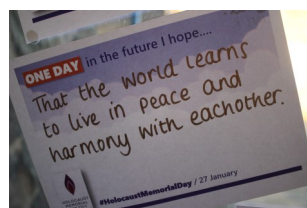


Light the Darkness



Holocaust Memorial Day encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide, the international day on 27 January remembers the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi persecution and in genocides that have happened since in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Dafur.

The 27th January marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. The Holocaust threatened the fabric of



civilisation and it's important that young people learn about the terrible events, so that they can raise awareness and prevent such horrors happening in the future. Our world often feels fragile and vulnerable and we cannot be complacent. Even in the UK, prejudice

and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all. At Winstanley we work closely with the Holocaust Memorial Centre to ensure our students promote equality and stand up to persecution and racism.

This year we marked Holocaust Remembrance Day, by taking part in a remote assembly and students lit candles in their tutors groups. We also heard one of our 'Stand Up' Ambassadors, Amara read a poem, with some thought provoking words. During Tutor Time students have also been thinking about what we can learn from the holocaust to make the future a better place. Students have been discussing these thoughts and creating a group pledge based on this year's theme - ONE DAY. It's an important part of our school ethos, to enable our young people to have a voice and encourage them to be kind, thoughtful and to respect difference, so that they become proactive citizens who strive for social justice.

Welcome

I hope this finds you all well. I was looking back at previous newsletters and this time last year we were in the middle of lockdown 2 and the year before we were oblivious to the way that covid would change our lives, but only a month away from lockdown 1. It feels like things are more hopeful now and we are heading back to some sort of normal. I know that these last two years have been incredibly challenging for us all - thank you for all your support through this time. I think this newsletter is a real tribute

to the resilience of staff and students at TWS. Despite the pandemic we have been able to get on with the job doing what we do best: 'Shining brighter than we thought we could'. I hope you enjoy reading the stories of the fantastic things that students have been doing this half term. On 26 -28th January we had a team of senior leaders from other schools come and visit us and carry out a review of what we are doing. They visited lessons, spoke to students and staff and evaluated what we are doing.

Some of the quotes from the team are on the last page. As you can see from the quotes they were incredibly impressed with what they saw from both students and staff. They looked closely at our work on developing young people who are active citizens and it has been accredited as an 'Area of Excellence' which means that it is so good it is something we will be sharing with other schools. If you want to read the whole report it will be available on the

website very soon. Thank you for all your support - I am so proud to be able to lead such a fantastic community - have a restful and healthy half term.

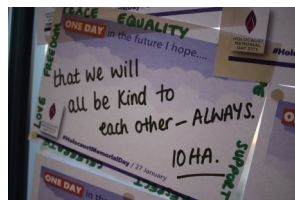
Mr Bennett, Head of School.



Winstanley Life



Winter 2022



Stand Up Ambassadors

In the week before Holocaust Memorial Day, ten of our students from Year 8 attended a powerful ambassadors conference, led by the National Holocaust Centre and Museum. The students learned about hate crime and listened to talks by both perpetrators and victims of hate crimes. Speakers included Holocaust Survivor, Dr Martin Stern and representatives from the Sophie Lancaster Charity, who discussed their experiences and the impact of prejudice and hate crime. Our students were able to take an active role and put questions to the speakers. Well done to all for taking on this important role within our school.



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Bah Humbug!

On the 18th January, our Year 10 and 11 students enjoyed a fantastic performance of A Christmas Carol, thanks to touring theatre group Quantum Theatre. The performance took place in the hall and featured just three actors, performing all the roles. It really brought the story to life for students who are studying it as part of the English Literature syllabus. Watching a live performance from talented performers, will help the students to understand the language used by Dickens, in the correct context and will enable them to recall key phrases in exams.



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 **1024** followers!

Caring for our Environment



The Eco-club arranged for Geoff from the Braunstone Wombles, to come into school and speak to students in Year 7, 8 and 9. Geoff spoke about the problem with plastic pollution and how we can all take action in recycling more to address the problem. The students gained a lot from what Geoff shared, and we are looking a ways we can do more as a school to care for the environment.



Winter 2022

Aim Higher

The Maths department would like to take the chance to remind all Year 11 students (and parents!), that we run after school revision classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Tuesday afterschool session is aimed at students taking the Higher GCSE Maths paper, and Thursday session is aimed at those taking the Foundation paper.



Each session is run by Mr Mountain and is designed specifically to help students increase the grade they are likely to get at the end of the year - and is highly recommended!



Breakfast

During the first two weeks back after the half term break, we will be launching our new breakfast club provision. Students will be able to access a bagel and cereal from the canteen, this will be offered from 8:10am - 8:35am. During the first two week trial period each house will be able to have breakfast on a different day, after that we hope to be able to offer breakfast to all students on a daily basis depending on demand.

Mondays 21st/28th - Elm
Tuesdays - 22nd/1st - Oak
Wednesday's 23rd/2nd - Maple
Thursday - 24th/3rd - Aspen

REALIFE curriculum

Students in 7SMO are now well underway with the Real Life Curriculum, focusing on the enquiry question of 'How do human beings interact with the natural world?'. This term they have explored the habitat of bees and in science, have presented about the dangers this species face. In History, they have created a medieval guide exploring how these people were dependent on, and worked with, the environment. For the end product, 7SMO are aiming to build 'Buzz Stops' around The Winstanley School site, to help support this species and enable the school to become more environmentally friendly. Students have also undertaken regular coaching sessions and have really started to take ownership of their own learning, which is a wonderful thing to see.



Hot Chocolate

Each week we celebrate student success by inviting selected students from each year to have a Hot Chocolate with Mr Bennett. We've had some lovely nominations from staff this term, it's amazing to see our students really aspiring to our SHINE values. Keep a look out on social media every Friday.

21 January - Year 7

Erin - Kind, calm and hardworking.

Billy - Works hard, helpful and supports others.

Skye - Great homework, strives for excellence.

Olivia - Always works hard and shares ideas.

Shakib - Funny, helpful and strives for excellence.

Promise - Dedicated and incredibly hardworking.

28 January - Year 8

Blake - Working hard in PE, fantastic contribution to lessons in English too!

Molly - Hardworking and focused.

Hargun - Kind, hardworking and enthusiastic and always puts in 100% effort.

Ammiel - Showing fantastic effort.

Lacey-Jayne - Always works hard, tries her best, very positive and a great work ethic.

4 February - Year 9

Mona - Fantastic effort, super contributions, 100% all of the time.

Eva - Superb independence during revision.

Airidas - Positive attitude to learning, works hard and respectful.

Josh - Excellent shine ambassador- always helps in tutor time.

Liam - Made an excellent cheesecake.

Manraj - Fantastic effort and hard work, a real star!

Georgia - Confident and trying her best in all lessons.

14 January - Year 11

Louis - Great work and always seeking to improve.

Jakub - Hard work and determination.

Kyle - Always tries hard.

Mollie-Ann - Amazing work ethic.

Adam - Independence and creativity.



Storytime

Over the last few weeks, a dedicated group of Year 7 students have met with published author, Dan Powell, to take part in a series of creative writing workshops. This is part of the First Story programme, which gives young people the chance to cultivate their creative writing skills, becoming published authors by the end of the programme!

The work they have produced so far is fantastic and we're only halfway through! The inspiration behind their writing has been their memories and the things that they think are brilliant (no matter how big or seemingly small). We're all looking forward to seeing the final product!



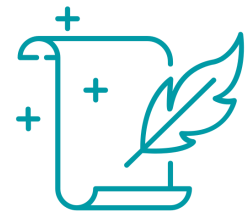
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Winstanley Life



Winter 2022



Love Reading



- The English department enjoyed juice, cakes and some book chat on Tuesday 8th February with our most enthusiastic readers. It was nice to take the time to chat to the students about their reading likes and dislikes and their ideas for the library.
- Some of the students had lots to say about reading such as:
- Julia - I love reading because it takes you to a different world of exploring.
- Casey - I like reading because you never know what's going to happen next.
- Promise - I like reading because it's something I can do when I want some time alone.
- Skye - I like reading because it's relaxing after a busy day.
- Gabriel - Reading hooks you in and time goes by really quickly when a book is good.

The English department are holding a masterclass from 3 - 4 pm every Wednesday and welcome all Year 11s. Year 11 students, do talk to your teacher if there is something specific you would like us to cover and we will!

Sports News

- Well done to the rugby team who recently won all of their games in a mini tournament. Winstanley, Rushey Mead and New College took part in very competitive matches, that were played in a great spirit.
- Students also played in a badminton tournament recently, in which we came third overall. All students were again, a credit to the school.
- A reminder about the extra-curricular clubs going on at the minute.



Table tennis-Every break
Badminton -Every lunch.
Rugby, swimming & dodgeball after school.

Praise and Recognition...



Challenge Partners visited **The Winstanley School** at the end of January. Their aim is to reduce educational inequality and improve the life chances of all children. Through collaboration, challenge and professional development, they work to ensure every school community can benefit from the combined wisdom of the education system. They were very positive in their praise of our school and have given constructive advice on areas which can be improved. Below are some comments which we are particularly proud of!

