

Light The Darkness

On Friday the 26th January we marked Holocaust Remembrance Day by lighting a candle during Tutor time and live-streaming it to all classrooms to remember the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of people murdered under Nazi persecution of other groups and during more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

27 January marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. Each year across the UK, thousands of people come together to learn more about the past and take action to create a safer future.

Together we bear witness to those who endured genocide, and honour the survivors and all those whose lives were changed beyond recognition.



Welcome

What a fantastic half term. I have been so impressed with everyone in the Winstanley community. As I walk around the school on a daily basis it is brilliant to see students working hard and teachers enabling the students to learn in interesting and engaging ways. It is also fantastic to see all the different opportunities we are providing for the students and to see them throwing themselves into all sorts of experiences. There are 25 after school clubs as part of our Aspire Programme which continues to grow.

If your son or daughter isn't involved at the moment, encourage them to join and enjoy the chance to try something different. After half term we will be launching two new clubs Nerf Club and Darts club. As always the newsletter is full of students who are doing amazing things and really showing off all five of our shine values and definitely 'shining brighter than they thought they could.'

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. Have a restful and enjoyable half term.

enjoyable half term.

**Mr Bennett,
Headteacher**



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence



Winstanley Life Winter 2024 Super Volunteers

Earlier this year we were very proud to see five of our students being recognised for their volunteering work at the Blaby District Council Volunteer Awards Evening. Skye, Oscar, Casey, Jasmin and Reece were all nominated for their continuing work with the Eco Club and their hard work to earn the school a Green Flag Award. All of the students have a positive, 'can-do' attitude and often get involved with other groups and committees, so it was fantastic to see their hard work recognised. The students were thrilled to accept the award on behalf of all the students who have contributed to the success since it was founded, and it was a lovely evening which was attended by many amazing volunteers and their families. If you know any Winstanley students who volunteer, help out at youth groups or fundraise outside of school, please let us know so that we can nominate them in the future.



Making a Difference

Leicester and Leicestershire Citizens held their annual delegates assembly at Ivanhoe School on the 24th January. This was attended by the LiFE MAT schools and member organisations across the alliance. The Winstanley Stephen Lawrence ambassadors delivered a presentation sharing the 'Racial Justice in Education Campaign', which is one of the 7 key priorities for Citizens UK and also a focus for the local chapter. It was great to see the students putting their citizenship skills in action.'



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence



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 **1240** followers!

English Update

In Year 7, our students are stepping back in time to the world of Oliver Twist: a world of poverty, pickpockets and the fight for survival on the Victorian streets of London. Students will learn about the context of the Victorian period and analyse the dynamic, multi-dimensional characters that make up Charles Dickens' famous novel. In Year 8, students will be examining the Tempest and the treatment of Caliban by Prospero, delving into the debate of whether the play is an allegory for Europeans colonising foreign lands. In Year 9, students will be 'reading for meaning' in their preparatory unit for their English Language GCSE. While exploring a range of modern texts, students will think critically about the themes, characters and settings, develop their powers of self-expression and improve their reading and writing skills.

Students in Year 10 are currently working on Reading Twentieth Century Prose to prepare for one of their Language exams. They are busy reading a range of texts and writing about them, considering the effects of language and how words make readers feel. They are also regularly completing 200 Word Challenges during which they explore their ideas in various writing styles.



Year 11 students, following the November mock exams, are now preparing for the February mock exams. We are currently studying Shakespeare texts but will soon move on to revising for these. Our after-school revision programme has begun to which all students are invited and this consists of weekly hour-long sessions after school on Tuesdays. We have also published our independent revision/study plan for all Year 11s and this ensures they complete tasks relevant to all sections of the exam. Please encourage your child to get involved in all of these things and please read the Literature texts they have studied and watch the films with them. We hope you enjoy them all!

The link for the Year 11 Study Plan is available on our website - [READ HERE](#)



The Aspire Programme

NEW!

- Starting after half term we will be running Darts Club as part of the Aspire programme. This will be taking place in the inclusion base every Monday after school.

It will be limited to 15 students and will be on a first come first served basis initially, any students who are interested should see Mr Turner.





Children's Mental Health Week

This took place between the 5th and 11th February, the theme this year was 'My Voice Matters' and focused on empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

During the week we arranged activities to get students talking about mental health and what we can all do to support each other. Our new Well-Being Ambassadors introduced themselves during assemblies and explaining how their new roles will support students.

On the Friday we took part in 'Dress to Express Day' - a fundraiser for the Place2Be charity. Students wore an item of clothing or accessory that expresses something about them.



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

Winstanley Life

Behind the Scenes

Thank you to Lorraine and the Speak Up team at the Curve Theatre in Leicester for a fantastic tour and a great workshop with Year 9 students which took place on the 18th January. It was fascinating to see behind the scenes and get a taste of the job opportunities and roles within the theatre. This is part of our students' ongoing work with the Speak Up project which aims to give young people a voice and work on creative outlets to express themselves and their thoughts. It's been fantastic to see how students have grown in confidence throughout the work they have already done with both Lorraine and Zoe who come to school to run weekly workshops with our Drama students.



Winter 2024

We will now be sending messages out via Arbor, which you can receive via a push notification if you have the app. Parents can view key information



relating to their child, including - attendance data, academic progress reports and timetables.

Trading Game

In January as part of their spring term RealLife mission (The 10X Challenge), our incredible Year 8 students embarked on an exhilarating International Trade Game! Each assigned different countries with varying economic powers, they were tasked with the creative challenge of making paper shapes and trading them for maximum profit.

The game wasn't just about making money, and using Maths skills - it was an opportunity for these budding entrepreneurs to learn about ethical trading and sustainable business practices. Linked to their current Geography work, the challenge allowed them to explore the impact of economic decisions on global communities.

In the spirit of supporting others and hard work, each team demonstrated excellence in their strategies, showcasing their SHINE values. Not only did they excel in their economic endeavours, but they also had an absolute blast along the way!

REALIFE
curriculum





All Heart!

Students in 8CC have developed their own charitable business idea and have sold a range of Valentine's gifts and cards, which has also involved a delivery service. The scheme was developed as part of their 10X Challenge for the Real Life Curriculum, and they have raised around £115, part of which will be donated to the British Heart Foundation and the rest reinvested into their Easter delivery service.



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

Get Creative!

This term Year 11 students have been working on large-scale pieces of art using mixed media. This is an extra class after school for GCSE students, to explore new techniques and improve their skills, which will add extra elements to their coursework and maximise their chances of top grades in the forthcoming exams. Year 8 students have been working with clay and creating ceramic cake details. This term we have welcomed back Mrs Derry, our cookery teacher, who has been on Maternity Leave. Students have been busy in the kitchen with practicals. Year 7 have made pizza swirls with premade puff pastry and a range of fillings. Year 8 made scones. Year 10 made pasties with homemade shortcrust pastry and also pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Year 11 have been practising their dishes for their practical exam to make sure everything goes to plan. Year 8 students have started their latest rotation in Resistant Materials and a new group of students are designing money boxes. They have started by sketching their ideas and have transferred their design onto plywood. The plywood will then be cut to shape and the edges sanded for a smooth finish.



Winstanley Life Winter 2024

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



A Kind Gift

We want to say a big thank you to one of our ex-students, Graham, who has donated £200 to our school library. Graham attended



Winstanley in the late 70s and has donated to the library on other occasions. Mrs Cole, our Librarian has selected a lovely range of books, both fiction and non-fiction to appeal to all reading abilities. This includes a set of Shakespeare classics with beautiful illustrations, written in comic book format to make the stories accessible to all readers.

Team Winstanley!

Year 7s recently competed in a sports hall athletics event at Hinckley Leisure Centre. They performed brilliantly at all events. In particular, Amaka won all of the events that she entered. Well done to all of them, great to see students getting involved and Shining Brightly when representing Winstanley.



Independence

Recently Year 9 students Peyton and Pheobe took over their Sports Studies lesson to teach a dance routine to their fellow students. As part of their final assessment in Year 11 they have to teach a sports session, and in the past students have found this quite challenging. By regularly asking students to run activities it will help to build confidence over time and enable students to share new skills. All the students were fully engaged and supportive and it looked like they were really enjoying it!



Hard Work

Recently 320 students went to the cinema for achieving their 'Supernova' bronze award during Phase A of the Supernova scheme.

They met each of the following success criteria for the period of 18th September to 2nd December:

95% attendance

A net positive behaviour points of 100

Achieve the Perfect 8 for Uniform and Equipment every week

Made a positive contribution to the school/wider community

Students who didn't quite get bronze are now working towards it. Students who achieved their bronze are now working towards their silver which will be rewarded with a trip to the beach in the summer term.



The Winstanley School

Widening Horizons | Enabling Excellence

Never Giving Up

A new group of Winstanley Warriors started the new term off by visiting Beacon Hill Country Park, they go off on outdoor visits every other week and have also been to the Outwoods and Oadby Parklands.

The scheme offers learners the opportunity to develop their emotional literacy and resilience through exploration, play and discovery. All of the activities aim to incorporate our SHINE values, and seek to support learners to become Winstanley Ready!



Let yourself

Supporting Others

Students from Mrs Meads' Y8 French class went to Kingsway Primary School to teach a French lesson based on the weather. They were there as part of a new languages initiative to bring together schools from within the MAT to work collaboratively and showcase student potential. As part of this initiative, our students have been working with Diane Guilbaud, who is a French Languages Assistant based at Bosworth Academy. This has allowed students to improve their French speaking and pronunciation skills. Our students really excelled in the task and engaged with the children at Kingsway who thoroughly enjoyed the lesson. It also gave our students the opportunity to understand the planning and resources needed to be a teacher.



SHINE Excellence

We are very proud that Edward in Year 10 will be taking part in an international snooker competition in March. The competition will take place in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Edward will complete against other youngsters from around the world. This is a fantastic opportunity for Edward who has worked really hard to pursue his interest in Snooker, often having to really maximise his spare time to attend competitions and training whilst still finding time to complete school work. Edward has been playing snooker for around 12 years with lots of encouragement from his parents who have been on hand to help him practice and take him to competitions.

We wish Edward the best of luck in the tournament and look forward to hearing how he gets on.

