



# Winstanleylife

"Keeping you up to date on all things Winstanley!"

WINSTANLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE  
LEARNING FOR LIFE



Winstanley Community College  
Kingsway North  
Leicester  
LE3 3BD

Telephone: 0116 289 8688  
Fax : 0116 289 3736  
Email: [office@winstanley.leics.sch.uk](mailto:office@winstanley.leics.sch.uk)  
[www.winstanley.leics.sch.uk](http://www.winstanley.leics.sch.uk)

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Issue No.3

April 2013



Alan Russell -  
Principal

## Winstanley success reaches Westminster

We are delighted that our recent successes with regard to converting to academy status and 11-16 have reached the ears of Parliament. Andrew Robathan MP will be visiting on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May to learn about the good work we have been doing recently.

As well as focusing on the highest levels of academic success, we also ensure that each child develops as a rounded individual. This year, Ms Underwood has taken the lead in developing the Duke of Edinburgh scheme within the college, a hugely successful project that prepares students for the challenges that life presents. I urge any student who will be 14 years old next year to consider taking part in next year's round: national employers such as Next guarantee job interviews for any student who has completed the programme!

I was most pleased to see the fantastic fundraising efforts for Comic Relief last week, as well as the work for

the *Giving Nation*. It was an uplifting experience to see Mr Finn lead all of the year 9s in a performance of *Gangnam Style* for Red Nose Day, and well done to Sam Allsopp (year 9) for persuading Mr Finn to perform to the year group and raise so much money.

Sport England have visited the college recently and given us their support to build an additional hard play area as well as supporting our newly proposed classroom building project. Such developments are of course dependent on Government funding, which as we all know, is not at its highest levels.

Following consultation with parents in the last newsletter, governors recently confirmed that our admission number for September 2014 will be 140. Preparations for the transition to 11-16 are well under way and some changes will take place a year in advance. For example, the length of lessons will be changing to one hour.

Finally, a valued member of the office team, Sheila Archibald, is leaving (for the second time!) this Easter; she will be well missed, with her service dating from 1988-2009 and 2012-13. We wish her many happy years in retirement...

### LAST DAY OF TERM

Students finish at normal time on  
**Friday 22nd March.**

The day is full school dress as normal.



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**Gareth Williams**  
Vice Principal

The excitement continues as we build towards Key Stage 4. One of the first things that we have consulted with staff and students about is how the school will change to enable us to teach year 10 and 11. This process will begin next year, where we have decided to alter the lengths of lessons from 100 minutes to 60. What this will actually mean to students and staff is the following.....

8.35-8.50	Registration / Tutor time
8.50-9.50	Lesson 1
9.50-10.50	Lesson 2
10.50-11.10	Break
11.10-12.10	Lesson 3
12.10-1.10	Lesson 4
1.10-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.00	Lesson 5

As you will see, the start and finish times of the day remain the same as this year, and we have no plans to change these in the near future. What this will allow us to do is provide flexibility on how much learning time each subject area is allocated and allow an even sharper and pacier learning experience.

We have also been in discussion now with all of the examination boards regarding the courses that will run in Key Stage 4, with Edexcel attending a staff meeting only this week. You should also rest assured that every teacher at Winstanley is qualified to teach GCSE and that all recent appointments to the teaching staff and the Senior Leadership Team have years of experience of working in all through schools.

We are still in the development process of putting together our menu of subjects available at Key Stage 4. This will of course be similar to all secondary schools and will include what the Government has termed the English Baccalaureate – English, mathematics, the sciences (biology, chemistry and physics), history or geography and French, plus an ever increasing options menu, including fine art, textiles, product design, food technology, computer science, PE, RE, Duke of Edinburgh and all of the vocational offers that are available from either other Leicestershire establishments or Leicester College. We will also continue to offer support and intervention to all of our students on their journey through Winstanley, including the provision of work experience and our usual wide array of extra-curricular opportunities. Of course we will do this whilst maintaining what we hold dear at Winstanley – an outstanding, caring education for all students.

I will endeavour to keep you up to date on all of the developments as they happen at this exciting time. Happy Easter.





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## WINSTANLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### LIFE AT WINSTANLEY



**Fiona Le Cras**  
Vice Principal

#### UNIFORM

As I write this the sun is shining and the first spring flowers are appearing. In this clear spring light many of our students continue to look smart and purposeful in the correct school uniform. Unfortunately a very small minority of our students have been trying to come to school in items of clothing that fall outside our uniform requirements. Maintaining a positive image which provides a sense of identity is important to us which is why we continue to focus on ensuring students wear the correct uniform. All students should have a sweatshirt with the Winstanley logo on, whether green for years 7 and 8 or black for year 9. Shoes need to be plain black, suitable for school and not trainers, Ugg-type, or other fashion boots. As I said in the December newsletter we ask that trousers, for boys and girls, are not skinny fashion items but are a tailored style which is appropriate for school. Leggings are not appropriate for school.

As our uniform policy also aims to protect students against the dictates of fashion it is important for all stu-

dents to remember that hairstyles and colours which are considered to be extreme will not be permitted in school.

We very much appreciate the support we get from parents and carers with maintaining our high standards and ask that you continue to be vigilant as the weather improves and spring arrives.



#### MOBILE PHONES

An increasing number of students are taking advantage of the opportunity to bring mobile phones and other electronic devices into school. Whilst we strongly advise students not to bring them into school we appreciate that many feel safer if they have phones with them during their journey to and from Winstanley.

However a number of students are not following our rules and are using phones in lessons to contact one another and parents. We cannot accept this situation and all staff members will act accordingly, by confiscating the item, if students are caught using devices in class. It is not acceptable to make or receive phone calls during lesson time, nor is it acceptable to send, or receive, texts or BBMs.

We are asking that parents and carers support us to ensure that we can continue to teach in lessons by not contacting students during lesson times. If you need to get hold of your son or daughter in an emergency please phone the school office. If you need to contact a member of staff please phone the office and request an appointment or arrange for the member of staff to return your call. We will always aim to ensure that we get back to parents and carers within 24 hours.

#### ATTENDANCE

As the winter weather is slowly left behind I am happy to be able to share that at the time of writing the overall attendance of the school is higher than it was at this stage of the term last year. This is very pleasing, especially as absence for illness has been higher this winter than it was last year. Hopefully colds, flu and sickness bugs will disappear as the weather gets warmer and will enable us to maintain, and even improve, our current record attendance level.

We do appreciate the support that we get from parents and carers which helps to ensure that students can maximise their learning through regular attendance. As we are now beginning in earnest the preparation to become an 11-16 school we are working to make sure that all our students realise how important it is to attend school regularly. We know that we cannot do this without the support we get from parents and carers reinforcing the message that good attendance and positive outcomes at school go hand in hand.







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### SPORTS

#### WINSTANLEY SPORTS COLLEGE NEWS



This year's Sports Award ceremony was a huge success with some outstanding students receiving their awards from Leicester City legend Steve Walsh. Steve took time out from his busy schedule to present the awards and he commented on how fantastic it was to see a school value the importance of sport and physical activity. Thanks to Lee Dayman for organising our guest presenter. Along with 60 students receiving their half colours and full colours honours (for committing to school teams) there were also major awards for Erin Stringer (Primary Student of the year) Finn Lydon (Sports Achievement of the year) Lucy Fisher (Sportswomen of the year) and Owen Mills (Sports Personality of the year).

Thanks to all staff who attended or helped in organising the event and to all parents for their continued support.



#### The Year 8 National Cup.

The Year 8 boys' football team is having a fantastic run in the ESFA National Cup. Having beaten teams in the first four rounds from places such as Warwickshire and Worcestershire, Winstanley were down to play a school from Skegness in the last 16 of the competition.

A goal from Harry Kilburn and Lennie Stamp saw us win the game 2-1 and progress to the quarter finals. It has been a great achievement from the squad who got to the final of the City Cup competition and are STILL unbeaten in the league.

#### Primary Table Tennis Event

Members of the Winstanley table tennis academy organised a table tennis competition on February 21st which turned out to be a great afternoon. The event involved local primary schools Ravenhurst, Millfield and Kingsway picking their best four players to visit Winstanley and compete in the tournament and the competition was tough! A big thank you goes out to Jack Kermode who played a big part in the organisation of the event.





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## WINSTANLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### ACADEMIC YEAR 2012/2013

#### Summer Term

College Opens:	Mon 8th April 2013
May Day Holiday	Mon 6th May 2013
Mid Term Break	Mon 27th - Fri 31st May 2013
College Closes:	Fri 12th July 2013

### ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/2014

#### Autumn Term 2013

College Opens:	Thu 29th August 2013
Mid-term break	Mon 21st to Fri 25th Oct
College closes:	Fri 20th December 2013

#### Spring Term 2014

College opens:	Tue 7th January 2014
Mid-term break	Mon 17th - Fri 21st Feb
College closes:	Fri 11th April 2014

#### Summer Term 2014

College opens:	Mon 28th April 2014
May Day holiday	Mon 5th May
Mid-term break	Mon 26th - Fri 30th May
College closes:	Fri 11th July 2014

## A WINSTANLEY PRODUCTION COMING SOON



### DAY TRIP TO FRANCE



Requests to take part in this trip for Year 8s were so over-subscribed that in order not to disappoint anyone I had to book 2 coaches. So in May, 75 students and 8 members of staff will be travelling through the night to spend a day in the seaside port of Boulogne.

This is a trip which many students over the years have taken part in, and for many it has been a first experience of travelling abroad.

More details will follow nearer to the event, however, can I take this opportunity to remind everyone to get their child's free E1HC card if you haven't already done so. It entitles the holder to free healthcare in EC countries and we cannot take students who do not have one. Fingers crossed for good weather and a "Bon Voyage".

Alex Norman  
Teacher of French



Winstanley students from all tutor groups have to date raised £586.98 for this year's Red-Nose Day. The following activities deserve a special mention:

£82 (so far) - Sam Hill Gangnam Style Dancing

£38.25—Cake sale by Ashleigh Tilbury, Paiton Revill, China Sibley & Zoe Ann Snell.

£19.40—Guess the weight of the cake



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### SHINE EXPECTATIONS

#### DECEMBER



In the December round of Shine Expectations many students achieved awards.

#### Year 7 obtained :

Shine Principal's Award	46
Shine Expectations Awards	78

Top tutor group for Shine Principal's Award	7PR
Top tutor group for Expectations	7BH

#### Year 8 obtained :

Shine Principal's Award	45
Shine Expectations Awards	67

Top tutor group for Shine Principal's Award	8DY & 8RN
Top tutor group for Expectations	8DY

#### Year 9 obtained:

Shine Principal's Award	45
Shine Expectations Awards	75

Top tutor group for Shine Principal's Award	9FT
Top tutor group for Expectations	9FT & 9RO

### SHINE EXPECTATIONS

#### JANUARY



In the January round of Shine Expectations many students achieved awards.

#### Year 7 obtained :

Shine Principal's Award	42
Shine Expectations Awards	62

Top tutor group for Shine Principal's Award	7BH
Top tutor group for Expectations	7KA

#### Year 8 obtained :

Shine Principal's Award	43
Shine Expectations Awards	57

Top tutor group for Shine Principal's Award	8UN
Top tutor group for Expectations	8DY

#### Year 9 obtained:

Shine Principal's Award	44
Shine Expectations Awards	57

Top tutor group for Shine Principal's Award	9FT
Top tutor group for Expectations	9FT