

# Success Shines Through!

It's been a tough year for Year 11 leavers, school came to an abrupt end in March with none of the final landmark events that students usually experience. Our Prom was cancelled and although we celebrated the last day of term in the usual fashion with pizzas and shirt signing many students missed saying goodbye because they were self isolating. The period of uncertainty that followed this was stressful for students and staff felt disappointed that the hard work of the students may not be recognised.

Thankfully for our students the government opted for centre assessed grades which meant our students received the results that reflected their hard work and continued effort. We were able to welcome our students back to the school in small groups so that we were able to celebrate their success and wish them well as they take their next steps towards their future careers.

Mr Bennett, Headteacher said "The government's U-turn has ensured that our students have got the results they genuinely deserve. It must be remembered this is the culmination of 11 years of education. It is easy to concentrate on the exams fiasco, but it's really important that we celebrate the hard work and outstanding achievement of the Winstanley students and make sure that they know that we are all exceptionally proud of them and their results."

Lucia, our Head Girl, is now at Bosworth Academy studying A Levels said: "Our time at school came to an end so quickly and unexpectedly. I was devastated that we didn't get the chance to take our exams which we had worked so hard for. It's was a relief to finally receive our results and I am pleased that my hard work was recognised. I would like to say thank you to the teachers at Winstanley for their help and support during my time here."



## Welcome

Wow what a half term! I think this has been the strangest and most challenging half term we have ever had. However, despite all the Covid issues, everyone in the Winstanley community has stepped up and made sure that we have had an extremely positive experience. I have been so impressed with how students and staff have worked to make sure that school is safe, friendly and a great place to learn. We had a visitor from another school recently who commented on how obvious it is that the teachers love and care for the students and that the students have a real love and pride for the school. As Headteacher I couldn't wish for any more. I want to thank you for all the ways that as parents and guardians you have supported us and worked in partnership with us - it has been essential in navigating the challenges we all face. I know we would all like things to return to normal, but I also know that with everyone's incredible resilience, support and hard work we will continue to thrive as a community. As Nelson Mandela said: **'It always seems impossible until it is done.'** Please do enjoy the newsletter it shows that despite Covid we are continuing to give our young people the opportunity to 'shine brighter than they thought they could.'



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**Mr Bennett, Head of School.**

## Winstanley Life

## Autumn 2020

## Black History Month

We have been celebrating Black History Month 2020 in a variety of ways, including our annual assemblies exploring the importance of Black History Month as a time to recognise the contributions of Black people to society. Students have participated in weekly tutor activities that have stimulated discussions around representation of

Black people in music and dance. We are also encouraging students to get involved in the 100 Great Black Britons competitions. More details can be found on <https://www.100greatblackbritons.co.uk/competition.html>

Finally, we have proudly raised our Black Lives Matters flag as a symbol of solidarity.



Lucia and Jake, thrilled to get the results they needed. Jake will be pursuing a career in the Army.



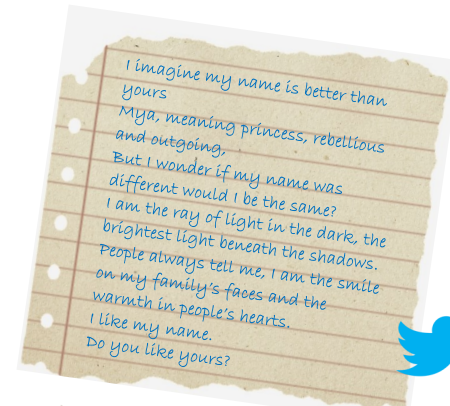


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# Poetry Day

National Poetry Day is the annual mass celebration on the first Thursday of October that encourages all to enjoy, discover and share poetry. This year, National Poetry Day took place on 1 October 2020, with the theme of Vision and across the school English lessons were focused on poetry. We encouraged students to get involved by creating their own poem and we shared lots of the results on social media on the day too.

National Poetry Day generates an explosion of activity nationwide, thousands of amazing events across the UK – on doorsteps and at kitchen tables, in gardens and streets, in schools, libraries and public spaces both online and offline – all celebrating poetry’s power to bring people together so once again it was fantastic that even though we cannot come together collectively we were able to join in the fun!



 **In touch...**

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



## Winstanley Life

We are now on **Instagram**, join our other **830** followers!

## Food Facts

Students who are studying hospitality and catering took part in a socially distanced workshop with the National Food Strategy. The organisation works with citizens to shape a better future. The workshop included explanations and discussions and students learnt about being sustainable, the effect farming has on the environment and food security. This will help them to complete their coursework as well as giving them the opportunity to work with professionals within the hospitality and food production industry. Students really enjoyed the experience and said it was helpful towards their studies. Our visitors enjoyed working with our young people and said they had great ideas. It's fantastic to be able to still offer great learning experiences like this even during the current restrictions.



## Sunflowers

Thank you to all staff, students and local residents who have taken part in our Sunflower Challenge. It's been lovely to see the photos that have been shared with us and we have created a display in the Cube. We hope everyone enjoyed growing their seeds and it helped to brighten up lockdown, sunflowers provide much needed food for wildlife during the Autumn and are especially important for bees as they collect the pollen they need to see them through the winter months. Well done to Miss Hambleton for the wonderful sunflower challenge idea.



# Autumn 2020

## Hello Yellow Day



Staff and students at The Winstanley School have been raising awareness and taking part in activities for [#HelloYellow](#) in the week leading up to Hello Yellow day on Friday 9th October. The school was awash with yellow as we donned our brightest hues and donated £1 to Young Minds, who are a charity supporting Mental Health for young people. Mr Scrimshire was shining brighter than everyone in the brightest suit ever seen at Winstanley! Students have created handprints to decorate the school and to share their own strategies for dealing with mental health. During tutor time students were able to listen to a virtual gig organised by Mrs Olner and performed by our talented staff and students. Bakers have been busy too and we await the verdict of our first-ever Hello Yellow Bake Off organised by Mrs Derry. Well done to Miss Harris for co-ordinating the events and her ongoing role of making staff feel appreciated and cared for. Keep a lookout for our virtual group photo on social media.





Mrs Thornton would like to congratulate Paige H, Dylan H, Daniel K, Chelsea M, Mikolaj P and Gracjan S. They have all achieved 100% results in each of their 22 HegartyMaths home learning tasks since the start of term. Keep 'shining bright' and keep up the great work.

## Hot Chocolate

Our first socially distanced Hot Chocolate with the Head took place on Friday 9th October. After such a long break it was fantastic to celebrate with Edward, Holly-Grace, Chelsey and Diya (not photographed) who have made a fantastic start to Year 7. Well done and keep up the great work. We look forward to Hot Choc Friday being a regular event again to celebrate students who have been 'shining brighter'.



## Welcome back!

It's great to have Dallaglio Rugby Works who have been running taster sessions for students in Year 7 and 9. They will regularly be running provision for our students after half term.



## Thoughts on Year 7...

I came to Winstanley with my friends from primary school and they are in my class. We are all happy and very proud to be at the Winstanley School. I am definitely settling into school very well.  
Colton

I think I have settled very nicely into The Winstanley School, I have lots of friends and I know lots of teachers. At first I was really nervous and only spoke to a few people, I enjoy all subjects and know my way around the school grounds without getting lost. Although I wish we could start swimming because it is a sport I really enjoy and this school has an indoor swimming pool.  
Dion

My first 6 weeks at Winstanley have been good. I have made friends and we are getting along well. I have learned teachers' names. Overall coming to Winstanley has been a good experience so far. It has been amazing to come to such a good school after not being at school for 6 months.  
Alfie S

I'm fitting into TWS because I've made lots of new friends and it's really fun. The teachers are nice and so are my friends. PE is really fun because we get to practice netball (throwing the ball and learning new skills), I also enjoy Maths, English and Drama.  
Abbie E

I am enjoying The Winstanley School, it is a lot of fun. Maths is good because we have fun activities and HegartyMaths it is a cool website. In history we learn about things in the past like: black history, the Romans, gladiators and World War 1 and 2. I like tutor time because we do newsround, quizzes and SHINE activities.

I really like sports and in PE we are doing Ping Pong and Rugby which I'm enjoying and it is a lot of fun. In Science we do exciting experiments with Bunsen Burners. I like Music because we listen to genres like Opera, Pop and Orchestra. I RATED WINSTANLEY SCHOOL 100%  
Ammiel

# SHINE



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