

Principal's Message

I have now been in the privileged post of Principal of Winstanley for nearly three weeks. What a three weeks they have been! When I was approached by the Governors of the school to take over the role of Principal on a permanent basis, I jumped at the chance. I had no hesitation in accepting their offer as I believe that Winstanley is a fantastic school with fantastic students and huge potential for the future.

The support and encouragement I have received from students, staff and colleagues from other schools has been incredible. We have had several visitors to school since the start of term and they have commented on the really pleasant atmosphere in and around the school and how happy and well informed our students are. This is also testament to the hard work of all of our staff.

As Principal, I will be working hard with staff and students, to ensure Winstanley meets the needs of this community; a school that is recognised as a place that really understands its students and where students are able to be successful not only in school, but in the future.

Our first GCSE results are due this August and I look forward to all of our year 11 students taking full advantage of the extra help that is available. Indeed, we also have an extensive extra-curricular offer here at Winstanley for all students, as well as catch up and revision sessions in every academic area. We believe careers advice is important, especially for those students approaching the next stage in their education or training after leaving Winstanley this summer.

Another development here at Winstanley is the exciting events that take place regularly. These have recently included our Masterchef competition for staff and students, our incredibly well received "random act of kindness" activity; the GCSE Arts/Music evening that was a great success, as well as the continuing success of our sporting teams throughout the Autumn Term. A special mention also for Shannon Graves in year 10, who represented Leicester in a twinning event in the city of Krefeld, Germany in December. Well done Shannon, we are very proud of you.

Finally, I look forward to working closely with all parents/carers and stakeholders to ensure that Winstanley continues to be at the heart of our community.

Mr Williams
Principal, Winstanley Community College

Winstanley MasterChef: The Final!

Just before the Christmas break we saw the exciting culmination of our very own version of Masterchef.

Two students and two members of staff who made it through the previous rounds to compete in the final and win this year's title.

The final saw some fantastic skills on show. Jess Brown, Year 11, remained cool and calm in the kitchen making a main of Asian inspired chicken and ginger dumplings and a lemon tart with meringue topping. Mariyam Fazly, Year 10, produced a stunningly presented dish of biryani and lemon



marinated chicken served in pineapple halves and a mango cheesecake.



Mrs Cartwright, PA to the Vice Principal put her cooking skills to the test by making cod served with a butter sauce and oven roasted vegetables and for dessert a chocolate mousse with brandy snaps and raspberry coulis. Mr Howe, who is a Cover Supervisor and runs the lunch-time gardening club, put his knowledge of herbs into practice by cooking up Mediterranean chorizo and white bean broth served with cod and as a starter cheese and ham croquettes.

Mr Dublin, Intervention Co-ordinator, and part of the team of judges said: "It was a very tough decision to choose a winner as all the food has been of a very high standard. The competition has been so successful we already have people wanting to take part next year."

Mrs Cartwright and Jess Brown won and they received a Winstanley MasterChef apron, medal and a plaque along with the chance to sit down for a meal that they haven't had to cook! Thanks to Hotel Maiyango Restaurant, The White Horse at Birstall and Bistro Live for donating prizes.



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Random Act of Kindness

The student council and our prefects here at Winstanley Community College wanted to perform a 'Random Act of Kindness' and give something back to the local community in the run up to Christmas. The pupils decided to go out and about in the area around the school and surprise people by giving them a mince pie wrapped up with a gift tag wishing them well over the festive season from everyone here at the school.



Mrs Turner, who is part of our Pastoral team, helped to co-ordinate the project along with the school council. She said: "The pupils really wanted to do something special to show that Christmas is a time for thinking about other people and that giving a gift is often more rewarding than receiving one." The pupils visited local houses around the school and neighbouring streets; they had a great response from people and enjoyed being out and about as ambassadors for the school. Joseph Singleton from Year 7 said "We have had a great time giving out the cards and mince pies. We had lovely comments from people who received them. One local resident said it has made her Christmas! It makes you feel really happy to know that you've done something nice for other people."

Following the 'Random Act of Kindness' we had lots of lovely messages sent in to the school from people who had been on the receiving end. One local residents said: "I would just like to say a BIG THANK YOU for the mince pie I have just had delivered by some of the children from Winstanley Community College. Christmas time can be hectic and quite stressful and a simple gesture has really cheered up my day. The children were lovely and polite and wished myself and family a merry Christmas."

Radio Leicester heard about our pupils spreading Christmas cheer and invited a few of them along to their special Christmas mid-morning show to help decorate their tree, wrap presents for less fortunate children and were also interviewed live on air by Rupal Rajani.



Gift of Reading!

Towards the end of December all pupils in Year 7 were given a free book as a gift from the Library. They were able to choose a selection of titles and were pleased when they arrived shortly before the Christmas break.



The selection of books were carefully chosen to offer a wide choice of reads for all abilities. Popular choices were 'Dandelion Clocks' by Rebecca Westcote, a first book from this author which deals with loss, and how a teenager comes to terms with her mothers terminal illness through photographs and diaries - pupils may need to have their tissues at the ready for this book. Another popular choice was 'What are we fighting for?' which explores conflicts from WW1 to the present day through the poems of Brian Moses and Roger Stevens. Some pupils went for the horror genre with Cuckoo Song by Frances Hardinge which is a spine tingling chiller about a girl who wakes up from an accident to find that everything has changed.

The Library is able to purchase the books at a subsidised cost through Bookbuzz which is a reading programme from Book Trust that supports schools to encourage reading for pleasure. Mrs Bate, our librarian said "It's a lovely way to introduce the Year 7s to our Library, the pupils enjoy choosing their books and hopefully the scheme will help them to develop a love of reading."



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Football Success!

Our year 11 boys football team are going from strength to strength in the English Schools Football Association Small Schools Under 16s Cup Competition. They are now through to the fifth round and are due to play East Point Academy, Lowestoft this week. The team have so far played away at Babington Community College in Round 1 and scored 3 - 0. Round 2 was a home game against Christ The King School from Nottinghamshire with a very impressive score of 7 - 3. Round 3 was away to The Elizabeth Woodville School in Northampton with a score 0 - 3 and the 4th round was home against Howden School and Technical College from East Riding in Yorkshire with a score of 4 - 1. The team have worked really hard in the competition and have shown great team spirit, we have had some fantastic goal scorers with a special mention to Harry Kilburn who has scored a total of 8 goals in the competition so far.



Egg-cellent Respect Lessons!

Year 7s have been having a cracking time in their Respect lessons making and caring



for 'Egg Babies'. The exercise is designed to teach students about



empathy and caring skills.

The pupils first had to blow an egg and then very carefully

decorate it with a face, the more creative the better! The difficult part of the task was to care for the egg baby for a week. Students could make a protective means of transport for the egg but they must keep it with them at all times! If they needed to leave the baby they had to find a responsible person to leave it with.



They also had to keep a diary to explain how their egg was doing on a daily basis.

Cracks were starting to show towards the end of the week but there were still some beautiful babies awarded prizes in the beauty pageant on completion of the task. Students have learned that it's no 'yolk' being a full-time carer!



Year 7 - Holly Pyatt, Janelle Karwal

Year 8 - Bethany Tams, Yogen Amlani

Year 9 - Chloe Marlow, Ben Carlill

Year 10 - Shannon Read, Tim Akinola

Year 11 - Georgina Bird, Ben North.

P.E. Stars
December



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Dancing to Germany!

Shannon Graves from Year 10 was lucky enough to be selected to take part in a Dance and Performing Arts Festival in Krefeld, Germany at the beginning of December with dance group ER Dance and Physical Fitness. They were selected to represent the city by the Leicester European Twinning Association. As part of the event



they performed a 7 minute street dance along with youth groups from other European countries. There were also activities which encouraged international friendship and collaboration.

Shannon said "The trip gave me a valuable and rewarding experience. Krefeld was very similar to Leicester and it was a great time of the year to visit as they had the Christmas Market on. We met lots of people from other countries and made some new friends. We also took part in some original activities in the town centre, which was all about building confidence for performance."

Shannon had to raise the money for the trip herself as ER Dance and Fitness is a self funding group. She has been involved with the group since she was seven and says she appreciates all the hard work and effort that Krystal and Ternika (who are both ex-Winstanley students) put into running the group and getting them involved with competitions and festivals. They run lots of sessions at venues across Leicester including the Brite Centre and Braunstone Leisure Centre. They also take part in competitions including the Midlands Best Dance Group. It's great to see the wide range of activities that our pupils get involved with outside school and we hope Shannon continues to enjoy dancing and taking part in competitions with ER Dance & Fitness.



Future Choices!

We have just had this fantastic range of career resources donated to us by How2Become. They include lots of useful advice on career routes for different jobs as well as filling in application forms, different types of tests and writing CVs.



The books will be based in the Library where pupils can have easy access to them. How2Become is one of the UK's leading career specialists and since 2005 they have trained and guided thousands of candidates through recruitment processes. As well as giving details about different types of career routes available they explain the qualifications required, selection process and



how to apply. It's not too early to start thinking about careers especially for Year 9s who are currently choosing their options for Year 10 and 11.

Their website also provides lots of useful information for both pupils and parents. There is a very detailed section on GCSEs including choices available, the latest rules and regulations and revision methods.

Last chance...

There are a few places left on the Water Sports Trip to Southern France, 3rd June – 10th June 2016. Open to Years 7 & 8 it provides pupils with a fantastic opportunity to take part in activities such as sailing, canoeing, windsurfing and abseiling. The cost is £485 including accommodation, travel, activities and meals. See Mr Higgins for details.



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Lots of creativity on show in the run up to Christmas!

Pupils across the school were getting in the festive spirit in December with lots of



activities taking place. We had a very successful Christmas Concert on the 10th December with some stunning performances. It was the first Christmas Concert organised by our new Head of Music Mrs Olnier, and everyone agreed that she did a fantastic job! There was some amazing talent on show including our own steel pan band and our enthusiastic choir singing seasonal favourites new and old. Mollie Ledger impressed the audience with her solo performance and Kyle Wright with his drumming. Thanks go to the Tech Crew - Max Siczko, Tom Davies, Sam Milton, Joe Bayley and Adam Tickle who worked hard ensuring that the concert ran smoothly.

In year 7 Mrs Maces' tutor group 7KMA had been hoping to win a trip to Cadburys World with their fantastic competition entries that they displayed on the wall in their form room. They were all very proud of the display.



Year 8s produced some tasty treats in their Catering Class with Mr McGladrigan. They were putting their cooking skills to the test making some yummy chocolate logs, which they were looking forward to taking home and sharing with their families in the run up to Christmas.



Girls Club were busy making all sorts of Crafts and getting festive with friends listening to Christmas music. They made cards, tree decorations, baubles. Girls Club regulars Georgelivia and Leah were keen to show off their sparkly 3D cards and were looking forward to sending them. After a long term everyone was glad of a well-earned rest and we are glad to welcome our pupils back eager and refreshed after the Christmas break.



Careers in the NHS

Last week pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 had the opportunity to learn what careers are available in the NHS.



Leicester Education Business Company came in and ran workshops for any pupils who wanted to find out more about what options might be available to them and the qualifications they would need.



As well as lots of useful information the team brought along medical professionals who could talk about

the options available and some interesting training aids. Britteny Dowthwaite was a willing volunteer to listen to her pulse with a 'Doppler' as well as having a good knowledge of where all the internal organs were situated.

This is all part of preparing our pupils for 'Life after Winstanley' and helping them to make important decisions about GCSE choices and next steps after year 11.

WINSTANLEY'S GOT TALENT

CALL FOR AUDITIONS

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM RECEPTION, MRS OLNIER & MRS COOKE
CLOSED AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD AFTER SCHOOL W/C 22 FEBRUARY 2016

MUSIC | DANCE | DRAMA



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**Banish the blues this Winter...
learn something new!**

NEW!

**Cake Decorating Class
Thursday 25th February
2016
Thursday evenings
7pm -9pm
5 week course £30**



To book or for further details please contact
Community Office Tel: 0116 2898688 ext 3
Email: community@winstanley.leics.sch.uk



WINSTANLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Kingsway North
Braunstone Town
LE3 3BD

Group Fitness Classes with

£4 each
or both
for £6

Email: Leona_knott@hotmail.co.uk

Mobile: 07940334243

Facebook Page: LK Dance & Fitness

Class	Day	Time
Insanity Warm up & Interval Circuits	Mondays	6:30pm
Zumba Fitness	Mondays	7:30pm



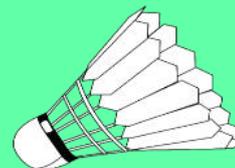
Upcoming Events/Term Dates

Thurs 21st January - Yr 11 Subject Evening
Fri 22nd January - Yr 11 Reports to parents
Tuesday 9th February - Safer Internet Day 2016
Friday 12th February - Yr 9 Options Deadline
Friday 12th February - break up for half term

15th - 19th February - Half Term Break

Monday 22nd February - start of term
w/b 22nd February - Winstanley's Got Talent Auditions
Thursday 25th February - Year 8 Subject Evening

For a full list of term dates please see our website



FOREST BADMINTON CLUB

**New members wanted who can play,
youngsters and adults**

**Meet on Tuesday Evenings at
Winstanley College Sports Hall 8pm –
9.30 pm during school term time**

**Please come along for a
free taster session**

**For more information
please call:-**



**Martin on 07850 720306 or Jean on
0116 2898134**

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