

■ NEWS

Nusret wins bronze

A FISHPONDS boy is celebrating picking up a bronze medal in a Taekwondo tournament.

Nusret Dikici won the medal for his performance at October's Tiger Taekwondo Southern Area Open Competition, in the patterns category, which focuses on choreographed moves that simulate combat. Competitors are judged on accuracy and presentation.

Fairfield High School student Nusret, who lives in Hillfields, first learned some Taekwondo moves while living in Turkey, where he spent part of his childhood before returning to the UK in 2022.

He began training seriously the following year and now trains twice a week, reaching the rank of green belt and enjoying the discipline involved.

Nusret said: "It's really strict with behaviour. You have to be quiet and listen to the master - that way, you learn how to use everything properly."

Nusret, whose dad Erdem used to work with a Taekwondo master, aims to take part in another tournament next year, as well as working to achieve his next ranking.

He said: "I'm getting better each time, but the competitions are definitely getting harder!"

"I really enjoy Taekwondo. It's a hobby that's good for me and fills my time.

"It helps me with PE too—I'm faster and fitter overall."

His ambition is to one day represent Turkey in Taekwondo competitions.

Erdem said: "Taekwondo has become an important part of Nusret's life and integration process into the society. He is



Nusret Dikici

making friends and socialising with them thanks to the club."