

Craftivism in Action!

Earlier this term our Year 7 students took part in a fantastic workshop organised by Blaby District Council, working alongside members of Gather, Create Grow. This session built on an earlier anti-discrimination workshop, where students explored different types of discrimination and discussed how we can all contribute to making the world a more inclusive and positive place. During the workshops, students designed and created thoughtful textile images that will come together as part of a larger artwork for the Cosby Yarn Bomb, which will take place from 8th to the 29th July. It was inspiring to see the care and creativity they put into expressing meaningful messages through their work. Mel said "We loved our 2 days with your fantastic students. We can't wait to display their wonderful work at this summer's Yarn Bomb"



A huge thank you to Mel, Nat and Amy for giving up their time, sharing their skills, and supporting our students so brilliantly. We hope parents, carers and students get the opportunity to go to Cosby to see their work, it's always an amazing event, bright, colourful and brimming with creativity.

Welcome

What an amazing half term. 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. I continue to be very proud to be Headteacher - 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 on a daily basis. 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. Have a restful and enjoyable half term and wherever you are I do hope the sun shines on you.



The Winstanley School



Mr Bennett, Headteacher

Winstanley Life Spring 2026

Future Scientists!

In April our Year 8 girls had an inspiring day at The Charnwood Campus, taking part in a fantastic STEM careers event designed to encourage more young women to explore opportunities in science, technology, engineering and Maths. Students enjoyed a range of hands-on and experiences. Highlights included a visit to the Curiosity Cube, where they explored the fundamentals of genetics and DNA through experiments, as well as extracting DNA from fruits. They also took part in a lively marketplace where Life Sciences Talent and Skills Partners - Almac, Kindeva and Spirit Healthcare showcased cutting-edge medical technology. Teams from the University of Leicester also delivered impressive interactive sessions focused on genetics, medicine and health, helping to bring STEM careers to life.

It was a fun, engaging and eye-opening experience that sparked curiosity and inspired our students to consider future careers in STEM.



Remember Stephen

On the 22nd April we commemorated Stephen Lawrence Day, coming together as a school community to reflect, learn and stand united against racism and injustice. Students and staff were encouraged to wear something orange (Stephen's favourite colour) as a symbol of remembrance and hope.

Stephen's life was tragically cut short on the evening of April 22, 1993, when he was attacked and killed in a racist act of violence while waiting for a bus. His legacy continues to inspire change and challenge us all to build a more equal society.

The theme for Stephen Lawrence Day 2026 is "Every Future Needs a Foundation". Led by the Stephen Lawrence Day Foundation, this highlights the importance of ensuring every young person has the support and opportunity to achieve their full potential,

alongside the ongoing theme, "A Legacy for Change". We marked the day with a powerful

assembly livestreamed to classrooms, where we were honoured to welcome guest speakers including Aderonke from the

Stephen Lawrence Research Centre, Ms Boyce, who many will remember from her time at Winstanley and who is now studying for a PhD - as well as pupils from Kingsway Primary School and our own prefects, Grace and Promise.

The assembly reflected the shared values of both schools, reminding us all of the importance of kindness, respect and standing up for what is right. Together, we continue to encourage our students to be upstanders in their communities and to help build a future where everyone is valued and supported to **#liveyourbestlife**

We also held a cake sale at break time to raise money for the Stephen Lawrence Day Foundation who work to create opportunities for young people to achieve their aspirations.



The Winstanley School



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



Winstanley Life Spring 2026

Chocolate Heaven!



This term Year 7 students and some of our Year 8s had the opportunity to visit Cadbury World in Birmingham, organised by the Geography Department. The trip is linked closely to Geography as students explored the global journey of chocolate - from where cocoa beans are grown around the world, to how they are transported, traded and manufactured into the products we enjoy every day. Students also learned about sustainability, international trade and the impact of globalisation within the chocolate industry. The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the live chocolate-making demonstration, where students got to see how chocolate is produced and even experiment with delicious liquid chocolate themselves before finishing the trip with a visit to the gift shop!



Kenilworth Castle

Our Year 10 and 11 History students had a fantastic trip to Kenilworth Castle at the end of last term as part of their GCSE studies, exploring how this historic site has changed through time. They enjoyed a tour led by Mr Davis learning about the castle's fascinating past - from being a medieval fortress to Robert Dudley's grand Elizabethan makeover in an attempt to impress Queen Elizabeth I. A special thank you to a member of the public who took the time to email the school, congratulating our students' excellent manners and behaviour whilst exploring the castle - it's amazing to have such lovely feedback. As always, thank you to the staff at Kenilworth Castle for making us so welcome.



Athletics Success



This week students from Years 7, 8 and 9 proudly represented the school at the Area Sports competition in Nuneaton.

Competing against other local schools, our students took part in a range of athletic events including running, javelin, shot

put, high jump and long jump. We are delighted to celebrate some fantastic successes, with several students qualifying for the County Sports competition in Loughborough. Congratulations to our qualifiers:

Relay Team – Nasifa, Sanasa, Amaka and Ruby T
Amaka – 2nd place in the 300m
Waleed – 1st place in the 100m

Other notable performances included - Gabby (2nd in 200m in shot put), Nasifa (3rd in high jump), Roberts (2nd in long jump), Josh D (3rd in shot put), Cullen (2nd in high jump), Jack W (3rd in high jump), Ruby T (2nd in 200m), Mary (2nd in shot put), Radley (2nd in Javelin) and John B (2nd in discus), Year 7 boys relay team (Waleed, Roberts, Cullen and Brandon)

Most importantly, all of our students represented the school brilliantly throughout the day. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part and look forward to seeing how our qualifiers get on at county level.



Winstanley Life Spring 2026

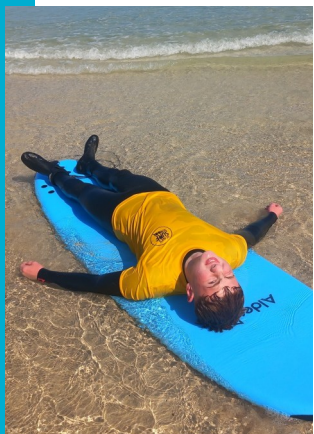


Sun, Sea and Surf

Our Year 8 students enjoyed a fantastic three-night residential trip to St Ives in Cornwall shortly after the Easter break! Organised by the Geography department, the trip gave students the chance to explore some incredible locations, including the

Eden Project and Bodmin Jail, while staying in the beautiful surroundings of St Ives - which, thanks to the amazing weather, looked more like a tropical paradise than the UK!

Students enjoyed plenty of time on the beach and even had the opportunity to learn to surf with a professional surf school. Trips like this offer so much more than just learning beyond the classroom. Alongside building their first-hand Geography knowledge, students were able to form new friendships, gain independence and experience something completely different from their usual school environment. A huge thank you to Miss Croysdale for organising such a memorable trip. A residential like this takes an enormous amount of planning, but seeing students so happy, engaged and enthusiastic makes it all worthwhile. next year!



Better Road Safety

At the beginning of May we hosted a Road Safety Coffee Morning, bringing together local residents, parents, students and staff from both Winstanley and Kingsway. The event provided an important opportunity for the community to share their concerns about road safety around both school sites and to begin conversations about how we can improve the situation. During the session, we shared the results of a recent parent survey, which highlighted that 47% of parents feel the roads outside the schools are unsafe. The main concerns raised included dangerous parking, poor visibility for pedestrians and congestion at busy times of the day. Local residents echoed these worries, also raising issues such as unsafe driving, cars parking on pavements, blocked access to their properties and ongoing traffic congestion. Our students spoke confidently about how these challenges affect their daily journeys, particularly when walking or cycling to school. Notably, 50% of survey responses indicated that students had witnessed a near miss near the school sites. We are proud to be working closely with Citizens UK on this campaign and were pleased to welcome Amanda, who joined us to support the students in gathering evidence to strengthen their case for change. Unfortunately, Leicestershire County Council were unable to send a representative to the meeting. As a next step, we will be sharing



feedback from the event and formally requesting a response. We remain committed to working collaboratively with all members of our community until we find a solution that improves safety and works for everyone.



Undercover Talents

We've had some fantastic assemblies this term, including one by Mr Finn, who talked about 'Showing Your Talent'. Mr Finn reminded students that talent comes in many forms and everyone has something that makes us shine. Often, talent begins with something we enjoy, something we are passionate about and want to practise all the time. Through dedication and 'never giving up' we become skilled and confident in what we love to do. We were



treated to fantastic live performances from Mr Finn's son, who loves drumming and Faith who impressed everyone with her guitar playing and beautiful singing. The assembly encouraged students to recognise and celebrate their own talents.



The Winstanley School

Winstanley Life Spring 2026

Bradgate Adventure

Last week Year 9 students took part in a practice expedition at Bradgate Park as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze Award journey. We had an incredible 101 students out exploring - almost our entire Year 9 cohort, which is fantastic that so many



of our students could take part. During the expedition, students were dropped off at two different starting points and had to navigate independently to checkpoints throughout the park, collecting wristbands and checking in with staff along the way. It was wonderful to see them developing their teamwork, resilience and map-reading skills in such a beautiful setting. DofE provides students with the opportunity to gain independence, learn new skills and build lasting friendships through a wide range of activities and experiences. A huge thank you to Mr Harston, who leads DofE and to all the staff who supported the trip by manning checkpoints throughout the event.



Supporting Others

On 5–6 June eight members of staff will take on the National Three Peaks Challenge, aiming to climb Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon within 24 hours to raise funds for the ASPIRE Programme. Led by Mr Harston and Mr Turner, and joined by members of the Pastoral Team and Headteacher Mr Bennett, the challenge will test their endurance, resilience and teamwork through demanding climbs, long travel and minimal rest. The ASPIRE Programme plays a vital role in enriching students' experiences through after-school clubs that build confidence and broaden opportunities. The team is inviting support from the school community and beyond, with all donations going towards creating lasting, positive impact for students.



[Just Giving](#)

Independence

Earlier this term our Upstanders delivered a powerful message about choosing what kind of person you want to be. Schools aren't simply run by rules; they are shaped by the people within them. The culture of a school is defined by how safe, respected and valued everyone feels. Students are encouraged to get involved by joining one of our Upstander Groups. These include Pride, which focuses on equality, allyship, and inclusion; the Stephen Lawrence group, which promotes anti-racism and justice; Wellbeing, which supports mental health and belonging; Eco, which champions the environment and sustainability; and the House Ambassadors Group which offers opportunities for leadership and community action. Being part of an Upstander group gives students a voice, allows them to actively support the school community and encourages independence.



Hard Work

It has been amazing to see our Year 11 students working so hard during their GCSE exams. They are following a new timetable which places emphasis on attending focused revision lessons leading up to each exam, giving them the best possible opportunity to achieve the best grades. Our Leavers' Assembly will take place after the last Physics exam on Monday 15th June, and students will have the opportunity to sign shirts and say goodbye. The exam contingency day is on 24th June, and students should make sure they are available on this date. We would like to congratulate all of our Year 11 students on their mature attitude towards the exams so far and wish



The Winstanley School



SHINE

Never Giving Up

Last week's assembly was led by Mrs Cooley, celebrated National Numeracy Day and highlighted how Maths supports everyday life, from managing money to travelling and shopping. Students were reminded that confidence in maths is an important life skill, not just for the classroom, and that 'never giving up' is key to building that confidence. This week, students will also take part in 'Number Natter' during lessons, helping them explore numbers in a fun and practical way.



Congratulations to Cullen in Year 7, who recently won his first competitive golf tournament. He scored an incredible 28 points, finishing 7 clear of the nearest competitor - an amazing achievement. Cullen has been playing golf for around two years and represents Lingdale Golf. His family are incredibly proud of his success and we look forward to seeing his future golfing achievements. It's always fantastic to see our students 'shining bright' outside of school, and we warmly welcome parents sharing news of students' successes outside of school.



Excellence

The Winstanley School

Summer Fete

Saturday, 4th July 2026
12 - 4pm . FREE ENTRY

At The Winstanley School
 Kingsway North
 Braunstone Town

Lots of stalls and activities
 Ice Cream Van
 Football Competition
 Raffle

Bring your family and friends and support our school community.

Raffle with AMAZING PRIZES including vouchers for...
 Fantasy Island Stonehurst Farm

If you would like to run a stall please contact:
 summerfete@winstanleyschool.org.uk

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.**



The Winstanley School



Summer Fete at Winstanley

Preparations are well underway for our Summer Fete in July, we hope you can join us and support fundraising for our after-school Aspire programme, which gives our students the opportunity to explore new hobbies and activities and stay for some hot food with friends. There will be lots going on including a football competition, a fantastic raffle with some fantastic prizes, a bottle tombola, Ice creams and refreshments and some great stalls.

If you are able to donate any raffle or tombola prizes please get in touch. We also still have space for stallholders - email summerfete@winstanleyschool.org.uk if you are interested.