



Haileybury Bhaluka



Haileybury Bhaluka
Yearbook

2024-2025

Headmaster's Foreword



I am delighted to make a few words of introduction to our first Yearbook, a treasure of memories that we will look back upon in years to come.

This is a year we shall remember—not for the walls we have built, but for the foundations we have laid. Not for what we have already achieved, but for what we have begun. And like the butterfly who counts not months but moments, we know we have time enough.

Haileybury Bhaluka was not born of comfort or conceit. It was born of conviction. It was born of the belief that the brightest young minds of Bangladesh deserve a school that does not ask how far you can go, but how high you dare to reach. Lifting hearts, empowering minds. Our Yearbook marks the end of our first year and embraces much of what has happened within it.

And at the head of our endeavour, leading the way, is the Haileybury student.

No institute of education — no matter how grand its name or noble its vision—is truly great unless it serves the individual child. Here at Haileybury Bhaluka, we have striven—day by day—to know our students, to call forth what is best within them, and to meet them where they are, before helping them to rise. And rise they have. Within weeks of our opening, we hosted an inaugural art exhibition, 'Whispers of the Soul'. Featuring 40 artworks across a broad canvas of students, we celebrated creativity and artistic talent. We brought the first term to a dramatic close with Haileybury's Got Talent: music and magic, dance and drama; capped by the comedy of Charlie Chaplin, a witty stand-up routine and a scary move with a comic twist. In this first year, we have seen students celebrate their mother tongue on International Language Day with pride and purpose. We honoured International Mother Language Day with a vibrant road painting and a cultural showcase, bringing together the talents of our students and staff. We walk across beautiful tribute to language and heritage, at dawn and at dusk, fostering a sense of unity and cultural appreciation within our community.

We have seen them take their first steps into science with hands-on chemistry experiments—synthesising sulphates and unlocking the hidden language of molecules. These were not ordinary lessons. These were sparks. We have seen them beyond the campus in robotics competitions against university opponents and in online competitions with international schools. We are not afraid to set a high hurdle. We are not ashamed to speak of excellence. For we know that excellence is not arrogance—it is discipline, it is resilience, it is the quiet decision to do one's best, again and again. A relentless quest that will never be realised.

We have witnessed that pursuit in our classrooms and in our competitions. In our Cryptic Crossword Challenge, our students trained their minds to solve problems with wit and logic. In our supervised study, they committed to building lifelong habits of learning. And through these daily acts of effort, they rose. In the Oxford Union Debating Competition, our students took on the rest of the world, the only regional representatives. We do not judge ourselves against other schools in Bangladesh but compare our achievements with the best in the world. As young members of the Council of British International Schools, the Boarding Schools Association, we compare and compete against world class schools. But let it be known that our vision is not narrow. It is wide as the sky and deep as the rivers of Bangladesh. We believe in a curriculum that extends beyond books. We believe in a life of the mind and a life of the spirit. And this year, our students showed us what that means. They led musical ensembles. They performed on stage in Haileybury's Got Talent. They played with courage in football tournaments and triumphed as champions. They showed sportsmanship and strategy in chess. And yes—they lifted their first table tennis trophies with pride and joy. Let the world know: this is a school that does not simply educate—it illuminates.

We do not measure success by grades alone. We measure it in the quality of our friendships, the depth of our compassion, the strength of our community. In our boarding houses, students have found not just beds and bookshelves—but belonging. In moments of quiet reflection and shared prayer, they have discovered a sense of peace and place. We care for the heart as well as the mind. Our evolving partnership with the children of Shishu Polli Plus, exemplifies our commitment to developing leaders who care for all the people.

Our school was never meant to exist for itself alone. From the beginning, it was meant to serve a greater good. Let us not call our young people only to the pursuit of success—but to the deeper calling of service. Not only to the heights of achievement—but to the foundations of character. And already, they have answered that call. In our eco-clubs and philosophy circles, in the simple kindness they show one another, they are discovering that leadership does not begin with loud commands, but with quiet conviction. Through the Duke of Edinburgh Award, they learn that true accomplishment lies not just in reaching the summit, but in the journey of service, of skill, of volunteering—and yes, of adventure. Just last month, they were trained in food service and visited the school dairy to understand where nourishment begins. Next month, they will carry the spirit of our school across borders, on expedition to Malaysia and Thailand. And next year, with pride and purpose, we begin a new chapter as an accredited IB World School—offering the Diploma Programme to nurture students who are not only open-minded and globally aware, but ready to stand, shoulder to shoulder, with the world they will one day lead.

Let the memories of this Yearbook show that in this first year: We did not wait for tradition. You created it. We did not copy greatness. You built it. We did not speak of potential. You proved it. The road ahead is long. But it is ours. And if we walk it with the same courage, the same imagination, and the same belief in one another that we have shown this year, there is no telling how far we may go.

Year - 7



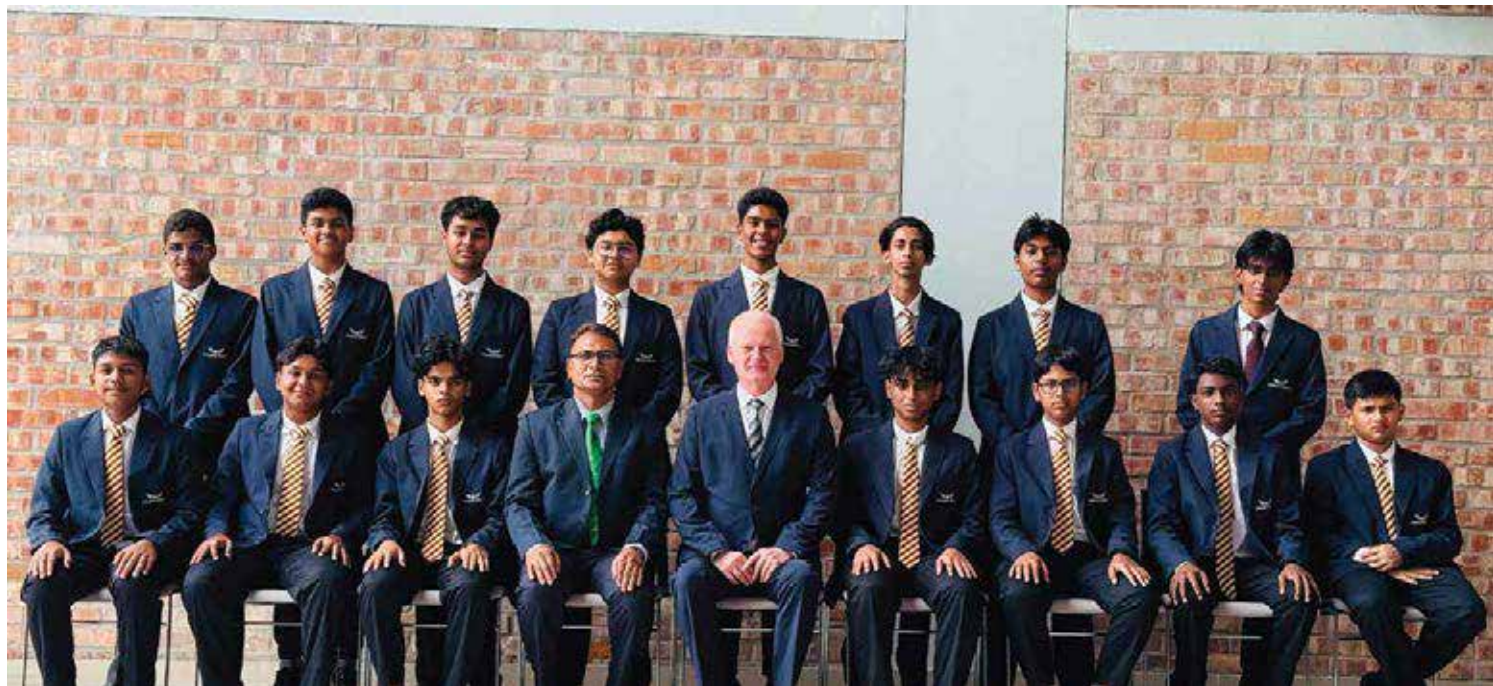
Pupils of Year 7 with their Tutor Mr. Kanistan Navaratnam & The Headmaster

Year - 8



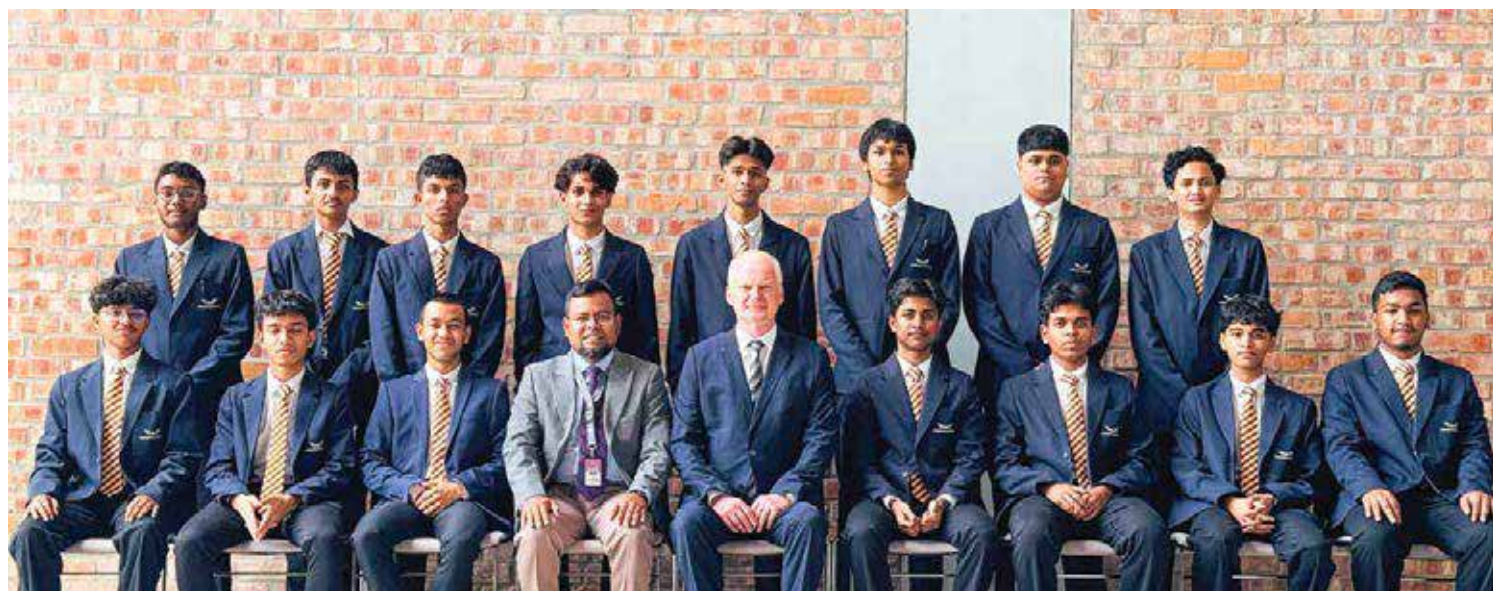
Pupils of Year 8 with their Tutor Mr. Nasiruddin & The Headmaster

Year - 9



Pupils of Year 9 with their Tutor Mr. Aminul Islam & The Headmaster

Year - 10



Pupils of Year 10 with their Tutor Mr. Wahiduzzaman & The Headmaster

HONOURABLE TEACHERS



Md. Nasiruddin
Art & Design



Aminul Islam
Sports & Activities



Mohammad Wahiduzzaman
Bangla and Bangladesh Studies



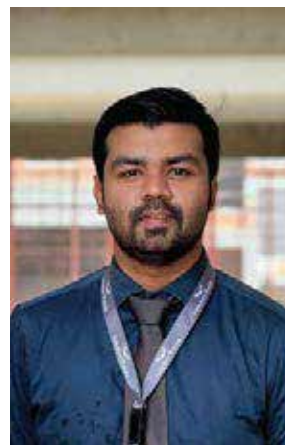
Saifur Rahman
Maths



Miranda Fell Stocks
English



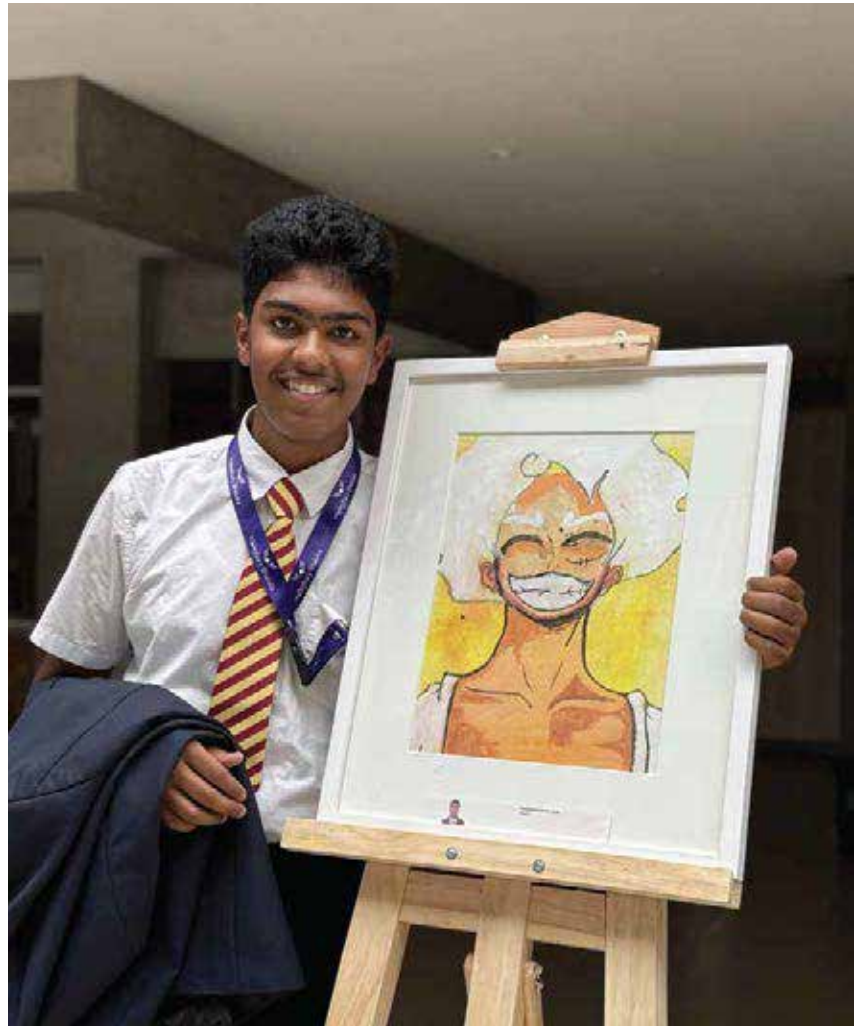
Kanistan Navaratnam
Science



Mahedi Hasan Rahat
Computer Science









HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From the Headmaster

Our first celebration of International Mother Language Day has involved all students in a variety of cultural endeavours.

We began with a Bangla Spelling Bee, hotly contested, followed by a film showing how the nation defended its right to use its own language in 1952. We have painted paths leading to the School, in red, yellow and white colours.

We ended the week today with a whole school cultural cauldron, the highlight being the beautiful poetry of Bangladesh.

Best wishes,



Students across all year groups had the option of taking on the task of memorizing Rudyard Kipling's "If—" in just 24 hours. The challenge tested not only their memorization skills but also their discipline, resilience, and focus.

Special congratulations go to Suraim from Year 8, who emerged as the overall winner with the least errors in his recitation. His flawless delivery was exceptional, showing the results of his hard work and dedication. Well done, Suraim!

Prizewinners:

Year 7
* Mashnoon
* Purna
* Rayat

Year 8
* Jubaer
* Rubayed
* Suraim
* Taseen
* Shafi

Year 9
* Sami
* Jareer
* Srayan

Congratulations to all who participated and completed the challenge. Your effort is truly commendable: you showcased such remarkable determination and demonstrated that with enough focus, perseverance, and belief in yourself, anything is possible!

24-Hour Poetry Challenge

If

by Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:
If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:
If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"
If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!



"Our young learners showcased their linguistic brilliance in the Bangla Spelling Contest, where every student participated with enthusiasm and determination!"

"The staging was incredible and the pupils' outstanding performances really brought event to life."



Bangla Spelling Competition



"From mastering challenging words to celebrating the richness of our mother tongue, it was a day of learning, fun, and friendly competition."



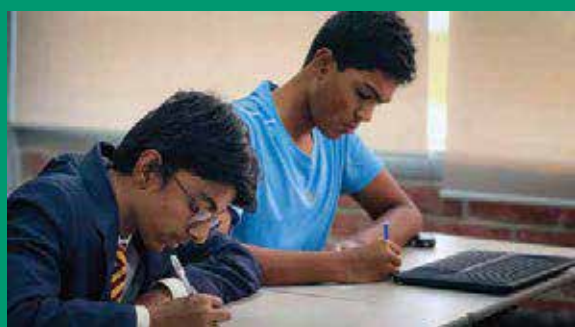
Mother Language Day

To mark the **international Mother Language Day of Bangladesh**, a film was shown to the students how the nation defended its right to use its own language in **1952**, bringing together pupils to understand the significance of our **student's sacrifices** during the nation's crisis also bring up cultural richness and mutual understanding.



Oxford Union Schools' Debating Society

This week our debaters wrestled with the motion: This House believes that words are stronger than weapons. A fiercely contested clash of words saw the Government team win the day. A great preparation for next week's regional round.



National Robotics Championship

Team Haileybury proudly competed in the National Robotics Championship at Bangladesh University of Business & Technology. The event brought together top institutions, showcasing innovation in segments like line-following robots, project exhibitions, drone racing, and soccer robots. Haileybury excelled in line-following robots and project showcasing, earning an impressive score.



Clubs & Activities

- **Leadership & Competitions**
 - Duke of Edinburgh
 - Physics Olympiad Club
 - Math Olympiad Club
 - International Chess Team
- **Sports & Fitness**
 - Football Club
 - Badminton Club
 - Swimming Club
 - Cricket Club
 - Basketball Club
- **Public Speaking & Language**
 - Bangla Debating Club
 - Oxford Schools Debating Club
 - English Club
 - Model United Nations Teams
- **STEM & Innovation**
 - Robotics Club
 - Coding Club
- **Creative Arts**
 - Art Club







 HaileyburyBhaluka

+880 1321 155 000-1 haileybury.com.bd

Dhamshur Mallikbari, Bhaluka, Mymensingh - 2240, Bangladesh

Year 8 Nutrient Exploration

This term, our Year 8 students have been diving deep into the importance of nutrients and maintaining a balanced diet during their Science lessons. To enhance their understanding, they conducted a practical experiment to test for starch in various food samples using iodine solution.

Key Findings:

Colour Change Observation: *The students observed a striking colour change from brown to blue-black, indicating the presence of starch. This hands-on activity not only reinforced their learning about carbohydrates as essential energy sources but also sparked curiosity about the food we consume and its impact on our health.*

Benefits of Hands-On Learning:

Experiments like these are crucial in developing scientific skills while encouraging students to explore the world around them.

Engaging in practical activities fosters a deeper understanding of the subject matter and promotes a lifelong interest in science.

Year 9 Chemistry in Action

Meanwhile, our Year 9 students have been honing their practical chemistry skills by synthesizing copper sulfate through a series of key techniques.

Experiment Overview:

Reaction Initiation: Using copper oxide and sulfuric acid, students initiated a reaction to produce a soluble salt.

Filtration Process: They then filtered the mixture to remove excess solid, ensuring a pure solution.

Crystallisation: Finally, through careful evaporation of the solution, they allowed beautiful blue copper sulfate crystals to form.

Learning Outcomes:

This hands-on experiment not only helped students grasp essential separation techniques but also reinforced their understanding of chemical reactions and solubility.



Science Highlights

Haileybury Awards Table

After a busy start to 2025, it is heartening to see the incredible progress of our students. Topping the **Frog Award Charts** are the following students whom we congratulate on their determination:

Data: 9th February 2025

Year 7

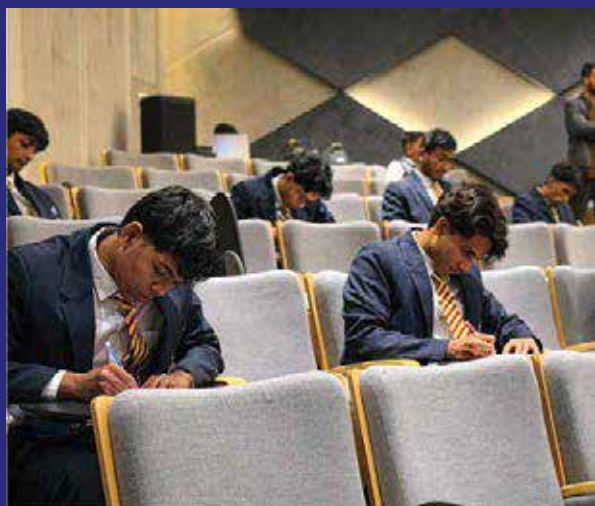
Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Rayat Bin Anwar	59	5	4
Strizon Sargiul Islam	31	1	2
Afraz Nazif Rahman	39	1	3
H M Tahmid Islam	30	1	2
Fremon Mohammad Bhuiyan	45	1	6



Data: 9th February 2025

Year 10

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Sajid Sarowar	67	2	4
Sunxin Azam	64	4	2
Tanzim Rahman Khan	59	5	5
Tasdir Abdhullah	56	8	6
Shahmir Rashid	54	1	2



Year 8

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Md Muhtasham Shafi	66	11	9
Jubaer Ahmed	64	3	10
Rubayed Haque	54	8	6
Zunaid Aslam	35	2	25
Suraim Sulaiman	30	3	24

Data: 9th February 2025

Year 9

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Safwan Uddin Aayan	53	10	8
Ayush Jyoti Dey	45	11	3
Srayan Banik	44	9	4
Mohammed Jareer	29	7	6
Saad Md. Al Wasi	12	1	4



HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From The Headmaster

As we bring the curtain down on a second successful term, we marvel at the scope of endeavour celebrated in this newsletter.

From Student Achievement Awards and victory certificates in table tennis, we look back on a busy term, packed with pride.

Last week, we hosted one of the country's leading social media influencers - Shuvashish Bhowmick - and the fruit of his labour will be posted worldwide shortly. It's worth waiting for.

Next term, we look ahead to World Book Day on 23 April and the Haileybury Experience day just three days later. There is a prize for guessing the Haileybury member of staff inside the Star Wars Chewbacca costume, on a previous Book Day. Get your costumes ready and let's make it an event to remember.

See you back at School next term.
Boards' Return: 19 April



We come together to celebrate World Book Day on 23 April in our school.

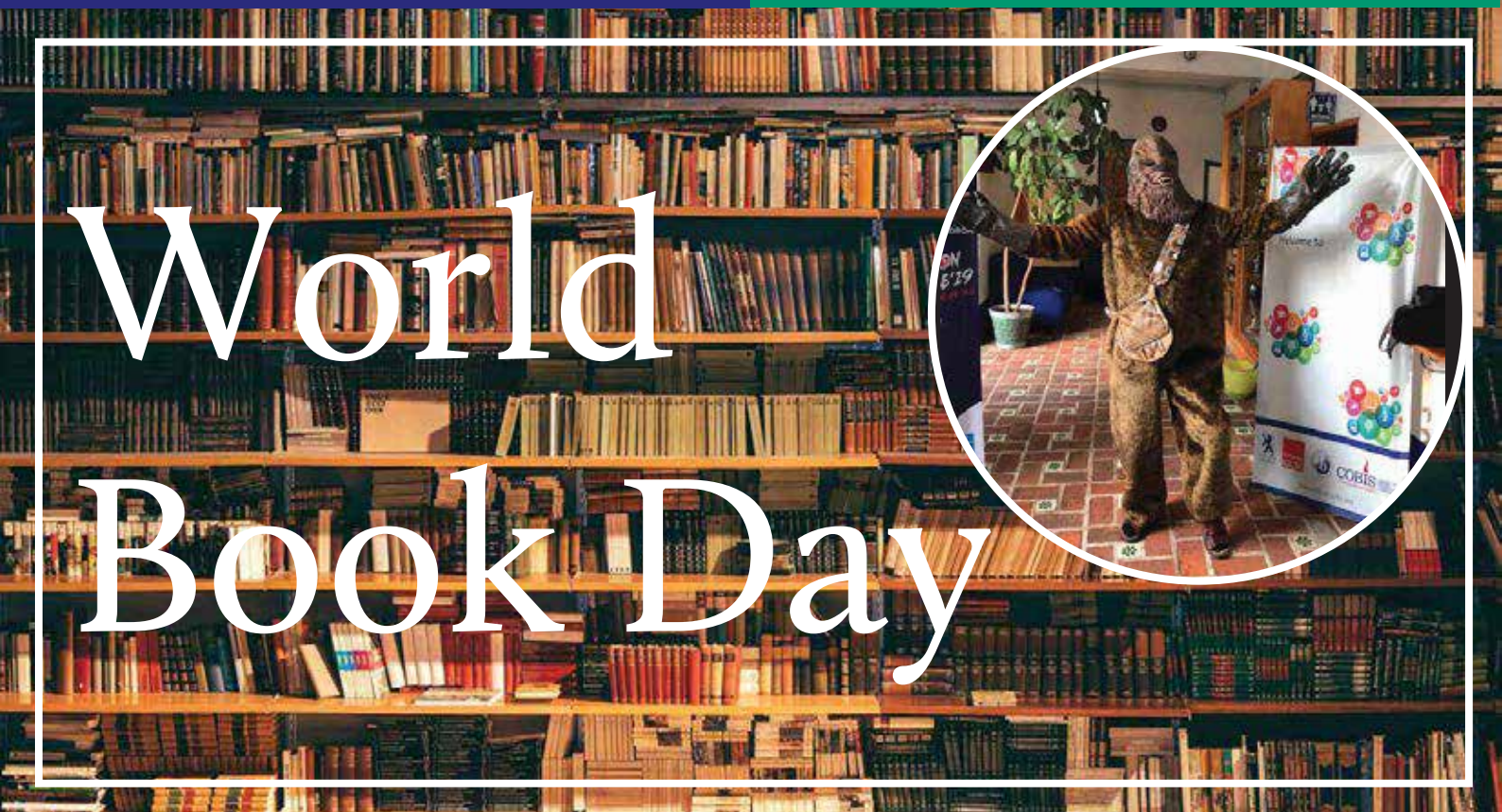
Every year on World Book Day we are overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of our global school community. Dressing up or bringing books into school can be a big part of the celebrations and is what families particularly enjoy about World Book Day.

We will have lots of fun activities for students taking place throughout the day including:

Check out the World Book Day Family Hub (<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>) for more things to do at home.

Book swap; please send your son with their unwanted books in the box outside the library. Recommending books; We will be using World Book Day as a way to share our favourite books. Posters will be up in the classrooms of each teacher saying what they are currently reading and what their favourite book is. Dress up: staff and students use their costumes to share their favourite books and we encourage you to use things you already have at home.

We're very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day, which could not happen without the support of parents - thank you



World Book Day



Student Achievement Awards

Students of Haileybury Bhaluka respond best to appreciation and encouragement. We put strong emphasis on praise and reward. Teachers are encouraged to give praise where it is due. Recognition is given through Gold, Emerald and Sapphire awards, issued and recorded on Frog portal. These jewels of achievement are defined below:

Gold

Commends improvement and recognises outstanding academic achievement

Emerald

Commends kindness, thoughtfulness and acts of community service

Sapphire

Commends improvement or outstanding achievement in ECAs

Gold, emerald and sapphire awards are given on merit and examples are given here.

Commends improvement and recognises outstanding academic achievement

Example

- piece of prep or class work
- significant improvement in the quality of a piece of prep or class work
- outstanding progress at a stage in a project or extended piece of work;
- class presentation showing effort/achievement beyond expected level;
- excellent contribution to a group task;
- significant improvement in a subject-specific skill;
- excellent piece of extension work;
- intelligent and thoughtful contribution to a lesson showing that the pupil has done some reading or research outside of class;
- significant improvement in focus and motivation within a subject.

Gold Awards

Sapphire Awards

Commends improvement or outstanding achievement in ECAs

Example

- outstanding effort, achievement or improvement in any ECA;
- excellent performance for a school team, or in a concert or production;
- outstanding commitment to an optional activity, club or society;
- excellent leadership in DoE, or any ECA;
- significant improvement in a skill.

Year 8

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Jubaer Ahmed	119	15	18
Md Muhtasham Musharof Shafi	100	23	12
Suraim Sulaiman	72	13	27
Zunaïd Aslam	61	6	26
Rubayed Haque Sowayd	54	8	6
Taseen Zuhayr	46	11	3
Akid Shahriar Ayaan	31	2	4
Farhan Hossen	27	5	7
Sadaf Islam Riasad	21	2	3
Shahbuddin Araf	21	1	2
Arham Dafi	18	2	6
Noor Mohammad Ayan	16	2	1
Shamsuddin Ahmed Arban	11	1	1
Tanjim Bin Omar	6	0	1

Year 7

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Rayat Bin Anwar	82	14	8
Afraz Nazif Rahman	53	2	7
Freemon Md Bhuiyan	47	1	6
Md. Mashnoon	38	5	0
Taqi Tazwar	37	2	3
Srizon Sargiul Islam	37	5	3
H M Tahmid Islam	35	1	2
Surid Rizik	34	2	4
Purna Nandi	32	7	17
Amin Khan Adib	23	0	2
Mohammad Ahassan	19	3	6
Afraheem Khan	19	1	6
Ahsanur Rahman	15	2	3

Emerald Award

- outstanding support for or kindness to peers;
- outstanding community work (volunteering, service, outreach;
- one-off acts of kindness and generosity;
- being a good member of the House (hygiene, tidiness, organization)
- helping others in any school context;
- significant commitment to service projects over a period of time.

Year 9

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Safwan Uddin Aayan	77	13	15
Srayan Banik	63	21	14
Ayush Jyoti Dey	60	14	6
Safwan Sulaiman	56	11	34
Mohammed Jareer Ajyan	39	12	7
Sami Rahman Chowdhury	34	6	1
Intesar Rafayet Faruque	25	5	13
Saad Md. Zareer Al Wasi	24	3	7
Atikur Rahman Ruhan	23	3	7
Md. Dhu Al Fiqar Deen	22	3	3
Mohammed Chowdhury	19	4	2
R. M. Nathan Perera	6	0	1
Tahiyan Ahamed	4	1	0
Rakibul Islam Akib	1	1	0
Abdullah Bin Sadeque	0	0	0



Student Achievement Awards

Year 10

Names	Gold	Sapphire	Emerald
Sunxin Azam	92	11	2
Sajid Sarowar	85	5	7
Shahmir Rashid	84	6	5
Tanzim Rahman Khan	69	8	5
Zawad Aslam	68	10	9
Tasdir Abdhullah Chowdhury	64	12	8
Abdullah Al Mukit	61	7	3
Shafin Hossen	35	5	0
Samin Yasir	35	6	3
Al Mansib Soumic	33	11	3
Afnan Iqbal	27	6	5
Fahim Islam	26	6	1
Md. Ashfaq Nabil Eshan	24	6	5
Mehtaj Kabir Rehan	23	8	3
Thingu Singha Utsho	21	6	2
Rafique Abrar Jawad	19	3	0

Haileybury Experience Day

We are encouraging your son to nominate his close friends to come and join us for a Haileybury Experience Day. This will be an activity packed day, giving all boys and girls a glimpse of school life.

Our Head of Admissions, Ms Aysha, has sent an e-invite with all event details for easy sign-up. All parents of nominated children will be contacted by phone and email to go through details and seek their explicit approval.

It promises to be a great day.

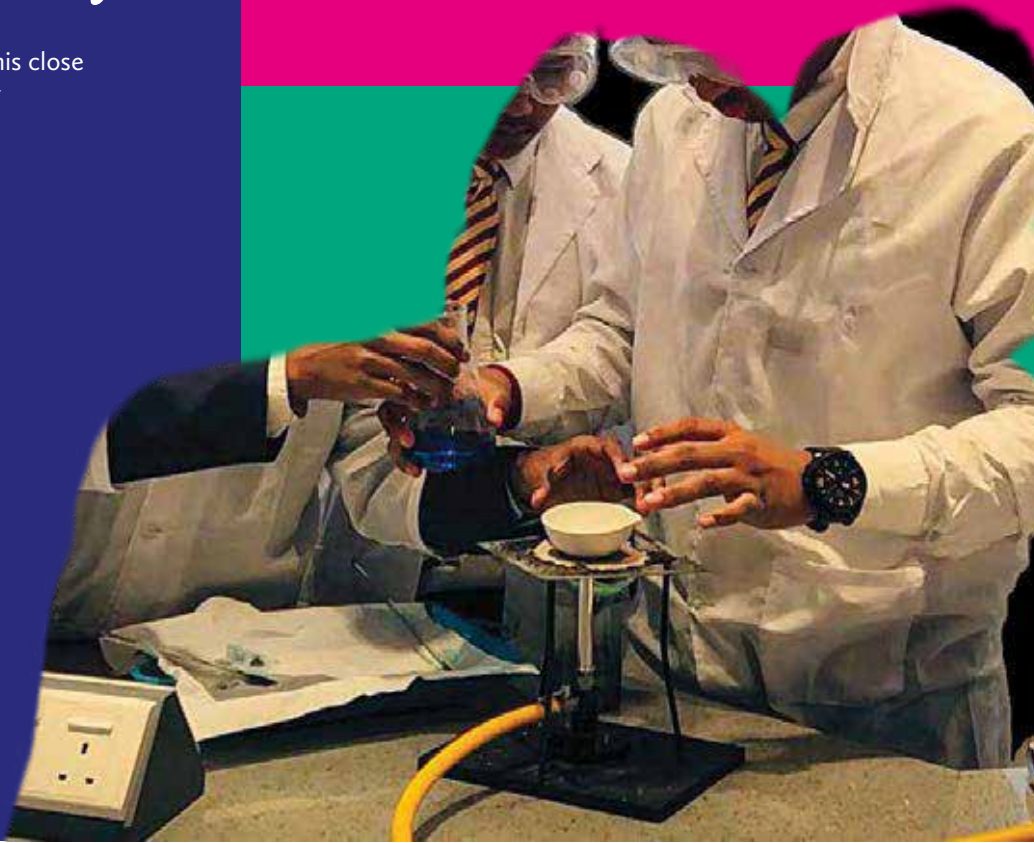


Table Tennis Tournament



A proud moment at the Auditorium, Haileybury Bhaluka as we honored the winners of the Inter-Year Table Tennis Tournament! Congratulations to all participants and champions! Keep the spirit of the game alive!



Certificates were awarded in both Singles and Doubles categories, recognising the skill, dedication, and sportsmanship of our players.

”

Inter-Class Table Tennis Tournament in Full Swing!

The excitement is high as Haileybury Bhaluka's Inter-Class Table Tennis Tournament is in full swing! Students are showcasing their skills and sportsmanship, making the competition thrilling and engaging.

Taking place during Ramadan, the tournament has transformed into a true festival of sports and camaraderie, bringing together players and supporters in the spirit of friendly rivalry. With every match, students demonstrate determination, agility, and teamwork, making this event a highlight of the season.

Stay tuned as we approach the finals—who will emerge as the table tennis champion?

Coming up

- **Mid Term Ends**
From 20th March
- **COBIS Competition**
- **MIT Day of AI**
On June 2025

     HaileyburyBhaluka

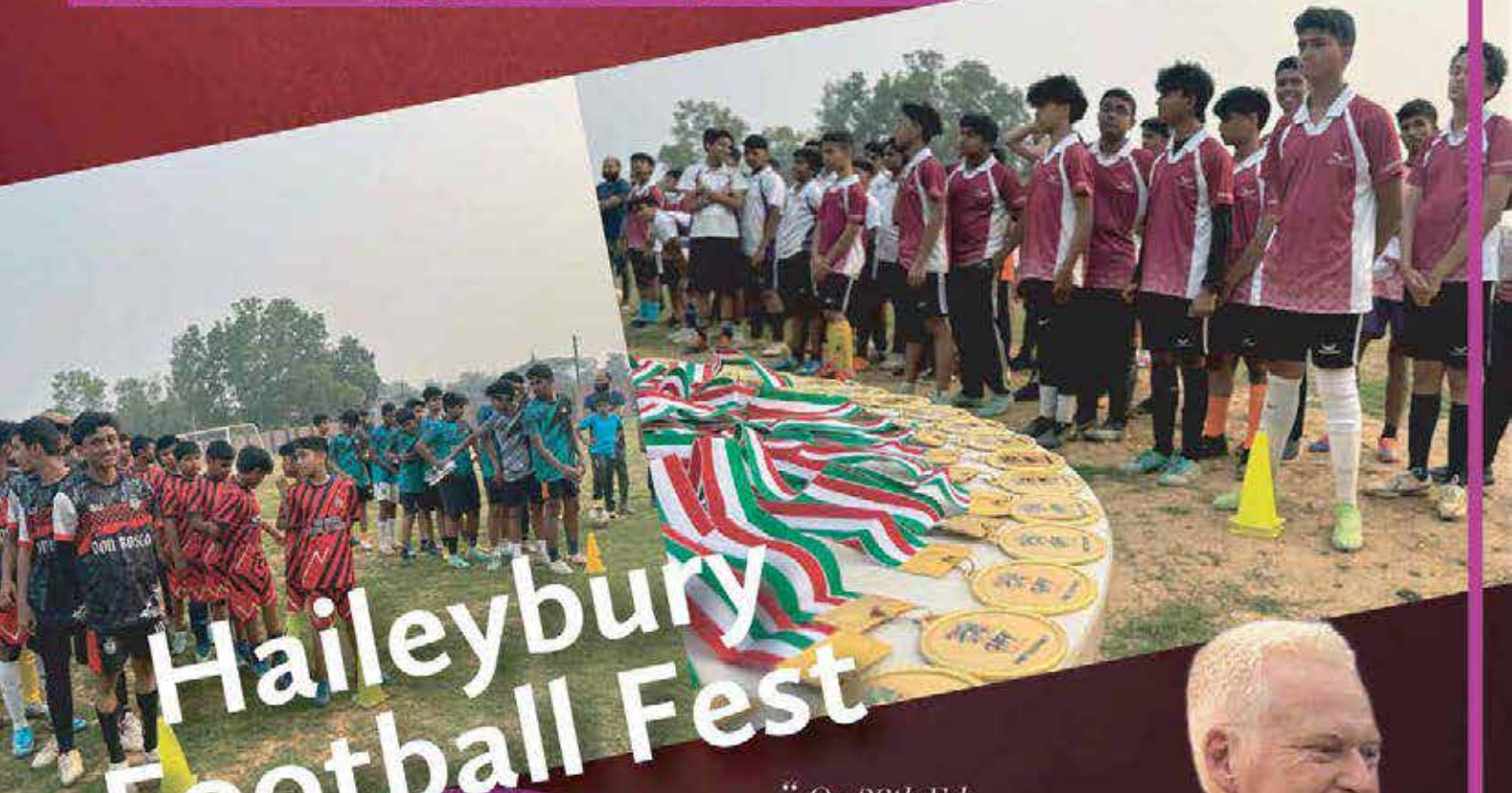
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Dhamskur Mallikbari, Bhaluka, Mymensingh - 2240, Bangladesh



"A big thank you to all the teams for making this event unforgettable!"

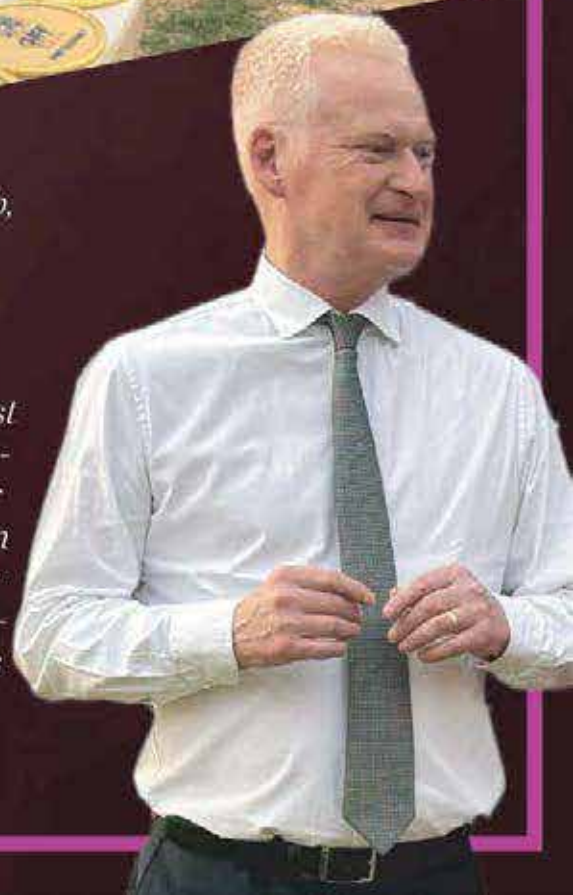
"From intense gameplay to moments of pure sportsmanship, every student and participant embraced the spirit of the game"



Haileybury Football Fest



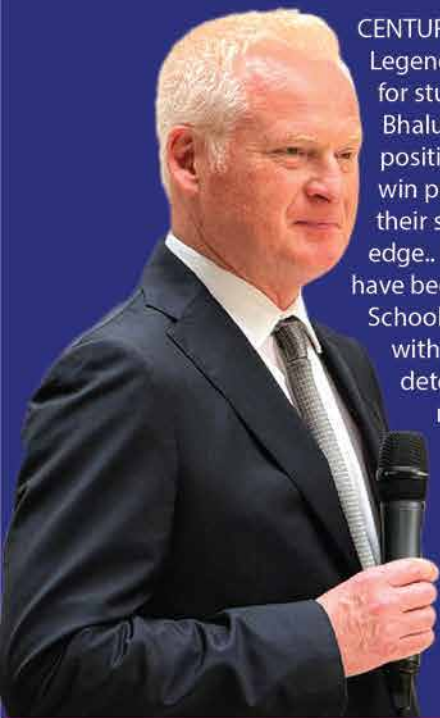
"On 28th Feb, Haileybury Bhaluka hosted an electrifying Football Fest 2025, bringing together schools from Dhaka for a day of thrilling matches and festival vibes!"



HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

Intl. Maths Competition



CENTURY + COBIS Learning Legends is an exciting opportunity for students of Haileybury Bhaluka to compete for top positions on the leaderboard and win prizes, helping them improve their subject skills and knowledge.. All students in Years 7-10 have been registered to take part. Schools will be ranked by type, with winners in each category determined on the average number of questions answered correctly by students

Following a consultation with parents and staff, we are making some adaptations to our timetable during Ramadan to support our students and maintain our momentum.

There are three changes:

- Sunday to Thursday: 0845-1300 lesson timetable, periods 1-4. Prep: 1 hour 2.30-3.30pm. No activities, no evening prep.
- Saturday morning school: 1st, 8th, 15th March; periods 1-4. Parents are welcome to join us for Iftar on Saturday.
- Term 2 ends on Thurs. 20th March, enabling families to spend more time together during the Eid break

The school will ensure that all prayers are conducted as per expectations and that a proper sahri will be provided. As we move into the end of term break, there will be a full programme of homework set.

Haileybury Football Fest 2025

Kicks Off Tomorrow!

Haileybury Bhaluka is thrilled to host the Haileybury Football Fest 2025 tomorrow, 28th February, at our beautiful campus.

We are delighted to welcome two visiting schools from Dhaka, who will be competing with three teams alongside our own talented players. The matches will follow a festival format, ensuring an action-packed day of thrilling football and great teamwork.

Parents are warmly invited to join us and cheer for the teams as they showcase their skills on the field. Get ready for an unforgettable day of football at Haileybury!



Road Painting

Haileybury Bhaluka celebrated International Mother Language Day with a vibrant road painting and a cultural, showcasing the talents and unity of our students, staff, and teachers. A beautiful tribute to language and heritage!
Our exclusive paint partner Asian Paints



Student's
self participation
in the event

Honoring our Language Martyrs

On 21st February 2025, the students and staff of Haileybury Bhaluka came together to pay tribute to the martyrs of International Mother Language Day. With heartfelt flower bouquets, we remembered their sacrifice for our beloved language. The day was further celebrated with the distribution of certificates for the Bangla Spelling Competition, proudly presented by our Headmaster. Together, we cherish our heritage and inspire the next generation!



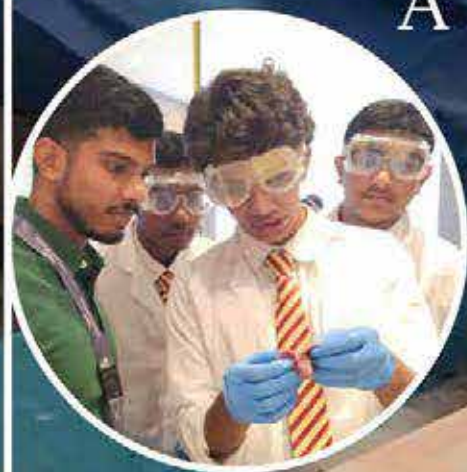
Student Achievement Awards



The school has nominated the following students in this year's Student Achievement Awards, an international recognition of outstanding achievement by the Council of British International Schools:

Year 7	Rayat Bin Anwar
Year 8	Md. Muhtasham Musharof Shafi
Year 9	Safwan Uddin Aayan
Year 10	Abdullah Al Mukit

Exploring the Heart: A Hands-On Learning Experience

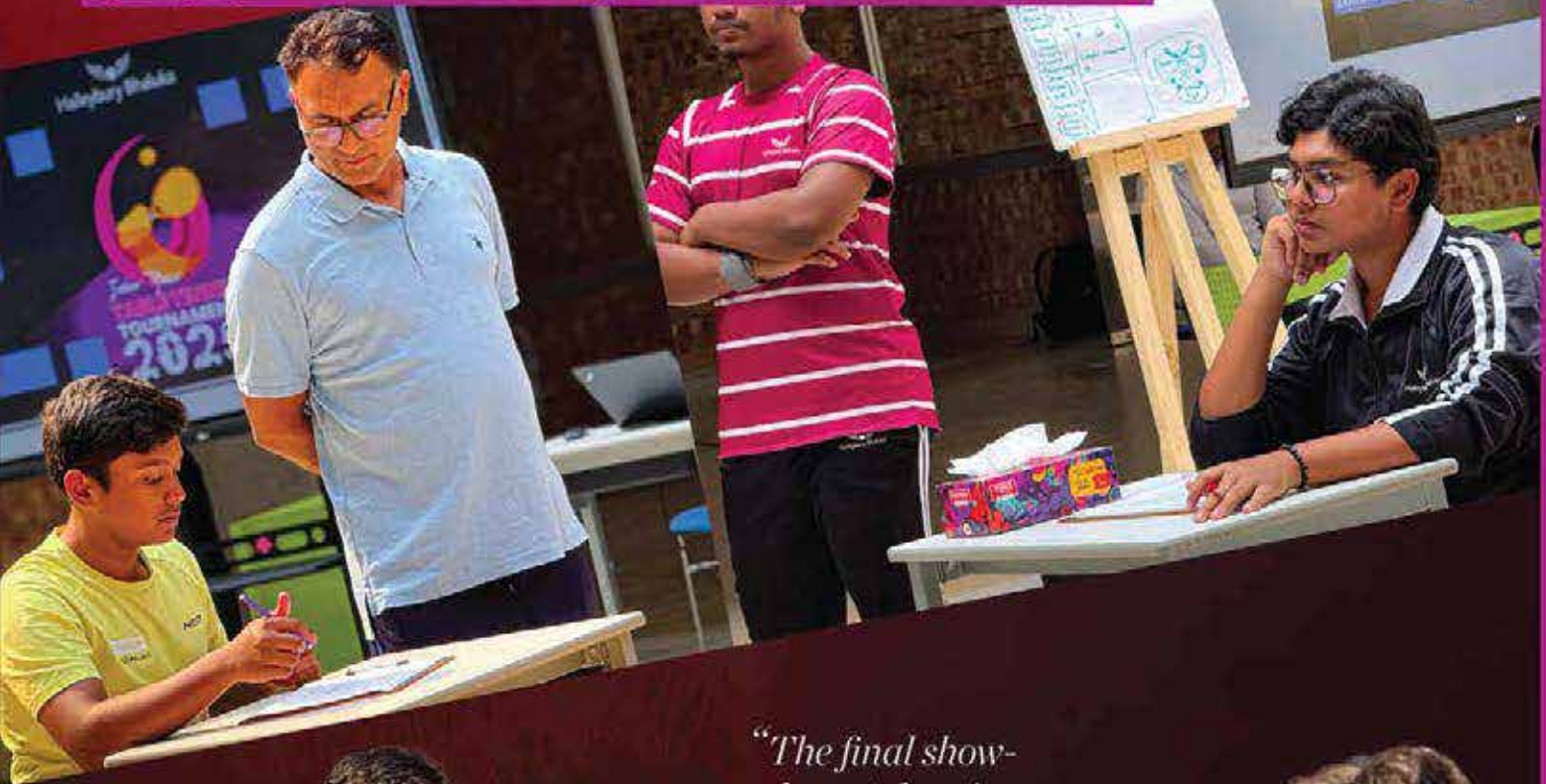


Our IGCSE Biology students recently conducted a heart dissection to deepen their understanding of the circulatory system. Guided by their teacher, they carefully examined the heart's chambers, valves, and blood vessels, linking structure to function.

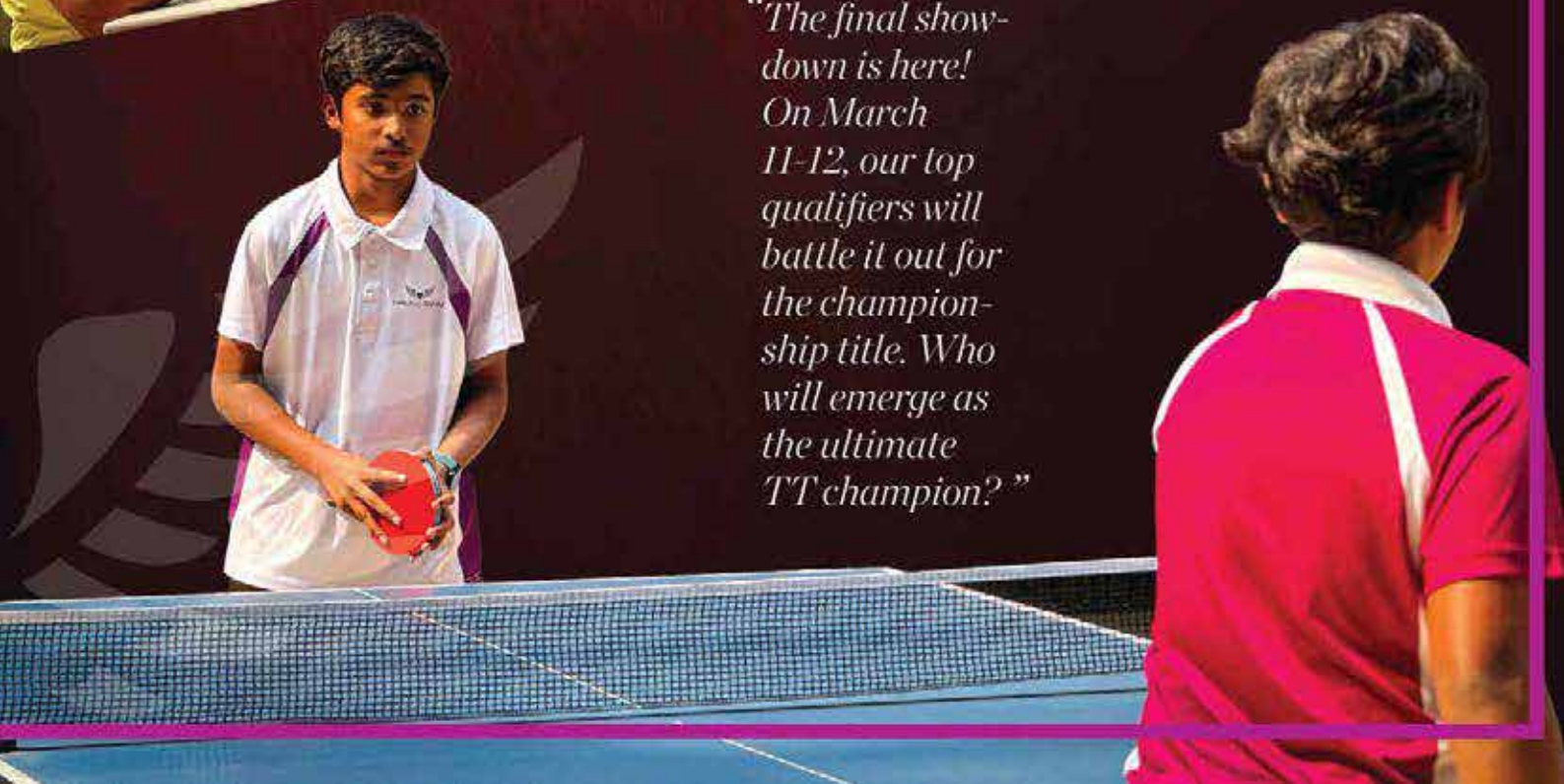
This hands-on activity allowed students to visualise key biological concepts, enhancing their appreciation of the complexity of the human body.

Engaging in practical investigations like this fosters curiosity and strengthens scientific skills, making learning both exciting and meaningful.

Table Tennis Tournament



"The final showdown is here! On March 11-12, our top qualifiers will battle it out for the championship title. Who will emerge as the ultimate TT champion?"



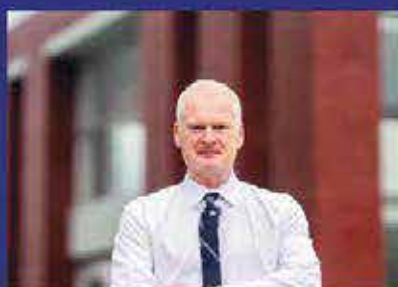
Haileybury Herald

Headmaster's Message

Welcome back to School for Term 3, the apex of our first year at Haileybury Bhaluka.

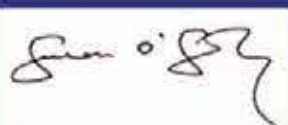
Allow me to give you advance notice of key dates this term.

The School will break for the Eid El Adha on 4 June.



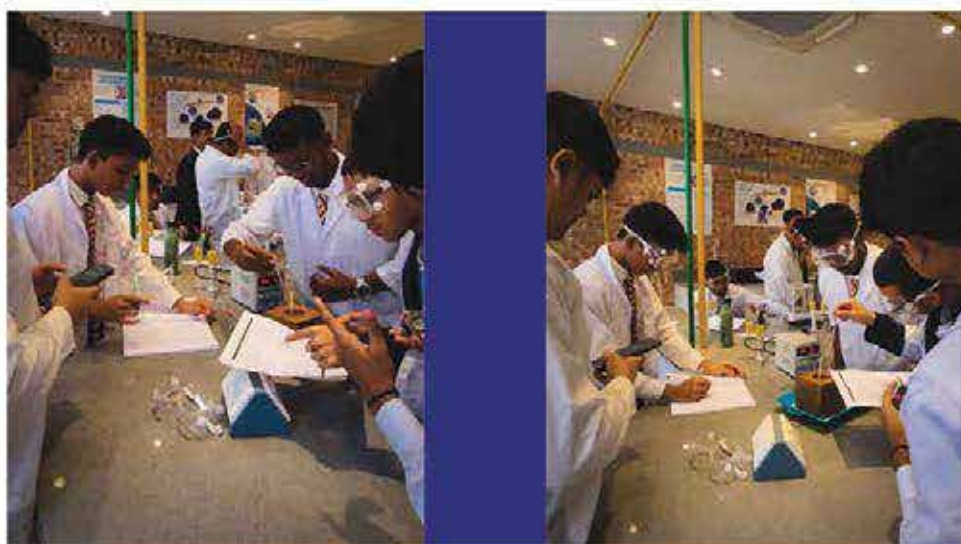
We return to school on 11 June for end of year exams. On Thursday 19 June, we celebrate the school year with Speech Day, at which prizes and the yearbook will be distributed. Full reports will be distributed electronically on Thursday 19 June.

The Academic Year 2025-26 begins as follows: boarders return 9 August, teaching begins 10 August. Please find next year's academic calendar in this newsletter.



In the world of science, there is always more!

Year 10 students have dived back into science this term with great enthusiasm, kicking things off by applying their understanding of specific heat capacity. In a hands-on investigation, they calculated the specific heat capacity of water, bringing textbook theory to life through practical learning. It's been a brilliant way to refresh prior knowledge while building confidence in scientific methods and data analysis.



HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From the Headmaster

Our third term is firmly focused on completing courses in readiness for end of year exams. Speech Day will conclude our founding year, with a celebration of achievement.

Boarders are heavily involved in activities, as the newsletter illustrates, no more so than the planned expedition to Thailand and Malaysia; a separate communication was sent to parents today. There are new activities for scientists this term, with a Physics Olympiad and a coding club.

It is with great pride that the **Council of British International Schools (COBIS)** certified the achievements of four of our students this week, and an honour to present them in person.

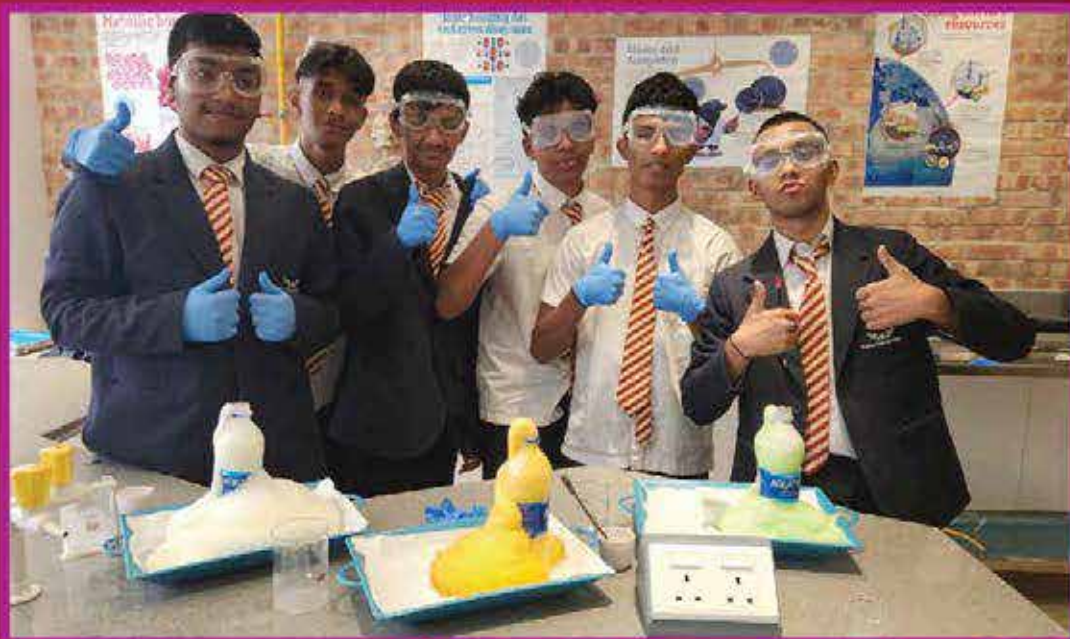
Best wishes,



Speech Day & End of Year Exams

Speech Day will take place on Thursday 19 June, following end of year exams. Your son has been given a schedule of subject exams which take place in lesson time, before and after the Eid. Teachers will be staging additional support sessions for students given the importance we place of high performance.





Students from Years 7 to 10 came together to take part in the thrilling "elephant toothpaste" experiment.

Beyond Science



As part of Literature Week celebrations, Year 7 students have been dedicating time every Tuesday morning to silent reading. This quiet, focused time has encouraged a love for books and helped students start their day with calm reflection and imagination.



COBIS Student Awards 2025

We were delighted to present the **COBIS Student Awards** this week, given to students who have demonstrated high achievement within and beyond the classroom. **Awards were presented to students worldwide from 136 international schools**, putting the students of Haileybury Bhaluka on the world stage. Haileybury Bhaluka is the only school in Bangladesh in membership of the Council of British International Schools.



Md. Muhtasham Musharof Shafi

Reason for Nomination: Significant contribution to the wider life of the school

Citation for Nomination: Outstanding participation in the Oxford Union Schools Debating Team, with high performance in the regional final. Achieved in a context of in-country instability.

Rayat Bin Anwar

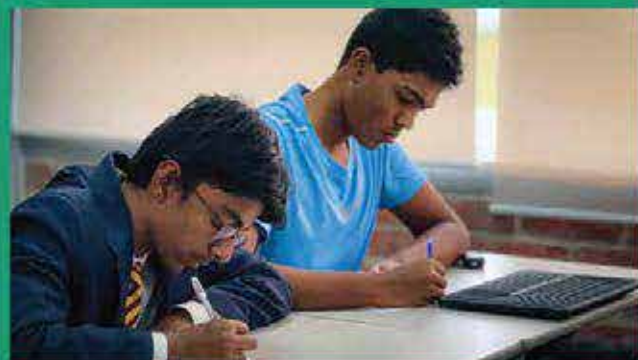
Reason for Nomination: Exceptional academic achievement

Citation for Nomination: Consistent application in subject and outside subject, particularly poetry for which he has now won two awards. Achieved in a context of in-country instability.

Safwan Uddin Aayan

Reason for Nomination: Exceptional academic achievement

Citation for Nomination: Outstanding academic achievement in a highly academic year group. Achieving the highest number of school awards across all subjects. Achieved in a context of in-country instability.



Abdullah Al Mukit

Reason for Nomination: Outstanding academic achievement

Citation for Nomination: Exemplary study skills enabling success across all subjects. Achieved in a context of in-country instability.



Clubs & Activities

- **Leadership & Competitions**
 - Duke of Edinburgh
 - Physics Olympiad Club
 - Math Olympiad Club
 - International Chess Team
- **Sports & Fitness**
 - Football Club
 - Badminton Club
 - Swimming Club
 - Cricket Club
 - Basketball Club
- **Public Speaking & Language**
 - Bangla Debating Club
 - Oxford Schools Debating Club
 - English Club
 - Model United Nations Teams
- **STEM & Innovation**
 - Robotics Club
 - Coding Club
- **Creative Arts**
 - Art Club

HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From the Headmaster

As we enter the final stretch of our founding year, I'm filled with immense pride at all we've achieved together. This term is one of consolidation and focus, with our students preparing for end-of-year examinations and reflecting on their academic journeys. As always, we aim to strike a balance—supporting scholarly rigour while nurturing the spirit of exploration and creativity that defines Haileybury.

Boarding life continues to thrive, with students eagerly anticipating the upcoming expedition to Thailand and Malaysia. These experiences broaden horizons, challenge comfort zones, and create memories that last a lifetime. At home, our clubs and activities are more vibrant than ever, particularly in science and technology—our budding physicists and coders are embracing new opportunities with enthusiasm.

I look forward to Speech Day as a celebration not only of success but of character, growth, and community spirit. Please do take a moment to let us know your preferred date for the event—we hope to welcome as many families as possible to share in this important milestone.

Best wishes,



Speech Day₂₀₂₅ Parent Consulation

We are excited to share that preparations are underway for Speech Day 2025, a special event that celebrates the achievements and talents of our students. Your presence makes the day truly meaningful, and we are keen to ensure that as many parents as possible are able to attend.

To accommodate your availability, we are considering two potential dates for this year's event:

Thursday, 19 June 2025

Friday, 20 June 2025

We kindly request you to share your preferred date by filling out the short form linked at the end of the newsletter. Based on your responses, we will finalize the date that works best for the majority.



03.
Health
Challenges in
Overcrowded
Environments

Students from Years 7 to 10 came together to take part in the thrilling "elephant toothpaste" experiment.

Beyond Science



As part of Literature Week celebrations, Year 7 students have been dedicating time every Tuesday morning to silent reading. This quiet, focused time has encouraged a love for books and helped students start their day with calm reflection and imagination.



A Lovers Last Breath

by Sami Chowdhury
Y-9



*I loved you with every last breath
I wished to spend days with you till
death
Trancing over you now makes life
anguishing
I never knew being without you would
mean
The feeling of void that can never be
seen;
In my arms you still lay
To give me comfort and ask about my
day
I still see shadows of the past
I don't know how long they will last
I can never fill this feeling of void
until the world and I both are
destroyed
for you I shall live and for you I shall
die
all I need from you is one final goodbye*

*Oh my love, I always loved you boundless and
bare
But now that you've left, all I see is despair.
I always remember our happy days
But I guess God only favours someone who
prays.
All the love I gave to thee
Has flown away to be free.
What I want to say to thee
Is to be happy and see
That I can never be
As happy as I was without thee,
My beloved.*

Up-to-date Vaccination Records!

Please ensure that the School has up-to-date vaccination records for your son. The school requires the following BCG, DPT, Hepatitis- B, Polio, Pneumococcal pneumonia, MR & TT. In a boarding school, boys who are unvaccinated carry greater risk of communicable infection.

Clubs & Activities

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 - Bangla Debating Club
 - Oxford Schools Debating Club
 - English Club
 - Model United Nations Teams

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Extra Curricular Activities

This week, our students embraced a dynamic range of co-curricular activities that showcased both physical prowess and strategic thinking. On the field, the energy was high as students took part in the Kabaddi game, demonstrating teamwork, agility, and competitive spirit. Meanwhile, the Cross Country Run encouraged students to push their physical limits and highlighted the importance of endurance and fitness.



Indoors, minds were at work during the Chess ECA, where students honed their focus and strategic planning through friendly matches and problem-solving exercises. The English Club's spelling bee was championed by Auysh (Yr9) and Shafi (Yr8) and eight students amazed us with their impressive 24h memorisation of 'The Wagtail and the Baby' by Thomas Hardy (Sami, Jareer, and Srayan (Yr 9), Shafi, Suraim, Rubayed, and Jubaer (Yr 8), and Rayat (Yr 7)).



Speech Day 2025

Following parent consultation, we are staging our first Speech Day on Thursday 19 June. This will be a celebration of the year and, specifically, a recognition of student achievement across a broad canvas. Please put the date into your diary. The event will begin at 10.00am and Guests are requested to join us for refreshments by 9.30am. We will end the year with a family lunch.

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HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From the Headmaster

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Best wishes,



After an apt assembly from the Headmaster on Sunday about the importance of poetry, Year 7 took a walk around the school on Tuesday to find inspiration for their haiku – poems usually of three lines, following a 5, 7, 5 syllable pattern, about a moment in nature. The best work, below, was chosen for its accuracy and beautiful simplicity.

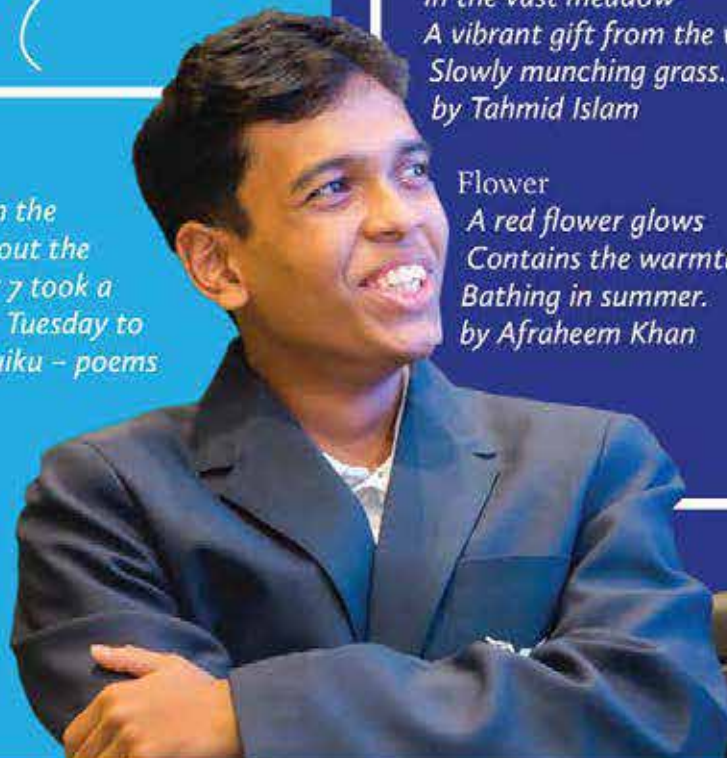
Tree
*In the vast field
A tree stands perfectly still:
no one to love now.
by Rayat Bin Anwar*

Dragonfly
*Balanced on one foot,
Alone in a lonely lake,
On a rusty pole.
by Purna Nandi*

Duckling
*Duckling in the pond
Plays like a child in a field,
No worries at all.
by Srizon Sargiul*

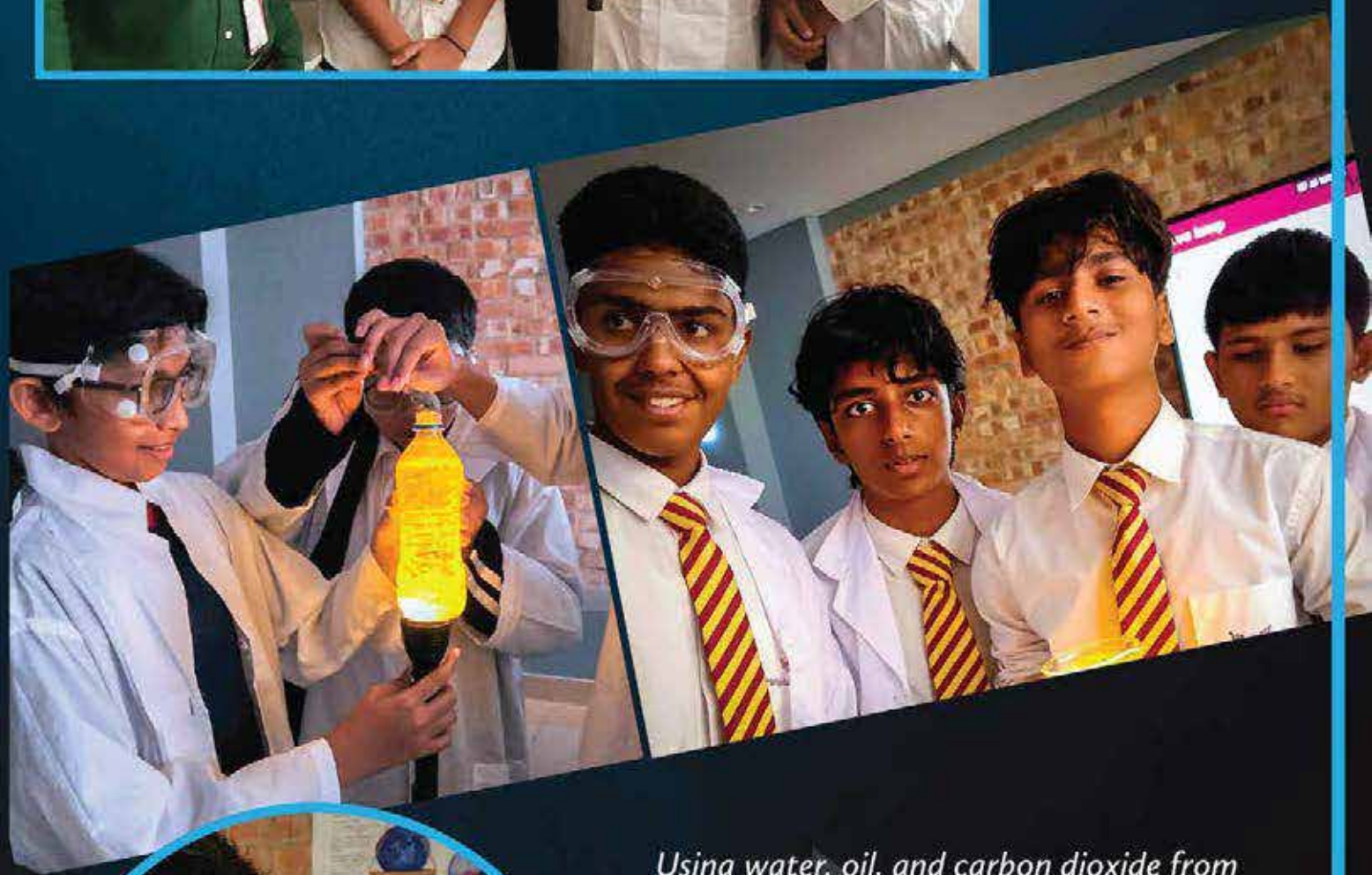
Cow
*In the vast meadow
A vibrant gift from the world
Slowly munching grass.
by Tahmid Islam*

Flower
*A red flower glows
Contains the warmth of the sun
Bathing in summer.
by Afraheem Khan*





In Science Club this week, students created their own lava lamps while learning about density.



Using water, oil, and carbon dioxide from fizzy tablets, they watched colourful bubbles dance and rise—bringing science to life in a fun, hands-on way!

Beyond Science



HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From the Headmaster

As our founding year approaches its close, I am immensely proud of our students' accomplishments and the vibrant community we have formed together.

This term is focused on academic consolidation and exam preparation, while continuing to nurture exploration and creativity, through our expanding activities programme.

Boarding life is thriving, through an enhanced set of weekend activities. Beyond Bangladesh, an exciting expedition to Thailand and Malaysia is upcoming. Our clubs are buzzing, especially in science and technology. Highlights include the Duke of Edinburgh Award, with community service in the dining hall, a stimulating debate on mandatory sports by the Bangla Debate Club, and impressive showings in the Mental Maths Challenge as students prepare for the World Cup. The Science Club also engaged in fun, hands-on experiments like creating non-Newtonian fluids.

Please make your plans to be with us on Speech Day – Thursday 19 June – where we will celebrate our sons' achievements this year.

Best wishes,



Duke of Edinburgh Awards Haileybury Bhaluka

Community Service Initiative: Dining Hall Food Service & Community Involvement Program

We are delighted to share an exciting update from Duke of Edinburgh's Haileybury Bhaluka. As part of our **ongoing commitment to fostering leadership, service, and community engagement** among our students, we recently organized a meaningful community service activity focused on our school's dining hall food service and Community Involvement program.

Empowering Student Leaders through Community Service

Our students actively participated in enhancing the dining hall experience by assisting with food service operations, ensuring cleanliness, and promoting hygiene standards. This hands-on involvement not only instills a **sense of responsibility and teamwork** but also emphasizes the importance of community care and service.

Highlights of the Event:

Student Engagement: Students took on roles such as food servers, cleanliness monitors, and customer service helpers.

Hygiene & Safety: Emphasis was placed on maintaining high standards of hygiene and safety protocols in the dining area.

Community Involvement: The initiative aimed to strengthen bonds within our school community and promote a culture of service and mutual respect.

Feedback & Reflection: Students shared their experiences and reflections on the importance of community service, leadership, and teamwork.

Looking Ahead

This event marks a significant step in our journey to nurture responsible, compassionate leaders of tomorrow. We are committed to providing more such opportunities where our students can serve, lead, and make a positive impact on their community.



Bangla Debate Club



This week, the Bangla Debate Club tackled the hot topic of whether sports should be mandatory in schools or not! The affirmative team argued that sports enhance physical health, teach teamwork, and reduce academic stress. They emphasized that regular physical activity improves focus and builds lifelong healthy habits.

The opposing team countered that mandatory sports may disadvantage students with physical limitations or academic priorities, stressing the importance of choice and balance. The debate was passionate and well-reasoned, sparking meaningful dialogue among participants.

In the end, students left with a deeper appreciation for the role of sports in education and the value of diverse perspectives.

"The opposing team countered that mandatory sports may disadvantage students with physical limitations or academic priorities, stressing the importance of choice and balance. The debate was passionate and well-reasoned, sparking meaningful dialogue among participants."

Md. Wahiduzzaman



Haileybury Mental Math Challenge

A Step Towards the World Cup!

This week, the Mathematics Club hosted an exciting Mental Math Competition as part of our ongoing preparations for the upcoming Mental Math World Cup 2025. The competition was a 30-minute test of pure mental calculation skills — no calculators — just brainpower and speed.

We are thrilled to announce the top performers:

1st Place: Jareer Ajyan

2nd Place: Ayush Jyoti

3rd Place: Sami Rahman

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding performance!

The Mental Math World Cup is an international event that challenges students to solve complex arithmetic problems quickly and accurately using only their minds. Our internal competitions are designed to sharpen these skills and prepare participants for global-level challenges.

If you enjoy fast-paced problem-solving and want to test your mental agility, we invite you to join the Math Club and take part in future events. All students are welcome, regardless of year group or experience level.

For more details or to get involved, please contact Mr Saifur Rahman.

Let the numbers fly!

Jareer Ajyan

Ayush Jyoti Dey

Sami Rahman Chowdhury



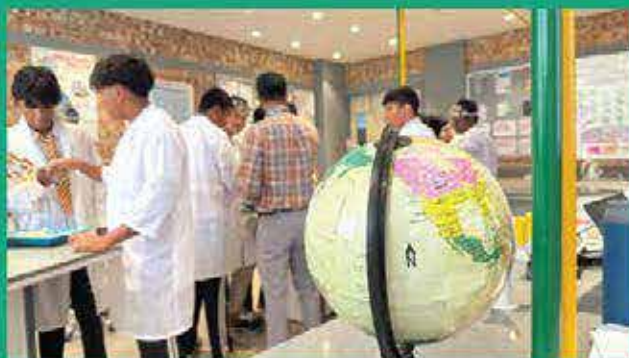
Desiderata

by Max Ehrmann

The 24h poetry competition this week was won impressively by Sami (Yr9) and Jubaer (Yr8).

Beyond Science

In this week's Science Club, students had a blast creating their own non-Newtonian fluid using just cornflour and water! They were fascinated to discover how this gooey mixture behaves like a solid when squeezed but flows like a liquid when left alone. It was a messy, hands-on experiment that sparked curiosity and plenty of laughter.



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Dhamsbur Mallikbari, Bhaluka, Mymensingh - 2240, Bangladesh

*Go placidly amid the noise and haste,
and remember what peace there may be in silence.
As far as possible without surrender
be on good terms with all persons.
Speak your truth quietly and clearly;
and listen to others,
even the dull and the ignorant;
they too have their story.
Avoid loud and aggressive persons,
they are vexations to the spirit,
If you compare yourself with others,
you may become vain and bitter;
for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.
Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.
Keep interested in your own career, however humble;
it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.
Exercise caution in your business affairs;
for the world is full of trickery.
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is;
many persons strive for high ideals;
and everywhere life is full of heroism.
Be yourself.
Especially, do not feign affection.
Neither be cynical about love;
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment
it is as perennial as the grass.
Take kindly the counsel of the years,
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden
misfortune.
But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.
Beyond a wholesome discipline,
be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe;
no less than the trees and the stars;
you have a right to be here.
And whether or not it is clear to you,
no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.
Therefore be at peace with God,
whatever you conceive Him to be,
and whatever your labors and aspirations,
in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.
With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams,
it is still a beautiful world.
Be cheerful.
Strive to be happy.*

HAILEYBURY HERALD


Haileybury Bhaluka

From the Headmaster

Next week, as we take a short break, I wish all Haileybury Bhaluka families a wonderful Eid celebration.

This week, our newsletter shows unrelenting activity in School and beyond. The community service aspect of the Duke of Edinburgh Award involved a visit to the School Dairy Farm, as students had a briefing from our farmers and saw our own cow breed - the Haileybury Heifur - being milked. Some of the same students are part of Science Club which this week focused on structures as English students were writing stanzas - a wonderful example from Rayat (Y7) under the theme of One Name, Many Stories.

Parents will receive their Speech Day invitation on Sunday. Please make your plans with your son's guidance. This event is the apex of our founding year. Like all our activities, it will start on time. Prize winners will be announced on the day and our students will be reflecting on their first year through music, poetry and dance.

Best wishes,



Duke of Edinburgh Awards Haileybury Bhaluka

Community Service Trip to Dairy Farm Yields Valuable Experience for Duke of Edinburgh's Award Candidate

Haileybury Bhaluka students recently participated in a valuable community service experience, visiting a local dairy farm as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program. This hands-on engagement provided a **wealth of learning opportunities, fostering a deeper understanding** of agricultural practices and the importance of community support.

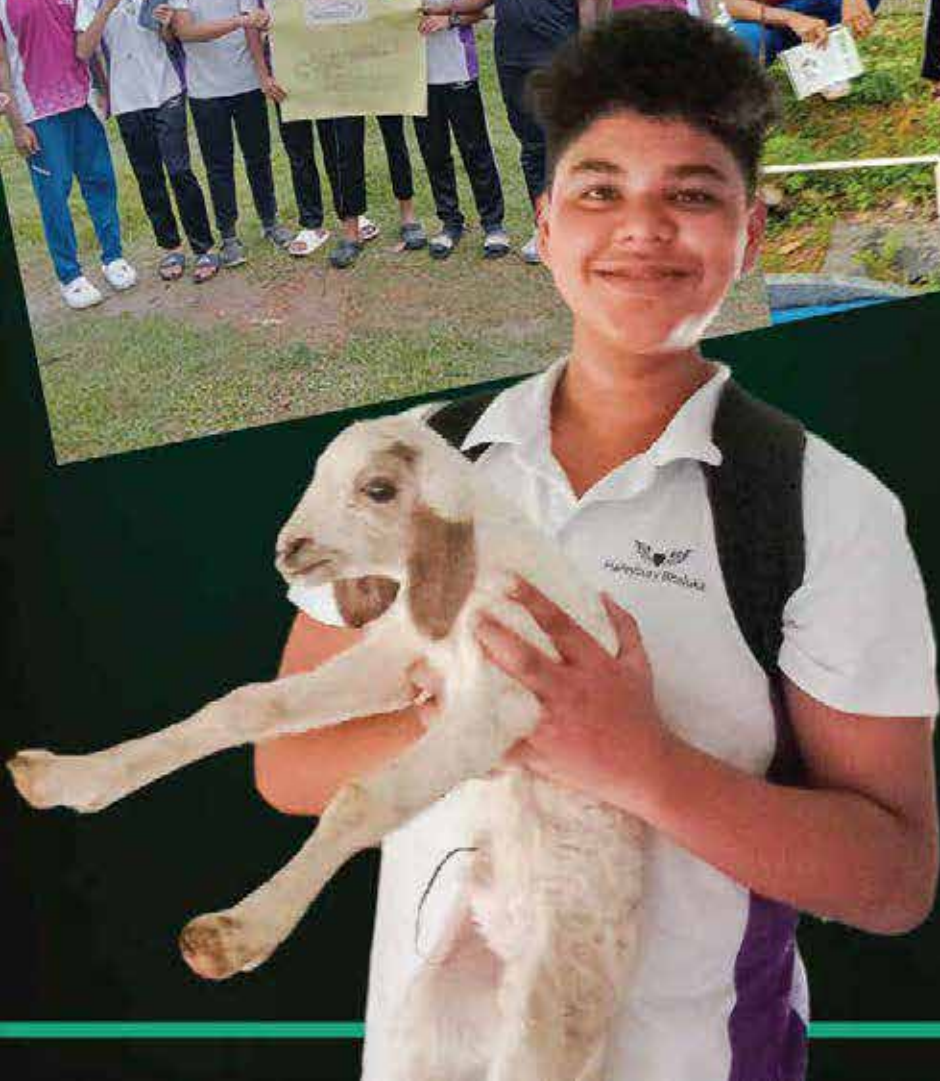
Empowering Student Leaders through Community Service

Our students actively participated in enhancing the dining hall experience by assisting with food service operations, ensuring cleanliness, and promoting hygiene standards. This hands-on involvement not only instills a **sense of responsibility and teamwork** but also emphasizes the importance of community care and service.

Highlights of the Event:

The visit allowed the student to observe firsthand the complexities of dairy farming, from animal care and feeding to milk production and processing. They gained practical insights into the role of the dairy farm in local food production and the vital contribution it makes to the community. This experience significantly enhanced their understanding of sustainable practices and the dedication required to maintain a successful agricultural operation.





Beyond Science



In this week's Science Club activity, students took on an exciting STEM challenge that tested their creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork skills. The task was to design and build the tallest free-standing tower capable of supporting a marshmallow at the top — all within a tight time limit. The competition was fierce as students raced against the clock, testing different materials and strategies. The Year 10 group (Sunxin, Jawad, Abdullah, Mansib and Fahim) emerged victorious with an impressive 57cm tower, closely followed by the Year 7 students (Taqi, Afraz, Rayat, Srijon) with a strong 53cm.



Haileybury Bhaluka: One Name, Many Stories

by Rayat (Yr7)

English

The students in Year 7 have been enjoying 'A Series of Unfortunate Events', a classic children's series in which three orphans are terrorized by their evil relative, Count Olaf! Consistent reading is a key to success across the curriculum and these boys have risen admirably to that challenge. Well done Year 7!



Clubs & Activities

Leadership & Competitions

Duke of Edinburgh
Physics Olympiad Club
Math Olympiad Club
International Chess Team

Sports & Fitness

Football Club
Badminton Club
Swimming Club
Cricket Club
Basketball Club

STEM & Innovation

Robotics Club
Coding Club

Creative Arts

Art Club

Public Speaking & Language

Bangla Debating Club
Oxford Schools Debating Club
English Club
Model United Nations Teams

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Dhamshur Mallikbari, Bhaluka, Mymensingh - 2240, Bangladesh

*Beneath the sun's warm glowing lights
Is a place where dreams take fearless flights,
A red building stands, both proud and tall
A home where enjoyment never fall.*

*Mr. Simon and teachers guides us with steady hands,
Helping us grow to meet life's demands.
Loyal friends beside us, with all but hate,
Reliable hearts can lead to a good fate.*

*We study hard, with passion and pride
In every lesson, we learn and thrive,
Education lights our path each day,
Fitness and strength also shows us the way.*

*Teachers that are patient and wise,
Opening windows to new skies.
We all gather, eager and strong,
Practicing adapt, to the future where we belong.*

*Through early mornings, late-night hours,
We wake, sleep and strive, increasing our powers.
With courage and laughter, challenges we face,
This school becomes our special place.*

*Its more than bricks or walls of stone,
This school has become a second home.
An area bound by dreams and cheer,
Haileybury Bhaluka, is forever near.*

*So we made memories, bright and clear,
To every lesson, friend, and year.
We stand together, proud and true
Our hearts belong to Haileybury Bhaluka,
through and through.*

INTERSCHOLASTIC- Oxford Schools' Debating Society Competition

Intertwining ruthless minds in complex debate.
Navigating eloquent arguments, innovative ideas are born:
Truth and courage meet; a sharp edge we cultivate.

English debate flows freely, the oars of facts our guides,
Rational and ready speeches delivered with honor held high,
Speaking persuasively and factually with knowledge at our sides.

Celebrating views with respect and grace,
Holding firm to that ethos that never disappears,
Oxford schools' bright debaters' speeches illuminating every space.

Led by six trained debaters, united and keen.
Against twenty schools across the globe,
Speaking passionately, Haileybury Bhaluka's global team.

Talented speakers gathered but we executed the perfect move.
In every round we showed strength and unity;
Champions of reason and respect, who always improve!



*Md Muhtasham Musharof Shafi
Year - 8*

Duke of Edinburgh Award Program: Visit to the dairy farm

As a part of our Duke of Edinburgh Programme we visited a dairy farm which offered a vivid tableau of rural life. The landscape was alive with the gentle movements of livestock, such as herds of cows, a remarkable flock of 118 sheep, and sprightly goats mingled across verdant pastures. Among the animals the presence of playful calves and lambs added a sense of renewal to the scene. Particularly most striking was the formidable cow weighing an impressive 900 kilograms embodying the strength nurtured by traditional farming methods. The peaceful-coexistence of diverse species represented the perfect balance of a working farm where each animal contributes to the vitality of the farm. This significant experience provided a rare glimpse into agricultural life where nature and animal husbandry intertwine to sustain both land and livelihood. We also had the opportunity to ask some reasonable questions to the workers out there, which had helped us to get a better view of the dairy farm and enlighten this amazing experience even more.



What Money Can't Save

Rich and poor the world was filled,
Some more, some less.
Big houses, cars, and stacks of money...
Where others lived in broken shacks.

The rich thought they'd survive,
They'd buy their safety, make it real.
Poor just hoped for one more dinner,
A home, a mending of their scars.

Then the sky began to burn,
The sun was lost, it won't return.
The earth was dry, the rivers were dry...
And no one knew what went so wrong.

A fellow with gold fell to his knees,
"Money no good, save me, please!"
But no one came, no food, no light...
Just dark, dark, and boundless wood.

A poor man walked with empty hands,
But knew the land, the stars, the land.
He tripped on a tree, he built a fire,
He kept on going, climbing higher.

Now that money's lost, it's nothing but dust.
And only hope and trust remain.
In the end, it's clear to see...
It's not the gold that sets us free.



*Afraz Nazif Rahman
Year - 7*



*Sami Rahman Chowdhury
Year - 9*

God's Gift

The sun shines, the bird sings
I wake up and the doorbell rings
I go to answer the call
I open the door and an angel falls
Peace fills my soul as I embrace
The spec of holiness that chooses this sinner
i feel as if god has blessed me
Prayers don't go to waste alas
Speaking to that light cleanses my soul
This soul of mine is ready
to take on whatever comes before thee
And to protect this goddess of mine
Even if i have to travel to the moon or
fight the divine
I will do anything as long as you shine

The Bearer

I could not fly only could cry,
Could not speak or could read
The cold desolate world I was in.

Then there was the light, the warmth
The one that made me feel home
A gentle touch; a mother's love
So vast, So deep, that made me leap
To the sky and to fly high

A silent pray to thee, pure beyond compare
A glowing beacon, that reminds me of home
No verse suffice the debt I owe to
The bearer of this little seed,
Always thee remember my heart will beat,
I will be grateful, will be indebted.



Ayush Jyoti Dey
Year - 9



H.M. Tahmid Islam
Year - 7

Throughout the unfathomably interminable, hyperpolysyllabically sesquipedalianistic, pseudoantidisestablishmentarianistically neuropsychopharmacologically hypermetabolically electroencephalographically scrutinized, multidimensionally labyrinthine, epistemologically perplexing, ontologically metaphysically profound, and existentially Sisyphean educational peregrination that is secondary education, I paradoxically manifested an unparalleled virtuosity in the praxis of procrastinatorial chronospatial neurochronotherapeutic discombobulation, temporodifferential epistemological recontextualization, and psychoneuroimmunological perseverance. This culminated in the ostensibly inconceivable, supererogatorily fortuitous, and ineffably magniloquent consummation of my scholastic requisites through a synergistic amalgamation of hypercaffeinomimetically instigated psychoneuroimmunological hyperarousal, sporadic episodic hyperintellectualized extemporaneous exertions, and incessant circadian chronobiological desynchronization compounded by chronic neurophysiological perseverance, all whilst maintaining an ostensibly superficial facade of scholastic decorum and cognitive equanimity in the face of overwhelming ontological dread and perpetual epistemic uncertainty.

A Year in Bangladesh

- Miranda Fell Stocks

When I boarded the plane from the UK to Bangladesh, I had no idea how deeply this country and its people would settle into my heart. It's impossible to summarize such a rich, eventful year, but here are a few moments – snapshots, really – that capture some of the joy, the surprise, and the wonder I've experienced.

Let's begin at Haileybury, with 6am runs through the misty rural landscape, accompanied by colleagues, when the world felt quiet and the paddy fields stretched endlessly around us. These peaceful jogs were often interrupted only by the odd goat, birdsong, and once (later in the year when we'd upgraded to two wheels) an elephant pulling logs that almost knocked me and Mr. Kanistan off our bikes!

Locally, one of the most surprisingly special moments came at the Bhaluka Post Office, where a simple attempt to send a letter to the UK turned into a full-staff operation. It was the first time the office had ever handled international mail and it resulted in a small act of connection that sparked a lot of laughter and camaraderie and one of my favourite photos of the year.

Moving further afield, it has been a privilege to explore Bangladesh's historical and cultural richness, usually in the excellent company of Mr Chris. We ventured to Ahsan Manzil and Lalbagh Fort in Old Dhaka – both breathtaking (though Old Dhaka's winding chaos did test my navigation skills). A weekend in Mymensingh offered peaceful moments by the sacred river, art at the gallery, and the romance of Shashi Lodge: an architectural gem. We even made friends with a rickshaw driver who seemed to appear just when we needed him, like magic. It was in Mymensingh, too, that I tasted fushka for the first time – a moment of culinary love at first bite! In Chittagong, there was terror (the giant swing at Foy's Lake), delight (watching red crabs scuttle across the shore), and curiosity (peering into the morning seafood catch being haggled over by locals). The Ethnological Museum and Baatighar Bookshop were also unexpected delights and definitely ones to arrange student trips to next year.

Christmas took us on an unforgettable tour under the gracious guidance of the exceptional Mr Nasir. In Rajshahi, he showed us the real Bangladesh – from Tagore's peaceful holiday home to the stunning Rajshahi Museum, home to androgynous figures and a serene standing Buddha. I was honoured to speak at the Rajshahi Fine Arts Department, where students were exhibiting world-class sculpture; we climbed palms for fresh date juice on a memorable misty morning; visited fisheries where fish rose from the depths to sample our breakfast offerings; sat on cushions listening to musicians perform soul-stirring pieces of traditional and modern music, and; visited the Sopura Silk Mill, where we met some of the most talented and friendly craftspeople I've ever encountered. In Khulna, we spotted a crocodile in the Sundarbans, played chess with local children, and tried to fish by throwing nets. I caught... a shrimp (no, not the one in the photo – that was Mr Chris' - mine was almost invisible).



Dhaka, of course, has been a regular adventure. From learning Bangla calligraphy at an art fair to receiving my first gifted artwork – two joyful bulbuls painted by a local artist at Cezanne Gallery – it has felt like a city that gives and gives. Thanks to Mr. Rahat, I toured Dhaka University, saw the parliament building, and, with Mr Kanistan, cheered on our students in a robotics competition. This remains a moment of pride (we won't say anything about the robot not getting off the starting line...). Thanks are also due to the stalwart Mr. Aminul for graciously inviting Mr Kanistan and I to watch sports at the American School. It was a pleasurable afternoon, though nothing (nothing!) compares to watching our boys play: football, badminton, ping pong, whatever it is, they play with heart and skill. Watching the badminton tournament has to be one of my top five happy memories of this year.

Then there's the wildlife: our lost pipistrelle, a delicate, fragile grounded swift, **a bee swarm the size of a suitcase** outside poor Mr. Chris' window, the countless insects and reptiles spotted during morning jogs. It would be hard to say whether I have been more pleased by students who have come to tell me what they are reading or students who have bought me injured animals to help look after (and the occasional dead butterfly to add to my lepidopterist collection). The world around us is fascinating and beautiful and engaging with it fully is part of our joyful journey as human beings.

Can I include the infamous Dhaka traffic in that sense of fascination? Hmm, not so much... though I'll never forget the time I looked out from the back of the car in a traffic jam and locked eyes with a disgruntled cow in the back of a truck. Make that five cows, close enough for their dribble to land on my window. Mind you, ***I did once drive a CNG down the school drive, so I can officially say I've been a Bangladeshi driver*** (for 200 metres, anyway) and that really was joyful.

This school has been a family. Our newest staff – Mr. Saifur and Mr. Mahedu – have slotted in perfectly. Mr. Saifur, my classroom neighbour, has provided endless humour on a busy day, while Mr. Wahid, a pillar of the school, has never ceased to inspire with his dedication and commitment to his students. I've paid homage already to Mr Nasir and Mr Aminal's kindness in sharing experiences with us expats, and Mr Kanistan knows that I couldn't have made it through this year without his humouring my constant 'invitations' to do exercise.

Though I want to give a teacher's perspective here, it would be remiss of me not to also give a special shout out to the women of the school, with whom I shared a hilarious afternoon filming a promo video. Clever, kind, and endlessly funny, these unsung heroes deserve a note of thanks. As for Mr Simon, Mr Masum, Mr Burhan, Capt. Asif and Mr Al Amin: the school simply would not work without them. They want the best for you and toil every day to make that possible.

Of course, at the heart of it all is you: the student body. Each of you has made this year one of the best in my teaching career. Whether it has been the Year 7s diving into ***A Series of Unfortunate Events*** (giving me another welcome reason to go to The Bookworm), the Year 8s astonishing me with their ever-expanding vocabularies, the Year 9s helping their new students feel integrated, or the Year 10s managing their **IGCSE** journey with grit – you've made me so proud. You've shared poems, jokes, questions, frustrations, and joys, and some of you have truly turned yourselves around this year. Oh and let me just say: no one has ever sung me a better Happy Birthday!

Thank you, Bangladesh. Thank you, team. Thank you, students. This has been a year of magic – and I can't wait to see you all in six weeks, after a summer of well-earned rest.



Spelling Bee Bangla

The Bangla Spelling Bee was an interesting program held on the 9th of February, 2025. The spellings were both easy and hard, Our Bangla Teacher, Wahid Sir enunciating each word perfectly. The event was based on **International Mother Language Day**.

Everyone with great focus wrote what they could. There were **20 words given, each word having its own twist**. A lot of people were excited with some giggling every now and then. The ambiance of the auditorium was nice and well lit. Photos were taken. All the teachers remained seated with a few taking pictures. Overall it was an interesting event in **my haileybury journey**.



*Md. Mashnoon Kowser Mridha
Year - 7*



*Tahiyah Ahmed
Year 9*

The Feeling

A deep feeling in the heart with a hint of frightening, yes, it was my first day in **Haileybury Bhaluka**, an outstanding school with a brilliant educational system, considering **one of the best schools in Bangladesh**.

Being in a school like this has been very impactful in my life, as it is not only a school, it is a place where we learn and gather knowledge. **Within the boundaries is another one where I live.**

The surrounding has its own emotions compared to the outside world. Every brick of this school carries fondness around it. Being with the whole **Haileybury is being with another second family**, a family we care deeply for each other. Its life changing opportunity as this school offers its students the finest education for the students' **well-being**, and I could not thank less for being in a school which is perfect in every way for me.



Amin Khan Adib
Year - 7

আজ আমি আপনাদের বলব আমার বাংলা বানান প্রতিযোগিতা “শব্দযোগিতা”র কথা। আমাদের বিদ্যালয় কার্যক্রম শেষ করার পরে আমাদের বাংলা স্যার বলেছিলেন এই প্রতিযোগিতা নিয়ে, তারপর আমরা সবাই আমাদের অডিটরিয়ামে চলে গিয়েছিলাম। তারপর স্যারেরা আমাদের একটি লেখার পৃষ্ঠা দিয়েছিলেন। তারপরে সবাই লেখা শুরু করেছিল এবং একটি স্বাসরুদ্ধকর অবস্থা তৈরি হয়েছিল জেতার জন্য। সবাই লেখাতে মনোযোগী ছিল, মাঝে মাঝে স্যার শব্দ বলে দিচ্ছিলেন বিবরণ দিয়ে। মোট ২০টি শব্দ ছিল এবং নাম্বার ছিল ৪০। এরপর প্রতিযোগিতার শেষের দিকে আমি অনেক চিন্তিত ছিলাম কারণটা ছিল আমি কি ভাল করতে পারব নাকি। তারপরেও আমাদের শিক্ষকরা আমাদের উৎসাহিত করছিলেন, এরপর আমাদের সময় শেষ হওয়ার পরে স্যার আমার ও আমার পাশের সবার খাতা নিয়ে নিয়েছিলেন। সর্বোপরি বলতে পারি আমার পুরো সময়টি চিন্তা ও কৌতুহলের মধ্য দিয়ে কেটেছিল।

Bangla Debating

Greetings and salutations, to whoever is reading this! Marshal of the **Bangla Debate Club** here, and I'm here to spill out a few fragments of the club sessions we've had with Mr. Wahid and the members. I remember, before my worries and stress were born, in the third week of school, I struggled to make a presentation and somehow presented it in front of the debate team. That was when I felt a sense of connection to the no-knowing team and they were cheering in joy, instilling annoyance in the great and wise, Mr. Wahid. I haven't had the best experience exactly to say the least in Bangla debate, as for English, but I was confident I'd achieve something in the Bangla counterpart too. Though, I can recall mixing up the words, “**COLLISION**” and “**SCREW**” in Bengali as a mistake in a tournament. I mean, the crowd did laugh so yes, there's that, but the Chair began awfully yelling at me and kicked me off stage and that was the last time I was made campus ambassador for a while at that tournament.

Anyways, in Bangla debate, the great Wahid Sir tried his uttermost best to push the team up but some specific team mates of mine pulled it down again before getting kicked out. We've had several sessions with the topics such as—

- i) Remittance contributes more to our economy than industrialization.
(*Industrialization won.*)
- ii) Socialism will be a better ideology for our people than nationalism.
(*Nationalism won.*)
- iii) ECA's are useless for Bangladeshi students not planning to go abroad.
(*More competition? No thanks. Let me win, because it's gonna benefit me more please.*)



Tasdir Abdullah Chowdhury
Year 10

iv) Winning is more important than participation. (It was a tie, nobody won, everyone just went home slightly annoyed and angry.)

The teams that actually gave in efforts were the only ones that won but we had a fearsome debater. Now, let me pay my formal tribute to the nuclear weapon of our club, who destroyed every competition. (Except me, of course, never stood a chance against me.) He's the man, the myth, the legend, Ahsan-Ur Zaman, who always spoke overtime and never followed rules, he held onto his beliefs firmly and never let his own ideals down, I suggest and imply, we should all follow his footsteps and hold onto our beliefs as well, as it makes us, us.

I thank Wahid sir for the rank he gave me in the club that made me feel like the General of an illegal army. May his patience live long, though our team tried hard to kill it. That will be all, Tasdir signing out. Thank you for reading.

Experience In the Oxford Schools Debating Tournament

Being able to participate in the Oxford School's Debate Competition was an unforgettable experience. Guided by our Principal, Mr. O'Grady, we took part in 2 debate rounds. With international students from all over the world. Schools from countries in Europe, South America and more. For my first Debate Competition ever, I felt that it went very well. The judges were students at Oxford University. The constructive feedback we received gave me a lot of insight on how to improve.

All of our rounds contained students of our senior year, who were in Year 12/13. After each round we discussed and they praised me and my teammate Tasdir Abdullah Chowdhury, who also performed extremely well, and with his broad experience in the field, we made a good team.

Overall, I hope to have to have more experiences like this in the future and I thank Mr. O'Grady for being our mentor and signing up me and my teammate Tasdir for this opportunity.

Md Muhtasham Musharof Shafi Year - 8

সবুজ মাঠে শিশির বারে, ভোরের আলো হাসে,
নদীর ধারে বাতাস খেলে, ঢেউয়ের সাথে ভাসে।
পাখির গানে মুখর বন, ফুলেরা ফুটেছে,
মেঘের ছায়ায় আকাশ যেন স্বপ্নে ছুঁয়েছে।

সন্ধ্যা নামে রঙের খেলায়, আকাশ করে সাজ,
জোনাকিদের আলো দেখে, লাগে অপূর্ব আজ।
প্রকৃতিতে হারিয়ে গেলে মন যে ফিরে পায়,
সৃষ্টি জুড়ে আনন্দময়, মুগ্ধতার ছোঁয়ায়।



Sajid Sarowar
Year 10

বসন্তের হাওয়া

Sami Rahman Chowdhury

দুনিয়ার হাওয়ায় জেমে জিয়ে
দাবো কি তোমায় আকাশে ?
তোমায় আমার বন্ধু নিয়ে,
হারিয়ে যাব আকাশে।

হারিয়ে তোমায়, তোমার ছবি
জেমে ঝঁটে মাথায়;
এত ভানোবেমে, কি করে
জুনি আমি, হে তোমায় ?

শব্দযোগিতা

শব্দ শুনে বানান লেখা, এটা যেমন শেখার জন্য খুবই কার্যকর, তেমনি মজার। এই প্রতিযোগিতায়, কঠিন কঠিন শব্দ শুনে তার বানান লিখতে হয়। এই প্রতিযোগিতাটি, আমাদের স্কুল হেইলিবারি ভান্ডারগাম, ৯ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০২৫-এ অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। প্রতিযোগিতাটি, এই প্রতিযোগিতায় অংশগ্রহণ করে, এবং এটি আমাদের স্কুলের অভিটোরিয়ামে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। অবশিষ্ট শিক্ষক-শিক্ষিকা যেখানে উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

প্রতিযোগিতায়, অবশিষ্ট ২০ টি শব্দ ছিল। এক শব্দে, ২ নম্বর। আমাদের বাংলা শিক্ষক, ওয়াহিদ ম্যার, অবশিষ্ট শব্দ তিক করে, যে কোন কোন শব্দ থাকবে। শব্দের মধ্যে, কিছু কিছু কঠিন শব্দ থাকে। প্রতিযোগিতার শুরু থেকেই সবাই একদম শান্ত হইয়েছিল, কারণ সবাই জেতার ইচ্ছা। ১৫ থেকে ২০ মিনিট শব্দ লেখার পর, আমাদের প্রতিযোগিতাটি শেষ হয়। প্রতিযোগিতাটি খুব মজার ছিল। যারা বাংলা ভালো পারেনা, তারা অনেক কিছু শিখতে পেরেছিল। প্রতিযোগিতাটি আমার নিজের কাছেও অনেক ভালো এবং মজা লেগেছে।

আশা করি, ওয়াহিদ ম্যার ভবিষ্যতে এরকম প্রতিযোগিতা আরো আনবেন, যেখানে আমরা আমাদের নিজেদের দক্ষতা প্রকাশ করতে পারবো।

Jubaer Ahmed
Year 8



Ayush Jyoti Dey
Year - 9

চ্যাট জিপিটি ব্যবহার করি নাই

গতকাল আমার বাংলা শিক্ষক আমায় বাংলা রচনা লিখতে দিয়েছিল, তার বিষয় হল চ্যাট জিপিটির ব্যবহারের ক্ষতিকর দিক এবং কিভাবে সু ব্যবহার করতে হবে। রচনা কখনই আমার পড়ুদের বিষয় ছিল না, তবে এই বছর দায় করতে হলে আমার এই রচনা লিখতে হবে।

ক্লাস শেষ হওয়ার পর আমি ডরমিটরিতে ফিরে যাই এবং যাক্সার মাথে মাথে ঘুম দেই, ঘুমের মধ্যে আমি স্বপ্নের দেশে চলে যাই। যেখানে দেখি একটি মস্তা আমায় আমার রচনা লেখে দিচ্ছে, পুরো রচনা যেন এক নিমিষেই মুখস্থ হয়ে যায়।

ঘুম থেকে উঠে চট করে স্বপ্ন যা যা ঘটনা ঘটে তা লিখে ফেলি এবং শেষ করে ফেলার পর দৌড় দেই ম্যারের কাছে আমার রচনা দেখানোর জন্য। ম্যার এই রচনা দেখে বললেন “চ্যাট জিপিটি ব্যবহার করেছে” ? আমি বললাম না ম্যার, “আমি চ্যাট জিপিটি ব্যবহার করি নাই” ম্যার বিশ্বাস করল না এবং বলল “তুমি এত ভালো রচনা কখনোই লিখতে পারো না” আমি বললাম “ম্যার তাহলে একই রচনা চ্যাট জিপিটিকে দেন এবং দেখেন আমার রচনা এবং চ্যাট জিপিটির রচনা এক হয় নাকি” ম্যার আমলেই তাই করল। চ্যাট জিপিটি যখন জবাব দেয় “তার দ্বারা এত সুন্দর ভাষায় শুষ্কিয়ে রচনা লেখা সম্ভব নয়” ম্যার তখন বিশ্বাস করল এবং রচনার খাতা দেখা শুরু করল।



Haileybury Bhaluka



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