

# BOW VOICE

Bow School Magazine | Summer 2022

**Featured this time:**  
World and Career Ready  
Our Primary Programme  
Focus on Our Sixth Form and Alumni  
A Round Up of a Successful Year

**BOW**  
**SCHOOL** 

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at Our Open Evening**

20 September 2022, 4.30pm  
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mornings and tours  
on our website.

**Adaptability | Respect | Curiosity | Determination**



# Headteacher's Welcome

## Dear Reader,

A warm welcome to the summer edition of our Bow Voice magazine. I am delighted to share with you our latest success stories and news from across Bow School.

There is no shortage of highlights and celebrations with our hard-working students and staff involved in national events, university visits and field trips, being inspired about future careers and winning awards. This jam-packed edition showcases the richness of talent within our school with an abundance of exciting opportunities ahead for our young people.

I would like to extend our warmest thanks to those that have visited us and ignited passion and excitement within our young people and to those organisations that have mentored our students on some awe-inspiring national projects. The motivating speech by Simon Hepburn, CEO of UK Cyber Security Council, and his eight-point success plan was a winner with our students and our future medics were immersed in knowledge at the Medical Careers Carousel held at the Worshipful Company of Barbers-Surgeons' Hall in the Barbican.

The school fieldtrip to the South Downs was packed with activities for our Geography students, some were also involved in university trips to St Mary's in Twickenham, and we learnt about one of our recent alumni, Peter McCartney, who is in his second year at the University of Cambridge studying Engineering.

We continue to win individual and school awards and I am so proud of all our students' achievements; from our Jack Petchey Award winners to winning UNICEF's Right Respecting Bronze Award to our Sixth Form students being nominated Best Teamwork Award in the national Industrial Cadets Gold.

You might have seen a new feature on our website – The Headteacher's Blog – this is published on a monthly basis and keeps everyone up to date with the latest plans, initiatives and exciting projects happening at Bow.

On the final page of this magazine edition, we share our Primary Programme, a range of workshops and masterclasses, targeted at primary aged children, delivered by our staff and students.

Our aim is that pupils be enlightened to the excitement that awaits them at secondary school and taste a sample of life at Bow. Targeted at Year 4 and 5 pupils, schools are invited to express an interest.

Wishing you all a spectacular summer term of hard work and a summer holiday of well-deserved rest.

**Danny Lye, Headteacher**

# WORLD AND CAREER READY

An insightful and captivating glimpse into the future was available to Bow students across year groups as they're prepared for future careers and life as young adults and global citizens. Here are a just a few examples of recent exciting visits, trips and speakers.

## Migration Museum, Lewisham

Our EAL Department was proud to lead a group of 30 KS3 students who have recently arrived in London to this excellent immersive exhibition that shines a light on the central role that migrant entrepreneurs have played in shaping our lives and Britain. So many of the brands and businesses that are most integral to our lives, from corner shops to tech giants, are the products of migration. Entrepreneurship has always been at the heart of the immigrant experience.

The museum has recently been redesigned into an exciting and interactive experience of the industrial and commercial life of London's multicultural migrant communities. From an Ethiopian restaurant to Brazilian music and a very realistic Chinese takeaway, the students enjoyed reading about role playing and exploring London's immigrant business world.

## Careers in Medicine

In May, a group of Year 10 students attended the prestigious Medical Careers Carousel, held at the Worshipful Company of Barbers, situated in the Barbican. This fantastic opportunity afforded our students the opportunity to speak with several senior medical professionals, ranging from Neurologists to Paediatric Anaesthetist, about a wide range of medical careers. They also learnt from existing medical students about what they can expect at medical school. We extend our grateful thanks to the members of the Worshipful Company of Barbers for inspiring our future medics.

## INSPIRING SPEECH BY SIMON HEPBURN

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”*

Nelson Mandela

In May, our Careers and Computing Departments hosted a 'Speakers for Schools' talk from Simon Hepburn, CEO of UK Cyber Security Council. Simon spoke at an assembly attended by Year 10 GCSE Computing students and Year 9 students who will be taking GCSE Computing in September. Simon put forward a message of perseverance and hard work and engaged our budding future leaders through interactive and progressive discussions. Simon's talk was refreshing, invaluable and inspirational. He made a real connection with our students by offering thought-provoking insights and sharing his passion and personal story. We are extremely grateful for his input and for inspiring the next generation of tech leaders.

Simon Hepburn's 8-point key to success plan that we can all take inspiration from:

1. Take full advantage of your education and learning opportunities
2. Surround yourself with people who can make you grow and develop
3. Be mindful of your physical health and emotional wellbeing
4. Focus on being and portraying the best version of yourself
5. Learn the lessons from your mistakes and failures
6. Do things that make you happy, enjoy life and be proud of yourself
7. Be proud of your history, culture and identity
8. Set achievable goals and celebrate when you achieve them

## Celebrating Educational Talent with Lauriston Lights

On Saturday 7th May our Year 7 students, who took part in last year's summer school, reunited to attend the Lauriston Lights Impact Day hosted by City of London School. Year 12s from City of London School delivered two fantastic workshops in journalism and sustainability. The sustainability workshop explored key issues in the climate movement.

A summary of their suggestions is detailed below:

1. Use reusable cups in the canteen and to amplify the effectiveness of this, we could increase the amount of water fountains around the school.
2. Increase awareness of global issues such as climate change through workshops or assemblies. This would make students aware of the issues in their lives and motivate them to become more sustainable.
3. Reduce our meat usage in the canteen as this would cut our carbon emissions.

Students had the opportunity to discuss solutions to sustainability concerns that they're facing in our school environment. Bow students were so galvanised by the event they plan to take action to ensure we are an eco-friendly school. They finished the session by writing a letter to our Headteacher.

4. To reduce food waste, we could add a compost bin where all the wasted food is composted.
5. We could remind teachers and students to switch off lights when they leave the classroom. Teachers should also turn off the projector when they aren't using it.
6. Organise events such as a clothes swap. This would reduce the amount of clothes thrown away and reduce the amount of money people spend on clothes each year. Like they say, one man's rubbish is another man's treasure.

# NEWS ROUND UP

## Residential Geography Trip to the South Coast

Over 50 Year 10 students went on a fieldtrip to the Field Studies Council in Epping Forest and Brighton in April to complete the compulsory element of their GCSE course. They had the opportunity to study river processes and coastal defences, as well as to collect fieldwork data using a range of data collection techniques. Their overall breadth of experience from studying forests, coastal environments and the South Downs to some British seaside culture in Brighton gave them a huge confidence boost in readiness for their exams.

Our students had a fantastic time and were polite and respectful, a true credit to Bow; they returned to school highly motivated. Even Mr Jones, our Deputy Head, said it was the best trip he has ever been on!



## YOUTH VOICE

A new programme that places Youth Voice at the heart of careers provision within Tower Hamlets has been launched. It is called The Switch. In this new programme, students are given the chance to share their perspectives, ideas and experiences in a borough-wide youth advisory board focusing on careers development.

Year 7 and Year 9 students were invited to the impressive LLOYD's of London building on 12 May to attend the borough-wide programme and were personally welcomed by The Switch team and Director, Helen Sanson, before playing some games to get to know each other. We now have our very own Youth Voice Ambassadors: Elisa Martorell Ungria (Year 7) and Ridouane Abdou (Year 9).

## THE JACK PETCHEY AWARD WINNERS

### Jordan, Year 8 – DETERMINATION

Jordan is a total star as a Student Librarian. He is full of enthusiasm for any task he undertakes and is diligent, fastidious and extremely confident. In addition to carrying out the routine duties which are needed to keep the library running smoothly, he has gone over and above and organised and acted as quiz master for a Harry Potter quiz for 35 KS3 students.

### Rianna, Year 11 – DETERMINATION & ADAPTIBILITY

Rianna is showing good progress in Science and is very hard working, having submitted every piece of work on time and showing excellent understanding skills. She always tries extension tasks and enjoys sharing her knowledge with other students. She tackles classroom assignments, tasks and group work in an organised manner, and uses class time wisely. Rianna's work during this term has been exceptional.

### Tasmin, Year 11 – DETERMINATION & ADAPTIBILITY

Tasmin is a conscientious, hard-working and self-motivated student. She faithfully performs classroom tasks and expresses ideas clearly, both verbally and through writing. Her work has been exceptional during this term; she completed her assignments exceeding expectations with high quality work, and achieved excellent marks in her Biology mock exam.

*To find out about our Sixth Form Jack Petchey Award winners, see page 7.*



*“We were so impressed by all the students – they were all so bright, opinionated, and charismatic!” The Switch Team*

# STOP PRESS

Huge congratulations go out to Ridouane Abdou and David Wilson (both in Year 9) for being successful in their audition to join the National Youth Theatre (NYT). Both dramatists were exceptional on the audition day, which comprised a 3-hour workshop, performance of a monologue and an interview! The NYT practitioner said that she could have watched Ridouane, and David perform all day!

## BOW'S DAY OF UNIVERSITY LIFE

As part of our Into University Programme, our Year 10 students took part in an excellent workshop at St Mary's University, Twickenham. Students learnt about the university application process and options available to them. They had the opportunity to tour the campus, including the Sir Mo Farah Track, which was named in his honour in 2017, and also had the chance to meet current university students to learn about the non-academic aspects of university life. The workshop ended with a History taster session which covered the cultural diversity of the UK History curriculum. We are confident that the workshop has inspired our students to explore all their post 16 options to truly realise their aspirations.

## Close Encounters of an Aim2Attain Kind

15 of our Year 9 students took part in The Switch charity's virtual 'Aim2Attain' workshops. There were three themed workshops which covered First Impressions; Career Pathways and Year 9 & Beyond. Aim2Attain helps students maximise their opportunities beyond school and into working life through close collaboration with volunteers from the business world. This year we were linked with volunteers from Barclays Bank and the sessions really helped students to realise their full potential. Barclays' volunteers supported our students with building their confidence and helped them set goals for the next academic year. We are looking forward to returning to in-person workshops very soon.



## Gold-level Industrial Cadets

In November 2021, seven of our Year 12 A Level students applied to take part in the EDT Industrial Cadets Gold project. They were then matched with Overbury, part of the Morgan Sindall Group PLC - a leading British Construction & Regeneration group of companies. Our students have had an amazing six months as they attended a two-day residential trip to the University of Kent in January and worked on their project with the support of their Overbury mentor, James Rawlings, Construction Manager. Then in February they visited the company to find out more about the opportunities in the construction industry. In March and April, our students completed their project, a fully designed and built hybrid ventilation-solution prototype, produced a report and then attended an assessment day on 29 April. During the assessment day, they presented to a panel of industry experts and the assessors asked the team questions on their report and model.

We are delighted to announce that our team has been nominated for the **Best Teamwork Award** and we will be attending the Regional Celebration event which will be held at the publicly traded Fortune 500 company, Jacobs Engineering Group's UK Offices, on Tuesday 12 July.

Well done to you all, including Irfan Miah, who was a committed team member, taking on various tasks within the project to make it a success.

*"The presentation was really good you all spoke clearly about your individual roles in the project and how you worked as a team (highlighted by your nomination for the teamworking award). You gave a great presentation on the day, telling the panel about your roles, your challenges, considerations and an honest reflection of how the project could have been improved. You should all be proud of yourselves."* **Sylvestre Mido, School Programmes Officer, EDT (Engineering Development Trust)**



# SPOTLIGHT ON: OUR ALUMNI MATHS GENIUS

We recently interviewed **Peter McCartney**, an alumni currently in his second year at the University of Cambridge studying Engineering.

## *What are the highlights of your time at Bow School?*

I was proud to be Head Boy and achieved 11 GCSEs and 4 A Levels: I scored A\*s in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry A Levels.

## *What advice on careers would you give to current Bow School students?*

Make the most of your teachers whilst you have them. It's less about what extra qualifications you can get (outside of GCSEs and A Levels of course), and more about using all the spare time you have now to explore your academic interests and really build in yourself a desire to learn more. Also read lots of books!

## *In what way did your time at Bow School influence your education and career progression?*

My time at Bow really allowed me to explore my various interests. One such example would be when my friends and I showed an interest in Ancient History, and our History teacher gave us the opportunity to do a short-course GCSE in our free time, which we found incredibly beneficial and enhanced our love of learning. The teachers at Bow were always labouring for us all to have a deeper appreciation and love for our subjects, and this really shaped the mindset with which I approached applying to university. The teachers were just so ready and willing to help me with extra work, university applications and deepening my desire to learn, which is genuinely invaluable.



**Peter McCartney**

## UNICEF UK'S RIGHT RESPECTING SCHOOLS AWARD – **BRONZE**



The UK Committee for UNICEF works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children and young adults are respected, their talents are nurtured, and they are able to thrive. The Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives them the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

We are delighted to announce that we have just received news that we achieved the Bronze award and are now in a very good position to focus on achieving Silver in the 2022/23 academic year.

***“It's clear from your action plan for Silver that lots of important steps are now in place at your school. The Silver accreditation will be a virtual visit. It has a developmental and supportive focus and will celebrate your progress, assess you for Silver: Rights Aware and help you plan towards full Gold: Rights Respecting accreditation. I look forward to seeing your progress towards Silver.”***

Helen Trivers, RRSA Professional Adviser – East London and the South East, UNICEF UK

# FOCUS ON OUR SIXTH FORM

The abundance of latest news from Bow Sixth Form has been wide-ranging and uplifting – here are the highlights!

## University here we come

All Bow students that have applied to university have received an offer from one of their chosen universities – huge congratulations to each and every one of you!

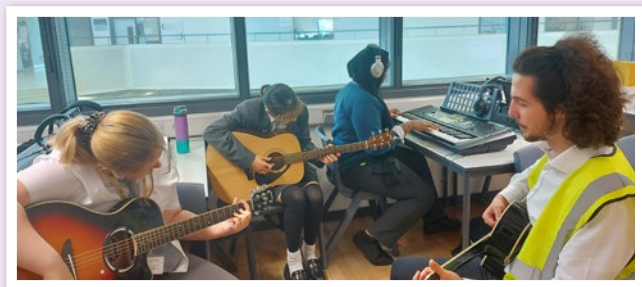
## Building the world, we want to live in

A group of Year 12 students attended the programme **YoungPower 2022** led by an American school in London and held at Westminster Academy. Our students explored a range of topical subjects, including sexual gender, racial equality and climate justice. In keeping with our principles of sharing good practice, students that attended the event fed back to their respective tutor groups.

## RUNNING CLUBS

Sixth Formers have been taking leadership roles to a new level this year and have been leading on a range of school clubs, including Chess and Music. A number of students are also lunchtime supervisors with duties that include supervising students in differing parts of the school.

*“The Music Club has been great to supervise. This opportunity has helped build my confidence in a work environment and given me an insight into the responsibilities of teachers.” Daniel Evans, Year 12*



## The Jack Petchey Sixth Form Award Winners

### Daniel, Year 12 – RESPECT, DETERMINATION & CURIOSITY

Daniel is a well-mannered and highly respectful student and is constantly concerned about the wellbeing of his peers and staff members. Daniel has also shown great determination as he has created, manages and also leads the Music club. Daniel is also curious as he is always enthusiastic about what he is learning and uses knowledge gained in History to explain current affairs to the rest of the group.

## NEW HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

We are delighted to announce that Mr Khan has been appointed to the position of the Head of Year 12 and 13 – welcome to the team!

## Time for tea and cake

To mark the first two weeks of exams, we took the time to celebrate with Year 13s in the Sixth Form garden.



## SPORTS LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS

We are super proud of the achievements of 18 of our Year 12/13 students who were recently awarded a Level 2 Qualification in Community Sports Leadership. The six-month course enabled our Sixth Formers to gain key employability skills that will stand them in good stead in their future endeavours including: communication, self-belief, teamwork, self-management and problem solving. As Sports Leaders they have been given hugely responsible tasks such as organising mini Olympic Games with Old Ford Primary School. Our Sixth Form Sports Leaders also have the opportunity to lead PE sessions with Bow students.



### Yeasin, Year 13 – CURIOSITY

Yeasin takes an interest in a variety of subjects outside his assigned curriculum. He asks engaging questions when others are presenting and is curious about the world around him. He is often discussing Physics concepts with Dr Pithia, and he has also read extensively around his subjects.

# SPOTLIGHT ON: OUR PRIMARY PROGRAMME

*Working in partnership to benefit our young people....*

At Bow School, we want to continue to build strong relationships with our local community and primary schools. As we build relationships with primary schools across Tower Hamlets, we have developed a range of activities, workshops and masterclasses, targeted at primary aged children, delivered by our staff and students.

Our aim is that pupils will benefit from these educational and creative sessions and be enlightened to the excitement that awaits them at secondary school, whilst complementing the work undertaken in primary school. We are keen to work together to create opportunities for the young people in the local area and support transition from primary to secondary school for both pupils and their families.

## Our Facilities and Resources

A number of our primary school partners already use our facilities and resources. If you would like to use any of the following, or have ideas of your own, let us know.

We have many different sports facilities onsite, including a full-size indoor sports hall, Astro-pitches, indoor gym and a dance studio which are available to book. Our Waterside Theatre is the perfect space for rehearsals or to host your own performance for families and friends!

Our spacious and well-resourced library can be made available to pupils as part of a reading scheme with our students or as a shared space for your own training/CPD needs.

Fully equipped laboratories and equipment are available for those budding scientists that want to try out their own experiments. If there are MasterChefs in the making at your school and you would like to develop their cookery skills, we have amazing facilities to share.

## Our Masterclasses and Workshops

From creative writing, STEM experiments and an exploration in Drama to DT challenges, Dragon's Den workshops and Music and PE masterclasses, there truly is something for everyone. In addition, our students are on hand to support pupils with guided reading sessions, and our English and Maths departments can provide SATs booster classes.

## Our Students

Our Ambassadors are on hand to support with your Sports Day or PE lessons, which can be hosted on our Astro-pitch at Bow, and they are available to visit primary schools to discuss their experiences of secondary school with pupils preparing for the next phase of their education.

*For more information about our workshops, facilities, resources or building a partnership, please contact our engagement lead, Hodo Mohamud at: [mohamudho@bow-school.org.uk](mailto:mohamudho@bow-school.org.uk)*

**BOW  
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