



5th February 2021

Dear parent/guardian

Assalaamu 'Alaikum (Peace be with you)

I would like to begin by thanking you for your continued support of the school's faith initiatives. Last Friday, TIBHS took part in the trust-wide Quran Recitation programme in which pupils, parents and staff came together to complete several recitations of the Quran, followed by a collective du'aa (prayer). TIBHS achieved a total of 32 completions of the Quran on Friday morning. May I take this opportunity to thank all involved in making this very special, spiritual event a success.

In addition, following feedback from staff, pupils and parents, we have amended our timetables slightly to reinstate Surah Kahf as part of our taught curriculum. The change is to offer the opportunity for all the staff and the pupils to collectively engage in the recitation as this is what is the normal practice on a Friday entails. The first collective session took place today on Friday 5th February at 8:45am. Thankyou to all who joined in for the collective recitation.

Winter Fast Programme

I am pleased to inform you that next week will mark the end of our Winter Fast Programme. As you will recall, the fasting programme started immediately after the October half term break where all pupils and staff were encouraged to fast on Mondays and Thursdays. This year we have had more pupils and staff fasting than we have ever had at TIBHS, and the number of pupils who continued to fast throughout the lockdown has been humbling. The school has raised significant sums of money to donate to charity as a result of the generous contributions made by you as parents from the dinner money which had prepaid over the Autumn Term.

To celebrate the ending of the Winter Fasting Programme, as a school who puts faith at the heart of everything we do, we are strongly encouraging the following activities:

- 1) **Final Fast** - We would like all pupils, parents and staff to join us in fasting on the final Winter Fast of the year. This will take place on **Thursday 11th February**. By having a large number of people fasting across the school community, we hope to attract the mercy and blessings of the Almighty during these dark times.
- 2) **Charity** - We would also like to extend the opportunity for pupils, parents and staff to end this period of fasting with some charity. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be Upon Him) said, 'Give charity without delay, for it stands in the way of calamity' (Tirmidhi). **As such, we would like to invite donations of just £5 per family towards our foodbank** - £5 will feed a vulnerable family in Blackburn with Darwen for a week and donations can be submitted on ParentPay by **Thursday 11th February**.
- 3) **School Activities** – Finally, on **Thursday 11th February**, we will have a series of faith-related activities during the day. There will be opportunities for short bursts of prayer and worship including Quran



recitation and explanation, stories of the companions, nasheeds, durood and dhikr (remembrance & meditation) and input from a guest speaker. This will be led by teachers during lesson time.

At the end of the day, our school community will be praying for those who have lost their lives recently. If you would like somebody close to you to be remembered in our prayers on this day, please complete the form below and we will display their name during our prayers:

<https://bit.ly/3pRav9N>

Spirited Art Competition

The Trust is launching a Spirited Art Competition to prepare pupils in faith schools for the month of Ramadhan. The competition theme is The Month of the Qur'an. In the coming days, we will be asking pupils to research and find a short verse from the Qur'an that inspires them, gives them hope and speaks to them spiritually. People find comfort, reaffirmation, solace and hope in the expression of spirituality, so the competition aims to draw on this. They will be invited to produce a piece of art (such as a poem, picture or sculpture) that represents the verse. This will be an individual response. Pupils will submit work to the school in digital format; for example, by taking a photo of their picture or sculpture and submitting it by email or via MS Teams.

We will be sending out further communication regarding the Spirited Art Competition next week. Winners of this trust-wide competition will be rewarded with prizes.

Ramadhān Activities

As we finalise our plans for Ramadhān, we would like to give this opportunity for parents to send in suggestions of activities they would like to see implemented at TIBHS. Please complete the form below for any suggestions and we will look to see how your ideas could possibly be added to our Ramadhān provision. The deadline for any suggestions is **Friday 12th February**:

<https://bit.ly/36LHfJP>

Finally, I thank you again for your commitment to our cause and request your prayers for the school.

Yours faithfully



(Moulana) Usman Kothia
Assistant Principal