

Winstanley

'Keeping you up to date with all things Winstanley!' - December 2016

School finishes at 12.10pm on the last day of term, full uniform as normal!

Head of School's Message

At this time of year, we all reflect on what has happened over the last twelve months. This time last year, I had just been appointed to the role of Principal, with Mr Russell leaving at the end of term. It is fair to say that my feet have barely touched the ground since then. During this time, I approached Bosworth Academy and Mr Parkinson to investigate the possibility of joining together as part of a Multi Academy Trust. After twelve months of hard work, the LiFE MAT comes into legal existence on 1st January 2017. We have indeed been operating as a MAT since September with Mr Parkinson spending two days a week at Winstanley. We are still in our infancy as a MAT, but together we are ensuring that in the ever changing world of education, there will always be excellent schools serving the Braunstone Town and Thorpe Astley area.

The students continually make me proud and the way they enter into all sorts of events helps me never forget that this is a special place to work. Below is a list of just some of the things that our students have taken part in recently:

- Masterchef
- 8KMS Sponsored run and cakes
- University of Leicester Trip
- The Student Council's "Random Act of Kindness"
- Christmas concert
- Christmas activities around the school including "Christmas Jumper Day"
- Free books in the library for Year 7s
- Anti-Bullying Week
- MasterChef
- Winter Sports Day
- Children in Need (total raised so far £822 and counting)
- Skills Show/Careers at the NEC in Birmingham
- World Challenge India fundraising
- Our first ever Key Stage 4 Awards Evening
- Bradgate Park Trip for Year 7
- Enabling Excellence Year 11 Study Tips
- Year 9 successes academically and sporting

Our next development for the New Year is to redevelop how we use Tutor Time more effectively in school. We have taken the decision to move Tutor Time/ Assemblies to 10.40am. School will start at the same time and finish at the same time every day, with the change being that, from January 5th 2017, students will go straight into lesson 1 at the beginning of the school day. Tutor Time will be 15 minutes before break. From January 2017, we will also be trialling a new behaviour policy at the school, details of which can be found on our school website. This trial will last until Easter, and Mrs Roberts has been promoted to the role of Assistant Principal Student Support to help oversee this.

Once again, thank you for your continued support, as without that, I know the plans and developments taking place here at Winstanley would not be possible. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Gareth Williams, Head of School



Year 9 Success!

Belated well done to Fin Bailey in 9PL who received his certificates for National Maths Challenge last week in assembly. He came top in school for his age group! Well done! #shinevalues - Excellence, Hard Work!



Basketball Winners

Our Year 9 basketball team have recently won a competition against other County Schools, so well done to all of them.

#shinevalues - Never Giving Up, Excellence!



Rugby Champions

The Year 9/10 rugby team have also had sporting success, they have competed against city schools in a recent competition and have also achieved success and won! #shinevalues - Hard Work, Excellence!



The Winner Takes It All!

Staff and pupils at Winstanley Community College have been competing in our very own version of MasterChef over the past few weeks. The final took place on Friday 2nd December when staff and students met in the kitchen for the first time. Their brief was to produce three courses in an hour and a half with their own interpretation of Christmas food. Mr Dublin and Mrs Turner from the Pastoral Team at the school came up with the idea for the competition, which



is designed to bring staff and students together, and along with Mrs Cartwright, last years' winner have been making the tough decisions about whose food looked and tasted the best.

Over the previous few weeks there have been two heats each for students and staff where the contestants were asked to make one dish from only five ingredients. The heats were then followed by separate staff and student semi-finals, where contestants had to 'up their game', making a two course menu. The standard of the dishes was amazing with some really professional menus including sweet chilli chicken wings with jollof rice, beef wellington and a fantastic chocolate fondant pudding. Mr Dublin, Intervention Co-ordinator and competition organiser said: - "The standard has been absolutely fantastic with both staff and students showing that they possess knowledge, flair and skill. Throughout the competition they have produced dishes of amazing quality which has made judging really difficult. Judging the final has been even harder, with the contestants demonstrating their competitiveness and determination to win the title of Winstanley Masterchef 2016."

The finalists were Ozlinah Moyo, Oliver Lewis (see below), Mr Kaba, French Teacher, Mr Howe, Cover Supervisor and Mrs Mace, English Teacher. They produced some fantastic menus and all completed their dishes within the time scale. The winners of the competition were Mr Howe (staff, above) and Ozlinah (student), who won a meal out, a trophy and a Winstanley Masterchef apron. Ozlinah impressed judges



with her sweet chilli prawns, savoury pork shoulder steaks and traditional mince pies, while Mr Howe produced an indulgent feast of potted crab, chicken cacciatore and zabaglione. We look forward to another 'hot' competition next year!

Braving the cold for a good cause

Well done to Mrs Maces tutor group 8KMA who organised a sponsored run around the field and cake sale on Thursday, 1st December. It was a very cold day but that didn't stop our brave runners Saskia, Cerys, Annalise, Taylor, Charley, Courage, Kian and few more students who just came along and joined in to run 5 laps around the field.



Mrs Mace is very proud of her tutor group especially Binta, Summer, Cerys, Annalise and Taylor who came up with the idea and planned, baked and promoted the event. They have now raised a grand total of £111 for LOROS from the cake sale and sponsorship.

It was fantastic to see the students really supporting each other and working together for a great cause. #ShineValues – Supporting Others, Hard Work and Independence!









University Challenge!

On Wednesday, 7th December, a group of Year 10 students were invited along to the University of Leicester to find out more about student life. There were some great activities to take part in and our students worked in small



groups with 'Student Ambassadors' from the University, who had lots of interesting advice and guidance to pass on.

The day started with some introductions and thinking about what life as a students might be like, how they would spend their time, what they



would wear and what they might eat. They then had lots of fun building newspaper bridges across the tables, using only a small amount of tape. They spent a lot of time planning and discussing different methods and designs.



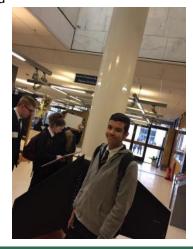
After this 'hands-on' activity, the group had a tour around the University campus, they were very impressed with the state-of-the-art library, where everything can be accessed with the use of an app. Students were also pleased to meet 'Jane' a complete T-Rex skeleton, they were also able to hold a real dinosaur vertebrae. In the Physics faculty students saw a rocket that had gone into space, and they were fascinated by the astrological clock.

In the afternoon session students worked in small groups and were asked to create their own University course, thinking about what

modules would be studied, assessment methods and

entry requirements. Our students came up with some fantastic ideas including Connoisseur Studies, Fan Studies and Social Mediaology.

It was a great day out with some perfect behaviour from Year 10 with the students taking a keen interest in the information on offer as well as showing lots of enthusiasm for the activities.



The Gift of Reading

As part of the induction to the school Library, Mrs Bate our Librarian ensures that every Year 7 student is given a book of their choice to keep. The students were able to choose from a list at the start of term and are now looking forward to taking their books home and reading them over the Christmas break.



The idea behind this is to encourage students to read for pleasure at home. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in exams but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

Reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school, than their social or economic background, so we hope that our students all enjoy their new books and come to the Library and choose from the wide selection of latest titles available. Mrs Bates is always happy to help students choose books they will enjoy and

are suitable for their reading ability.







Supporting Others at Christmas!

Our Year 8 students have been very busy in the run-up to Christmas collecting items for hampers and gift boxes which they are planning to donate to food banks, homeless shelters and people who are in need over the Christmas period. The four tutor groups have thought hard about what items to donate and the type of charities they would like to benefit. They were very keen for local people to benefit from their act of kindness with the Braunstone Food Share scheme, The Bridge homeless shelter, LOROS and The Samaritans being recipients.



Students have got really involved in the project and along with their families have donated an amazing amount of thoughtful and useful items to the scheme, which they hope will make Christmas a bit brighter for people who are less fortunate than themselves. As a school, we have SHINE values for students to aspire to and the first one of these is 'Supporting Others', which year 8 have clearly demonstrated in their enthusiasm and generosity.

Miss Harris, Head of Year 8 says: "Year 8 have been looking closely at 'Resilience' within tutor time this term. We have been focusing on skills relating to teamwork, leadership, organisation and communication. As part of their work Year 8 Form Groups have taken on the task of leading a fundraising project. Each tutor group have worked together to produce a Christmas Hamper to give to charity.

Students discussed people who were less fortunate at Christmas and how they could help those in need. The results have been fantastic! They have shown empathy towards others, and have used a range of skills in order to plan, organise, prepare and collect items for their hampers. I am certainly very proud of Year 8 and I know their

work will be gratefully received. Well Done Year 8!"



The students have really taken this scheme on board, they have been keen to get involved and make a difference to other people's lives. It's a great opportunity for them to give something back to the community and we are hoping that we can get as many of them as possible to be able to deliver the hampers and parcels so that they can take ownership of the project from beginning to end.

Water Sports 2018 Don't miss out!

Year 7 and 8 students are currently being offered the chance to go on a PGL activity trip to the Ardech and the Languedoc area of France.

It's an action packed trip which will help to improve students confidence and increase independence. They will get to take part in a wide range of water based activities including cliff jumping, canoeing, abseiling, sailing, wind surfing and rafting. They will also get plenty of time for making new friends, experiencing life away from home and sightseeing.

Photos from our previous trip can be seen on our Flickr gallery. The deposit for the trip is £50 and needs to be paid by the end of January. The complete cost of the trip is £525 and will be departing on 31st May 2018.





Sensational Christmas Concert!

On Wednesday, 14th December Mrs Olner, our Head of Music, organised her second Christmas Concert since being in post, and what a fantastic night of festive entertainment it was! Everyone involved in

the production from talented performers to the back-stage and production team did an incredible job, making it a night to remember for our audience of proud parents,

friends and staff.



The hall and stage looked beautiful with a lovely array of decorative touches, which students lead by our Music Captains had worked hard on throughout the afternoon. The evening began with the vocal ensemble singing 'Winter Wonderland', it was thoroughly uplifting to see them enjoying their moment in

the spotlight. This was followed by Joel Young, on the piano playing 'Ode to Joy', and a lively performance by Kyle Wright on the drums. We had a beautiful performance from Katie-Jayne and Joe, who were clearly naturals on stage, and Chloe Mead performed 'San Francisco Blues' showing what a talented pianist she is. Ashley Perrin, gave a great performance on the electric guitar, despite some technical hitches. The end of the first half was bought to a jolly end with our very own steel pan band performing 'Jingle Bells' and 'Rocking around the Christmas Tree'.

The second half opened with a stunning rendition of 'All I want for Christmas' sung by Amelia Widdowson, and we had some more fantastic performances by our vocal ensemble. Our Year 9 band showed a broad range of musical skills performing 'Stitches', Shalom Mizha from Year 7 played 'All through the night' on the violin and Lucy Gibson, sang 'On My Own' from Les Miserables. The show was bought to a close by our staff/student band, with the audience joining in with some well know songs. A special mention should go to Lucy and Chloe for hosting the show.

Well done to the following students who worked so hard on performing and producing the concert Joe Chamberlain, Katie-Jayne Fereday, Ashley Perrin, Abbie Pickering, Demi Lee Coles, Olivia Clarke (Music Captain), Radiya Fazly, Amelia Widdowson, Jack Mackness, Olivia Widdowson, Julia Emijunu, Mya Dyson, Sam McLean-Carr, Shalom Mizha, Joel Young, Zoe Dalby (Music Captain), Candice Hathaway, Ellie Rae Bowley, Manisha Kumar, Isha Modha, Lukas Kuizinas, Jacob

Wright, Jake Blockley-Riley, Jorja
Warwick, Charlotte Norman, Trinity
Pattenden (Music Captain), Laith Ali,
Emma Francis (Music Captain), Nadine
Ivers, Amy Stanley, Kyle Wright, Jack
Wheeler, Oliver Lewis, Lucy Gibson,
Chloe Mead, Sam Milton (Lead Tech),
Jack Taylor, Harry French, Jakub
Rogozinski, Yogen Amlani (Music
Captain) and Joe Bayley.



Poppy Appeal

Well done and thanks to everyone at Winstanley who supported this year's poppy appeal, by donating money, wearing poppies and buying some of the other items that were on sale. We raised a total of £115 for this worthy cause!



Jolly Jumpers

Staff and students were all looking festive on the 15th December supporting Save the Children Christmas Jumper day. It was great to see so many bright and colourful jumpers around school!









It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Our Christmas countdown has started here at Winstanley, with lots of seasonal activities taking place across the school. Our beautiful tree in the Cube has been carefully trimmed by Oasis Club, using decorations made by



past and present students. Oasis Club have also been busy making Christmas crackers for their party which they had on Monday, 19th December. They were all getting into the festive spirit wearing their Christmas jumpers and listening to some festive music while they created their crackers. Staff and students alike are all looking forward to the Christmas Lunch which will be served on Tuesday, 20th December.



Our students are off on a reward trip to the cinema on the last day of term to watch Fantastic Beasts and Jack Reacher, before finishing at the earlier time of 12.10.

World Challenge India!

Our students who are taking part in the next World Challenge Trip to India in July 2018 have already started fundraising, and would like to thank everyone who supported them at the Christmas Concert. Connor Hunt was selling lots of Christmas goodies with the help of his family and has now raised a fifth of the money needed to take part in

the trip!



The second secon

Destiny, who is also hoping to go to India, was running a raffle with the help of her friend Alarna and raised £60 on the night. There is a long way to go for our students who need to raise £2600 to travel to

need to raise £2600 to travel to India, so please keep supporting them at forthcoming events.

Random Act of Kindness

Our Student Council have been thinking about ways in which they can get more involved with the community through a



Random Act of Kindness. Last Christmas they went out and delivered mince pies to residents around the school. This year they decided they would like to serve tea and refreshments to a local community group.

On Thursday 15th October the Student Council and Mrs Turner went along to Friar Lane and Braunstone Baptist Church, near Braunstone Lane where they were invited to join the community group who meet there for a special Christmas meeting with readings, prayers and singing which the students were invited to join in with if they wanted to. Afterwards the student council served tea, coffee and cakes to the group and chatted to them about school and community issues. They were thrilled to meet local lady, Lillian who is 109 years old.

Our students were a big hit, with members of the church group saying how polite and friendly they all were, and also how smart they looked in their school uniform.



Well done Student Council, great ambassadors for Winstanley!

See more photos!

Click the link on our webpage to view photos of all the latest events at Winstanley.





Like us? Like our page on Facebook Follow the link on our website



Upcoming Events/Term Dates

21st December - Last day of term (early finish)
5th January 2017 - Back to school
12th January - Year 9 Options Evening
27th January - Year 11 Subject Evening
27th January - Mock Results
28th January - Reports to Parents KS4
3rd February - Year 8 Vaccinations
10th February - Option Form Deadline
10th February - Break Up for Half Term

For a full list of term dates please see our website





Contact us:

Winstanley Community College, Kingsway North, Leicester. LE3 3BD

Telephone: 0116 289 8688 . Fax: 0116 289 3736

Email: office@winstanley.leics.sch.uk . communication@winstanley.leics.sch.uk PTA: pta@winstanley.leics.sch.uk . Web: www.winstanley.leics.sch.uk



