

Summer

## Shine Like a<sup>\*</sup>Star

#### Assalamualaikum / Peace be upon you,

Preparing pupils and students for GCSE and AS level exams has been a challenging endeavour. Efforts were made to ensure daily attendance of pupils, maintaining the provision of high-quality resources, developing comprehensive revision programmes, coordinating tutors through the National Tutoring Programme (NTP), and dedicating numerous additional intervention hours, leaving no aspect untouched.

It is truly gratifying when all the implemented strategies yield successful outcomes, smoothly concluding the exam window. We are proud to report that 100% of the young men attended the exams, and there were no incidents of malpractice. With a deep sense of nostalgia, we bid farewell to the exams and the academic journey of many of our Year 11 pupils on Friday 16th June.

I earnestly pray that the collective efforts of all the staff at TIBHS, the Local Advisory Board (LAB), the Chair of Governors, Star Academies Trust, the Regional Director Executive Principal (RDEP) and the parents/carers will culminate in exceptional results in August 2023.

The exams themselves represent just a fraction of the achievement and success we aim for. Our true focus was on nurturing the character of these young men through faith, robust pastoral systems, emotional and mental well-being support, exceptional experiences and opportunities.

We strive to instil, in each and every one of them, the belief that they can reach their full potential, ensuring that the lingering effects of the pandemic do not overshadow their secondary school years in a negative way.

Along this journey, we have created countless memorable moments, going above and beyond as a school to provide every young man with positive experiences and unwavering support during times of hardship and struggle. As part of our commitment, the Year 11 pastoral team has meticulously organised an activities week scheduled to commence on the week of June 19th 2023.

This eventful week will include sporting fixtures, career guidance sessions, barbecues, trips, spiritual sessions and will culminate in a grand Gala event on Friday 23rd June 2023.

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At our school, we place great emphasis on character development, recognising its significance in shaping well-rounded individuals. By following our Twitter account, parents can gain a comprehensive understanding of the extensive range of opportunities we offer. These encompass international experiences to countries such as France, Saudi Arabia and Italy, as well as local and national visits to significant sites that provide cultural enrichment. Our aim is to nurture each young man's cultural capital, enabling them to become individuals who are truly well-rounded.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that exactly 12 months ago, we were engaged in discussions regarding the establishment of a new sixth form – TB6. Fast forward to the present, and our year 12 students have successfully completed their AS exams and have had the privilege of participating in remarkable programs such as MedicHut. They have also seized once in a lifetime opportunities, including embarking on experiences such as Umrah and visiting America. They have recently completed their work experience and I am proud to announce that a group of students have received prestigious accolades including the Crest Gold Award for STEM, funding from Ardonagh Trust and sponsorship for Arkwright Engineering.

As I compose this introductory article, the rich array of experiences continues unabated. Presently, three of our Year 12 students are immersed in a residential program in the capital, where they are engaging in a visit to Gray's Inn. Currently, I am in the process of finalising staffing arrangements to align with the curriculum for Year 13, as well as recruiting a new cohort of students for Year 12. As we come to the end of our tenth year since the school's inception, it is a fitting tribute that the school now serves young men from our community spanning over 7 year groups.

What was once merely a vision has transformed into a remarkable reality. Our expansion in the Sixth Form remains ongoing, as we strive to broaden our curriculum offerings. In the academic year 2023-24, we are pleased to introduce the following subjects to our repertoire: Computer Science, History, Sociology and/or Philosophy, Religion and Ethics. Transition and planning arrangements are currently in full swing to ensure a smooth induction process for our new cohort of pupils joining the TIBHS family in Year 7, starting in September 2023. As a school, we are dedicated to providing the best possible experience for both the pupils and their parents/carers during this important transition.

As we approach the end of the academic year, we reflect upon numerous highlights that have filled us with great humility and pride such as the opening of the Sixth Form, the re-establishment of the Scouts program, the strengthening of the Cadets program, the implantation of a world class curriculum, consistent applications of high powered strategies including 'Teach like a Star' and 'Behave like a Star', outstanding staff CPD through Trust and In-House training, achieving MS showcase status, being awarded Investors in People – Platinum and winning of the Secondary School Pupil of the Year at the annual Star Awards are just a few of our accomplishments. To add to our accomplishments, I am proud to announce that we have recently secured the Silver CyberFirst Award.

It is always with great sadness that at this particular time of the year, we say goodbye to some real talents who have unselfishly given their time and commitment to the school, in particular I would like to say a huge thank you to Mouhssin Ismail the Regional Director and to Bashira Patel for all her invaluable efforts in all her areas of responsibility since she started here.

I pray they go on to achieve great things in their new roles. We extend our heartfelt well wishes to all our departing staff members as they embark on their next chapter, whether it be within the United Kingdom or venturing into new horizons across international waters. May their future endeavours be filled with success and fulfilment.

I humbly request that you continue to keep the TIBHS family in your supplications and prayers, where their ongoing success can flourish throughout the next academic year.

Majid Ditta Principal

### First Lego League: Celebrating Success from Regional to Nationals!

The First Lego League is a competition which involves programming and encourages innovation especially for those with a vested interest in STEM based activities and subjects.

The First Lego League competition gives pupils a chance to embrace the STEM qualities within them, as well as giving them a hands-on experience of programming, innovative thinking, and construction. There are 3 stages to the competition to be crowned the Lego champion: Regionals, Nationals, and Internationals. In February, TIBHS won the Regional Competition, based in Manchester earning the opportunity to partake in the Nationals taking place in Harrogate. Unfortunately, the Nationals took place on Eid Day so it required a tough decision; however, as so much time energy, passion and enthusiasm had been invested we did not want to miss this opportunity to build on our success and represent TIBHS at this prestigious level. Therefore, we prayed Eid Namaz and headed to Harrogate.

The pre-requisites for competing was to have an innovative project based on this years theme on the 'energy crisis'. The programming element involved building a robot out of Lego and programming the robot to undertake challenges set by the organiser's. Each challenge is built out of Lego and the robot must do unique challenges with an attachment also made from Lego. There are no restrictions to the type of attachment you can make, encouraging innovation and out of the box designs.

The programming element consisted of 14 challenges to be completed within 2 minute 30 seconds. The competition was fierce and initially our robot faced a few challenges due to inconsistencies, however with persistent practice, hard work and determination our efforts paid off and we overcame these as time went on.

### A Heartfelt Thank You

This year we made sure we said and showed a special thank you to our teachers – at times, fancy words, tokens of appreciation aren't enough – it's just a simple Thank You. So, although we treated our staff to a five-course meal as well as some down time, we know a thank you means so much more.

Below are a few words of thanks and appreciation for our teachers sent by Sir Mufti Hamid Patel CBE. He further elaborates on his experience and views on the profession and the pivotal and profound role teaching has played to his success and shaped the heights achieved by the STAR institute.

I am writing to you on National Thank a Teacher Day to express my sincere gratitude for your hard work and dedication. I hope that yours is a school in which thanks are given daily, but this is an annual opportunity for the message to be reiterated, so thank you from the depths of my heart.

I recently had the pleasure of being interviewed by TES about my views on education. I was asked about the teachers I remembered best from my own school days, those who had the most influence on me. It was easy to pick them out. In primary school, I was taught by the remarkable Mr Silson who gave me opportunities to speak in assemblies and play a part in drama productions. He encouraged me to apply to be captain of Kipling House and made sure that being one of a small number of Asian pupils in the school wasn't a barrier to success. He had a well-deserved reputation for strictness, but was also reliably fair, a characteristic that is top of the list when pupils from every generation describe their favourite teachers.

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My most influential secondary school teacher was Mr Chorlton who taught maths - and awarded me my first achievement certificate when I was in year 8! I was by no means the best mathematician in class but he knew how much I needed recognition for my efforts. I couldn't wait to show that certificate to my parents. Praise is a great motivator.

Like many Muslim children, I spent countless hours memorising the Qur'an, supported by Imam Haroon whose patient coaching enabled me to master each syllable precisely. He was a wonderful teacher who knew that there was no substitute for hard work but made a seemingly impossible task manageable.

These three individuals epitomised the eternal qualities that great teachers continuously demonstrate – fairness, consistency, kindness, tough love, tenacity and humanity - qualities which are evident across Star schools and which make Thank a Teacher Day so important. You do so much more than deliver a curriculum. You inculcate values, nurture ambition, instil self-belief and shape lives. I am very proud of you, as are our pupils, who have recorded their own messages of appreciation in the video below.

2023 is a landmark year, the tenth anniversary of the opening of Star's first free school. The last decade has been a remarkable journey in which we have profoundly impacted the lives of thousands of young people in the disadvantaged localities we serve.

Thank you for everything you continue to do for our young people and to support your colleagues and community.

Together we are strong. We are Star.

With great pride we achieved the 14th position out of 65 competitors, a very worthy accolade I'm sure you'll agree! We received amazing feedback from the Judges who loved our presentation on the energy crisis. This is certainly something we will take back and build on for future events allowing us the opportunity to push our success further in future competitions, hopefully representing TIBHS at an International Level.

We feel so fortunate to have been given this stupendous opportunity from which we have gained so much knowledge opening our experiences to various fields of study and an impetus to becoming the budding engineers of tomorrow. We showcased our skills through excellent team working, adapting to challenges and situations and maintaining resilience and perseverance required in real life.

Overall, I would say the experience was way above our expectations. We feel extremely fortunate that TIBHS provides us with these rare opportunities which very few schools offer. Without doubt the plethora of skills gained will certainly enrich further studies and any future opportunities which may arise.

Adam Mubarak Year 10



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### North-West Curling Competition: Let the Games Commence!

North-West Secondary Curling Final took place on the 8th June in Bolton and TIBHS came third in the tournament.

Arriving early at the sporting facility, we decided to practice before the competition started. We were informed what games we would be playing and where. After being given instructions the first game began. Having won this match with ease; we then faced tougher competition and lost our second game. We then went on to successfully win the rest of the matches before lunch giving us the chance to compete for 3rd position.

During break, after having refreshments we practiced for our last game. We waited patiently and were informed when it would be our turn. It was a competitive match and we successfully achieved 3rd position in the North-West Secondary Curling Final against 10 other schools. I was extremely happy with the result and felt our hard work had paid off. We ended the day by collecting our medals and awards. As Team Captain, I'm very proud of our achievements and feel we played to the best of our ability displaying the core STAR values.

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Deen Al Ahmed Year 8

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### Lancashire Cup – Our Journey to The Quarterfinals

The atmosphere was tense. We needed to win otherwise we are out of the Lancashire cup. It was a match against Abraham Moss to reach the quarterfinals.

We were certainly the underdogs having previously lost six matches one of which was a thrilling match against Lancaster Grammar - falling short of 3 runs. We arrived at Abraham Moss hoping for our first win. The sheer size of the pitch left us dazzled and stunned – no pressure!

Having won the toss we decided to bowl, the first over was a tough one. Four runs to start the over but our bowler did well to come back ending his over with a dot and giving away only six runs. The overs seemed to get progressively worse as the standards slipped. In ten overs, we gave away 79 runs. Abraham Moss was an extremely talented team. Our bowling seemed sloppy. Our fielding seemed weak. Hope was slowing fading.

Abraham Moss closed the innings on a massive 111 runs. Feeling deflated as 112 runs would be a mighty chase, nevertheless this never stopped us from wanting to win.

Refreshments – a well needed break! Mr Richardson, inspired us with the drive to achieve success, ending with 'this is a fight to win'. We returned to the pitch invigorated and determined to showcase out true talent.

Our openers Ismail Dema and Yusuf Yaqub fell in the first two overs. Then came the main men: Muhammad Sange and Tauheed Hussain. Sange was the first to retire after scoring an impressive 25 runs in a quick-fire innings. Despite losing a number of wickets. We managed to pick up runs with some resistance batting and putting our training into action.

With one wicket left Sange came back in, we needed 20 runs from the last five overs. Suddenly, the dream became possible. A lovely six from superb Sange brought us closer to our goal. 10 runs needed from 12 balls! The last wicket against their best bowler. The golden moment – terrific Tauheed sealed the match with a 4 and a 6. History decided... We are through to the quarterfinals hoping to win the cup.

Abdul Hadi Kashif





After a gruelling few weeks, embroiled in the exam season, we were treated to some competitive fun and team building with our Year 10 Football Interform Tournament. It was a scene akin to a City Derby with fellow peers cheering chants of support and team players rolling on to the field completing their stretches before the whistle was blown.

With excitement running through our veins, we charged on to the fields, each team determined to win. Dribbling the ball from one player to the other, each striker was determined to make the goal that would earn them a place in the final.

The most riveting moment was undoubtedly the final: our team versus T3. With only three minutes left to the final whistle, it was with sheer elation and skill that we slotted the first goal, assuming our win. There was more drama ready to unfold. T3 equalised.

With deep breaths, both teams prepared for the penalty shoot-out. The ultimate moment that would crown us in our glory. Picking the best of strikers was a tough choice. One error could cost us; this was a risk we could not take (yes, we did make it feel like the FA Cup final).



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As our spectators cheered on, we made our way back on to the pitch. With unwavering focus and determination, we took to the spot, one by one.

Each team seemed to be effortlessly slotting the goals in and it seemed the match may never end. It was the remarkable save our heroic goalkeeper made that secured our win: T4 were the interform champions of 2023.

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A moment truly worth a celebration and cheer!

Rayyan Khanjra Year 10



## NASA Inspires Science

Science enjoyed some fun and creative moments in recognition of NASA and its contributions to Science.

After an in-school workshop of learning about the organisation, pupils in the MAD Science club enjoyed making NASA inspired key rings. It was more than just using craft papers and pens. Instead, pupils had the opportunity construct these through chemical reactions with molecular rearrangements forming moulds which pupils then painted.

See the whole process in pictures including the fantastic product!

Miss S Amin Teacher of Science



### The Big Help Out – Stretching to Help Others

The Star Diploma recognises and encourages pupils' commitment to their education, positive behaviour and community service.

By participating in the initiative, pupils not only enhance their academic achievements, but also develop essential life skills by making valuable contributions to society. The Trust is committed to helping others, empowering communities, and providing practical assistance to improve the quality of life in neighbourhoods, transcending social and ethnic divisions.

Many pupils already engage in community and charitable activities both within and outside the school. The Star Diploma Community Service element acknowledges and rewards their achievements beyond the classroom, encouraging all pupils to participate in activities that support the local, national, and global community.

One such event was "The Big Help Out" initiated in honour of His Majesty - the king's dedication to public service. The Big Help Out was organised to inspire individuals to engage in volunteering activities and contribute to their local communities. The initiative aimed to foster a sense of unity and establish a long-lasting legacy of volunteerism. By encouraging people to get involved, The Big Help Out aspired to bring communities together and make a positive impact on society.

As part of The Big Help Out, participants were encouraged to commit a significant amount of their time to volunteering. As a school, we set a target of 600 hours or more, demonstrating the importance of sustained effort in making a meaningful difference. One of the key areas of focus for The Big Help Out was the community clean-up. Volunteers were encouraged to actively participate in clearing up public spaces, such as parks, streets, and school surroundings.

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By undertaking these tasks, they contribute to creating cleaner and more pleasant environments for everyone to enjoy. Additionally, the act of cleaning up together fosters a sense of community pride and unity among volunteers.

Another activity was "Feeding the Needy" where volunteers were encouraged to engage in activities that provided meals and support to those in need. Whether it involved preparing and distributing meals or organising food drives, these efforts had a direct impact on combating hunger and ensuring that vulnerable individuals had access to nutritious food.

The Big Help Out was a powerful initiative that celebrated the spirit of volunteering and community engagement. By encouraging individuals to join in and dedicate their time, skills and effort. The initiative aimed to create a positive and lasting impact on local areas. Through community clean-ups, feeding the needy, and other volunteer activities, The Big Help Out provided an opportunity for people to come together, support one another, and honour His Majesty, the king's commitment to public service.

Let us embrace this opportunity and be part of the volunteering movement that shapes a brighter future for all.

#### Mr Z Mitha Head of Pupil Development/DOL: Technology





## Duke of Edinburgh: Embracing Nature at its Finest

Our bronze Duke of Edinburgh team embarked on an exciting expedition to Bakewell, Derbyshire, where we embraced the challenges of the picturesque trails in the Peak District National Park.

Surrounded by breathtaking vistas of serene valleys and cascading waterfalls, we connected with friendly locals who shared fascinating stories and guided us to hidden gems. In the evenings, we gathered together, cooking comforting bowls of noodles and enjoying biscuits as we revelled in laughter, camaraderie, and unforgettable moments beneath the starlit sky. Our incredible journey culminated at the magnificent Monsal Head, marking the completion of our adventure with a sense of accomplishment and awe-inspiring views.

In Bakewell, Derbyshire, we discovered the perfect blend of adventure and tranquillity. The rugged trails of the Peak District challenged our physical limits, while encounters with locals added a touch of warmth to our journey. As night fell, we gathered as a team, sharing the joy of cooking noodles and indulging in biscuits as our campfire dessert. Laughter echoed through the air, weaving unforgettable memories under the vast starry canopy above.

Finally, we reached our destination, Monsal Head, a breathtaking vantage point that rewarded our efforts with awe-inspiring views, symbolising the successful completion of our bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition.

Zeyad Elmetwally Year 10

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### Adventure to the Darwen Tower & its Breath-taking Views

It was a bright and sunny day when our adventure began. A group of eager pupils, ready to explore the world beyond the confines of our classroom.

Our destination was Darwen Tower, a majestic structure that stood tall amidst the rolling hills of the countryside. After boarding the bus, chattering excitedly, we made our way through the picturesque landscape. The anticipation was palpable as we caught glimpses of the tower in the distance, growing ever closer.

Upon arrival, we eagerly disembarked and set off on our trek up the winding path. The journey was not easy, but we were determined to reach the top. As we ascended, the landscape unfolded before us, revealing breath-taking views of the surrounding hills and valleys. We paused to catch our breath and take in the scenery. The world seemed to stretch out endlessly before us, and we felt a sense of awe looking at the beauty of nature. We snapped photos and pointed out landmarks to each other, before continuing our journey to the top.

Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, we reached our destination - the majestic Darwen Tower. We explored every nook and cranny, running around and laughing as we took in the sights from the top. The wind feathered through our hair as we gazed out at the stunning panoramic views, feeling like we were on top of the world.

After a while, we settled down for a delightful picnic, surrounded by the beauty of nature. We spread out a blanket and unpacked our snacks, chatting and joking as we enjoyed our food. The warm sun and gentle breeze caressed our skin as we basked in the glory of our surroundings.

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During our break, we shared stories and made plans for future adventures. We talked about all the places we wanted to visit and all the things we wanted to see. The world seemed full of endless possibilities, and we were filled with a sense of excitement and wonder. All too soon, it was time to make our way back down the path. We packed up our things and reluctantly said goodbye to the tower, taking one last look at the stunning views before beginning our descent.

The journey back was filled with laughter and chatter as we recounted our favourite moments from the day. We boarded the bus back to school, tired but exhilarated from our adventure. As we made our way home, we were filled with memories of our exciting day - an adventure that would stay with us forever. We had conquered Darwen Tower and had a taste of the world beyond our classroom walls. We knew that this was only the beginning, there were many more adventures waiting for us in the future.

In my opinion and many others, It was a really successful hike which exemplified all of our school's ethos of service, teamwork, ambition and respect as well as providing all of the pupils with an experience very few have the opportunity to receive. It also portrays what pupils can do when they work together as well as what can be achieved by using ingenuity and quick thinking. It exemplifies the effort that teachers have gone through to make the hike a resounding success.

Harith Umarji Year 8

### Flag Bearing Ceremony – A Community Uniting in Remembrance of Our Fallen Soldiers

In a poignant tribute organised by the Royal British Legion, our group embarked on a meaningful journey to Blackburn Town Centre during the solemn occasion of Armed Forces Week.

The air was infused with a profound sense of gratitude and remembrance as we gathered alongside fellow community members. With utmost respect and admiration, we collectively raised the flag, honouring the courageous men and women of our armed forces who have dedicated their lives to protecting our nation.

The atmosphere reverberated with a deep appreciation for their selflessness and sacrifice, as the flag billowed proudly against the backdrop of the town's historic architecture. The streets were filled with a shared sense of pride and unity, as we stood together in recognition of the indomitable spirit that defines our armed forces.

The commemorative event organised by the Royal British Legion served as a reminder of the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women. It provided a platform for our community to express our unwavering support and gratitude, as we raised the flag in tribute to those who have served and continue to serve our country.

The sight of the flag soaring high in the town evoked a profound sense of reverence and stirred emotions within each of us. The ceremony was accompanied by heartfelt speeches and sharing of stories, creating a powerful atmosphere of remembrance and reflection.

This memorable experience served as a testament to our collective commitment to honouring the bravery, dedication, and resilience of our armed forces during the observance of Armed Forces Week.

Zeyad Elmetwally Year 10

### A Grand Farewell to Our Class of 2023

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Celebrating the culmination of a memorable leavers' week, the Year 11 Gala proved to be an unforgettable event for all those bidding farewell to their beloved school. Held at the grand setting of Ewood Park Stadium, this spectacular gathering on the final day was a perfect send-off for the departing pupils. With a fantastic lineup of entertainment, food, and awards, the Gala left everyone with cherished memories etched in their hearts.

Adding a dash of humour to the evening was none other than the talented Abdullah Afzal, renowned for his role in the hit TV show "Citizen Khan." His hilarious stand-up performance had the entire audience in fits of laughter, making the event even more special.

The tantalizing aroma of sumptuous delicacies filled the air as pupils savoured a delectable spread of cuisines from various cultures. From mouth-watering appetisers to delightful desserts, the gastronomic delights added to the festive atmosphere and brought everyone together.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards, recognising outstanding achievements and contributions by the pupils throughout their academic journey. Cheers and applause resonated throughout the stadium as each recipient stepped up to receive their well-deserved accolades, making the evening truly inspiring.

The Year 11 Gala was more than just a farewell party; it was a celebration of the cherished friendships, unforgettable experiences, and the beginning of exciting new chapters. As the pupils embarked on their respective paths, they carried with them the fond memories of this extraordinary event, forever treasured in their hearts.

Mr J Lorgat Head of Year 11





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### A Fun Packed Final Farewell

As the end of the academic year approached, the pupils of Year 11 eagerly awaited the much-anticipated Activities Week - a time of bonding, exploration, and celebration.

This special week was packed with various events and activities that left a lasting impact on everyone involved. From a Careers Morning to an exciting Gala on Friday - each day held something unique and enjoyable.



#### **Careers Morning - Shaping the Future:**

The week kicked off with the insightful Careers Morning, where the pupils had the opportunity to explore their post-secondary options. The event provided valuable insights into potential career paths, helping pupils make informed decisions about their future.

#### FCE Day at the Local Mosque:

The second day was dedicated to an enriching experience at the local mosque, where pupils got to learn and practice different aspects of an Islamic burial.

#### Football Tournament, A BBQ and The Spirit of Sportsmanship:

Midweek, the adrenaline soared as the school's annual Football Tournament took place. Teams were formed, and friendly yet competitive matches were played. Cheers and applause filled the air as pupils showcased their skills and teamwork. The day concluded with a celebratory BBQ where participants and spectators alike enjoyed a scrumptious feast while reminiscing about the exciting matches.

#### Trip to a Thrilling Theme Park -Unleashing the Inner Child: The excitement continued as the pupils embarked on a thrilling adventure to a nearby theme park. Screams of joy could be heard from every corner as they rode exhilarating roller coasters, immersed themselves in virtual reality, and indulged in classic carnival treats. This fun-filled day offered a well-deserved break from academic pressures, strengthening the bonds of friendship and creating cherished memories.

The Activities Week served as a remarkable way to commemorate the Year 11 pupils' journey at TIBHS. It provided them with a perfect balance of learning, cultural understanding, sportsmanship, and enjoyment. Friendships were strengthened, new horizons were explored, and memories were etched in hearts forevermore!

Mr J Lorgat Head of Year 11

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## A Day of Remembrance and Reflection

On Tuesday 20th June, our Year 11s were treated to an opportunity of a lifetime. As per previous years, the FCE (Faith, Character and Education) team at TIBHS partnered with the local Burial team and offered our young men a chance to learn about burial rites. A key reminder which resonated with all our Y11s was to make the most of our time here on Earth and not take relationships for granted.

As we all know, death is a phenomenon which we must all face and one day soon, we too will be burying a loved one and what a better way to spend some post-Y11 days learning all about it.

Pupils were split into four groups, across various mosques with burial facilities in Blackburn. They learnt that all the venues have professional volunteers, who amazingly give up their time, week in and week out, helping to prepare the shroud for the deceased, bathe them and make all the necessary arrangements preceding the final burial.

It was a true eye-opener for all – learning about the Prophetic manner of bathing the deceased and how many cloths are used to enshroud the body. It was a true reflection for pupils that good actions will bring us enduring benefits, that will last beyond the grave and bring them success on our last day.

One group also visited Pleasington Cemetery, observing the final journey we will all ultimately, undergo. They witnessed the process of burial and the procedures that lead up to it such as the excavating of the earth, the depth of a grave and the frame used to support the wooden planks which are placed just before the final rites are performed.

A key message this taught all our young men was death brings us hope; a sense of peace and happiness. It was a very humbling experience to say the least... May the Almighty allow us all to prepare for our final moments in a way that is pleasing to him. Aameen.

Abdullah Muhammad Year 11





### The Foodbank

TIBHS Foodbank continues to run with the support of its caring pupils, generous parents and partners. It continues to fulfil its purpose of supporting the most vulnerable members of the community by spreading kindness and tackling food poverty.

Recently, TIBHS partnered with The Connect Hub to provide food parcels to asylum seekers and refugees during Eid Ul Adha; the food parcels were dropped off by our Alumni to The Connect Hub who then distributed them.

Prior to the celebration of Eid Ul Adha, four food hampers were delivered to a housing shelter for asylum seekers and refugees. Over the celebration of Eid al-Adha, twenty-seven food hampers were delivered by The Connect Hub team to asylum seekers and refugee families in Blackburn and Darwen. The hampers were topped with a packet of naan bread and one kilo of meat.

It is the quintessence of the festivities that allow families to make a special meal and wholeheartedly partake and celebrate of this special occasion. It is an effective and rewarding form of charity, as it pleases the Almighty as well as being a means of gaining the supplications of vulnerable people.

We were inundated with heaps of gratitude and appreciation from those who received the food hampers. Our mission was complete – Alhamdulillah.

We intend to distribute more parcels in the coming weeks to support the most vulnerable; the hampers will be delivered by our Alumni. We are indebted to our Alumni who make this possible, as they sacrifice their Friday evenings to ensure that this is executed smoothly.

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'Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.'

Mr M Ugradar DOL: FCE/Teacher of Urdu

DRAME ENRA



### Albania Eid Gift Appeal

By the Grace of The Almighty and the kindness of parents and pupils in Star schools, each year we raise impressive amounts of money to alleviate poverty and suffering in the UK and beyond.

Following the devastating earthquake in February 2023, leading up to, and during, the blessed month of Ramadhaan 1444, Star families almost raised a spectacular £300,000 to support families in Turkey and Syria providing emergency relief, homes and shelter, along with supporting two schools in Idlib, Northwest Syria, which are attended by 700 children. This is in addition to supporting communities around our schools by providing food vouchers, food packs and hygiene kits.

May The Almighty reward you abundantly for your continued generosity - Aameen.

The first ten days of Dhul Hijjah, the twelfth and final month of the Islamic calendar, are considered to be the best ten days of the year, even more so than the last ten days of Ramadhaan. As has been stated in a hadeeth, there are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to The Almighty than these ten days. No good deeds done on other days are superior to those done on the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah.

Many parents, staff and even a pupil in Year 8 performed Hajj (pilgrimage) this year – may The Almighty accept their Hajj and enable us all to undertake this auspicious journey (Aameen).

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Although we ourselves have not been able to perform the Hajj this year, there were still plenty of ways for us to reap the rewards of these blessed ten days by engaging in voluntary fasting, worship, offering Qurbaani (sacrifice of an animal) and by charitable giving.

This year, we launched a special appeal during the sacred days of Dhul Hijjah. Working in partnership with Shine Charity, we donated Eid Gifts to children in Albania. It gave us the opportunity to help hundreds of Albanian families and bring a smile to the faces of thousands of children on Eid day through Lillaah and nafl Sadaqah donations to this most deserving project. A heartfelt thank you also to the young men in our school, who through their food tech lessons, fundraised with breakfast buns and mojitos to take our total to £1,311.50!

We pray that you are rewarded abundantly for your kindness and end this article with a request for your prayers during these special days of Hajj for peace, comfort and harmony across our world.

We hope you too had a blessed Eid with your family, and for allowing a poor child and family to enjoy the special day.

Mr M Ugradar DOL: FCE/Teacher of Urdu

## Hajj: A Journey of a Lifetime

Hajj - a journey of a lifetime. Years of yearning and saving money to embark on a spiritual journey like no other; a spiritual journey that no words can describe, no camera can capture, and no two people can share.

For many this stays a dream, however for the chosen ones, it becomes a memory etched deep in their souls. With this in mind, TIBHS aimed to bring this year's Hajj to life, so pupils can submerse themselves into a spiritual experience, as well as sowing the seed of Hajj.

#### Hajj Assemblies

During the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah, the morning registration programme in form time was postponed allowing pupils to learn about the importance of Hajj. During form time, pupils participated in online Teams assemblies where they learnt about: the importance of the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah, the vitality of Dhikr during the Hajj Days, the fast of Arafah and the sacrificial story of Prophet Ibrahim (AS).

#### Dhikr Challenge

Dhikr is a key form of worship during the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah and in Hajj, as it allows you to form connections with the Almighty. To develop this, pupils participated in a Dhikr challenge where they were tasked and encouraged to read as much Dhikr as possible, Consequently, this was recorded by all form tutors for each pupil across the school. This created healthy competition and encouraged all pupils to complete as much Dhikr as possible.

#### **Eid Gift Appeal**

Giving charity during special occasions like Hajj is a means of immense reward. It pleases the Almighty and fosters compassion, empathy and service in people. Furthermore, Eid Ul Adha is a joyous occasion for many, but there are many who cannot enjoy such occasions like we do. Hence, TIBHS launched an Eid Gift appeal for children in Albania. Through the power of the Almighty and through your generous donations, TIBHS raised an astonishing £1,311.50!

#### Hajj Vlogs

Fortunately, some staff and pupils from the TIBHS community were invited by the Almighty to perform the Hajj this year. Eesa Patel from year 8 was blessed enough to visit the house of Allah and perform Hajj with his family. He created immersive videos documenting his journey visiting all the sacred sites in Saudi Arabia. Pupils and staff were in awe of his journey while watching the videos he sent. This really allowed pupils to witness a firsthand experience of Hajj and many pupils were completely absorbed by the remarkable journey.

#### Hajj Leadership Day

TIBHS held a specific to day to bring the lessons of Hajj to life. During Hajj Leadership Day, pupils participated in a number of activities:

- White Jubbah Day Pupils came dressed in white Jubbahs to resemble the 2 pieces of Ihram cloth to show that we are all equal in front of the Almighty.
- Spirituality morning Pupils read Surah Kahf and Ishraq salah.
- HMC assembly Pupils learnt about the importance of eating halal and its impact on health and spirituality. This supported with the sacrifices of Hajj.



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- Hajj Quiz pupils participated in a Hajj quiz in their classes where they understood and memorised questions and answers about hajj. Thereafter, their teacher held in class competitions to see who has the most knowledge about Hajj.
- Hajj and Maths pupils answered a set of maths questions based on Hajj. Pupils looked at cost of hajj, the distance travelled, and the time taken during hajj from a maths perspective.
- Saee and Tawaf races pupils went head-to-head competing in completing seven rounds of a circuit in teams to see how long it takes them. This was a riveting experience!
- Pelting the pillars-pupils mimicked the pelting of the Jamaraat in this session. Competing in teams, they threw tennis balls at cricket wickets to see if they can hit the target.
- The Prophet's Pilgrimage- pupils learnt how the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) performed Hajj. They read through a detailed account of his hajj travelling from Madinah to Makkah with 124, 000 companions.
- Hajj Assembly with our FCE Governor Our FCE governor, Moulana Talha, delivered an in depth and emotional hajj assembly explaining the goals and purpose of Hajj.
- Hajj Video-pupils watched a short video of pilgrims performing the Hajj in the scorching heat.
- Reflections- to capture the knowledge they had learnt; pupils completed a crib sheet about hajj and Eid Ul Adha.
- Kabah Model TIBHS went one step further this year and had a Kabah model created by local businesses to help bring the Hajj experience to life. A sincere thank you to these local businesses who donated the materials as well as making it for free - all in the spirit of Hajj. A special thank you to Rightway Cash and Carry.

#### Arafah Day Dua

To bring a close to our Hajj Learning, we finished Tuesday 27th June, the day of Arafah with an emotional dua by Mufti Muhammed. It was an opportunity of teaching our pupils how to make dua and the importance of dua.

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Mr M Ugradar DOL: FCE/Teacher of Urdu



### Year 12 Work Experience

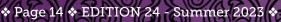
As part of TB6 Excellence, from Monday 5th June for the duration of the week, TB6 students were given industry-oriented work experience. The aim of this program was to give students a taste of working life in a professional setting to inspire them to make informed decisions about their future careers.

Each student was placed within a company that is relevant to their career pathway. Students interested in healthcare were placed at GP Surgeries and pharmacies, while students interested in technology and accounting were placed in world renowned firms such as Euro Garages. Being given experience of this sort was an outstanding opportunity to gain valuable skills in a working environment.

I personally had the opportunity to attend a work placement at More Polythene in Blackburn. A polythene factory, where I gained an insight into how plastic bags and sheets are mass produced. Producing over 15 tonnes of plastic a day, I had a realistic insight into the rapid scale of production firms operate at on a day-to-day basis.

The program was a valuable opportunity to gain valuable insights, and network with future employers. Transferable skills such as communication, organisational skills and team management were reinforced with the mentor throughout my time there. A valuable experience that no doubt will support me in my future ambitions.

Faisal Ahmed Year 12





## Oxford: A Truly Enriching Experience

We arrived in the historic city of Oxford for our muchanticipated visit to the prestigious University ready to explore the world-renowned libraries. It was a truly remarkable experience that left a lasting impression. Steeped in history and academic excellence, Oxford University stands as a symbol of intellectual pursuit, and its libraries reflect this rich heritage.

One is immediately struck by the architectural grandeur and scholarly atmosphere that permeates the city. The university's Bodleian Library, one of the oldest libraries in Europe, houses an impressive collection of over 12 million books, manuscripts, and maps. The Radcliffe Camera, a stunning circular building that serves as a reading room, is an iconic landmark that exemplifies the university's commitment to scholarship.

The experience of exploring these libraries is awe-inspiring. The shelves lined with books from various disciplines, the hushed whispers of scholars engrossed in their studies, and the distinct scent of aged paper create an environment that fosters intellectual curiosity and inspires the pursuit of knowledge. Each library provides a treasure trove of resources, enabling visitors to delve into a vast array of subjects and immerse themselves in the intellectual legacy of generations past. Beyond their literary treasures, Oxford's libraries offer invaluable resources and services to support academic endeavours.

Once finishing the tour of the libraries, we learnt about the requirements of a personal statement which would be accepted into a university such as Oxford. This was a learning curve for all of us as we will be writing our personal statements in September 2023.

After the tour of Oxford and Brasenose Universities we decided to go punting. Punting is a traditional boating activity that originated in England, particularly in the city of Oxford and the region of Cambridge. It involves propelling a flat-bottomed boat, known as a punt, along a river or shallow waterway using a long pole called a punt pole. To punt, the punter (the person operating the punt) stands at the rear of the boat, known as the stern, with one end of the punt pole resting on the riverbed. The punter uses the pole as a lever, pushing it against the riverbed to propel the punt forward. By applying force and exerting pressure on the pole, the punter can move the boat in the desired direction. We couldn't help but reflect on this experience and how closely it mirrors our journey in life as we fight many forces in our pursuit to achieve our ambitions.

The experience of visiting Oxford University and its libraries, including Brasenose College library, is a journey into the realm of knowledge and learning. The rich history, architectural splendour, and intellectual vibrancy make this experience truly unforgettable. Whether you are an academic, a literature enthusiast, or simply someone with a thirst for knowledge - a visit to Oxford's libraries is a pilgrimage that will leave an indelible mark on your intellectual journey.

Muhammed Karbhari Year 12





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### Castle Head Fieldwork Getaway

A day at Castle Head, Year 10s travelled to Grange-Over-Sands, studying practical fieldwork techniques in urban areas of Grange and Morecambe. Pupils were in great spirits and were mesmerised by the amazing sights and scenery.

They were taken on an amazing adventure exploring the landscape, across Morecombe Bay. They ventured along the river Eea studying various parts of it. Specialised equipment and various techniques were used to measure and collect data regarding the velocity, depth and width of the river at three different points. Pupils were inventive and greatly enjoyed thinking outside the box using dog biscuits to measure the river's speed.

Despite the rain our pupils remained high-spirited and resilient to the elements ensuring they stayed on task and were able to collect the necessary data required to conclude their investigations. Pupils demonstrated a high standard of knowledge and understanding acquired during lessons over the term. It was great to see them apply this physically and see the concepts come to fruition.

Pupils reported they had a highly enjoyable and successful day which was beyond their initial expectations as many began the journey nervous and anxious not knowing what to fully expect. What an amazing experience for all!

Mr A Raza DOL: Humanities

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## Exploring Regeneration in Salford Quays

Year 10 pupils spent the day in Salford Quays. The aim of the fieldtrip was to carry out an investigation into the impact of regeneration in the area. Pupils spent time working in small groups to collect data on the regeneration changes that have taken place. They focussed on the impact this has had socially, environmentally and economically.

Pupils visited sites, completed a pedestrian count, environmental quality survey and undertook some field sketches. They conducted themselves exceptionally well, showcasing excellent teamwork, by working effectively within their groups collecting primary and secondary data.

Salford Quays only exists due to regeneration in the 1980s and its progression (as Media City continues to expand) it was only right for our pupils to absorb the urban landscape by having lunch at the MediaCityUK Piazza to end the day. They appreciated visiting each site whilst learning more about the history and development of Salford Quays.

Completing this fieldwork was a crucial part of their Geography curriculum and it allowed our pupils to develop an understanding for their environment, whilst acknowledging the success of regeneration. Visiting Salford Quays helped bring classroom learning to life.

Mr A Raza DOL: Humanities





### Empowering Pupils Through the Summer Food Project at TIBHS

Education extends beyond the confines of traditional classrooms, and for 124 pupils from Eden Boys' School Bolton, it took the form of a transformative culinary experience at TIBHS.

The Summer Food Project held at TIBHS proved to be an enriching endeavour for the participating pupils. They not only had the opportunity to develop their cooking skills but also delving into essential theory topics related to personal and kitchen hygiene, nutrition, healthy diets, food labels, food sustainability and food wastage.

#### **Culinary Exploration and Skill Development:**

Over the course of the project, the pupils engaged in hands-on cooking experiences, preparing two delectable dishes: Chickpea and potato gravy and puff pastry pizza swirls. Equipped with state-ofthe-art cooking facilities and equipment, pupils practiced various culinary skills, including peeling, cutting, boiling, accurate measuring, heating, portioning, and baking. This immersive learning experience went beyond the confines of a traditional curriculum, allowing the pupils to gain practical expertise in the kitchen.

While mastering the art of cooking, the pupils also explored an array of theory topics that are vital for fostering a well-rounded understanding of food and its impact. The project facilitated discussions on personal, food, and kitchen hygiene, emphasising the importance of maintaining cleanliness and safety standards in culinary endeavours. Nutrition and healthy diets were also covered extensively, empowering the pupils to make informed choices regarding their own food choices.

The success of the Summer Food Project has not only left a lasting impact on the participants but has also opened avenues



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for future collaborations. Pupils at Eden Boys' School Bolton expressed a desire to collaborate with TIBHS, envisioning potential competitions such as a 'Bake Off'. Such collaborations offer an opportunity for pupils to exchange ideas, showcase their culinary prowess, and foster a spirit of healthy competition and camaraderie.

The transformative nature of the Summer Food Project is best captured through the voices of the participating pupils themselves. Here are a few quotes that reflect their newfound knowledge, confidence, and enthusiasm:

"I now feel comfortable helping my parents in the kitchen."

"I now know what food labels show us and can use this knowledge to make informed decisions on what I can eat."

#### "I can safely use a knife."

These quotes encapsulate the positive impact of the project, indicating that the pupils have not only acquired practical skills but also developed a deeper understanding of the importance of kitchen safety, nutrition, and personal empowerment.

The Summer Food Project at TIBHS has proven to be a resounding success, providing pupils with a platform to explore their culinary skills, enhance their theoretical knowledge, and develop confidence in the kitchen. By equipping young learners with essential skills and knowledge, the project has empowered them to make informed decisions regarding their diets, personal hygiene, and kitchen safety. As future collaborations beckon, the impact of this project will continue to shape the pupils' educational journeys, inspiring them to embrace their culinary passions and thrive in their pursuit of knowledge.

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#### Mr Z Mitha

Head of Pupil Development/DOL Technology

age 17



### Delivering Excellence in Health and Well-Being

It is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to lead a school that exudes a sense of happiness and unity. Our school embraces a strong family like atmosphere, where all stakeholders are genuinely appreciated and experience a profound sense of belonging.

As a leader, I wholeheartedly acknowledge that a contented workforce is a productive one. While challenging conversations are inevitable, our ultimate goal is always to ensure the best for both our pupils and staff, striving for excellence in every aspect of our endeavours.

As the academic year draws to a close, there is a profound sense of relief, knowing that despite the strenuous and demanding journey, we have achieved significant milestones in the development of both staff and pupils. Everyone involved in the school consistently goes above and beyond to contribute to our success.

Numerous activities and initiatives are in place to support the well-being of our staff and pupils. We have dedicated Well-being Wednesdays, offering fruit platters and daily tea and toast. Our leadership team maintains a flexible approach, accommodating team members' needs and adopting flexible working wherever possible. We make it a point to enable employees to attend personal moments that hold a lasting impact, such as assemblies, graduations, and sports days, creating cherished memories for all.

The school also actively participates in national events like 'Thank a Teacher Day', acknowledging the dedication of our educators.

Recently, you may have seen the heartwarming videos created by our pupils on Twitter to celebrate this special day.

Our commitment to the well-being of our staff has been acknowledged with the prestigious Investors in People Platinum award. It's an honour for our school to be featured in the Investors in People magazine and be recognised as one of the top 20 employers in the UK. This recognition is a testament to our continuous efforts in creating a supportive and nurturing environment for our team members.

We recognise that our pupils work diligently during their time at our school. However, we are committed to tirelessly developing their character and overall well-being. To achieve this, we offer a diverse range of experiences, including national and international trips, cultural visits to museums, and subject-related excursions. These opportunities contribute to providing our students with a well-rounded and enriching education, nurturing their growth beyond academics.

At TIBHS, we place significant emphasis on continuous development, both for our staff and pupils, leveraging the advantages of digital technology and delivering high-quality services despite challenging economic conditions. In September 2023, we eagerly welcome our Year 13 students into TB6, our very own sixth form, expanding our school family.

As a collective, our unwavering commitment to excellence continues to yield positive outcomes, empowering us to provide remarkable support to our communities through inspiring charitable initiatives, assisting families and neighbours facing financial hardships. Moreover, we have been responsive to international crises, exemplified by our relief efforts to aid victims of the devastating earthquake in Syria and Turkey this past February.

There is much to take pride in, and each one of you plays a crucial role in sustaining our family's success. Thank you for your dedication and contributions. I sincerely hope you all enjoy a well-deserved period of rest and relaxation this summer.

Together, we stand strong. We are TIBHS. Mr M Ditta Principal

## Triumphant Finish: Conquering the GCSE Exam Challenge

The completion of the GCSE exams on Friday, the 16th June, marked a significant milestone in the lives of pupils at TIBHS, symbolising the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and academic growth.

The preparation process for these exams instilled discipline, time management skills, and resilience in our pupils. Pupils learnt to prioritise their studies, juggle multiple subjects, and cope with the pressures of exams and evening supplementary school. This experience will surely help them develop crucial life skills that are applicable in various aspects of their lives.

GCSE exams serve as a testament to the academic endeavours of pupils throughout their secondary school years. These exams cover a wide range of subjects, including core subjects like English, Mathematics, and Science, as well as optional subjects chosen by pupils. The completion of GCSE exams signifies the acquisition of essential knowledge and skills in various disciplines, providing a foundation for future educational pursuits.

The successful completion of GCSE exams opens doors to various educational pathways. Pupils can choose to continue their studies in the same institution, progressing to A-levels, BTEC or T-Levels. TB6 offers a wide range of subjects and many of the leaving pupils intend to return to TIBHS to further their studies.

In conclusion, the completion of GCSE exams is a significant milestone that highlights the academic growth, personal development, and future possibilities for pupils. It is a time to reflect on the knowledge and skills acquired during secondary education, and an opportunity to chart the course for further studies or career pathways. As we celebrate the achievements of our pupils, let us recognise their resilience, determination, and the bright future that awaits them as they embark on the next phase of their educational journey.

Mr Z Ahmed Assistant Principal

## Alton Towers: A Day to Remember

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Following a year of hard work, perseverance, dedication – and not forgetting the pressure of end of year exams! The one thing that kept us going was the much-awaited trip to Alton Towers. One of the most exhilarating and exciting attractions in the UK.

It was an early start at 7.30am, despite this the sheer excitement amongst all the pupils was clearly evident. A two-hour journey of laughter and banter felt like a treat. Even the teachers couldn't hide their excitement. Alton Towers exceeded my expectations. Starting with the rides, it featured some of the most mind-blowing rides such as Oblivion, Smiler, Rita and much more and not to mention all the fun attractions and arcade games, which we really enjoyed. In addition to this there was a variety of tasty foods to choose from.

We were fortunate to have the weather on our side, which added to the experience. The park had so much to offer, the clean safe environment and the availability of staff to help us was commendable. There were many themed areas, like the Dark Forest, Forbidden Valley and X Sector. Beyond the rides and attractions, Alton towers had a vibrant and lovely atmosphere that added to the overall experience. The park was superbly maintained, and the lush greenery provided us a serene backdrop to the adrenaline -fuelled adventures.

In conclusion, our visit to Alton Towers has left us with an incredible experience and fond memories, I can say for sure we left the park with a smile on our face. We look forward to what TIBHS has in store for us next year!

Zakaria Ahmed Year 9



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### Blackpool Pleasure Beach: An Invigorating Experience

As we embarked on our end-of-year trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach on Monday 26th June 2023, the excitement among us was palpable. The journey itself was filled with laughter and chatter as we discussed the rides that we were most looking forward to experiencing.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by the sight of the towering roller coasters and the sounds of screams and laughter emanating from the park. Throughout the day, we raced from one ride to another desperate to try as many thrilling experiences as we could. For the many thrill-seekers amongst us, there were rides like: Icon, Grand National, Tango Ice Blast, Pepsi Max Big One - the highest rollercoaster in the UK, with a whopping 65m drop, and of course, Infusion, the world's first looping rollercoaster to be suspended over water.

From great views to the refreshing sea air; this trip was one to be remembered. We ended our trip with some much-awaited Blackpool pier fish and chips, and the infamous Blackpool rock and returned to school jovial and full of conversation of the events of a fun filled day.

Zakee Hafiz Year 7

### A Sad Farewell to Some; A Warm Welcome to Others

For many who join the school, it is the safe haven the school offers that makes leaving the TIBHS' family so difficult. And for those that are still very much part of the school, it is always sad to bid farewell to staff moving to pastures new.

We wish all our leavers the very best of luck in their future endeavours.

- Edan Tal DOL Science
- Waqar Ramzan Teacher of Mathematics
- Suhayl Master Teacher of Mathematics
- Bashira Patel Head of Sixth Form/DOL Futures
- Atikah Misri Teacher of Chemistry
- Munisa Gaba Science Technician
- · Maulana Mubarak Patel Teacher of MFL

Whilst farewells are always hard, we have welcomed a number of staff into the TIBHS' family this term.

- · Asiya Hussain Business Support Officer
- Rukhsar Yasin Teacher of Mathematics
- Muhammad Patel Teacher of Science
- Miriam Khan Teacher of Science
- Aiysha Ismail SCITT
- Maryam Ali Teacher of Psychology
- · Safiyyah Mohmed Science Technician
- · Sherbano Nazir Learning Support Assistant
- Nagia Soulla Teacher of MFL
- Nasir Mahmood Teacher of Mathematics
- Abid Malji Teacher of Chemistry/BTEC Science
- Nadia Yasin Teacher of Sociology
- Asia Ali Head of Sixth Form/DOL Futures

# TIBHS would like to wish all pupils, parents, staff and stakeholders a restful Summer break.

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



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