

# The EDONTIAN

Today's Readers, Tomorrow's Leaders

Read about  
Eden's Fun  
Activity Week

SUMMER  
EDITION  
#2

PLUS  
THORPE PARK  
EXCLUSIVE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE  
RAMADHAN & EID  
CATCH UP ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS AT EDEN.

## #LondonSummer15

Find out whats happening this summer in London

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the Editors  
Halimah &  
Suraiya

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Welcome to Issue 2 of our magazine, The Edonian! This summer themed issue offers a range of fun articles and activities, for all of you to enjoy. Inside this issue, you'll find everything from iftar recipes to Eid gift ideas, for the perfect end to your Ramadan. If you want to revisit the fun from Activities week, turn to pages 8-9. We also recommend you have a look at page 12-13 for some exciting Ramadan themed games and quizzes. We hope you enjoy our London summer magazine featuring all the latest events at Eden! We would like to thank all The Edonian team (Haadiyah Cassam, Ayesha Naz Abdul-Khaliq, Iqra Vahora, Zhou Moutabidde, Nabihah Arshad and Safiyah Ahmed) for all their efforts putting together this edition. They have given up many lunchtimes to meet the deadline. We wish you a great summer and Eid Mubarak!

## Get in touch



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Student  
Art  
Work



**TERM DATES AUTUMN 2015**

**Staff Inset Tuesday 1st September 2015**

**Re-open on Wednesday 2nd September 2015**

**'Eid ul Adha 1436 \* Wed 23rd and Thurs 24th September 2015**

**(Subject to moon sighting)**

**Mid Term Closure Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2015**

**Closure after school on Friday 18th December 2015**

**Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December 2015 - Friday 1st January**



# PRINCIPAL'S

Reflections on the term



All praises to the Almighty, Lord of the Worlds and the Master of our fortunes and salutations to our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the seal of the Prophets and the guide for all our actions.

'Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.'

Abraham Lincoln

## Ladies, Learners, Leaders.....

The purpose of Education is not only to be able to think both incisively and critically but to prepare all students to be emotionally intelligent thinkers who realise that our true character is realised through our good treatment of others. This is also a core belief and value that defines what it is to be a good muslim and especially in the month of Ramadhan whilst we fast to empathise with the daily trials of the poor, are able to give gratitude towards Allah for all that we have and give generously to those more needy than ourselves, we are putting into practise the tenants not only of our faith but the characteristics of good citizens. At Eden throughout the year not only have we seen fantastic students who have impeccable manners, thirsty learners who enjoy learning but also active leaders who have raised monies for charities throughout the year with a selfless passion that is characterised by a belief that we are a part of something greater than ourselves, a community and human kind that require us to give back for the greater good.

## Peace, Tolerance, Democracy, Respect

Edonians have worked incredibly hard this year in Humanities and PSHCEE to explore the different facets of Fundamental British Values that are universal values shared by all. From participating in Mock Elections to attending a conference about being a Positive British Muslim and for some, listening to a presentation from a representative of the Magna Carta Committee, exploration of War in History, our girls have grown in their knowledge and understanding of British History and the part they have to play in the community. Each week during registration, they have the opportunity to listen to the news and discuss current affairs so that that understanding of the world is enhanced through the study of major world religions, within an ethos that provides them with a secure understanding of their very own. In this way, not only are we constantly pushing the bar when it comes to Education but we are also developing well informed and well- rounded citizens who will shape tomorrow the society they will form, through their learning today.

## Looking forward to the New Year

This year has been an excellent start and now as we draw to an end, I hope you really enjoy the articles in the magazine that provide a flavour of the width and breadth of our girls' first school experience at Eden, a snapshot of what the girls have achieved this year. A new year is going to bring with it, fresh challenges and opportunities as we open our doors to 106 new students and an expanding staff team. We are at an exciting time again of the school's development as we expand the second floor in the building to have 6 new classrooms, works will be completed over the Summer Inshallah. As next year progresses, the building development will begin with great vigour as we prepare again for accommodation for the following year too. I would like to thank you all in advance for your continued support this year and next year as the school enters Phase Two of its development.

I hope you enjoy reading the articles written by our Newsletter Team and would like to thank you all for your support this year. On behalf of Eden staff I would like to wish you all a restful summer and Eid Mubarak. We look forward to meeting you all again on the first day back next year- **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015.**

Wasalam,

**Shahina Ahmad**  
Principal

**Have a great holiday Mrs. Ahmad.**

**See you in September!**

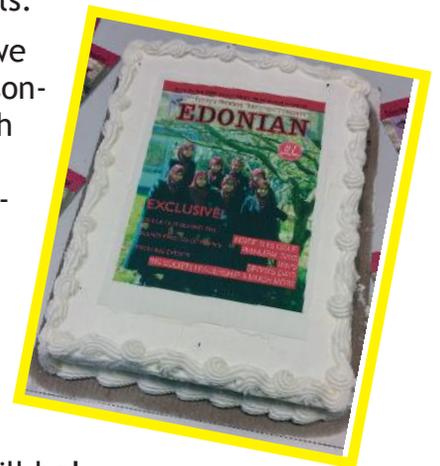
# EDONIAN LAUNCH DAY

The Edonian was launched on the 1st of May 2015



At last! On the 1st of May, we launched our very first ever issue of The Edonian! The team's hard work finally paid off, when we launched our magazine to you... our fellow pupils.

To celebrate, we received a personalised cake with an icing image proudly displaying the front cover of our magazine.



We can't wait to see how big of a success the next one will be!

A big thank you to the readers for their patience and support and The Edonian press team for helping to put the whole thing together! (Suraiya Husain 8A)

VE DAY



Every year, VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) is commemorated, and this year, on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of May, it was its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To honour this day, the school held a celebratory street party filled with food and fun. Unfortunately, because of the weather, it had to be held inside, but that didn't stop us from making the most of the day!

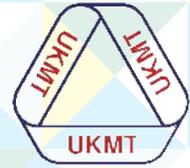
After our day's lessons and a short break outside, each class eagerly made their way up to the first floor and took in the site of six long tables lined with tablecloths and adorned with bright napkins and cups in the colours of the Union Jack! We took our seats and after short video on VE Day, we dug into the food: drinks, cakes, doughnuts, biscuits and sandwiches.

Everyone really enjoyed the day and it helped us to learn more about the war! (Halimah Choudhry 8A)



*I really loved the food and we got to learn about everyone's experiences. Overall, it was a fun day! Tasneem Bhayat 8B*

# UKMT CHALLENGE



On Tuesday 28th of April, Eden Girls held our first UK Junior Maths Challenge for 7.1 and 8.1. The JMC is an hour-long multiple-choice paper that encourages pupils to think and tests their problem-solving skills. It gave students the opportunity to compete against over 280,000 students in the UK. The papers were then sent back to the UKMT for marking and results. These included detailed school performance comparisons against the rest of the nation, which were then emailed back to the school within 4 weeks. This recognised the students' performance and the top 40% of students nationwide received either a gold, silver or bronze certificate.



The results are now in and we are pleased to report as follows:

Overall: 2 silver and 8 bronze awards

Silver: Halimah Choudhry and Marwah Arshad

Bronze: Faisa Abdulle, Yasmine El-Hamri, Leena Hussain, Suraiya Husain, Saalihah Ali, Rufaydah Asim, Zhou Moutabide and Afeefah Haffejee

Halimah Choudhry was our 'Silver Star' pupil who achieved a Silver award as well as Best in Year and Best in School!

Mrs Chikhlwala

(Director of Learning for Mathematics), was delighted to hear that her students did remarkably well in the challenge.

Here is what she had to say:

"The girls have done well in the Junior Maths Challenge this year, with 17%

of our students being awarded a certificate. This national contest is used by our school to challenge and develop our most able mathematicians. I am incredibly pleased with Halimah Choudhry and Marwah Arshad's performance as both qualified for a Silver Award. Nonetheless, I would like to congratulate all who took part." (Nabiah Arshad 8B)

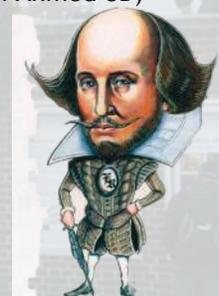
## Year 8 Visit The Globe

### After studying Shakespeare's Macbeth in English



On Wednesday 17th June, Year 8 went on an extraordinary trip, travelling to the heart and soul of William Shakespeare's world - The Globe. The students took the London Underground and walked for 10 minutes in order to get there, but all their travelling paid off in the end when they got to view actors practicing for an upcoming play AND work on their own performances!

With a professional helping out and guiding them along the way, there's no doubt that the trip was successful and budding performers had world class experiences and full of new things to learn and see for everyone! All in all, a GREAT day! (Safiyah Ahmed 8B)



**"It was an interesting experience and we got to learn so much about the environment Shakespeare wrote in." – Tasnim Bhayat 8B**

# Ramadan

## The month of mercy



The month of Ramadan is known to be the most precious and special month in the Islamic calendar- and not for nothing. Ramadan is the month in which the Quran was revealed; it is the month containing Lailatul Qadr (The Night of Power), a night wherein worship is rewarded to the equivalent of a 1000 months; and a month wherein a believer's compulsory actions are multiplied by 70 times to name a few.

### So, how should we make the most of this beautiful month?

#### 1) Manage your time

We are all aware of the very long hours of fasting this year, however life continues and so must we. School, work, madrassah etc. do not stop for this month so the best way to be productive is to manage your time. Create a timetable to slot in times of rest and times of prayer and try and stick to it. Why not try and use apps such as Ramadan Legacy to help keep you organised?

#### 2) Set yourself some goals

Be realistic but set yourself goals. As mentioned above, Ramadan is a month closely linked to the Quran so strive to recite more and consistently, remember: "The most beloved actions in the sight of Allah are those done regularly though they may be small" (Muslim)

Get involved in other good deeds too. Charity is always discussed, however even if you are not in the position to give charity in terms of money, give your time. Even helping a sibling with some homework is classed as a charitable action.

#### 3) Stay away from sin

"Prevention is always better than cure" is a proverb that holds great importance for a Muslim, especially in the month of Ramadan. If you are struggling with committing yourself to extra worship and good deeds, be steadfast on not committing sin. Bear in mind: "There may be people who fast and gain nothing from their fast except hunger" (Ibn Majah)

#### 4) Supplicate to Allah (Make dua)

Possibly the simplest form of worship but one so easily overlooked. Once you stop to think of it, it doesn't even make sense why we overlook it so often. We have so many things we wish for and are all too quick to express them if someone was to ask us, so why not spend that time in supplication to our Lord? In Ramadan even more so: "Whatever is prayed for at the time of breaking the fast is granted and never refused." [Tirmidhi]

So, spend the time before iftar praying to the Almighty to accept our worship and fasting, and all the many desires and needs we may have. Do remember all those around the world less fortunate than us.

#### 5) The Night of Eid

The buzz, the excitement and the chaos of Eid preparations fills the house on the Night before Eid. However, don't let it take over your whole evening. The

Prophet (peace be upon him) mentioned this night as 'The Night of Reward', a blessed night in which we should pray and be thankful to our Lord. Pray for those not able to enjoy the festivities as we do, due to poverty and war, pray for acceptance of our worship in this month, pray for success at our school and pray for many more blessed Ramadan's to come. (Halimah Choudhry 8A & Safiyah Ahmed 8B)

### RAMADAN 2015 APPEAL

This Ramadan we are supporting the following campaigns through Tauheedul Charity:

#### Million Meals Campaign

Over the past year, the charity have provided 1 million meals in over 20 countries worldwide. In the UK, the charity has provided over 100,000 meals through its Foodbanks and Breakfast

Clubs, based in schools in Blackburn, Bolton, Coventry and London.

#### Eid Gifts

Many children around the world do not have the means to celebrate Eid. In 2014, we provided gifts to 20,000 children worldwide.

To donate to these causes please visit <http://donate.tauheedulrelief.org/>



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# Iftaar Event



“ It was such a great opportunity to share iftaar with friends and staff ”

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Eden hosted a vibrant and colourful Iftaar evening for pupils and staff. By 8pm guests began to arrive and mingle as the hall enjoyed a makeover of ornate table lamps, flickering candles and colourful plush cushions and pouffes as we entered Aladdin's Den!

The event began with Mrs Hasan discussing her specialism of science in relation to superfoods for Iftaar, then followed by Ms Mayet discussing the

crucial Islamic importance of Ramadan. We were also lucky enough to have Moulana join us to lead the supplications at Iftaar, adding a wonderful serene and spiritual element to this event. Iftar was then upon us with a wonderful three course meal comprising of samosas, kebabs and pizza (sorry Mrs Hasan!), butter chicken with naan and a deliciously creamy strawberry cheesecake to finish off the meal. It was a lovely evening of faith, food and fun! (Ms Patel)



## BUILD A MOSQUE COMPETITION

Winners TBC



Entries for build a mosque competition.  
Hafiza Nessa, Zainab Shazad, Nimra & Yusra Shahid