

# Summer Term Newsletter

## Eden Girls' School, Slough



Eden Girls

*Nurturing today's young people,  
Inspiring tomorrow's leaders*

July 2017  
Issue 6

This Summer Term Edition of our School Newsletter marks the end of our second year as a school - an important and memorable milestone for us all!

During our first two years members of staff have shown great dedication and commitment to providing pupils with a high-powered learning environment where achievement and progress are coupled with personal progression and character development. Our learners have responded by establishing extremely high standards of behaviour and attendance and exemplary attitudes towards learning.

This term, in addition to a great deal of hard work towards end-of-year exams in all subjects, pupils have made significant contributions to our local community, observed the holy month of Ramadhaan and demonstrated their ongoing commitment to a wide range of enrichment and extra-curricular activities.

Inside this edition you will find information about our move to our permanent school site over the summer and read articles about the key events that have taken place this term and the most exciting achievements of our learners.

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# Principal's Message

**All Praises to the Almighty, Lord of the Worlds and the Master of our fortunes: salutations to our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the seal of the Prophets and the guide for all our actions.**

## Educational Excellence

Pupils have spent a significant part of this term preparing for and taking their end-of-year examinations. We have, once again, been extremely proud of the mature way that our learners have approached these assessments and feel very encouraged about the commitment to educational excellence that they have demonstrated. The level of challenge of these exams has matched that normally expected of GCSE students. Our Teaching Team have worked very hard to ensure that the assessments have stretched pupils to develop the skills and understanding needed for success in future public exams.

Teachers have provided pupils with a wide range of curriculum and enrichment opportunities. This has included trips to the Microsoft UK Headquarters, Shakespeare drama workshops and presentations from guest speakers such as Dr Jane Essex from Brunel University and Councillor Sabia Hussain, Deputy Leader of Slough Borough Council. The term has culminated with a packed Activities Week to end the year. Learners have competed in the full range of track and field events at our annual Sports Day and have been out on fun and educational trips to Kew Gardens, The Historic Dockyard and Woburn Safari Park.

## Character Development

Our Faith and Character Education programme has been developed through a series of Surah Fatiha Workshops for all pupils and a

comprehensive programme to help pupils benefit from the holy month of Ramadhaan and celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr. In May pupils took part in our termly Spirituality Day. Sessions focused on health and hygiene and the importance of charity. Pupils had the opportunity to speak to aid workers on the ground supporting people affected by the Syrian refugee crisis through a live online link-up.

## Service to Communities

I am extremely proud to be able to say that our pupils have demonstrated great leadership following national tragedies that have taken place this term. Pupils have spoken at civic ceremonies, promoting peace and unity and have led a community response to support victims of the Grenfell Tower fire. This would not have been possible without the overwhelming and humbling support of our parent community. Similarly, pupils contributed to our community Iftar and Great Get Together in memory of Jo Cox MP. This effort was highlighted by Slough Observer and other local newspapers.

## Strategic Development

In addition to these important pupil achievements, the school has made progress this term with key strategic objectives. Our recruitment strategy has been very successful and we have been fortunate in making some excellent appointments to both teaching and support posts for September. All newly appointed staff share our vision and ethos of excellence for all.

Preparations for our move to our state-of-the-art permanent school site continue to progress smoothly and staff have worked hard to manage this whilst at the same time ensuring the smooth transition and induction of our new Year 7 cohort in September. Our new cohort of learners joined us for their Induction Day on Tuesday 4th July and enjoyed a series of teambuilding activities including a tour of our new school building.

## Tauheedul Education Trust

Tauheedul Education Trust continues to go from strength to strength. Both Eden Girls' School, Waltham Forest and Eden Boys' School, Bolton, achieved "outstanding" in all areas following their recent Ofsted inspections. These exceptional outcomes are a testament to the efforts of staff in providing pupils with an exemplary standard of education that embodies the Tauheedul hallmarks of educational excellence, character development and service to communities.

All staff at our school continue to strive to emulate this exceptional success. Reviews conducted this year by both the Department for Education and Ofsted-trained Quality Assurers have been extremely positive and have praised all areas of the school's work.

I hope that you enjoy this latest edition of our Newsletter and pray you have a peaceful and happy Summer Holidays.

# Educational Excellence

## Moving Out

Everyone at school is very excited about moving in to our permanent school site! It has been a long wait but we are all now ready to bid farewell to Whitby Road and prepare for the next chapter in our school's history. From September our address will be 183-187 Bath Road, Slough, SL1 4AA.

The building project has been an exciting £22 Million development which places our school at the heart of Slough's extended Business Park.

We have been very fortunate to have worked with an excellent team throughout the project. Thanks to architects ADP and contractors Galliford Try we will be moving in to a building that communicates the unmistakable Tauheedul brand and ethos of faith, excellence and service. Islamic culture and art is reflected throughout the design of the building which provides both a calm, mature and modern learning environment for our learners and a hub for our local community. We look forward to ensuring that our whole community benefits from access to the school's state-of-the-art educational facilities.

Excellent progress has been made in relation to the project plan. Galliford Try are confident in completing the project on time and within budget. Most internal works are now complete and the focus of the scheme



The school's first classroom completed in February 2017.

The stunning feature staircase at the heart of the school.



is now largely dedicated to external works and final checks and tests.

Staff and groups of pupils have had the opportunity to visit the building throughout July. All have been impressed by our facilities which include a 3-Court Sports Hall, Fitness Studio, Games Area, Library and Reflection Centre.

Our removal company will move our resources, furniture and equipment out of our temporary site on Monday 24th July and contractors Galliford Try will complete final works before handing over the building to the school on Monday 21st August. The school will be open for 2 weeks to staff prior to the start of term.

Staff, governor, parent and pupil orientation tours have been scheduled in the end of August and a Grand Opening Ceremony will take place in the Autumn Term.

Located within Slough's thriving commercial centre, our permanent school site offers countless opportunities for the school's leadership specialism. We are sure that pupils will thrive in our new learning environment and we are very grateful to both the Education and Skills Funding Agency and Tauheedul Education Trust for helping us secure such a fantastic school site.

## Attendance

Excellent attendance is the foundation for outstanding achievement at school. Our school target for the Year was 97% and I am delighted to say that we have achieved this. Well done to all parents, pupils and staff for helping us achieve this target and for demonstrating this commitment to Educational Excellence. Our Pastoral Team of Heads of Year have worked especially hard reminding pupils of this target

and supporting pupils throughout the term. Special congratulations to Year 8 for having the highest Year group attendance this year with 97.3%. Well done to Forms 7A and 8N for both achieving an amazing 97.6%.

Congratulations to all pupils who have maintained exceptionally high levels of personal attendance. The table below highlights all pupils who have completed the year with 100% Attendance. An outstanding achievement!

### 100% Attendance

Ayesha Asghar (7I)	Sumayyah Malik (7N)	Amna Abdul Qayyum (8M)	Isha Ayub (8N)
Eeshal Malik (7I)	Tayyibah Syeda (7N)	Haleema Azad (8M)	Dina Chaudhry (8N)
Hanan Lafer (7M)	Safa Abdirahman (8I)	Mariam Gul (8M)	Lulle Hussein (8N)
Zaira Tanveer (7M)	Firdous Abid (8I)	Laibah Malik (8M)	Eman Arshad (9IM)
Noura El-Bokhari (7A)	Lyba Khurram (8I)	Iqra Ali (8A)	Rabab Dahmani (9IM)
Fathma Siddiqui (7A)	Aleena Murtza (8I)	Zahra Khan (8A)	Sajidah Syeda (9IM)
Husnaa Javed (7N)	Momina Naz (8I)	Malaaikah Malik (8A)	Alliya Farooq (9IM)
Haadiya Malik (7N)	Sumayyah Rank (8I)	Sadiyah Nadim (8A)	Tayyiba Qureshi (9IM)

### Year Group Attendance

Year 8	97.3%
Year 7	97.1%
Year 9	96.2%

### Form Group Attendance

7A	97.6%
8N	97.6%
8I	97.4%
8M	97.4%
7N	97%
9IM	97%
7I	96.9%
7M	96.7%
8A	96.6%
9AN	95.6%

## Attendance Matters

The School strives for 100% attendance for all pupils. **The whole school attendance target is 97%.** If a pupil achieves at least 97% attendance in one whole school year, they will have missed less than 5 days from school.

## Sports Day 2017

Sports Day 2017 took place this year on Wednesday 12th July at the Hillingdon Sports Complex in Uxbridge.

Pupils competed in a wide range



of events including high jump, long jump, discus, shot put and a full series of track races.

The overall Sports Personality of the Year went to Kyra-Skye Chin-Thomas with Maryam Yusuf winning the overall 100m final.

A huge thank you to Mrs Rawoot, Miss Akhter and Mrs Razaque for organizing an excellent day. We were also delighted to be joined by Miss Seabridge, our newly appointed Deputy Director of Learning for

PE. The day ended with a tug-of-war competition between form groups and the most competitive event of the day, the staff 100m race, with Mr Chehab taking the opportunity to show that class is timeless.



## UK Maths Trust Challenge

This term a large number of our pupils received awards for their performance in this year's UK Maths Trust Challenge.

The competition is aimed at talented mathematicians in secondary school who are interested in tackling stimulating mathematical problems. The top 40% of students receive bronze, silver and gold certificates nationally in a ratio of 1:2:3.

Well done to all pupils who took part in this prestigious competition. Especially well done to Eesha Malik in Year 8 and Areej Ahmed in Year 7 for achieving the highest results in their Year groups.

Thank you to Mrs Bowkan for leading and organizing the initiative at our school. The table below highlights the full list of certificate winners from this year. Well done to all for this brilliant achievement!

Pupil	Certificate	Pupil	Certificate
Eesha Malik (Year 8)	Silver & Best-in-Year	Eeshal Malik (Year 7)	Silver
Amina Arfad (Year 8)	Silver	Saarah Izzuldin (Year 7)	Bronze
Momina Naz (Year 8)	Silver	Zaira Tanveer (Year 7)	Bronze
Aqsa Chaudhry (Year 8)	Bronze	Maryyam Farooq (Year 7)	Bronze
Aksa Khatoon (Year 8)	Bronze	Inaya Irshad (Year 7)	Bronze
Zahra Azim (Year 8)	Bronze	Minah Sabri (Year 7)	Bronze
Bilquis Ahmed (Year 8)	Bronze	Zeenat Nasir (Year 7)	Bronze
Areej Ahmed (Year 7)	Silver & Best-in-Year	Mariam Mohamud (Year 7)	Bronze
Fatima Diha (Year 7)	Silver	Sumayya Muhammad (Year 7)	Bronze
Laiba Ahmar (Year 7)	Silver	Aasia Shaikh (Year 7)	Bronze
Aisha Razaq (Year 7)	Silver		

# Character Development



## Spirituality Day

The school held a dedicated Spirituality Day in May. The day focused on Health and Hygiene, Ramadhaan and Charity.

Teachers and Heads of Year were involved in leading workshops on the day. Sessions were aimed at supporting pupils in their spiritual development and form an important part of their personal and health education.

Guests from a wide range of organisations were invited in to

school to lead sessions with pupils. Learners took part in workshops to help them prepare for the holy month of Ramadhaan. This involved both reflection on the significance of the month as well as practical activities to ensure pupils had strategies and tools for gaining the maximum benefits from the blessings and rewards offered throughout the month.

Pupils learnt about the relationship between fasting during the month of Ramadhaan and charity. Learners listened to presentations by representatives from charities who raise funds for projects to support



victims of the refugee crisis in Syria. Pupils were given the opportunity to speak to aid workers on the ground in Turkey through a live online link-up. The humbling experience and moving story of the aid workers provided inspiration for our pupils and helped bring the issue of charity to life.

Pupils were encouraged to gain a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves and the world around them in an imaginative and creative way, an important part of their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.



Nirmal Singh,  
from Slough  
Borough  
Council,  
highlighting the  
importance of  
charity in Islam  
and Sikhism.

# Eden Girls' School's Great Get Together brought community together to share food and fun

## The Big Iftar & Great Get Together

Our school brought the local community together on Thursday 15 June, throwing open our doors for a Great Get Together.

Over 150 local people gathered in our school to share a meal in memory of the late MP Jo Cox on the eve of the first anniversary of her death. Guests included local faith leaders, community groups and the Mayor of Slough, Councillor Ishrat Shah. We also invited along pupils and staff from neighbouring schools and friends of the school, including charities for which we have fundraised.



Eden Girls' School pupils led tributes to Jo Cox MP, and gave presentations on the work of the Slough Youth Parliament and national homeless charity Shelter.

The Great Get Together is an initiative led by the Jo Cox Foundation to help highlight the late MP's 'More In Common' message. It was an opportunity for people to get together with their neighbours to share food and celebrate all that we have in common.

The event coincided with our Big Iftar event, an annual community inter-faith celebration held during Ramadan. Guests were invited into school to share a meal as pupils and staff opened their fast on the evening of Thursday 15 June.

We opened up our school to a wide range of local faith leaders, community groups, civic dignitaries and friends for a wonderful evening of celebrations. It was very satisfying to see so many people from different backgrounds coming together to share food and to celebrate all that we

have in common.

Reverend Dr John Parry, Minister of Deanway United Church, said:

"It was a brilliant evening. The girls were superb in their presentations; such confidence and social awareness are wonderful to be found."

Julie Siddiqi, National Co-ordinator of The Big Iftar, said: "I would like to congratulate the school for the great event. It was my pleasure and privilege to be a small part of it. The students were excellent and made an impression on everyone. The visitors loved their experience. The school has done a brilliant job in so many ways."



# Service to Communities

## Manchester

Thoughts and prayers went out this term to all those affected in the terrible terrorist attack in Manchester in May.

We were extremely proud of Sumayya Tafhimi, Munaima Tafhimi and Aish Tahir for demonstrating civic leadership and representing our school at the Slough Borough Council community vigil on Tuesday 23rd May.

Pupils spoke in front of a gathering of local dignitaries and leaders to reinforce a community message of peace and unity.

The school received feedback from a member of the public who attended the vigil who wrote to the school to say:

“I just wanted to write to commend your three young ladies who performed at the Manchester Vigil. With their heads held high with confidence, they delivered their pieces articulately and clearly. I particularly enjoyed the poetry.

These girls are a credit to your school. I wish them all the best for the future. May Allah tala bless your school with success upon success. Ameen.”



Sumayya Tafhimi, Munaima Tafhimi and Aish Tahir represented Eden Girls' School, Slough at the Slough Borough Council Civic Ceremony in May.

## Grenfell Tower Community Response

As we watched the terrible scenes unfold in West London on Wednesday 14th June we decided that the right thing to do as neighbours was to support those affected in the Grenfell Tower in any way we could.



We appealed to parents for help and were overwhelmed by the response. The contribution made to support the survivors of the disaster was significant. Parents donated all kinds of goods and money as part of the relief effort. More money was collected as the school continued to show solidarity with victims, taking part in the Green-for-Grenfell campaign through the purchase of specially-made wrist bands.



On the day of the fire a group of pupils and staff joined community members at The Edward Woods Community Centre to create resource packs for survivors. Another group took collections of prayers and thoughts from our school community to the Grenfell Wall of Condolence. As well as providing immediate neighbourly support we hope this experience forms an important part of the Character Education for all our learners.



## Staff Leavers

It is with great sadness that we say farewell to Mr Houdi, Mr Abbas and Mrs Razaque at the end of this term. We thank them for their tremendous contributions to the school and wish them the best of luck as they move on to new roles and challenges in September.

As the school grows we offer a warm welcome to our team of newly appointed colleagues who join us in September in a wide range of teaching and support roles.

## Key Term Dates 2017-18

<b>Staff Inset Day 1:</b>	Monday 4th September
<b>Start of Autumn Term (Year 7):</b>	Tuesday 5th September
<b>Start of Autumn Term (Years 8-10):</b>	Wednesday 6th September
<b>Mid-Term Closure:</b>	Monday 23rd October—Friday 27th October
<b>Xmas Holidays:</b>	Thursday 21st December—Tuesday 2nd January
<b>Start of Spring Term:</b>	Thursday 4th January 2018