

## **Celebrating Denefield Friday 29 April 2022**





It has been excellent to have students back refreshed after the Easter break. Students have got back into their school routines very well. I would like to compliment all students on their punctuality to school and to lessons, which helps ensure a purposeful start to activities. Year 10 students have been sitting their PPEs, or mock exams, and I am delighted at how settled and focused they have been throughout. The dry weather this week has made me reflect on how fortunate we are with our facilities at Denefield. Students at break and lunch times are now able to use the sports fields, as well as the hard courts, and the canteen area – we are indeed lucky to have all this space.

Finally, earlier this week I published proposals for a trial change to the school week next year. I very much value the feedback of parents/carers. Please do read through the proposals. You can respond in one or both of two ways – via the survey, or through the parents' forum meetings on Thursday 5 May. Full details of the proposals, with links to the survey and the parents' forum sign up page, can be found [here](#).

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher

## Diary dates – academic year 2021 – 2022

Monday 25 April to Thursday 5 May	Year 10 PPEs
Thursday 5 May	Parents Forum for current Year 6
Thursday 5 May	Parents Forum – Years 7 to 12
Thursday 5 May	Year 7 'Y' Parents Evening - virtual
Wednesday 11 May	CHARACTER awards evening - details TBC
Tuesday 24 May	Year 7 'X' Parents Evening - virtual
Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June	Half term
Monday 6 June	Students return to school



## **Year 11 Tutor**

In L11-EGH we have been spending time preparing for upcoming exams, with first papers taking place over the next couple of weeks. Recently all of Year 11 were given a unique opportunity to work with an external consultant in a two-hour revision techniques session.

In our tutor group assembly, the students demonstrated courage and articulacy as we discussed how acts of kindness can help support both your mental health and the health of others and what we can do both inside and outside of school the community to be kind.

More recently we have also had the National Careers Service to encourage our Year 11 students to participate in team building, community work and skills development opportunities. With all of our students now getting prepared for life beyond Year 11, they have been busy applying to and going for interviews for places in Sixth Form, colleges and for apprenticeships.

Before the Easter break, some of the Year 11 tutees were hard at work, going to different tutor groups trying to sell raffle tickets to raise funds for the Year 11 prom. They did a fantastic job of encouraging this with the two winners receiving a hamper of chocolate eggs.



## **Geography**

This week's curriculum entry is from our Geography department

What have students been studying recently –

Year 7 – Global Fashion

Year 8 – Resource Management

Year 9 – China: A Case Study

Year 10 – Changing Cities

Year 11 – UK Challenges and preparing for their GCSEs

Year 12 – Coasts. Working on the Non-examination assessment

Year 13 - Preparing for their A-level exams

What will students be studying next -

Year 7 – Tectonics

Year 8 – Conflict

Year 9 – Weather and Climate

Year 10 – Continuing with Changing Cities

Year 12 – Continuing with Coasts. Working on the Non-examination assessment.

Our Geography teachers were asked for their favourite type of Geography: Physical or human

Mr Wheeler – Definitely prefers physical because Mr Wheeler likes to know how the planet works and how it is physically formed.

Ms O'Connell – It is clear that Ms O'Connell is down the middle. She enjoys the certainty of physical geography and the complexity of the human aspect.

Ms McKay – Ms McKay describes herself as 'unusual' as she is down the middle, as the two aspects intertwine with each other.

Mrs McDonald – Without doubt, Mrs McDonald is a fan of the physical aspect as she studied geological engineering for her degree.







## Geography heroes

The following students have been recognised by their teachers for going above and beyond in and out of the classroom. Well done to you all!

### Year 7

Jess H  
Connor W  
Helena B  
Molly W  
Lucas S  
Emma J  
Hiba F  
Bella R

### Year 8

Freddie S  
Grace H  
Freya T  
Lauren B

### Year 9

Rudy A  
Yuvleen S  
Cea C-B  
Enzo L  
Reece A



### Year 10

Lucy M  
Brianna M  
Neve J  
Maria A  
Latasha P  
Lauren F

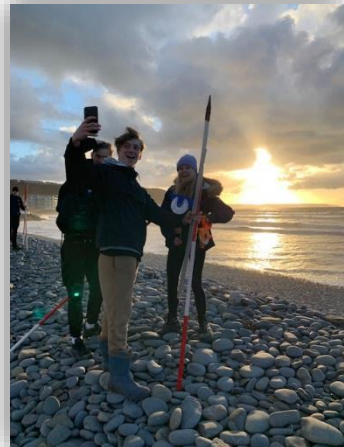
### Year 11

Dylan T  
Daniel C  
David B



## Geography field trip

The A-level Geographers went on a field trip to Westward Ho! In March as part of their non-examination assessment. Mrs Holley and Ms McKay had no nothing but compliments for the students who worked incredibly hard and were totally engaged with the work





## **Tilehurst Parish Council Youth Survey**

Please see below for an update from Tilehurst Parish Council on the recent survey that 450 students recently volunteered to complete

We just thought we would take the time to update you on progress on developments for youth services in Tilehurst as a direct result of the survey feedback we have had from you.

The refurbishment of the Calcot Centre annex is now complete. This is our highest priority as a dedicated youth space in our area was high on the list of things you wanted to see. A dedicated space will allow us to explore the possibility of creating drama and art clubs and other youth clubs all of which were high on your wish list.

We have now completed a survey of our 4 main parks - Cotswold, Cornwell Centre, Turnhams and Calcot to see how we can improve them for you. Your first priority was more seating and you should start to notice more benches and covered seating in the next few months. Goal Posts and basketball/netball nets are also high on the list and longer term outdoor gym equipment at possibly Cotswold and Turnhams and a new skate park at Calcot.

We are also linking in with the Cotswold Leisure Centre to see what improvements can be made to the outdoor space there – such as a tennis court or 5 a side football pitch.

We are now working on shaping a session to work with you on prioritising the options and we would love to meet with your School Council to get their feedback. Watch this space for more information.

## Extra curricular

Please see below for a reminder of our extra curricular activities which take place during lunch times and after school

Lunchtime	Staff	When	Room	Years
<b>Monday</b>				
<b>Tuesday</b>				
3D Printing Club	Miss Simpson	TUE	Technology	All
Enterprise Club	Mrs Lamport & Ms Pavanel	TUE	A304	All
Gardening	Mrs Kelly	TUE		All
Chess KS3	Mr Mills	TUE	A204	KS3
Choir	Mrs Idowu & Mrs Bridger	TUE	M118	All
Maths Drop In KS3	Miss Pullen-Clarke	TUE	A102	KS3
<b>Wednesday</b>				
Surf #Stormriders	Mrs Breakenridge	WED	A106	Year 11
<b>Thursday</b>				
Maths Drop In KS4	Miss Pullen-Clarke	THU	A102	KS4

After School	Staff	When	Room	Years
<b>Monday</b>				
<b>Tuesday</b>				
<b>Wednesday</b>				
Denefield Discusses Podcast	Mr Neale	WED	A206	All
Architecture Club	Mrs Perry & Mr Nicholls	WED	M110	Year 9 to 13
Book Club	Mrs Buckley	WED	A211	All
Year 11 Maths revision	Miss Breakenridge	WED	A106	Year 11
<b>Thursday</b>				
CCF	Mrs Saverton	THU	Pangbourne College	Year 10

## PE Extra curricular

After School	Staff	When	Where	Years
<b>Monday</b>				
<b>Tuesday</b>				
Year 7 and 8 Rounders	Miss Smith	3.15pm to 4.15pm		Years 7 and 8
Year 9 boys cricket	Mr Clare	3.15pm to 4.15pm		Year 9
Year 10 boy cricket	Mr Wright	3.15pm to 4.15pm		Year 10
<b>Wednesday</b>				
Year 7 boys cricket	Mr Clarke	3.15pm to 4.15pm		Year 7
Year 8 boys cricket	Mr Lean	3.15pm to 4.15pm		Year 8
Year 9 and Year 10 rounders	Miss Wheeler	3.15pm to 4.15pm		Years 9 and 10
<b>Thursday</b>				
Athletics	Mr Clark, Miss Wheeler, Miss Smith, Mr Wright	3.15pm to 4.15pm		