

Remember Stephen

On the 2nd May our school came together to commemorate the life of Stephen Lawrence. We invited students to wear something orange and it was truly amazing to see the school filled with bright colours in Stephen's memory.

We held a remote whole-school assembly and we were thrilled to be joined by pupils from Kingsway Primary School. The assembly featured powerful and thought-provoking contributions from Ms Boyce (Race

Equity Lead for LiFE Multi Academy Trust), Sherilyn Pereira (from the Stephen Lawrence Research Centre), the Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors from both schools, and Mrs McKinnon, Headteacher at Kingsway, with an introduction from Mr Bennett. Stephen Lawrence Day (normally the 22nd April) is about more than remembrance - it's about hope, change and action. The focus is on encouraging young people to reach their full potential and seize every opportunity to live the life that Stephen was never able to.

In June, our students will attend the Stephen Lawrence Symposium, where they will join students from other schools across the city and county. Our Ambassadors will play a key role in the event by sharing how their roles have empowered them to speak openly about racism, inspire others to aim high, and ensure their voices are heard. Some of our former students will also return to the event to discuss how

Stephen Lawrence's legacy has influenced their career choices and given them the confidence to pursue their ambitions.



Welcome

What an amazing half term - I think it has been the shortest half term I can remember, but staff and students have managed to cram in all sorts of amazing things as you can see from the newsletter. On Wednesday a small number of students from Kingsway and Winstanley were able to join with one of the residents of our street to celebrate her 100th birthday. It was amazing to be able to sing happy birthday and for the students to talk to her about life. Happy Birthday Winifred!

I continue to be very proud to be Headteacher at Winstanley - the staff impress me and humble me by their amazing positivity and hard work which makes sure that the young people get a great experience. The students make me proud because of the way they demonstrate the SHINE values in so many ways. It has been great to see our Year 11s approach their GCSEs in such a positive manner and I have no doubt that this will pay off when they come in to collect their results in August. 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. Have a restful and enjoyable half term and wherever you are I do hope the sun shines on you.

Mr Bennett, Headteacher



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Winstanley Life Spring 2025

Inspiring Art

"Strands Together" is a powerful and evocative art display in school that commemorates the life and legacy of Stephen Lawrence. This display features a series of striking drawings created by Year 9 students using black pencil and charcoal on vibrant orange paper. Through intricate depictions of hair - an intimate and universal symbol of identity - the works explore and celebrate the rich diversity of global ethnicities. Each strand rendered on the page becomes a thread in a collective narrative of belonging, difference and shared humanity. The choice of orange as the background unifies the works, offering warmth and vibrancy while serving as a visual metaphor for hope and resilience. "Strands Together" is not only a tribute to Stephen Lawrence but also a testament to the ongoing importance of representation, empathy, and unity. Through the language of art, students reflect on the beauty of difference and the strength that comes from standing together.



Mental Health Week

As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, our Wellbeing Upstanders have launched a new initiative - the Wellbeing Safe Space. This calming space will now run every Wednesday during breaktimes, offering students a quiet, relaxing environment to unwind and take part in mindful activities.

The first session took place last week and welcomed some lovely visitors. With chilled music playing in the background and mindful colouring activities on offer, students left the space feeling calm, refreshed and ready to take on the rest of the day. We look forward to seeing more students over the coming weeks make the most of this peaceful midweek break!



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Art & Culture

This term GCSE Art students enjoyed a truly inspiring visit to Burghley House, one of the grandest surviving houses of the sixteenth century. Built between 1555 and 1587 by William Cecil, Lord High Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth I, Burghley is a magnificent example of Elizabethan architecture, constructed to honour the Queen and reflect the power and vision of the most influential courtier of the era. The collection of Fine Art at Burghley House is extensive and varied, and includes many highly important objects. During the visit, students explored Burghley's extensive collection of paintings, delving into the iconography and hidden meanings behind these historic works. They also took part in a creative art workshop, before strolling through the beautifully landscaped grounds and gardens.

It was a fantastic day filled with art and learning and will provide inspiration as students develop as artists. The students especially enjoyed wandering through the stunning state rooms, soaking in the grandeur and rich history of this incredible stately home.

A big thank you to Miss Bell and Mr Smith who organised the trip.



Winstanley Life Spring 2025

Eco News

Last week, our amazing Eco Club hosted a powerful and inspiring assembly all about the environment and the brilliant progress they've made over the past year. Here are just a few of their fantastic achievements:

- Celebrating their second year as an official Eco School!
- Reduced plastic bottle use from 44,000 a year to ZERO – thanks to our new juice machine!
- This has also helped to cut down plastic waste litter in the school grounds
- Switched to using more eco-friendly products around the school
- Supported Kingsway Primary School in launching their own Eco Club.

With Environment Week just around the corner, the club shared some simple, everyday actions we hope students will be able to participate in.

It was a fantastic assembly and the Eco Club should be incredibly proud of the positive impact they're making in our school and beyond!





A Special Birthday

This week, we were delighted to visit a very special local resident, Mrs Watson, who celebrated her 100th birthday – a truly remarkable milestone. Mrs Watson has lived on Kingsway North since the houses were first built in 1963. Over the years, she has lived a rich and fulfilling life, beginning her career in a knitwear factory and enjoying a life filled with entertaining friends and family and travelling on exciting holidays. As part of last week's House Challenge, our students created beautiful birthday cards and wrote thoughtful messages to help mark the occasion. The warmth and kindness shown in their greetings brought a smile to Mrs Watson's face. We were also proud to join forces with Kingsway Primary School to sing "Happy Birthday" – a lovely moment shared across generations. It was a joy to celebrate Mrs Watson's 100th birthday and show our appreciation for the history and stories of those who helped shape our local community.



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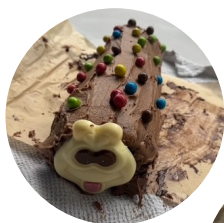


What's Cooking?

Over the last term, students in cooking lessons have been busy developing their culinary skills and showing off their creativity in the kitchen.

Year 7 and 8 students impressed everyone by making shaped bread entirely from scratch. From tortoises and plaits to intricate swirls, the variety of designs reflected both their imagination and growing baking abilities. The delicious smell of fresh bread filled the room, and the results looked just as good as they smelled. They also took on the challenge of making caterpillar cakes, mastering the tricky technique of creating a swiss roll before decorating their cakes with colour and character. The friendly rivalry between Colin and Cuthbert inspired some brilliant versions of their own – ones that could certainly rival the shop-bought favourites!

Meanwhile, Year 10 GCSE Hospitality & Catering students tested their skills with a classic treat – Millionaire's Shortbread. From crafting a buttery base to whipping up rich caramel and topping it with a glossy layer of melted chocolate, their finished products were both impressive and delicious. Across all year groups, students have shown dedication, creativity, and real flair – well done to everyone involved!



Winstanley Life Spring 2025

VE Day Anniversary

May 8th marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day – Victory in Europe Day – when World War II officially ended in Europe in 1945. It was a time to remember the courage, sacrifice, and unity shown during one of the most difficult periods in history. At Winstanley, students took part in a remote assembly to learn about the significant contributions made by the local community in Braunstone during the war. They reflected on how their ancestors helped bring peace to Europe and stood against a regime responsible for the persecution and deaths of millions. This story was more than just history – it served as a powerful reminder of the importance of being 'upstanders'. Students were encouraged to carry that legacy forward by standing up for justice, fairness, and kindness within the school community. At 12:00, the school joined the nation in a two-minute silence, honouring the memory of those who gave so much to secure freedom for future generations.



A Fantastic Year

What a fantastic year it's been for DofE at Winstanley! And it's not event over yet as we still have the assessed expedition and camping trip to look forward to. It's been our biggest group of Year 9 students taking part this year which is amazing, so far they have shown great resilience, team work and leadership skills throughout their time. They have really supported each other and aspired to our shine



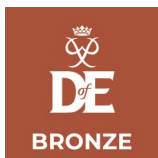
Camping Preparation

To make sure students are ready for the challenge ahead, they have been practicing how to pitch tents and cook their own meals using the same camping stoves and equipment they'll carry on their trip. These hands-on sessions have given students a valuable opportunity to get comfortable with the practical side of life outdoors.



From setting up their shelter for the night to learning how to safely and efficiently use camping stoves, they've been gaining confidence and independence ahead of the real adventure. As part of their preparation, they'll also take part in team-building activities designed to strengthen communication and teamwork – skills that are not only vital

for the expedition but also valuable for life beyond the DofE Award.



DofE News

Volunteering & Skills

Taking part in DofE is so much more than just the expedition. Students are required to undertake a set amount of hours volunteering, learning a new skill and taking part in a physical activity. Due to our in-school Aspire Programme students have been able to complete part of this in school, with plenty of activities to choose from including darts, basketball, football and more. We have been able to offer volunteering activities with our students supporting pupils at Kingsway Primary School. Students have been supporting Year 6 pupils with Maths, prior to their SATS. We have been really proud of how they have engaged with younger pupils, demonstrating their Maths skills, patience and leadership as well as boosting the pupils confidence and inspiring them to achieve.



Expedition Practice

Students recently took part in a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) practice expedition in the local area, giving them a valuable opportunity to develop and strengthen their expedition skills.

During the day, students focused on improving their map reading, learning how to identify key landmarks, follow routes and apply road safety when walking near traffic. Practicing these skills in a familiar environment will help boost their confidence ahead of the assessed expedition in Rutland, where they'll be navigating in unfamiliar terrain.

Being able to read a map effectively is not only vital for success in the DofE expedition, but it's also a life skill that students can carry forward into the future. Alongside their navigation skills, students are also developing an appreciation for the countryside and the importance of respecting the environment they travel through.



Kingsway North COMMUNITY FRIDGE

We're excited to announce the launch of a new community fridge, opening on **Thursday 6th June!** The Kingsway North Community Fridge will be available every **Friday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm** during the summer term in the **Braunstone Town Family Hub at The Winstanley School**, offering free food to anyone in the community. There's no need to provide proof of income or eligibility – everyone is welcome. The aim is to reduce food waste and make good use of surplus food that might otherwise go unused.



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 and Hot Chocolate with the Head.



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After school activities

Summer Activities

From April 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Football Club (MUGA) Cooking club (cooking room) Dodgeball (CEL sports) Darts club (Reconnection room) Singing club (Music) Well-Being (Shine Hub)	Basketball club (sports hall) (Leicester Riders) Hair and beauty club (Drama studio) Swimming club (Swimming pool) Nintendo switch club (Nintendo room) Christian union (H2) Tea and biscuits (Nurture) Girls netball (CEL sports) Girls football (MUGA)	Dance club (drama studio) Further Maths club (maths block) DoE club (Invite only) Girls Volleyball (MUGA) (CEL sports) Girls swimming (Swimming pool) Orchestra (Music) Lego club Week 2 only (A1) Ceramics Week 2 only (A1) Table Tennis (Sports hall) (Wizards) Pride & Allies Safe Space H4 Boxercise	Football club (MUGA) Board Game Club (Reconnect) Boys swimming (Swimming pool) Debating Club (H3)

Please speak to Mr Turner to sign up