

# A Bright Future

On the 25th August we welcomed our Year 11 leavers back to school to celebrate some fantastic exam results. This is the first time since 2019 that students have sat formal GCSE exams and it's fantastic to see that they have met this challenge after the significant disruption and uncertainty over the last few years of their education. Their resilience and determination has really shone through, they have supported each other, worked hard, demonstrated their ability to work independently and have never given up despite the many challenges they have faced to enable them to achieve excellence.

Staff at the school have been thoroughly impressed with how this group of students have overcome the difficulties experienced in some of the most significant years of their education. Students and parents feel that they have been well supported by teachers and staff at the school who have ensured that students received the help and support they needed to catch up during and after the pandemic. Students have been offered extra revision sessions and we have employed academic coaches to ensure that our students could achieve the best possible outcomes for them to progress on to college, 6th Form, apprenticeships or employment.

We are pleased that so many of our students have managed to "SHINE brighter than they thought they could" in such disruptive and unusual circumstances.



*Headteacher of the school, Mr Bennett said:*  
*'It is fantastic to see how the students at Winstanley have done so well despite all the disruption they have experienced over the last three years. It is a real tribute to the hard work and dedication of everyone in the Winstanley community.'*

## Welcome

I am very proud to lead The Winstanley School and I hope that this newsletter shows you why - so many students are being supported by staff and their parents or carers to get involved in such a wide variety of activities. Winstanley students are definitely 'shining brighter than they thought they could.' Thank you so much for all your support - it is great to know that we are working in partnership. I would just like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to two notices on the last page:

- Be a Governor - we would love to have you on board to support our continued development
  - Free School Meals - your son or daughter may be missing out so please apply
- Have a fantastic and restful half term.

Mr Bennett, Headteacher.



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## Winstanley Life



# Autumn 2022

## Hello Yellow



Monday the 10th October was #mentalhealthawarenessday and staff and students donned their brightest hues for #HelloYellow which aims to support the work of Young Minds, who campaign for a greater understanding and more funding for young people who are impacted by mental health.

Throughout the week there has been a focus on mental health awareness in tutor time, assemblies and in some lessons. It's important for young people to understand their feelings, know where to go for help and to look at strategies to deal with times when they may feel sad or upset. Wearing yellow is a way of showing solidarity with young people and helping them know they are not alone. The more people who show they care, the more confident young people will feel about talking to someone if they are struggling. Why not ask your young person how they are feeling and what strategies they have learnt this week to look after their own wellbeing?

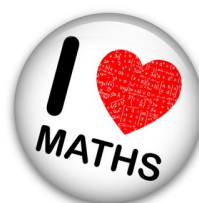


## Last Orders

A really big thanks you to Solomon Theatre Company who came in to do a performance called 'Last Orders' for our Year 9 and 10 students.



The performance was based on a real life scenario where two 15 year old girls lead themselves into a dangerous and life changing situation through under age drinking. The performance was followed by a workshop where students were able to discuss the issues raised including misconceptions around alcohol, consent, online bullying and the law.



Year 11  
**Further Maths** will be starting on **Tuesdays** after school.



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**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 **1082** followers!

## Exploring Black History

- At the beginning of October Ms Boyce and a group of students, including our Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors went to Liverpool to visit the International Slavery Museum, to gain further understanding as part of the school's commitment to Black History Month.



They had a fantastic tour led by Lois Scott. She talked us through artefacts linked to the transatlantic slave trade and the impact on society today. They gained a thorough understanding of the roots and impact of social justice, which will empower the ambassadors in their role.



**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

## Girls Go Wild!

During September some of our Year 11 girls went on a challenging outward bounds trip to Wales with Mr Turner and Mrs Clarke. The trip was designed to improve confidence, teambuilding, resilience and communication skills and help the girls succeed as they approach GCSEs and life beyond Winstanley. The

girls had raised the money for the trip last term, so a big thank you to everyone who supported their fundraising efforts.



After travelling to Wales and getting settled in, the team were straight into activities. Over the course of the week the girls took part in a hike, wild camping, abseiling, team building activities, learning to canoe along the beautiful welsh coastline and finally having a campfire evening on the beach. They all had an amazing time and really got the opportunity to test their resilience and build lasting friendships through supporting each other and never giving up. More photos can be seen on Facebook and Instagram.





## Love Shakespeare!



Recently Mr Finn and Mrs Palmer took a group of students to watch an amazing performance of Othello at the Curve Theatre in Leicester.

The performance by Frantic Assembly sets the play in the 21st century in a world of explosive violence, manipulation and broken promises. The students absolutely loved their trip to the theatre, and the stunning production really brought Shakespeare to life and relevant to the modern world.



## Green Future



Our Eco Club received some new litter pickers which have been donated to us. Geoff from the Braunstone Litter Wombles popped into school to deliver them to our own enthusiastic eco-warriors. This means that our Eco Club will now be able to increase their litter picking and make a contribution to keeping our school grounds litter free, sharing their eco message with other students.



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## Winstanley Life



**Arbor**

New Parental Engagement App coming soon! Keep a look out for an email regarding the launch.

# Autumn 2022

## A Taste of Europe

Students who have been making excellent progress in Languages were invited to join staff for a special lunch with an European influence. Miss Baudson had selected a lovely range of snacks for students to experience from a variety of countries. The lunch was also a celebration of European Day of Languages.

Miss Baudson would also like to congratulate Edward (8FMN), Yasmine (8FMN), Skye (8RN) and Casey (8MGR) for such excellent work so far in languages.



## Expedition Completed!

Last week our students completed the final assessed expedition for their Bronze DofE Award. They had a gruelling two days of hiking, carrying all the equipment they needed for their camping trip on their backs. They set off from the school aiming across country for their camp site at Kirkby Mallory, which was a total of 16km. There were two separate groups who had to follow public footpaths and navigate using a map. The route was very challenging, and the group went the wrong way a few times due to footpath signs not always being clear and after an exhausting 10 hours the groups both arrived at the campsite at dusk. They were thankful of a warm campfire and enjoyed



discussing their trials and tribulations with toasted marshmallows and a warm drink. After a well-deserved sleep and a breakfast cooked on the campfire they embarked on the journey back to school, which was a lot easier once they knew the way. Year 11 student John said, "It was really tough, but a fantastic experience, working together created a close bond and we made some lasting memories. Learning to navigate with a map is a really valuable skill which I will take away from the expedition."



Earlier in the term we were joined by some very special guests. Winstanley was chosen to feature in a promotional video for Crowndale food suppliers, look out for their

video coming soon to a screen near YOU!



## Hard Work

After our first round of interviews our new prefects have been selected and received the good news last week! They will now take on the role of student leaders who represent our school values and set a good example to younger students. There will be another opportunity for more Year 11s to take on this prestigious role later this year. Well done to everyone who has been chosen this week, good luck with the hard work ahead.



**#hotchocfri**  
Keep a look out every FRIDAY to see who's shining bright!

## Supporting Others

There was a real buzz at Winstanley for our Open Evening on the 22nd September. We welcomed over 200 visitors and there was so much positive feedback about how friendly staff were, how great the school looked and how the student ambassadors were informative and welcoming. Our students were a real credit to us, they all looked incredibly smart and worked really hard showing visitors around and demonstrating activities in classrooms. Student ambassadors should be especially proud of supporting their school and it was great to see their enthusiasm.



## Independence



This week two of our students Shakib and Orlagh had the pleasure of meeting Maria. Viv Evans our Chair of governors is hosting Maria as part of the LiFE MATs refugee welcome for people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. Shakib and Orlagh interviewed Maria about her experience in the Ukraine and UK, and we are very grateful to gain this first hand account.



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## Excellence

PE is proving to be a big hit this term.

We have been holding inter house competitions for netball and football after school. The overall leaders so far are Oak with 16 points. Year 7 Aspen and Year 8 Oak are in the lead for netball, Year 7 Elm and Year 8 Maple are in the lead for football and Years 8, 10 and 11 football Maple are in the lead. It's great to see so many students staying after school and participating in the competitions.

In other news our Year 9 Football team have made a fantastic start to the season, and will be progressing through to the next round of the cup.

So far they have played South Charnwood, Bosworth and Brookvale and have beaten them all without conceding a goal. Go Team Winstanley!

**Just a reminder that swimming lessons will start after half term, your child will need to bring their swimming kit for the relevant lessons. Full details are on our website.**



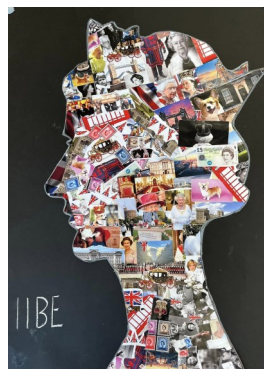
Let yourself

# SHINE

## Never Giving Up

We were all extremely saddened earlier this term to hear of the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II. The outpouring of grief and respect from so many people who travelled to London and Windsor to pay their respects was incredibly moving.

Our students were tasked with a House Challenge to remember the 70 years of dedicated service that the queen has given selflessly to her country, and reflect this in a display or presentation. The Queen was a shining light for so many people and an important example of our values of never giving up, supporting others and excellence. Well done to 11BE on their beautiful work.





# Be a Governor

We are pleased to announce that our new Chair of Governors for this academic year is Tim Rodgers. Tim has been involved with the school for several years and we are sure he will have a fantastic influence in his new role. We would like to say thank you to our previous chair Viv Evans for her hard work and dedicated service over her years with us.

Governors are volunteers and their main role is to work with the school ensuring that our students receive the best education in a supportive and safe environment.

If you are a parent and would like to join our governing body we would love to hear from you, governors come from a range of backgrounds and have a variety of different skills. If you are interested in making a positive difference to Winstanley please get in touch using the phone number below.



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inspiration innovation integrity

Would you like to work for LiFE Multi Academy Trust? Have a look at our [vacancies page](#) and take your next career steps with us...

# Winstanley Life

## Post 16 Open Events

Keep a look out for Open Events at local colleges over the next few months, it's important to see as many as you can so that you can make the right choice as you take your next steps.

Further information is available on our website by following this link – [Post 16 Open Events](#).

# Autumn 2022

## Free School Meals

Here at Winstanley we believe that a healthy diet is essential to your child's learning, development and well-being. If your child is eligible to receive free school meals, we will provide a free hot meal or baguette plus either a drink or dessert every lunchtime to the value of £2.35 per day, and a free packed lunch whenever attending an off-site visit.

For every child who has been registered to receive a free school meal at any point in the last six years, the school receives £935.00 of funding; this is called Pupil Premium Funding, and we will receive this irrespective of whether or not your child actually takes a free meal. Pupil premium funding provides the school with extra money that can be used to support your child by providing extra tuition, learning assistants, after school clubs or uniform/enrichment activity contributions and also to raise their attainment levels, so registering for free school meals even if your child does not want one can still benefit their education.

There are links on our website if you would like to apply - [Free School Meals](#)

