

Principal's Message

I was delighted to meet with the student council this week to hear their views on life at **Winstanley**. They spoke warmly and positively about the improvements in the school. The younger students in particular said how they were benefitting from a focus in lessons on preparation for the GCSEs they have coming in the years ahead, and how they had noticed a better and different style of teaching since we became an 11-16 school. The older students were very complimentary about how hard staff were working and giving up their time to support outside of lessons. It gave me great pleasure to visit the Year 10 catering group and witness for myself the superb food they had produced; details are elsewhere in the newsletter and on our Facebook page.

It is with pleasure that we welcome Mrs Francis onto the staff, who is running a craft club on Wednesday lunchtimes for the younger students. It has proven to be a very popular activity and the students have commented on how much they enjoy the club.

Finally, our first ever Saturday Open Day was a huge success at the end of April and we will definitely be looking to repeat the experience for next year for anyone who wishes to come along and see what we have to offer.

Mr Russell
Principal, Winstanley Community College



Open Day Goes with a Bang!

We made sure that everyone heard our Open Day on Saturday here at **Winstanley**! Not only did we have a Civil War re-enactment group firing muskets with gun powder but not to be left out the science department kept children and adults enthralled with some wonderful explosions of their own. They had a range of activities and demonstrations which proved popular all morning including 'Fire Writing' and

exploding hydrogen bubbles. Less explosive but still noisy, was our 'Dube' drumming session where children came and had a bang on this unique musical instrument.

To add to the fun and excitement we also had the Fire Service and Local Police here meeting the public, and demonstrating their flashing lights and sirens, which proved to be a hit with our younger visitors.

Our new high-tech maths block was officially opened at 11am by Braunstone Town Mayor, Shabbir Aslam, who was impressed by both the new building and the fantastic resources available

to our pupils. Our staff and pupils were on hand to answer questions from visitors and to showcase our school with pride.



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The PE department kept the children active with trampolines, badminton, football penalty shoot-out and testing their table tennis skills against a robot, our local community police officers also enjoyed showing off their football and table tennis skills whilst interacting with the public.



For the more creative visitors the art & design department provided workshops to keep all ages busy with some 'paper engineering' and clay modelling which was kindly supported by our pupils who volunteered to give up their Saturday morning to help out. Parents were all impressed by our IT facilities and in the computer science room were able to have a go at making a computer game using 'Sploder'. The Respect and Duke of Edinburgh team were on hand to teach some basic first aid and CPR skills.



There were some lovely examples of pupils work around the school including a thought-provoking

display of the work produced during our recent WW1 Legacy Day, where lessons for the whole day were themed around remembrance, sacrifice and respect. Geography provided an around the world taste test and languages welcomed visitors to experience a taste of France with their Parisian Café.



Everyone here at the school was pleased with the turn-out and the positive response we received from our visitors who had a great day out as well as being impressed by our fantastic facilities and the range of resources available to our pupils. Alan Russell, Principal of **Winstanley Community College** said about the Open Day:- *"There was a warm, welcoming atmosphere throughout the morning. I am pleased so many people were able to come and see what we had to offer"*. Jacob Holland who is in Year 10 at **Winstanley** and was one on the many pupils who came along on Saturday to help out and show visitors around the school said:- *"We work really hard here at Winstanley and we felt very proud to show this off to our visitors and to make them feel welcome in our school"*.

Bringing Home Baby!

Year 10 GCSE health and social Care pupils had the opportunity to experience what life was like with a new-born baby over the bank holiday weekend. The SIM Babies were on loan to the school and 18 pupils who are studying health and social care had to care for the babies who weigh in at around 7lbs and are programmed to cry every four hours for the first day and every six hours on the second day.

The babies look very realistic, and the pupils had to dress and feed them and respond to them when they cried. Their parents were also asked to give feedback on how well they thought they had coped. There was a mixed response from the group but they all agreed that it was a fantastic opportunity and gave them a real insight into caring for babies and what hard work it can be for new parents.

We are hoping to purchase our own SIM babies so that all pupils will have the opportunity to take the babies home in future as part of the child-care and early years' module. Giving our pupils realistic 'hands-on' experience will also enable them to think about their future career paths and the routes available to them.



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Learning to Care!

Year 10 GCSE health and social care pupils are working with Community Action to create a befriending group for local retired people. After a brain-storming session in their lesson they came up with the name 'Fun Fridays With Friends' and have set up various committees to arrange the different aspects of the group. The idea of the group really encompasses our **Winstanley SHINE** values which are supporting others, hard work, independence, never giving up and excellence.

Forming part of the course work that the pupils undertake for GCSE health and social care they are hoping that as well as providing an opportunity for elderly people to meet up, it will create a useful intergenerational skill sharing exercise where they will be able to pass on their knowledge of smart phones, the internet and Skype in exchange for a greater understanding of the older generations needs as well as valuable input to their coursework.

The group is hoping to attract local people who are 60+ who would like to come along to meet up once a week in the Community Lounge at **Winstanley Community College** between 10.30am – 12.30pm on Fridays. Recent statistics from Age UK state that a million older people in the UK haven't spoken to anyone for a month, and the pupils hope that their group will bring people together and provide an



opportunity to meet up and socialise. Alicia and Lizzy are responsible for the advertising committee and will be creating flyers and letters to post through doors in the area around the school. Lizzy said "We

have got some great activities planned and are hoping that Pat Bates, a local historian will be getting involved and bring some old photographs along to show the group. It will be a great opportunity and provide us with some useful organisational skills".

The group is hoping to have 'Fun Fridays with Friends' up and running by 26th June. If you are interested in getting involved, or know someone who would like to come along please contact the school on 0116 289 8688.

Winstanley Winners

SHINE Expectations for March 2015.

Year 7

Principals' Awards	20
SHINE Awards	32

The top tutor group for both awards was PL

Year 8

Principals' Awards	32
SHINE Awards	56

The top tutor group for Principals' Awards was JB and for SHINE awards was HA.

Year 9

Principals' Awards	19
SHINE Awards	39

The top tutor group for Principals' Awards was TH and the joint top for SHINE awards were HN and KA.

Year 10

Principals' Awards	17
SHINE Awards	35

The top tutor group for both was CP.

Well done everyone and keep up the hard work!

Getting Crafty!

Year 7 and 8 pupils have been getting creative at the craft workshop on Wednesday lunchtimes. It's a great opportunity to get together with friends and have a go at a variety of different craft projects. The latest one has involved making paper-mache and wire birds and then decorating them with pretty floral designs and adding feathers as a finishing touch. There are plenty more fun activities lined up for pupils who are feeling artistic.



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Star Bakers!

Our GCSE catering pupils have produced some amazingly professional work for their practical assessments over the last few weeks. They have worked really hard with the preparation beforehand and presentation on the day. The theme of 'Afternoon Tea' provided them with plenty of inspiration and they had to produce four finished products during the three hour assessment. The standard of their finished presentation and level of skills they demonstrated was extremely high and they should all be very proud of such excellent work. There are more photos on our Facebook page.



Next time....

Find out more about World Challenge and the fantastic experience we are hoping to offer our pupils.



SUMMER SWIM CRASH COURSES



10th August—14th August

And

17th August—21st August

A 30 minute swimming lesson every day for 5 consecutive days
£19.00

For further details contact:
Winstanley Community Office
Tel: 0116 2898688 opt 3
email:community@winstanley.leics.sch.uk

Upcoming Events

- 12th May - World Challenge Parents Meeting
- 22nd May - SHINE Students Reward Trip
- 9th June - Kenilworth Trip
- 11th June - Curriculum Awards Evening
- 22nd June - Summer Sports Day

Summer Term 2015

- 25th - 29th May Half Term
- 10th July - End of Term

Contact us:

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