

Girls Shine Bright!



At the end on January we welcomed a group of professional women to our Year 10 aspirational girls networking event. The women we invited were from a range of interesting and exciting professions and talked to students

about their roles, the importance of determination and the route to success. Amongst our visitors there were an artist, a pharmacist, a mechanic, a roofer, an

occupational therapist, a psychiatric nurse and an occupational therapist, we were also joined by our LiFE MAT Finance Manager, Careers Officer and Chair of Governors who has worked in education for many years.

The sessions allowed the girls to chat to the women about their chosen career and to seek advice for their own futures.

- Here is some of the fantastic feedback we received:
- 'The girls energy was wonderful and it was amazing to take part in this event'.
- 'A great promotion of women in successful careers', 'Your young people are amazing'



Our LiFE MAT careers co-ordinator said:- "It was a very inspirational morning, finding out about varied job roles and the hurdles that women have often had to overcome which are inspiring and amazing to hear! A running theme was "never give up"... Keep going for what you want (no matter how difficult the route is along the way!).

We will be running a similar event in the summer for Year 10 boys so if you know of anyone who is employed in a role which challenges traditional stereotypes or has an interesting job and would like to take part, please get in touch.

Welcome

Welcome to our Winter newsletter. The school is highly inclusive of all people.' This was one of many positive things that the OFSTED team said about our school. We are very proud of the judgements they made about us and they could clearly see the improvements that we have made which would not have been possible without your

support. Please do take the time to read the summary of the report in the newsletter, the Leicester Mercury article and the full report. We continue to raise the level of challenge across the school and

Year 11 will have their first Revision Academy this half term. Have a fantastic half term - thank you for all your support.

Mr Bennett, Head of School.



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Winter 2020



Flour Babies



During English lessons with Miss Harris Year 7s have been reading 'Flour Babies' by Anne Fine. The book is set in a school and features a science experiment where the class is assigned to spend three weeks taking care of their own "babies" in the form of bags of flour. Simon, the main character makes amazing discoveries about himself while coming to terms with his long-absent father. Our year 7s really enjoyed the book and have made their own flour babies to help them relate to the characters and situations in the book.



Community Voice

At the end of January fifteen of our students joined other schools from across the area for the Blaby District Council Youth Conference. They had a great time and enjoyed their involvement in local priorities. One student said "it gave us a louder voice and we felt like our opinions mattered". During the event they took part in a discussion about green issues, community grants, knife crime and tolerance. They then worked with local counsellors to prioritise issues which they feel are an issue in their area, the ideas were then presented at the end of the day and all students had the opportunity to vote, giving them the experience of being involved in the democratic process. There was an opportunity during the event for some light relief with fun and games too!



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We are now on **Instagram**, join our other 658 followers!

Winstanley Life



In touch...

Why not follow us on social media, we post regularly on **Twitter**, **Facebook** and **Instagram** with our news as it happens...



Future Skills

On 23rd January our Year 10 students were involved in a mock interview morning. We had about 20 employers from a range of companies who interviewed our young people. They gave them an authentic experience of what to expect at a college or employment interview so that students are better prepared for their future careers and next steps in education. Students really valued the experience and we are very grateful to the



volunteers who gave up their time to take part in the event. One student said that although they felt really nervous, the experience made them feel more confident about future interviews and what questions they would need to answer.



Winter 2020 On Air!

On January 13th Aminata Kamara from BBC Radio Leicester came into interview a select group of students and the Head teacher. The focus of Aminata's interview was to explore whether having a diversity of teachers make a difference to the student experience. The students spoke with confidence, and expressed that having diversity in school was beneficial for the whole school community, as students who identify with a specific group would have access to a teacher they could relate



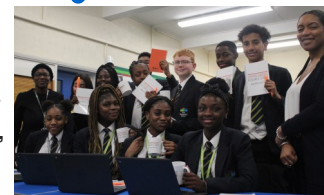
to on a deeper level. Mr Bennett, Head Teacher talked about all the ways in which we are building an inclusive environment at school where all members of the school community feel valued, celebrated and have a voice. The interview was aired during the Breakfast Show on the 15th January, you can find a link on our Facebook page.

Last year a small group of students

Legacy

attended the launch of the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre. Since then a Stephen Lawrence Committee has formed, and students are working in partnership with Sherilyn Pereira, DMUs' Internal Communications Officer and her team. This year as a school, we will be remembering the life and legacy of **Stephen Lawrence** in April. The committee have been planning activities and resources for this. Sherilyn Pereira and her team met with our committee and offered support and advice. She was very impressed with their level of maturity and commitment to supporting others through promoting inclusion. The students

appreciated the free gifts of mugs, highlighters and notepads. We are really looking forward to the events in April, and a possible visit to the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre, at DMU soon.



Ofsted Praise and Recognition...

Following our inspection by OFSTED at the beginning of December our report has now been published and states that: **"School leaders, with the support of the LiFE Multi Academy Trust, have improved the school for staff and pupils. Leaders have created a positive and welcoming atmosphere."** The report also states that **"The school is highly inclusive of all people"**. The report contains much praise and recognition of the rapid improvement we have made over the last two years. Student behaviour, personal development and Leadership were graded as good. The quality of education judgement of requires improvement reflects the need for us to continue to develop and improve and ensure that our curriculum enables all the students to get the best outcomes possible.

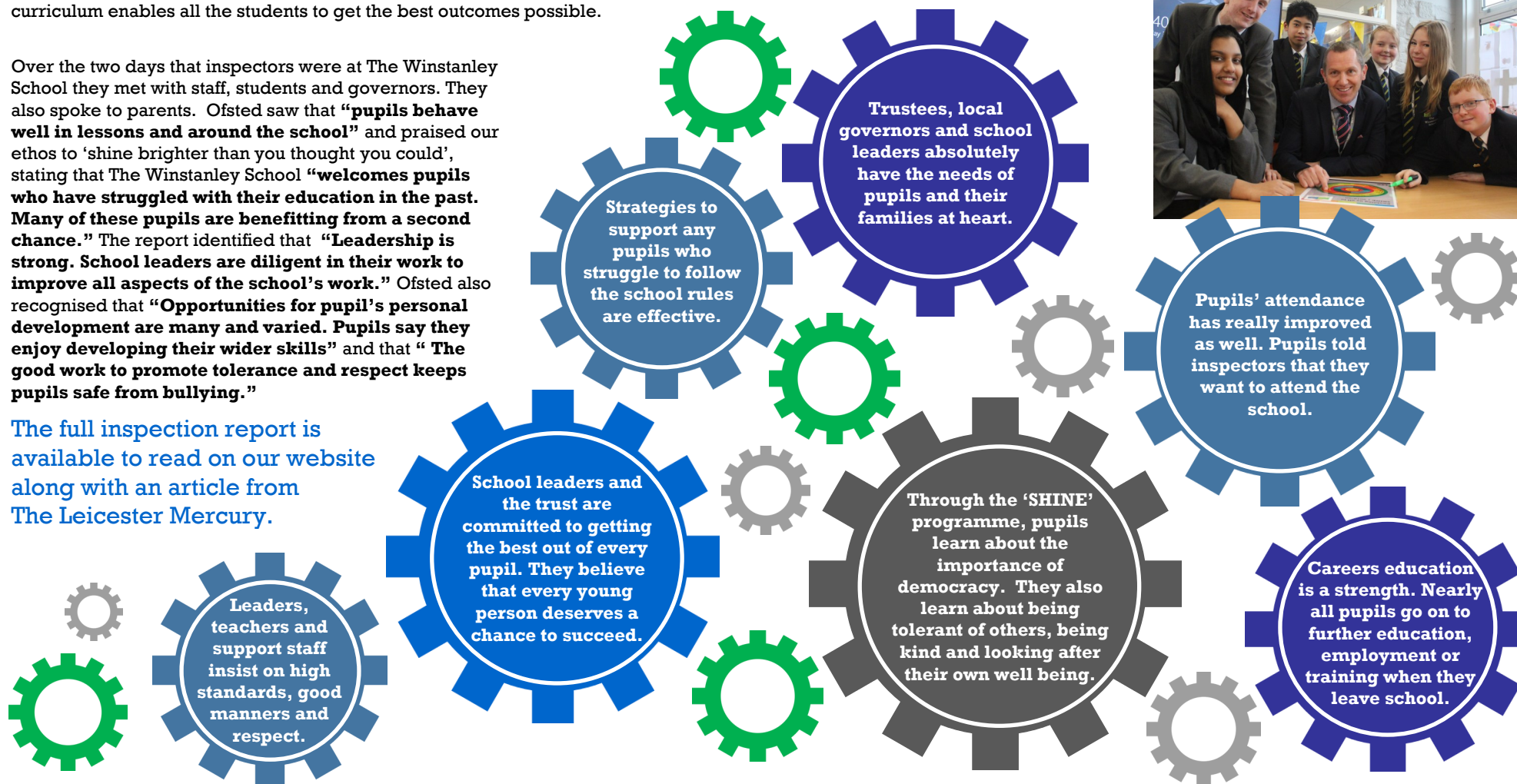
Over the two days that inspectors were at The Winstanley School they met with staff, students and governors. They also spoke to parents. Ofsted saw that **"pupils behave well in lessons and around the school"** and praised our ethos to 'shine brighter than you thought you could', stating that The Winstanley School **"welcomes pupils who have struggled with their education in the past. Many of these pupils are benefitting from a second chance."** The report identified that **"Leadership is strong. School leaders are diligent in their work to improve all aspects of the school's work."** Ofsted also recognised that **"Opportunities for pupil's personal development are many and varied. Pupils say they enjoy developing their wider skills"** and that **"The good work to promote tolerance and respect keeps pupils safe from bullying."**

The full inspection report is available to read on our website along with an article from The Leicester Mercury.



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Independence

- Over the last two weeks students have been showing how they SHINE brighter at this year's **Winstanley's Got Talent** auditions. It's a great opportunity for singers, dancers, entertainers and musicians to showcase their talent on stage and become one of our new stars! The competition has now been running for 5 years with 100s of students demonstrating independence, excellence, hard work and also proving that you should never give up on your dreams. The show will take place on Tuesday 31st March and we hope that parents, carers and students will join us for a fantastic evening of entertainment and support our stars of the stage.



Hard Work

Having entered a team into the RSPCA Great Debate we met with their Regional Representative to find out more about the upcoming event. The students are required to research 'restrictions on fireworks and sky lanterns and speak for and against restricting fireworks to displays to reduce distress in animals.' They will be expected to 'debate' for 10 minutes and then will be judged on their delivery and content. The Leicester Competition takes place on Wednesday, 18th March at City Hall with winners being taken to London for the National finals. Good luck to the boys!



Winners

The winners of the Christmas Card Competition were Year 7 - **Marissa** (for her design) and **Victor** (for his verse), Year 8 - **Phoebe** (design) and **Beth** (verse) and Year 9 - **Elliemay** (design) and **Tia-Lea** (verse). Well done to all of them.



Excellence

On Fridays a small group of students are selected to join Head of School, Mr Bennett for Hot Chocolate Friday. The students are selected for a variety of reasons which usually relate to our Shine values. This term 22 students have been rewarded with this special treat for excellence, supporting others, personal improvement, sports excellence and contributing to the school community. Well done to **Roni, Eva, Amelia, Casey, Ashton, Mya, Iveta, Rhiannon, Archie, Leah, Gabriella, Summer, Lorias, Jerome, Niall, Lacey, Fenton, Ethan, Harry, Kade, Mark, Tyler and Chloe** keep up the great work! Find out more on Twitter follow **#HotChocFri**.



This is the ethos of the newly established SHINE Centre. A home for students who have struggled in their educational journey thus far. Here at The SHINE Centre this is the start of a new chapter, a new beginning, and with our ability to develop a bespoke curriculum, a fresh chance of success. We are able to offer more vocational opportunities to succeed, more time to develop social and emotional resilience and to prepare our young people for a life after school. We use a mixture of hands on activities and direct teaching to assist students in their journey. Our Twitter Page shows some of the activities and experiences staff and students have been involved in so far. To find out more follow **@TheSHINECentre**.



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Supporting Others

This term we have welcomed **Mr Harston** as our new Head of Year 8. He is looking forward to supporting students and parents to ensure that his year group meet their full potential and are happy and working hard at school. Some students may remember Mr Harston from Dallaglio Rugby Works; an alternative provision that the school works closely with. He has also got a wealth of experience working with young people in the education sector for over 15 years.



Top 25

Our top 25 students for receiving the most reward points and the best attendance are:-

Year 7

Anoop, Nawar, Jasmin, Natasha, Abdul-Aziz, Adam

Year 8

Jake, Lukasz, Jaylan, Milly, Vladlen

Year 9

Joe, Faith, Joseph, Ethan, Marc

Year 10

Sam, Callum, Kamran, Vanessa, Cameron

Year 11

Hima, Radiya, Gurninder, Lukas, Liam