Newsletter

Term 3 Newsletter 15 June 2019

UNIFORM

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.

If you require further information or support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's Group Tutor or Behaviour for learning Leader.

Please visit the school website www.winterhill.org.uk, which has more information and guidance regarding our uniform Policy.

MOBILE PHONES

Teaching responsibility is a key part of the Winterhill experience and we aim for our students to be able to use their phones responsibly and enjoy the positives. Students are therefore 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.

Over recent months, these expectations have lost a little clarity and so we are reminding all students of the do's and don'ts with their phone and accessories.

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.

OPEN EVENTS

Following on from the success of last year, we are holding a Y4/5 open morning on Saturday, 14 September 2019 from 10.00am - 12.30pm. The event will showcase Winterhill at its best, with various activities taking place around school throughout the morning.

There is also an open evening on Wednesday, 19th June between 4.30 and 7.00pm, if after school is a more convenient time to visit.

If you have any questions about a school place at Winterhill, or you would like to visit the school, please contact our senior transitions coordinator, Mrs Heidi Cooper – hcooper@winterhill.org.uk

WORK EXPERIENCE

Monday, 10th June sees over 100 of our Y10 students embark on a week of work experience. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience the world of work whilst developing key employment skills such as responsibility, respect and teamwork. Students and families have worked hard to secure these placements and we wish all students an enjoyable and rewarding time. Students who are not on work experience placement will be in school as usual.

SPORTING SUCCESS

We have had huge sporting success this year, with several teams reaching the finals in their field. **Both** our Key stage 3 and Key Stage 4 teams were crowned as Rotherham schools champions **and** South Yorkshire schools champions. The Y10 netball team successfully retained their Rotherham Schools' Champions status after beating Oakwood in the final. Our Y10 boys football team won the Rotherham Cup for the third consecutive year, with the Y8 football team getting to their first Rotherham cup final which was a great achievement.

Four of our students have been selected for the Rotherham Schools' Athletics Team, after finishing top two in their respective events in Rotherham. They will now go on to represent Rotherham in the South Yorkshire School Track and Field Championships.

WINTERHILL in the COMMUNITY THE POND PROJECT

Over recent years, some of our students, supported by staff and Rotherham Borough Council, have spent their weekends renovating the Engine Pond across from school, the students have worked tirelessly to give the community an area to enjoy once again. The project and students were recently nominated for the Rotherham Advertiser Annual Volunteer Awards, and despite some stiff competition, the Pond Project won. Congratulations to all involved.

UPCOMING EVENTS at WINTERHILL

Thursday, 13th June Monday, 17th June Wednesday, 19th June Monday, 24th June

Thursday, 27th June Friday, 28th June

Friday, 5th July Thursday, 11th July Friday, 19th July Y8 Parents evening Governors' awards Y4/Y5 Open evening INSET DAY - School closed to students Y7 Parents evening Sports day

Students finish at 1.15pm* Sports presentation evening School closes for summer -Students finish at 1.15pm*

*Arrangements can be made to supervise your child until 2.50pm by contacting your child's Behaviour for Learning Leader.

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