



EDITION 22 –
Winter 2022

THE PEN

القلم



And they're off...

Assalamu alaikum / Peace be upon you,

It doesn't seem too long ago when I last wrote to you - back then however, the days were longer, the sun was shining, the exam season was over and as a school community, we were getting ready for the summer break. Fast track to today where long dark nights have crept upon us, whilst the bitter cold sets in, we are mid-way through our Autumn term 2 and counting down to our Winter holidays.

Over the coming weeks, all year groups will be preparing for the End of Term 1 Fluency Composites (assessment/exams). Please ensure that your son undertakes effective revision so that he is in the best position possible to continue with his progress, and secure another set of outstanding results, just like that of the class of 2022.

I am delighted with the way that the Year 7 have settled into life at secondary school. As a group they have embedded the norms and systems and managed to keep up with the vast changes in their routines from when they were at a primary school.

It has been great to be able to use the information from the Pupil Passport Meetings in July, backed with updates from the Year 7 settling-in evening to be able to personalise our approach to best meet the needs of every young man in Year 7. It has also been heartwarming to see how their overnight experience at the Lakeside Residential has forged strong friendship ties and mutual brotherhood, reinforcing the sense of belonging and character development here at TIBHS.

This year, was also unique in that never before until September 2022, did we have to induct a cohort of Year 12 students. 44 young men have entrusted the new Sixth Form with their very important educational pursuits and have had the most phenomenal of starts. Not only have they excelled with their academic studies, but there has also been a strong focus on character development and service to the community.

There has been a plethora of opportunities available to the young men, including: a trip to America, motivational speakers from nearly every industry, high-end sporting programmes and an opportunity to volunteer and give back to the school. What seemed a daunting prospect has materialised into a very relaxed, calming, academically astute, faith-focused and family-friendly Sixth Form.

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- ❖ Page 2 ❖
GCSE Success
- ❖ Page 3 ❖
STAR's World Class Book Culture
LAMDA Results
- ❖ Page 4 ❖
Commemorating the Queen
Microsoft Experts
- ❖ Page 5 ❖
DofE Award
- ❖ Page 6 ❖
Open Evening
TIBHS Ranked #1 for Attendance
- ❖ Page 7 ❖
Blackburn Teen Wins Bright Future Prize
- ❖ Page 8 ❖
Imperial College
Harvard Admissions
- ❖ Page 10 ❖
Oxbridge Conference And Supervisions
BAE Systems Roadshow
- ❖ Page 11 ❖
National Poetry Day
- ❖ Page 12 ❖
A Healthier Mind
- ❖ Page 13 ❖
Rome – A Truly Memorable Experience
Pupil Leadership
- ❖ Page 14 ❖
Shuraa
Bowling at Tenpin
- ❖ Page 15 ❖
My Lahore & Amir Khan Foundation Join Hands to Support the Local Community
- ❖ Page 16 ❖
Star Diploma Service Hours
- ❖ Page 17 ❖
World Teacher Day
State of the Art: Food Technology Room
- ❖ Page 18 ❖
Year 7: Team Building at Lakeside
- ❖ Page 19 ❖
Thrown in the Deep End
The Lancashire Cup - 1st Round
- ❖ Page 20 ❖
Staffing: Farewell to Some; Hello to Others!



TIBHS Pupils Celebrate GCSE Success

Pupils at Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School (TIBHS) celebrated their GCSE results following a return of exams after three years.

On 25th August 2022, pupils at TIBHS collected another exceptional set of GCSE results, which were earned against a backdrop of challenges including lockdowns, periods of self-isolation and ill health.

Moosa Hajat thanked the staff and teachers at TIBHS after he achieved the top grade 9 in ten GCSE subjects. Moosa has chosen to further his education by studying for A levels at St. Wilfrid's Sixth Form.

Aspiring engineer Taahaa Mussagibai achieved the top grade 9 in nine subjects. Taahaa praised the support he received at the school, which he said had encouraged him to have high aspirations and try his hardest.

Muhammed Zain Patel was also beaming with pride at his results. Muhammed achieved grade 9 in five subjects and grade 8 in four subjects. Muhammed Zain thanked his school family and paid tribute to the supportive environment that had helped him to achieve his very best.

At the school, 84% of pupils achieved GCSEs with grades 9-5 in English and Maths, which is expected to place the school's performance in the top 1% nationally.

Mr Ditta, Principal at TIBHS, congratulated pupils on their achievements which he said, demonstrated pupils' resilience during a period of exceptional challenge.

"I could not be prouder of our pupils' achievements and am delighted that their hard work is reflected in their GCSE results. There is no doubt that this year has been incredibly difficult as a result of the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, but through resilience, belief, drive and self-determination, today is a huge milestone for our pupils and the entire school community.

We look forward to welcoming many of our pupils back in September as they break new ground by joining the first cohort of the school's sixth form, TB6. None of this success is achievable without the unrelentless support from our staff, parents, governors and wider trust."

Following their GCSE successes, many TIBHS pupils have continued their studies in the school's new sixth form, TB6, which welcomed its first cohort in September. The state-of-the art sixth form provides an unparalleled learning experience for local students.

Students attending TB6 are supported with personalised learning and progression pathways, participate in specialist programmes to prepare for entry into elite universities and apprenticeship schemes, and benefit from a leading careers programme.

Zubair Ahmed
Assistant Principal

84% of pupils achieved a 'strong pass' in GCSE English and Maths

89% of pupils achieved a 'standard pass' in GCSE English and Maths.

Continued from page 1

I also want to thank you for your cooperation with the changes to the school day which have allowed us as a school to implement our 'Book Culture Strategy'. Our Read Aloud programme, which takes place on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning, is just an example of how the additional five minutes to the school day has benefited our young men to start the day with a calming atmosphere for 60% of the school week. To further support the book culture initiative, your son will be engaging in a Reading Wise homework activity, supporting with vocabulary and comprehension.

Finally, despite the shorter days and the colder nights of the winter months, it is one of my most favourable time of year; mainly reason being the collective act of Dhuhr (early afternoon) salah (prayer). The whole school comes to a standstill when in different spaces and zones, Year 7 to Year 12 all join together to offer their prayers and supplications. It is great to see so many of our young men also engaging with the Winter Fast programme, every Monday and Thursday, with the monetary value of the proceeds being given to charity – namely our foodbank.

I hope you continue to enjoy reading about the achievements of our young men in this Al Qalam edition. Please remember the school, pupils and staff in your Duaas (prayers) and forgive us for any shortcomings. Your continued support and supplications are always welcome.

Majid Ditta
Principal

STAR's World Class Book Culture

TIBHS launched its Star World-Class Book Culture Programme in September 2002. It was welcomed with an overwhelming response by pupils and teachers alike.

As the saying goes Christmas had certainly arrived early at TIBHS as books of various genres were delivered to all classes enabling pupils to access culturally rich literature from across the globe. Including some of the prestigious writers such as Charles Dickens, H.G. Wells, Ray Bradbury, George Orwell to more contemporary writers such as Malorie Blackman, Malala Yousafzai, Jarnila Gavin, R.J Palacio to name a few.

In the short period of time since its launch pupils are already reaping the benefits which is clearly evident as the library has had an influx of pupils with books flying off the shelves.

The programme facilitates and allows pupils the opportunity to improve their reading and literacy skills. Research shows how vital it is for pupils to read and expand their vocabulary enabling them to flourish in their studies and exams contributing to an improvement in their life chances.

Read Aloud

Read Aloud is a key component of the Star World-Class Book Culture Programme and each year group received six specially selected books. Three days a week, pupils benefit from hearing their form teachers and peers read the book aloud followed by comprehensive discussions regarding the narrative that took place. Each pupil has his own individual copy of the book. Pupils are taken on a journey of adventure, creativity, imagination and exploration, opening their eyes to different life experiences.

Star Readers Challenge

All pupils can accept the challenge if they wish to do so, and this message does not self-destruct therefore it's not too late to join if you already haven't done so. Visit the library and get your hands on a Star Reader book, which are in high demand - so speed is of the essence. In addition to children becoming confident independent readers, all pupils who complete the challenge will qualify for the coveted Star Reader Award in July 2023 which includes a prize. It's an opportunity you do not want to miss!

ReadingWise programme at a Glance!

At TIBHS we recognise that not everyone starts off as a confident and fluent reader. To ensure that we bridge any gaps for pupils who require extra support, Star Academies have partnered with ReadingWise; which is an intense literacy intervention programme delivered online. It helps to increase pupils' reading ages by up to 10 months over the course of a single term. The ReadingWise programme consists of a range of modules including engaging and interactive Comprehension and Decoding modules, which are used respectively as intervention for our pupils who have been identified as reading below their chronological reading age to help bridge the gap. It is bespoke to each pupil's individual needs to ensure they reach their full potential. In addition, an exclusive Vocab module is available to all pupils and set as homework for all pupils in years 7-9 - who are required to complete 30 minutes of work online on a weekly basis.

Ms S Ilyas
Book Culture Lead

LAMDA

LAMDA Results

Our expanded LAMDA cohort of 44 students achieved an astounding number of distinctions in the last exam.

Once again, pupils across years 7, 8 and 9 got their creative juices flowing to give showstopping performances to the external LAMDA examiner on the Verse and Prose qualification. Each performance was one to savour and behold as the pupils had memorised texts and performed them with gusto, drama and delightfully well-articulated art performances. The high scores are a testament to each pupil's dedication and hard work with the qualification which builds their confidence, public speaking skills and they receive direct coaching on enunciation, diction and clarity with speech. We are proud of the LAMDA pupils' achievements; a fantastic qualification that has been wonderfully accomplished by the pupils.

Mrs B Patel
Head of Sixth Form





TIBHS commemoration to the Queen

Upon hearing the news of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passing, there was deep sadness and sorrow across the school at TIBHS.

Many had a deep and profound respect for the Queen and her role as a monarch. This made many pupils recount stories from parents and grandparents, who had varied life experiences under Elizabeth II.

It gave a sense of awe and wonder as an almost timeless monarch, who stretched back through many generations who has given us as young British people many outstanding memories. Assemblies and lessons were conducted on the role of the Queen and her achievements and efforts during her lifetime. This showed and reminded us of her service to our country and the many citizens across the commonwealth. It reminded us of a time gone by and of her stoic leadership through an ever-changing Britain.

The final bittersweet moments and memories came as the timeline was brought to the most recent celebration of the Queen's platinum Jubilee and the parties and festivities held in the streets across Britain.

Finally, we honoured and mourned the loss of our Queen on Monday 19th September. God save the King.

Mr M Budd
Teacher of History & Assistant DOL - Humanities



Microsoft Experts

We are delighted to announce that Microsoft has once again recognised our school as a Showcase School, an elite group of schools that exemplify the best of teaching and learning in the world today.

Only a few institutions earn this designation, and we take pride in knowing that Microsoft recognises our impact on the future of education.

Microsoft Showcase Schools are pioneers in education and we are part of an exclusive global community, recognised and celebrated for educational transformation that includes vision and innovation in teaching, learning, and preparing pupils for the future.

At TIBHS, we ensure all our lessons are taught via Microsoft Teams using OneNote as our medium of delivery coupled with Forms and other such software to enhance pupil learning and outcomes.

Mufti Muhammad
Assistant Principal



SHOWCASE SCHOOL

Class of 2022-2023

Tauheedul Islam
Boys' High School

DofE: Duke of Edinburgh's Award – Navigating in Nature!

For our TIBHS cadets, the weekend of the 23rd September was spent hiking and camping, as means for preparation for their DofE Bronze Certificate which they will be completing in 2023.

Pupils started the day early. It began with a final equipment checklist; it was no surprise when the DofE staff found that our parents had packed a months' worth of food in their child's backpacks – food they would now have to carry throughout the course of the two-day trail.

Upon arrival, pupils were split into two groups before they began the hike. The practice trail was to identify and improve any weaknesses which included: map reading, teamwork, resilience, fitness, and communication among many other skills needed for the trail.

The first half of the trail was led by the team leader, thereafter, the team leader took a step back allowing teams to lead the way. At the start of the trail, they were full of energy and conversing with one another; however, as the miles added up, tired legs and a lack of energy led to a couple of wrong turns. Not giving up hope, combined with fantastic navigation, set the group back on track and 12km later, they finally arrived back to camp.

Eagerly, pupils then set up their tents, freshened up and got ready for dinner. The meal was served, prawn stir-fry to beans and noodles, one pupil even cooked himself steak, pasta and a chicken dish – an impressive effort! Once they had full bellies, we prayed salat whilst in the middle of nature and under the star filled sky - a peaceful end to a long, tiresome day.

The next morning, the cadets woke up early, had breakfast, packed up their tents and got ready for the final trail. This involved no supervision! They were going to complete the trail independently and staff would only intervene if they were going completely off trail. Surprisingly, the groups did an amazing job and managed to



complete 16km. This trail pushed pupils to the limit as they were moving to higher ground and required discipline and teamwork and that's exactly what the TIBHS pupils displayed - STAR values - fantastic determination from our young men, completing the trail within a very good time.

All in all, it was a fantastic weekend and a great experience for our young men, especially those that had never been camping before. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed it and are all looking forward to the Bronze Certification Trail in 2023.

Mr J Lorgat
Head of year 11





TIBHS Opens its Doors to Welcome Potential '23 Cohort

TIBHS warmly welcomed prospective pupils and their parents to our annual Open Evening on the 29th September 2022.

All preparations were in hand, activities set; classroom ready and bursting with knowledge, pupils' achievements were on display, refreshments at hand and teachers full of energy and enthusiasm, eager to greet potential parents and pupils. TIBHS brought to life what exciting opportunities our school has to offer: academic accomplishments, social and cultural and spiritual enrichment, and most of all a real care and commitment towards our pupils.

There was an array of exciting activities taking place within departments with an opportunity to speak to teachers and observe all the work our pupils produce throughout the school. It was heart-warming to see pupils volunteer from across all year groups eager and excited to showcase all TIBHS has to offer. Whilst touring the building, pupils interacted and shared their experiences at TIBHS with parents and potential pupils.

The main event of the evening was without a doubt a speech delivered to parents and pupils by our Principal Mr Ditta, who eloquently highlighted the outstanding accomplishments and success TIBHS has attained. It was heart-warming to see that our real success comes from the commitment, passion, and promise that our principal enthuses and the relentless drive to strive for achievement for all our pupils. The success from the event was certainly something to celebrate and clear by the response from parents who expressed that TIBHS was the only academic option they desired for their child.

Naeema Hasan
School Business Manager



TIBHS Ranked Number 1 for Attendance – Autumn 1

TIBHS have been racing ahead at the top of the STAR Attendance League Table since the start of the academic year 2022/2023. We are proud to be recognised as the number one school amongst all other STAR secondary schools and the best attendance to date.

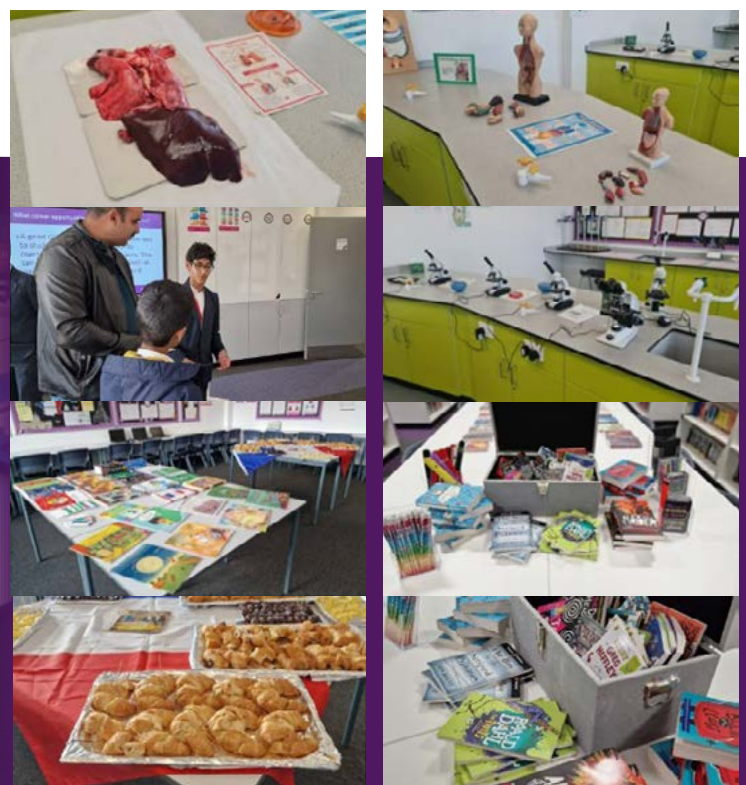
Well done to all the pupils who have been attending school every day despite feeling a little under the weather. This is an exceptional demonstration of our STAR values – **Ambition** – striving to get the most out of their education. This will most certainly be rewarded with a place on the termly Platinum Trip!

We hope this accolade of our attendance status will motivate our pupils and we can continue to work towards maintaining this position for the remainder of the academic year.

Everyday counts!

Mrs A Elahi
Attendance Officer

1	TIBHS	97.7%
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Blackburn Teen Wins Bright Future Prize

A 15-year-old amazing young man from Blackburn has won a prestigious international prize thanks to his work recycling school uniforms and supporting the local community.

Muhammad Karbhari, was awarded £10,000 funding by the Ardonagh Community Trust (ACT), Bright Future Prize 2022, which attracted entries from all over the world.

Now in its second year, The Bright Future Prize aims to empower young people aged 13-19 to become the next generation of community leaders by funding their bright ideas that will make a difference to their chosen cause.

This year, £40,000 was awarded to winners over four categories, each connected to a different way young people can help spark a positive change in the world around them.

Muhammad's bright idea, which won the Your Vision category, focused on helping the pupil-led social enterprise, Uniformity, at Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School in Blackburn, part of Star Academies, reach new heights. The enterprise helps parents and carers access affordable school uniforms whilst at the same time helping the planet and local community.

Uniformity upcycles school uniforms, enabling parents to donate and purchase used clothing via an innovative e-commerce platform. All profits go straight into funding the school's food bank, so not only does it provide a way to reuse uniform and tackle the environmental impact of clothing it also helps local people access vital supplies.

Now, with the enterprise growing, the team have set their sights on expanding to more schools in the area, and are planning to purchase their own dry-cleaning machine to reduce costs and upgrade their online platform to make it simpler to donate and purchase clothing.

Muhammad said: "It's an amazing feeling. This funding will help so

many people in the long run, not just those needing affordable clothing.

"It will help us to expand and means our foodbanks can help even more people in the area.

"It's great to know I'm supported by not only everyone at Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School but also at ACT. Thank you for choosing us, we are very excited for the future."

ACT Trustee and former Irish and British Lions Rugby Captain, Rory Best said: "It's been a huge honour to select the winners of this year's Bright Future Prize.

"All of the finalists had incredible ideas –and I was impressed by their drive to use their own experiences and passion to give back to others and make a difference.

"I'm sure all our finalists will inspire many more young people to get involved in the communities that matter to them. Myself, and the rest of ACT's Trustees can't wait to see how our winners use the funding to make their ideas happen!"

The Bright Future Prize was inspired by Freddie Williams, the son of Ardonagh employee David and his wife Sarah who was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer at the age of seven.

When Freddie died, the contents of his money box were donated to ACT to help 'the next poorly child'. This simple gesture led to the idea of the Bright Future Prize, to support young people to make a positive impact – and as part of Freddie's continued legacy, David and Sarah help the ACT Trustees to select its Bright Future Prize winners.

Next year's Bright Future Prize will launch in Autumn 2023. For more information about ACT please visit the ACT website or ACT's social channels @ArdonaghCT on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook.

ACT is the charitable arm of The Ardonagh Group, one of the world's leading independent brokers and a meeting point for best-in-class entrepreneurial and specialist brands. The Group's global footprint of 150+ offices and diverse set of companies means their 10,000+ strong team of colleagues are uniquely wired into communities around the world.

Mrs B Patel
Head of Sixth Form



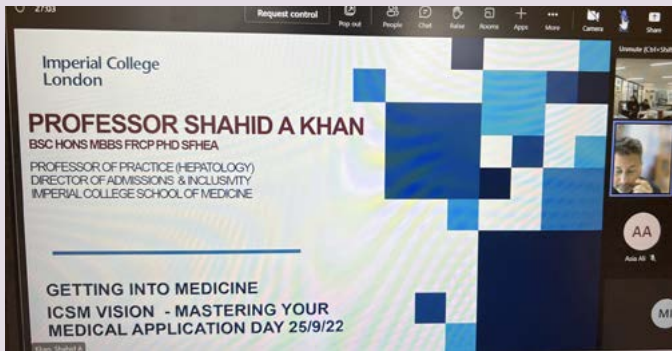
Imperial College Head Of Medical Admission

On 6th October, our sixth form students were fortunate to receive a talk from Professor Khan, Director of Admissions for Medicine at Imperial College, London. It was an insightful presentation from the Head of Admissions of a national leading medical school.

The aspirations of our sixth form students soared at receiving the opportunity to engage with a leading medical expert as well as an opportune moment to digest the nuances and mechanics of applying for a competitive course and pursuing a sought-after career in medicine.

The well thought out presentation detailed the application process from start to the end and advice was offered on each step of the application. The can-do attitude of Professor Khan was adopted by many students who are now prospective medics; hoping to join the profession in the coming years. The opportunity unlocked the door for potential talents and recognised for our pupils that there is no ceiling in the path they wish to pursue. Working hard, showing consistency, and levelling a strong academic profile will support their dreams in pursuing any pathway our young men wish to follow.

Mrs B Patel
Head of Sixth Form



Harvard Admissions

Students from Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School (TIBHS) have received a historic visit from one of the world's most prestigious universities.

A representative from Harvard University visited TIBHS' newly opened Sixth Form, TB6, to give the school's sixth form students an insight into an Ivy League education.

It is thought to be the first time the world-renowned institution has visited Blackburn in an official capacity and demonstrates the academic alignment between Harvard and TB6. Harvard's visit provides TB6's erudite students and their families with an insight into an Ivy League education and the bespoke support they will receive from the school to secure places on the most competitive university courses.

Harvard University is part of an elite group of eight American universities, known as Ivy League colleges, which are widely considered to be amongst the most prestigious academic institutions in the world. Harvard is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts and its alumni include eight US presidents, 10 Academy Award winners, 48 Pulitzer Prize winners and 110 Olympic medallists.

The visit to TIBHS marks the beginning of a strategic relationship between Harvard University and Star Academies, the multi-academy trust which runs TIBHS and 30 other schools around the country.

During the visit, students from TIBHS, along with those from The Valley Leadership Academy in Bacup, also part of Star Academies, learnt about the exciting possibilities of studying at an Ivy League university and how the experience and application process for American universities differs from the UK. The scholarship opportunities available to UK students were also explained, as well as how the 'cultural capital' gained from studying overseas increases employability chances and opens doors to the world's leading businesses and organisations.

Not only will the relationship allow students across all Star secondary schools to realise the opportunities of studying abroad, it will give them access to tailored tutoring and guidance in addition to their studies, to give them the best chance of being successful in the competitive application process for Ivy League and other elite global universities.

A selection of students from TIBHS will also be crossing the Atlantic in November to visit Harvard University.

The partnership is part of Star's new Elite University Preparation Programme, which seeks to raise pupils' aspirations and give them the best support possible to access not only Oxbridge and Russell Group universities, but Ivy League and other prestigious international institutions. The programme will ensure that talented students who study in Star sixth forms, such as TB6, are provided with a comprehensive package of support to enable them to achieve their ambitions.

Majid Ditta, Principal at TIBHS, said:

"It was an honour to welcome such an elite university to our new TB6 sixth form and we're very proud to be part of what is a historic visit for this area.

"We want to make sure our young people's futures are not limited because of where they live, and to open up as many opportunities to them as possible. The advantages of an international education are numerous so we thank Harvard University for taking the time to explain the possibilities to our students.

"Giving our students aspirational goals to aim towards is a fundamental part of our mission and we hope this continued relationship with Harvard will be another step in helping our young people realise their potential while studying at TB6."

Speaking about what he learned from the presentation, student Muhammed Karbhari said:

"Before the talk I hadn't even thought of the possibility of studying in the US, but hearing about all the advantages makes it seem like a really exciting opportunity.

"Whatever I decide to do in the future I know we'll have the support from all of the teachers and other students here to realise my ambitions."

Along with opportunities for pupils, Star has plans for staff across its family of schools to receive specialist teacher training from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, with the first group of staff expected to visit the US later this year.

Mouhssin Ismail, Regional Director and Executive Principal at Star Academies, commented:

"Star has a strong national reputation and to be able to entice Harvard University to be the first university to present to TB6 students demonstrates the academic rigour and quality of our students.

"We want our students to dream big and there isn't much bigger than Harvard University. We are committed to supporting our able students to achieve exceptional A level results and university progression and we are already inundated with enquiries about sixth form admissions in September 2023.

"There is a real appetite amongst our students and their families for the type of education we aim to provide, and I look forward to working with colleagues and students to help deliver this first-class provision."

Mrs B Patel
Head of Sixth Form



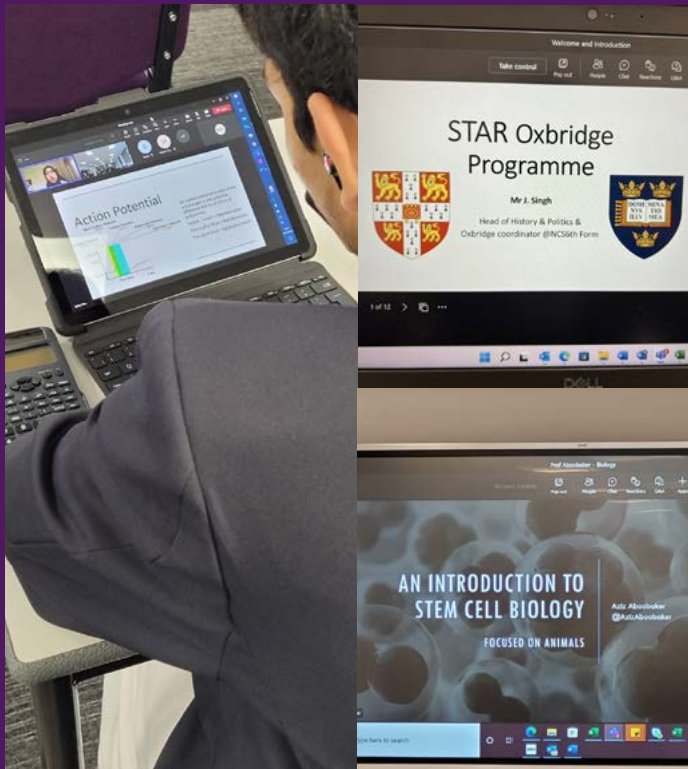


Inaugural Star Oxbridge Conference And Supervisions – Striving For Ambition.

An inaugurating Oxbridge Conference and Supervisions took place on Wednesday 12th October, Sixth form students were presented with a comprehensive insight into Oxford and Cambridge University admissions and academic supervisions where topics of interest were delivered by current professors, undergraduates and post graduate scholars.

It was a full day event which allowed students to gauge a full insight into the rigour and depth the elite institutions offer as well as myth busting on the universities being within reach for all students.

The day's schedule was delivered with gusto by each of the honourable guest speakers which in turn enthused many prospective Oxbridge hopefuls to make an application. Subsequently, Hassan Ansari (Year 12) is now in regular contact with our link college at Oxford University and is hoping to make an application in a year's time with the confidence that he has received personalised support from the University over the course of the year in preparation for the debutant applications to Oxford, Cambridge and prestigious Russell Group Universities from our sixth form.



BAE Systems Roadshow

Year 7 and Year 8 pupils were presented with a fantastic opportunity to engage in an interactive roadshow with the BAE Systems Education Programme 2022 delivered in partnership with the RAF and the Royal Navy.

The roadshow delivered an insight into engineering and, with much humour, informed pupils of the diverse proponents of STEM.

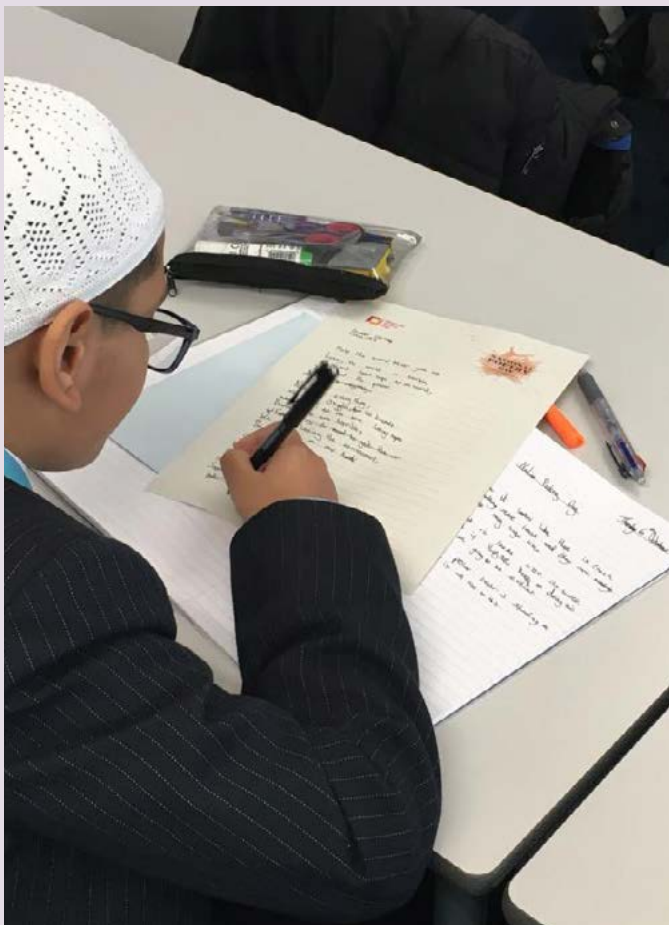
The atmosphere was electric during the event and both year groups thoroughly enjoyed the programme. Who knows what the future holds for budding apprentices wishing to join BAE!

Watch this space...



NATIONAL
POETRY
DAY

+ 6TH OCTOBER 2022 +



National Poetry Day – Our Environment

Literacy plays a pivotal role at TIBHS, it is the cornerstone of enriching young minds. To celebrate National Poetry Day all pupils were given the opportunity to become poets! This year's theme was "Our Environment."

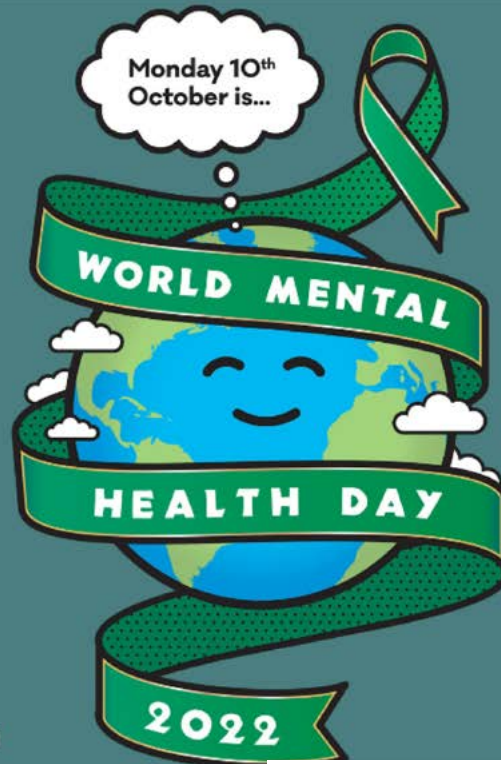
Pupils spent the day acquiring key knowledge and discussing how humans have impacted the physical environment in many ways; over population, pollution, burning fossil fuels and deforestation and how such changes have had a profound impact on climate change, soil erosion, poor quality of air and undrinkable water.

Lessons began with the lifestyles of humanity and the role humans have had on the world we live in today. Pupils were then tasked to create a poem to highlight the consequences of these actions and how they have impacted our environment and identify what needs to be done to save it.

All pupils demonstrated great insight and enthusiasm whilst completing the task. Pens at hand, pupils were raring to go... we worked well together debating key facts which helped form outcomes on how to save the environment.

The creative flair was evident, and this resulted in many outstanding poems which have been entered into a national competition, which I hope will result in lots of prizes!

Yousuf Bux
Year 8



#PinItForMentalHealth

A Healthier Mind

World Mental Health Day at our school is a fantastic occasion to acknowledge everything the school does daily to help us feel safe and happy, but also to support us during our difficult and challenging moments.

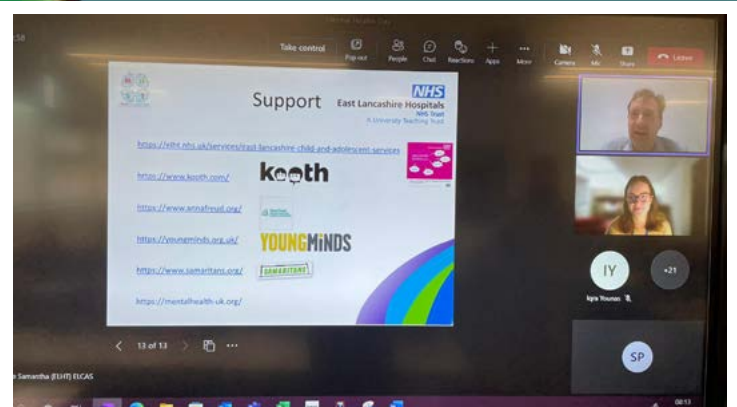
This year, there was a real focus on educating us with how to tackle anxiety and stress in our everyday lives. With the darker mornings and colder nights looming over us, and the apprehension exams bring, it is easy to feel a little lower than usual. We were equipped with some fantastic coping strategies such as knowing we can speak to someone at school, taking time to enjoy fresh air and have a hobby to look forward to. My friends and I have definitely been thinking of taking up an exciting past-time activity that we can look forward to on our weekends.

We also had a powerful workshop from the Mental Health Support team who provided valuable advice and guidance of what to do and where to go if we are struggling. It also made us realise to be more aware of those around us: they may be smiling but it may not mean they are intrinsically happy.

Mental health is something I have always taken for granted, and I know so many of my friends have too. However, the learning on this day gave me a valuable insight of the struggles and challenge people face mentally and that we can all fall victim to this.

I feel safe and comforted to know that at our school, no-one is left to face their battles on their own.

Riyad Ibrahim
Year 9



Rome – A Truly Memorable Experience

Some of our young men in Year 10 had the incredible opportunity of a 3-day visit to Rome to embrace the art, history and culture of this monumental city and bring their learning in R.E. to life.

As part of their fun-packed, lively trip, pupils visited the Pantheon, The Vatican, and toured the Vatican museums. Having learnt about these historical landmarks in lesson, the sight-seeing experience really allowed our pupils to deepen their understanding and appreciation. For many of our pupils, such a cultural experience was something they hadn't encountered, and their awe and admiration was a delight to witness.

Pupils also completed a tour of ancient Rome, the Colosseum, Palatine Hill and explored the winding streets and alleys within the great city whilst enjoying a gelato or two! Yes, there was a lot of walking involved and many were boasting about how many steps they had completed: culture and exercise built into one!

The trip also gave our pupils the opportunity to forge new friendships, work with each other, look after each other and show respect for other. And did they eat far too much pasta and pizza? Yes – thoroughly enjoyed too!

It was an overwhelmingly enjoyable trip for our pupils with just one wish: they wanted a little longer to enjoy more of the beautiful city. I am sure many will be planning a trip again to rekindle their experiences!

Asim Raza
Teacher of Geography & DOL of Humanities



Pupil Leadership

On Friday 14th October, our Head Boy Muhammad Haaris Rawat and Deputy Head Boy Tabaruk Hussain were inaugurated into their roles alongside their Year 11 Prefect team.

The meeting was held in the boardroom with Mr Vali (Head of Year 12 and Lead for Student Leadership) chairing the meeting. We began with recitation of Surah Faatiba by Amaan Bhajji and thereafter pupils were treated to a delicious breakfast.

Pupils were congratulated on securing the role of a prefect and a letter of achievement was given to each pupil. The meeting agenda included prefect duties, roles and responsibilities, leadership lessons through our faith and privileges which include a free break time snack, fast tracking the lunch queue and having access to the library during break and lunch. We discussed how the leadership values and roles link closely with our faith, using examples from Hadith regarding leadership and striving for excellence in all that we do. A reminder was also given to pupils to display exemplary attendance, punctuality and always conduct themselves as role models to their fellow peers. Prefects were given their badges and the Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy were given their unique light blue, piped blazers.

Overall, it was a very successful meeting with all pupils displaying a willingness to participate and share their own views and opinions. InshaAllah – God willing - it is the beginning of a successful journey for our pupils to serve their school and enhance their own personal skills and development. Pupils will begin their roles after half term and the next meeting has been scheduled for Friday 18th November 2022.

Mr Vali
Head of year 12



Pupil, Parent and Staff Shuraa – The Driving Force of TIBHS

Every organisation requires input and collaboration at all levels. I am delighted to say that here at TIBHS, we have a vibrant and energetic parent shuraa (council) who selflessly commit hours upon hours in supporting the wonderful enrichment and character-building programme.

Not only do they help with bake sales, uniform upcycling, the Winter Gift programme but also offer incisive, invaluable nuggets to enhance the experience of our young men. The parent shuraa meet half termly with the principal where ideas on enhancing pupil experiences and consequently actions are consolidated and agreed. The next parent shuraa is on Wednesday 7th December 2022 at 5.15pm to 6.30pm.

Staff shuraa also effectively support strategy and approach in getting ideas on how to better the educational provision of our young men; alongside, supporting and promoting staff wellbeing. A huge thank you to all the staff here at TIBHS for their unrelentless support, backing and commitment in helping to make the school an amazing place to get out of bed for in the morning. Our staff shuraa meet every half term.

Getting feedback and input from the most important stakeholders in school is paramount in helping to shape any strategy. I am delighted with the feedback from our pupils and in particular, our Head Boy Muhammad-Haaris Rawat and Deputy Head Boy Tabaruk Hussain - both of whom I thoroughly look forward to meeting every half term over a bagel and hot cappuccino.

Mr M Ditta
Principal

Bowling at Tenpin

September is always a busy month for all at TIBHS. The return to school after a long summer break can be daunting for some of our pupils, especially having to adjust to the challenges of a new year group and even getting used to their new teachers.

Although, our school is incredibly committed to making sure our young men settle back to school feeling safe and happy, our SEN department went the extra mile for our more vulnerable pupils by arranging a fun session of tenpin bowling at our bowling alley within walking distance of school.

The trip gave our young men a fantastic opportunity to develop their interpersonal, team-working skills as well as valuable life skills such as managing money, being safe outside and of course – having fun!

Having booked an exhilarating session at our local bowling alley, we did envisage a leisurely stroll to the venue, taking in the autumnal breeze and crunching our feet against the fallen leaves. Nature had other plans – it rained! Yet, it did nothing to dampen our spirits. Cosily blanketed with the coats and gloves, our boys were filled with excitement as they almost skipped their way to the venue. Despite the evident excitement, they acted with lots of maturity, ensuring they were following instructions and following the road safety rules.

After a busy half term of learning, adjusting, and finishing off with assessments it was delightful to see the young men enjoy themselves and relax. They were exuberant upon their return to school, celebrating the winning team and their individual strikes – we felt a real team spirit amongst them.

As usual our young men were a credit to our school; they maintained impeccable conduct and behaviour and represented our school with the highest of standards. They all had one parting question: When are we going again?

Shabana Riaz
Learning Support Assistant





My Lahore & Amir Khan Foundation Join Hands to Support the Local Community

In June 2022, around 1.9 million children were entitled to a free school meal in England - a staggering 22.5% of the pupil population- and a shocking 9% increase from 2021.

In addition to this, another 1.25 million pupils receive free meals under the universal free school meal provision for infant schools (Gov.uk, 2022). These figures are hard to comprehend and easy to turn in to a statistic until you realise that each figure represents a hungry child.

According to charity, The Joseph Rowntree Foundation, we have an estimated 4.3 million children in the U.K. living in what is called "relative poverty". However only 2.3 million children currently get free school meals.

In these uncertain times, we welcome the help from local heroes like Ishfaq Farooq (Managing Director) from My Lahore and the Amir Khan Foundation in supplying meals to our school for children on free school meals. The weekly biryani delivery from My Lahore is greatly anticipated for our most vulnerable children and families. Delivering these weekly hot meals together, we have been able to go some way in helping to alleviate food poverty within the community. With the help of Tabarak Hussain (Year 11 Deputy Head Boy) and Hassan Ali Nazir (Year 11), these meal packs are packed on site and distributed to pupils who are eligible. These two gentlemen truly represent our star values by going out of their way to help the vulnerable – a true inspiration.

We welcome working alongside My Lahore and the Amir Khan Foundation in the coming weeks and months to bring some hope and help to struggling families within our school community.

Mrs S Fesal
Learning Support Assistant





Star Diploma Service Hours

We are valuable volunteers for Brookhouse Development Group (BHDG), a non-profit organisation established in 2015 that has been striving to serve Blackburn’s community in various ways.

One such service for which we volunteer takes place at Pleasington Cemetery, where the BHDG volunteers support families locate, restore, and maintain the graves of their beloved, deceased family members as well as keeping the surrounding area tidy for our community. To us, this acts as a form of Sadaqah- e- Jariyah (continuous, flowing and ongoing charity), as we believe that we will be rewarded for every moment we contribute to this noble service with the hope it benefits us long after we depart from this world (Ameen).

We do this work as an act of Khidmah (Service), meeting a pressing need for the community and undertaking maintenance work that many people are not able to do themselves. The group consist of several teams: one team restores and maintains graves; another maintains the landscaping needs of the cemetery, and a third team is responsible for general maintenance. We also have a team that has been trained to support the upkeep of the trees, ensuring the trees do not encroach on to the neighbouring grave or damage the graves; where trees are removed, BHDG plant a tree elsewhere in the world. This is just one team of many that have supported BHDG for the past 7 years.

We have volunteered with BHDG for the better part of 2 years and in this time, we have been made to feel welcome, respected, and honoured. Volunteering with the group has all the hallmarks of helping with our mental health: the physical work is good for the body, the natural surroundings are tranquil and everyone at BHDG are extremely friendly and helpful, which creates a strong bond between us. Nabeel, a Year 8 student, also joins me on Sundays at the cemetery. This is his response after asking him how his experiences with volunteering his Sundays with BHDG made him feel:

“I have extremely enjoyed coming every week, especially when you see the smiles on the faces of the family members of whose graves



we have helped to maintain. Another blessing of volunteering with BHDG is that we hear the heartfelt supplications from the family of the deceased, which makes your inner self feel warm and makes your conscious feel vitalised.

The service hours are helping us develop our leadership skills, work ethic, communication skills, our understanding of the needs of the community and our responsibility to meet such needs where possible. So, what are you waiting for? Volunteer today. We strongly believe the group can benefit from more volunteers and by contributing to the valuable work we do, there is no doubt that volunteering would benefit you too, equipping you with vital, transferrable life skills. If you can spare any time, minutes, or hours, we will look forward to seeing you at the cemetery, where we meet at 11 am every Sunday. Any time you can give will be rewarding. For further information, please visit the website: <https://bhdg.org.uk/>

We, at TIBHS, after reading this insightful and heart-warming service, requested BHDG for a comment.

“These young men have grown into diligent, reliable, and trustworthy individuals who understand, support, and empower each other to swiftly blossom into responsible young adults. Their commitment to this noble cause illustrates the value and ethos they hold closely to their hearts.”

We would love to share your child’s experience of service hours with their peers and hope that motivates others to delve into the world of service. If your child is participating in service hours, please do let us know. Email us some context and pictures at info@tibhs.staracademies.org. Alternatively, tag us onto your tweets using our handle @tauheedulboys. Let’s share our good practice to motivate other to feel good.

“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”
(Muhammed Ali)

**Muhammed Ali (Yr. 9) and
Nabeel Dudhwala (Yr. 8)**



State of the Art: Food Technology Room

It is with great pride and excitement that we unveiled our food technology space to our budding pupils.

Situated on the ground floor, this modern culinary space has been created to enable our students to experience and develop their food palette in a safe, controlled, and creative manner.

The room is finely furnished with equipment for students to deliver an exquisite food experience for themselves and their family, enabling them to dream to become the next MasterChef or Michelin star chef.

So why Food Technology? The Food Technology Program will support our students to develop their understanding of the principles of diet and nutrition, cook food that incorporates health and safety, and allow them to shop wisely; ultimately supporting the pupil body to be prepared for the challenges of tomorrow. We all keep hearing that a "healthy body results in a healthy mind" and this is exactly what we envision for our pupils.

Follow the story of TIBHS' food delights on twitter where we will share our weekly recipes coupled with photos of our young men getting creative and showcasing their culinary delights. If your son really enjoys rustling up culinary treats or is a budding chef, do let us know via email (info@tibhs.staracademies.org) or tag our twitter handle (@tauheedulboys). We would love to showcase their achievements on social media and the school digital boards.

Mr Z Mitha
DOL Technology & SLT Year 7



World Teacher Day

There was lots of excitement and buzz around the school as our staff were treated to a special meal on 5th October, in recognition of their hard work and efforts in school.

The day started with a heartfelt message from our principal, Mr Ditta, in which he acknowledged the relentless efforts of our staff and their dedication. It was a true ovation of the deep sense of appreciation and pride he has for his team, and it was a fantastic moment for staff to be reminded that their sacrifices do not go unnoticed.

It was a valuable day 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 steppingstone to greater things beyond school.



Year 7: Team Building at Lakeside

I write on behalf of all year 7 pupils who went to the residential to Lakeside in October. It was a memorable experience that allowed the 2022 Year 7 cohort to spend valuable time in getting to know each other. For me personally, it was a great opportunity to make new friends, and get to see the teachers in a more informal setting.

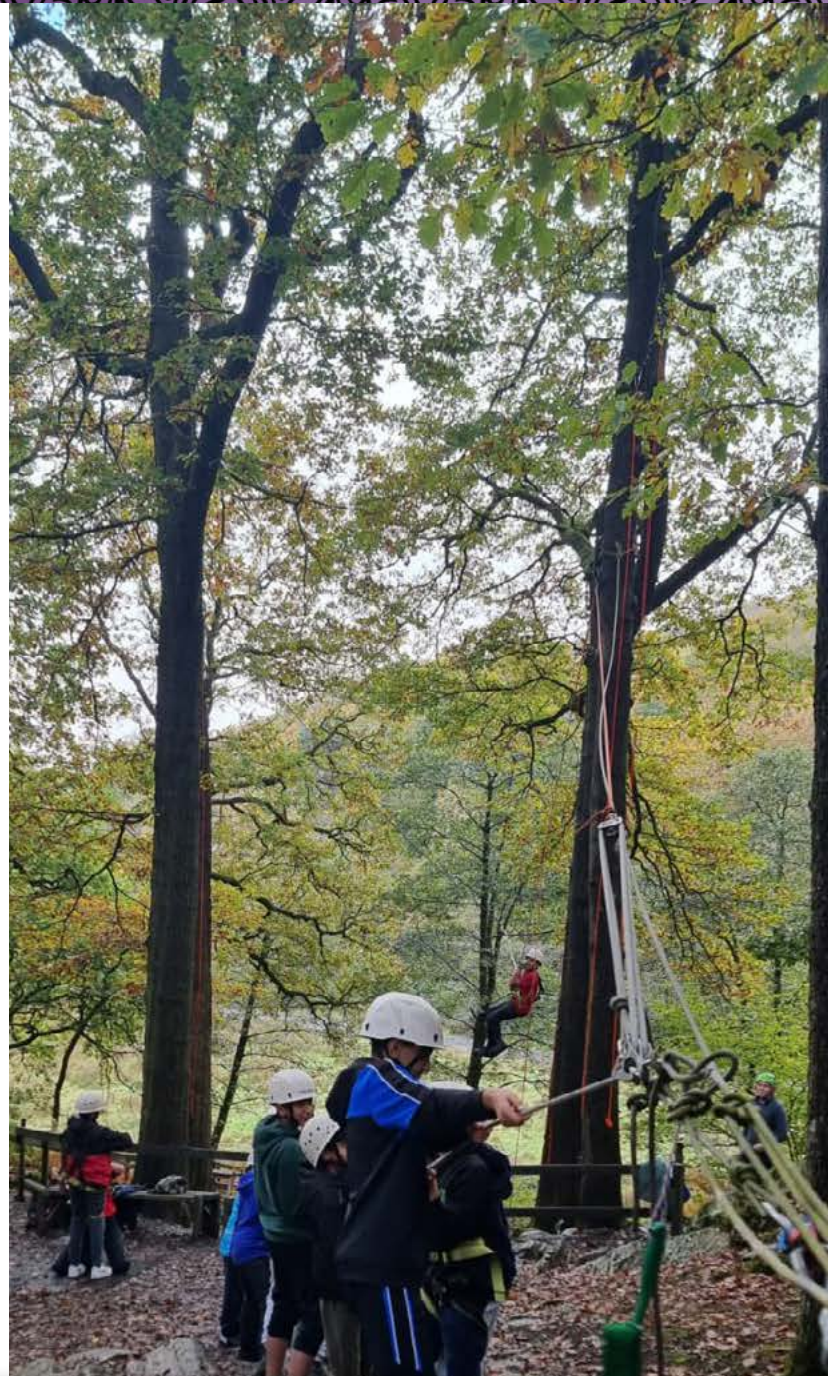
In our Geography classes, we have studied map reading. We used this practically in one of our activities during our residential. In addition, we learned about nature, which I found fascinating and made me appreciate spending more time in nature. We are very fortunate to live so close to the Lake District. These types of enrichment activities are important for our spiritual development. It was peaceful to be one with nature at the YMCA Stoller Campus. This trip extended my understanding of nature and the world around me.

Our accommodation was extremely comfortable. The food was second-to-none and we never went hungry (except after a particularly arduous activity, of course!) I am thankful, though, that we prayed our daily Salaah and kept to our Islamic practices as the school's ethos is based entirely on our faith. This allowed us a moment of quiet reflection to feel grateful for Allah's many bounties available to us through being in natural landscapes. Friendship and brotherhood are equally important in creating a cohesive school community. These were evident in the way all members of the trip supported each other.

Lakeside is a picturesque part of the Lake District and during the residential we were able to take part in several activities which challenged our resilience, character and our ability to work as a team. It also gave us the opportunity to team up with pupils we do not engage with whilst at school and form new friendships. We did attempt to stay awake all night... However, it was in vain as we were too tired. Besides, we had all eaten the snacks we had planned for the midnight feast!

Overall, the trip was very enjoyable, and I would do it again in a heartbeat. I look forward to seeing what other trips the school will organise in the future!

Zakee Hafiz
Year 7



Thrown in the Deep End

Over the last few weeks, we have had the incredible opportunity of going swimming; a much strenuous yet rewarding activity.

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 energised, and much happier. We feel ready to tackle the world.

Now, allow me to share more about our experience at BwD. In the first week, I was just a novice splashing around in the shallow end but now but now I'm able to perform 2-3 laps at a time in the deep end. I have advanced to become an adept swimmer thanks to the efforts of the instructors- their warm and friendly demeanour dispelled any reluctance or fear that had initially clouded my thoughts. The process itself was warming and the practice enabled me to feel more comfortable in my surroundings. I got out of my comfort zone and really experienced the weight of the water. Our specialist instructors delivered a plethora of techniques to be a successful swimmer.

Having attended these lessons, I may still not be the best swimmer, but the experience has boosted my confidence to whole new level. I've learnt that you should never doubt yourself and perseverance is the key to success.

Ahmad Patel
Year 8



The Lancashire Cup - 1st Round

It was game day and although the whole team was drowning in nerves; it felt intense. Last year we had failed to get past the first-round so this year we were determined to win.

The game started at around 3:30pm, with Parklands taking the Kick off. We were around 5 minutes into the game when our first chance came Midfielder Usayd Mall played a brilliant ball through to Abdollh Shriha. With his incredible pace, he wasn't going to miss; swift and sharp he went round the goalkeeper to make it 1-0 to TIBHS.

Minutes after the goal, Parkland added extra pressure and TIBHS conceded a corner. The ball was whipped in and one of the Parkland attackers threw themselves to the ball for an incredible header - the ball deflected off a TIBHS defender and ended up in the back of the net.

TIBHS however, made an instant comeback as the winger Hussain Hameed, made a forward run with the ball and cut it back to our captain, Ahmed Isap, who scored with a thundering strike into the top corner. TIBHS went into the half time break 2-1 ahead.

During the second half we were back on the attack. With a healthy advantage, we scored two goals in quick concession. A magnificent long-range goal from Abdollh and then substitute Daniyaal Hussain twisted and turned on the edge of the box and managed to fire home – taking the score to 4-1.

Finally, Abdollh added the icing on the cake to complete a fantastic hat-trick and TIBHS strolled to a 5-1 victory. Onto the next round!

TIBHS 5-1 Parkland



A Sad Farewell to Some; A Warm Welcome to Others

At the end of the last half term, we bid farewell to Maulana Usman Kothia, one of our longest serving members. He has been at TIBHS since its inception and has helped the school to grow from success to success and strength to strength. His work within countless departments and his patience, understanding and work ethic have been an inspiration for us all. He will be dearly missed. We wish him all the success in his new role in Dubai.

Our ICT Technician, Abdus-Saboor will also be leaving us this term. A former TIBHS pupil, Abdus-Saboor has provided support across the school with cheer and welcome. His warm smile will be much missed. We wish him all the best too.

Whilst farewells are always hard, we welcome a number of staff into the TIBHS family this term:

- *Mr Edan Tal – DOL: Science*
- *Miss Atikah Misri – Teacher of Science*
- *Mrs Naasira Bangué – Teacher of Science*
- *Miss Sabbah Amin – Teacher of Science*
- *Mrs Fazila Patel – Teacher of Maths*
- *Mr Waqar Ramzan – Teacher of Maths*
- *Maulana Mubarak Patel – Teacher of MFL*
- *Mr Zishan Abid – Teacher of Urdu*
- *Miss Rukhsar Yasin – Teacher of Maths*
- *Miss Munisa Gaba – Science Technician*
- *Miss Rizwana Amir – Learning Support Assistant*
- *Miss Uzma Fatakiya – ICT Technician*



TIBHS would like to wish all pupils, parents, staff,
and stakeholders a blessed and peaceful term

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

