

A Bright Future

At the end of the Summer break we were incredibly proud to celebrate the fantastic GCSE results achieved by our Year 11 students. These results are a reflection of their hard work, never giving up attitude, determination and commitment to excellence.

A huge congratulations to every student! They worked incredibly hard, often to overcome challenges and supported one another throughout their time with us. Their achievements are something they should be extremely proud of.

Good exam

results can open the door to wider opportunities as students progress through further education, training and employment. Whether moving on to sixth form, college, an apprenticeship, vocational training or employment, we hope these results give our leavers the confidence and opportunities to take the next exciting steps towards their future.

At Winstanley, we know that success is about much more than grades. Through work experience, community engagement, leadership opportunities, enrichment

activities and our ASPIRE programme, our students have developed the independence, maturity, confidence and resilience they need to thrive in adult life. Headteacher, Mr Bennett, said:

"We are very pleased with the GCSE results this year and it is brilliant to see how all the students' hard work has paid off. It is fantastic to see how the partnership of students, staff and parents has led to great results and such improvement compared to previous years."

Winstanley Life

Welcome

Wow - what a half term. I have been particularly pleased to see the amount of hard work that our students are putting into their studies at school and into their Independent Learning. Independent Learning is so important to ensure that students take the time to learn key. All the research shows that students who do regular Independent Study perform the best in their exams and in school overall. Hard work and regular attendance will guarantee our students success here at Winstanley and in life beyond school. Over the last two weeks it has been great to welcome a number of prospective year 6 students and their parents for tours of the school and I have been so proud to see every class focused on their learning and really rising to the challenges teachers are giving to them. The newsletter is full of examples of how students and staff are 'shining brighter than they thought they could!' Thank you for all your support. I am very proud to be Headteacher at Winstanley and to be able to lead such an amazing community. Have a great half term and I hope you enjoy some time of rest and refreshment.

Mr Bennett, Headteacher.



The Winstanley School



Autumn 2026

Back to School

Before school began in August, staff took part in two inspirational training days, preparing for another fantastic year at Winstanley. On

the first training day our classroom staff were inspired by educational podcaster Adam Boxer, whose session focused on Teaching and Learning strategies, with a particular emphasis on modelling, explanation and embedding learning into students' long-term memory. The second day the focus was on ensuring that every

student feels valued and an important part of our school community. We were delighted to welcome back former student Reubyn Ricardo, who shared his incredible journey from experiencing grief and overcoming significant challenges in his early life, to becoming a professional referee and mentor. His story was truly inspiring and a powerful reminder of the importance of hard work, supporting others and never giving up. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to two fantastic days of learning and reflection. As the year progresses staff will be putting all their learning into practice to give students the very best educational practice in the classroom.





Exploring Emotions

On Tuesday 22 September, our Upstanders took part in an inspiring session with author and psychotherapist Jo Des Vries, exploring her book *Conversations with Troublesome Emotions*. Students explored different feelings and emotions and contributed to a thoughtful and meaningful discussion, asking questions and sharing their ideas. A huge thank you to Jo for generously donating 40 copies of her book to our school. These will provide a valuable resource to support our students' wellbeing and encourage further conversations about emotions. Well done to our Upstanders for being so wonderfully engaged, inquisitive and willing to get involved!



The Winstanley School



Winstanley Life

Hello Yellow

On World Mental Health Day, Winstanley School was filled with yellow hues as students and staff took part in the national #HelloYellow campaign, organized by the charity Young Minds. The event encourages open conversations about

mental health while highlighting the

charity's vital work. Wearing yellow served as a meaningful reminder that it is okay not to be okay and that sharing how we feel can make a positive difference. The week's activities were coordinated by Ms Palmer and the Wellbeing Upstanders. Together, they led school assemblies, hosted a bake sale and organized a happiness-focused House Challenge where students wrote 'Little Drop of Sunshine' cards to

remind others that they are valued and cared for. The bake sale proved to be a huge success, raising over £100 for Young Minds. Winstanley School was incredibly proud to support Young Minds in their mission to promote young people's mental health. The celebration perfectly reflected the supportive Winstanley spirit: bright, caring and dedicated to supporting others.

Autumn 2026

YOUNG MINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

Togetherness

Winstanley Gathers has officially become a highlight of our school week! Starting from our first whole-school assembly of the academic year, this new tradition has continued to bring our school community together every week. Whether gathered under the open sky or live-streamed directly into classrooms the spirit of connection is evident as we all share success. Excitement always runs high during the attendance draw for a gift voucher, alongside the proud celebration of our latest Achievement Point winners. No matter the format, Winstanley Gathers reinforces our shared values, connects students and staff and keeps our vibrant school community celebrating achievements together every week.



Splash, Blast and Scatter!

Our Year 8 students have been putting their STEM skills to the test by launching bottle rockets! As well as exploring the science behind how rockets fly, students have been developing their Maths skills by collecting data, measuring the distances travelled and recording their results.

It was fantastic to see students working collaboratively, making predictions, testing their designs and using real data to evaluate their results. A brilliant hands-on learning experience combining Science, Maths, teamwork and a little bit of rocket power!



The Winstanley School

Every Friday we celebrate student success through our 'Shining Stars' Shout Outs and Hot Chocolate with the Head, follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Winstanley Life

Black History Month

October marks Black History Month, and our school community has been actively celebrating the incredible contributions of Black figures throughout British history.

Led by our dedicated Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors, the school has hosted a series of engaging assemblies and educational activities to reflect on history and inspire future progress. Throughout the week, Mrs Cole in the library has hosted activities at lunchtimes with games, quizzes and activities for students to enjoy.

To round off this meaningful event students will be invited to wear an item of red clothing on Friday, 16th October in support of "Show Racism the Red Card." It has been fantastic to see our community come together to educate, reflect and stand united against racism.

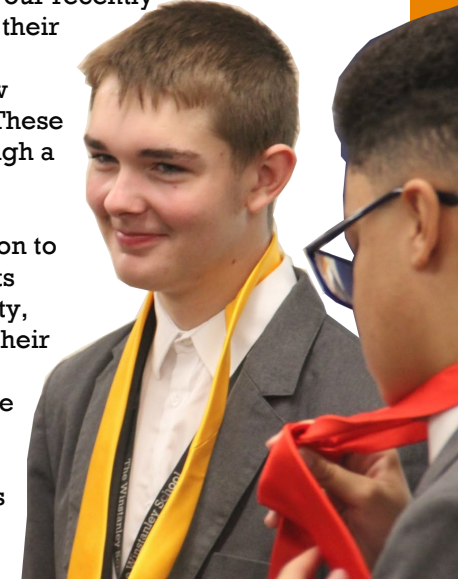


Autumn 2026 New Prefects



At the beginning of this term our recently appointed Prefects received their grey blazers and House ties, marking the start of their new leadership responsibilities. These students were selected through a

rigorous process, which included an interview, staff references and meeting key expectations, such as excellent attendance, meeting deadlines for independent learning and making a positive contribution to the school community. As part of their introduction to the role Prefects signed their official contracts, giving them a real taste of responsibility, preparing them for the challenges and opportunities that come with their new roles. One of their first responsibilities was supporting our new Year 7 students on their first day, helping them to settle into life at The Winstanley School. We are incredibly proud of the dedication they have shown so far and look forward to seeing them make a positive impact across our school community. A second round of applications will be opening soon, giving even more students the opportunity to rise to the challenge and become a Winstanley Prefect.



Open Evening

Earlier this term we were delighted to welcome more than 300 visitors to Winstanley. The building was bursting with energy as prospective students and their families explored everything our school community has to offer. There was so much to see and do throughout the event. Guests engaged in creative printmaking, dynamic drama workshops and literary English challenges, all while viewing impressive exhibitions of current students' work. Out on the field, the Maths team added an extra spark of excitement by launching bottle rockets. Most importantly, we were incredibly proud of the many students who volunteered to return after school to assist in classrooms, facilitate activities and lead tours. Acting as exceptional tour guides, they showcased their enthusiasm and served as fantastic ambassadors for our school community. It was a memorable evening that truly highlighted the talent and pride within our school. The deadline to make applications for next years' Year 7 cohort is 31st October, more details can be found on our website.



The Winstanley School



Winstanley Life Autumn 2026

Real
World
Ready!

Last week our Year 11 students took part in mock interviews organised by the LiFE MAT Careers Team - a key initiative designed to support students as they prepare for the real world, whether applying for jobs, apprenticeships, college or university! Our students were interviewed by industry professionals experienced in conducting formal interviews. Beyond gaining valuable real-world experience, students received direct, constructive feedback on their interview techniques and tips on how to stand out from other applicants. A massive THANK YOU to all of our brilliant interviewers who generously gave up their time to support our young people:

- Melanie – Leicestershire Partnership Trust (Health)
- Zak – Mellor Bromley Mechanical Services (Engineering)
- Peter – Mellor Bromley Mechanical Services (Engineering)
- Laura-May – Lady Jane Court Care Home (Social Care)
- Andrew – VWR International Ltd (Life Sciences)
- Helen – Foxton Locks (Tourism)
- Bernadette – Next (Hospitality and Catering)
- Jack – Winvic (Construction)
- David – Holcim UK Ltd (Construction)
- Agata – LiFE MAT (HR)

Special thanks also go to Mr Goodacre and Mrs Gillespie for organizing such a positive and valuable experience for our students.



Follow us for all the latest news and information.

Cloud Spotting!

This term our Year 7 Geographers have been out and about putting their learning into practice as they gathered their own weather data. Students have investigated cloud cover, carefully observing the sky and recording the amount of cloud coverage. This hands-on fieldwork gave them the opportunity to develop their geographical observation and data-collection skills while seeing how Geography can be explored beyond the classroom. A great example of our students learning through real-world experiences!



Supporting Others

On Fridays throughout this term we have been running our community fridge and saving food from being thrown away. It has been great to see community members and students taking items away to be used. A big thank you to our student volunteers who have worked really hard setting up, tidying away as well as meeting and greeting! We will be running the Community Fridge every Friday during term time from 1.45 - 3pm in the Braunstone Town Family Hub, providing we have enough supplies.



Excellence

We are incredibly proud to celebrate Year 9 student Hanna's exceptional achievements in Adaptive Judo Competing internationally at the EJU Adaptive Judo event in Poland. Hanna earned a brilliant bronze medal among 180 competitors. She followed this up at the East Midlands Area Open with double medal success: securing Gold in the Junior category and Bronze in Espoirs. Hanna's dedication has now earned her a spot on the Adaptive Judo Team for upcoming events in Serbia and the Netherlands! Judo continues to build her confidence and resilience. Well done, Hanna! Please share your child's out-of-school achievements with us so we can celebrate them too.



Let yourself

SHINE

Independence

Following the great success of last year's Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award, we are excited to announce the launch of this year's programme for the whole of Year 9, starting after

half term. Every student in Year 9 will be taking part in this fantastic opportunity to develop new skills, build independence and work together as a team. There will be a range of activities available through our Aspire

programme to help students complete the skills section of the award. The highlight of the programme will be the final assessed expedition, which will include an overnight camp - an amazing chance for students to challenge themselves and make lasting memories. We are thrilled that nearly the whole of Year 9 successfully completed their Bronze award over the last school year and we are hoping that this year's DofE will be even bigger and the best yet for The Winstanley School - and possibly across the entire LiFE Multi Academy Trust!



Never Giving Up

A huge congratulations to everyone in Maple House for claiming victory in The Great Winstanley Points Rush earlier this term! Demonstrating outstanding effort and determination over the course of a week, Maple House earned the highest number of achievement points overall. As a well-deserved reward for their hard work, students in Maple enjoyed a non-uniform day on Monday, September 28th. This exciting competition is just the beginning. We look forward to launching more House incentives throughout the year encouraging teamwork and a supportive community spirit across all year groups. Well done, Maple!



The Winstanley School

Hard Work

Every week, students are nominated to join Mr Bennett for a well-deserved Hot Chocolate celebration. Nominations recognize individuals who consistently work hard and embody our school values. Each week highlights a different House and Crew group, with six outstanding students selected by their Head of House. It is a fantastic tradition that highlights dedication, positive character and everyday hard work. A photo of the chosen students is shared on our social media pages every Friday afternoon, giving the entire school community a chance to celebrate them.



Year 11

Autumn Mocks

26th October - 6th October



Good Luck ... SHINE brighter than you thought you could!

Date	AM/PM	Start Time	Finish Time	Duration	Room	Subject
Mon 26/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:45 AM	02:00	SH	English Literature
Mon 26/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:00 PM	01:20	SH	PE 1PE0/01
Mon 26/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	12:55 PM	01:15	SH	Sport Studies R184
Tue 27/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:45 AM	02:00	SH	English Language
Tue 27/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	SH	Mathematics (F) P1
Tue 27/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	SH	Mathematics (H) P4
Wed 28/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:00 AM	01:15	SH	Combined Biology (H+F)
Wed 28/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:30 AM	01:45	SH	Triple Biology (H)
Wed 28/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:25 PM	01:45	SH	Business Studies 1BSO /02
Thu 29/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:15 AM	01:30	SH	Mathematics (F) P2
Thu 29/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:15 AM	01:30	SH	Mathematics (H) P5
Thu 29/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:25 PM	01:45	SH	History (J411/11)
Thu 29/10/2026	PM	2:10 PM	2:55 PM	00:45	SH	Spanish Reading (F)
Thu 29/10/2026	PM	2:10 PM	3:10 PM	01:00	SH	Spanish Reading (H)
Fri 30/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:00 AM	01:15	SH	Combined Chemistry (H+F)
Fri 30/10/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:30 AM	01:45	SH	Triple Chemistry (H)
Fri 30/10/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	SH	Computer Science J277/01

Date	AM/PM	Start Time	Finish Time	Duration	Room	Subject
Mon 02/11/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:15 AM	01:30	SH	Mathematics (F) P3
Mon 02/11/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:15 AM	01:30	SH	Mathematics (H) P6
Mon 02/11/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	SH	Drama J316
Tue 03/11/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:00 AM	01:15	SH	Combined Physics (H+F)
Tue 03/11/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:30 AM	01:45	SH	Triple Physics (H)
Tue 03/11/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	SH	RS
Tue 03/11/2026	PM	2:10 PM	2:55 PM	00:45	CL	Spanish Listening (F)
Tue 03/11/2026	PM	2:10 PM	3:10 PM	01:00	Dr	Spanish Listening (H)
Wed 04/11/2026	AM	9:00 AM	10:20 AM	01:20	CS/C8	H&C (On-screen)
Wed 04/11/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	SH	Computer Science J277/02
Wed 04/11/2026	PM	2:10 PM	3:10 PM	01:00	SH	RM 8552/W
Thu 05/11/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:45 AM	02:00	SH	Geography
Thu 05/11/2026	AM	11:40 AM	12:55 PM	01:15	SH	Spanish Writing (F)
Thu 05/11/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:00 PM	01:20	SH	Spanish Writing (H)
Fri 06/11/2026	AM	8:45 AM	10:30 AM	01:45	SH	History (J411/33)
Fri 06/11/2026	AM	11:40 AM	1:10 PM	01:30	Reconnect	Further Maths

Our after school Aspire Club is going from strength to strength with more than 100 students attending a variety of activities. Students who attend get to socialise with friends in a safe environment, have some food and learn new skills, encourage your child to sign up for something after half term.




Autumn Term

From September 2026

Monday Further Maths (Y10) invite only Girls Football (Astro) Study Club (M1) GYM (With Mr Harston) Raquet Sports (SH)	Tuesday Weekly Hair & Nail Bar Genesis Football all ages ASTRO Rugby (Astro/Field) Study Club (M1)	Wednesday Crochet (Nurture) Further Maths (Y11) invite only Pride Safe Space (H4) Study Club (M1) Music (Music) Boxing Fitness Girls (Sports Hall) GYM Girls Netball (Astro/Playground) Dance - Drama Studio Volley Ball (Sports Hall) Junk Journaling (CUBE)	Thursday Football all ages ASTRO Study Club (M1)
Friday Study Club (M1) To be confirmed			

Please speak to Mr Turner or Miss Fisher to find out more, or just turn up on the day.

House Challenges

Every month Crew groups compete in House Challenges to earn House points in the race for the end-of-year trophy. These activities foster community and healthy rivalry and range from quick tasks completed during tutor time to quizzes and independent student competitions. November features a line-up focused on creativity, reflection and community action: students will craft Remembrance wreaths for the whole school ceremony, make vibrant Diwali decorations and collect essential items for Open Hands to support local families in need.

