



EDITION 19 -
Winter 2021

THE PEN

القلم

Looking Ahead to the New Normal

Assalamu Alaikum.

As the term draws to a close, once again I have been totally inspired and blown away at the way our pupils have really settled back into school since September through to today.

Although many of our routines and interactions have changed, the world sometimes seems bleak, and at times the volume of COVID guidance has appeared overwhelming, including all the latest advice, the Omicron variant and also the forever changing picture regarding travelling. The many obstacles and challenges that may have characterised this term, you, as parents/carers, have continued to optimise the STAR values and help us each step of the way.

One of the most significant highlights of this academic year has been that we have been operating the school where our young men have been able to engage and interact outside of their own year group. Not being confined to bubbles has seen the school come to life; where pupils in Year 7 are engaging and being inspired by their older brothers in Years 10 and 11.

Staggered breaks and lunches, different entry and exit points are now a thing of the past. It is a great blessing that the school has resumed to an enhanced

level of normality where learning is continuing to deliver at its best, but now we have the additional opportunity of enhancing experiences as part of the wider engagement offer to help build the resilience and character of all our pupils.

Recent guidance which has been released has resulted in the school adopting practices which were part of the everyday norm during the lockdown. As a school we have reintroduced the wearing of face masks, from Monday 29th November 2021. May I thank you for your cooperation in this matter and may I request that you reinforce the wearing of face masks to and from school, during lesson changeovers and also when in large congregations including prayer time. May I stress to you, that it is extremely important that your son complies with the wearing of the face mask and also coming to school with his prayer mat. In addition, please be mindful of any symptoms which are related to COVID-19. If your son is displaying any of the COVID-19 symptoms then please keep your son off school, book a PCR test and await a negative result before returning to school.

Resuming some normality, pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 visited the Lake District on a residential programme where they were able to learn new things and experience new opportunities for the first time.

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- ❖ Page 2 ❖
- ❖ Synergy lessons in MFL
- ❖ Page 3 ❖
- ❖ Muhammad Sahal – NSPCC Board for Change
- ❖ My View on Swimming
- ❖ Page 4 ❖
- ❖ DEAR? Drop Everything And Read!
- ❖ TB6 – Introducing an Outstanding New Sixth Form
- ❖ Page 6 ❖
- ❖ Thank a Teacher Day
- ❖ National Poetry Day
- ❖ Page 7 ❖
- ❖ Prestige and Finesse – TIBHS Hosts Eton's Best
- ❖ Page 8 ❖
- ❖ Foodbank Drive
- ❖ Page 9 ❖
- ❖ BwD Careers Fair
- ❖ Page 10 ❖
- ❖ YR7 & YR8 residential trip: YMCA Lakeside, Cumbria
- ❖ Page 12 ❖
- ❖ Restart a Heart Day
- ❖ Black History Month
- ❖ Page 13 ❖
- ❖ Super Seerah Day
- ❖ Page 14 ❖
- ❖ Islamic Service of Remembrance
- ❖ Page 15 ❖
- ❖ Open Evening
- ❖ Page 16 ❖
- ❖ LAMDA – Examination Success And Touring Oxford, London And Cambridge
- ❖ Page 17 ❖
- ❖ Y11 Guest Speaker: Jayne Ivory
- ❖ Home Bargains Trip
- ❖ Page 18 ❖
- ❖ Talk the Talk Workshop
- ❖ Page 19 ❖
- ❖ Blencathra
- ❖ STAR Shuraa (Council)
- ❖ Page 20 ❖
- ❖ Remembrance Day
- ❖ Anti-Bullying Week



Our elocutionists who are engaging with the LAMDA programme, visited Oxford University, Central London and various prominent sights within London - Cambridge University and the Eco Mosque in Cambridge. Such is the level of ambition of the school to develop all pupils to be the best-rounded individuals they can be, the school will continue to pursue many more opportunities and experiences for the rest of the academic year whilst being mindful of any latest advice and guidance from PHE regarding COVID-19.

It is with great admiration that I am able to continue to narrate that not only did the teachers and the young men switch from year group bubbles to full school integration, but there were many changes which were embraced as part of an ongoing drive to improve our school. As parents whilst looking through your sons' books, you will have seen the latest initiatives from a teaching and learning point of view.

All subjects, across all Year groups, have been introduced to the Visual Learning Journey showing the bigger picture both from a Year 7 to Year 11 point of view in each subject and also how the current learning is connected to the year-long learning programme.

In each subject, our young men have also been given the half termly learning journey which encompasses the learning objectives and outcomes over a period of 6-7 weeks so our pupils can see the bigger picture for the entire half term.

In order for your son to 'Know more and Remember more', we have introduced the 'Knows and Shows' which details the non-negotiable knowledge required in order to support retention and progress which also allows any COVID related absences to be mitigated. There are many other examples which will be detailed throughout the rest of the newsletter, but it would be amiss of me if I didn't spotlight two significant moments of history at TIBHS.

The first is that our school has secured Microsoft Showcase Status in the Autumn of 2021. Primarily, this is as a result of the sterling online work during the pandemic and how the school adapted across many areas using Microsoft to function at the highest capacity. The department for Education did a write up in August 21 (as a case study) for the outstanding work on remote learning during the lockdown ([webpage](#)). By achieving Showcase Status, TIBHS is now part of an exclusive community of 48 schools in the UK and 325 from around the world, which have been recognised for their digital transformation.

The second significant event was the launch of the Sixth Form here at TIBHS – TB6. On the 03 November 2021, in front of a packed audience, TB6 became part of the landscape in and around the Blackburn area, to pursue academic qualifications post GCSE. There will be A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Economics in the first year with an additional offer of completing a vocational Applied Science programme.

TB6 promise to offer a small, intimate, family friendly environment where each learner will be strongly encouraged and supported to meet their aspirational grade to secure a place in the best University/Degree Apprenticeship. All of the academia will take place in a faith intelligent environment which will strive to build the best opportunities to support character development.

For now, let's stay steadfast in our sincerity and our intentions to have an uncompromising and relentless drive to work together to deliver the best quality of education both at school and at home and have a zero tolerance towards COVID having any detrimental and longer term impact on the young men at TIBHS. Let's keep these thoughts at the forefront of our minds to find the motivation and inspiration to continue to move onwards and upwards even if the coming days and weeks over the winter months may be bleak and difficult.

Mr M Ditta,
Principal



Synergy lessons in MFL

In MFL, technology plays a vital role in language learning and contributes greatly to enhancing pupils' learning more and remembering more especially after the pandemic.

As a result, synergy lessons are embedded in the learning sequence in order to practise and rehearse vocabulary and to listen to or read stories in the target language pupils learn. For example, Quizlet is an online application which introduces vocabulary on flash cards with pronunciation and meaning in English. It then generates these words into a variety of engaging activities including multiple choice, translate, spell, write and test. It also creates word games to make it more fun. Pupils find Quizlet very helpful because of its interactivity and being able to use it independently at home.

Mantra Lingua is another online application for listening to and reading stories. It has a plethora of written and audio stories in different languages, translated in English and recorded in native speakers' voices. This encourages pupils to read stories and learn about culture.

The use of Synergy lessons is a great tool to develop our pupils' fluency and pronunciation as well as broaden their vocabulary knowledge which impacts the quality of their spoken and written language.

Muhammad Sahal – NSPCC Board for Change

Muhammad Sahal, one of our aspiring Year 10 pupils, has offered almost a year's service to NSPCC.

We are very proud of Muhammad Sahal's achievements through his role as part of the NSPCC children's board, where he was selected as part of a rigorous process to represent young people nationally, and shape the NSPCC. He has played an active role in working hard for the charity; some of the prestigious events Muhammad Sahal has contributed to include:

- Hosting Her Royal Highness, Duchess of Wessex, who is the patron and CEO of the NSPCC
- BBC News interview regarding Covid and return to school
- SKY FYI interview on the Young People's Board for Change, NSPCC, and Childhood Day
- Contributing to a mental health article for First News, a youth newspaper
- Media training
- Safeguarding training
- Childline training
- NSPCC campaign training
- Quality assuring ChildLine posters including modifying the posters before launch
- Creating a video message for volunteers during Thank You day
- Selection for the judging panel at the prestigious Esther awards, celebrating eureka moments which make a difference to the lives of children.

Muhammad Sahal is making an invaluable difference for the children of Britain; we are delighted he is epitomising our STAR values.



My View on Swimming

My name is Mohammed Dudhwala and I felt it was necessary to share, with pupils from TIBHS, my experience the last seven strenuous yet rewarding weeks of swimming, at Blackburn with Darwen Leisure Centre.

Firstly, of course there are many benefits to swimming. When we take a brisk walk, run a few miles or even take a few laps around the pool, we immediately feel what movement does for us. We feel a change in our breathing. Our heart starts beating faster. And we can feel the blood pumping through our system. Afterwards those endorphins kick in and we feel less stressed, more energized, and happy. We feel ready to tackle the world.

While these are worthwhile factors to begin a regular exercise routine, often the spiritual benefits are ignored. But let me share how this has benefited me spiritually. Did you know that Islam narrates swimming as Sunnah? What this means is that this particular activity is deemed one of the liked acts carried out by our beloved Prophet Muhammad SAW. So, what you see as just a fun and exciting 20-minute splash-about in your local swimming pool, is in fact being rewarded by the generous Almighty, Allah.

Now, allow me to share more about the experience itself at BwD. With thanks to the Almighty, Tauheedul Islam Boys High School provided my year 8 group, with the opportunity to go swimming once a week. I still recall what the first week was like. I was just a novice splashing around in the shallow end. But now, I'm in the group with elites performing 2-3 laps at a time. Thanks to the Merciful, the opportunity has advanced me to become an adept swimmer and the instructors were all contributors to this- their warm and friendly demeanour dispelled any reluctance or fear that clouded my thoughts in the instant.

The process itself was warming as we initiated the course with a warmup game called 'Copy Cat'. We were put into groups of two and we were delegated an act to carry out in the pool, thereafter, our partner had to imitate the act. This practice enabled us to feel more comfortable in our surroundings and get out of our comfort zone- ready for the real work to begin. This consisted of swimming an entire lap without using our arms. Difficult right? Well, our specialist instructor delivered a plethora of techniques to be a successful swimmer and I can't wait for you all to have the same experience if not better! I can't wait for the swimming programme to be rolled out to the entire school!





DEAR? Drop Everything And Read!

“Today a reader; tomorrow a leader.” Margaret Fuller
The Covid-19 pandemic, PS5 and endless supply of series on Netflix has pushed reading at the bottom of the pile for many. But not for us, at TIBHS. With the introduction of DEAR time since September, Tuesday morning fun-time is worth looking forward to!

As much as some of my fellow peers really love reading (yes... we actually discuss book plots and characters!), it has become a daily challenge for so many others. Rather than picking a book and being transported to a new world, for some, switching on the television seems far easier. The consequence? No time to read books and articles.

Yet, if we do want to become tomorrow’s leaders, we must read. DEAR time, every Tuesday morning at form time, give every pupil – and teacher – valuable reading time. Time to immerse themselves in a fictional world of adventure; time to make friends with characters in books; time to appreciate the power and pleasure of reading. The introduction of DEAR has been an excellent way to start the day and it really does help create harmony and warmth throughout their school day.

For the less reluctant readers, a fantastic mentor and buddy system has been in place to give these readers an opportunity to practise their reading skills so they can truly enjoy the pleasure reading brings.

Walking in this morning, I just saw some pupils with their heads burrowed in books, cosily tucked away in the canteen booths. This is what DEAR time is all about -inspiring reading beyond the classroom.

If we want to be tomorrow’s leaders, then reading is the way forward for us all!

Isa Suleman 9T5



TB6 – Introducing an Outstanding New Sixth Form

TB6, our new Sixth Form, will build on the school’s existing strong academic record and will provide students with a well-rounded educational experience based on the school’s existing leadership specialism and Islamic faith ethos.

In its first year, TB6 will offer core STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) related subjects, including A levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics Economics and Mathematics as well as a vocational qualification in BTEC Applied Science. Students will also study an AS level in Modern Foreign Languages. The school intends to extend the range of subjects on offer in future years as it looks to expand its provision to even more sixth form students over several years.

Students attending TB6 will participate in the TB6 Excellence programme, where students will be supported to fulfil their career goals and aspirations through personalised learning and progression pathways. They will be given the opportunity to participate in specialist programmes to prepare for entry into elite universities, apprenticeship schemes, and benefit from a leading careers programme.

Alongside the Sixth Form’s academic offer, students will also take part in programmes designed to develop their character, including charitable and fundraising activities, an opportunity to experience international travel and tailored mentoring programmes supported by industry leaders.



TB6 will open at the school's purpose-built, current campus on Summer Street. Sixth Form students will have exclusive access to dedicated classrooms, a private study space and the TB6 lounge, as well as benefiting from the school's state-of-the-art learning and sports facilities.

Majid Ditta, Principal at TIBHS, said that he was thoroughly delighted to be launching the sixth form, which he hopes will enable generations of young men to achieve their career aspirations.

He said: "Our school has a long tradition of supporting pupils to achieve excellent and well-deserved outcomes."

"The launch of our new sixth form, TB6, is a natural progression in our school's offer to pupils and one which will I hope will lead to even better Key Stage 5 outcomes and greater opportunities for our students."

"TB6 will enable us to support our existing pupils and other young men from the local community to secure the grades they need at A level and BTEC to take their chosen next steps, in addition to developing the skills and leadership qualities to set them apart from the competition when applying for university and career opportunities."

"We will provide tailored support to a small cohort, creating a family feel, where learning and career pathways can be personalised to support each learner to fulfil their potential and achieve their ambitions."

"At TIBHS, we have unparalleled integrity, loyalty and compassion towards our young men. Thanks to the commitment and dedication of our incredible staff, we can ensure that future generations of learners experience the very best education possible. We look forward to welcoming our inaugural sixth form cohort to TB6 in September 2022."

Applications are now open; please visit www.TB6.co.uk for further information.



TB6 Introducing an Outstanding new Sixth Form
Opening September 2022



TB6 Open Evening
Wednesday
3rd November



Tauheedul Boys



Part of Star



Thank a Teacher Day

There was lots of excitement and buzz around the school as our staff were treated to a special meal on Tuesday, 05 October, in recognition of their hard work and efforts in school. It was a rewarding afternoon for our teachers to recognise their daily selfless spirit, commitment, and stellar efforts for the young people in our school.

Immersed in the daily grind of lesson planning, assessments and, what sometimes feels like an endless cycle of marking, it becomes difficult to make time to step back and speak to colleagues. The special lunch forced all of us (yes, even those who are buried and hidden away in the work areas) to catch up with fellow colleagues.

Above all, everyone values appreciation. The delicious feast set out before us all reflected being valued and respected within the school. It gave us all the opportunity to celebrate our dedication, commitment, and achievements to ensure our pupils are offered the best opportunities whilst at school and for this to be a stepping stone to greater things beyond school.



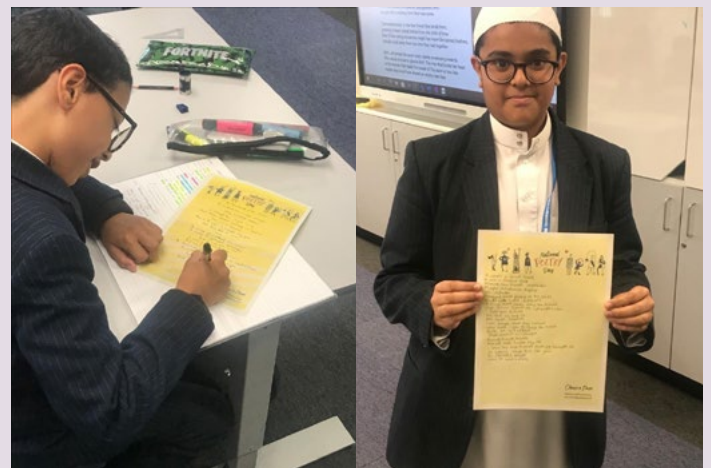
National Poetry Day

National Poetry Day is a UK-wide celebration of poetry. This event was acknowledged and celebrated at TIBHS on Thursday 7th October 2021 and the theme commemorated was Choice.

The theme of choice is deliciously broad. It is, of course, something we generally take to be positive: more choices are good, fewer choices are bad. Choice is freedom. Choice is autonomy. But what about choices you've already made? We know not every choice is good but what about the bad choices you've already made? The kind you wish you could remake- perhaps because they failed to make you freer or happier?

This is what inspired us to share Jacob Hill's sensational poem 'Drifted Away, Together' with Year 8 pupils. It was selected from a bank of thousands of beautiful poems by 'First Story young writers' aged 11-18. The poem is evocative and raw, picking away at the terse rancour a couple feels as their once-loving relationship spirals into nothingness. And yet what is so touching about this poem is how Jacob also conveys the love this couple have for one another, which they are too scared, angry, or alienated to admit, each – it seems – wishing the other would call a ceasefire.

This prompted pupils to produce their own poems reflecting on their past choices. They discussed whether they would react differently if, in hindsight, they were aware of the consequences of their choices.



Prestige and Finesse – TIBHS Hosts Eton’s Best

On Wednesday 6th October, TIBHS had the privilege of hosting Tom Arbuthnott and Justin Nolan from the world-famous Eton College. Tom Arbuthnott oversees Eton’s strong and multiple relationships with state sector schools and the community engagement programme, as well as the annual summer schools.

Tom studied at both Oxford and Cambridge universities before becoming a teacher in 2004. From 2010-2016, Tom led an award-winning outreach programme at King Edward’s School, Birmingham. An Old Etonian himself, he returned in 2016 as Eton’s first Director of Outreach and Partnership (and then Deputy Head). In 2019, Tom oversaw the launch of the Thames Valley Learning Partnership-creating a foundation for collaborative and effective cross-sector relationships between local schools and students.

Justin Nolan took a history degree at Trinity College, Cambridge. He joined Eton in 1991 and has been here ever since- save for a short foray into the world of fund management where he worked for Société Générale with a focus on emerging markets. Justin teaches History and History of Art at Eton. He has been Head of History of Art and organised regular trips to Florence, Rome and Venice. Between 2006 and 2017, he was a House Master. Between 2017 and 2020 he was the Deputy Head (Co-Curricular) in charge of Sport, Music, Drama, Outdoor Education, the CCF and a host of other associated activities. Justin has also been responsible for the Friends of the Eton College Collections since 2008.

The aim of this high-profile visit was for the esteemed guests to witness first-hand the Star values, expectations and routines at TIBHS. The visitors were given an opportunity to observe the academic standards, our knowledge rich curriculum and high-quality teaching. Mr Ditta summarised the event by saying, ‘We were extremely proud to host our guests from Eton. They were given the full TIBHS experience and left extremely impressed with our offer. The visit resulted in an exciting invitation from our esteemed guests for members of the TIBHS team to visit Eton College.’





Foodbank Drive

Being a faith school, serving our community is paramount. Throughout the week, our school is tasked with collecting food for charity.

Every Friday, we make food parcels packed with pasta, rice, vegetables, cereal. We also have tinned food; including beans, delicious mango chunks, peas, and more! At times, we are fortunate to receive scrumptious desserts like Victoria cakes or chocolate brownies and add these whilst also providing hygiene items such as hand sanitiser, soaps, masks, gloves.

Through half termly special days like non-uniform days and fun days such as the Macmillan Coffee Morning, we raise money to pay for food and subsequently fund our food bank. We recently held a Seerah day where everyone brought in £1 and each year group were tasked to bring in a specific type of food: Y7 biscuits, Y8 Cereals etc. through which we amassed heaps of food and lots of money!

Whilst making these boxes, we felt really appreciative for what we have and also made us grateful for our day-to-day opportunity to serve, a key value in our STAR vision.

Offering the foodbank services continued during the lockdown and we as pupils of TIBHS are delighted that our STAR Academy Trust won the Education Hero award at the Lancashire Telegraph's Community Heroes ceremony on Monday 6th December.

Mohammed Dema and Rayyan Khanjra (Year 9)



Blackburn Is Hiring: BwD Careers Fair

On Wednesday 13th October, Year 10 pupils visited Ewood Park for the annual Careers Fair, Blackburn is Hiring, organised by BwD New Directions. Multiple education, training and apprenticeship providers were present to guide our young men with making aspirational choices for their futures.

Businesses and providers that were represented on the day included, Eurogarages, Specsavers, RAF, Royal Navy, Lancaster University, The Princes Trust and many more. Pupils were offered guidance prior to their attendance on the day by FuturesU to ensure their attendance was fruitful and beneficial.

It was a special occasion for our school too as it was the first external event where our Sixth Form provisions were showcased. We had an overwhelming response from young people on the day, which was an excellent testament to the future successes of TB6.

We look forward to strengthening our connections to ensure our young men thrive in the future from the invaluable experiences Blackburn With Darwen can offer.





Y8 Residential Trip: YMCA Lakeside, Cumbria

On Friday 15 October 2021 Tauheedul boys (year 8) set off at 7.00am to go to Lake district (YMCA). It was our first residential trip since covid 19, so we knew we were in for a treat. Most students barely slept the night before due to excitement, so you can imagine how we were all feeling. Ready for a night away with all our school friends.

We arrived at 8.30am and on first sight, we were in awe. We weren't expecting such a huge campus. We got off the coach and were led to our cabins to lay down luggage, some of us packed luggage like we were going away for a month, but we had to make sure we had everything we needed.

Once we got ourselves organised, instructors escorted to our first activity of the day. We started with canoeing, and what a way to start, it definitely woke us up when that cold lake water splashed in the face. Carefully, we steered the canoe across the lake which was enormous. After the first activity came to an end, it was time for lunch. We were led into the dining area where lunch was served. With a variety of hot food to choose from and as much juice as we wanted. We also had our dinner there later in the day and breakfast the next morning, all amazing spreads.

As the morning led into the afternoon and afternoon into evening, activities filled the day making sure our daily prayers were scheduled in, so none were missed. We were given an hour rest before a big surprise. We were taken into the middle of the forest where a huge campfire took the spotlight. So much effort put in from teachers just to make sure our experience was heightened. Excitedly, we sat around the campfire while a late surprise meal was being prepared - burgers and fries; it couldn't get any better, but it did. The night closed with a nice cup of hot chocolate, listening to peers and teachers praying quraan and nasheeds, it just felt like the perfect end to a perfect day.

On Saturday 16 October 2021, we were up for an early start, which taught us a lot, having to clean our rooms and remove our bed sheets. It actually made me realise how much our parents do for us. It's a shame we couldn't stay longer, it was our last day at Lakeside, but all good things come to an end. As we completed the activities of the morning, I knew I wouldn't forget this tremendous experience.

The coaches arrived, I thanked the amazing staff for an experience that I would always remember.

Riyad Ibrahim



YR7 Residential Trip: YMCA Lakeside, Cumbria

On Friday 29th October, Year 7 had a residential trip to YMCA Lakeside. The YMCA is in the Lake District, Cumbria. We had to arrive at the school for 6:30am, leaving TIBHS at 7am!

We travelled in a coach, arriving at the YMCA youth centre at around 8:30am. Our lodgings overlooked the stunning, picturesque Lake Windermere with the colours of orange, yellow and reds powering through the deep blue waters of the lake. Year 7s took part in many challenging activities, such as: orienteering in the dark, a team game called Night Line, archery and fun challenges such as riddles!

Most of these activities involved teamwork and patience. For example, in Night Line, which was an activity that involved getting very muddy and dirty, we all had to stand in a line- blindfolded and had to hold onto only a rope to guide us.

We had to get through obstacles, avoid trees and make sure we didn't fall over stones and branches. Wow, that was difficult! We had to work as a team, supporting one another and advising the people behind us in the line about the coming obstacles. This was a great way to work as a team, trust ourselves and one another and take on challenges that tested us. Additionally, it was fantastic opportunity to get to know the other students.

Personally, my favourite activity was the orienteering. This was another activity that involved teamwork and it also involved map skills. Using a map, we had to find certain points around the YMCA grounds, all the way from the car park to the woods! And to make it even more challenging yet exciting, we completed this in the dark!

Upon reflection, it was a phenomenal trip (albeit the weather was not great) and was great to do it with all my friends and TIBHS. I would certainly go again and would recommend it to anyone!!

Eesa Sufi





Restart a Heart Day

On Friday 15th October, TIBHS took part in Restart a Heart Day. Pupils across the school took part in CPR lessons as it is vital to know what to do in case of an emergency.

Knowing CPR is crucial, especially after the case of Danish midfielder Christian Eriksen, who collapsed on the field, during the European championship. Pupils used CPR dummies taking turns to preform CPR. Overall, students came away with the knowledge on what to do in case of an emergency, who to contact to ensure that everyone is safe.

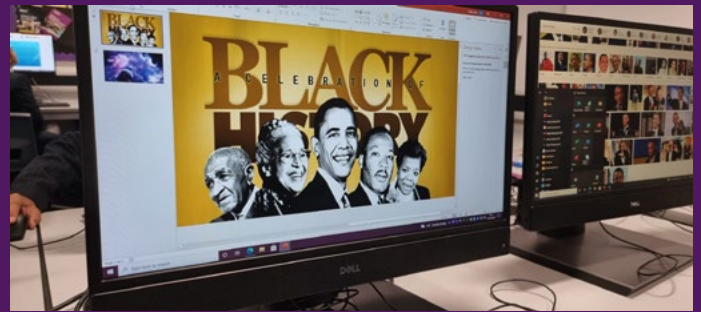


BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month

At TIBHS, our refectory is decorated with pictures of key black men and women, whose lives will be key discussion points in lessons throughout October.

Each subject was tasked with choosing an individual that can be linked to their particular subject area throughout the month. For example, History chose Olaudah Equiano and PE chose Nelson Mandela. This allowed staff and students to not only carry on with their learning but to learn about prominent black figures throughout the month.



Super Seerah Day

What a day! Our students were buzzing with excitement and delight from the moment it was announced. It was fun yet an exceptionally educational experience.

The day consisted of 5 activities:

Learning about the family tree of the Prophet Muhammed (PBUH)

Hadiths

Quizzes

Using Maths in the Seerah of the Prophet

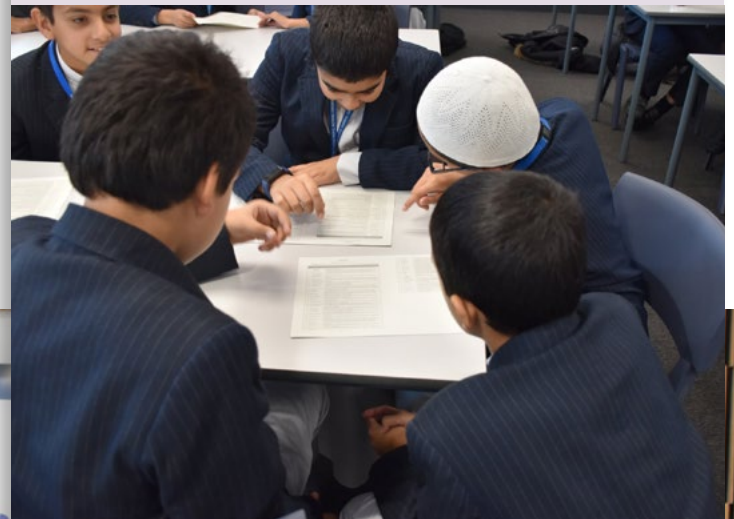
Qualities of the most beloved Prophet Muhammed (PBUH)

Students were given time to memorise the key facts on His blessed life and then they were tested in a special room; away from all others in a game of 'How well do you know your Prophet?'

A camera loomed over students with their form groups watching on with a keen eye supporting and cheering them on. It was also a non-uniform day where pupils wore a white jubbah and a white hat and brought in £1 for the food bank. Some food and cleaning supplies were brought in and given to the Foodbank in an effort to raise money for the Foodbank.

I particularly enjoyed the maths activity! My friends and I had to memorise the years where special events happened during the Seerah. For example, when the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was born it was 570AD. Then in the test we were given addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division sums to solve. We had to work out the sum and find out what happened at that specific year. Khalid Moosa said, "It was overall an enjoyable and beneficial time, I loved it!" The part of the day I enjoyed the most was the last game as it was tense and decisive to which form would win.

Raiyan Ahmed Y9





Islamic Service of Remembrance:

The National Muslim Service of Remembrance took place at the British Muslim Heritage Centre in Manchester and pupils from TIBHS were honoured to have been invited to the prestigious event. The event honours the significant contribution of Muslim troops who fought for Britain during the World Wars and acknowledges their sacrifices.

During the service, a range of organisations came together to pay their respects with speeches from Major General David Eastman, General Officer Commanding Regional Command and from the Parliament for Manchester, Gorton Afzal Khan, MP. Umar Saleh from TIBHS made an inspiring contribution to the event with a poignant reading on the life of Abdul Hafiz Khan, a Muslim soldier of the British Army.

Jamal Rehman, a Year 11 prefect who attended the event, mentioned, 'It was a great honour to represent TIBHS at this event. We met with dignitaries to commemorate the selfless sacrifices of those who came before us.'

Annually, as British citizens, we all have the opportunity to commemorate and recognising the lives of those soldiers who lost their lives to protect our country. For our pupils, this event gave them the opportunity to participate in a wider commemoration and appreciation of the soldiers' sacrifices.

It is very heartening to have had positive feedback from Major Naveed Muhammad MBE R Signals:

I wanted to drop you a line to say a huge thank you to the students as well as Moulana Mohammed Daji and Br Ismaeel Hussain of Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School for taking the time to attend and contribute at this year's National Muslim Service of Remembrance that took place at the British Muslim Heritage Centre on Sat 30th Oct 21.

The Service of Remembrance gave those attending an opportunity to listen to a number of readings relevant to the event. All these were selected for specific points of the service. One was about Abdul Hafiz Khan, a Muslim soldier of the British Indian Army who was awarded a Victoria Cross for gallantry he showed during the battle of Imphal in Burma during WW2. It is a powerful story that tells of the fact that Abdul Hafiz Khan was killed during the battle and left behind a wife and very young child. This story, read by Umar Saleh of TIBHS, was placed in the programme at a stage quite close to the traditional 2 minute silence. Despite his young age, Umar added to the poignant nature of the moment by the way he delivered the reading, a fact mentioned by all of the guests that I spoke with afterwards.

All of the TIBHS students conducted themselves to the highest standards at all times, whether when interacting with themselves or with other invited guests. Particular mention must be made about how many of them took the time to meet a 97 year old Muslim veteran of WW2 – he is a wonderful individual and the students were able to learn of his experiences as a soldier fighting in Italy as a member of the British Indian Army.

Thank you for your support in making this year's event a very special one indeed. I have no doubt whatsoever that the students from TIBHS as well as those at TIGHS made this possible.

Open Evening – Welcoming More of Our Community Into Our Fold

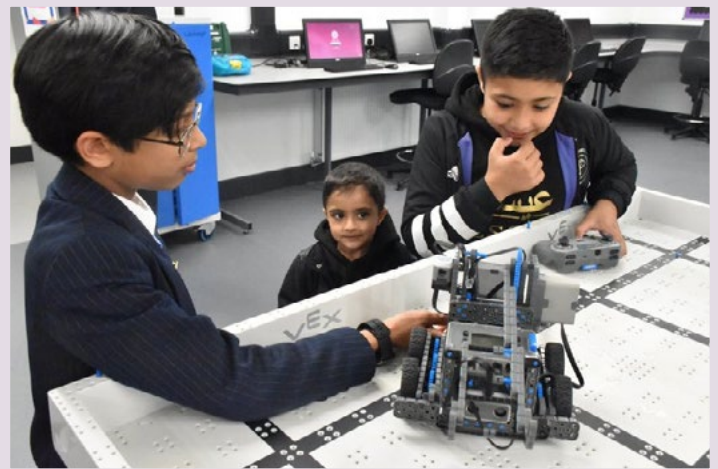
Thursday, 30th of November 2021 – a date firmly impressed into our calendars for our first face to face Open Evening following the disruption of the pandemic.

It was with a great flurry of excitement that teachers embarked on preparing to showcase their teaching hubs to prospective pupils and their parents. Activities prepared and planned; classrooms dressed and set; teachers full of energy and enthusiasm. As the doors opened to welcome all our guests, our TIBHS family brought to life what our school is all about: academic achievement, social and cultural and spiritual enrichment, and most of all a real care and commitment towards our pupils.

Beyond the excitement of Countdown, Lego builds, Math Conundrums and Treasure Hunts, parents and pupils had the opportunity to speak to teachers and observe all the work our pupils produce throughout the school. More importantly, they say a pupil reflects his school and it was inspiring for our prospective parents to be able to speak to our current cohort of pupils to gauge their experiences of the school.

One of the evening's highlights would have to be the key speech from our Principal, Mr Ditta. It was heart-warming to see that our real success comes from the commitment, passion, and promise that our principal enthuses. We have a relentless drive to strive for success for all our pupils and this is what our Open Evening was all about – showcasing what we do to achieve this success.

Although most of our teachers, and our volunteering pupils will have welcomed the warmth and comfort of their beds after an energetic evening, the success from the event was certainly something to celebrate!





LAMDA – Examination Success And Touring Oxford, London And Cambridge

Our first cohort of pupils on the LAMDA Verse and Prose programme performed brilliantly in their first assessment in the summer term.

The process of preparing for and succeeding in a LAMDA examination helps learners to develop a broad range of skills that will serve them throughout life. The examinations develop a learner’s ability to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- expand vocabulary to improve powers of self-expression
- improve confidence in speaking and listening
- memorise and recall information
- research and create persuasive formal presentations
- create and defend arguments
- engage in constructive informal conversation
- work both on their own and participate as a member of a team.

The spectacular performance in the examination spurred a trip extravaganza for our young men to the cities of Oxford, London and Cambridge. Pupils enjoyed a two-day residential with the first stop at the University of Oxford.

They were transported in a luxury coach, before checking in at the hotel accommodation and moving swiftly to enjoy the critically acclaimed, Lion King theatre show at the West End. The fun didn't stop there as they ventured out into the City of London for post-show sightseeing, including Leicester Square and Trafalgar Square.

With the excitement of the next day looming, pupils were up bright and early enjoying a hearty breakfast at the hotel before moving onto the University of Cambridge. Here they marvelled at the stunning grounds of the St John’s College and learnt about the application process to Oxbridge with our host, Elsie. Pupils walked the streets of Cambridge visiting traditional sweet shops strolling through the picturesque town centre under the glorious winter sun.

The final visit of the trip proved a show-stopping finale at the award-winning Cambridge Central Mosque. A melodious Jumu’ah prayer recitation preceded an inspiring tour of the architectural spectacle. The enriching experience created a buzz for our pupils, who are encouraged to studiously prepare for their looming assessment in the coming months, for the next grading examination in LAMDA Verse and Prose.



Y11 Guest Speaker: Jayne Ivory, Strategic Director For Children And Education

TIBHS were honoured to host Jayne Ivory, Strategic Director for Children and Education, on Monday 8th November. Jayne gracefully led a talk with Year 11s on aspirations and following childhood dreams.

Her words of wisdom were a timely reminder to Year 11 pupils that grit, determination and a fantastic ethic can be the superpower against all odds. The message was clear: anyone can fly, you just need to have the want and need to do it. Jayne's contribution to the community and her dedication to children's education was truly inspirational and enlightening for our young men.

Jayne left us with the inspirational and impassioned quote from Theodore Roosevelt;

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Year 11 pupils walked away from the talk with a renewed sense of purpose as they move into the gruelling pre-examinations season. Jayne's excellent speech ended with a tour of learning in classrooms and a delectable brunch shared with Student Leaders in the Boardroom.



Home Bargains Trip for SEND Boys

To mark the end of Autumn Term 1, a short trip was arranged for the SEND boys across Year 7 to 11 to visit Home Bargains. The purpose of the visit was for the boys to gain a greater insight into how supermarkets operate and display products, as well as becoming confident purchasers of items.

The boys walked around Home Bargains and scanned through each aisle and were then able to buy items of their choice within their budgets.

The boys independently chose and brought an item within their budget which was given to the food bank. The boys were able to communicate effectively with the store assistant at the checkout.

To complete the outing, the boys had the opportunity to visit the Home Bargains Café, where they were able to purchase hot or cold beverages and sandwiches and have a chance to interact with boys from other year groups.

The boys learnt the following skills:

Social skills – interacting and supporting each other

Life skills – purchasing everyday essentials

Numeracy skills- managing a budget and assessing better value

This experience was valuable to the pupils as it allowed them to put into practice key life skills.



Year 9 - Talk the Talk Workshop

On Monday the 8th and Tuesday the 9th November, Year 9 students had the opportunity to engage in a Talk The Talk workshop throughout the entire day. This involved teaching and practicing a plethora of essential skills, transferable in their day to day lives and across the curriculum- while learning core components around visual, vocal and verbal communication.

What is a Talk the Talk workshop and how did it benefit students?

Talk About Communication was a collaborative and engaging oracy workshop which taught; developing the use of structure in presentations, essay writing and exam answers. Students were taught to identify and use persuasive language techniques to get their message across.

Workshop aims:

- Speaking confidently and persuasively
- Preparing for speaking and listening assessments
- Providing the tools to structure talks and essays
- Practising impromptu speaking
- Expressing ideas and keeping to the point



During the workshop, the students had the opportunity to:

- Create a personalised talk topic generator
- Talk about their own confidence levels when speaking in front of others
- Study and apply the different modes of human communication
- Deliver a structured talk about a peer using persuasive techniques
- Deliver impromptu talks on a variety of topics with transferable structure
- Identify their individual passions and opinions to then structure and deliver a presentation without notes to their peers.

Impact of the workshop:

Following the Talk the Talk workshop, we were able to obtain the impact of the workshop. Pupils developed their confidence, presentational and oracy skills which they can apply in future roles outside their school environment.

Oracy Champions

Two students were identified and acknowledged as Oracy Champions: Youssef Nagati and Zeyad Elmatswally. They performed exceptionally well in front of their class and successfully persuaded the audience of their chosen topics.





Blencathra

Year 10 Geography students attended the Field Studies Centre in Blencathra to complete a core part of their specification. Fieldwork is an integral part of the Geography course and so students arrived at Blencathra to complete a river study.

They had a hypothesis to gather data to see whether a river changes its shape as it moves downstream. Data was collected at three points in the upper course of a river using rulers, measuring tape, and getting into the river itself!

The journey started with a 3-mile hike into Glendeterra Beck- just north of Keswick in the Cumbrian Mountains. Walking along a footpath and seeing river features in real life really bought the classroom learning they had recently done to life.

Students ate lunch outside and made sure no rubbish was left behind to damage such a pristine environment. Overall, students really enjoyed the fieldtrip as it had been their first one in over two years! They are looking forward to many more similar opportunities in Geography.



STAR Shuraa (Council)

Headboy, Muhammad S Patel, and Deputy Headboy, Muhammed Karbhari, participated in the recent STAR Academies Council meeting representing our student body at TIBHS.

During the meeting, pupils explored "promoting reading in school", including strategies within our school where they shared our experiences with DEAR time and the vast range of books available in the popular library. Pupils discussed their experiences with reading and the importance of reading non-fiction texts as well as reading for leisure.

Her Majesty, The Queen's Jubilee celebrations were discussed where pupils shared ideas on celebrating her 70th anniversary as a monarch. It is a historic moment as this is the first time any British monarch has reached this milestone.

This historic event will reflect on Her Majesty's reign, and her impact on the UK and the world since 1952. Activities will be held through 2022 in the run up to a four-day Bank Holiday weekend of celebration. Council members were asked:

- What activities could be held in school to mark and celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee?
- What ways can we celebrate together and give thanks as a trust?

When considering the questions, they thought about the different ways in which we can celebrate and pay tribute to Her Majesty, the Queen including; celebratory events, commemorative art, poetry or voluntary work. It was an enlightening meeting with fellow pupils across the STAR schools and our Headboy and Deputy Headboy very much look forward to participating in the next meeting taking place in the Spring term.



Remembrance Day

Senior cadets and the CFAV (Cadet Forces Adult Volunteers) attended the remembrance event on the 14th of November at Corporation Park, Blackburn. This was the first open event to the public since the easing of Covid restrictions and there were many people lying in wait.

Members of the Army, Navy and Sea cadets were in attendance and completed a parade from the Blackburn Cathedral to the Corporation Park Statue. Dignitaries from across the political sphere, local councillors, and students from various schools laid wreaths at the foot of the armistice statue.

A 1-minute silence was observed, and a prayer was said for the fallen.

"We will remember them."



Anti-Bullying Week at TIBHS

Anti-Bullying week is a very special week in the school calendar. This week, even more than others, we aim to fight bullying, hate and inequality at every level of the school. At TIBHS, we make it our sole aim to make it a more peaceful, tranquil, and nurturing environment for our students.

We aimed to fulfil this goal through many of our lessons including Life Skills, Art and English. We launched our competition #OneKindWord through our Art department where we designed adjectives for kindness. These were then projected on the main screens in school including "Respect" "Warmth" and "Positivity".

At our school, we have an Anti-bullying policy with zero tolerance to any kind of hate and power inequality. We displayed this in English by writing powerful acrostic poems describing the effects of love, happiness and fighting hate and bullying.

By Yousuf Bux Y7

TIBHS would like to wish all pupils, parents, staff and stakeholders a safe, blessed and peaceful end to the term, working towards a restful break over the December Holidays and festive period.

A huge thank you to all staff and pupils that have contributed to the publication of the Winter edition newsletter.

