiring more Muslim pupils to apply at the prestigious University of Oxford.

A Brief History

Oxford's University is the oldest university in the English-speaking world and is a unique and historic institution. There is no clear date of foundation, but teaching existed at Oxford in some form in 1096; which means it has been teaching and enriching pupils for almost 1000 years! It developed rapidly from 1167, when Henry II banned English pupils from attending the University of Paris. From then, it grew rapidly and quickly became the finest university in the UK.

What do the pupils think?

"It gave me the encouragement I needed to work harder and open up the window of opportunity that TIBHS has provided me with to get into prestigious universities like Oxford and Cambridge." Muhammad Karolia in Year 11 stated about the trip. Adam Balesaria, another aspiring pupil added, "I never thought coming to Oxford was even possible, but going on the trip has made me realise that it can happen."

Overall, the conference demonstrated how easy it is to apply and that anyone can join Oxford's prestigious University and the Year 11s thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

What impact did this visit have on the pupils?

Tauheedul has opened many doors for its pupils. Through these doors, we are given the unique opportunity to take whichever path we wish and having visited such a great university, the pupils now appreciate to what extent the doors of opportunity have widened for them today. Oxford and Cambridge is no longer a distant dream but a reality! The question now is which one? Hmmm...

Muhammad Sadik Patel, 10E3

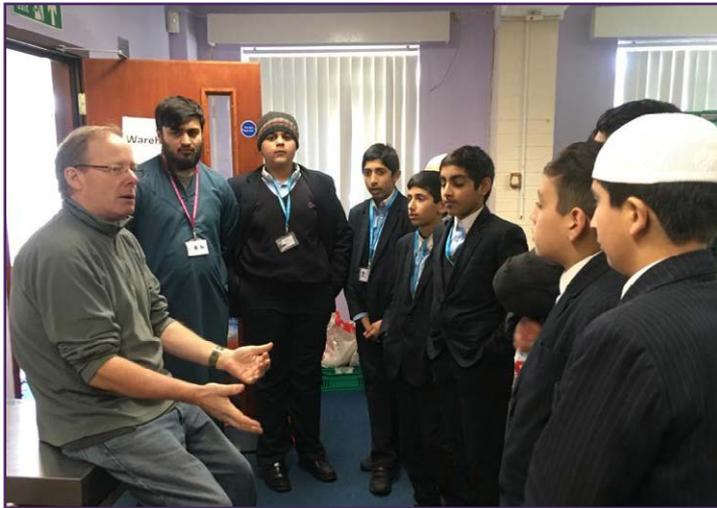


The Foodbank Initiative

What is a foodbank?

Many of us will have heard or seen media stories describing the increased use of foodbanks in the UK, particularly over the last few years. I had the opportunity to find out about the role of foodbanks on our community.

A foodbank is essentially a place where people are able to access basic food and life amenities, which they otherwise cannot afford to buy themselves. Reasons for accessing foodbanks could include poverty, shortfall in earnings or lack of access to sufficient funds. The origins of foodbanks can be found as early as the 1960s in America where the first ones were established.



Why do people need foodbanks?

According to a report by one of the biggest foodbank organisers in the UK, The Trussell Trust, 1.1 million people accessed a 3-day emergency food pack in the year April 2016 to April 2017!

If we just think about this for a few seconds, then it can be truly appreciated how valuable foodbanks are in our community. If they were not available, we start to wonder what would have happened to the 1.1 million people. The figures are even more stark when we consider that nearly half of these people were children. Most of you reading this will probably be under the age of 17, so just imagine what these children must be going through, just imagine how challenging and difficult their lives must be – it really makes us grateful for everything we have in our lives.

What is our school doing to help?

Our school, TIBHS, aspires to raise awareness of this problem and, as pupils representing both British and Islamic values, we know that giving any sort of charity earns the greatest of rewards. In recent years, the need for foodbanks have greatly increased; at TIBHS we want to be at the forefront in supporting and eradicating hunger and poverty. We must all become one in helping our fellow citizens and community members who are experiencing difficult hardships. With the help of the pupil leadership team and Moulana Hussain Hassan, TIBHS is working relentlessly to provide food to those who need it the most through our school foodbank projects. We have a half termly collection where pupils from the Student Shura drop off food items to the foodbank.



As our beloved Prophet taught us: "The believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity". As young, British Muslims, it is our duty to our community to ensure we look after those in need and this foodbank initiative at TIBHS gives us a perfect opportunity to do this.

Keep supporting our foodbank initiatives and keep making a difference.

Muhammad Umair Chati 10E1

A Live Operating Theatre



Over the half term break, TIBHS provided some of its pupils with a fantastic opportunity to see a live theatre in action for the first time ever. Pupils watched on as doctors and nurses worked round the theatre table to dissect a swine!

Pupils got the opportunity to do some dissecting themselves; they took out an eye and even had a go at the liver. The task was not only daunting but so difficult that it seemed impossible, but with sheer persistence and hard work the boys achieved their goals.

The experience taught pupils how difficult the real world is and how important knowledge about the human anatomy is when working to save lives. Yes, doctors are paid well – but the pressure of the role sure justifies their salary!

Interestingly enough, pupils discovered that success in theatre doesn't simply rely on knowledge of medicine but also key skills like communication and teamwork – it was a real eye opener!

Omar Ali Yakub 10E4

Enriching Experiences!

Education is so much more than simply what is learnt in the classroom.

It is for that reason that TIBHS offers an extensive array of enrichment activities. Whatever interests and talents an individual has, we hope pupils will find something exciting to get involved in at TIBHS that will make them emerge as strong future superstars whether it be a sportsman, a doctor or even a business man!

Debating Club:

Do you like to express your opinions? Do you like to argue (within reason of course!)? Do you often persuade your parents to let you stay up a little longer or allow you to play Fortnite for that one hour longer? If so, debate club is for you. Pupils explore the art of public speaking and learn the most effective ways to debate as they put their debating skills together to engage in stimulating conversations with peers and friends. You could also take part in nationwide competitions!

Lego League Club:

Our pupils feel they are extremely privileged to have specialist staff, one of whom is Mr Manubariya, who has undergone training in some wonderful, inspiring interventions to support our pupils reach their full potential. The school has launched a fun-packed intervention: The Lego League Club. Ground breaking research pioneered by innovative and creative researchers show significant gains can be made by our Lego League Club. Over 88% of pupils involved in the Lego League have more interest in doing well in school, and 87% have more interest in attending college, purely due to the Lego League Club.



Football:

School is not just a time for maths and science, hard work and homework, but it was made for memories to stick with you for the rest of your life. What sport is more memorable than football? NONE! The pressure you experience is unreal, the emotions that overpower you are frightening but delightful, the relief and anguish at the final whistle is unimaginable and unthinkable, but our football enrichment transforms ordinary people into leaders on and off the pitch! A huge shout out to The Uniform Company who has sponsored 50 TIBHS Football kits worn by the teams through Yr7-11. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Mad Science:

Learning does not have to end when the bell rings. Therefore, through the Mad Science Cub at TIBHS, our pupils are encouraged to develop their curiosity about the world around them. TIBHS' Mad Science Club has proven to be extremely popular for our younger pupils, as they engage from making a solid that then suddenly dripped through their fingers to dissecting animal hearts and observing how they function! Pupils in Years 7 – 9 have thoroughly enjoyed getting their hands dirty every Wednesday lunchtime! Who knows what experiments are planned next for the Science Club...

Archery:

Do you want to love sport but are just too lazy? Do you think you could be the next Robin Hood? Well our TIBHS Archery club could be the sport for you! Whether you have been ping-pong for years or just want to give it a go, you will fit right in at the club where our pupils feel privileged to learn Britain's ancient, long forgotten sport!

Muhammad Idris Patel 10E2



A Real Scrum!

Tauheedul Boys High School have recently introduced rugby as part of its Enrichment programme. As much as the fact that it is a fun sport, it is also a great sport for many other reasons. It really improves physical fitness, as well as other physical skills - but that's not all - it can also be an incredible confidence booster, and a good way for pupils to learn important lessons that they will remember for life.

The main reason why TIBHS have introduced rugby is because it provides pupils with the opportunity to discipline themselves; this is because rugby is an active sport which means a lot of contact will be involved. Pupils have to learn how to control themselves and how to react in certain situations when decisions don't go their way. People who play team sports like rugby learn a whole host of important social skills such as sportsmanship and fair play, cooperation and team spirit; these are all essential for developing healthy relationships and succeeding at school.

All Year 7 and 8 pupils have started or will be starting rugby in PE. For most of them it was their first time holding a rugby ball, however now, many have become experts at the game. From theory lessons, pupils have slowly moved on to skill based practical where they can start putting everything they learnt into games - the pupils enjoy it immensely.

In the coming term, Year 8 pupils will be playing their first league match representing TIBHS - we wish them the best of luck!

The Year 8 rugby training takes place on Friday's afterschool. These sessions have been held at school, however, in the near future, they will take place at Blackburn Rugby Club in preparation for the important rugby games ahead. The rugby sessions are led by Mr. P Richardson our fabulous P.E Teacher and Gareth Duty a professional rugby coach.

Mr Ditta and the PE department are keen for pupils to to partake and try something new like rugby. You never know, pupils may even surprise themselves and find a hidden talent!

Rayyan Patel 10E1





The Beautiful Game

Football is the most prominent sport with four billion fans scattered across the globe. However, it isn't only watched, it is also played by people of all ages: some play for fun, others compete to win trophies and competitions. Here at TIBHS, each year group has their own football team consisting of the most hardworking and skilful players. Each year group participates in competitions and we often win those competitions (well, we like to anyway).

Each year group has their own designated day in which they stay on after school working hard to train. Some of the activities include: completing drills, playing practice matches and learning new skills. These training sessions are held by football experts Mr Mulla and Mr Richardson, they help us to improve our shooting, passing and defending however most importantly they teach us how to play as a team – the most important ingredient for success is always teamwork in a sport like football!

Mohammed Uwais Ahmed 10E2



A Dream Start for TIBHS

As a team, we, in year 10 are delighted and over the moon to have been recently promoted to a higher league and know and appreciate the value of success; we are ready and determined to rise to the challenges that lie ahead.

On Tuesday 6th November we played OLSJ. Anxious and excited, we arrived at Our Lady & Saint John, to our first game since being promoted wearing our new football kits sponsored by the Uniform Company. P.E teacher Mr Richardson made sure to begin with a real motivational talk and encouraged us to give it our all.

As we started the game, we pressed them from the minute go and we kept them pegged back. Then all of a sudden, we hit them with a counter attack on the left wing and with a quick pass to Muhammad Mulla, the score line soon became 1-0. Not long after, we put pressure on the opposition again and retained control of the ball. With a fast counter attack from the left, I played the ball into Rayyan Patel's feet who finished the ball perfectly past the keeper making it 2-0. And from there we simply controlled the game; keeping possession, defending and attacking well. The 2-0 lead was a comfortable lead and we hoped for a real victory against a tough opponent!

As the game continued, through some nice moves from Hamza Ditta, and Rayyan Patel, we managed to pass our way through, allowing for Saif to comfortably score our third. However, the three goal advantage did not last long, with OLSJ scoring soon after. By half time we were still anxious but the nerves just got worse as we were taken aback by the game so far – it most certainly wasn't what we had expected! Naturally, we started the second half more cautiously, keen to hold on to our lead, however, our nerves created an opportunity for OLSJ to score another and really pile on the pressure!

With a tonne of confidence and courage, we kept our lead - Zak our goal keeper made some fantastic saves!

Then with one swift, flowing counter attack we managed to score a great goal and make the score 4-2. This really helped relieve the pressure and through a striking pass from myself, Muhammad Mulla scored his second of the game to make the final score 5-2! It was a fantastic first game and dream victory in the new league. Hopefully we can take the confidence and the boost from this win into coming matches!

Watch this space...

Kashif Kayani 10E3



NCS

Over the last half term, TIBHS was in a the very fortunate position to be able to pilot the National Citizen Service Programme for Yr 10 pupils.

Traditionally, this has been open to Yr 11 pupils in the summer, once they have left school after their GCSE exams. However, subject to the success of this pilot scheme, moving forward the NCS programme could be made available to Yr 10 pupils and, as a school, we felt this was an opportunity not to be missed! Through the three phases of the programme, the Yr 10 pupils had the opportunity to develop the STAR values (Service – Teamwork – Ambition – Respect), their confidence, knowledge and skills through a variety of fun and engaging activities.

The three phases of the NCS programme are as follows;

Phase 1: a 4 day & 3 night residential. This was truly a memorable 4 days in which pupils engaged in a number of fun and challenging activities which developing the requisite skills for the subsequent phases of the programme.

Phase 2: a number of sessions with the aim of further developing life skills such as confidence, leadership and communication skills

Phase 3: This is where the Yr 10 students' NCS experience came together through the social action project. All the fun and inspiration from the first two phases meant are pupils were ready to step up and, as part of a team, lead on the Winter Warmer charity drive - plan; fundraise; make a difference!

As part of the social action project the Yr 10 pupils aimed to commemorate the 70th year of the invaluable National Health Service (NHS), as follows;

- Nurses – recognising the fantastic work these heroes do, with gift hampers
- Homelessness – providing support with essentials
- Supporting the elderly and lonely

The pupils had an amazing time planning, fundraising and delivering these initiatives. The very keen pupils, dedicated staff and our superb parent shuraa worked tirelessly over a number of weeks to ensure this project was delivered on time and more importantly, made a difference! We were truly humbled by the response of all the recipients and the pupils felt privileged to be able to work as a team and serve the local community.





Twinning Programme

As part of the Twinning Programme, TIBHS has partnered up with Hutton Grammar. This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to visit each other's school, work on projects together and celebrate shared values in a respectful and meaningful forum.

The pupils have really enjoyed this initiative and made some good friends. This year, the pupils have worked on an Anti-Bullying Charter and will soon be visiting each other to deliver assemblies too. More recently, the TIBHS pupils visited Hutton Grammar along with members of the Nasheed choir (oneLight) to participate in the rewards assembly and deliver a nasheed – an event enjoyed by all!



Thank you to the Pupil Newsletter team:

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 Abu Bakr Vali 10E4
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 Raihan Bhika 10E1
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