



Light The Darkness

On the 27th January our whole school joined in quiet contemplation as we lit a candle for Holocaust Memorial Day. Prefects Anna and Razvan read some moving poems and the 15 minute service, led by Mr Bennett and Miss LeCras was live streamed into classrooms.

We were encouraged to think about how we can learn from past events and stand up to discrimination and hatred.

During the week students had attended assemblies led by Mr Rigby which explained more about why we hold Holocaust Memorial Day. This year's theme was 'Ordinary People' and looks at how terrible events and actions can be carried out by ordinary people, while other people made the choice to be 'up-standers' regardless of the dangers they

faced because they believed in doing the right thing, often risking their own lives for the sake of others.

Through our work with the Holocaust Memorial Centre and the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre our students are encouraged to stand up for injustice and discrimination by becoming 'up-standers', encouraging a sense of moral duty.



Welcome

Wow - what a half term! It seems to have been incredibly long, but I have been so impressed with our staff and students. They have definitely demonstrated our Shine Value of 'Never Giving Up'. It is now 15 weeks since we launched our new approach to raising expectations. As I walk around the school on a daily basis I see the way that it has transformed the learning in classrooms. The level of concentration and work rate has improved so much and students who

were struggling to get work done and make progress are fully focused on their studies. We will continue to develop and improve how we support all our students so that they can 'shine brighter than they thought they could'. As always the newsletter is full of students who are doing

amazing things and really showing off all five of our shine values. Thank you again for all your support. It is brilliant to work in partnership with you and I am incredibly proud to lead the Winstanley community. Watch out for the return of my weekly video..don't worry we are not going back to covid times! I am hoping it will help to keep you up to date with what is happening in the school and strengthen communication. Have a great half term.

Mr Bennett, Headteacher



Winstanley Life

Winter 2023

Super Volunteer



It was fantastic to see Year 11 student Beth recognised in the Blaby District Community Awards. The awards recognise adults, young people and groups who give up their own time to support their local communities. Beth was one of eight young volunteers who had been put forward and were invited along to the awards evening. Beth was nominated for helping out at the 3rd Braunstone Brownies, which began as part of her Bronze DofE. She enjoyed it so much she carried on and became a young leader. Beth has also done fundraising for the Alzheimer's Society, which is a cause close to her heart, she has taken part in sponsored walks and other personal challenges to support the cause. Beth is a school Prefect and has taken every opportunity to participate in activities which support others within the school community. She is an amazing role model to Brownies and students alike, and she really embodies all the qualities which we encourage through our SHINE values at The Winstanley School. She is pictured here with her Mum who attended the awards evening with her.



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New Prefects

Well done to Naimah, Dylan, Daniel, Robert, Guvinder, Sophia, Nela, Lukasz, Razvan, Archie and Mya who are our latest Year 11 students to become Prefects. They will take on this prestigious role and join our existing prefects as junior leaders and ambassadors for the school. Year 10 students are also being asked to think ahead to becoming Prefects next year, as only students with minimum behaviour points and maximum SHINE points will be considered.



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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...



We're on **Instagram**, join our other 1113 followers!

Wedding of the Year

On the 19th January Year 10 students took part in a Mock Wedding as part of their RS GCSE studying Christian Values - Marriage and the Family. It's a fantastic opportunity for students to learn through the experience of an authentic event. We work closely with Friar Lane & Braunstone Baptist Church who make it realistic and special for our students. Students who went to the church early for the rehearsal were treated to pizzas and pop and members of the church had set up a wedding reception room, including some lovely, thoughtful touches. Well done to Eva and Layton who

played the roles of Bride and Bridegroom, Rahul as the Bestman, Ellie, Poppy, Abbie and Mia who were bridesmaids, Sayid, Shalemiah and Amy for such beautiful readings and Rhian, Thomas, Emmerson, Dovydas and Dom for their role as ushers and welcoming the rest of the year group into the church.

The Winstanley Wedding is one of the highlights of the school year and thank you to Rev Jon Grant and members of Friar Lane & Braunstone Baptist Church for making us so welcome as always. To see more photos, please follow this link – [Wedding 2023](#)



Winter 2023

Young Litter Wombles

On the 9th February some of our Eco Club members joined Geoff and The Wombles in Litter Education at Kingsway Primary School to do their presentation about litter and recycling. Kingsway children had recently taken part in a listening campaign where they talked about their concerns in the community and litter was one of the issues they would like to see improved. The presentation was really informative and the children enjoyed answering questions about how long different items take to biodegrade. Our students really did us proud, with their amazing quiz and developing their leadership skills. Following on from this our students will be joining some of the Year 5/6 children to go out on a litter pick with Geoff, wombling along Kingsway North.





Reading Stars

Well done to Year 7 students who were awarded their new accelerated reader badges in assembly earlier this term. Students were awarded Bronze (100,000 words read and 10 quizzes completed), Silver (500,000 words read) and three amazing students received their GOLD award - Cadi-Leigh, Archie M and Jack B have all read ONE MILLION WORDS - **Congratulations!** Keep up the good work.



Accelerated™
Reader



LGBT+ History Month

The first of February is the start of LGBT History Month across the UK and is an opportunity to connect and reflect on the past and present of the LGBT Community, celebrate LGBT culture and progress towards equality over time, and to explore what the lessons of history can teach us for the future.

At the beginning of February we had a really inspirational assembly by Mrs Hebb who talked about her own very personal experiences and the progress that has been made so that the LGBT community can have equality and inclusion.

We encourage our students to **support others** and be kind to all members of our school community to make the world a more equal place for all.



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Winstanley Life

Speak Up

This term Year 10 Drama students have been working with Zoe from Speak Up, encouraging young people to have a voice and express issues which are important to them through creative activity. Over the course of this three year project, Speak Up aim to engage with 140,000 young people in 55 selected secondary schools across 11 areas of England, working with Theatre Nation Partnership (TNP) venues and the National Theatre. We are pleased to have been chosen to take part in the scheme which takes place in areas where there is an inequality of access to opportunities for young people. Students are supported and nurtured to become the leaders of the future, by putting them at the heart of the creative process and decision making. Mr Finn's Drama class were really engaged with creating drama and dance to express themselves and interpret issues which they feel strongly about.



Lunchtime Clubs

Chess Club has been proving a big hit with students this term. Mr Mountain held our first Chess Tournament, which proved exciting for both players and spectators alike. The tournament began with 16 players and ended in a dramatic, nail-biting final which generated lots of interest. The students played in timed games and there were a range of abilities. Chess Club is held in the Math's block every Thursday for anyone wanting to join.

Warhammer Club has been started by Year 10 student Chloe and Mr Harston. Students are beginning to build the characters from the starter pack with the help of Mr Atherton who has been playing Warhammer for some time. It's a great way to spend a lunchtime and provides the opportunity to develop imagination, use artistic skills, improve Maths and reading skills, encourage critical thinking as well as spending social time learning something new.



Independence

- On the 23rd January members of our Junior Leadership team spoke to Year 5 and 6 pupils at Kingsway Primary School. Winstanley students from Years 7 to 11 discussed the importance about listening to issues that we may have in our community as part of their ongoing work with Citizens UK. The Kingsway pupils thought about things which make them angry or upset in our area which they would like to see improved such as vandalism, littering, animal cruelty, racism and bullying.



The Route to Success
Year 11 February Half Term
Revision Timetable

	MON 20th	TUES 21st	WED 22nd	THU 23rd	FRI 24th
TIME	10:00-12:00	10:00-12:00	10:00-12:00	10:00-12:00	10:00-12:00
SUBJECT	Sports Studies	H&C SDE	ART	History	Further Maths
TIME	12:00-14:00	12:00-14:00	12:00-14:00	12:00-13:00	12:00-14:00
SUBJECT	English	Foundation Maths M&R	RS	Geography	Further Maths
TIME	14:00-16:00	14:00-16:00	14:00-16:00	13:00-15:00	14:00-14:30
SUBJECT				Further Maths	Art

Hard Work

Year 11 students are being offered extra revision sessions over February half term. Please see the timetable below, this is also available on our website by following this link – [Revision Sessions](#)



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Never Giving Up

Have you heard about the exciting opportunity that we are promoting at The Winstanley School? As you will know, school attendance is vitally important to your child's success at school. Research conducted by the Department for Education estimates that 17 missed days of school per year (approximately 91% attendance) equates to a 1 drop in GCSE performance at the end of year 11. To minimise this impact, we are challenging every student to improve their attendance for the remainder of this academic year. The challenge for all of our students is to achieve 95% attendance between Monday 30th January and Friday 26th May, and as a reward be part of the Winstanley Seaside Away-Day.



Supporting Others

Some of our students are supporting children at Kingsway Primary School on Friday afternoons, offering extra coaching with Maths and Science. They have been doing this as part of the DofE volunteering requirement, but are loving the opportunity to pass on their knowledge and support younger students. They have created a lovely rapport with the children, and it's really helped to build their confidence as well creating new connections within our community.



Excellence

As part of our behaviour focus we are keen to place lots of emphasis on positive reinforcement and recognise hard work and good behaviour in as many ways as possible. This term, students have received their colour badges, which are awarded for excellence and effort in all subject areas, they are given badges which they can wear with pride on their blazers. Every Friday we hold Hot Chocolate with the Head, where around 5 students are chosen to have a Friday treat and a chat to Mr Bennett. We have also been giving students a 'Shout Out' on our socials every Friday, to make sure that even more students are getting positive recognition. Lots of our teachers like to send postcards home to let parents know how well their child is doing in their subject area. Make sure you follow us on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook to find out more.

