

BOW SCHOOL

COMMEMORATIVE MAGAZINE

A celebration of our strong heritage
Sharing favourite Bow memories
Sports, Spelling and Maths Success

WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

CATH
SMITH

As our time at Paton Close draws to an end, so we are increasingly thinking back over the years here and sharing our memories. This edition of our newsletter is partly doing this. You can read about what has made our time here so very special.

I first started working at Bow School in 1986 when it was an even smaller school than it is now and we didn't have the main building. Even the Science block was smaller. I have many fond memories of my time at Bow both all those years ago, and more recently since I returned as headteacher. I remember when we took possession of the main building and began to expand our numbers. Returning in 2011 triggered many of these memories for me and the Heritage Day was a wonderful way to celebrate the many years of education on this site.

The new building is very nearly finished and looking increasingly impressive both inside and out. We are all looking forward to the new opportunities that the new facilities will bring and will be ensuring that there are events planned during June and July that will enable you all to come in and look around.

Details around the logistics of the move, the starting dates for students in June and all other specific information will be sent to parents in a separate mailing.

In the meantime, it is business as usual at Paton Close with all students working incredibly hard to make good progress in their studies. Year 11 students have been coming in to school for additional lessons on Saturdays and in their holidays and the rest of the school are working well in lessons and succeeding out of school as well. Recently 4 of our year 10 students won a 3 day trip to Paris, all expenses paid, as a result of their excellent French presentations to Bouguyes.

I look forward to welcoming everyone to the new school building in June.



THE MOVE KEY CHANGES:

UNIFORM. As parents know, this will change and information has been sent to all parents about the changes. The new uniform will be on sale at the uniform shop, Khalsa, very soon and they will be able to advise you about what is needed.

SCHOOL TIMES. We will also be changing the start and finish times of the school day slightly and, again, I will write with the detail of this in a separate letter. The school day will start promptly at 8.40am each day, although we expect all of our students to be on site by 8.30am so that they are ready to start at 8.40am. Monday to Thursday, students will finish their formal timetable at 3.15pm, and on Fridays this will be earlier at 2.45pm. Breakfast club will continue and all students are welcome at this from 7.30am each morning.

ROUTE TO SCHOOL. Everyone will have to take a different route to school each day. We have developed some advice around safe cycle routes to the new building and will be advising students on good walking routes. The preferred crossing point into the new school is via the underpass at Empson Street and some of you will have noticed that the improvement work on this has already started.

“Bow School should be congratulated for their exceptional achievement. They have proved themselves to be leading the field in improving GCSE outcomes for their students. There is so much good practice that this school could share, and I hope many schools will join us at the celebration ceremony for the chance to network and share strategies with award-winning schools”

“These results are testament to the commitment and hard work of the students, teachers and leadership team at the school, and show what can be achieved when skilled teachers have high expectations and ambition for every young person. I am proud that this school is a member of the SSAT network”

Sue Williamson,
Chief Executive of SSAT

BOW IS IN TOP 20% IT'S OFFICIAL!

Bow School – one of the best in the country for student progress at GCSE. The School has received national recognition for the value it adds to students' achievements at GCSE. A recent in-depth analysis of official Department for Education data on all state-funded schools in England by SSAT, the national schools' membership organisation for improvement and collaboration, identified our success.

The school has qualified for an SSAT Educational Outcomes Award by being in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress made by pupils between their key stage 2 results at primary school and their GCSE results at age 16. The school has been invited to receive their award at a regional celebration ceremony hosted by SSAT at The St Marylebone CE School in London on 06 May.

CREATE CLUB CHAIR COMPETITION

The extremely popular Bow School Create Club recently launched a competition to re-design an old school chair. This competition is honour of the fact that, very soon, students at Bow will be sitting on brand new stylish school chairs and, as such, we wanted to pay homage to the chairs which have served Bow Students very well over the last years at the school. As part of the competition, the create club designers have visited the V&A museum, in central London, to look at historical and contemporary furniture to help fire up their imaginations and get them inspired. On the visit the create clubbers learnt about different making techniques from traditional turning and marquetry to cnc cutting. They also learnt about the rapid prototyping of pieces of furniture.

Whilst at the V&A, the create clubbers were very privileged to visit James Rigler, a ceramicist, and the current Artist in residence at the V&A. All of the boy's agreed that this was a fascinating insight into an artist's studio, the way he worked and his sources of inspiration. Work is now underway to create the ultimate redesigned school chair. Look out for your opportunity to see the student's final designs when the pieces are exhibited at the new school in June.

TEA PARTY

On Tuesday 11th March, Bow School held a Tea Party welcoming the girls for the September start. Organised by the Art Department, 15 girls from ten primary schools across the borough met for afternoon tea and cakes. The event marks the start of the school's transformation as Bow prepares to for the big move to a new site over at Twelvetrees and its change to a school offering mixed education.



BOW ATHLETICS TEAMS START WITH A BANG!

Y7, 8, 9 & 10 Athletics teams took part in the annual Tower Hamlets indoor athletics competitions. There was some eye catching performances with Eduardo (Y8) winning the high jump, Calvin (Y10) winning the long jump, Ismail (Y10) winning the 400m and Rene (Y10) winning the 60m sprint. Overall Bow School finished in 3rd place only 1 point behind Stepney Green and 20 points behind Bishop Challoner. We wish the teams all the best in future events in the summer term



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SPELLING BEE - A TRIUMPH!

Peter McCartney 7A

On the 10th of February 2014, after school in the activities hall, Bow School held its first ever Spelling Bee competition. Organised by Dr. Onwere and Ms. Basi, the event was brilliant and well attended, with students turning up to support their classmates and parents being there to offer their sons the much needed moral support for this wonderful event. There were some minor glitches though, as some younger students later felt they had more difficult words than some of the older students.

Despite this, the Spelling Bee was an overall success and Bow will definitely be holding another one next year. The Year 7 winner was Peter McCartney from 7A, the Year 8 winner was Al-huda Al-Huda 8P and the Year 9 and overall KS3 winner was Sadik Ahmed 9O.

All participants put at least 4 hours of work and effort into this Spelling Bee so also deserve a mention for their excellent contribution.

The year 7 participants were Yaseen Ahmed 7P; Shafiur Rahman 7P; Peter McCartney 7A; Sameer Ahammad 7A; Elliot Ross 7O; Junaydul Abdin 7O; Rio Puffett 7N and Mohim Ali 7N. The year 8 participants were Al-huda Al-Huda 8P;

Mubarak Ahmed 8P; Imran Uddin 8A; Shahadot Mahir 8O; Arife Hussain 8O; Shamim Miah 8O; Raihan Ahmed 8N and Attikur Rahman 8N. The participants from year 9 were Tammam Al-Nahiyan Ishtar 9P; Yamin Begh 9P; Youmi Hoque 9A; Labib Khan 9A; Nakib Mahfuz 9T; Farhad Ali 9T; Sadik Ahmed 9O; Naim Hussain 9O and Ariq Rahman 9N. They all did themselves proud.



RAYTRACER ART PROJECT

A group of creative leaders from years 7 & 8 have been working alongside artist Lawrence Lek to create prototypes for an exhibition at the White Building in Hackney Wick on the 2nd April.

The project, 'Raytracer', is an exploration of virtual architecture and the relationship between graphical systems, light projection and physical structures. It consisted of wooden frames woven with string which had been precisely measured and fixed into place. The students then experimented with casting shadows through the frames and also drawing from the shadows.

The models were finally used as the designs to create a large structure and both were exhibited alongside one another to show the process of making.

BOW BULLS RUGBY FINALS

Bow Bulls cruise into Essex Schools Rugby Finals. The Y9 & Y10/11 rugby teams progressed into the finals of the East London/ Essex RFU finals. On their way they beat local neighbours Eastleigh and George Green. They now travel to Thurrock Rugby Club on the 19th March to compete against Essex schools. We wish them all the luck!



WORLD BOOK DAY

Bow School celebrated World Book Day 2014 with competitions, teachers in fancy dress and surprise reading bells! Throughout the day students were encouraged to take part in a range of activities to celebrate World Book Day and highlight the value of reading. The students had to work out mystery books and teachers from a range of clues, they took part in a book day quiz where all the questions had been submitted by the student body, and they found themselves taught by a range of book characters including Cleopatra, Just William and the Hungry Cattapillar!



MATHS AND ART

A group of talented Bow Students have recently seen work, produced in conjunction with the artist Lawrence Lek, exhibited in an installation at the White Building in Hackney Wick, one of London's fastest growing areas for creative and media arts. The project focused on exploring the relationship between Maths and Art and was kicked off with a visit to the Cofely Energy Centre in Hackney Wick. The visit allowed students to draw inspiration from the buildings architecture and gave them creative ideas around how to use sustainable materials. In addition, they explored the local area to find the amazing reflective sculptures by Monica Bonvincini before visiting Lawrence Lek in his studio. The boys really enjoyed the process and work with Lawrence to create a fantastic installation and the school is very proud of them and their creative efforts.



MATHS MENTORING

Over the last two terms we have developed a brand new maths mentoring intervention programme. Students in KS3 have been working fantastically in the mornings (from 8:20!!) to brush up on different maths topics. As part of the extra support, the students also work in a small group with a Year 9 or 10 maths mentor to complete a

range of maths problems and activities. Not only has the programme been successful in raising attainment across KS3 it has also developed vertical links through the student body between KS3 and KS4. The maths mentors have developed leadership skills and futhered their own understanding of a range of mathematical topics. The programme will continue to run over the summer term.

MEMORIES OF BOW SCHOOL

“ I love the small school gym and the school’s computer rooms ”

Adburraueem Kamali

“ The brilliant school trips, like the day trip to Calais ”

Nazim Islam

“ Y7 Sports Day ”

Naief (Y9)

“ Dragon boating in Y7! ”

Adil 8P

“ The merit reward trips ”

Saif Mohammed

“ I love science having its own ‘cosy’ building ”

Farha Nawab

“ Heritage day when we celebrated 100 years of education at Bow School ”

Zaheer Aslam 90

“ When my form won sports day in Y7 ”

Sadik (Y9)

“ When I achieved my academic targets ”

Mohammed Raihan

“ When I came 2nd in the 200m at Lea Valley Stadium against other schools ”

Dominic Canty

“ Bow Idol competition, this is an annual event that takes place in school and gives the students the opportunity to showcase their individual talent ”

Ms Lyne

“ Welcome to our world event! It was fascinating to see so many communities attending and taking part in such a fantastic event. It was a great opportunity for everyone to learn about our Bow community ”

Mr Khaless

“ Seeing 7 Bow Students on stage at the O2 Arena with Pink Floyd singing ‘Another Brick in the wall’ to 10,000 people ”

Mr Morris

“ Releasing about 50 red balloons for 1999 Comic Relief ”

“ Jeanne Bannis and myself dancing to the boys’ music at the Thames Festival procession on the South Bank ”

Ms Robertson

“ When, as part of a construction lesson, my Year 7 class built a tower so tall that it was bigger than Mr Hall! With all the space in the new school I imagine the tower will be even bigger next year! ”

Ms Basi

“ The disjointedness’ of the building. The heating that only works (sometimes!) and the number of doors in science! ”

Ms Leung

“ The french residential trip last year. The students on the trip were very well behaved it was a great weekend! ”

Ms Ogden

“ The high ceilings and lovely old quirky features of the heritage building ”

Ms Osso

“ I’ll really miss the parquet floor in the Heritage building! It’s beautiful and there are lots of hidden features ”

Ms Drew

“ Student voice has always been a powerful avenue for change and over the years we had attempted to grow a student council and introduce the idea of prefects, to varying degrees of success. My most favourite memory was in September/October 2012 when a young man, by the name of Mitu Miah spoke ”

Mr O’Shea

“ The book reading events where staff have had to dress up in their favourite characters ”

Mr Deckers

“ Coming into school when I was unwell on a Saturday, to find a warm welcome of dedicated students, that made it seem all worthwhile and made me feel a lot better! ”

Ms Corbett

HERITAGE DAY



LOOKING FORWARD TO

“The excellent new facilities”

Naim Hussain

“The new playground and school grounds”

Saif Mohammed

“Finally having our own sports pitches and lockers for our stuff”

Adburraueem Kamali

“Even more inter-form competitions”

Nazim Islam

“Passing my GCSEs in our brilliant new classrooms”

Hafizur

“Doing PE on the roof”

Sadik (Y9)

“The sports pitches on the roof”

Dominic Canty

“The new sports facilities”

Zaheer Aslam 90

“Our new huge sports hall”

Nihaj Choudhury

“Different subject classrooms being on the same floor. It will be nice to work more closely with people from different departments”

Farha Nawab

“All the new opportunities for exciting performances and exhibitions in the new Waterside Theatre, Dance Studio etc”

Mr Morris

“The new equipment and specialist machinery such as the laser cutter and the stoneware kiln. I can't wait to use these in new 'create club projects!'”

Ms Drew

“Seeing our students enjoy the fantastic new facilities and moving the school forward to an exciting future”

Ms Lyne

“Having high tables in the Art Rooms. No more bad backs! Oh and a new kiln and a laser cutter”

Ms Osso

“Staff and students carving out a new history in our new building”

“I am glad that we are taking all the bits of Bow school that matter with us! The staff, their stories and the students with their dramas”

Ms Bartlett

“The endless possibilities to expand the new Computing curriculum, using the new equipment”

Ms Corbett

“I am very excited in our state of the art building, especially the ICT and sports facilities. I am looking forward to the open plan nature of the new school and being a part of one main building, where staff and students will be interacting to create a positive and buzzing atmosphere”

Mr Khales

“I am looking forward to having a new computer in my classroom!”

Mr O'Shea

“There won't be any excuses for students to arrive late from English anymore!”

Ms Basi

“The new shape of the building. It should be a fantastic new adventure for everyone!”

Mr Deckers

“Being close to other classrooms and sharing ideas with colleagues”

Ms Leung

“Watching Bow School expand and grow into the future”

Ms Hyde

SCHOOL UNIFORM

From September 2014, there will be a new and different school uniform. This will be in keeping with the new-look Bow School and has been developed in consultation with the students, some parents and governors. There will be, as there is now, a slightly different uniform for students in each of the Key Stages.



Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 & 9)

Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 & 9): The ties, jumpers and blazers can be bought from Khalsa who currently supply our uniform. In September 2014 we expect all new students to wear the new uniform. All other students will have the option to remain in their current uniform until such time as they need to purchase new items. It will not be possible to 'mix and match' uniforms. Students should either be entirely in the 'old' uniform or entirely in the 'new' uniform.



Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11)

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11): The uniform for the older students is slightly different and, again, can be purchased at Khalsa.

Key Stage 5 (the Sixth Form): We are currently talking with our existing Year 11 students about expectations for Sixth Formers: However, the dress code is likely to be 'smart casual'.

NEW FACILITIES

Our new home will offer all of our students many fantastic learning opportunities across the curriculum. Especially exciting are the new state-of-the-art specialist facilities we will have at our disposal. These really will enrich the curriculum



Larger Art Rooms with excellent light

7 Technology Spaces : 2 Resistant Materials Workshops, 1 Food Technology Room, 1 Textiles Room, 3 Graphics /CAD CAM rooms.

Improved Music Facilities including a recording suite, 4 rehearsal rooms, an ensemble area, and a music technology room.

Fantastic new performing arts facilities – Dance Studio, 2 x Performing Arts Studios and the fantastic 350 Seat – Waterside Theatre

A large open plan learning resource centre with outdoor reading patio

Brilliant sports facilities including 3 roof-top multi use games areas, a fitness studio, a huge sports hall and an outdoor hard court.

KEY DATES FOR NEW BUILDING

Y11 GCSE Exams Begin: Monday 12th May
 School Closes to students: End of Wednesday 21st May
 Packing Days: Thursday 22nd / Friday 23rd May
 Half Term Holiday: Saturday 24th - Sunday 1st June
 Unpacking/Induction Days for staff:
 Monday 2nd - Wednesday 4th June
 Phased induction of Y8, Y9 students
 (Current Y7 and Y8):- Thursday 5th June
 Induction of Y10 students (Current Y9): Friday 6th June
 New School timetable begins for Y8, Y9, Y10
 (Current Y7, 8 & 9): Monday 9th June
 Induction for Y11 students (Current Y10):
 Monday 16th June
 Y11 Parents' Evening (Current Y10):
 Thursday 19th June
 Y11 NRA Event: Wednesday 25th June
 Official opening of public art project:
 Thursday 26th June
 Ramadan begins: Sunday 29th June
 Y11 Mock Exams (Current Y10): Monday 30th June
 Y6 Parents Evening (New Y7): Thursday 3rd July
 Y6 Induction Day: Friday 4th July
 Bow's Got Talent: Friday 17th July

TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY 2014-15

From June 2014 the times of the school day will change. Our new timings will ensure that we are able to offer a curriculum which maximises the opportunities presented by our fantastic new facilities. The new times are

MONDAY - THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
Reg	8.40am	Reg	8.40am
1	8.45am	1	8.45am
2	9.30am	2	9.30am
3	10.15am	3	10.15am
Break	11.00am	Break	11.00am
4	11.15am	4	11.15am
5	12.00pm	5	12.00pm
KS4 Reg	12.45pm	Reg	12.45pm
Lunch	12.45/1.00pm	Lunch	1.00pm
KS3 Reg	1.30pm	6	2.00pm
6	1.45pm	End	2.45pm
7	2.30pm		
End	3.15pm		

GETTING TO THE NEW SCHOOL

From the 2nd June 2014, Bow School will move to its brand new state-of-the-art home on Twelvetrees Crescent.

Everybody will have a different journey to make. For some it is closer, others will have to travel further. We will all need to learn new routes to and from school.

If you are walking: Aim to cross the main road by the Empson Street underpass. This will take you right up to the school entrance and is the best underpass to use. Before we move in there will be considerable improvement work undertaken on the underpass to improve the lighting and to connect CCTV to the central Tower Hamlets system. We have also secured funding for some of our students to be involved in an exciting art project, final installation of the commissioned design is underway and will significantly improve the look and feel of the underpass.

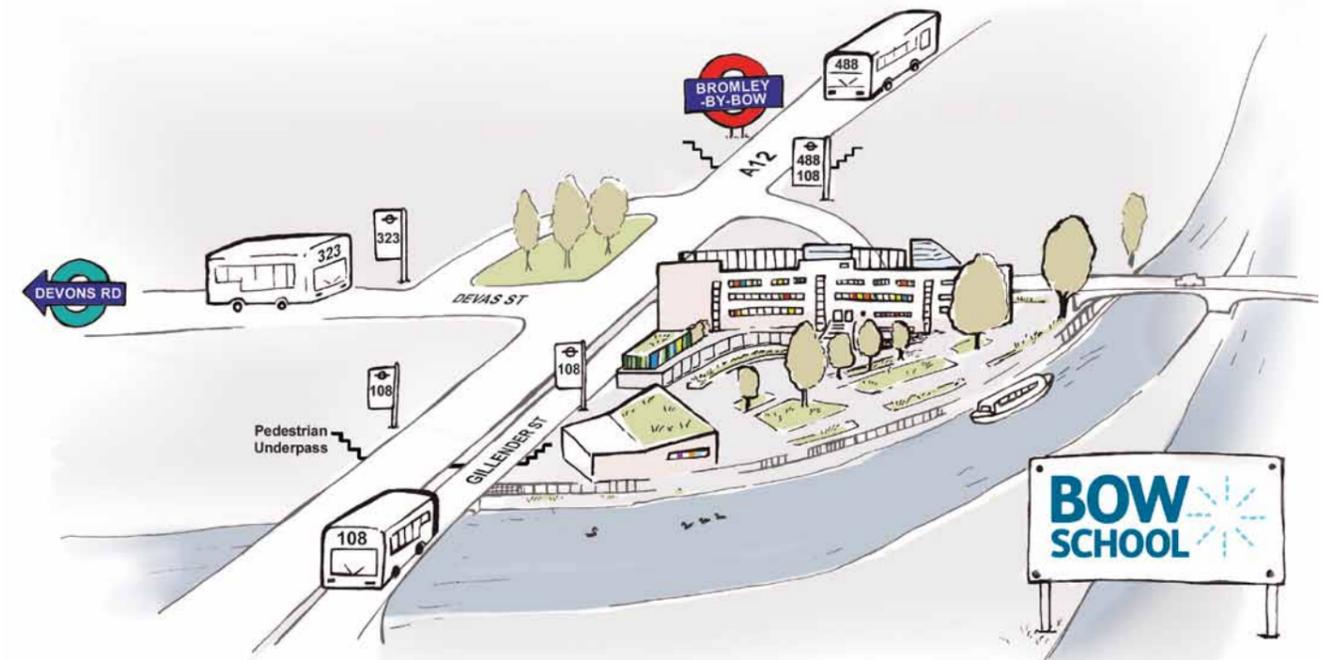
If you are cycling: Either come through the streets to use the Empson Street underpass in the same way as pedestrians (although please dismount as you use the underpass), or you could cycle along the canal and come off at the Limehouse cut point at the southern end of the school site. We will have over 100 cycle parking spaces so there will be no problem in parking your bike on site.

If you are using the bus: The school is well served by a number of bus routes. These are detailed on the map.

If you are using the DLR: Devons Road DLR station is very close and you can walk along Devons Road and Devas Street to cross the road at the Empson Street underpass.

If you are using the tube: Bromley-by-Bow station is very close. Come out of the station and use the underpass to cross the main road. Walk along the main road on the pavement and cross to the school at Twelvetrees Crescent. By the time we move in to the school there will be new pedestrian crossing lights on Twelvetrees Crescent to make this road a safe one to cross

When we move in our new address will be: Bow School, 44 Twelvetrees Crescent, London E3 3QW



The move to new accommodation means that we can finally open a Sixth Form and allow our students to complete their years of compulsory education in familiar circumstances with staff that they know. Starting in September 2014 we will begin the development of post-16 education at Bow School. We are working closely with other local schools to make sure that we are fully prepared, that the teachers are fully trained and that the courses we offer are ones for which there is a local demand. As we are a part of Sixth Form East, we have close ties to St Paul's Way Trust, Langdon Park and Stepney Green schools.

Our sixth formers will be an integral part of school life; their lessons and study spaces will be within the main school building and they will be encouraged to support younger students through peer mentoring and other such roles.

Our emphasis, at sixth form level, will be firmly on preparing our young people for their next steps whether these are to further their education at university, take



on an apprenticeship placement or move straight into employment. Working closely with our many partners we will ensure that internships and work placements are provided for all students. Our sixth formers will visit universities and businesses throughout their time with us and all students will have an external mentor to support them in developing into young adults ready for the challenges of the adult world.

Within the design of the new building we have been able to create dedicated spaces for our Sixth Form students to study and relax. They will be able to use the main visitor entrance to the school and will even have their own toilets!

Our plans for the sixth form are developing all of the time. We will keep parents and students updated through the sixth form section of our website.



BOW
SCHOOL

SPRING MAGAZINE 2014

Outlining key changes for the move
Looking forward to our exciting future
Getting to the new school building