

Girls SHINE Bright



On the 8th March we held our annual Girls SHINE Brighter Conference to celebrate International Women's Day, the event is designed to encourage our girls to be aspirational, challenge bias, embrace equality and think about career paths that break traditional stereotypes. We were joined by delegates from a range of different career roles who took part in a networking event enabling the girls to talk to them about their careers. Our keynote speaker this year was Dr Kate Chhatwal OBE, who is the CEO of Challenge Partners, an organisation that work closely with secondary schools. Kate has campaigned for gender equality through her roles for many years.

Winstanley co-ordinated and led the event which was live-streamed to other MAT schools as a part of a MAT wide recognition of International Women's Day. We really enjoyed hearing from Rachel Rhodes, from Ibstock Community College, who is not only a teacher and member of their leadership team, but is also part of a two-person Championship winning dinghy crew, Rachael has won 5 National Championship titles across different 2 man dinghy classes, a sport which is very inclusive of gender. We would like to say a big thank you to our delegates, who



gave up their time to take part - Chelsea, who is an ex-Winstanley student and a trainee solicitor, Chloe a paramedic with EMAS, Morgan who is a British Paralympic Cyclist, Ellen a Careers Co-ordinator, Callie from the Crown Prosecution Service - and members of staff from across LiFE Multi Academy Trust.

Welcome

I have been doing Easter assemblies this week and focusing on some of the key messages from the story that Christians remember. I have been struck again by the hope that Christians gain from the resurrection of Jesus. I know that in many ways our world can seem difficult and at times even hopeless. Ever since

I was given the incredible privilege of leading the Winstanley School I have wanted the school to be a real beacon of hope in our community. It is brilliant looking through this newsletter to see how our students and staff are doing all that they can to 'shine bright' and bring hope. Thank you for all your support. It is a real honour to work in partnership with you. Happy Vaisakhi to those of you who are from the Sikh community and I wish strength to

those in the Islamic community as you fast during Ramadam. I hope you all have a blessed, relaxing and peaceful Easter and enjoy some easter eggs but not too many!

Dave Bennett, Headteacher



Winstanley Life



Easter 2023



Love Reading!



On the 2nd March we celebrated World Book Day. It's the biggest world-wide celebration of books and aims to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child the opportunity to own their own book. It was fantastic to see so many staff and students dressing for the occasion: our Maths team used 101 Dalmations for inspiration, English chose villains and Mr Bennett dressed as Scrooge complete with quotes from 'A Christmas Carol'. It's a great way to start conversations about our favourite books. We also held a book swap to enable the sharing of stories and inspire staff and students to pick up a book and start reading!

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

2 MARCH 2023



Making A Difference

On the 8th March we were very pleased to host the Leicester and Leicestershire Citizens Assembly at Winstanley. There was a fantastic turnout, even despite the unexpected winter weather. We had a delegation of students who were chosen from our Eco Group, Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors, the Pride Group and Anti Bullying Ambassadors. They were joined by Kingsway Primary School who did an amazing job welcoming all groups and presenting the points to be discussed. Members discussed the issues which had been put forward following recent listening campaigns and will now begin the process of making positive change on two key issues - Discrimination and Opportunities for Young People.



The Winstanley School
Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

We look forward to getting involved as a school, enabling our students to have a voice and become proactive in social change.



We're on **Instagram**, join our other **1130** followers!

Winstanley Life



Youth Conference

In March students from Year 7, 8 and 9 joined other schools from the area at the Blaby District Council Annual Youth Conference. The conference was led by members of the Youth



Council who held some fantastic sessions about the dangers of vaping, hate crime and the environment. Students were given the opportunity to write a letter to our local MP about the problem of vaping and also made some posters. During the second session, students created masks about hate crime and took part in making a video. All attendees were treated to a free lunch before the afternoon session when students met with local councillors to speak about concerns they have about where they live and what could be done to make things better. It was fantastic to see our students getting involved with the activities and making fantastic contributions to the discussions, confidently demonstrating their knowledge of the issues being raised.



Easter 2023



Red Nose Day 2023



It was great to see so many students and staff wearing something RED on Friday 17th March to show their support for this amazing event which makes such a difference to young people across the UK and abroad. As well as wearing something red for school we also held Cake Sales with the school houses supplying cakes on different days throughout the week.

The fantastic red nose cake pops made by Esme in Year 10 and Mr Berry's famous brownies went like 'hot cakes'! We raised well over £200, thank you to everyone who baked and bought cakes.





Theatre Trip

Last week our students enjoyed a trip to the theatre to watch 'An Inspector Calls'. It was a great opportunity for them to watch the play which they are studying for GCSE English. The performance at the Curve really brought the characters to life helping students to have a deeper understanding of the intricacies of the text and the role each character has in the unfolding storyline.

Celebrating in Style!

This year we have secured the beautiful and stylish Winstanley House as the venue for our Year 11 Prom. Tickets are selling fast so please secure your place by making a payment via Squid. A letter has been sent to parents with full details.

We are also setting up an opportunity for students to borrow dresses, suits and accessories so if you are able to donate any items to the school they would be gratefully received.



The Winstanley School

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Arbor

Parents, please download the **Arbor App**, this will mean that all communication from us will reach you via a push notification to your phone. See our website for details.

Winstanley Life

Easter 2023

Meet the Experts

As part of their latest REAL LiFE Mission Year 7 students presented their ideas to industry experts. Over the past few weeks, they have been working on ideas for a new app. They had a remote link up to experts and entrepreneurs including a project manager at Lego and a programmer who develops video games. Each group presented their concepts and were given advice on how they could further improve their app designs. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to get real life feedback from industry experts and use skills from

across the curriculum to produce an authentic end product.



In touch...

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



Capture the Castle!

GCSE History students visited Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire to support their learning for the GCSE topic 'History Around Us'. The trip was to see how the site, which is cared for by English Heritage has evolved over time. The castle has 900 years of history to explore growing from a medieval fortress to an Elizabethan pleasure palace. Students really enjoyed climbing the towers, looking at the beautiful views and finding out more about the people who lived and worked in the castle.



Independence

Students who are taking part in the DofE scheme are required to try a new activity or learn a new skill. Rithik and Liam have been learning Archery with Mr Harston during Tuesday lunchtimes. They have both really taken to their new activity, and enjoy their lunchtime sessions.

The DofE Bronze Award which is offered at school helps students to broaden their horizons and approach new activities with confidence.



Hard Work

- Students have been demonstrating their hard work in Art and Design this



term. In Resistant Materials Year 8 students have made money boxes using a variety of materials and techniques. Groups who have been doing clay work with Mr Berry have made some fantastic fish and Miss Bells' Year 7 art class have been experimenting with harmonious colours.



The Winstanley School

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Never Giving Up

Year 11 were treated to pizzas as a reward for working so hard in their mock exams which took place earlier this term. They have demonstrated commitment and maturity and really took advantage of the help and support on offer. There will be more revision workshops offered over the

Easter break enabling Year 11 to SHINE brighter than they thought they could in their GCSEs this summer. The Easter Revision timetable is available on our website by following [this link](#) and there will be reminders each day on Instagram and Facebook.



More news...

To find out all of our news as it happens follow us on social media. There you will find more pictures from the stories you have read in this newsletter. Every Friday we celebrate student success through our **'Shining Stars' Shout Outs** an **Hot Chocolate** with the Head.



Let yourself **SHINE**

Supporting Others

Earlier this month Mr Bennett our Headteacher completed the Belvoir Challenge 26 Marathon. He raised over £2000 for Open Hands, who support some of the most vulnerable people in Leicester and Leicestershire. He completed the 26



miles in 5 hours and 8 minutes. Everyone at Winstanley is very proud of his achievement and he has certainly lived up to all of our SHINE values to train and complete this amazing challenge.

Excellence

Last week young writers took part in the First Story conference hosted by the University of Leicester. Students did a fantastic job of representing Winstanley. They also asked well-considered questions to the university student guides and got a great taste of university life.

Some students were even brave enough to read out their poems during the performance at the Attenborough Arts Centre, well done - Faith, Virgil, Zoya, Callum, Kyron, Sehj, Andre, Edward and Yasmine. Everyone took part in the trip with such enthusiasm. We look forward to seeing how their First Story experience develops their self expression through writing.

FIRST STORY

Changing lives through writing