

Celebrating Our Community

On the 26th June we were proud to hold The Great Winstanley Get Together, a special event that brought together PRIDE Month, Culture Day and The Great Get Together in memory of Jo Cox. Her

powerful message, *"We are far more united and have far more in common*

with each other than things that divide us," provided the inspiration for a day centred on inclusion, understanding and community. The day began with a whole-school outdoor assembly, where students came together to reflect on the meaning behind the event and the importance of celebrating kindness, respect and belonging. This set the tone for a thoughtful and purposeful day across the school.

Students then took part in a series of workshops focused on important issues including misogyny, anti-racism and LGBTQ+ allyship. These sessions gave students the opportunity to listen, reflect and engage in meaningful discussion about how we can all help to create a safer, more respectful and more inclusive school community. A particular highlight was the workshop delivered by Sound Proof Box, which encouraged students to challenge harmful attitudes and behaviours through discussion and interactive activities.

We were incredibly proud of the maturity, empathy and thoughtfulness shown by our students throughout the day. The Great Winstanley Get Together was a powerful reminder of the values that bring our school community together.



Welcome

What an amazing year! When I look at the newsletter and see all the things that have taken place just in this half term I realise what a fantastic school I lead. I want to pay tribute to the brilliant staff who have worked tirelessly to support students and make sure that they get a great experience. I also want to thank the students as they have stepped up and have taken on all sorts of

opportunities to 'shine brighter than they thought they could.' I do particularly want to pay tribute to Niamh who is the East Midlands Speak Out Champion. To be the best in the school is an achievement, but to win the regional final is fantastic and something that no Winstanley student has ever achieved. It has been an absolute privilege to lead the school and I am very excited about next year, I am sure that it is going to

be even better if that is possible! Winstanley is very much a school 'on the up' (we are in the top three most oversubscribed schools in the County and City. I do hope you have a fantastic holiday and you have some

time to relax and enjoy some sun.

Mr Bennett,
Headteacher



The Winstanley School



Winstanley Life Summer 2026



Colour Run Fun

The afternoon of The Great Winstanley Get Together brought a wonderful sense of celebration across the school. One of the highlights was our Culture Day fashion show, where students proudly shared clothing that reflected their heritage, identity and culture, cheered on by staff and students alike. The celebrations continued with a fantastic range of CREW/Tutor-led activities, including Sponge the Teacher, art activities, games, a penalty shoot-out and a cake sale featuring our Bake Off entries. The day ended in spectacular style with a colour run – a joyful, energetic and laughter-filled finale that brought the whole community together in the best possible way.





DofE goes BIG!



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This year has been a fantastic one for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Winstanley, with the largest number of students we have ever had taking part in the programme. In an incredible achievement, 52 students headed off on expedition and took part in the overnight camp last week, with another smaller group completing their expedition this week. Together, this represents almost the entire year group working towards their Bronze Award. The Bronze DofE programme encourages students to challenge themselves, develop

independence and build confidence through a range of activities. As well as preparing for their expedition, students have been taking part in volunteering, physical activities and learning new skills. At Winstanley, this has been made possible through our Aspire Clubs and opportunities within school, including volunteering with the Community Fridge. Taking part in DofE gives students the chance to develop resilience, teamwork, problem-solving skills and a real sense of responsibility. It also helps them discover new interests, contribute to their community and gain experiences that will benefit them far beyond school. A huge thank you goes to Mr Harston for

coordinating the programme and for his vision to make the award accessible to as many students as possible, as well as to the staff who gave up their own time to support the overnight camp and expeditions.

Winstanley Life Summer 2026

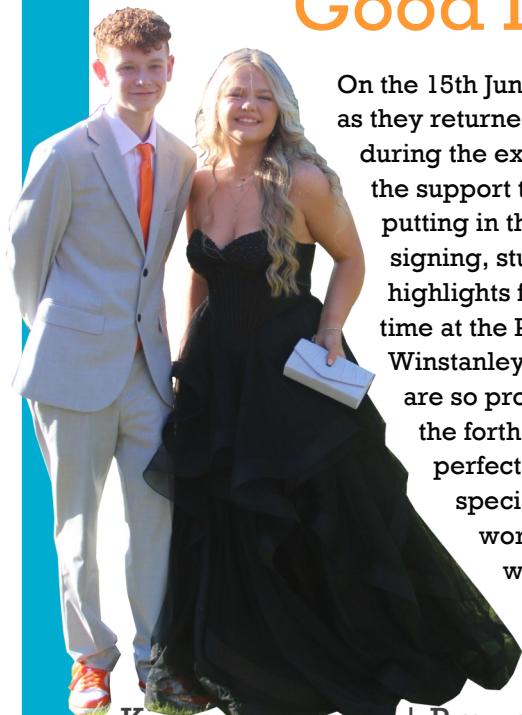


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Good Luck Year 11

On the 15th June, we wished a fond farewell to our Year 11s, as they returned for one last assembly. They worked so hard during the exams, showing enthusiasm and appreciation for the support they were given, attending revision sessions and putting in the effort to achieve the best outcomes. As well as the usual shirt signing, students enjoyed some farewell speeches and a look at some of the highlights from their time at Winstanley. Students and staff had an amazing time at the Prom on the 18th June celebrating the end of five years at Winstanley. The behaviour and maturity of our students was fantastic and we are so proud of the young adults they have become. For the fourth year running Winstanley House proved to be the perfect location, the staff there made the evening really special and nothing was too much trouble. A few words of thanks to our school staff whose hard work went into planning the event. We look forward to seeing students again on exam results day on Thursday, 20th August for GCSE results day.



New Beginnings

During the last week, we welcomed our new cohort of Year 7 students Winstanley for Induction Day. There's lots of information on our website, including contact details for any holiday queries. We also welcomed Year 5 students for taster days over the last term, giving them a chance to experience secondary school life through a range of lessons and activities. A Pop-Up Uniform Shop will be held on 5th August from 10.30am, offering blazers, jumpers and PE kit. If your child attended one of our Year 5 Taster Days don't forget to book for our **Open Evening on the 24th September.**



Reward Adventures

In the last two weeks students have enjoyed two fantastic reward experiences, with one group heading to Skegness for a day by the seaside and our Supernova Gold students visiting Alton Towers. For some students, the celebrations were even more special, as they were invited to attend both reward trips. To qualify, students had to meet our reward criteria by maintaining strong attendance, keeping behaviour points low and making a positive contribution to school life. Their invitations were thoroughly deserved and reflected the commitment, effort and positivity they have shown throughout the year. The trip to Skegness gave students the chance to enjoy a brilliant day in the sunshine, making the most of everything the seaside has to offer. From



arcades and funfair rides to building sandcastles, relaxing on the beach and enjoying classic treats such as chips and ice cream, it was a day full of fun and celebration. Meanwhile, our Supernova Gold students enjoyed an exciting day at Alton Towers, recognising their hard work and achievements in style. Across both trips, students were a real credit to the school, representing Winstanley with excellent behaviour and a positive attitude throughout. It was wonderful to see them enjoying these well-earned rewards, and we look forward to celebrating even more student success with future reward trips.



Going Green

Earlier this term we celebrated World Environment Day 2026, an annual event held on 5 June to raise awareness of environmental issues and encourage action to protect our planet. Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972, World Environment Day has grown into a global opportunity to reflect on how we can all play a part in creating a more sustainable future. To mark the occasion, our Eco Club delivered assemblies to students across the school, sharing the fantastic environmental initiatives they have been working on throughout the year. They also highlighted the importance of individual action and how small changes can make a meaningful difference in protecting the world around us. Their presentation included a powerful and thought-provoking video, reminding us that tackling climate change and caring for the environment must remain a priority if future generations are to thrive in a sustainable world. As part of the celebrations, Eco Club distributed packets of wildflower seeds to every student, encouraging everyone to make their own positive contribution to nature. We are very grateful to Braunstone Town Council for generously providing the seeds. Staff and students were also invited to wear something green to show their support for environmental action, and a successful cake sale helped raise funds for future Eco Club projects.



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play a part in creating a more sustainable future. To mark the occasion, our Eco Club delivered assemblies to students across the school, sharing the fantastic



Sports Day

What an amazing Sports Day we had this year! With the sun shining and spirits high, the energy on the field was incredible from start to finish. Students took part in a wide range of events including running races, tug of war, javelin, shot put and long jump - demonstrating our SHINE values



throughout the day. The final lesson saw the excitement reach its peak with the much-anticipated relay races and the thrilling Tug-of-War final. The whole school gathered on the field to cheer on their Houses, creating a fantastic atmosphere. We're proud to announce that Oak House were the overall winners - congratulations to everyone in Oak for an outstanding team effort! Among the year group champions, Oak took the top spot in Year 7, Oak led the way in Year 8, and Aspen came out on top in Year 9. A huge thank you to all the students and staff who helped make the day such a fantastic celebration of school spirit.



The Winstanley School



Winstanley Life

What a Winner!

We are incredibly proud to celebrate Niamh from 10HCR, who has been crowned the 2026 National Speak Out Challenge – East Midlands Champion. The National Speak Out Challenge, delivered by the educational charity Speakers Trust, helps young people develop the confidence, writing and public speaking skills they need to share their ideas and make their voices heard. Earlier this year, all of our Year 10 students took part in a workshop as part of the



programme, learning valuable skills in speech writing and presentation. Niamh stood out with her talent, determination and powerful ideas, earning a place in the regional final at the Y Theatre. Competing against 15 other students, she delivered an outstanding speech exploring whether the education system truly prepares students for the real world or is simply geared towards passing exams. Her thoughtful message and confident delivery made her the clear winner on the night. Niamh will now go on to represent the East Midlands at the National Final in London – an incredible achievement. A huge well done to Niamh on this fantastic success. We are so proud of everything she has achieved and wish her the very best of luck in the national final. [Watch here!](#)



Summer 2026



Inspiring Futures

Some of our Year 7, 8 and 9 students recently took part in the **Pathways programme**, an inspiring initiative designed to give young people an insight into higher education and the opportunities available after school. As part of the programme, students completed a series of workshops focused on study skills and revision techniques, delivered by the **University of Leicester** with support from ambassadors from **Loughborough University**. They also visited **De Montfort University**, where they explored the campus and experienced university life first-hand. We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm throughout the programme,



Supporting Others

A while ago Gather Create Grow came to work with our Year 7 students to create work to display at this year's Cosby Yarn Bomb. The work was based on the theme of community, respect for others and anti-discrimination. The Yarn Bomb begins on the 8th July and our work will be displayed at on Victory Park, Cosby, in the Coppice of trees behind Cosby Library. The Display Name is Kind Hearts, Open Minds (number 66 on the trail map). We hope you will be able to go along and see it, the students should be really proud of the work they created, and the messages they created really reflect our value of supporting others.



Hard Work

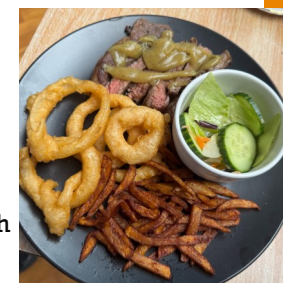
Year 9 Hospitality & Catering students took part in their practical examination recently, showcasing the skills they have developed throughout the year. As part of the assessment, students were given a brief to create a healthy restaurant dish suitable for both children and adults. Within 2 hours, they had to plan, prepare, cook and present their chosen dish to a professional standard. The students produced a wonderful variety of creative and nutritious dishes, demonstrating excellent organisation, time

management, food preparation skills and presentation. We are incredibly proud of the effort and determination shown by all of our Year 9 students and this was an ideal opportunity for them to practice under exam

conditions giving them the confidence to produce high standards in their future GCSE practical exam.



The Winstanley School



Let yourself SHINE

Independence



Earlier this term, students from Years 7–10 enjoyed a fantastic off-timetable 'Play in a Day' workshop with Mr Finn. The day began with improvisation activities, helping students explore movement, character and emotion before creating scenes

that examined different sides of the same character. Throughout the workshop, students showed great creativity, teamwork, independence and performance skill. It was wonderful to see Year 9 and 10 GCSE Drama students working alongside enthusiastic Year 7 and 8 students, sharing ideas and learning from one another. The energy, imagination and commitment shown throughout the day were outstanding, and it was fantastic to see their performances develop so strongly.

Never Giving Up

- In celebration of World Cup 26, our Winstanley World Cup House Tournament has been a fantastic way to bring the excitement of football into school, with students representing their houses with pride, determination and team spirit. A huge congratulations to Aspen House, who were crowned Junior World Cup Champions for Years 7 & 8, and to Elm House, who took the title in the Years 9 & 10 Championship! Well done to every student who took part and showed such enthusiasm, sportsmanship and resilience throughout the tournament. It was brilliant to see so much teamwork, skill and a real never-give-up attitude on display.



Excellence

Our English Department had the pleasure of presenting awards to a group of students who have truly stood out in English this year. These

- students have shown excellence, worked incredibly hard, and demonstrated the importance of never giving up, even when faced with challenges. Their determination, resilience and commitment to doing their best have been fantastic to see, and we are very proud of all they have achieved.
- As a reward for their efforts, each student received a voucher to enjoy as a well-deserved treat over the holidays.



3 Peaks Challenge Completed!

Our staff have successfully completed the demanding national Three Peaks Challenge, last month, raising thousands of pounds to support our free after-school activities for students. Eight members of staff set out on 5th-6th June to climb the highest mountains in England, Scotland and Wales within 24 hours, all in support of the school's ASPIRE Programme. The team hiked 23 miles across Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon, climbs of approximately 3,064 metres and travelled 462 miles by road during the challenge. In a remarkable achievement, four members of the team reached the summit of Ben Nevis, the final climb, within the 24-hour time limit. Every member played a vital role in helping the team meet the deadline, providing encouragement, motivation and support throughout the challenge. Mr Taylor completed the challenge despite later discovering that he had sustained a broken foot during the event, highlighting the extraordinary commitment and a 'never giving up' attitude. The challenge has attracted significant support from the local community, with the team receiving encouragement throughout their journey. Mr Turner said: "We are incredibly proud of what the team has achieved. The support we received throughout the challenge was amazing and really helped keep us going. Every pound raised will help us continue providing opportunities for students to take part in activities, develop new skills and build confidence beyond the classroom. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has donated and supported us." A massive well done to Mr Harston, Mr Bennett, Mr Turner, Mr Taylor, Mr Bratt, both Mr Scrimshire's and Mrs Sutton on this fantastic achievement.



School Fete Success

On Saturday 4th July, we were delighted to hold our very first school fete, organised by our dedicated Pastoral Team. The event was a huge success, with a fantastic atmosphere and plenty for everyone to enjoy. Visitors had the chance to meet the police, take part in football activities, browse a variety of stalls, enter a raffle with some great prizes and enjoy the amazing cake stall. The fete raised valuable funds for our Aspire programme, and we are incredibly grateful to the staff who gave up their Saturday, as well as everyone who supported the event. Alongside the Three Peaks fundraising, this will help Aspire go from strength to strength next year.



Download our
parental
engagement app.



The Winstanley School



We break up from school on **Thursday, 9th July** at the normal time of **3.05pm** and return to school on **Tuesday, 25th August**.

All term dates can be found on
our website.

Total raised this year for Aspire is £6500

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