



The Winsford Academy

Issue 3

Friday 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I am very grateful to those of you who responded to my newsletter last week for the helpful comments you have made about things we could do better here at the Academy. I want to use this week's newsletter to respond to some of the issues you raised.

First, some of you commented on arrangements at lunchtime including the risk that children who do not have money on their accounts could go hungry. As all the parents who raised this matter pointed out, the first responsibility does lie with parents to make sure that the students' accounts are kept topped up. However, as a parent myself, I recognise the pressures involved in organising a busy family life and realise that, with the best will in the world, it is possible for a child to find themselves in school without enough money on their account. For this and other reasons we are currently undertaking a detailed review of our lunchtime arrangements and we will send out details of any changes we intend to make very shortly. I hope this will enable us to ensure that lunchtime is a purposeful and well-ordered experience for everybody and that, most importantly, nobody goes hungry.

Secondly, a number of you reported that your children had experienced difficulties with their timetables at the start of the school year. For some this meant that they had been placed in the wrong teaching groups and, understandably, this caused some confusion and distress. We recognise that the timetabling process at the start of this year was not as smooth as it should have been, partly because of staffing and technical issues at the end of last term. I am very sorry for any distress that this caused to individual students. We have already taken action to increase the capacity of our timetabling team and I am confident that next year's timetabling process will be smoother. In the meantime however if your son or daughter has any difficulties with their timetable they should speak to the tutor

in the first instance but if the problems persist please do not hesitate to contact me on laura.halsall@winsfordacademy.org.uk.

One or two of you also reported difficulties in getting a response to emails or phone messages that you had sent into the school. Our school office receives and either deals with or passes on many dozens of messages every day. While the overwhelming majority of these receive prompt responses, I am sorry that it is clear that a few have gone astray in the very busy time at the start of term. We will review all our communication systems within school but please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any specific examples of not responding to your concerns quickly enough. Please remember that if you need a reply from a member of our teaching staff, they may very well be teaching and away from emails and phone messages throughout the school day so it may be up to 48 hours before you receive a response.

I said last week that we we're introducing a golden star award system to celebrate those students who demonstrate respectful behaviour throughout a lesson. It has been a real privilege this week to visit many classes and just how focused students have been on their work and how respectfully they have related to their teacher and the rest of the class. Having seen the impact of this reward system this week we are going to extend it next week with more of my senior colleagues visiting more lessons and giving out more rewards. It is really important to me that, even as we deal with the minority of students who do not meet our expectations to be ready, respectful, and safe, we make sure that the great majority who do realise that they are being noticed and recognised for the contribution they make to learning across the Academy.

Ms L Halsall
Principal





The Winsford Academy

WINSFORD ACADEMY

SCIENCE CLUB

EVERY WEDNESDAY 15:00 – 15:45
ROOM A97

EXPERIMENTS
COMPETITIONS
DEMONSTRATIONS
SCIENCE TRIP

SCIENCE CLUB IS OPEN FOR ALL
YEAR 7 STUDENTS. IT'S FREE AND FUN.
SCIENCE ASSISTANT POSITIONS OPEN
TO RESPONSIBLE YEAR 8 & 9 STUDENTS

ASK YOUR SCIENCE TEACHER FOR MORE INFO.



The Winsford Academy



Congratulations to the top **20** students in **Year 11** who have over 51 positive points this year so far!

51 points in three weeks is absolutely incredible and I want to thank you for all of your hard work, resilience and determination! This amount hard work, commitment and contribution in lessons and around the school does not go unnoticed so please keep it up Year 11- this is going to be your Year!

Miss Williams, Miss Buckley and the rest of the Year 11 Team (The A-Team).

Libby JM, Joel L, Rebecca B, Lulah-Belle I, Isabella H, Kian N, Alexander C, Olivia P, Kelsie V, Sam H, Courtney T, Jake P, Leon W, Charlie C, Kaitlin W, Leon F, Ruby S, Grace W, Fin C, Lillie L





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Attendance Matters

Each week we will be running an attendance competition for the form that has had the best attendance.

**Weekly
Rewards**

Be in to win!

Every 3 weeks there will be a prize draw for students who have attended school every day and a prize will be given to one lucky winner.

If pupils fell unwell or wish to be collected for any reason they must speak to a member of staff who will contact home if necessary. If parents collect children without this being requested by school then the absence will be unauthorised.



The Winsford Academy

On Thursday 22nd September we hosted the Primary School Cross Country race. Girls and boys from Year 3-6 from Darnhall, Grange and Wharton primary competed in very wet conditions.

It was a great atmosphere and very competitive.

A special thank you to the Sports Leaders: Millie, Charlie, Daisy, Chloe and Ella from Year 9 and Year 10 Brooke and Year 11 Leon who helped set up and run the event! They were amazing in such wet conditions and really encouraged the primary children.





The Winsford Academy

Reading Homework Challenge.



**Read a book at
home**



For twenty minutes



Everyday

Read for 20 minutes, at home, every day.



We have launched our Camp Kenya 2024 expedition to Year 10 and Year 11 students.

Parents will have an opportunity to find out more by attending a meeting on Thursday 29th September at 6:30pm with Mrs Leech and Miss Edwards.

