

AR-RISAALAH الرسالة

THE MESSAGE

The Newsletter for Eden Boys' Leadership Academy
Manchester



Eden Boys

Autumn 2021/22

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Message from the Principal

Principal Sarfraz Shah



Welcome!

I hope and pray that everyone is well and that you haven't suffered adversely over the last few months given the nature of the pace at which the Omicron variant has spread.

What did we get up to this Autumn Term?

By the grace of the Almighty, at Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, Manchester, we have continued with everything that makes us so special as a school - from learning in the classroom to competing with other schools at sporting events such as football, or academic competitions such as DebateMate.



The start of the 2021-22 academic year means we are a complete school for the first time since opening in September 2017 with Yr7-11 pupils and a full body of specialist staff. You can read more about some of our new staff in this newsletter.



OFSTED inspection

In the Autumn term, we were inspected by Ofsted, and we are delighted with the outcome which reflects some of the fantastic achievements of our pupils, staff and governors of EBM. You can read the full report on our website.

Behaviour and Attitudes	OUTSTANDING
Quality of Education	GOOD
Personal Development	OUTSTANDING
Leadership and Management	GOOD
OFSTED, NOVEMBER 2021	
Eden Boys	

GCSE examinations

We started the academic year by celebrating some excellent GCSE/KS4 results for our current Yr11 pupils. At the end of their yr10, they sat formal GCSE exams in Citizenship, RS, Computer Science

and L2 Creative iMedia. The results overall were fantastic and I hope they continue this momentum and success in the GCSE exams at the end of yr11.



In this edition

Whilst adhering to all the Covid restrictions, I am also delighted that we have started competitive football matches for all our year groups and we aim to compete in other sports during the academic year.

This edition of the Risaalah magazine celebrates many of our achievements, highlights and participation in events, and gives you an insight into some of the amazing talent we have at EBM. I want to congratulate all our pupils for all their efforts and a huge thank you to all our staff for organising some fantastic events.



Eden Boys' Visit the Little Amal Refugee Statue

By Ali Shah

I, along with three other students of Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, visited Khizra mosque on the third of November to see the statue of Little Amal.



The Little Amal statue is a statue of a six-year-old girl who lost her mother in a bombed refugee camp. From there she has toured around countries, eventually coming to Greater Manchester. I, as well as my other students, had gone there to perform, which was extremely enjoyable.

While we were there, we met many other schools such as Oasis Academy, Temple and Manchester Communication Academy. We also performed the Nasheed Maula Ya Salli in front of the other schools as well as Little Amal.

During the performance, we performed the aforesaid Nasheed to a steady drumbeat. Later, we took pictures with the statue, which was extremely exciting and enjoyable. We were also given roses to hand to the statue, and I feel like this was an important and pleasurable experience.



Afterwards, we were able to socialise with the other schools and learn more about each other. This in my opinion was a pivotal part of the experience.

Later that day, I returned to school with my classmates, and I think they would agree that this was a far-reaching opportunity that was delightful. I also believe that we were all very proud to have represented our school on this very public occasion and were delighted to have had this experience, and hope to have many more in future.



Eden's New Generation!

By Abdullahi Muridi Sharif Mohamed
& Ariz Mehmood

In this interview with some of the Year 7 pupils that have joined Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, Manchester, we asked some intriguing questions about their first impressions of Eden.



Khassim Muridi Sharif Mohamed from 7A described his experiences of starting at Eden:

"In my past couple of weeks at Eden I have been coping very well. I have just moved from primary school and I was worried as I thought it would be difficult to make friends. However, both the teachers and pupils were very welcoming and friendly.

"I chose to go to Eden as my brothers recommended I should join the school as it is a very disciplined and hardworking faith school.

"I hope to expand my knowledge and abilities, and achieve good grades in my GCSEs. This will open many doors for my future goals.

"I would never want to choose a school over this and I hope it takes me to great places."



Afraz Mehmood (also from 7A), added:

"The transition from my primary school to high school was not confusing at all, it was quite easy actually.

"I am very excited to meet new people and look forward to achieving great things in future. I never find the schoolwork easy nor do I find it too difficult - it always tests my brain, challenges me and helps me to improve my knowledge and grow.

"I would not change schools as I feel like I belong here at Eden, and I know that this school will help me achieve my goals.

"I am regularly happy in school because of the variety of things there are to do and the tasks and events which take place are very thrilling.

"I chose Eden as it looked like a great school and after starting, unsurprisingly, I have found to be a great school."

As you can see, these incredible young pupils have clearly shown many aspects of their experience at Eden and have noted many positives about the school. Furthermore, they have shown the importance of Eden's values of service, teamwork, ambition and respect.





Eden's New Recruits

Interviews with our newest teachers by Farid Issaka & Samiullah Muddasser

We are already one term into our new academic year, so we decided to interview teachers who are new to Eden Boys' Leadership Academy to know about their experiences thus far. Read our interviews with the teachers below:

The first teacher we decided to interview was Miss Ilias, one of our new science teachers:



How has your experience been so far?

"It has been good. I have really enjoyed teaching and doing practical work with students. The staff are very welcoming and supportive. If you have any enquires or problems, any member of staff is always willing to help. I have thoroughly enjoyed this new experience and I am looking forward to the rest of the year."

Have you faced any new challenges?

This is my first time working with this curriculum, but I am enjoying it. Learning names has also been quite a challenge as I must learn new names for all the five years.

How would you rate your experience so far out of 10?

Overall, it is a solid 9/10.

The second teacher we decided to interview was Mr Webb, our new Geography teacher:



How has your experience been so far?

It has been different, as this is my first time working in an all-boys school, but it has been welcoming. A smaller school means everything is more accessible and it is easier to move around. At previous schools they have been a lot bigger therefore it can get difficult to manoeuvre across the school. Teachers are very friendly, and more importantly the students are



very welcoming, friendly and sociable which was great to see. Also, I've enjoyed managing football, during enrichment in years 9 and 10 – I have seen great ball skills.

Have you faced any new challenges?

An earlier start, and a slightly longer day but I am getting used to it. I also have more responsibilities in this school than in previous schools, e.g. enrichment at lunch times, which I enjoy.

How would you rate your experience so far out of 10?

I would give my experience an 8/10 - it's been a very good start. All the teachers and students are very welcoming, and I look forward to what the rest of the year will bring.

Mr Webb's personal question to us was, 'Do you think there are more united or city fans?'

Is that even a question to ask, of course Manchester United (although I may be biased)!

The third and final teacher we interviewed was Mr Anderson, our new English teacher:



How has your experience been so far?

I have enjoyed it a lot. This school has an exceptional learning environment - the children have been interested in English and extra-curricular activities – great enthusiasm and buzz.

Have you faced any new challenges?

School days are a bit longer but we do have a shorter Friday which is a bonus. Enrichment and sports have been something new for me, but I'm really enjoying it. The school has a difference structure to the day, but it keeps everyone engaged, occupied and involved.

How would you rate your experience so far out of 10?

Obviously a 10/10. The staff, pupils, and day-to-day running of the school caters for an exhilarating teaching and learning environment for everyone.

Mr Andersons question to us was, 'What is the one thing you would change about the school?'

Well, what would we change about our school – it's fantastic, so we will have to think hard about that.

Now sir, we may have to get back to you on that one!





Y9 Magnificent, Majestic Microscopes

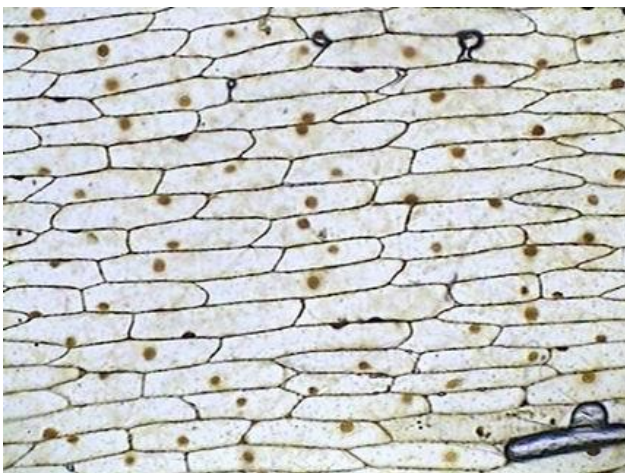
By Year 9 students

The students of Year 9 used light microscopes to examine onion cells.



The results were mind-blowing.

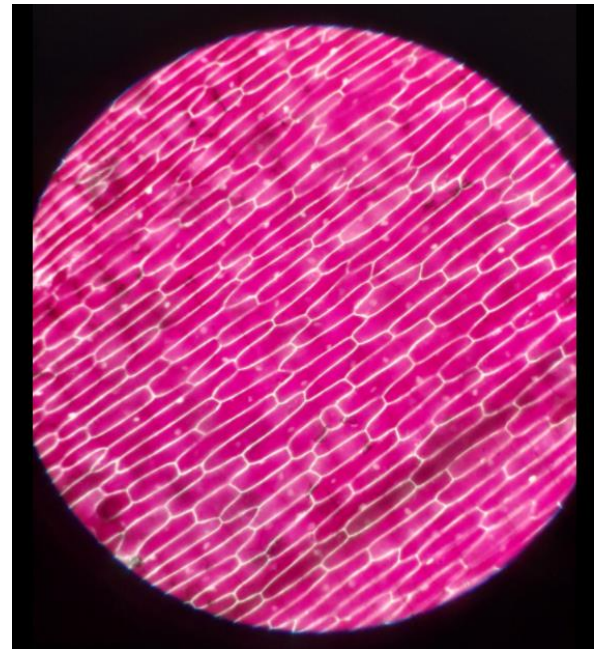
To do this, we used a simple method. The first step was to take an onion cell and place it carefully on the stage, staining it with iodine - this was to see the cell membrane. After this, we added another glass on top of the cell, sliding it under the objective lens and turning on the light which reflected off the mirror. However, we still couldn't see the cells so we had to zoom in and adjust the rough focusing knob, then the fine focusing knob whilst looking through the eyepiece to get a clear sight of the cell.



After completing the method, we all took a turn to look into the eyepiece, and it was amazing. It looked like a brick wall, with smooth edges, and big dots (nuclei) in each area. The iodine we added worked very well, as it helps us see what we couldn't see – the background of the cell. We could also see the different shapes; it was intricate and interesting.

We picked out some of the pupils that performed the experiment and asked them about their experience.

“When I looked through the eyepiece I was baffled, it looked a lot more realistic than the images shown to us by the teachers on the screens. It was like exploring a whole new world.” – student response



“It was perplexing, we peeled off an extra-thin layer from the onion and gently placed it on a piece of glass, we then stained the layer of onion and then placed another piece of glass on top. We then slid it under the objective lens and turned the light on. At first, we couldn't see anything apart from a white light but as we turned the focus knobs the image became clearer, and we could see the cells and we were astounded.” – student response

After the experiment, we wrote down in detail a report on what equipment we used, the method and our incredible findings. Many students who conducted it thought it was the best practical they have completed so far.



Maritime and International Slavery Museum

By Abdulghany Elhassy 8A

Year 8s visited the Maritime Museum and International Slavery Museum in October 2021.



The trip to the international slavery museum was jam packed with a vast variety of activities. As soon as we arrived, we began exploring the bottom floor, which contained lots of information about the Titanic, its sinking and biographical details about the people on board. I had learnt a lot about the Titanic in school, and it was really interesting watching it all come to life by visiting the museum.



After completing the Titanic activity on the bottom floor, we all moved to the floor above.

Here, we were given a booklet with around 20 questions about slavery. The aim of the activity was to explore the 1st floor of the museum and find the answers to the questions, which were scattered at different locations. This enhanced our understanding of slavery.



I found my time at the museum to be an eye opening experience, that really showed how difficult life was for slaves in the past. I absorbed a plethora of new information which will be beneficial for me when I decide to pick history for my GCSE, and will also contribute towards my understanding of the world for the rest of my life.



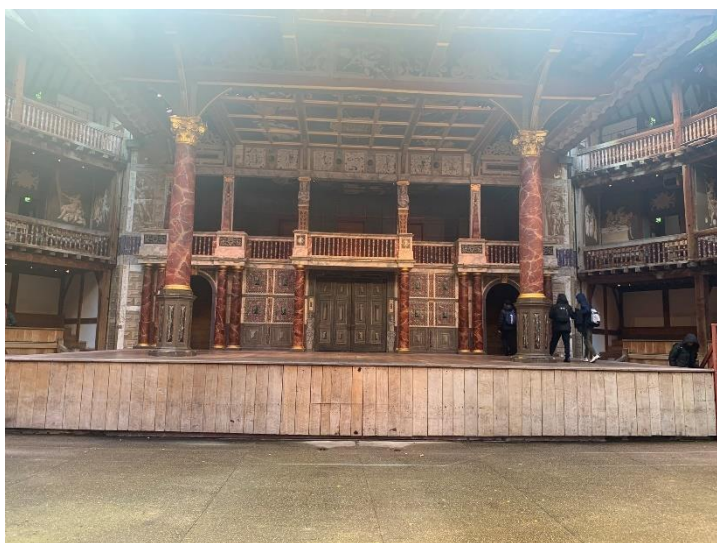
Globetrotting to London

By Ms Omerji

It began with a journey. A long, winding course in the belly of a mechanical beast. Roaring and rumbling on its tracks towards our destination. There were stops, there were discussions, there was music, laughter and just one mix-up with seats.



London beckoned and called to us all. Drawing us deeper down the winding streets, with the promise of stepping back into the past. Shakespeare's **Globe** awaited with the same draw that it had once held for an Elizabethan audience. The building was beautiful, maintained and well looked after, scenes of ancient myth were daubed on the walls, painted in crisp and remarkable detail to conjure up the past.



As we stepped into that past, as a group we felt what might have been and what had taken place here. The scenes acted out past, present and future on its stage,

the December air was brisk, cool but not enough to remove the teasing heat of anticipation. That great people had stepped on its benches and watched as we did, for a moment, words and lines from 'The Bard' being delivered.



We moved rapidly, swept up in the history of the place to workshops, where we delved in depth into the staging and direction of the Merchant of Venice, examining key scenes and how characterisation can change depending on performance. After a brief lunch we resumed, we moved onto an energetic and dynamic examination of stagecraft, lots of physical activity to keep off any sleep that was beginning to creep in...



Just as quickly as it began it was over, roaming on a rush hour tube back to Euston to eat something, discuss our experience, take pictures and finally depart from whence we came. Thoughtful and contemplative and just a little more tired than when we'd left, we were home, back at school, emerging from the past and back to the busy present of Manchester...



Citizenship, Mental Health & Charitable School Activities

By Mrs Bashir

Big brother for little brother

This year a group of Year 11 boys volunteered to be 'Big Brothers' for a small group of Year 7 boys. They meet every Tuesday at break time and share snacks and words of wisdom with each other.



The Big brothers are on hand to offer advice on how to manage homework demands and settling into high school. Little brothers value the time with their Big Brothers as they know they have someone who is willing to listen to them and help them achieve the best possible outcomes in school.

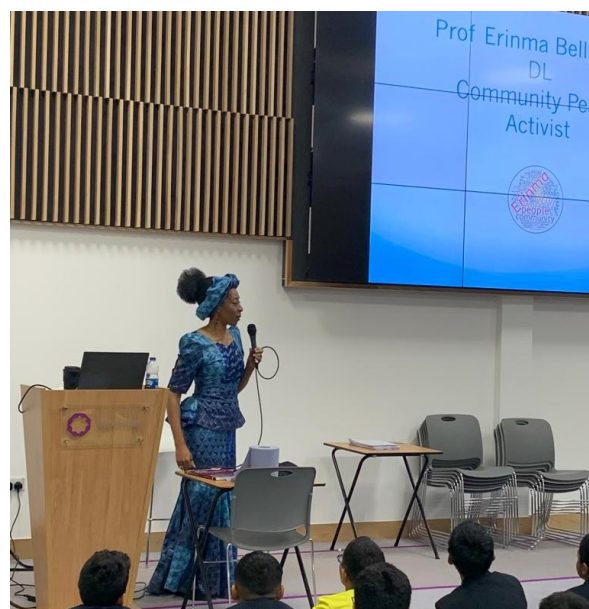


Black History Month

On Friday the 22nd of October, the school celebrated **Black History Month** with a day of activities for all pupils and raised over £1000 for the 'Black Heroes' charity.



Pupils took part in creative workshop around identity, investigated prominent black figures throughout history and had a special assembly from our guest speaker Dr Bell who is the founder of the Charity and a Deputy Lieutenant for Greater Manchester. History teacher Mr Brown's brother, Nathaniel Brown - who is a Team GB wrestler - also sent our boys an inspirational video message.





Anti-bullying week

Anti-bullying week was celebrated at our school, led by our Anti Bullying ambassadors. To celebrate the theme of kindness a different kind word was shared with forms every day, all heads of years delivered a special assembly on the themes of kindness, and pupils shared kind messages with each other. They also took part in special friendship lessons during PSHE.



Children in Need

Over £1500 was raised for **Children in Need** in November and was led by the Anti Bullying Ambassadors who feel strongly about supporting children's charities.



Every day at break time, different treats were sold. On Friday, the school took part in a cultural food festival with staff and students donating food from different

cultures that students were able to purchase in takeaway tubs. Zohaib Khalid in Year 10 and Harshil Sankhla in Year 7 dressed in bear costumes to collect money from parents in the morning as they dropped children off to school.



Healthy Eating

Four **Healthy Eating Ambassadors** were appointed this year to try to encourage boys to eat better. The boys, led by Ibrahim Khan in Year 8 have launched Wellbeing Wednesday. On this day every week they provide a range of free fruit at break time to the whole school.





The fruit is left in trays and the boys can help themselves. Their next ambition is to encourage boys to eat healthy snacks throughout the week. This half term they plan to launch a healthy eating form competition. They also have some additional fantastic ideas going forward.



Winter Gift Programme

Eden Boys took part in a range of activities to support the **Winter Gift programme**. Boys in Year 7 and 8 took part in a silent auction and raised over £500. This money was then used to purchase and pack more than 200 meals for a women's shelter.



In addition to these, hundreds of foodbank items were donated by forms across the school.

It was again another impressive year for form Winter gift hampers. Year 8 and Mr Nizam's form were particularly impressive with the quality and number of hampers produced. More than 40 hampers were donated in total and distributed across the local community, including shelters, hospitals and local businesses.





Active Citizenship

As part of their **Active Citizenship** all boys in Year 10 took part in a Citizenship Fair.



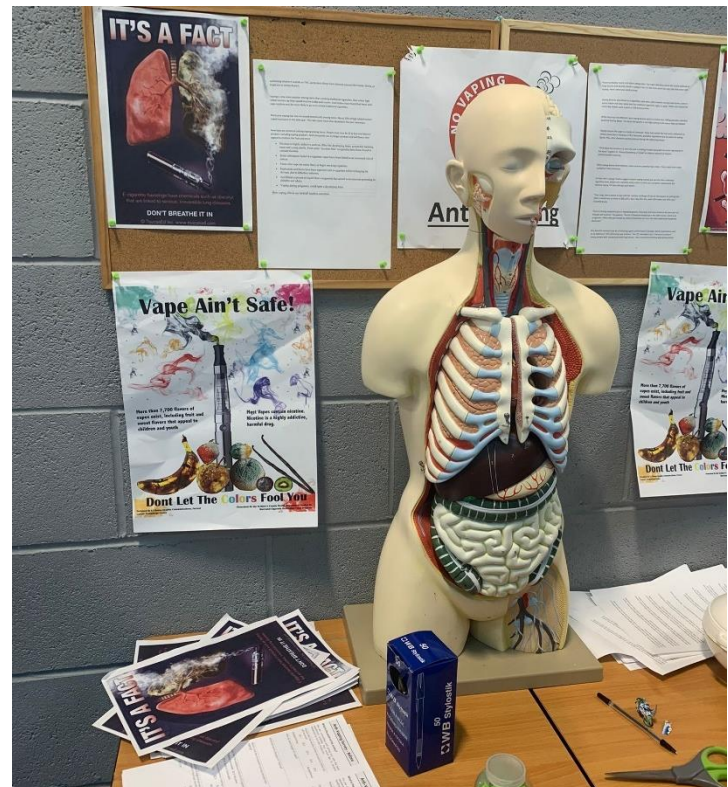
This involved them advocating an issue of their choice to their peers.



They set up stalls in the Sports Hall which boys from the younger year groups visited. The boys worked in small groups and were given a budget of £40 per group.



Some groups chose to simply advocate a key message. For example, anti-vaping and raising awareness of knife crime. Some groups chose to invest their budget in raising money for their cause too. For example, one group chose to sell mojitos and raise money for their chosen charity, Fair Share.





Fantastic Food Tech

By Mrs Kalam

During our KS4 enrichment, Pupils developed their cooking skills through a series of nutritious dishes that allowed them to use different methods of cooking.



They used cooking skills to make home cooked food that does not require a lengthy amount of time.



They were able to demonstrate food safety and hygiene throughout the preparation and cooking process.

The enrichment allowed the students to understand how to cook economically at home and appreciate the value of passing and sharing information about cooking at home to family members.



They used the oven, grill, kitchen aid and the hob to make pasta sauce, cookies, eggs benedict, bread making and loaf cake. Year 11 students also supported, making some cake of their own.





Debate Mate

By Samran Inayat

On the 6th of November 2021, 13 students from year 10 were taken on a trip to the University of Manchester, to attend the Debate Mate launch.



Debate mate is a social mobility programme which aims to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds develop their speaking and presentation skills. Each week, mentors from the University of Manchester deliver sessions in school to help develop students' oracy and debating skills.

As students, we were given an unseen motion, that 'this house believes everyone should become vegan', and this was the statement we focussed on throughout the session. We were then divided into two teams, the proposition and the opposition. Each team was comprised of four speakers, with the first speaker responsible for defining the motion and proposing their side of the argument.

When defining the motion, the speaker has to consider what the motion is, who it will affect and how it will affect them. We were also taught how to formally argue against a point: this is termed a rebuttal and every speaker must provide a point of

rebuttal against the speaker who spoke prior to them in order to gain maximum points.

During the middle of a debate, each side can pose a question in response to a point made by the opposing team; this is known as a point of information.

The speaker then has the choice to either accept or decline these questions.

On our arrival, we were welcomed by a group of mentors who asked whether any of us had taken part in the core programme before.

As I had completed the programme before, I was asked to take part in a debate in front of all the schools participating in the launch and I was placed on the proposition team; I was therefore to present arguments agreeing with the motive.

Another one of our students, Haaris Sarfraz, was called to the front and was to clap after the first 30 seconds and before the last 30.

I was the 3rd speaker, and the subjects I focused on included the effects healthy eating has on our wellbeing and how slaughtering animals is an ethical issue.

Before the final speakers presented, the debate was opened to the floor. One of our own students, Khaled Itani, took to the floor by posing a question to the opposition. These questions were then answered by the final summary speakers in their speeches.

Overall, it was an extremely engaging and insightful day and has given us all a small taster of what is to come for myself and the other pupils who will be completing the 17 week core programme.





Year 9 Football Team Reign Supreme

100% win record continues

By Mr Sohaib Ahmed

Eden's year 9 football team continued their relentless march for the local league title with another win, this time against local rivals Cedar Mount, to maintain their 100% winning start to the season.

First half

The game started and 20 seconds in, a thunderous shot from the opposition striker resulted in a goal and the team going 1-0 down.

10 minutes later, we conceded another goal to go 2-0 down, the cause being a failure to take our chances. This was a test of character for the boys, but they did not let their heads drop.

Club captain Farid took the lead and began the fight back with 2 spectacular goals and almost scored a third. But just a few moments later, we conceded another goal, completely against the run of play, to go in at half time 3-2 down.

Second half

Following an inspirational and motivational team talk from the magical trio of Mr Ahmed, Mr Khizer and Mr

Zaheer Fazal, along with a few tweaks to our tactics and formation, the boys were ready for the second half.

Here, the game was turned on its head and was completely different. We pressed high, fought for every lost cause and looked like winners.

Lawand then excelled with an absolutely audacious scorpion kick that levelled the game to 3-3! As we continued to press for a winner, a violent tackle on Adam 30 yards out resulted in a free kick. Adam dusted himself down, stepped up and curled the ball with absolute precision into top left corner to put us into a 4-3 lead with minutes to go.

The final few minutes were a hard slog, but Adam stepped up with a flurry of 2 quick goals to reach a hat trick and help win us eventually win the game 6-4! Congratulations to year 9 for an absolutely tremendous fightback and showing monumental resilience in the face of potential defeat.

Thank you to Mr Zaheer Fazal for taking his time out and driving us to the opponent's ground. He was a great transfer in the January window and good to have as part of the coaching team.

All games have been played at away grounds, with no home fans, and hostile atmospheres, but the students have shown tremendous resilience and confidence to always come out on top.





Yr7 Summer School

By Principal Mr Shah

EBM were proud to engage Yr7 pupils w/c 23rd August 2021.

Pupils were first inducted into the school and introduced to each other. They also met their form tutor. Each form group then carried out an orienteering exercise of the school building to help familiarise themselves for the start of the term.

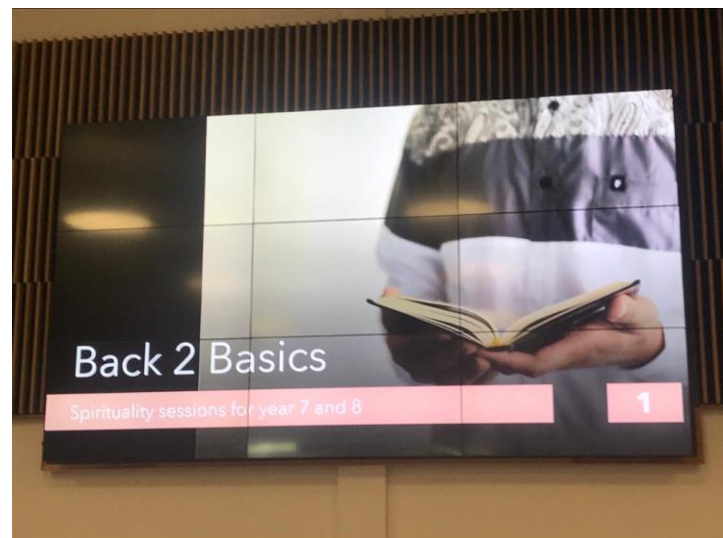


A range of activities were organised for Year 7 pupils and it goes without saying that the inter-form football competition where matches were played on a daily basis in the afternoon was extremely popular.



All year 7 pupils started on their spirituality enrichment lessons which made them understand some key basic fundamentals such as how to make wudhu, the timings for all 5 prayers with a focus on Zhur and Asr given these prayers are prayed in school

during the winter months. Pupils were also shown the wudu and prayer facilities and prayed in congregation everyday during summer school.



Pupils also had catch-up sessions in English & Maths so any lost learning and gaps in knowledge due to school closures were addressed ready for a KS3 start in September.

Pupils also had practical Science lessons whereby they grasped the basic safety rules and precautions when using equipment such as Bunsen burners.

All year 7 pupils were also introduced to a number of online programs such as Seneca learning, Bedrock Vocabulary and Hegarty Maths that they will use for independent work as well as enrichment during the school day and for homework.

At the end of the Summer school, a rewards assembly was held to congratulate those students who had done extremely well at the Summer school.





STEM Leadership Team

By Ms Greenwood

After a lengthy and thorough application and interview process, the EBM STEM leadership Team is now up and running.

Our STEM Ambassador is **Subhan Faheem** and his team of 3 STEM leads are **Ibrahim Khan**, **Ali Shah**, and **Abubaker Afolabi**.

Along with the core team, we also have 6 STEM champions who support the work of the core team. They are **Safan Ashraf**, **Umar Hassan**, **Abdalla Ali heybe**, **Zain Ali**, **Rohan Ramzan** and **Asem Magely**.

STEM ambassador Subhan explained the selection process:

“The selection process was quite difficult as there were a lot of applicants. A shortlist of the people who were going to be interviewed was created first, and then out of those people, a select few were chosen to take up the lead and champion roles.”



STEM lead Ibrahim Khan explained the difference between the 3 roles:

“It is a hierarchy system, so at the top of the hierarchy we have the STEM ambassador. Then we have the STEM leaders and then the STEM champions underneath them.

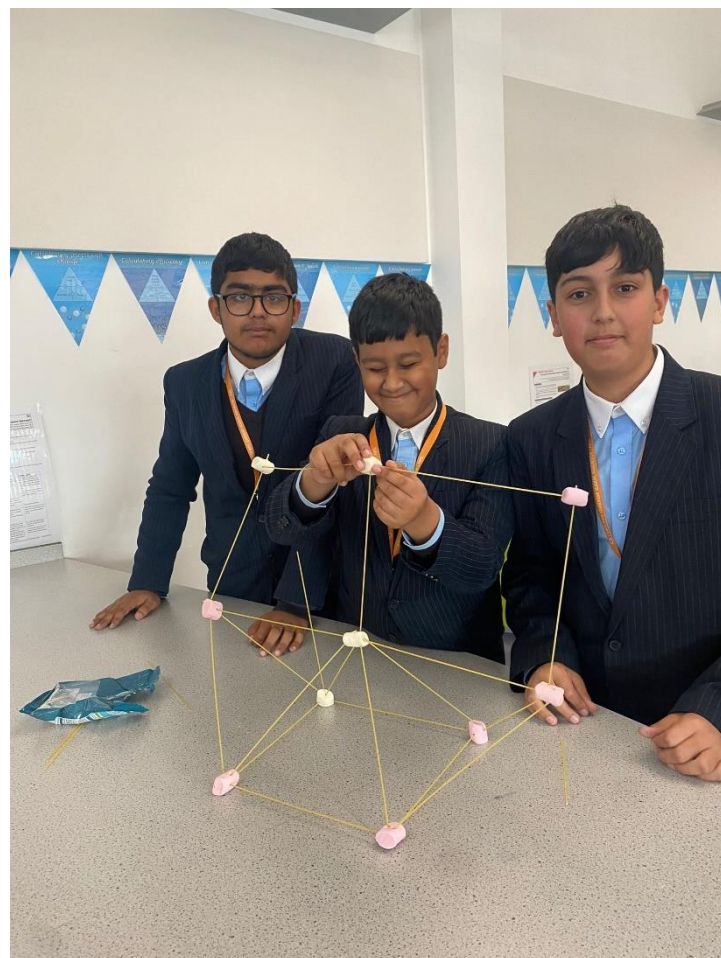


Umar, a STEM champion, explained some of the things he does:

“We go to other schools and tell them about STEM and how our school is giving a chance of leadership and telling others to become leaders. We try to develop new strategies and projects to support the STEM club. We also go round to people in different year groups and promote STEM to them.”

Abdullah described some of the activities he had helped to plan for the after-school STEM club:

“Recently in STEM Club, we've been making marshmallow and Spaghetti towers.



“Last session we worked with Bunsen burners trying to make crystals.

“We also make some elephant toothpaste which was quite amazing.

“We've also been working with electrical circuits and created methane bubbles which you light to create a burst of fire.”



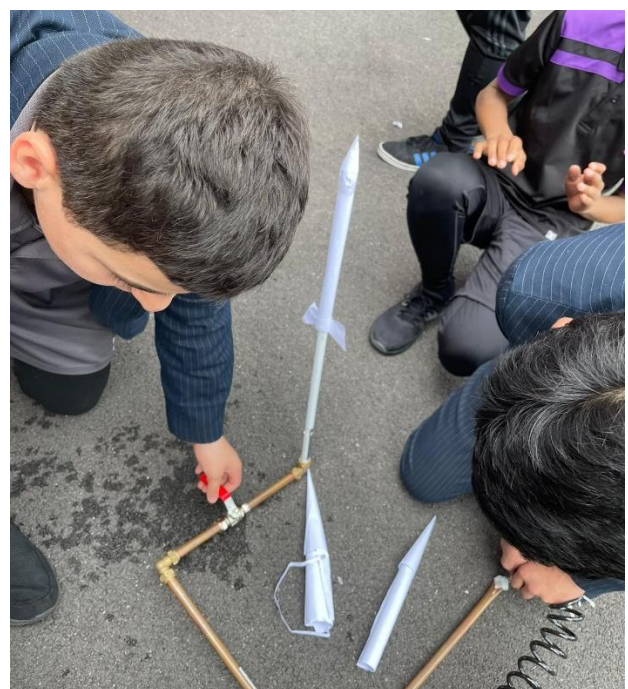
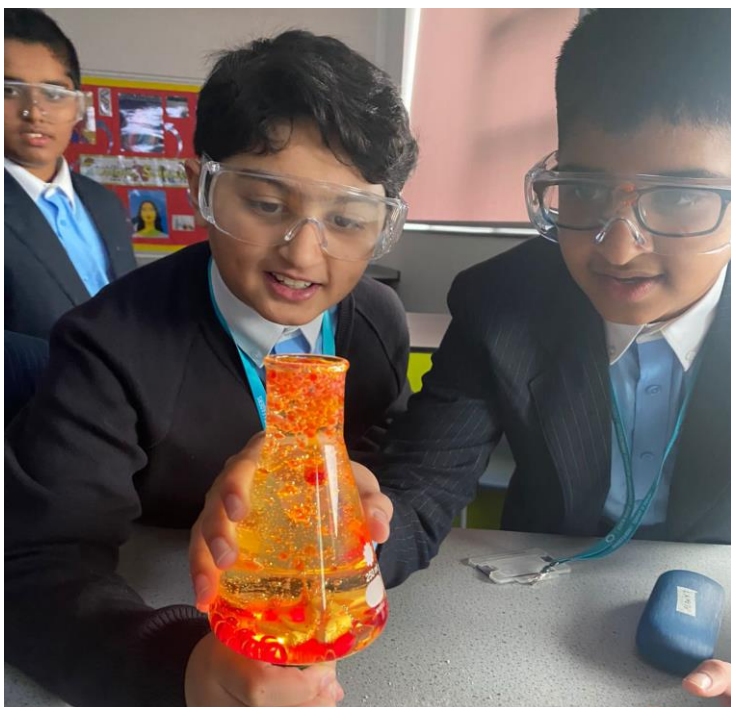
Head of Science Ms Greenwood commented:

“The aim of the STEM club is to promote interest and careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

It is about making pupils aware of the absolute benefits and the importance of STEM careers in life, and that there is a shortage of qualified employees within those careers.

Starting salaries in STEM are usually £5000 more than every other graduate, but it about more than just money.

Science is so interesting and innovative these days - I have hope that these pupils are going to change the future of tomorrow by what they're doing today.”





GCHQ Visit

By Subhan Faheem

GCHQ was an extremely fun and educational experience. Our school was invited to be one of the first ever visitors at GCHQ. Once we walked in, there were several challenges but before we could begin, we had to choose our spy names. Going for originality and stealth, I chose 'NotASpy123'.



Continuing with our exploration we saw a machine where you could create your own avatar. However, we were called to the main hall before we had a chance. Eventually, we did get to use it.

At the main hall they announced what our first challenge/activity was in teams. We were paired with Eden Girls' Manchester and were at an extreme disadvantage as our team (which we called EBGM) only had four members whilst every other team had over ten members. We had to use spaghetti, Sellotape, and string to hold a marshmallow up.

After lunch we had time for another activity which we decided would be the VR activity.



We took turns to play many different games on the VR headset. For this activity, we were no longer in teams. However we were in groups within our schools. Since our school only had two members we did not need to split off into smaller groups. I really enjoyed watching my classmate playing a game where you had to sense where the noise was coming from and find a creature. It was extremely hilarious watching him jump from side to side. When my turn arrived, I decided to play a ping pong game in which I had to hit a ping pong ball in one of two directions which I found challenging and enjoyable.

We then listened to a speech from a visitor about GCHQ Careers. The visitor was from BAE Systems and the speech was remarkably interesting. After the speech had ended one of the workers came up to the front and announced the winners for the spaghetti



competition. It should have been the top three with the highest scores that would be called up. The only problem with this was that there were only three teams with a standing build at the end, so the only solution would have been to call the teams that had standing builds and that's exactly what they did.

The next competition was the names competition. I did not believe I would win anything in this competition but I was surprised to hear that my name had won third place. I was genuinely shocked. I had won a prize.

Before we could move on to the next practical activity, we engaged in a workshop which was about emojis.



I enjoyed that a lot mainly because midway through the workshop the people asked for everyone to get out their phones if they had one, go on a website and work out a code. Despite not having a mobile phone, I managed to figure out two-thirds of the code by process of elimination. At the end, they were giving

out prizes and I won one for my engagement and my code-breaking skills.



After the workshop we had one final activity - we had to code and control these little spherical orbs which could move around at the control of an iPad. I enjoyed this thoroughly as I could make the orbs light up and make them go extremely fast.

Before leaving, we attended a final assembly in which they thanked us all for coming. The experience was fantastic, and I hope to go again next year.





Staff Well-Being Games 2021

By Ms Lim & Mrs Benazeer Hussain

It was so encouraging to see so many staff of Eden Boys' Leadership Academy participate in our inaugural Staff Well Being Games, which we hope will become an annual fixture.



Everyone had a fabulous time in the school activities organised for the end of the first half term.



The day was planned by the Staff Shura team and around 60 staff members stayed behind to take part.

It proved a fantastic opportunity for everyone to get to know each other in more informal activities and to have fun.



For sportsmanship, the award went to Mr Azad Aziz.





Let's hope we can organise more inclusive activities as we have just had in the coming year that continue to build strong relationships amongst staff in the school that focuses on the health and well-being of all.

We would like to thank the school leadership for their support.





First Inter-Eden Football Tournament

By Sohaib Ahmed

Eden Boys' Manchester held an inter-Eden tournament for local Eden Schools.



The Inter-Eden tournament is an opportunity for STAR Academy schools to get together and experience playing tournament football. This gives an opportunity to all the students to feel like they are playing in a competitive league.



3 local STAR schools, Eden Bolton, Eden Manchester and Eden Preston, got together and competed against each other for a STAR academies trophy.

On this occasion, teams from year 10s competed for a trophy in knockout games, group games, semi finals and a final where the winning team took a trophy. The eventual winners were Eden Manchester, who won 5-3 on penalties against a well-grilled Eden Bolton.



The tournament gave students an opportunity to play competitive football in school, and encouraged health and well-being and emphasised the importance of keeping fit.





A Hair-shaving Experience!

Mr Fazal raises £6000 for charity

By Salwan Inayat

Eden Boys' Manchester focuses a lot on the charity work that we do. Over the years, we have had many charity events that have helped us raise thousands of pounds for charity. This year, Mr Zaheer Fazal wanted to raise over £5000 pounds himself, by volunteering to shave his lengthy locks of hair on his head, the pride and joy of his appearance:



Each year group was given target of £500 to raise, and teachers, parents and friends all contributed to help ensure we reached our £5000 goal. In addition, over a period of one week, students took part in many charity events like a silent auction and items were also sold. Year 11s brought in sums of money too, and one student, Hamzah, fundraised over 300 pounds from friends and family.

On Friday, the last day of the charity event, Mr Zaheer Fazal had his head shaved for charity because the goal that he had set himself had been achieved. Hamzah himself got an opportunity to cut most of it off, being the highest fundraiser.



The money raised will go towards helping the needy and impoverished.

We look forward to Mr Fazal regrowing his hair, so we can enjoy another hair-shaving experience, but to be honest, it could be a while!

Thank you to all those who contributed.



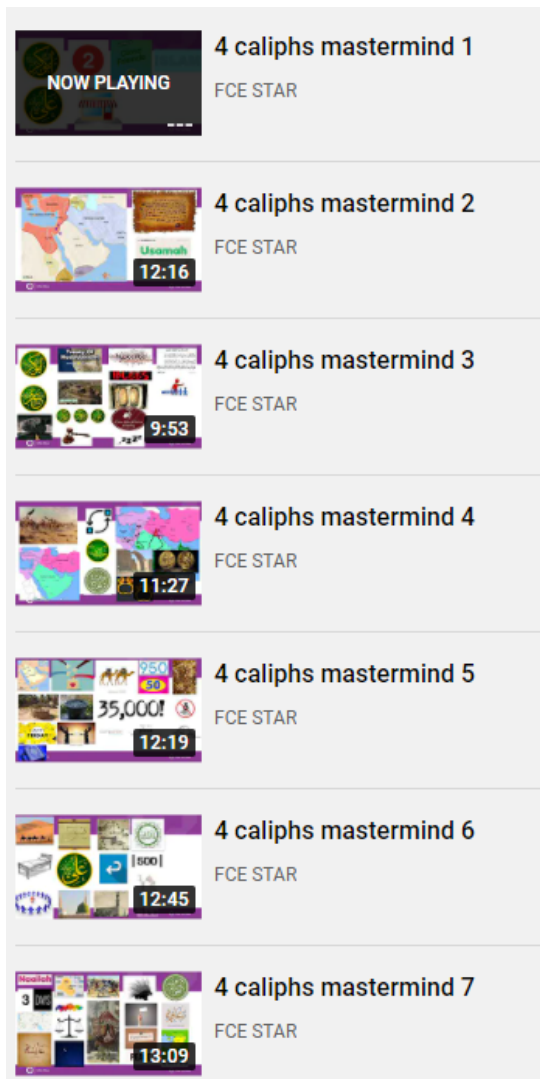
4 Caliphs Mastermind

By Moulana Abdul Hafiz




Eden Boys' held their 3rd annual Mastermind competition to teach students about the life and leadership of the first 4 Caliphs.

The competition was fierce this year, with students showing amazing feats of memory as they competed to become the Mastermind champion.

Mastermind began with all students watching 7 video presentations on the lives and leadership of the 4 caliphs during form time. Students listened with rapt attention, as one-by-one, each of the videos revealed more and more information about the amazing feats of the 4 caliphs. Once the video presentation series was complete, the videos were made available on the school YouTube channel, and students were given a few days to revise them.



Thereafter, the whole school, of 620 students, took part in a whole-school multiple choice quiz, answering 30 multiple-choice questions on the 4 caliphs. The answers were then auto-marked using optical mark recognition (OMR), and the top 3 then moved on to the next round.

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In round 2, the top 3 from each of the 21 forms were quizzed verbally for 1 minute on the lives of the 4 caliphs, and the top 2 students from each year then qualified for the grand final.

The grand final was live-streamed through YouTube to the whole school. All teachers were sent a YouTube livestream link, and at 8:05 on Tuesday 2nd November, the final began, with FCE lead Mr Limbada asking each student a different set of questions for 2 minutes.

The studio was the drama room on the top floor, where a microphone and camera were set up for livestreaming the event.



Competition was fierce, but in the end, year 8 student Ibraheem Ahmed, the final contestant, answered 26 questions correctly in just 2 minutes to be crowned Eden 2021 Mastermind champion.



We caught up with him, to get his thoughts on his victory. He told us, "I really enjoyed Mastermind. I would like to thank my form tutor Ms Lim, who supported me by uploading all the videos to Microsoft Teams so I was able to revise from the very beginning. It really helped, and when the final was due to take place, I was really confident as I put a lot of effort in."

The finalists all received a beautiful finalist certificate, and Champion Ibraheem Ahmed also received a Mastermind trophy and £100 Amazon voucher.



When asked what he would do with his £100 pound prize, he replied, "I am not sure yet. I haven't really thought about it. I will donate some to charity, give some to my mum, and will have to think about what to buy with the rest."



Cheetham Hill Cultural Festival 2021

By Maurice Martin

On 23rd September 2021, the nasheed choir from Eden Boys' Manchester performed at the annual Cheetham Hill Festival for the first time. It was an incredible way for everybody to be able to meet up again after such a difficult year. In the festival, there were people from across the ethnic and cultural spectrum, representing their culture and ethnicity through music and live performances.

The Cheetham festival is a 4 day event that celebrates diversity with art, dance, music, tours, sports, family fun and a feast of free food. Eden Boys' were invited to perform at the opening ceremony of the event on the first day, at Saint Chad's Roman Catholic Primary School, and the students did the school proud. Drafted in with only 2 days notice, the boys spent their breaks, lunchtimes and after school rehearsing together and delivered a stunning nasheed medley.

Year 8 student Ali Shah commented, "We had spent a hectic 2 days practicing for our musical performance and presentation before this, so we were confident going forward. We were met with great hospitality from the staff at Saint Chad's and listened to a speech by the headteacher and even the mayor of greater Manchester, Andy Burnham!"

Maurice Martin, who introduced the boys and is also from year 8, added, "The performances were spectacular! First Saint Chad's sung multiple songs about the theme of this year's festival, togetherness. Afterwards, it was our turn to go onstage. I went up to introduce the school and gave a short comedic speech about our imminent performance. Our hardworking performers then took the stage! They had painstakingly perfected a lovely nasheed medley and the quality really showed during the performance too! I absolutely loved the Cheetham Hill Festival and can't wait for when it comes next year! I wonder what the theme of the festival will be next year?"





Sir Shabir Fazal

By Moulana Abdul Hafiz

Former Eden Boys' Manchester principal, Shabir Fazal, became Sir Shabir Fazal after being knighted in the Queen's new year's honours list.



Mr Fazal, who has led at multiple STAR schools, was previously head at Eden Bolton, when they gained an Outstanding rating, and up until September 2021, was the principal at Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, Manchester, before stepping up to become executive principal of both the boys' school and girls' school in Manchester.

The news was broken by Star Academies, who tweeted out a congratulatory message on New Year's Eve:



Speaking of the award, Mr Fazal thanked staff members, and took the opportunity to remind everyone to stay safe. He said,

"Thank you for all the kind words and congratulations - they are greatly appreciated. Please look after yourselves and your families by being extra careful - masks, ventilation and hand washing are more important than ever. Have a great day and an amazing 2022."

Local Bolton Newspaper, The Bolton News, ran the following story:

"A HEADTEACHER who oversaw the opening of one of Bolton's most successful schools has been honoured for services to education.

Mohammed Shabir Fazal, who is also a former assistant director of the council's children's services, has been awarded an OBE.

Under his leadership Eden Boys School opened in 2014 and quickly became one of the borough's most outstanding schools, as graded by Ofsted and also its GCSE and A-level results.

In 2019, Eden Boys' School was placed top of the school league table in Bolton, with a staggering 90 per cent achieving the gold standard in GCSEs.

The school's progress score saw it named in the top 70 schools nationally.

Mr Fazal, a qualified physics teacher, is currently executive principal at Eden Boys' Leadership Academy, Manchester and Eden Girls' Leadership Academy, Manchester.

All schools are part of Star Academies, a trust which is set to open a secondary school in Radcliffe, the first high school in the town for many years."

We wish Mr Fazal all the best, and hope he enjoys his New Year's honour.

