THE WINSFORD ACADEMY

14th October 2024



Ms Emma McLaren
Principal

Message from the Principal

Dear Winsford Families,

This week our Year 10 students are engaging with the first formal assessments of this academic year. I am very grateful to our wonderful site team who spend hours moving exam desks in and out of the Sports Hall. We think it is crucial that students not only learn about effective revision strategies but also become familiar with the formal exam protocols and routines.

To ensure students are fully prepared for assessments and make strong progress through the curriculum, it is imperative that students have good attendance. As part of the academy focus on developing resilience and overcoming barriers, this week we have invited a guest speaker to come to Year 9 and Year 11 assemblies – this is not to be missed!

Many thanks to the parents and carers that attended the Parent Forum meeting, I feel incredibly fortunate to work with such engaged parents and really value your feedback. We are currently exploring additional opportunities for families to come into the academy to learn about the features and benefits of using our homework platforms, we have also calendared two additional information meetings for parents of students with special educational needs. I have included the dates in this newsletter.

Over the half term break, I will be working on the next section of the school improvement plan, as such, later this week parents will receive a questionnaire to complete; it would be great if we could receive responses from a wide sample of parents across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.

This week, Halliard Trust CEO, J Spencer is visiting the academy with S Pountain, Trust Director to observe and discuss progress we have made within the first half term. Outcomes from the visit will serve to inform future planning.

As always, thank you for your support and I very much look forward to meeting our wonderful Year 7 families at the Settling-In Evening on Thursday.

Dates for your Diary: Autumn Term 24	
Thursday 17th October 2024 **4pm – 6pm**	**Year 7 Settling-In Evening**
WC 21st October 2024	**Year 11 Hospitality and Catering Exam (Practical Element)**
Half Term Break – Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November ***All student return Monday 4th November, through gates for 8:40am***	
Wednesday 6th November 2024	**Flu Jabs for Y7-Y11**
Thursday 7th November 2024 **4:15pm – 5:45pm**	**SEND Information Evening – KS4**
Wednesday 27th November 2024 **4:15pm – 5:45pm**	**SEND Information Evening – KS3**
Friday 29th November 2024	**INSET Day: Academy closed for students** Staff training will be focus upon safeguarding, assessment at KS3 & KS4 and effective learning strategies.
Thursday 5th December 2024 **3:45pm – 6:45pm** *(£5 reduction in Prom Ticket if families attend)*	**Year 11 Parents' Evening** Student will have received Mock Exam Results
Monday 9th December 2024	**Dance GCSE Exam**
Term Break – Monday 23rd December 2024 – Friday 3rd January 2025 **INSET Day – Monday 6th January 2025** ***All student return Tuesday 7th January2025, through gates for 8:40am***	



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Rowing Together!

This week was our first outing to Northwich for our rowers.
This introductory session included health and safety points including getting used to wearing buoyancy aides, familiarity with the indoor training facilities and handling of a rowing boat and oars.

Students are very excited about getting on the water in the next session!





Year 8 Football Team Celebrate 8-0 win!



Last week, the Year 8 boys played in the Cheshire Cup and won against The Oakes Academy 8-0.

Louie B 3 goals
Tom E 2 goals
Kyden D 1 goal
Archie E 1 goal
Isaac L 1 goal
Player of the Match – Tom E
Captain – James S

Victory for U14 Girls Football Team!



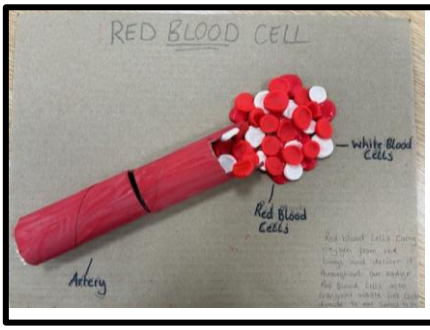
The U14 girls football team advanced comfortably into round 3 of the English Schools cup with a 6-1 victory over All Hallows Catholic College, Macclesfield.

Special mention to Player of the Match: Ellie J.

Caught on Camera - Celebrating our Curriculum!

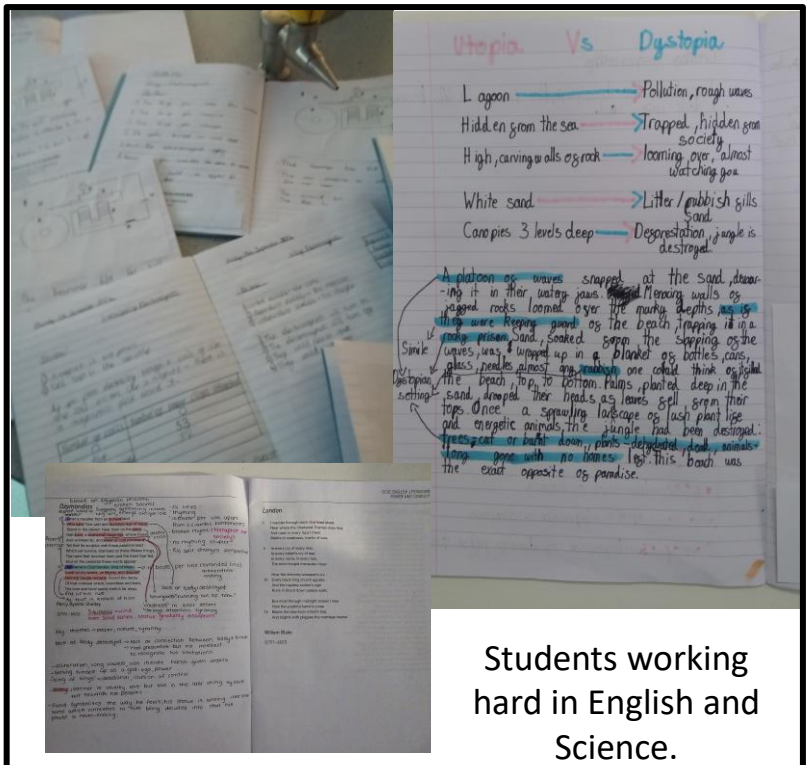


Brilliant homework from Pavel in Spanish! Ms Boyle was so impressed.



Ms Eastwood was thrilled with Alyla's Science homework!

What a brilliant use of materials!



Students working hard in English and Science.

Winsford Academy Assessment Calendar: Cycle 1		
Weeks/Dates	**Year Group**	**Type of Assessment**
Weeks 7 & 8 14-10-24 21-10-24	**Year 10**	**Transition Exams** Assessment of knowledge & review of transition to GCSE/Qualification subjects
Weeks 9 & 10 04-11-24 11-11-24	**Year 11**	**Year 11 College Entry Exams - Mock Exams 1** Assessment of knowledge. Information will also support predictions for college applications
Weeks 13 & 14 02-12-24 09-12-24	**Year 7**	**Key Stage 3 Assessments** Assessment of knowledge & review of transition to secondary school
	Year 8	**Key Stage 3 Assessments** Assessment of knowledge & review of progress through the KS3 curriculum
Weeks 17 & 18 13-01-24 20-01-24	**Year 9**	**Key Stage 3 Assessments** Assessment of knowledge & review of progress through the KS3 curriculum. Information will also support discussions during the KS4 Option Process



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NHS
Cheshire and Merseyside

Think Pharmacy First

To all parents and carers in Cheshire and Merseyside

Did you know... as well as offering advice and over the counter treatments for lots of childhood illnesses, pharmacies can now offer clinical appointments and prescription medications (if needed) for these four common conditions in children?

- **Ear ache (children aged 1-17)**
- **Sore throat (age 5 and over)**
- **Infected insect bites (age 1 and over)**
- **Impetigo (age 1 and over)**

This **Pharmacy First service** is available at most community pharmacies in Cheshire and Merseyside.



Think pharmacy first

See your pharmacist

Help us help you

Fast advice and treatment

When your child is feeling unwell and off school with one these conditions, you want the right help as quickly as possible.

Pharmacies can often provide a **same day consultation with a trained clinical professional**, giving you access to advice and medication all in one place, without the need for a GP appointment first.

This means they could be on the road to recovery and back at school much sooner.

So remember:
If your child has an ear ache, sore throat, symptoms of impetigo or a suspected infected bite, **think Pharmacy First!**

For more information visit: www.nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst