

Our GOOD news

We are very pleased to share our recent OFSTED outcome. The inspection took place on 12th and 13th September, and we have now been able to share the good news with our parents.

The report highlights the great staff, the fantastic students, superb teaching and the brilliant experiences that are offered to students at The Winstanley School.

Headteacher, Mr Bennett, said:-

'As Headteacher of The Winstanley School I am incredibly proud of the way the school has developed and improved over the last few years. It is a real tribute to the hard work of the staff and students. We know that this isn't the end of our journey, but the start of the next stage. I am very excited about where the next few years will take us.'

Highlights from the report really reflect the things we feel are important to ourselves and our

students, and clearly reflect our values and ethos, which underpin all we do at Winstanley.

'This is a school which wants the very best for all pupils.'

'Teachers have good subject knowledge. They implement the curriculum well and adapt it to meet the needs of their class.'

'Pupils are happy and feel safe. They know that their teachers care for them.'

'Pupils are sensible and attentive in lessons. Pupils work together and support each other well.'

'Pupils appreciate the wide range of extra activities that are available to them.'

'Pupils have a good understanding of what is right and wrong. Pupils are taught to be 'an upstander and not a bystander'.



The report is available on the OFSTED website [READ HERE](#)

Winstanley Life

Christmas 2023

Caring for Others

As I sit at my desk at the end of what has been one of our busiest and definitely longest terms ever it is brilliant to look through the newsletter and see all the amazing things that staff and students have managed to fit into this half term. I am very proud of our OFSTED report and how it sums up all the great things that we are doing. I do want to take the opportunity to thank you for all your support on our journey of improvement. It has been fantastic to work in partnership with you and see so many students step up and consistently demonstrate our SHINE values. I have been doing assemblies this week focusing on the theme of being a light in our community. Looking through the newsletter there are so many examples of how students and staff are being lights in our community and are 'shining brighter than they thought they could!' Just one example of this is how the students approached the Open Hands Christmas box collection - even in such difficult times it is great to see the generosity of everyone in our community. Thank you for all your support - I do hope you have a blessed Christmas full of hope and light.

Mr Bennett, Headteacher



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At the start of December the charity Open Hands came to collect the support hampers that had been put together by our staff and students. We were amazed by the generosity of the Winstanley community and the amount of items that had been donated in the very short amount of time since we had launched the House Challenge appeal. Well done to Miss Bell's Tutor group especially, as they created four hampers between them.

Open Hands help those who are homeless and support the work of

the Food Bank in Braunstone. They have also been kind enough to put together some festive goody bags for families in our community to help make Christmas special during these difficult times.



Presenting our new Prefects...

- This term our recently selected prefects received their new grey blazers and house ties. They will now take on the role of student leaders who represent our school values and set a good example to younger students. Our new prefects have already started to take on their new responsibilities around the school and it's fantastic to see them flourishing in their new roles. There will be another opportunity for more Year 11s to take part in the process next year.



Odd Socks

It was great to see so many people supporting Odd Socks Day on the 13th November and wearing odd socks for school, to demonstrate our commitment to eradicating bullying, through our ongoing



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programme during SHINE lessons. There were a range of activities happening throughout Anti Bullying Week to raise awareness of the impact of bullying and encouraging everyone to be kind, support others and celebrate what makes us all unique.

Winstanley Life

See what #winstanleyelf and friends have been up to on our Instagram stories and TikTok!



Christmas 2023



Winstanley Remembers

On the 10th November we held our whole school Remembrance event. We were pleased to welcome pupils from Kingsway Primary School, Geoff from The Litter Wombles, Paul Kennedy - Braunstone Town Deputy Mayor, Cllr Amanda Hack and Roy Sherwin from the Braunstone Life Magazine. The two minute silence was held respectfully by everyone and students who were



involved with greeting visitors, laying wreaths and speaking during the service did a fantastic job. Once again our students and those from Kingsway Primary School put a lot of hard work and thought into the beautiful wreaths and tributes they had made to lay in front of our flag poles. We raised £178.99 selling poppies for the British Legion, so a big thank you to everyone who contributed.



Black History Month

During October our Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors delivered assemblies for Black History Month. The ambassadors shared stories of exceptional black women and their contribution to British history such as Betty Campbell and Baroness Doreen Lawrence. As part of BHM students took part in an African Drumming Session with Zwa Gapara who is an expert in the music of Zimbabwe. Students really enjoyed hearing about the traditions behind the music and learned a simple rhythm and song.



To conclude BHM Mrs Cole, our librarian invited Shannel to talk to students about hair products and braiding and to give demonstrations. Students really enjoyed getting their hair done and seeing Shannel working on different hair types. Mrs Cole has a wide range of books that students can borrow from the library if they would like to further their knowledge of black history and culture.



Spot On Fundraising

On Friday the 17th November staff and students wore Spots for school to support BBC Children in Need, it was fantastic to see everyone getting involved. Cake sales on Thursday and Friday proved popular and other activities helped us raise a 'spotacular' - £350! Well done Winstanley.



Celebrating Diwali



Diwali lasts for five days and is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists. It symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness. It's an opportunity to spend time celebrating with family and friends and enjoying celebratory meals. It is also a time for contemplation and thinking about self-improvement and kindness to others. Our student ambassadors held assemblies at Winstanley and Kingsway Primary so we could find out how different faiths celebrate this special time of the year.



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Winstanley Life



Don't forget to keep a look out for #HotChocFri each week on our socials.



Christmas 2023

Published Authors

Our young writers who have been taking part in First Story are thrilled to see their work in a published Anthology created just for their group at Winstanley. First Story groups work with an author and their teacher throughout the process and choose which pieces to include - learning how to edit, revise and improve their own writing - and together decide their anthology's title and cover art. Copies are gifted to participants and the school's library, with a copy sent to the British Library.



Parents and students can buy copies of the book, which helps to fund the project and enable more students to become confident and skillful writers.



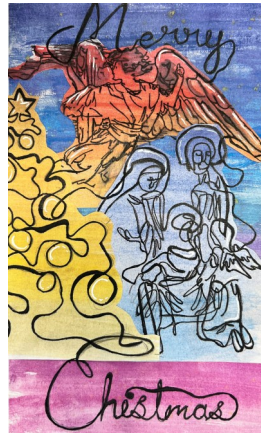
Geography News

This term Year 7 students have delved into the mysteries of the North and South Poles, not merely studying the indicators of climate change, but also examining the ways in which animals, scientists, and the Inuit people adapt to these extreme conditions. Progressing into Year 8, our budding geographers have scrutinised the formation of tropical storms and the catastrophic repercussions of various hurricanes, from Ian to Katrina. Year 9 saw our exploration of the Land of Fire and Ice – Iceland - unravelling the dynamics of tectonic activity, its advantages, and its somewhat precarious downsides. Advancing to Year 10, focus shifted to the intricacies of flooding in the south-west of England before whisking our attention to the north-east, where we uncovered the mysteries of the River Tees and examined the strategies employed to manage the river's unpredictable nature. In Year 11, our spotlight has been on Birmingham, where we've delved into the opportunities and challenges within the city, ranging from issues of pollution to employment. This takes us onto our recent urban fieldwork trip to Birmingham's Frankfurt Christmas Market, where we aim to evaluate the success of the city's regeneration efforts.



Super Science

Well done 7BE on some fantastic Science homework on cells. The creativity and knowledge demonstrated was amazing, Mrs Patel was very impressed!



Art News

Year 11 have enjoyed the weekly Master classes this term which take place on Friday after school. This is an opportunity to work on a large scale and experience specialist processes including screen printing and Lino cutting. This will continue to run next term and is open to year 11 Art students. Year 7 created fantastic Christmas card designs this year on the theme of : 'Continuous line' The final design was created by Rebeen, Arya, Dhyanvi and Connor.



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Sporting Opportunities

Earlier in the term students were invited to participate in friendly-games at New College hosted by Hawks Netball Club in November. They got the opportunity to meet 2 England Netball Players, Vicki Oyesola and Emma Thacker. There was also an opportunity for Q&A with the players, where the students were able to ask lots of questions! Year 7 and 8 boys took part in a Rugby Tournament at Leicester Forest Rugby Club which had been organised by Leicester Tigers. They competed in four games and enjoyed the opportunity to play competitively against other schools. They worked really hard in their matches and were a credit to the school, supporting their teammates and 'never giving up'.



Christmas 2023

Wedding Bells

On the 4th December Year 10 students participated 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 a realistic and special event for our students. Students who went to the church early for the rehearsal were treated to pizzas and pop and church members had set up a wedding reception room, including some lovely, thoughtful touches. Well done to Hargun and Ajitesh who played the roles of Bride and Bridegroom, Edward as the Bestman, Ellie, Jory, Rachel, Amy and Lordina who were bridesmaids, Declan, Avi and Dion for such beautiful readings and Bryan, Logan, Alfie and Rithik 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 Friar Lane & Braunstone Baptist Church members for making us so welcome as always.



Independence

- This Year's DofE has got off to a fantastic start, with the highest number of students ever wanting to participate. During the programme they will take part in an expedition, learn a new skill and take part in a volunteering activity. This year participants are spending some time at Kingsway Primary School helping the children with their reading. Volunteering is a great way to gain confidence, make new friends and give back to your community.



Never Giving Up

We were pleased to host another Leicester/Leicestershire Citizens meeting at Winstanley this term. We had expert input from Dr Lisa Palmer, Sherilyn Pereira (both from Stephen Lawrence Research Centre) and Dr Iris Lightfoot (from the Race Equality Centre). It was also brilliant to hear the questions that were asked by Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors from their listening campaign focussing on Racial Justice in Education.



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Excellence

These are just two of the amazing pieces of art created by Year 11 students for their GCSE Mock exam recently. Students Marissa and Esme should be very proud of the hard work and creativity that went into their finished pieces.



Let yourself

SHINE

Hard Work

Well done to our Catering Team, who cooked an amazing Christmas dinner again this year. We were treated to tasty turkey, scrumptious sprouts, crunchy carrots all the trimmings and a choice of two desserts. We always have a massive uptake for Christmas lunch and they work so hard to serve up this festive treat.

It was great to see so many students and staff participating in Christmas Jumper Day and supporting our Fundraiser for Save the Children Gaza Appeal. Students from Year 10 also held a Bake Sale and raised £21 at break time.



Supporting Others



To raise awareness for Movember Year 11 students held a lunchtime bake sale to

raise money and encouraged staff and students to run 60km for the 60 men who lose their lives to suicide every hour globally. Well done to staff and students who took part in the Movember 60 for 60 run - they completed over 100 miles between them - what a fantastic effort and a great opportunity to raise awareness and support others.

Library News

Mrs Cole our new Librarian has been giving students lots of opportunities to get involved with a variety of activities during lunchtimes. Students have loved taking part in the competitions too.

Winners of the Christmas Poetry / Book Cover Competition were - 1st prize - Amelia, 2nd prize - Tancy and 3rd prize - Zahara

Winners of the Remembrance Competition back in November were Blossom, Tancy and Maria.

