

BOW VOICE

Bow School Magazine | SPRING 2026

**What's in
this edition?**

Trips and visits

**Starting at Bow School –
Meet our Year 7s**

Transition at Bow School

**BOW
SCHOOL** 



**OUR VISION | WORLD READY
CAREER READY**

**OUR
VALUES**

**DETERMINATION
RESPONSIBILITY
ADAPTABILITY
CURIOSITY
RESPECT**



Headteacher's Welcome

As we approach the end of the spring term, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our students, staff and families for their dedication and hard work over these past months. There is so much to celebrate – students across every year group have enthusiastically taken part in a vibrant range of visits, trips and experiences, a few of which are highlighted in this newsletter.

The upcoming two-week Easter holiday is a well-earned opportunity for everyone to relax, recharge and return refreshed for what promises to be an exciting and challenging term, particularly for those preparing for their crucial GCSEs, A Levels and vocational exams.

I hope you all have a restful holiday and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 13th April.

Danny Lye, Headteacher

TOGETHERNESS AND UNDERSTANDING

We were delighted to host our first Community Iftar recently, bringing together staff, students and parents for a special evening of reflection, faith and community. Across the country community iftars are celebrated as a collective, with a fast-breaking evening meal during Ramadan that brings together people of various faiths and backgrounds to share food at sunset. The event promotes inclusivity, community cohesion and cultural exchange, providing a space for friendship, networking and understanding.

Our evening at Bow School was a wonderful success and a fantastic opportunity to come together during the holy month of Ramadan. A huge thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the event so meaningful. Special thanks to Saif for helping to arrange speakers and for leading the prayers. The real stars of the evening, as always, were our students. Yunus (10M2) opened the event with a thoughtful speech, while Shafi (12T1) delivered a beautiful Qur'an recitation and the Adhaan. Both were truly exceptional.

We were also incredibly grateful to receive such lovely feedback from parents:

“It was such a lovely, positive evening... from the nasiha and recitation to the food. It felt like a truly blessed iftari gathering.”

“So amazed by the effort the school put in to accommodate this iftar event.”

“Everything went really well. We really enjoyed ourselves - the turnout and food were great. Wouldn't change a thing.”

Thank you again to everyone who joined us and helped make this a memorable evening for our community.

YEAR 11 AT THE OLD VIC THEATRE

The Old Vic is one of London's most beloved and historic theatres. Located just south of the River Thames, near Waterloo station, this iconic venue has been at the heart of British theatre for over 200 years. Renowned for its world-class productions, the Old Vic blends tradition and innovation, regularly staging a mix of classic plays, modern works and exciting new writing. With its distinctive façade and warm, welcoming interior, the Old Vic remains a cultural landmark for theatre lovers in the capital and beyond.

With such a history and pedigree, we were delighted when a group of Year 11 students took part in Take the Lead, a creative skills programme delivered in partnership with The Old Vic. Running across 40 London state schools, the programme develops five essential skills – communication, teamwork, self-belief, self-management and problem-solving – through theatre-based workshops.

Designed in collaboration with schools and businesses, the programme helps students take ownership of their next steps after school and prepares them for the world of work. For many, it's a chance to discover new strengths, boost confidence and try creative approaches in a supportive environment.

A huge thank you to the Old Vic Theatre team for inspiring our students and helping them discover new strengths and confidence.

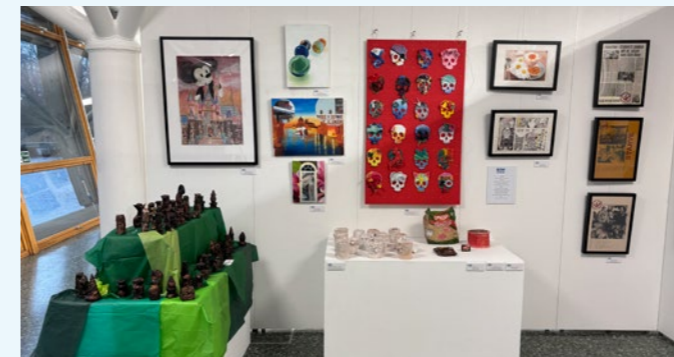


THAT EXHIBITION

We had another year of success at the annual Tower Hamlets schools' exhibition at the Mile End Pavilion. The theme for this year's exhibition was 'Reimagining', bringing together artwork from 15 secondary schools, showcasing diverse perspectives from students across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 and a variety of disciplines such as drawing, textiles, graphic communication, photography, ceramics, mixed media and painting.

The exhibition featured over 400 pieces of artwork and explored linked experiences, cultures and perspectives, recognising that each narrative, contributes to a larger, shared human experience. It was an exceptional celebration of imagination, experimentation and the emerging voices of young artists.

Thank you to all who visited and supported the students.



STEM RACING SUCCESS AT REGIONAL FINALS

We are delighted to share that our student team, the 'Simpletons,' delivered an outstanding performance at the F1 in Schools Regional Finals. Competing against 19 schools - each entering multiple teams - the Simpletons rose to the challenge and were awarded the prestigious Best Portfolio Trophy, recognising the quality, creativity and professionalism of their work. In addition to this impressive accolade, the team also achieved excellent results in the speed category, placing 4th and 7th for the fastest car times, a testament to their engineering skill and attention to detail. This success reflects the team's dedication, innovation and strong teamwork throughout the project. They have represented the school with great pride and professionalism, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements. Congratulations to the Simpletons on a fantastic accomplishment!

STUDENTS STEP ONTO THE GLOBAL STAGE

Students in Years 10 and 12 recently visited the American School of London for the annual Model United Nations (MUN) launch. The day introduced students to global issues while developing key skills in debating, diplomacy and public speaking. Through training sessions and practical activities, students learned how to present ideas confidently and represent different perspectives. Students put these skills into action at the MUN conference in February, where they represented a wide range of different countries and debated international challenges facing the world.



YEAR 7 STUDENT WINS NATIONAL "SPACE 4 ALL" CHALLENGE

We are thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievement of Year 7 student Cagatay (7P2), who was named a winner in the prestigious "Space 4 All" Challenge. The competition invited innovators, thinkers and dreamers to design solutions that make space travel and exploration more inclusive and accessible for people with diverse needs. Demonstrating exceptional creativity and problem-solving skills, Cagatay's entry – EUS-1: Enhanced Universal Suit for Inclusive Space Exploration – stood out among entries from across the competition. His innovative concept not only secured him a winning position, but also saw his project recognised as a finalist in the 2025 Space 4 All Challenge, a remarkable accomplishment for such a young student. Cagatay approached the challenge with imagination, determination and a clear commitment to inclusivity, embodying the very spirit of the competition. His success is a testament to both his talent and his dedication. We are incredibly proud to see our students representing the school so positively, embracing opportunities, and achieving at such a high level. Congratulations, Cagatay, a truly stellar achievement!

A TRANSITION SNAPSHOT

MOVING TO BIG SCHOOL (*Year 6 to Year 7*)

Our bespoke March-September programme:

1 March	National offer day
26 March	Pupils meet new friends at our annual Friendship Afternoon
April	Parent coffee mornings – all your transition and induction questions answered
June	Our teachers visit pupils at their primary schools
July	Induction day for pupils and transition surgery for parents
August	Exciting workshops and activities at our summer school
September	Year 7 start one day earlier than the rest of the school

Every pupil and parent will receive a Bow School handbook to support with the transition programme.

MOVING INTO SIXTH FORM (*Year 11 to Year 12*)

Spring term	May newsletter with tips, advice and guidelines on revision techniques Afternoon tea with subject specialist teachers and sixth formers
Summer term	A day in the life of a sixth former experience – sample lessons, enrichment activities, student-led fair featuring clubs and societies Support from sixth form ambassadors on surviving GCSE exam season Annual careers fair and induction day
Autumn term	1-2-1 with a senior member of staff to discuss courses, options and career pathways Open evening for parents and students

A personalised sixth form student handbook will be available for every student joining Year 12.

VIEWS FROM TWO OF OUR YEAR 7 STUDENTS

CAGATAY, YEAR 7

Cagatay joined us from Manorfield Primary School and was immediately impressed with Bow when he visited during open evening. These were his first impressions and thoughts about the future: "I have an older brother at Bow and I had visited the school before to take part in sports and other activities. I came on Open Evening and was immediately impressed with the building and facilities - the school building design is fantastic. Everything and everyone is student friendly. I have really enjoyed my first two terms at Bow and am excited about the future. I have high hopes to be a scientist".



HELEN, YEAR 7

Helen joined us from Manorfield Primary School and already has future ambitions to be a successful author and write fantasy books. She has felt truly supported by Bow in her move from primary school with many opportunities and activities to get involved in the life of the school. Here are Helen's comments about her first two terms at Bow: "I visited during Open Evening and again when I was offered a place at the school in March for a Friendship Afternoon. The school felt very big compared to my primary school but everything felt and looked vibrant with amazing student artwork on the walls. Everyone has been so supportive - we have got to know each other in our year group and made friends as well as mixed with students across different year groups. I am so excited and looking forward to going on trips and seeing new places – I know there are lots of new adventures ahead".

