



The  
Dawood  
Foundation



The Dawood Foundation's

Children's  
DAYCARE



# The Dawood Foundation Newsletter Q3 2025

Education Inspiring Social Change

# Message from the CEO

## *Celebrating Impact and Innovation*



Dear Stakeholders,

As TDF's MagnifiScience Centre proudly marks its fourth anniversary, I am pleased to reflect on this remarkable journey—celebrating four transformative years of igniting curiosity, nurturing learning, and inspiring discovery.

Since its inception, the Centre has evolved into a vibrant hub of hands-on science education, welcoming over 600,000 young learners and families. This year's anniversary celebrations served as a powerful reminder of how far we have come—bringing together our community to reflect on our progress and renew our commitment to making science accessible, inclusive, and engaging for all.

A key highlight this quarter was the launch of the "Money Matters" exhibit, developed in collaboration with Bank Alfalah Limited. This dynamic and interactive experience introduces learners to essential financial literacy skills—including budgeting, saving, and investing—broadening the Centre's educational scope and relevance in today's world.

We proudly hosted a Science Fair featuring Summer Junior Internship participants, attracting over 3,700 visitors. It was inspiring to see young interns showcase innovative projects—from robotics to sustainability—highlighting the Centre's role in fostering talent and creativity.

Our anniversary season further showcased the diverse programming that defines the MagnifiScience Centre: LEGO Robotics workshops, Astronomy sessions, and STEAM Weekend activities. Each initiative continues to foster curiosity, encourage hands-on learning, and promote inclusivity across all age groups.

Beyond the Centre, our broader commitment to holistic learning continues through TDF's wider initiatives. TDF's Children's Daycare celebrated two successful years of providing nurturing, educational care in a safe and stimulating environment—supporting early childhood development.

Meanwhile, TDF Ghar also thrived as a cultural centre that values heritage, community, and inclusivity. This quarter's diversified programme featured Dastaan-e-Raqs, Sign Language workshop, Book Bazaar, as well as soulful Qawali Night and Drum Circle, which enlivened the evenings at TDF Ghar with music and culture.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to innovation, education, and community impact—guided by integrity, inclusivity, and a passion for progress. With the support of our partners and dedicated team, we will continue advancing our mission to build an informed, inspired, and sustainable society.

Together, let us keep sparking curiosity, fuelling creativity, and championing discovery — for generations to come.

**Favad Soomro**  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Dawood Foundation



## TDF's MagnifiScience Centre

# Special Visits at MSC



**Dr. Edward Brooks**, Associate Professor at the University of Oxford, explores interactive exhibits during his visit to the MagnifiScience Centre.



**Mr. Badar ul Islam**, National Programme Coordinator, UNIDO; **Mr. Farooque Siddiqui**, National Technical Advisor, UNIDO; **Mr. Ahsan Gaylani**, National Expert, UNIDO and **Mr. Awais Mahar**, Head of Community Programs & Operations, Engro Foundation visit the MagnifiScience Centre to discuss collaborative opportunities in advancing STEM education and community-based learning initiatives.



**Rear Admiral (R) Syed Moazzam Ilyas HI (M)**, Chairman Port Qasim Authority, and **Mr. Syed Ammar Shah**, CEO Engro Vopak Terminal, tour the MagnifiScience Centre, appreciating The Dawood Foundation's efforts in creating inclusive, hands-on science learning experiences.

## MOU Signed Between TDF and PSO

On July 23, 2025, The Dawood Foundation and Pakistan State Oil (PSO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to launch a joint initiative aimed at expanding access to quality science education for underprivileged children at the MagnifiScience Centre.

As part of this meaningful partnership, PSO has generously sponsored educational visits for 1,000 schoolchildren from underserved communities. These visits provide students with the opportunity to engage in hands-on experiences at MSC.

Recently, students from Atfal Al-Burhan School and Aisha Islamic Academy were among the first to benefit from the programme. They spent an exciting day exploring the Centre, where they connected classroom concepts to real-world scientific experiences.

This visit marks the beginning of PSO's long-term commitment to fostering inclusivity and curiosity by making science accessible, engaging, and enjoyable for all.



## MagnifiScience Centre Welcomes New Head



The Dawood Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Nasreen Hassan as the new Head of MagnifiScience Centre, effective August 2025.

With two decades of experience in education, design, and project management, Ms. Hassan has been integral to TDF's journey since 2006. She has contributed to major initiatives, including the MagnifiScience Exhibitions, the Festival of Lights (2017), establishment of the Dawood Development Unit (DDU) and the MagnifiScience Centre.

Dedicated to empowering communities, she has led an Evening Programme for 250 underprivileged students at DPS and managed a community school at MSC serving 40 learners.

Most recently, she served as a Manager Coordination and Design at MSC, where she spearheaded the design and development of interactive exhibits and science experiences.



# Sponsored School Visits to the MagnifiScience Centre

This quarter, the MagnifiScience Centre came alive with excitement as young learners from schools across Karachi experienced science like never before. Thanks to the generous support of Arif Habib Limited, Engro Vopak, Soneri Bank, and United Bank Limited (UBL), students from FAS Debal Academy, HOL Foundation, Port Qasim Authority School, Jagruti Summer Camp, CEP, and AMN School were given the opportunity to explore the wonders of science through sponsored visits.

For many of these children, it was their first time engaging with science outside the classroom. From discovering how light bends to creating mini whirlpools and understanding the human body's inner workings, each exhibit sparked curiosity and inspired countless moments.

The laughter and fascination that filled the halls of the Centre reflected more than just a day of learning — it was a step towards making science accessible and exciting for all.

A heartfelt thank you to our sponsors for making this initiative possible. Your continued support has enabled underprivileged students to experience the joy of discovery — bridging the gap between classroom learning and hands-on experience. Together, we are nurturing the next generation of curious minds.



**Cost of sponsoring a child's visit: Rs. 2500**

**LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Support a child's visit to MSC and bring the magic of science in the lives of underprivileged children.

To donate or learn more about this initiative, please contact us at [donations@dawoodfoundation.org](mailto:donations@dawoodfoundation.org)

# New at MagnifiScience Centre

# Money Matters

Location: Second Floor, Mathematics Section



Bank Alfalah has partnered with TDF's MagnifiScience Centre to launch a first-of-its-kind interactive Money Matters Exhibition, aimed at helping young Pakistanis develop essential money management skills.

Housed on the second floor of MSC in the Mathematics section, the new Money Matters theme turns personal finance into play. Children and teenagers can explore budgeting, saving, spending, and investing through gamified exhibits which include an arcade-style ATM, a walk-through history of money from barter to Bitcoin, and hands-on activities that simplify complex financial concepts.

On the occasion, Atif Bajwa, President and CEO of Bank Alfalah said that basic goal is to make financial literacy second nature for the next generation. *"Through this partnership with The Dawood Foundation, we're offering young minds an immersive experience that empowers smarter decision-making early in life. We are confident that this approach will equip the upcoming generation to successfully navigate through a rapidly evolving financial knowledge with confidence, and responsibility."*

Sabrina Dawood, Vice Chair of The Dawood Foundation, said, *"The Money Matters Exhibition at the MagnifiScience Centre, supported by Bank Alfalah, offers a dynamic introduction to financial literacy, empowering visitors of all ages, especially young minds, to think critically about earning, spending, and saving. This meaningful initiative reflects the bank's commitment to building financially aware and responsible communities."*

The initiative aligns with the State Bank of Pakistan's financial inclusion agenda and supports the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 4 -Quality Education and SDG 17- Partnerships for the Goals. It also reflects Bank Alfalah's ongoing commitment to Sustainable Corporate Social Responsibility, with a focus on education, financial and digital inclusion, and community empowerment.

The exhibition is open to the public and is a permanent feature of MSC's educational offerings.







# Junior Internship Programme Finale Science Fair 2025



This summer, the Junior Internship Programme (JIP) culminated in a vibrant Science Fair – the grand finale of the two-month Junior Internship Programme.

The Science Fair provided a dynamic platform for interns to showcase their STEAM-based projects, demonstrating both their technical skills and public speaking abilities. With over 24 STEAM projects on display, the event highlighted how these young minds are leveraging technology to address real-world challenges.

Projects ranged from smart car parking systems, home automation, and robotic arms to metal detectors, solar tracking systems, and smart irrigation solutions – each illustrating the practical impact of science and engineering. On the software front, interns presented ChatBot, Rain Detector, Traffic Light Signal with Sound Sensor, Facial Recognition, and Game Development, blending creativity with technical insight.

Adding a personal touch, the interns confidently shared their ideas with visitors. Mohammed Murtaza, demonstrating a line-following vehicle, explained, “A vehicle that follows a path will also remain safe from accidents.” His teammate Waniya added, “It will also not lose its way and avoid hazardous areas.”

Sustainability intern Asrosh showcased innovative upcycled products such as jam made from overripe mangoes, carrot crackers, organic facial scrubs, and eco-friendly air fresheners. “We want organic waste to stay in the kitchen,” he said, emphasising the importance of waste reduction and sustainable living.

The event attracted 3,774 visitors who explored exhibits, engaged with interns, and celebrated their creativity. Food stalls, a music corner, and a photo booth added to the lively ambiance. The showstopper was the Pakistan Science Club’s spectacular chain reaction performance, captivating audiences of all ages.

The Science Fair was a powerful testament to the interns’ dedication, imagination, and commitment to learning—proving that classroom knowledge can transform into real-world solutions when young people are empowered to explore, experiment, and express themselves.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors and collaborators—Cakewalk – The Ideal Cheesecake, Coffee Wagera, Famous O’s Pizza, Leather for Kids, Wafi Energy, Soneri Bank, and Meezan Bank – whose support was instrumental in making the event a resounding success.







# Undergraduate Internship Programme



Every summer, TDF welcomes a new cohort of talented undergraduate interns eager to gain practical experience. This year, 17 bright and motivated interns joined TDF, contributing their skills across a variety of departments, including Finance, HR, Marketing, PR, Architecture, STEM, and Sustainability. They were engaged in hands-on projects and collaborative teamwork, making valuable contributions.

During their internship, the interns visited the MagnifiScience Centre, where they explored interactive exhibits and took part in Toastmasters sessions to build confidence in public speaking. They also attended financial literacy workshops and toured TDF Ghar – a living museum nestled in the historic Jamshed Quarters. TDF Ghar beautifully preserves and showcases the rich cultural heritage and traditional lifestyle of Karachi's communities, offering the interns a unique glimpse into the city's history and the importance of cultural preservation.



The programme concluded with a hi-tea reception, a heartfelt occasion to honour the enthusiasm, dedication, and new perspectives the interns brought to TDF. Beyond celebrating their achievements, the event provided an opportunity for meaningful conversations with TDF's leadership, allowing the interns to gain insights, ask questions, and reflect on their professional journeys.

TDF Undergraduate Internship Programme is a journey of connection, mentorship, and appreciation.



## The Launch of Sheena's Flight – A Journey Through Pakistan's Changing Waters

TDF's MagnifiScience Centre had the pleasure of hosting National Foods Limited and GoRead.pk for the launch of their bilingual children's storybook, "Sheena's Flight – A Journey Through Pakistan's Changing Waters." Written by Nusser Sayeed and beautifully illustrated by Saleha Ghani, the book takes young readers on an imaginative journey that sheds light on the critical issues of environmental awareness and water conservation.

The launch event featured an interactive reading session and a thought-provoking discussion, encouraging children to reflect on the importance of protecting our planet. Through the power of creative storytelling, the session highlighted how literature can serve as a meaningful tool to nurture empathy, curiosity, and responsibility among young audiences.

On this occasion, Favad Soomro, CEO of The Dawood Foundation, shared, "At the MagnifiScience Centre, our mission is to spark curiosity and make learning engaging and accessible for children. National Foods' launch of Sheena's Flight aligns with our vision of combining science, education, and creativity to address real-world challenges like climate change."



# Wellbeing Programme



In August, TDF officially launched its Wellness Programme, a year-long initiative dedicated to supporting the holistic wellbeing of employees. The programme was introduced through an engaging session titled “Pathway to Wellbeing”, which emphasised the crucial role of emotional and mental health in fostering a productive and balanced work life.

The Wellness Programme features two main components: Employee Wellness Coaching, offering every employee an hour session with Wellbeing Coach Habiba Nasir Mirza— who holds an MS in Clinical Psychology

and is a certified Humanistic Integrative Counselling and Trauma Support Specialist; and Targeted Workshops, designed to provide a blend of general and specialised learning opportunities.

These initiatives aim to promote awareness, resilience, and healthy habits while reducing stress and burnout. At TDF, we believe that prioritising employee wellbeing is essential to creating meaningful impact, fostering personal fulfilment, professional growth, and a culture of care and collective wellbeing.

## Celebrating Independence Day

This Independence Day, MagnifiScience Centre embraced the spirit of patriotism with Bachpan ki Yaadein — a nostalgic event that brought cherished childhood memories to life for employees and visitors of all ages.

The programme featured a delightful range of activities, including pot painting, face painting, and a themed photo booth adorned with Independence Day props,

offering everyone the chance to capture special moments. Visitors also savoured sweet treats and enjoyed traditional games, rekindling the warmth and carefree joy of childhood celebrations.

These heartwarming activities sparked joy and connection, creating lasting memories for families and friends alike.





## Empowering Young Learners with Life-Saving Skills

This quarter, MagnifiScience Centre hosted two impactful workshops aimed at equipping children with essential emergency response skills—building confidence, awareness, and preparedness in critical situations.

In collaboration with Aga Khan University's Centre for Innovation in Medical Education (CIME), MSC conducted the much-anticipated Rescue Rangers session for children aged 8 to 12. Through hands-on simulations, participants learnt how to respond effectively to real-life emergencies, including CPR, burn care, bleeding control, and handling electrocution incidents.

Each activity was designed to empower young learners with the knowledge, skills, and composure needed to act responsibly during emergencies.



Following this, MSC partnered with MedAid Pakistan, a public health initiative by the HOPES NGO, to host an engaging Basic Life Support and First Aid Workshop for children aged 7 to 13 years.

This interactive session invited participants to step into the role of 'junior doctors', participating in practical demonstrations that covered life-saving skills such as CPR, bleeding management, fracture care, burn and choking first aid, and emergency response to electrocution.

Both initiatives aim to raise awareness around health and safety while nurturing a generation of informed, proactive, and capable children, ready to respond with confidence and care in emergency situations.



## Academic Research PNEC–NUST

The Dawood Foundation is proud to have contributed to evidence-based research through data collaboration with PNEC–NUST. Published in August 2025 in the Sigma Journal of Engineering and Natural Sciences (Vol. 43, No. 4), the research paper titled "Experimental Investigation of Power Losses in PV Panels Soiling and Designing an Affordable Cleaning Solution". The research was supported by Air Quality Index data provided by TDF.

*"The authors gratefully acknowledge The Dawood Foundation for providing part of the data used in this research and extend their sincere thanks for the support."*  
- PNEC–NUST



# MagnifiScience Centre Marks Four Years

## *A Celebration of Discovery and Learning*

In September, the MagnifiScience Centre proudly celebrated its fourth anniversary, commemorating four years of sparking curiosity and promoting hands-on science learning for all ages.

Visitors enjoyed a range of engaging activities, including a cupcake decorating session that added a sweet and memorable touch to the day. The festivities continued with a vibrant bag-painting activity, where children from TDF's Basic Literacy Programme expressed their creativity—perfectly capturing the spirit of joyful learning that defines MSC.

To mark its 4th anniversary, MagnifiScience Centre offered exciting September deals — including free entry for visitors celebrating their birthdays and special discounted packages for students, women, men, senior citizens, and visitors with access needs. The month-long celebration welcomed curious minds of all ages to experience the joy of learning through science.





# School Principals Experience an Exclusive Tour of MSC



As part of the anniversary celebrations, MSC was honoured to host school principals from across Karachi for an exclusive guided tour of the Centre.

The visit offered an immersive experience of MSC's interactive exhibits and learning spaces, including the innovative STEAM Lab–Jugaar Ghar. Guests explored how the Centre connects scientific concepts with real-life applications through experiential learning.

During the session, school representatives were introduced to several exciting educational opportunities:

- **Special school visit offer:** Rs. 900 per student (valid until 31st December 2025 with advance booking)
- **A dedicated sustainability package** tailored specifically for schools
- **Enriching STEM-based programmes** featuring hands-on activities, teacher training sessions, and access to the STEAM Lab

The tour concluded with a warm hi-tea reception, where TDF's CEO, Favad Soomro, shared The Dawood Foundation's vision for advancing informal education and promoting accessible, science-based learning across communities. These celebrations were a heartfelt expression of gratitude to our community of educators, partners, and supporters.



# LEGO Robotics Workshop

In collaboration with Align STEM Club, MagnifiScience Centre hosted an inspiring LEGO Robotics Workshop that introduced children to the exciting world of innovation and discovery. Using LEGO WeDo 2.0 and Spike Prime kits, participants designed and built their own robots while learning the fundamentals of coding, logical thinking, and problem-solving.

From constructing simple machines to experimenting with movement and automation, the workshop nurtured teamwork, creativity, and critical thinking—demonstrating how play can be a powerful gateway to STEM learning.



## Astronomy Session

The MagnifiScience Centre recently welcomed the Karachi Astronomers Society (KAS) for an inspiring Astroverse session.

Participants explored the wonders of the night sky, learning about stars, planets, and other celestial phenomena. The session concluded with a memorable telescope demonstration, allowing participants to put their learning into practice—sparking curiosity and deepening their excitement for space science.





# Weekend Programmes



## July: Simple Machines

In July, curious minds delved into the world of simple machines through fun and interactive activities. Participants explored the relationship between load, effort, and the position of the fulcrum using a seesaw setup. Through the Lever Lift-Off challenge, they discovered how combining a lever with a pulley can change the direction of force—testing concepts of power, balance, and lift in the Lever Lab. In Adventures of Motion, young explorers experienced the dynamics of motion, while Force Explorers allowed them to investigate the effects of pushes, pulls, and motion in exciting, hands-on ways.

## August: The States of Matter

August's STEAM workshops focused on the fascinating states of matter—solid, liquid, and gas. Young visitors observed the transformation of dry ice from solid to gas, and were captivated by the Bubbling Reaction, learning how vinegar and baking soda combine to inflate a balloon.

In the Shape-Shifters activity, participants experimented with transforming matter between different states, while Oobleck introduced them to the strange world of non-Newtonian fluids. They also created a cloud in a jar to understand how clouds form.

The State of Matter Challenge encouraged children to distinguish between solids and liquids by sorting various materials. To wrap up the experience on a sweet note, participants observed the transformation of chocolate from solid to liquid—connecting science with everyday life.

## September: Magnets & Electromagnets

In September, young learners explored the intriguing world of magnets and electromagnets through a series of hands-on experiments. They investigated the properties of magnetic slime, observed how magnets interact with coins, and discovered magnetic separation using the forces of attraction and repulsion.

At the Spark Lab, participants conducted experiments on electricity and magnetism, uncovering the invisible forces of currents and magnetic fields that drive electrical motion. They also examined a magnetic vortex formed by the interaction between magnetic fields and water.

To visualise magnetic forces, learners used iron filings and experimented with the Monster Magnet—creating and manipulating magnetic slime. Finally, through the Magnetic Bites activity, they revealed hidden iron in everyday foods like cereal and spinach, demonstrating how science connects to real life in fun and meaningful ways.

# TDF's Children's Daycare

## Celebrating TDF's Children's Daycare 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

In August, TDF's Children's Daycare joyfully celebrated its 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary with a heartwarming event. The little stars delighted everyone with cheerful performances set to lively songs, followed by a fun frame-making activity that encouraged creativity and imagination. A joyful cake-cutting ceremony brought the celebration to a sweet and memorable close for both the children and the staff.

The daycare team thanked parents for their continued support, emphasising that their confidence and encouragement have been instrumental to the Daycare Centre's growth.





# Nutrition and Wellness Session

TDF's Daycare, in collaboration with Abbott and PediaSure Pakistan, hosted an informative Nutrition and Wellness Session for mothers, aimed at promoting healthier lifestyles for both children and families.

The session highlighted the critical role of nutrition in a child's growth and development, offering practical guidance on maintaining a balanced diet, understanding essential nutrients, and adopting wellness-focused lifestyle habits. An engaging Q&A segment at the end provided mothers with the opportunity to connect directly with health experts, ask questions, and gain valuable insights tailored to their needs.

Through initiatives like this, TDF's Children's Daycare continues to reaffirm its commitment to empowering parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to support their children's health, happiness, and holistic development.



## Independence Day Celebration



TDF's Children's Daycare celebrated Pakistan's Independence Day with heartfelt enthusiasm and national pride. The little ones, dressed in shades of white and green, filled the room with excitement as they performed lively renditions of beloved national songs, their voices echoing with pure patriotic spirit.

The celebrations continued with a creative flag-making activity, where children expressed their love for Pakistan through paints, colours, and imagination. Each flag became a symbol of pride — a tiny masterpiece reflecting the innocence and hope of the next generation.

The day was a beautiful blend of joy, patriotism, and learning — leaving behind smiles, laughter, and lasting memories for our young ones.



## Workshops

### Dastaan-e-Raqs

In collaboration with Dastaan-e-Raqs, TDF Ghar hosted a powerful workshop combining dialogue, reflection, and movement. The session opened with a discussion on the erasure of dance from Pakistan's cultural landscape, touching on silence, stigma, and resistance. It concluded with an interactive movement segment, where participants expressed personal stories through physical expression. The presence of Nighat Chaudhry—renowned dancer, educator, and cultural icon—brought profound depth to the experience.



### Sign Language Workshop



In celebration of the International Day of Sign Languages, TDF Ghar partnered with ConnectHear to host a special Sign Language Workshop. This engaging session offered participants the chance to learn basic sign language skills while deepening their understanding of the hard-of-hearing community. By promoting inclusive communication, the workshop fostered empathy, connection, and a greater appreciation for accessibility in everyday interactions.



## Drum Circle

In September, TDF Ghar hosted its popular Drum Circle Night, filling the space with rhythm, energy, and collective joy.

Participants gathered in a spirit of connection and collaboration, creating spontaneous music through drumming. As the beats intensified, many joined in with dancing—adding to the vibrant, festive atmosphere. More than an evening of music, the Drum Circle became a celebration of community, creativity, and shared expression.



## Qawali Nights

TDF Ghar had the honour of hosting a captivating Qawali Night with the legendary Nizami Brothers, who filled the evening with the rich spiritual sounds of Sufi music. Their soulful performance created a mesmerising ambiance, drawing together music lovers to experience the timeless beauty and cultural depth of Qawali.

TDF Ghar extends heartfelt gratitude to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening truly unforgettable.



## Book Bazaar: Turning Pages, Sharing Stories

TDF Ghar recently brought its Book Bazaar to life, inviting readers to browse a thoughtfully curated collection of pre-loved books spanning a wide range of genres. The stall offered a warm and welcoming space where book lovers could uncover hidden gems, revisit beloved classics, and share their passion for storytelling.

More than just giving books a second life, the bazaar fostered a sense of community—bringing people together through their shared love for reading.



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