

Winstanley!' - September 2015

Principal's Message

A big welcome to families new and old at Winstanley; the new year has set off at a pace and the bright and fresh new year 7s have settled well. I must say how pleased we all are about how smart the students are looking in their blazers and ties – we have had fewer uniform issues at the start of the year than any time I can remember. Thank you to all parents for their support here.

The students are not only showing their pride in their uniform but also in our new school video. Do take a look on Youtube and make sure you share it – there are a number of familiar faces you will recognise!

It is most heartening to have received many words of support from the community about the swimming pool roof fire at the end of the August holiday. There is no detailed extra information to give apart from the fact our insurers are talking to the roofing company's insurers and that it will be sorted. On a personal level, I am deeply upset that the pool area has been damaged but also incredibly pleased that no one was hurt. The revitalised swimming pool, when it comes, will be an asset once more to the local community. We thank all of our pool users for their understanding during this time.

I am delighted to report that the English block has received a window refurbishment over the holiday: it looks like a new building. Similarly, we have invested strongly in the music department over the break, with new Macs, a recording studio and a break out room for individual peripatetic music lessons. If your child is of a musical bent, I do urge you to contact Mrs Olner, our new Head of Music, who is busily arranging various musical activities.

Mr Russell

Settling in!

Our Year 7 pupils have made a great start so far this year. We welcomed them into school on the 1st September, and as we have done on previous years had a later start time for years 8 - 11 to create a quieter, less intimidating first morning for our new starters.

The first day was spent exploring the school, getting familiar with their new environment and meeting their new class mates and tutors. They had an extended tutor time where their tutors



Mrs Mace, Mr McGladrigan, Mr Parry and Mrs Field had lots of fun activities for them to complete. Activities included finding out about each other, team games and orienteering their way around the school.

The pupils are finding plenty of things they like about



Winstanley. These included changing lessons and having a variety of teachers. They like the mature atmosphere and being able to walk to school and chat to friends on the way. They also like mixing with new people from other schools and making friends. Favourite lessons so far included art and science.



Miss Harris, who is head of year 7, said: "Students have been an absolute pleasure on their first week. I have had so many positive comments from staff about Year 7. They have all settled in really well and I have seen so many smiles as I have been walking around. Well Done Year 7!"



Mysterious Visitors in Science

We are very pleased to welcome our new head of science to Winstanley this term. Mrs McGladrigan has bought a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the department and is working closely with Mrs Patel who has been covering the role up until now. Along with the rest of the science team they are hoping to raise the profile of Science within the school. Mrs



McGladrigan has also bought some furry friends with her, and pupils will shortly be finding out if they are really as friendly as they look.

Let the music flow...

Over the summer our music department has undergone a complete refurbishment bringing it 'bang' up-to-date and all ready for our new head of music - Mrs Olner. The space now includes practice rooms, rehearsal space, a suite of computers and a recording studio.

We have a range of instruments available to pupils but Mrs Olners' first initiative is to have an 'Instrument Amnesty', and appeal to people in the local area to donate unloved and un-used instruments. This would enable our pupils to try out different instruments and experiment with them. Many instruments can be a large financial commitment for parents, especially if the pupil then decides it's not for them. We are therefore hoping to create a 'bank' of different instruments and enable our pupils to discover their 'inner musician'. Mrs Olner has some other fantastic ideas for the forthcoming term including a staff choir, a great range of extra-curricular music and singing lessons and lunchtime gigs. If you would like to donate any instruments to our 'Amnesty' please let us know.



Geography rocks!

Since last term Mr Parry has made the move from the PE Department to geography and has also taken on the



role of form tutor to one of our new year 7 classes.

So far he is enjoying the challenges of

both new roles and thinking of lots of new ways of getting the pupils to have fun in his lessons whilst still gaining knowledge of the subject. Last week he was out and about in the school grounds with a class of year 8 pupils who were learning about geographical features in the landscape. They were having fun sketching the school and thinking about the way that landmarks can be represented on 2D maps.

His new year 7 tutor group have also made a big impression during the first full week of school by coming top for achievement points. They celebrated

their success by having breakfast and hot chocolate in form time. Well done to them and keep up the hard work.



Film Launch!

Our new promotional film is now available to watch on YouTube.



Facebook, Twitter and shortly on our webpage. Everyone who's seen it thinks it looks fantastic. A big thank you to everyone who took part. We hope you all show your support and 'like', 'share' or 'comment' when you have watched it.





GCSE Success!

We had some great news regarding two of our pupils when we returned to school on Tuesday. Brother and sister, Finn and Reed have been studying mandarin with a tutor at home for the past few

years and sat the GCSE Chinese exam this summer. When they came to pick up their results from the school in August they were thrilled with their grades. Finn who is now in... Year 11 achieved an A* and Reed who is now in Year 9 achieved a B. Everyone here is very proud of their excellent result, hard work and commitment; we hope that you will all pass on your congratulations when you see them at school. We look forward to hearing more about their academic success in the future.



Life after Winstanley!

As we start the new term at Winstanley, for some of our pupils it's time to start thinking about the next stage of their education. As well as our ongoing career advice we will be hosting a Post 16 Options Event on 30th September and inviting along a number of providers who will be available to talk to the pupils and their parents. This will include Leicester College, South Leicestershire College, WQE, Gateway College and Regent college. The event will



run from 2-4 to give pupils the opportunity to have a look around at what is available, and another session running from 5-7 which will allow pupils to attend with their parents. We hope that this will give pupils an insight into what is available to them, the entry requirements and the application procedures. Pupils from both years 10 and 11 are welcome to attend, and we hope that they will find the event and the information offered useful.

Open Days

It's the time of the year when we host our Open Evening for prospective



pupils and their parents to come and have a look around the school. Following the success of our Spring Open morning which we held in April we will be adding another date and opening up the school on a Saturday morning so that visitors can have a relaxed look around and also take part in some fun activities as well.

We are hoping that the police and the fire service will attend the event again, and we will also have a free hog-roast and our World Challenge pupils will be offering some refreshments to raise money for their trip next year.

Our pupils did a great job in April welcoming people into the school. They looked very smart in their uniforms and made a good impression on people visiting the school for the first time. We look forward to having lots of willing volunteers again this time.

sQuid on-line payments

sQuid are the providers of our on-line payment system. Registering with sQuid eliminates the need to bring cash into school and helps to reduce queues at the revaluation machine. As well as being used for the school canteen you can also pay for trips on-line. Letters have recently been sent home to all our new year 7's, with instructions of how to register for a sQuid account, however, if you are a parent of a child in any other year group and would like details of how to register please contact

finance@winstanley.leics.sch.uk or ring 0116 2898688 and ask for finance, and we will be able to provide you with a 16 digit reference and CVV number to enable you to get started.





Something for the grown-ups too...

We have some fantastic learning opportunities for adults starting this Autumn. As well as learning something new it's a great place to meet new people. We have a beginners Spanish course starting soon which is taught by Juan who was born and raised in Spain and has been teaching Spanish for the last few years. The lessons will be quite informal and begin with learning to greet and chat in Spanish and moving on to conversation and dialogue which would be useful in social situations.

Our ever popular cake-decorating course starts this week and there are still places available for anyone who is feeling creative. Mrs Turner, from Pastoral has been attending the course for some time and has produced some fantastic cakes including a beautiful wedding cake, an X-box cake and other creative creations for family birthdays. To find out more contact the Community Office on 0116 289 9713.

Learning Support drop-ins

If you are a student or a parent/carer and you would like to discuss any concerns you have or support you or your child may need, please feel free to drop in and see us down in Learning Support, any Wednesday between 3.15pm and 4pm. If you would like to have an in-depth discussion please book an appointment but otherwise just turn up for a chat. Our helpful, caring team are always happy to listen to you and provide a solution to any issues that you may have.



Giving Extra!

Craft Club

Craft Club is back with lots of exciting projects for the new term. If you are in year 7 or 8 you can go along and join in every lunchtime in A1. Mrs Francis who runs the club has worked with



some of last years craft club members to come up with some fantastic ideas including plastic bottle craft, flower gift tags, paper flowers, quilling, paper mache birds,



mermaid bookmarks, picture frames and lots more. Amy who is now in Year 8 said "I like being able to make anything that comes to mind and Mrs Francis always listens to what we suggest. It's also a great way to make new friends, especially when you are in Year 7."

Girls Club

Now open to all year groups. We have lots of new activities planned this term and we would like anyone who comes along to come up with new ideas too. We now have some professional styling heads so that you can experiment with



new hairstyles, and all of the things that were popular last term like friendship bracelets, bead craft, jewellery making, mod rock, hama beads, card making, smoothies and milkshakes. Drop in when you have had your lunch any time from 1.20 until 2 every Wednesday. It's a great way spend your lunch break and an opportunity to make new friends and meet pupils from other year groups.



Study Time

The Library is open every day after school for anyone who wants to come along and do homework, use the computers or just read in a calm, quiet environment. Mrs Bate the Librarian will be there to help pupils access any books and

information that they may need. It's a great opportunity to study with friends and get homework completed straight after school. Juice and biscuits are available too!





Extra date for pop-up shops at Winstanley...

We are have added another date to come along and buy extra uniform. Please see details below for what items are available and how much they cost.

Girls & Boys Navy Badged Blazer (Trutex)

Size 26" - 36"	£24.95		
Size 38" - 52"	£28.94		

Girls Black Badged Skirt

22-26" waist	£14.95		
28-38" waist	£16.95		

Ties £5.95

Available from the school in September at the new price of £5.95

Hoodies Badged

Size Up to Small	£14.50
Size Med to 3XL	£17.40

Polo shirt Badged

Size XXS to S	£6.45
Size Med to XXL	£8.54

Unisex Badged Sweater

Size XXs to S	£14.95		
Size Med to XXL	£16.95		

Uniform items bearing the school logo may be obtained from:

www.academyschooluniforms.co.uk

Tel: 0800 345 7353



Hair – We discourage parents from allowing their children to dye their hair. Any colouring we judge as outside the range of natural shades and hairstyles we judge as extreme are not allowed.

Next pop-up Shop Date

Wednesday 14th October 3.30 - 6.30pm







KS4 Tie









KS3 Tie

Girls checklist

Blazer - Navy from school wear provider with Winstanley Logo Skirts - Plain black from school wear provider with Winstanley Logo Trousers - Plain black Shirts - Plain white with collar Long or short sleeved Sweater - Navy from school wear provider with Winstanley Logo Tie – School tie from school wear provider Socks - White or black Tights - Flesh or black Shoes - Plain black and sensible. No

logos or coloured markings. For reasons of health and safety shoes must have a low heel and have a back to them.

No Trainers.

Boys checklist

Blazer - Navy from school wear provider with Winstanley LogoTrousers – Plain black Shirts - Plain white with collar Long or short sleeved Sweater - Navy from school wear provider with Winstanley Logo Tie - School tie from school wear provider Socks - White or black Shoes - Plain black and sensible. No logos or coloured markings.

P.E. kit (Boys & Girls)

No Trainers.

Blue polo shirt with Winstanley logo Black shorts/tracksuit In cold weather, a blue hooded top with Winstanley logo should be worn.





Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancies

Required as soon as possible

Hours: **1.00 pm – 2.00 pm** (term-time only)

Salary £1556.10 per annum (paid in 12 equal monthly

payments)

For full job description and application form contact Kathryn Tuckwood on 0116 289 8688

or visit our website www.winstanley.leics.sch.uk



MUSIC DEPARTMENT EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS 2015-16

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAK TIME (20 MINS)	GLEE CHOIR				
LUNCH TIME (50 MINS)	MUSIC JOURNOS	UKULELE CLUB	KEYBOARD CLUB	MR DUBLIN'S MUSIC CLUB	GARAGEBAND CLUB
AFTER SCHOOL (3.15-4.00)	VIOLIN LESSONS (SIGN UP WITH MRS OLNER)		TWILIGHT INTERVENTION		

MUSIC@WINSTANLEY

Upcoming Events

Mon 28th Sept - HPV/Meningitis Vaccinations
Wed 30th Sept - Post 16 Roadshow 2-7pm
Wed 7th Oct - Yr7 Teambuilding at Beaumanor Hall
Wed 14th Oct - Years 7 & 9 Parents Evening
Wed 14th Oct - Pop Up Uniform Shop

Autumn/Winter 2015 - 2016

Half Term Friday 16th - Friday 23rd October 2015 Friday 18th December 2015 - last Day of Term Tuesday 5th January 2016 - start of Term

For a full list of term dates please see our website





Contact us:

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