



It has been a busy time of year with our Y11 mock exams just about to finish and lots of events inside and outside of school that showcase the best of what Winterhill has to offer.

This time of year always brings the challenge of consistency and I would like to draw your attention to our renewed focus on school expectations. It is also time to think about the year ahead and we are planning some significant changes to the way in which the school operates for the new school year in September. **S. Rhodes - Headteacher**

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

Since I wrote to you last regarding our uniform expectations, I am pleased to say that the vast majority of students wear their uniforms with pride and in line with school expectations. Thank you for continuing to support the school in upholding these expectations, ensuring that our student's presentation is of the highest standard.

If this is not the case, a polite reminder that students not in full uniform, unless they are in receipt of an updated letter of explanation, will be sanctioned and this could result in the student being sent home. Please support our drive on the importance of uniform by reinforcing this "no excuse" culture with your children.

I would also like to remind you that piercings of any kind (other than single studs or small rings in the ears) are not permitted and that we will be asking anyone with a piercing to remove it.

Finally, students are allowed to use their phones at social times; before school, during break, lunchtime and after school. At all other times, including between lessons phones must be switched off and put away. This is the same for headphones, including wireless 'buds'. Unless allowed by a member of staff, phones should not be seen at all in lessons or between; otherwise, they will be confiscated and stored in the main office until collected by parents.

I would appreciate your support in re-enforcing these expectations at home and understanding that phones will be confiscated without argument or question, if these expectations are not followed.

SCHOOL REORGANISATION for SEPTEMBER 2020

Over that last year, the school has been reviewing its curriculum and approaches to learning. As you all know, the expectations of what our children study and achieve continue to be raised. As a group of staff, we have taken our time to understand how we can best meet these expectations for Winterhill students.

From September we will be reorganising some aspects of the school curriculum and how we operate. These are summarised below:

- Starting the day slightly later
- Change to the subjects offered
- Extending the length of lessons from 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes.

All of these changes will enhance the learning and progress of students.

I'll be sharing more detail with you over the coming months. Please keep an eye on our website.

WINTERHILL MATHS SUCCESS!

Winterhill is proud to work closely with universities across the country, these partnerships provide some amazing opportunities for our students to experience the very highest demands and challenges.

Y11 STUDENTS at SHEFFIELD HALLAM UNIVERSITY

Students from Winterhill School were invited to attend an Inter-School Trading competition at Sheffield Hallam University in January. The aim of the competition was to explore economic, finance and accountancy through a real-world, simulated equity trading using Bloomberg trading software. Students spent a day in an advanced computer laboratory at the university, learning how to use an investment platform before being given £1 million of virtual money to invest however they wanted in the FTSE All Share. The students all had a fantastic day, and had their eyes opened to the career opportunities in the financial world. The return on the investments was assessed at the end of February and we are proud to say Winterhill were declared the winners in competition with students up to 2 years older; one student in particular winning overall. The winning students all received Amazon vouchers.

Y9 GIRLS at OXFORD

We took a small group of Y9 girls to the University Oxford to an even called 'It all Adds Up' aimed at raising the profile of girls in maths. It was a fantastic, busy day full of inspirational talks from guest speakers and mathematical workshops hosted by the students of the university.

The girls were a credit to the school engaging in all the tasks highlighting what independent and fantastic mathematicians they are. I hope that it has encouraged the girls to pursue a career in mathematics in the future.

UPCOMING EVENTS at WINTERHILL

Thursday, 5th March

World book day

Tuesday, 10th March

Students finish at 1.15pm

Wednesday, 18th March

Y11 parents evening

Wednesday, 1st April

CPA awards evening

Friday, 3rd April

**School closes for Easter -
USUAL FINISH TIME**

Monday, 20th April

**School re-opens to STAFF
and STUDENTS**

If you would like to contact me, please email **Julie Parkin**
jparkin@winterhill.org.uk
Headteachers' PA to make an appointment.
Thank you for your continued support S Rhodes - Headteacher