



# The Winsford Academy

Issue 6

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Last week was a busy week at the Academy, mainly because we have introduced the changes to our lunchtime arrangements. I know these have not been universally popular but, having been out and about each lunchtime, I am confident that we have made significant progress towards our core aim of providing our students with the calm lunchtime environment that they deserve. It is worth reflecting briefly on where we have come from and why things needed to change.

Last year there was a staggered lunch. This meant that many students were in lessons while many hundreds of others were having their lunch in the street. Many students and staff have told me that the noise from the street (which does tend to echo all around the building) made lessons at this time almost impossible. That was not a situation I could allow to continue.

In September we ended the staggered lunch and returned to the previous situation where all students had the same lunchbreak. This has helped with lessons but having up to 1000 students in the street at the same time did create an environment that was noisy, overcrowded and potentially unsafe. This, too, was unacceptable.

That is why we have changed again last week. What we have done has made the street calmer and ensured that every student can continue to eat their lunch in the time available. To achieve this, we have moved the queue outside and told students to leave the building once they have finished their lunch rather than stay in the street or wander around the building. These are both practices that are common in many other schools, including the majority of primary schools where children routinely spend much more time out of doors than Winsford students even under the new system. We have allowed students that are sitting calmly to remain inside and it has been lovely to see many of them chatting and completing homework.

There are, however, some important lessons we have learned this week, not least because of the very helpful emails I have received from a number of parents:

- 1) We need to do more to make sure all students understand the details of the changes we make. We thought we had covered this by making a video which we showed in form time and through two weeks worth of assemblies but is clear that we should have checked more carefully that students knew exactly where they needed to go and which entrances and exits they needed to use.
- 2) We need to do more to promote the service by which students can pre-order meals. This reduces queueing time significantly. At the start of term, students were given a letter and a code that would enable them to download an app to pre-order. If you would like to take advantage of this service, please contact [admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk) for further information.

3. We need to be clearer about how students can access the toilets at lunch time. I think this is a basic human right. We have taken a number of steps this week to increase opportunities for students to get to the toilet and by Wednesday all of our toilets were open with staff on duty outside them to make sure they were not being monopolised by any groups of students. However, I know from parents who have contacted me that some of their children have continued to have difficulty getting to the toilet. We have therefore taken an additional step and staff have given up their toilets downstairs and given these over to Years 8 and 9 students. We will continue to refine our systems further this week and in coming weeks. However, I must be clear toilets are for going to the toilet and we will continue to challenge antisocial behaviour in the toilets.

As I say, I am very grateful for parental feedback on this matter. I know that some of you have also been active on Facebook. Sometimes we all have things we want to get off our chest and Facebook can be very helpful for this. However, please understand that we do not routinely monitor or respond to social media posts. If you want to make a difference rather than just have a moan, please email me on [laura.halsall@winsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:laura.halsall@winsfordacademy.org.uk). I will always aim to reply in a timely manner. Please include your child's name and tutor group in the title of your email as this enables us to react more quickly if there are specific matters that need investigation.

On Friday we were pleased to welcome two important visitors to the Academy. Jake Evans is an internationally renowned story teller who has worked with thousands of children both in schools and through his contributions to major cultural events. On Friday he was working with students in English classes. The ability to speak confidently to a range of audiences is important in the English curriculum; it is a skill for life which impacts on our children's social and employment prospects. I am sure the experience has been invaluable for them all.

We will also welcomed Edward Timpson MP whose Eddisbury constituency includes the Academy. Edward met with Academy and Fallibroome Trust leaders. We look forward to discussing with him the Trust's support for the work we are doing here at Winsford and the role the Academy can play in the wider community. He has a particular interest in children who are receiving support from social care, and I hope to be able to discuss with him how we can best work with other agencies to improve educational outcomes for this vulnerable group.

I look forward to working with you and your child during this final week of this half term. Please remember that Friday 21<sup>st</sup> is an inset day.

Ms L Halsall  
Principal





## The Winsford Academy

### Lunch-Time Clubs



#### Monday

Reading Club - B23  
Maths Revision - B57

History Revision - C14 and C11

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Football - 3G

Year 7, 8 and 9 Drama Club and GCSE Rehearsals

Year 7, 8 and 9 Dance Club and GCSE Rehearsals

Year 7 Chess Club - A98

Art GCSE Independent Portfolio Club



#### Tuesday

Reading Club - B23

Maths Revision - B57

Food Technology KS4 Coursework - A1 and A4

Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 Football - 3G

Year 7, 8 and 9 Centre Stage Drama Club

Year 7, 8 and 9 Dance Club & GCSE Rehearsals

Melodix Singing Club

Year 7 Chess Club - A98

Art GCSE Independent Portfolio Club

#### Wednesday

Reading Club - B23

Maths Revision - B57

Year 7 - 11 History Film Club - C10

Year 7 Spanish Club - C9

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Football - 3G

Food Technology KS4 Coursework - A1 and A4

Year 7, 8 and 9 Drama Club and GCSE Rehearsals

Dance GCSE Rehearsals

Art GCSE Independent Portfolio Club



#### THURSDAY

Reading Club - B23

Maths Revision - B57

Year 7, 8, 10 and 11 Football - 3G

Northern Attitude - boys singing group

K-Pop - C13

Art GCSE Independent Portfolio Club



#### Friday

Reading Club - B23

David Attenborough Club - C17

Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 Football - 3G

Art GCSE Independent Portfolio Club





## The Winsford Academy

### Pre-Ordering at Lunchtime

We have fully launched our pre-ordering service that allows you to pre-order meals at lunchtime will reduce the amount of time students spend queuing

- . All students have been given a letter with code and instructions on how to download the app.



### So, what can you do with Fusion Online?

#### Check your balance

No longer do you need to queue at a device in the school to check whether you have enough funds remaining to order that meal you've been thinking about; you can now check your balance at home or at any time of day.

#### Order your food in advance

Obviously, the most important part of a pre-order service is the ability to order food in advance, and you can do precisely that.

Show your unique order number and our canteen staff will have your food ready and waiting for you to collect, no queues, no hassle!

#### View your upcoming meal selections

If you've placed multiple pre-orders, it's easy to check what you've ordered from within the app. We'll show you all your meal choices along with your unique order number, so that when it's time to collect your food all you need to do is turn up and show your order number.

**If you haven't received the letter please email  
[admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@winsfordacademy.org.uk).**





## The Winsford Academy

### Match Report - Cheshire Girls Cup u14

The 8/9 girls played at Fallibroome Academy in the U14 girls cup 11 a side competition. We won the game with a massive score of 10-2 and played with only 10 players!!!

The girls played very well with some excellent performances from Jess, Phoebe B, and Griff who never gave up for a second driving the ball up the pitch. Goals were scored for fun by Carlie and Kiya (4 each) and one brilliant header from Mia from a corner. The defence stayed strong with Ella, Grace and Mia along with Elsie who also played her first ever game for the school and did very well. The game was lead from the back by Goalkeeper Phoebe who kept the girls in line and advised them throughout.

The next round, I'm sure, will be a lot tougher so here's to some more training girls.







## The Winsford Academy

# NEON DISCO

**LOTS OF PRIZES TO BE WON!**

Age 11 – 16 years

**SCAN ME**

**4TH FRIDAY**  
NOVEMBER

**COME DOWN FOR A FUN NIGHT OF  
MUSIC, DANCING AND NEON LIGHTS.**

**Book now for FREE!**

**Address:** Brio Leisure centre  
Chesterway, Northwich CW9 5QJ

**Time:** 19:30 – 21:30

 youth fed

Proudly funded by





The Winsford Academy

# £1.00 Winter Warmer Meal Deals

After half term will be introducing a selection of meal deal pots for only £1.00 in our “ Winter Warmer Meal Deals”

Chicken Korma and Rice

Chinese Chicken and Rice

Chilli Beef and Rice

Italian Meatballs in tomato Sauce & Pasta

Spicy Sausage in Tomato Sauce & Pasta

Sweet and Sour Chicken & Noodles

Creamy Tomato and Mascarpone sauce & Pasta

These will be available to order online and to buy at the counter.