

Remember Stephen

On April 22nd we marked Stephen Lawrence Day which was created in 2018 to ensure that Stephen's name is always associated with creating a fairer society. The story of Stephen and his legacy were carefully linked to a number of activities and led by our Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors who thought about the activities that Stephen enjoyed at school, and ways in which we could celebrate his life which tragically ended in his unprovoked murder at the age of 18. His family campaigned tirelessly for justice, and want young people to learn from the tragedy to 'live their best lives'.

The activities included all students running a mile for Stephen and an art competition, where students created stunning portraits of Stephen using mixed media. Stephen's brother Stuart donated copies of his inspirational new book 'Silence is Not An Option' as prizes for the competition. Stuart also joined us live by video link to award the prizes and congratulate students on their fantastic work in remembering Stephen and standing up for social justice. Staff and students wore something orange, (Stephen's favourite colour) for school on the day, and we

had a new flag flying over the school reminding students to 'live their best life'. Doreen Lawrence, Stephen's Mum, hopes that Stephen Lawrence Day will encourage all young people to have a voice and make the changes to create a society where all people feel valued.

We were joined in school by a film crew from [BBC East Midlands](#) news and representatives from the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre and it was fantastic recognition for The Winstanley School to be featured on the local news and we will continue to work closely with the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre at DMU to create more opportunities to remember Stephen.



Welcome

What an amazing term! It has been brilliant to see the students thriving and definitely 'shining brighter than they thought they could.' This newsletter shows the fantastic things that our staff and students have managed to achieve despite all the restrictions. On a sad note we are saying goodbye to our Year 11s who have been a real credit to themselves and the school

- we will miss them, but look forward to seeing all the amazing things that they go on to achieve. Thank you so much for all your support. I do really appreciate it and I am very proud to lead such a great community of people. Have a relaxing bank holiday and week and hopefully the sun will finally shine!

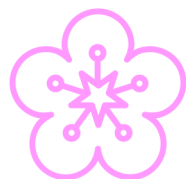
Mr Bennett, Headteacher



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Winstanley Life



Spring 2021



Goodbye Year 11

On Friday, 28th May we will be saying goodbye to our current Year 11 students, who will have completed all their assessment work which will be submitted to produce their GCSE grades. For the second year running we have not been able to celebrate with a Prom but we hope to make their day as special as possible with thanks to Mr Turner and Mrs Hawkins who have been making some last minute preparations for Friday. Mr Turner said "I am so proud of the way Year 11 students have tackled this year's challenges head on. They have shown great resilience in the face of adversity, and I know this will serve them well for their next steps in life." Everyone at Winstanley wishes them the best of luck for the future and we look forward to seeing them again on results day - Thursday, 12th August. If you haven't already given permission for your child to be in the Yearbook, please let us know so that we have them printed ready for results day.





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Love Your Hair

On Monday 24th May ITV reporters interviewed a group of students on the importance of learning about Afro hair. This is part of a national project joining primary and secondary schools across the country for the 'Big Hair Assembly' on September 15th. Our students have been learning about stories of enslaved African women who hid rice and precious jewels in their braids as a means of survival during the transatlantic slave trade. It was great to see students share personal stories about how important their hair is to them, and also why participating in the 'Big Hair Assembly' is significant for our school community. Follow [this link](#) to find out more.



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 Spring 2021

The Green Team

Mr Humble and Year 7 students have made a start towards achieving the Eco-Schools Bronze award with the Year 7 Eco-club making real progress looking at some of the problems with litter in and around the school.



Following on from a complaint from the local community, the group have worked with the The South Leicestershire Litter Wombles to organise a litter pick around Braunstone Town which was unfortunately met with torrential rain on their first mission. Despite this setback, the Year 7 students showed amazing enthusiasm for this project and making the environment around the school as clean and sustainable as possible. The Year 8 Eco-club is making a great start with encouraging healthy eating and using sustainable food around the school.



We are creating a great foundation to support a student led environmental agenda at TWS, with students working to make the changes that *they* want to see.

Go Leicester!

On Thursday 11th May staff and students were thrilled to wear their Leicester City shirts for school and have their photo taken with a replica of the FA Cup. It was fantastic to support our local team prior to their amazing FA Cup win. Well done to Mr



Megginson for arranging for us to have the cup and an even bigger well done to Leicester City for winning the real one.

Teacher's Pets

We've had some fantastic visitors at school this term. Miss Jackett brought in her pet snake and tortoise and Mrs Chambers brought in a tarantula spider. Students really enjoyed meeting these out of the ordinary pets. It was quite a challenge for some students but they enjoyed overcoming their fears and handling a snake for the first time. We're not sure Mr Bennett felt quite the same though!

Nurture students are caring for a pet too. Tiddles the tortoise was attacked by a dog and now 'boards' at Winstanley during the week and goes home at the weekends with one of our students who is his owner.

Spending time with a pet is a great way to overcome anxiety and stress and we hope to have more animal visitors, and possible residents soon.





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Year 7

Well, what a funny start to life in Year 7! Year 7 have really impressed us by the resilience they have shown in overcoming all the barriers that they have faced in the past year and a half (ending Year 6 in partial lockdown). They have settled into Winstanley life extremely well and demonstrate the SHINE values in everyday life, really embedding the foundations to move through the school. There has been some great friendships formed and the relationships that the students have built with their form tutors, TAs and Miss Reek has been really lovely to see. Year 7, continue to SHINE brighter than you thought you could in your final half term of Year 7. **Mrs Turner**



Year 8

I am full of admiration of how resilient and amazing the year 8s have been this year. It has not been easy and you all have definitely faced many challenges, transitioning from Year 6 into Year 7 and then all the upheaval of lockdown has really stretched many students. Yet when I think of how kind, supportive and independent this year group has been, it makes me very proud. I know it has not been easy but we have got through it and we have learned many great lessons along the way. As long as we are learning, I know we will continue to grow as the great determined students that you all are. Many of you have had to grow up a lot sooner than you would have liked but you have and you have grown into resilient, strong, supportive young adults who are now ready to embark upon starting their GCSEs and new adventures into Year 9. I think you're all brilliant and I know you will keep shining brighter than you are. **Head of Year 8**



Year 9

Proud and inspired - just a couple of words to describe how I feel about Y9 this year. They have stood tall together and overcome every challenge thrown to them. School has been such a quiet place over lockdown and it's so great to finally see and hear the students' laughter with friends around school. I look forward to working with you all in the final term of Y9 and I know deep down everyone one of you has the ability to succeed in Y10 and upwards. **Mr Harston**



Student Support News

Year 10

These past 12 months have provided many different and unique challenges for Year 10, but I have been delighted with the way our year group have faced these challenges head on, with a sense of resilience and determination. Through the commitment. Year 10 have shown this year, they are in a strong position to build on the foundations they have laid, as they move onto their final year at Winstanley. I know that if they continue to demonstrate the SHINE values like they have this past year, then this year group will be in a fantastic position to achieve great success in Year 11. Well done Year 10, keep up the fantastic work as we embark on the final steps of your journey at Winstanley. **Miss Tinson**



Year 11

Well done Year 11. You have worked so hard on your checkpoint assessments and have conducted yourself with real maturity and determination. I know that you will go on to be really successful in whatever you choose to do in the future and as a staff we all wish you all the best in your futures. **Mr Turner**

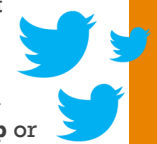
Punctuality

In order to start the day well, all students must be in school by 8:35. Students who are late will receive late detentions and parents will be informed. It is really important students are on time so that lessons are not disrupted by late students. Please discuss the importance of being punctual with your child.



In touch...

If you have any questions or comments, please contact your child's Head of Year or form tutor. You can follow Student Support on Twitter @TWSstudentsup or on Instagram @studentsupporttws



Transition

The transition process is now in full swing again. It is very different from last year but unfortunately we are still not able to do everything we would normally do. We are currently speaking to primary schools to enable us to get a better picture of the new Year 7 and we are hoping to visit the students in their primary schools after half term. We are currently uncertain as to whether the new Year 7 will be able to visit us for the intake day due to the current restrictions. Please keep a close eye on the school website for more transition activities and information. If your child is due to join us and you have not yet returned the admission form, could you do it as soon as possible please.



D of E Award

We are excited to be running the Duke of Edinburgh Award again this year with Y9. Over 25 students will be embarking on their journey with the DofE. Confidence, resilience, team work - just some of the skills the students will get through their DofE that will help them in life and improve chances of moving forward in education or getting a job. Watch out for all the great work our students will be doing on the DofE.



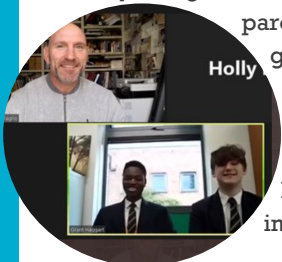
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Alternative Provision

At TWS we try to offer lots of opportunities outside of the classroom and over the last few months a group of students in year 9 have worked hard with local company Enstruct to develop the school garden. Students have worked really hard to build and develop this space to create a beautiful, natural space which can be used across the curriculum. Every week something new appears and it is becoming a really interesting and thoughtful site. The students have made several raised beds which they have now planted out. They have also worked hard to build pathways and other structures and have planted native trees and shrubs all around the edge to the garden to provide shelter and to attract wildlife. Their next job is to develop the pond and hopefully build a recycled greenhouse. In the summer we are hoping that we can hold a community tea party and invite parents and family into see the hard work for themselves. In addition to the work in the garden, Rugby Works is a vital part of our Alternative Provision timetable and many students across the school attend this programme to access mentoring and personal development opportunities through a rugby based provision. Last week, two of our Year 9s represented the school in a Zoom call with former England player Lawrence Dallaglio and were fantastic ambassadors for our school - well done to everyone involved.



Nurture

We are hugely impressed by the Year 11s for their incredibly hard work in sitting their checkpoint assessments. They've conducted themselves exceptionally well and I'm very proud of them. Well done to Robbie, Renée, Kelsie, Layton and Joshua. A massive well done to Connor, Seth, Kaya and Brendon for their efforts in completing their Maths assessments - again they too have conducted themselves with great maturity - well done. And finally, a big thank you to Lily and her mum for lending Tiddles the Tortoise to us each week. He's quickly become the star attraction down in Nurture and fits in beautifully.



Supporting Others

In preparation for World Book Night on 23rd April students went out into the community to share their love of reading.

Ads, Nile, Ashton and Marc (with Mrs Hendra and Miss Sharp) delivered some books to our neighbours which had been donated by Specsavers and World Book Night. The book was a selection of short stories by bestselling authors - Stories to Make You Smile. We hope it brightened up the day for anyone who received one.



Independence

Well done to Tyrell and Reuben who represented The Winstanley School at a Leicester/Leicestershire Citizens event recently. They both spoke really confidently and were excellent ambassadors not only for the school but for all young people.



Hard Work

The Sports Academy is a group that Year 7 & 8s can apply to join. The aim is to extend students' knowledge of how best to prepare for high level sport. We look at fitness, transferrable skills and also mental toughness.

Students must also score highly in their report cards to be able to participate in what is essentially a reward session for our hard working young people.



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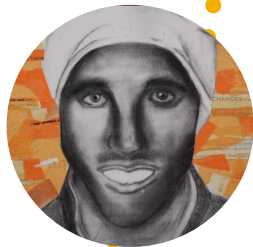
☆ Let yourself

SHINE

Excellence

Following Stephen Lawrence Day Year 8 student Damari was inspired to put pen to paper and write a poem about Stephen's story and his own experiences. Mr Finn read this amazing poem during assembly, and really brought out the feeling and meaning of Damari's words.

Well done Damari! To watch the video follow [this link](#). The picture is by Mya in Year 11, and was one of the shortlisted portraits in the Art competition.



Shining Stars

Well done to all the students who have been selected to have Hot Chocolate with the Head this term. Keep a look out every Friday on Twitter to see who's 'Shining Brighter than they thought they could'.

- Year 7 - Leo, Declan, Sienna and Bianca
- Year 8 - Tyrell, Krystian, Georgia, Amy, Cayson, Manraj, Leo, Mona, Esme and Layton
- Year 9 - Tia Dora, Tori, Oliver, Paige and Archie
- Year 10 - Amrit, Lewis, Tia Lea and Kynon
- Year 11 - Vanessa, Leon, Teja, Patrycja and Harvey



Never Giving Up



Wayne Burniston from The Shine Centre, took on an incredible running challenge during April to raise money for Young Minds. Over the month he ran a total of 465km. Each day his running target was the date in km starting with just 1km on the first day of April and ending on the last day with his longest distance of 30km. The Shine Centre students and staff have included his daily run within their trips and out of school activities to show encouragement and keep him company.

The final day of his challenge on 30th April took place in the school grounds to enable staff and students to join in on what was the toughest and longest run. Young Minds is an organisation we support as a school and Wayne said "It's been a really tough year for everyone, children have missed out on so much, seeing family friends, support networks and education. This year has taken its toll on all of us, and has led to a growth in poor mental health. Being a father of 3 and working in SEMH provision has opened my eyes to how little support there is out there, which is why I wanted to support them with this challenge".

