

THE wave



SPRING 2020



An introduction from Mr Rhodes . . .

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest WAVE magazine. It sets out all of the fantastic things our students and staff have been up to this term. These are just 'snap shots' of what goes on every week at Winterhill; follow us on www.winterhill.org.uk if you want to see more.

If you would like to find out more about our school please contact me at admin@winterhill.org.uk.



Y9 Careers Construction Project

Volunteer It Yourself (VIY) is an organisation that combines vocational skills development with volunteering and community generation. They challenge young people to learn trades and build skills.

17 of our students were mentored by professional tradespeople who were supported by the local Wickes store with a donation of materials for the project. The students took part in a 2 day construction programme in school to design, create and build planters/benches. The purpose of the project was to demonstrate and improve communication, leadership, teamwork skills, build positive attitudes to work, problem



solving and confidence. Students increased their awareness of different job roles and practical activities required in different job roles within the construction sector.

The students produced planters and benches of the highest quality and the mentoring team gave praise to the students for their focus, determination and commitment to completing so many high quality items of garden furniture.

**Well done to all involved,
be proud of your achievements,
we are!**





NCS this Summer?

What is NCS?

NCS is a government funded programme for Y11 students, aimed to support their transition from finishing school and starting new opportunities in either 6th form, college, work apprenticeships or other routes. Across Rotherham the scheme is ran and managed by Rotherham United Community Sports Trust.

Students leaving Y11 will have up to 12 weeks free time before starting employment or further education.

The scheme is split into 3 phases:
Week 1 - A residential trip away from home taking part in a range of activities developing team building and skills for life.



All food and accommodation is included.



Week 2 - The students travel to

the University of Sheffield where they move into the halls of residence for a week. They are given a budget and have to work as part of a group to cook meals and learn more about university life. Throughout the days they take part in a range of workshops including first aid and at night they cook off in the Master Chef Challenge and celebrate at the infamous Neon Party

Week 3 - As a team they will develop a local community project. For example, - A makeover of a garden in an elderly care home, raise funds for a local charity or decorate a local community



centre. The aims of the week 3 projects are for the students to do something positive for their local community which acts as a great platform for the Job or UCAS applications to make them stand out against the crowd.

“NCS was a once in a lifetime experience and after taking part could not have imagined a better way to spend my summer. I met so many amazing people who I still speak to everyday and meet up with months after we met at NCS.”

Costing only **£50***, (*financial support is available if required) - NCS engages young people in a fun-filled FOUR WEEK PROGRAMME and encourages them to meet new people and make new friends whilst doing something truly worthwhile with their summer!

Recognised by UCAS and employers nationwide, NCS is the perfect springboard to your next steps, whatever they may be!

For more information visit www.wearencs.com



School Careers Fayre 2019 - Success



On Wednesday, 23rd October we held a careers fayre for our Y8 and Y11 students.

This event helped students, parents, staff and the exhibitors in providing an insight into different post-16 options.



As a result of the successful networking event, the students had more self-belief and a much better idea about the careers, educational and training opportunities available. Feedback from students has been extremely positive and beneficial to all.

Exhibitors were impressed with our students level of maturity, their attitude and their confidence in asking relevant questions. All exhibitors said that staff and parents/carers should be proud of how our students conducted themselves. **So a BIG well done to our students, you've done us proud!**



FLC Awards

Here at Winterhill we are so proud of the different learning opportunities we have for our students. Our Flexible Learning Centre (FLC) is a specialist provision providing an individualised approach to learning. Our current crop of Y11 students have been working so hard we have now created our own award ceremony in order to celebrate the successes and hard work of our students on the path to college applications.



These award ceremonies will take place every term and will recognise Academic Achievements and Attendance, as well as Alternate Provision Engagement, Manners and Politeness as these are things we value at the FLC.

We are hoping the new tradition continues for a long time to come.

Well done for deserving these awards FLC students!

RUFC in partnership with Stop Hate UK

Breaking down Barriers: Building Communities

Winterhills guiding principle - 'other people matter' sets the tone for the promotion of respect for self and others and is at the heart of the school's approach to student welfare. Although this is reinforced daily in a variety of ways, the promotion of community cohesion at Winterhill is extended beyond the classroom. A prime example being the recent project some of our students were involved in through RUFC in partnership with Stop Hate UK and South Yorkshire Police.

The project provided opportunities for students to understand, meet and engage with people from



different faiths, cultures and social backgrounds in ways that promote common values while recognising diversity within their own communities. Below are some of the comments from our students that were a part of the project.

"Community cohesion is important because you need to know the people around you." "I like my school community because it's like a jigsaw puzzle. Without one piece it's never complete." "The project I was a part of helped me to see what other people are really like, instead of assuming stuff about them, like what they might be thinking or feeling. It means you don't judge people before

you know them." "I believe that for community cohesion to exist, we must accept everyone's individuality and also equality. For this to succeed we must start to understand this, therefore we can take it into the outer community and all aspects of everyday life.'

Friends of Winterhill

Since 2009, the 'Friends of Winterhill' has been raising funds for the benefit of the students at Winterhill School.

Composed of support and teaching staff at the school, this non-profit making organisation arranges various fundraisers throughout the school year. Requests for funding are always considered.

In 2019 we donated towards: drawings for a proposed school garden project, costumes for a school production, the Summer Ball, a school engineering project, rewards for students and many more.

FOW also recently launched a prize draw for members of staff wanting to take part, supporting the 'staff well-being' initiative in school.

If you feel that you could contribute a little of your time to something like this, FOW always welcomes new members and ideas for the future.

Alternatively, if you think that Friends of Winterhill can help with a donation, please contact us by email

**'FriendsOfWinterhill@winterhill.org.uk'
or ring Winterhill school.**

"other people matter"



Winterhill School Presents

A Christmas Carol

A Pantomime

By Adrian Barradell

10th-12th December 2019



Firstly we would like to thank the cast of 'A Christmas Carol': Ewan Conway, Arran Garner, Lucie Williams, Harry Hart, Isabelle Shenton, Matthew Allott, Aimee Chantler, Lucas Gunon, Natasha Rhodes, Lola Carver-Brown, Bella Donnolly, Leoni Templey, Gerrard Ellis, Louie Sarvent, Holly Smith, Fran Wildgoose, Luca Wildgoose, Emmy Fodor, Charlotte Green, Emily Johnson, Maisie Jordan, Mia Lawson, Nia Magagula, Kateland Rogers, Eva Paulauskaite, Amy Ward, Ruby-Mae Botton, Aaban Shah, Luke Sanderson, Alisha Simpson, Samantha Onuferova, Chris Marsden, Lillie Smith and Ellie Greenwood.





Secondly our fantastic back stage crew: Emily Fox, Maisie Johnson, Aiden Cartwright, TJ Baldwin and Phoebe Rimes.

..... and finally our staff who also helped out back stage and directed: Chris Davies, Kal Azmy, Sarah Jones-Morris, Paul Britain, Sophie Usher, Dee Conway-Ladds and Carol Kelly.

We had a wonderful time watching all of the hard work of all those involved!

Well done - Team Winterhill



The Governors' Awards evening was held at Sheffield

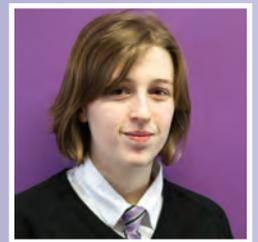
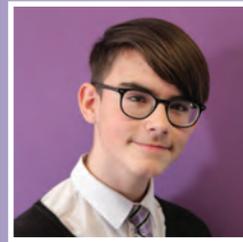


February 2020 saw around 76 students receive a Governors' Award in recognition of their success and citizenship in school and the local community.





Our
'Hall of Fame'
 award
 for outstanding
 contribution to the school over
 a number of years was
 awarded to two of our
 Y11 students.





Team Building!

Please will you all join us in celebrating the amazing mannequins that have been made by our FLC students this year (2019).

They stand in reception for you to admire where you sign in and out.

They were tasked with working in teams using the team building skills they have acquired over the last few weeks to create outfits representative of two of the different cultures we have within our school using only recyclable materials.

They had to work in pairs with people they usually wouldn't work with to test their skills in communication, teamwork and creativity.

The response and outcome to these has been fantastic!

Attendance and Punctuality Expectations

At Winterhill School, we recognise that attending school regularly and on time has a positive impact on learning, progress and therefore the best life chances for our students. Excellent attendance and punctuality are the key for our students' success.

Therefore, we must ensure that attendance and punctuality are the highest they possibly can be in



order to prepare our students for their future adult life. In line with the Government and Local Authority Guidelines, we expect all our students to maintain an attendance

level of 95% and above. It is the responsibility of everyone in our school community - parents, staff, students and governors - to ensure they achieve this. Therefore, we monitor and review the attendance of all our students constantly.

**All our students are expected to achieve 95% or more attendance.
What's your child's attendance?**

Our website has a dedicated section on **Attendance and Punctuality**, with information ranging from "Frequently Asked Questions", to "Top Tips for Parents" - www.winterhill.org.uk

Attendance
Every school day counts!





Restorative Practice



What is restorative practice?

Restorative practice is a process that resolves conflict. It promotes telling the truth, taking responsibility, acknowledging harm as an appropriate response to conflict, and in doing so creates accountability.

Restorative practice creates the conditions to promote the development of self-managing behaviours and positive attitudes to learning.



Teachers respectfully engage students in this way to make them aware of how they are affecting their own and others' learning.

Students are encouraged to develop an understanding of social responsibility, and given the responsibility to make things right. Where a student changes their behaviour in this context, it isn't because of the threat of punishment, it's because they are buying into the relationships they have with other students and teachers. This develops students' maturities, who can then

make good choices regardless of whether a teacher is present.

These are transferable skills that students can take with them through their lives.

Please see our website for more information. (www.winterhill.org.uk)



Free School Meals

Did you know you may be able to support Winterhill School by simply registering your eligibility to claim free school meals?

How will you be helping to support your child's school?

Winterhill School can claim additional funding from the Government according to the number of children attending our school who are eligible for free school meals. This additional funding is called the Pupil Premium and even if your child does not want their free school meal, the additional funding it attracts can benefit them in other ways. For example, Pupil Premium funding can be used to subsidise school trips, provide extra resources, provide a nutritional breakfast every morning and employ more staff to help our students.

Please see our website where we have published how the Pupil Premium money is being used. (www.winterhill.org.uk)

Our reception staff are available to answer any questions you may have, as well as support you in completing the application form.

Contact Main school office:
01709 740232.

You can also talk to your child's BfL Leader, who will be able to discuss the process and the benefits for your child should you apply.

Contact Main school office:
01709 740232.

What next?

If you are eligible and not already claiming free school meals, you will need to fill out an application form.

Either click on the school website link or pick up a form at the school reception.

Either post your completed form to the address on the top of the form or bring it into the school reception and we will process the form for you.

Christmas events at Winterhill



On Tuesday, 3rd December we held our Christmas event for the elders within our community in the Network at Winterhill.

It really was a special event with staff and students creating a wonderful Christmas atmosphere of a raffle, singing, games and delicious food.

Thank you to everyone who helped to organise and took part!

Headteacher's Breakfast

Our Headteacher's Award students were treated to a special breakfast in recognition for all of their outstanding hard work and efforts throughout the year.

Well done to everyone!



Come along to our
Y4/Y5 Open Evening
Thursday, 9th July 2020
4.30-7.00pm
(for Y7 entry 2021-2022 & 2022 - 2023)

Over the Christmas period our Prefects were running their annual events such as Christmas jumper day and non uniform day. The money raised was donated to 'Save the Children' and the 'Winterhill Ball'.

It was a resounding success with lots of students getting involved. The prefects also put on their own bake sale which was delicious and they raised a further £36.39.

Christmas Jumper Day

Our staff and students raised a fantastic **£334.37** on our annual Christmas Jumper Day.

Lots of staff and students took part and there were some superb jumpers on display.

Non Uniform Day

We raised a total of **£681**. Many thanks to students and staff.