

BOW VOICE

Bow School Magazine | NEW YEAR 2026



**What's in
this edition?**

Spotlight on Careers

STEM News

Life at Bow Sixth Form

Community Spirit

BOW 
SCHOOL

OUR VISION | **WORLD READY
CAREER READY**

OUR VALUES

**DETERMINATION
RESPONSIBILITY
ADAPTABILITY
CURIOSITY
RESPECT**

SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS



Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to a special New Year Edition of Bow Voice.

The new year is a time for reflection, renewal and ambition, and this magazine captures the energy, achievements and sense of purpose that define life at Bow School.

Inside, you will find many examples of our students thriving; from outstanding success in national STEM competitions and inspiring enrichment experiences to sporting triumphs, creative projects and powerful moments of leadership. Each story reflects our shared commitment to developing determined, responsible, adaptable, curious and respectful young people who are ready for the world beyond Bow.

The start of a new year is also an opportunity to look ahead. Whether you are a current family celebrating your child's journey so far or a prospective family considering joining our community, I hope this edition offers a genuine insight into the opportunities, values and high expectations that shape our school.

Thank you, as always, to our students for their enthusiasm, and to our staff for their unwavering dedication. I look forward to everything the months ahead will bring and to continuing our journey together as a proud Bow School community.

You can keep up to date with our latest news and achievements by following us on Instagram: @BowSchoolOfficial.

Danny Lye, Headteacher



YEAR 10 GIRLS DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN THE COMMUNITY

On Tuesday 16th December, Year 10 girls visited the Leaders in Community Centre for an inspiring leadership training afternoon. The youth-led charity, founded in 2006, works to empower young people to make positive change. During the visit, students took part in activities focused on confidence, leadership and using their voice. The session encouraged students to see themselves as active contributors to their communities, capable of making meaningful social, economic and cultural impact.



BUILDING FUTURES: YEAR 12 LAUNCH CONSTRUCTION MENTORING PROGRAMME

During the Autumn Term, we proudly launched our Year 12 Construction Youth Trust (CYT) Mentoring Programme, offering students valuable insight into careers within the construction industry. Through this ongoing partnership, students gain real-world knowledge, guidance from industry professionals and a clearer understanding of the skills required for success. Previous participants have progressed into degree apprenticeships, highlighting the programme's impact. We look forward to seeing this year's cohort develop confidence and take their first steps towards future careers in construction.



YEAR 8s RISE TO THE SMART CITIES CHALLENGE

30 Year 8 students took part in the Smart Cities Challenge, hosted by Ahead Partnership and NetCompany. Six finalists pitched their Careers Service VR Experience idea at the grand finale at the University of Westminster on 18th December. Although they didn't take home the top prize, the team was praised for their creativity, leadership, teamwork and presentation skills. The experience offered valuable exposure to real-world problem-solving and industry expectations.



CAREER INSIGHTS AT CANARY WHARF

Last term, our Year 10 students had the exciting opportunity to attend a Career Insight Day at JLL Canary Wharf, Europe's largest property consultancy business. The day featured a panel talk, apprenticeship information sessions, speed networking and interactive activities, giving students a hands-on experience of potential career paths and the skills needed to succeed in the industry. Huge thanks to The Real Academy of Real Assets and JLL for hosting us and providing such an informative and inspiring experience.



STEM NEWS

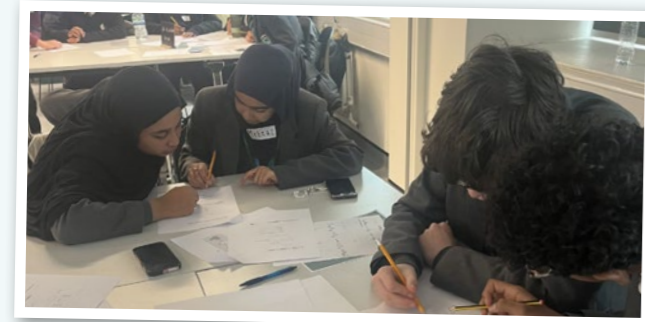
STUDENTS ACHIEVE SECOND PLACE IN PRESTIGIOUS STEM COMPETITION AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

We are delighted to announce that a team of our talented students were awarded Second Place in the highly respected STEM Competition at Imperial College London. This event, designed to inspire secondary school students from underrepresented backgrounds, offered a full day of hands-on STEM challenges, problem-solving activities and valuable skills development.

Throughout the competition, our students demonstrated exceptional creativity, determination and analytical thinking. Their ability to collaborate effectively and apply their STEM knowledge to real-world problems truly impressed the judges and resulted in this outstanding achievement.

This success would not have been possible without the guidance and support of Mr Awofadeju, Mr Singh and Ms Alexander, who played a vital role in encouraging students, nurturing their curiosity and providing opportunities for them to explore and develop their STEM skills.

We are incredibly proud of every student who represented the school with maturity, enthusiasm and focus. Their achievement reflects not only their personal effort but also the strength of our school's commitment to fostering a love of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Congratulations to our award-winning team: Hussain (10M1), Mehnaz (10T2), Sawmi (10T2), Dylan (10T2), Muhammad (10T1), Yahya (10B2), Mahmuna (10M1) and Mahir (10B2). Their success is something our entire school community can be proud of, and we look forward to seeing where their passion for STEM will take them next.



STEM CLUB CELEBRATIONS

There was plenty to celebrate in STEM Club as students successfully completed the prestigious CREST Award project. Their commitment, curiosity and teamwork were recognised with certificates and rewards presented by Mr Beck, a well-deserved reward for months of hard work and innovation.



Recycle Week: Creativity with a Purpose

To mark Recycle Week in September, Year 7 students Aktar, Khadijah, Hasnat, Mehrish, Newaz and Ilma put sustainability into action by designing an interactive game made entirely from recycled materials. Inspired by the theme "Rescue Me! Recycle", the project showcased their creativity, problem-solving skills and passion for protecting the planet.



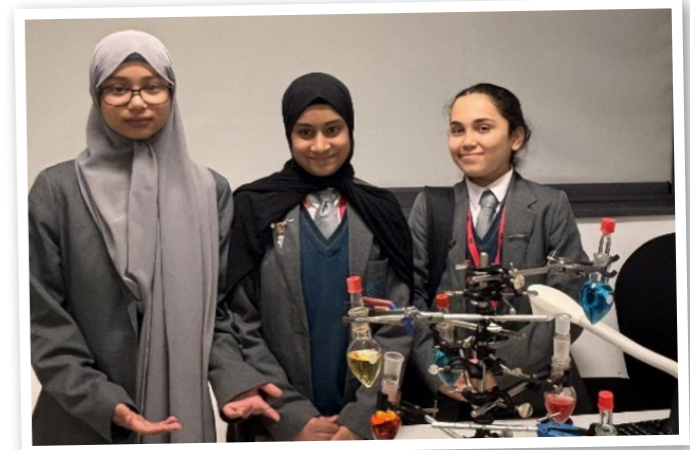
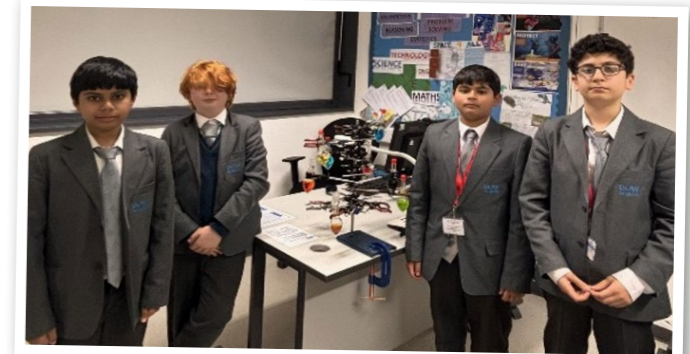
NEW SCIENTIST LIVE

STEM Club students enjoyed an unforgettable visit to New Scientist Live 2025, immersing themselves in hands-on experiments, interactive exhibits and thought-provoking talks from leading figures in science. The experience was designed to spark curiosity, ignite creativity and inspire the next generation of scientists and innovators. New Scientist Live brings cutting-edge science to life through exciting talks and interactive experiences, led by those shaping the future of the scientific world.



Chemistree: A Festive Fusion of Science and Creativity

Science met festive spirit with Chemistree, a unique creative project that saw students transform laboratory equipment, including retort stands, beakers and test tubes, into a striking Christmas tree. The result was a festive display celebrating both scientific imagination and holiday cheer.



IN OTHER NEWS

Exploring The Young V&A

Students in Year 9 travelled to The Young V&A on Thursday 20th November to take part in a textiles workshop. The session was led by Amanda Vesthardt who is the current resident artist at The Young V&A. Throughout the session students worked collaboratively to create textiles based structures that focused on connections and knots.



Black History Month

As part of our Black History Month celebrations, our dedicated Prefects led a series of inspiring assemblies, shining a spotlight on remarkable Black figures who have made a lasting impact in their fields. They shared the incredible stories of Simone Biles, Idris Elba, Marcus Rashford, Lord Herman Ouseley, and Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock - each a true role model for excellence, leadership and resilience. A huge thank you to our Prefects for delivering such thoughtful and inspiring assemblies!



Bow School Crowned Tower Hamlets Year 7 Football League Champions

In a thrilling campaign that showcased teamwork, resilience and determination, Bow School's Year 7 football squad have been crowned Tower Hamlets Schools Football Championship Shield winners after a dramatic penalty shootout win against Bishop Challoner in the finals.

The road to victory wasn't easy. Bow began their group stages with hard-fought draws against Bishop Challoner (0-0) and Morpeth (0-0), followed by a narrow 1-0 defeat to Langdon. However, the boys bounced back in style, defeating Wapping 2-0 with goals from Ayub and Izaan, before edging Canary Wharf 1-0 thanks to another clinical finish from Izaan.

These results secured Bow's place in the Shield Knockout semi-finals, where they faced a tough St Paul's Way side. Once again, Izaan delivered, firing home a spectacular goal from just outside the box to send Bow into the finals.

The grand finale against Bishop Challoner was nothing short of epic. After a tense match that ended 1-1, with Izaan scoring yet another stunning strike in the last few seconds, it all came down to penalties. Under immense pressure, Bow kept their cool with Izaan, Ayaan, Ayyub, Yahya and Tausif finding the back of the net to seal the school's first-ever football title this year, after Bishop missed two crucial spot-kicks.

The final score was Bow 1-1 Bishop Challoner, with Bow winning 5-4 on penalties.



Well done to our penalty takers - Izaan, Ayaan, Ayyub, Yahya, Talha and Tausif - and a huge congratulations to the entire squad: Aktar, Ali, Allen, Rowayd, Akram, Rayan, Ayaan, Bilal, Ayyub, Abdiweli, Tausif, Rayyan, Talha, Yahya, Zayaan and Ihsan.

LIFE AT BOW SIXTH FORM

CRACKING THE CODE: MY COMPUTER SCIENCE JOURNEY

This term in Computer Science, we have been exploring a range of interesting and challenging topics, including algorithms, data structures, programming logic and problem-solving techniques. The subject shows how technology affects almost every part of our lives, making it both useful and fascinating. I have recently started my Computer Science NEA, which gives me the chance to create and develop my own independent project. Working on the NEA has already pushed me to combine logical thinking, creativity and programming skills as I plan, build and improve my ideas in code.

This experience has not only strengthened my understanding of programming concepts but also shown how complex problems can be approached and solved using computing. It has also highlighted the importance of careful planning, testing and making improvements along the way. Through this project, the connection between what we learn in class and practical applications has become much clearer. The process has also reinforced the value of persistence and step-by-step problem-solving, which are important skills in computing and other analytical fields.

Written by Fabiha, Year 13



REWARDING ADVENTURES

At the end of the last academic year, the Sixth Form cohort had earned themselves a series of well-deserved breaks. Before the last Personal Development Day, each form was given the task of organising their own trip, which included thinking about dates, prices and taking into account each individual's opinions. The result included multiple successful trips for the year group.

One form organised an escape room event, where they were split into teams and locked inside a room that tested their problem-solving and teamwork skills in order to escape before the 60 minutes were over. Another form engaged in friendly competition and adrenaline as they went Go-Karting, enjoying the thrill of racing against friends, zooming around corners, and feeling like professional drivers; whilst the third form decided to take a trip to the O2 Arena to Hollywood Bowl so that they could enjoy a few games of bowling.

Not all trips were fast-paced, with the final form allowing their creativity to flourish whilst engaging in some pottery, sculpting their own creations to life with their own hands.

These trips were more than just fun, they offered a chance to build friendships, learn new skills, and take a well-deserved break from our usual routines. Whether you were solving puzzles, racing laps, getting artistic, or just missing every pin, every Personal Development Day trip had something memorable to offer.

Written by Ishaq



BUSINESS IN ACTION

In BTEC Business, we have been learning about how businesses operate and the different functions that make them successful, such as marketing, finance, human resources and customer service. This subject has given me a clear understanding of how organisations are structured and the strategies they use to meet their goals. It has also shown me how business theory connects to real life examples. As I go through case studies and assignments, it has helped me develop analytical and decision-making skills, which are important in understanding how businesses respond to opportunities and challenges.

As part of our Unit 4 course, we recently organised an event where we sold refreshing drinks from the hut during lunchtime. This required a lot of preparation, including planning our resources, organising who would do each role, and making sure we had enough stock ready for our event. This experience gave us the chance to put business skills like teamwork and creativity into practice. It also showed us how important it is to be organised and work under pressure, especially when we were serving the whole school within only a short period of time. This was a great experience for my class to apply our learning in a real-life situation.

Written by Hatice, Year 13



COMMUNITY

POWER FOR GOOD

During Anti-Bullying Week, students explored this year's powerful theme, Power for Good, reflecting on how influence can be used ethically and positively. As part of the week, Mr Emin launched the Power for Good competition, challenging students to create short presentations exploring how individuals can drive meaningful change. The standard of entries was exceptionally high, with students demonstrating insight, creativity and compassion.

Congratulations to Yaminah (Year 9), whose presentation stood out for its insight and impact. Well done to all students who took part for using their voices to promote kindness, responsibility and positive action.



REMEMBERING TOGETHER

On 11th November, our school community came together to mark Remembrance Day, led with dignity and respect by our prefect team. The service included a reading, the playing of The Last Post, and a two-minute silence, allowing students and staff time to reflect and honour those who have served in wars and conflicts. It was a thoughtful and respectful moment that demonstrated the maturity and unity of our school community.



Spreading Festive Cheer Through Music

On Wednesday 17th December, our talented musicians brought joy and festive cheer to residents at Coopers Court Retirement Community through a heart-warming morning of live music. Performances ranged from solo pieces to a beautiful quartet, showcasing not only musical talent but confidence and dedication. Following the concert, students spent time chatting with residents, sharing stories and laughter. It was a wonderful example of community connection and generosity of spirit. Thank you to all the performers and to the staff and residents at Coopers Court for such a warm welcome.

