

The B.I.G.S.

Bulletin



Today a Reader
Tomorrow a Leader

July 2017

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RH

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WORDALICIOUS

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

I am delighted to say that we have arrived safely at the end of our rather short half term, following lots of exciting events and activities in our school.

We have recently bid farewell to our Year 11 students at our annual Awards and Graduation Ceremony held at Royale Suite, The Banqueting Palace. I pray for their success in this life and the hereafter. I would like to particularly express gratitude to all those parents and members of the community who joined us and supported us for the event.

I would also like to thank all those pupils and parents who contributed to our fundraising event, we raised in excess of £1800. The food was delicious, especially the BBQ! The money raised from the fundraiser will be used for the painting of the interior building and any money left will go towards the science room facilities and equipment.

With the Hajj period and Eid al-Adha taking place in the holidays, I wish all those travelling for Hajj a safe journey. May Allah SWT accept all their worship and Hajj.

Those that are spending their time here, I wish you blessings throughout the special days and a blessed Eid al-Adha. May Allah SWT accept all our worship and Udhiyyah (sacrifices). Ameen.

R Mogra (Head teacher)

DHUL HIJJAH 1438^h

The Month of Dhul Hijjah will occur in August this year. It is the last month of the Islamic calendar. It means 'the month of Hajj', as the great annual worship of 'Hajj' is performed in this month.

The first 10 days of the month of Dhul Hijjah are among the most significant days in the Islamic year. The Holy Prophet, peace be upon him, has said: **"One fast during these days is equal to the fasting of one complete year, and the worship of one night during this period is equal to the worship of Laylatul Qadr."**

Every Muslim should take full advantage of this wonderful opportunity by offering as much 'Ibaadah (worship) to Allah as he or she can in this month.

The 9th of Dhul Hijjah is called 'Yawm al-Arafah' (The day of Arafah). This is the date when the Hajj pilgrims assemble on the plain of Arafat, where they perform

the 'Wuqoof of Arafat' (the stay in Arafat).

For those not performing Hajj, it is Mustahab (desirable) to fast on this day. It is also a means of forgiveness of sins. The Prophet, peace be upon him, said: **"Fasting on the day of `Arafah expiates the sins of two years: the past one and the coming one."** (Muslim)

From Fajr on the 9th of Dhul Hijjah until Asr on the 13th, it is compulsory for Muslim males and desirable for females to recite the *Takbir of Tashreeq* after every Fardh Salah. Males should recite it in a loud voice and females should recite it quietly. The words are:

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ . اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ . لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ .
اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

(Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest,

There is no God except Allah and Allah is the greatest, Allah is the Greatest and to Him belongs all praise).

fabulous 10 TIPS to get ORGANISED

1 Wake Up for Fajr



- fulfil this major religious obligation
- gain extra time in the morning so you can accomplish more

2 Manage Your Time



- break larger tasks into smaller steps
- set deadlines for each task
- divide it into time blocks

3 De-Clutter Surroundings



- seeing a mess
- there is work to be done
- pre-occupation of your mind

4 Prioritise Work



- maintain checklists in order of importance

6 Designate Days



eg.

Monday	clean room
Tuesday	wash clothes
Wednesday	do groceries
Thursday	maintain car
Friday	work on finances
Saturday	write articles

7 Centralize Schedules



- Keep all of your schedules appointments lists in one place

8 Designate Areas



- Have specific shelves, containers, drawers & trays for items of daily use

5 Take Prompt Action



- The more you pile up work, the more cluttered your mind will become

9 Avoid Time Killers



- Limiting technology use can really leave us with ample time to be used for constructive activities

10 Track Progress



- Informs you what needs to be done in order to improve even more

This doodle is brought to you by **PRODUCTIVE MUSLIM** the no. 1 productivity platform for Muslims worldwide.
 doodled by @neesh fb.com/aneesahsatriya



Never Miss Fajr (Mpyre Software Inc.)

- ✓ Free app
- ✓ Available on Play Store: <https://tinyurl.com/ydy8eqej>
- ✓ Available on iTunes: <https://tinyurl.com/ybvkuksq>

You have every intention of waking up for Fajr, but you turn off your alarm mistakenly whilst half asleep. Next thing you know, the Sun is out... Sound familiar? The idea behind the app is simple: to wake you up for Fajr by being as annoying as possible!

It's just like a regular adhan alarm clock with one big exception: it annoys you until you actually wake up. Until you do what it asks, the adhan will keep on playing in a loop and your phone will vibrate incessantly!

There are two options to wake yourself up with: **1.** Answer 5 Islam-related questions correctly before the adhan shuts off. **2.** Shake your phone 20 times before the adhan shuts off.

Insha Allah, by the end of either of these two activities you will be awake enough to get out of bed to pray!



[Google Play](#)



[Apple iTunes](#)



Imagine an uneducated orphan child with a mother who is struggling to make ends meet. She really wants to send him to pursue knowledge, but with no access to education nearby, she makes the ultimate sacrifice – sending her child to a faraway place where he knows nobody.

Just imagine how much love this person would have had to leave everything, and travel to an unfamiliar place in order to seek knowledge.

Bāyazīd Baṣṭāmī RH was an eminent scholar of his time. He faced so much hardship just to learn Islamic knowledge and be the light of his mother’s eyes!

Despite his young age, his mother sent him to a distant place to learn under great scholars, and she told his teacher, ‘Don’t let my son come home until he has learnt everything he needs to know about Islam.’

Bāyazīd RH stayed there for many years without returning home even once.

After a long period of time, the pain of separation became unbearable and he yearned to see his beloved mother. His teacher wouldn’t allow him because of the promise made to his mother, but after insistence from Bāyazīd RH, he agreed on the condition that he learn one month’s work in a day.

Although his teacher’s request seemed impossible, he sat down and made du’ā to Allah and cried to him. The next day he went to the teacher and read all the work without a single mistake!

With so much happiness he travelled all the way back to his homeland just to visit his mother. He reached his house, knocked on the door and called out, ‘O my Mother! Open the door, your son is here!’

From inside the house he received a reply, ‘You are not my son. My son is learning Islamic knowledge, and he will only return after he has finished learning it all.’

He begged his mum to let him enter the house, but she refused. Imagine the sadness he must have felt, imagine with what hardship the mother refused to see her son, just to teach him the value of ‘ilm and the sacrifices needed to attain it.

This is the reality of the scholars of yesteryear; their desire for knowledge was such that they didn’t see their families for long periods of time. Their value for knowledge was incomparable, which is why Allah granted them such a great status, not just in this world, but in the hereafter also. Even today, we don’t really need to look far to find such inspiring role models.

The Messenger of Allah SAW is narrated to have said, ‘When Allah wishes good for someone, He bestows upon him the understanding of dīn.’ This hadīth shows the virtue of seeking and acquiring Islamic knowledge, and how Allah only allows certain chosen people to have a true insight regarding our religion.

Our dīn is holistic and covers pretty much all aspects of our life, therefore we should strive to seek knowledge and put it into practice. Knowledge without practice is like a tree without fruit; just as a tree without fruit is completely useless and gives no benefit to those around it, knowledge without practising upon it, or spreading it, is just as futile.

May Allah grant us true zeal for knowledge, and allow us to implement what we learn. Āmīn.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July	October
21 Summer Break Begins	21-29 Term Break
24-25 Teacher Training	December
September	23 Winter Break Begins
4-5 Teacher Training	
6 School re-opens for Years 8-11	
7 First day for Year 7s	

Changes to student contact details

We request all parents to inform the School Office of any changes in contact details or address immediately. A contact details update form will be sent out in September 2017, please complete and return it to the school promptly. Jazakumullah Khayran for your co-operation.

BIG News

03/04/17 - Autism Awareness Week

The Year 9 students delivered an assembly on Autism for 'World Autism Awareness Week 2017'.



26/04/17 - Karma Nirvana

The Year 9 and 10 students had a meeting with a representative from Karma Nirvana, a British human rights charity supporting victims of honour abuse, disownment and forced marriage.

04/05/17 - Breakfast Treat

The Year 11 students were treated to a delicious breakfast before the start of their GCSE examinations.



19/05/17 - Interfaith Games

A team of Year 7 and 8 students joined the annual Interfaith Games football league hosted by AMS UK, the Association of Muslim Schools, at the Goals Soccer Centre in Coventry.

23/05/17 - Ramadhan Assembly

The Year 7 students delivered an assembly on Ramadhan.



24/05/17 - Drayton Manor School Trip

This year, all the students were treated to an end of year trip to Drayton Manor theme park.



15/06/17 - Maths Fun Day

The Year 9 students organised a Maths workshop involving a range of activities. Each year group was able to spend time exploring various puzzles and games related to Maths.

29/06/17 - Eid al-Fitr Party

All the students and staff were treated to a variety of delicious food after the completion of Ramadhan.



BIGS FAMILY FUN DAY 2017



08/07/17

The family fun day at BIGS this year was a huge success. This was the first ever fun day to take place on such a grand scale. We had a variety of stalls selling different things such as: toys, clothes, cosmetics, food, cakes, slush, milkshakes, candy floss, etc. We also had an auction, a henna stall, bouncy castle, tuck shop, face-painting and art & crafts. The BBQ was a sell-out, thus we would like to thank all the male parents and volunteers who helped with the BBQ stall. Also, a big 'thank you' to all the mothers, current pupils, ex pupils and volunteers from our community for helping out and making this event a huge success. May Allah reward you all with goodness! By the grace of Allah, we managed to raise over £1800 which will be spent on renovating and improving the school. May Allah accept our humble efforts and make the school a beacon of light for the Ummah. Ameen.



Graduation & Awards Ceremony



14/07/17

This year, our students had their graduation and awards ceremony at Royale Suite, The Banqueting Palace. Alhamdulillah, the event went really well and the performances were admirable. Our students performed Qiraa'ah, nasheeds and speeches, and awards were also given to all the pupils who had excellent attainment, effort, behaviour, etc. throughout the school year. The food was also delicious and the venue was glorious.

Menu

STARTERS
FRIED FISH, CHICKEN NIBLETS & CHICKEN 65

MAINS
LAMB BIRYANI, CHICKEN JALFREZI & VEGETABLE CURRY

DESSERTS
SOJI HALWA & ICE CREAM



The graduation this year showed us how much we were appreciated for being part of the school. It allowed the year 11s to come together one last time as a class and be sent off in a way we will cherish forever.
Aleema Farooq (Year 11)

We wish you all the best in any path you choose to follow. May Allah SWT guide you all to the straight path and bless you with success in this life and the hereafter. Ameen. Aim high, be the best you can be, stay safe and be good.
Ms Nasima (Year 11 form tutor)

SPORTS DAY

18/07/17

This year, each class competed in a number of games for sports day. The house group that came 1st and won the most matches in each game is mentioned in the table below. Overall, well done to Mina who won the most games this year!

	MOST WINS
100m Sprint	Mina
200m Sprint	Marwa & Arafah
100m Sprint (whole class)	Mina & Arafah
3 Legged Race	Mina & Marwa
Wheel Barrow Race	Mina
Roll Ball Inside Hoop	Mina
Balancing Beanbag Race	Safa
Multi-course - Run, Hop, jump, Skip	Safa
Potato And Spoon Race	Marwa & Mina
Skipping	Safa
Tennis Ball Between Legs	Marwa
TOTAL	1ST Mina = 6 wins 2ND Marwa = 4 wins 3RD Safa = 3 wins 4TH Arafah = 2 wins



Fun Fact

The placement of a donkey's eyes in its head enables it to see all four feet at all times!

Candid Moments

Ms Anisa



We are sad to hear that you are leaving. Would you ever come back to BIGS, and why?

I have had the honour and blessing to study at BIGS and to teach here too. It has been a whole new experience which has had a positive effect on me personally.

To actually teach in the same place you studied is amazing. I didn't ever in a million years imagine coming back here as a teacher. Since the day I started until now, I have seen myself develop, and yet there is still so much to learn. The teachers here have also been a great means of support. So yes, Insha Allah in the future, I would like to come back.

Has your stay here inspired you in any way?

Yes, a lot. Teaching is one of the most challenging, underrated, and yet often deeply rewarding professions you can go in to.

What is one thing you learnt from a student?

One thing I've learnt from a student is to give them an ear. Students will surprise you with content and knowledge beyond yours - based on their interests and experiences.

Listen to what they have to say.

Hearing and paying attention to students matters. It is a way for teachers to deepen their practice, recharge themselves, and negotiate the complexity of teaching and learning. It's a wonderful experience.

What was your favourite kitāb in your studying days?

Quran Tarjuma, i.e. translation of the Qur'an with explanation. The book of Allah; we see it everywhere and read it everyday but how much do we know about it? How many of us know what Allah is telling us? To be able to study and listen to the pearls and gems of the Quran is amazing; it is an endless ocean. It brings peace and contentment to the heart, such an attached connection to Allah, and it also brings you closer to him. And that feeling is beyond words can explain.

Funniest moment in student days?

My funniest moment was towards the end of Year 11. We had to perform a speech in front of the whole school about the

things which were most memorable to us and the things we did.

So I admitted to the fact that in Year 7, I had pressed the fire alarm with my science book, which by the way was an accident. Everyone just burst out laughing, which made me laugh too.

Biggest lesson learnt from your teachers?

Respect.

There's a quote by Richard Howard: 'Give your teachers the respect they deserve because they are the ones who can help you get where you need to go.'

Now that quote speaks for itself. Respecting teachers is such a vital thing; your whole life ahead of you is because of your teachers. Your success lies with them.

Which new place would you like to visit most in your life?

I would love to visit the Maldives. It is a place where you can forget about everything. It has breath-taking views and you're able to enjoy the genuine beauty of nature and all of Allah's blessings and creation. It's a wonderful place, scattered in the Indian ocean, surrounded by a turquoise, crystal sea glimmering under the golden sun. This visit is a must Insha Allah.

Any advice for the students and for those leaving this year?

Hmm. Well, the best advice I can give is know what you want to do and why you want to do it, and then just do it. Don't waste your life doing the wrong thing for the wrong reason. Have a correct intention for everything you do.

As for those who are leaving, know that you will be students for the rest of your lives; not just in school, college or university etc., you will be learning new things every single day. The purpose of learning is growth and our minds will continue to grow as we continue to live.

Lastly, your time. Take every moment seriously. It is too precious to even waste, because time waits for no one. Make each day count and worthwhile. The goal is to be better today than yesterday with a plan to become even better tomorrow.

WE ARE HONOURED TO ANNOUNCE THE AWARD WINNERS AT BIGS THIS YEAR

ROLE MODEL OF THE YEAR - *Fakhrunnessa Qasmi (Year 9)*

STAR STUDENT OF THE YEAR - *Saleha Khan (Year 10)*

100% ATTENDANCE - *Faizah Akhtar (Year 7) & Sara Al-Katheri (Year 9)*

OVERALL BEST ATTAINMENT - *Fakhrunnessa Qasmi (Year 9)*

OVERALL BEST PROGRESS - *Aliza Tariq (Year 9)*

OVERALL BEST MANNERS AND ETIQUETTE - *Ruqayya Mansoor (Year 11)*

time out

Answers to last issue's Time Out.
 Say What You See: standing in line, all around the world | Riddles: cold/flu, fence, nose, thumb | Guess Who: Usaid ibn Hudair RA

ha
 ha
 ha

IBRAHIM IBN AL-HASAN IBN SAHAL NARRATES THAT THEY PROCEEDED IN THE CONVOY OF MA'MOON. ABU DALF BEGAN TO SLACKEN BEHIND BECAUSE HE WAS WALKING AND OTHERS WERE RIDING.

AFTER A WHILE, MA'MUN ASKED HIM, 'WHY ARE YOU WALKING SO SLOWLY?'

'I AM ILL,' ABU DALF REPLIED. 'MAY ALLAH CURE YOU AND GRANT YOU GOOD HEALTH!' MA'MUN EXCLAIMED, 'HERE, RIDE ON THIS ANIMAL.'

IN A FLASH, ABU DALF LEAPED ONTO THE ANIMAL. 'SUCH A LEAP IS NOT INDICATIVE OF ONE WHO CLAIMS TO BE ILL!' MA'MOON REMARKED.

'I HAVE BEEN CURED BY YOUR DU'A, AMIRUL MU'MINEEN!' QUIPPED ABU DALF.

SAY WHAT YOU SEE



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WORDALICIOUS!

Onychopagy - the habit of biting one's fingernails

Pyknic - short and fat

Saprostomous - having bad breath

Wanweird - an unhappy fate

GUESS WHO?

Which Sahabi RA is the only companion who is mentioned in the Qur'an by name?

(Hint: It's *not* one of the 4 Khalifahs)

TABLECLOTHS WERE ORIGINALLY MEANT TO BE SERVED AS TOWELS WITH WHICH DINNER GUESTS COULD WIPE THEIR HANDS AND FACES AFTER EATING!



SUDOKU

Every Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically. Enter numbers into the blank spaces so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

	4	7						
1		2	5		4	9	7	8
9		8		7	2			
				1		6		4
	8		6		7		2	
5		6		2				
			7	4		8		6
6	7	4	3		9	1		2
						3	4	

RIDDLES

- If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you haven't got me. What am I?
- What has loads of roads but no cars, has cities but no people, has streets but no pedestrians?
- What has one eye but cannot see?
- What is always coming but never arrives?
- What invention lets you look right through a wall?

