

## Newsletter Autumn

Issue No.7



# PRESTON MUSLIM GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

Education with Patience Modesty Gratitude Humility Sincerity

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## PMGHS – Top 10 School!

PMGHS is one of the best schools in the country!

The government have published their Interim Performance Tables **'Progress 8' Score of 1.23 – one of the highest value-added scores in the country**

We are currently ranked tenth out of more than 6,500 schools and colleges, including academies and selective schools in England.

Pupils and staff at Preston Muslim Girls High School are celebrating the publication of the government's own league tables, which sees them as one of the highest performing schools in the country.

The government have introduced a 'Progress 8' score, which looks at the progress that pupils have made since arriving in high school. This gives an accurate measure of the value that a school has added to its pupils during their time there.

Headteacher, Mufti Javid said, 'This year sees us breaking into the Top 10 Schools listings for the first time. I am delighted that the school has been able to maintain and even improve upon the exceptionally high standards which we have set ourselves for a number of years. This is a tribute to the superb work ethic at our school; to our dedicated pupils and to our outstanding team of highly motivated staff'.



Full Details of the term dates for the academic year 2019/2020 can be found on the school website

# Headteacher's Welcome



Assalamu alaikum

I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable half term, and in this first edition of the newsletter this year I would like to share some of the exciting activities that have taken place in school.

A special welcome to the parents of all 104 pupils who are new to Preston Muslim Girls High School. As parents of the girls in years 8-11 will confirm, the first year of high school will go extremely quickly and before you realise it your daughters will have already completed their first year at PMGHS.

Our new Year 7s have now happily settled into school life and familiarised themselves with their new classrooms, new teachers and our daily routines. Here at Preston Muslim Girls High School, we pride ourselves on delivering a friendly and supportive environment. All parents can be rest assured that we will do our utmost to ensure every girl is made to feel safe, makes academic and social and spiritual progress and is known by name to all staff. We want our girls to experience the joy of success in and out of the classroom and to enjoy and achieve in equal measures.

As well as the 103 new pupils I would like to welcome the new staff who have joined us this term:

Mrs Y Rehmani (Computer Science)

Miss A Adam-Gavar (English)

Miss Z Raza (Maths)

Miss M Naeem (Science)

Mrs H Pugsley (Geography)

Ms C Etheridge (SEN Support)

Welcome to all!

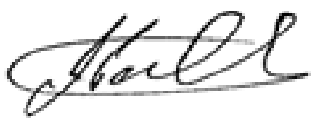
# Open Day

Well done! A Beautiful School! Masha' A'

This was just one of the many pieces of wonderful feedback we had from our prospective parents at our Open Day.

We were delighted to welcome hundreds of visitors to the school for our Open Day. What a fantastic day it was! There were activities and events in all of the classrooms and information and support available for parents making that difficult decision about which high school to choose for their daughter. There are more photos from the day on our Twitter account. Our visitors were particularly impressed by our prefects and our Student Ambassadors who led tours and spoke with parents in the different subject rooms. Well done to them!

I will leave the final word to one of our visitors. When asked, 'What did you enjoy most?' she wrote: ***"The warmth, the environment, the values of the school, the family-feel and support network and the students who are a testament to everything that you do"***. I couldn't have put it better myself!



Mufti Javid



# Open Day

The school was a sight to see with all of the creative subjects buzzing with interesting activities. The Science department performed spectacular interactive experiments, such as viewing onion cells under a microscope and gruesome heart, eye and lung dissections. Just watching the jaw-dropped faces of the young girls and their mums and dads in awe was fan-

tastic. The Food Preparation and Nutrition kitchen had mouth-watering foods set out to demonstrate the different types of Sunnah foods and our Year 6 pupils had a chance to decorate a cupcake to take away.

The Art and DT department had a range of exceptional work displayed to show off the talents of our pupils and a chance for the girls to design their own book marks, weave bracelets and engrave their own pencils using a laser cutter. The canteen staff had prepared delicious food for all of our visitors.



# Open Day

There were also a whole lot of events that took place in the QIM building, such as the cafés for Arabic and French who served delicious cultural foods from all over the world from Arabic sweets to French breads and cheeses.

The English Department performed an exciting and thrilling version of Edgar Allan Poe's 'The Raven' Gothic poetry. Many departments had games that parents and potential pupils could get involved in such as 'What's in the box?', descriptive writing games, Urdu and French word and picture matching games etc. Other events, such as the Geography Rainforest Virtual Reality Experience, learning British Sign Language and learning Braille, were all a great hit with the Year 6 pupils.



## 2019 GCSE Results

### Key Stage 4 Results 2019

Qualification Name	9 – 4 %	9 – 7 %
Arabic	82.1	28.6
Art & Design	100	46.2
Biology	100	57.1
Business Studies	80.0	24.0
Chemistry	100	75.0
Combined Science	91.1	11.6
Computer Science	92.3	53.8
English Language	98.8	32.1
English Literature	98.7	55.7
Food Preparation & Nutrition	100	90.0
French	33.3	9.5
Geography	72.7	31.8
History	95.0	65.0
Mathematics	82.1	22.6
Physical Education	100	10.0
Physics	100	75.0
Religious Studies	97.6	77.4
Urdu	95.5	54.5

### How do we compare nationally?

Qualification Name	PMGHS % Achieved 9-4 (2019)	National % Achieved 9-4 (2019)
Art & Design	100	75.3
Biology	100	89.7
Business Studies	80.0	65.8
Chemistry	100	90.1
Computer Science	92.3	62.7
English Language	98.8	62.0
English Literature	98.7	73.7
Food Preparation & Nutrition	100	65.1
History	95.0	64.3
Mathematics	82.1	59.6
Physical Education	100	72.4
Physics	100	90.9
Religious Studies	97.6	72.4

Over 180 grades 8 and 9 achieved!

Once again, the school has maintained its very high standards with 100% pass rate in many subjects and some outstanding results for individual pupils. This year saw two students not only receiving grade 9s in their subjects but achieving 100% in their Urdu and English Literature exams. Not dropping a single mark across a series of GCSE papers is quite remarkable. There will be only a handful of students across the whole country who could match this achievement. Well done to them!

The new school measures seek to recognise the progress that pupils make during their time at school, not just their final results. Last year Preston Muslim Girls High School was recognised as having the highest progress scores in Lancashire, placing us 11<sup>th</sup> in the whole country. The focus upon progress at the school continues with some students making more than three grades better progress than expected. Well done to Muaziz Bibi, Sonia Shah, Husnaa Patel and Amina Patel who top the school's list for those who have made the most progress during their time at school and who have all achieved in excess of three grades higher than expected.



Year 9's experienced a special careers day with Northern Rail. The day started at Preston Station where they were given a tour by Nicky Turnbull, the HR Advisor, and then the journey began by boarding the Northern Rail train to Manchester Piccadilly. During their journey on the train, pupils took part in a discussion on different job roles and career paths and even took the Northern Rail quiz.

At Manchester Piccadilly, they were met by the HR staff from Northern Rail who talked about all the different job opportunities within the company. Pupils were overwhelmed with the many job prospects and apprenticeships Northern Rail have to offer.

The next stop was the Northern Rail Newton Heath Engineering depot where the pupils enjoyed a tour and were told about the different job roles within the depot.

"It was great fun. We saw how trains were made and what engineering apprentices did".

"We loved it and thoroughly enjoyed this wonderful experience" - Amena Patel 9P



# Code Like a Girl

## What is Code Like a Girl? By Aaliah Mohamed 10P

Over 1000 girls from across 26 countries were provided with free coding training by Vodafone in August. Targeted at 14-18 year olds, the workshop provided basic knowledge of well known programming languages, such as HTML, CSS, GitHub and JavaScript. By the end of the week, students took part in a competition to create the best website.



Asma Kalhoro, Halima Mir, Juwairryah Malik, Kulthoom Piperdi and Rafi'ah Nadeem and I applied for this workshop, and by the grace of the Almighty we got in!

### Location

The event took place in MediaCity, Manchester. The building itself is called "The Landing" which contained 19 floors. We were located on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor. It held a café as well as many meeting rooms. We received a tour of the building. The purpose of The Landing is to host small businesses and to accommodate future technology such as 3D printing, Virtual Reality and more! The building also included the BBC offices. It was very exciting.

### What Did We Do?

As soon as we arrived, we were given a gift bag of Vodafone branded goodies including earphones, sweets and a pop socket. We were then provided a laptop each, and day by day we gradually learnt about the separate programming languages, and how to merge them into one website. HTML is used for the BASE of the website. CSS is for DESIGN and JavaScript is to create INTERACTIVITY.

# Code Like a Girl

## Minute To Win It

As well as coding, we also took part in Minute to Win it challenges. This gave us a chance to build our teamwork and confidence as well as to enjoy ourselves with fun and interactive games.

In our table groups of 7-8, these challenges included: This Blows, Movin' On up, Separation Anxiety and Stack Attack.

Whichever team earned the highest amount of points by Friday, won a Vodafone branded power bank!

My team (which included Juwairryah and Asma) came second twice and first twice, and so we drew with another team with the exact same points! We then had to take part in a tiebreaker, and so we chose Separation Anxiety, and luckily we finished first!

## Presentations

On the final day, we all presented our websites in front of everyone, including our teachers and two extra judges. Some ideas for the other websites were food blogging, robotics and one group even made a website dedicated to Madagascar (movie) fans!

Asma, Juwairryah and I created a website based on a newly made "Preston Zoo" which featured our instagram and facebook page as well as a carousel featuring all our wonderful animals! Halima and Kulthoom created a website with various baking recipes specially designed for vegans. They were able to create 3 fully functioning pages. Their website was called "Veggie Steady Bake!". Rafi'ah worked with two others to create another food related website. Her website was called "Food Gallery".

A lot of code was needed to create the website, and of course there were problems now and then regarding the code. However, we persevered and tried our best, and that's what counts! :D

## Conclusion

Even if you aren't interested in coding, I would highly recommend applying for the next placements for Code Like a Girl. This is because it provides the basics of coding and, if you DO enjoy it, allows you to open a whole new career in technology.

Yes, it can be tricky, tiring and exhausting at times but I think this has improved my skills and my confidence in new situations.!



**CODE  
LIKE A  
GIRL**

# STEM Roadshow



BAE Systems recently came to school to deliver a fantastic Stem Roadshow for our KS3 pupils. We are inspiring our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils to think about a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths. The Roadshow focused on Communications and Data – “Are we connected?”. The content is closely aligned to that outlined in the Naace document – Computing in the National Curriculum, and covered areas such as how mobile phones connect people around the world, how computers talk to each other and how we talk to our devices e.g. via Bluetooth.

Our pupils were introduced to the real life applications of some of the most recent communication technologies within BAE Systems, the RAF and the Royal Navy, and participated in some of the demonstrations and problem-solving games as part of the show.

Thank you to the staff from **BAE Systems**, **Royal Airforce** and **Royal Navy** for making this experience very engaging and fun for our pupils.



# Spirituality



We have had a very busy and productive start to the new academic year!

## **Shura and Council Representatives**

We held Council and Shura elections during form time in September. Keen and willing members put themselves forward and the elections went very smoothly. The Shura and Council Representatives will be meeting in week 4 of every term to discuss pertinent issues and will raise them with the staff and governors. Our Reps led a School Assembly, introducing themselves and their leadership roles. Do encourage your daughter to contact their Reps with any issue that they would like some help or support with.

## **Hadeeth and Sunnah of the week**

We are continuing with our weekly Hadeeth and Sunnah which is printed and displayed in each form room. This half term we have introduced specific lessons derived from the weekly Hadeeth and Sunnah and discussions are based around them in Monday form times. The pupils and the staff have a weekly spirituality goal they must achieve.

## **Halaqahs and Assemblies**

Halaqahs are prepared on a weekly basis that explore different spirituality theme. The Halaqah Prefects meet with the Spirituality Coordinator every Tuesday to go through the PowerPoints to enable them to support the form tutors. Halaqa Prefects are attached to forms to oversee the delivery of spirituality.

We also have regular assemblies which either explore some aspect of spirituality, or we have assemblies led by the Shura and Council Reps, or by guest speakers giving updates on our charity work or launching charities. Recently, the girls had a motivational presentation on the importance and benefits of supporting an orphan.

## **Open Day**

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October was yet another very successful and busy Open Day. We had a display in the Prayer Room of the various spirituality activities that we carry out throughout the year. The Prayer Room was very well attended, and prospective parents were very pleased to see the Tarbiyah Programme that is part of our daily school schedule.

## **HAVE YOUR SAY!**

We hope you enjoy reading our school newsletter and find the information useful. We value the opinion of all our readers and are constantly looking for ways to improve our service to you. Please tell us what you would like to see included in future newsletters. If you wish to celebrate and share your daughter's success and achievements which have taken place out of school, please email us on: [info@pmghs.com](mailto:info@pmghs.com)

# Spirituality



## Student Shura

## Student Council

## Student Shura and Student Council

Form	Name
7P	Sana Patel
7M	Maariyah Patel
7G	Shakira Patel
7H	Maryam Gurjee
8P	Alisha Hussain
8M	Rumaysa Ibraheem
8G	Suhana Mulla
8H	Aaliyah Mohtat
9P	Faatima Maajid Patel
9M	Umainah Ibrahim
9G	Maariah Asmal
9H	Maryam Isap
10P	Aniesha Giash
10M	Hannah Shabbir
10G	Aliyah Badat
10H	Faaizah Hanslod
11P	Fatima Kantharia
11M	Hadia Nawaz
11G	Khadijah Jiwa
11H	Sameena Isap

Form	Name
7P	Zoya Aslam
7M	Thanaa Nomani
7G	Zaina Nakhuda
7H	Sadiyah Shaikh
8P	Bushra Alhamdy
8M	Thanna Asmal
8G	Amaani Sola
8H	Aliya Jogiat
9P	Aisha Bargit
9M	Rukaiya Angraj
9G	Ayesha Aslam
9H	Rummanah Laly
10P	Maariyah Rashid
10M	Humairah Musa
10G	Sadia Ahmed
10H	Ayesha Mukhtar Khan
11P	Juwairiyah Bapu
11M	Yumna Patel
11G	Rafi'ah Nadeem
11H	Aleesha Nadeem

Pupils are given many opportunities to develop themselves and learn about the world during their time at school. The Student council and the Student Shura is one such opportunity given to pupils to learn the skills of leadership during high school. Leadership skills help pupils in many ways and are essential for them to deal with their peers during their academic years and in their practical lives as well.

This leadership position allows them to develop team building which helps with ability and confidence building.

Many pupils in leading positions know that their actions and decisions can make a difference. This inspires them to be more proactive and alters their attitude towards their work and their life. They are dedicated to bringing change and working passionately to make a difference in the world and in the lives of others. This dedication and their determination to make a difference stays with them throughout their lives pushing them forward and helping them to change the world through their actions.



# Fundraising



## Al-Imdaad Orphan Sponsorship Programme

This first half term, our pupils have been busy raising money for their class orphan. This is the fourth year that we have raised money for this project. The monies are still being collected and are coming in fast.

We encourage each pupil to raise £12.00 to support this appeal. Thanks to your hard work we have been able to increase the number of orphans we support from 12 to 18. Well done to the whole school for working so hard on this fundraising!

PMGHS have taken the responsibility of bringing up these orphans who are entitled to basic rights relating to health, education, nutrition and protection. Pupils have been asked to think of fundraising activities to raise the total amount.

Our new Year 7s are delighted to receive a picture of their new orphan. At PMGHS we want to develop empathy and gratitude in our pupils and stretch out our hands to our brothers and sisters. There is still time to donate so please dig deep and give generously.

***“Myself and the caretaker of an orphan will be in Paradise like this,” and he held his two fingers together (Hadeeth, Sahih Bukhari)***

# Fundraising



The Holy Prophet (PBUH) throughout His life, helped the needy and always instructed His followers to take care of their necessities. He advised the entire Muslim Ummah to be kind and affectionate to those in need. On one occasion, the Holy Prophet said to His Wife, Hazrat A'isha (R.A):

***“O Aisha, love the poor and let them come to you and Allah will draw you near to Himself.” (Bukhari)***

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Macmillan is the UK's leading organisation that provides various forms of support for people living with cancer. People all over the UK host their own Coffee Mornings and we as PMGHS were a part of this good cause.

Your donation has helped to ensure the success of the event. The staff, students and parents were delighted by the items being sold and in return donated generously. We raised a smashing total of **£1,031.51**. We hope the money raised will help those affected by cancer.

We know that one in two of us will face cancer, and the money we raised at our Coffee Morning will hopefully help everyone with cancer to live life as fully as they can.



# Library News

## LIBRARIAN

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been appointed as Pupil Librarians for 2019/20:

Maleeha Ahmed	9G
Ayesha Aslam	9G
Fatima Lukman Patel	9G
Fatima Patel	9H
Sarah Patel	8G
Aamina Arif Musa	8G

These pupils will be working with Miss Packwood and Miss Smalley throughout the year to keep the library running in an orderly manner and they will have the opportunity to develop skills in IT, organisation and customer service.

At PMGHS encourage all our pupils to always carry a reading book with them in their school bag as this is part of the essential school equipment as detailed in the Pupil Planner on Page 16. We want every pupil to read every day because as well as being fun and fulfilling, reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status (OECD, 2002). Other benefits to reading for pleasure include: improved text comprehension and grammar, increased general knowledge, enhanced ability to concentrate, reduced stress and improved mental health.



### Scholastic Book Fair

Back in the summer term we held a Scholastic Book Fair in the school library which proved very popular with the girls. Following this, we have received a certificate from Scholastic to say that the book fair raised a fantastic £181.00 of free books for school. What a great success!



# Meet the Pupil

## Aaliyah Neki



### **Tell us a bit about yourself**

My name is Aaliyah Neki and I am in Year 7. I enjoy reading and doing creative work. I came to PMGHS from Sherwood Primary School and I have found it is very different to life at primary school.

### **Why did you choose to attend PMGHS?**

I chose to attend PMGHS due to the school's high standards and also because of all the good things I had heard about the school from a number of pupils. I also hope it will help me become a better Muslimah.

### **How have you settled in at PMGHS?**

I have settled in very well and know my way around the school. I have also made a great set of friends that I like to hang out with.

### **What do you like most about PMGHS and why?**

I like how the pupils are all so welcoming to everyone. I also enjoy doing new subjects which I didn't get to do when I was at primary school.

### **What is your favourite subject and why?**

My favourite subject is Art as I enjoy learning new things and improving my skills.

### **What would you like to do in the future?**

In the future I would like to pursue a career in either Dentistry or Law.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

01 November— Year 11 Liverpool University Trip  
05 November - Seerah of the Prophet— Enrichment Day  
15 November — Former Year 11 Awards Ceremony  
18 November— Year 7 Museum of Science and Industry  
11 December—UCLAN activity day  
19 December—Parent Forum  
20 December— Celebration Assembly

## Attendance Focus

### Attendance@PMGHS

School **attendance** matters!

PMGHS places high **importance** on regular school **attendance** by students.

Parents who make regular school **attendance** a priority are helping their children learn to accept responsibility and that is an **important** lesson for a successful life.

We encourage all our girls to attend school and to arrive on-time.

As we approach winter, please allow extra travel time to ensure that your daughter arrives at school on-time. In bad weather she should bring a coat preferably dark

## ParentMail

A gentle reminder to all new parents who have yet to register onto ParentMail.

**Please sign up now!**

If you require any assistance in the matter please contact the school office.

## Medical/Dental Appointments

Please try and avoid arranging medical/dental appointments during school hours. If necessary, please ensure your child attends school first and then leaves for the appointment. This will have minimum impact on your child's attendance. **Evidence** of appointment will be required when you come to pick her up

### **Polite Notice: Equipment**

A large number of parents are being inconvenienced by having to come into school and drop things off for their daughters. Please remind your daughters to bring in the necessary equipment they require for the day to avoid this happening.

**TIP** – Pack your bags the night before!