

OUR VOICES

The latest news and updates from the students of Darul Uloom Leicester



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The Student Council

BY MAAZ KHALID, STUDENT COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Having started our first term of the new academic year in Darul Uloom, while the summer vacation season kicks in for everyone else, it's been an unconventional start for DUL students.

Naturally, the Darul Uloom's Student Council has had less to do while being busy in adjusting to the New Year's books, teachers and timetables. Nonetheless, previously planned and anticipated events have taken place by Allah's grace, such as the Kingswood trip in North Wales, where the students had fun creating memories and shared experiences. Now we are looking forward to our annual Charity Fundraiser, which will be taking place on the 16th of September, at the beginning of the second term. Once again it is being almost entirely arranged by the students and aims to raise funds for Darul Uloom, Ummah Welfare Trust, Age UK, Rainbows Children's Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support. Following the success of last year's fundraiser, we look forward to seeing students, parents and the general public at this year's event.



Our Residential Trip to Wales

BY HAMMAD PATEL, YR 8

On Friday 14th July, some DUL students made their way to Kingswood Colomendy, North Wales, a residential activity retreat for young people and schools. When we arrived, we were set up in our rooms and had our first two activities on the same day. Every night, we fell asleep straight away as we were drained out after the day's activities. We had Fajr Salaah at 4.15am and breakfast at 8.25am every day. Lunch was at 1.25pm and dinner was at 6.25pm, a bit earlier than normal for us Darul Uloom students.

For the next two days, we had seven activities each day. For every activity, we had a particular skill we gained while doing the activity. For example, in Climbing we developed self-confidence and for Low Ropes we used our teamwork. On Monday 17th July, the day we came back, we had two activities. Our group leader Alex, was very supportive and kind to us and was overall a very jolly and cheerful man. Some of the standout events that happened when we were there was when the teachers beat the students in football (through a lot of cheating) and when everyone in the bus started singing nasheeds together. My favourite activities, personally, were Caving and the 3G Swing (Giant Swing), while other activities such as Aeroball and Archery were close seconds. We had a great time at Kingswood and I fully recommend anyone to go there next time DUL plans a trip.





Together We Stand

BY SAAD HANSROT, YR 12

Only a few days after the tragedy that occurred in Manchester, last May, a small group of three students and four teachers attended the Leicester Vigil at the Town Square. One of my fellow students in the 5th year of the Ilmiyyah course delivered a speech at this event in order to unite the community at this trying time. The local newspaper, the Leicester Mercury, along with a BBC Radio station also attended the gathering. In the spirit of harmony, pieces of chalk were given out to the attendees and the pavement was full of art in different shapes & sizes. The Town Square was vibrant with colour as the vigil united everyone to spread love not hate.

I would like to share the poem narrated by my friend at the gathering,



NOT IN MY NAME!

*They say it was a Muslim
I'm here to state we don't associate with them*

*Don't tarnish my faith
But read about my faith
For surely you'll hear me saying, 'Not in my name!'*

*It pains to see all Muslims painted with the same brush
Those who don't know all assume in a rush*

*Don't tarnish my faith
But read about my faith
For surely you'll hear me saying, 'Not in my name!'*

*Killing of innocent humans
By one individual human
A cowardly act
By a man believed to be doing a religious act*

*Don't tarnish my faith
But read about my faith
For surely you'll hear me saying, 'Not in my name!'*

*A sad day for all
But divided we fall
As humanity we unite
And injustice and oppression we fight*

*Don't tarnish my faith
But read about my faith
For surely you'll hear us saying, 'Not in our name!'*

*Manchester in our thoughts
London in our thoughts
Germany, Brussels and all other sorts
Together we stand
Our voices like a band
In solidarity and unity
All from different community*

*Don't tarnish my faith
But read about my faith
For surely you'll hear us shouting,
'Not in our name!'*

*My name you ask
My name is HUMANITY*

The New Timetable

BY TAMJID ALI, YR 10A

Darul Uloom Leicester has developed outstandingly over the last year, ensuring that students benefit from a fun and interactive environment, while also aiming to fulfil the Darul Uloom's slogan; Learn, Practise and Serve. Darul Uloom have made numerous changes, one of these changes can be seen in the better learning facilities throughout the school. Further improvements in the curriculum have required Darul Uloom to adjust its timetable. The Darul Uloom's new timetable has benefited and stressed many people in various ways, here listed below are some of the pros and cons.

Now that the Hifz class ends at 11.30am, pupils have 55 minute long school lessons, which are 10 minutes longer than the old lessons. Previously, at the beginning of each lesson, 5 minutes would typically be spent settling down, this would result in shorter lessons, which added up over the year to cause a considerable loss in the overall teaching time. However, now even after allowing the students 5 minutes to compose themselves, the lessons are close to an hour, which is sufficient time for a teacher to cover more topics and benefit the students.

Although students are benefiting from the extra 10 minutes per lesson, this has resulted in this time being deducted from our lunch break. This means that we have to complete all our lunchtime necessities quickly, if we want to be punctual in our duties. But students of Darul Uloom have a habit of adapting to changes and I pray that we adapt to this one too.

Overall, I think the Darul Uloom Staff Leadership Team have done a good job in rescheduling a new timetable that has mostly benefited us students. At the end of the day our main purpose is to Learn, Practice & Serve.



Sessions of Spirituality

BY RIYAD RAHMAN, EDITOR

"I have left with you two things, you will never go astray as long as you hold fast onto them, the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of his Prophet."

PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SAW)

Spirituality is something many of us lack in the modern age. We are in constant need of reminders about our faith and thus Darul Uloom has initiated the monthly Tarbiyyah programme. Our recent Saturday sessions have discussed the ways students can connect with Allah and how we can implement the Sunnah in our daily lives. The school decided to provide each student with a miswak to establish a foundation for us to build on, moving forward. We should all make an effort to act upon as many of the Sunnats of the Prophet (pbuh), especially during this break, so that we build a strong connection with our deen.