

Celebrating Denefield Thursday 7 April 2022





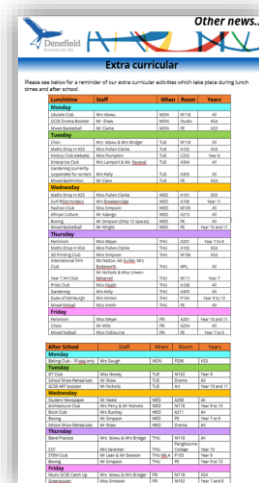
As we approach the Easter holidays I want to say an enormous thank you to the students and staff who have worked with such energy and such good humour over the past term. In addition to the engagement and focus evident in lessons, students have continued with their extra-curricular activities and clubs, and have attended a number of day trips (including to the Hexagon and the Opera House) and residentials (including a Sixth Form Geography field trip). Our sports teams have gone from strength to strength, with Year 7 girls' netballers and Year 8 boys' footballers enjoying particular success in the league and county cup respectively. Year 9 students have chosen their GCSE options and Year 11 students have confirmed their sixth form places, while

Denefield has welcomed Year 5 students from local primary schools to take part in the Easter egg challenge. Our Pride pavement has emphasised the school's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, while the school show 'Little Shop of Horrors' has shown the heights to which students can rise. It has been difficult at times with both students and staff suffering from Covid-19 and also from other illnesses. We've had more cover lessons than we would have liked, and had two year groups working from home on one day each this week. I'd like to thank parents/carers for their support during these challenging periods. Years 10, 11 and 13 will of course be spending part of their Easter holidays revising for their examinations. But the holiday is also an important time to refresh and recuperate and I trust parents/carers and students will take this opportunity to relax and spend time with family and friends.

With best wishes for an enjoyable Easter

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher

Included in this edition...



Diary dates – academic year 2021 – 2022

Thursday 7 April

End of term 12.00pm

Saturday 9 April to Tuesday 12 April

Visit – Sports Tour, Years 8, 9 and 10
(students selected by ballot)

Monday 25 April

Students return to school

Monday 25 April to Thursday 5 May

Year 10 PPEs

Wednesday 11 May

CHARACTER awards evening - details TBC

Year 7 Netball

Congratulation to the Year 7 netballers who finished 2nd in the Reading Schools League out of 15 schools. They have made huge improvements and should be really proud of their achievements, roll on Year 8 netball!!!



Primary School Easter Challenge 2022

Last week the student ambassadors welcomed over 100 primary school children from Westwood Farm, Long Lane, Purley and Downsway to Denefield to take part in a variety of Easter challenges around the school.

60 student ambassadors from Years 7 through to Year 13 developed their organisation and communication skills as they planned, prepared and coordinated the event over three days, acting as tour guides, caterers, and task masters.

The challenges offered the Year 5's an opportunity to work on their team skills, creativity and logic, as they navigated the school site, undertaking a variety of tasks from the different faculty areas, including spaghetti towers, drama charades, drop the egg and biscuit decorating.

Not only did it provide an important orientation exercise for the children, it also enabled them to build relationships with the older students at Denefield, a key aspect of building and maintaining a safe school community here at Denefield.

A fun and exciting time was had by all, primary staff commented on how engaging and mature our students were and I would like to extend a huge thank you to all involved.





Support staff vacancies

We are currently looking to recruit a number of Exam Invigilators to assist in the smooth running of exams. Exams take place periodically throughout the year and are overseen by a dedicated team of invigilators, under the supervisor of the Exams Officer. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in applying please see our advert and apply directly via the TES [here](#).

School communications

At the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic we reinstated the use of text messages only to ensure parents/carers received all school communications. This is an extra expense to the school therefore we are looking to revert to App messages again after Easter.

Please download the free MyEd App and ensure you enable notifications, to guarantee you do not miss any future school communications.



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
Monday				
Ukulele Club	Mrs Idowu	MON	M118	All
GCSE Drama Booster	Mr Shaw	MON	Studio	KS4
Mixed Basketball	Mr Clarke	MON	PE	KS3
Tuesday				
Choir	Mrs Idowu & Mrs Bridger	TUE	M118	All
Maths Drop In KS3	Miss Pullen-Clarke	TUE	A102	KS3
History Club (debate)	Miss Plumpton	TUE	C202	Year 8
Enterprise Club	Mrs Lamport & Ms Pavanel	TUE	A304	All
Gardening (currently suspended for winter)	Mrs Kelly	TUE	A305	All
Mixed Badminton	Mr Clare	TUE	PE	KS4
Wednesday				
Maths Drop In KS5	Miss Pullen-Clarke	WED	A101	KS5
Surf #Stormriders	Mrs Breakenridge	WED	A106	Year 11
Fashion Club	Miss Simpson	WED	M105	All
African Culture	Mr Adango	WED	A215	All
Boxing	Mr Simpson (Only 12 spaces)	WED	PE	All
Mixed Basketball	Mr Wright	WED	PE	Year 10 and 11
Thursday				
Feminism	Miss Meyer	THU	A201	Year 7 to 9
Maths Drop In KS4	Miss Pullen-Clarke	THU	A102	KS4
3D Printing Club	Miss Simpson	THU	M106	KS3
International Film Club	Ms Netton, Ms Euillet, Mrs Bodsworth	THU	MFL	All
Year 7 Art Club	Mr Nicholls & Miss Unwin-Beharrell	THU	M111	Year 7
Pride Club	Miss Falahi	THU	A108	All
Gardening	Mrs Kelly	THU	A305	All
Duke of Edinburgh	Mrs Hinton	THU	P104	Year 9 to 13
Mixed Kinball	Miss Smith	THU	PE	All
Friday				
Feminism	Miss Meyer	FRI	A201	Year 10 and 11
Chess	Mr Mills	FRI	A204	All
Mixed Netball	Miss Colbourne	FRI	PE	Year 7 to 9

After School	Staff	When	Room	Years
Monday				
Baking Club - 10 wks only	Mrs Gough	MON	P206	KS3
Tuesday				
DT Club	Miss Newey	TUE	M102	Year 9
School Show Rehearsals	Mr Shaw	TUE	Drama	All
GCSE ART booster	Mr Nicholls	TUE	Art	Year 10 and 11
Wednesday				
Student Newspaper	Mr Neale	WED	A206	All
Architecture Club	Mrs Perry & Mr Nicholls	WED	M110	Year 9 to 13
Book Club	Mrs Buckley	WED	A211	All
Boxing	Mr Simpson	WED	PE	Year 7 to 9
School Show Rehearsals	Mr Shaw	WED	Drama	All
Thursday				
Band Practice	Mrs Idowu & Mrs Bridger	THU	M118	All
CCF	Mrs Saverton	THU	Pangbourne College	Year 10
STEM Club	Mr Lean & Mr Dawson	THU Wk A	P103	Year 9
Boxing	Mr Simpson	THU	PE	Year 9 to 13
Friday				
Music GCSE Catch Up	Mrs Idowu & Mrs Bridger	FRI	M118	KS4
Greenpower	Miss Simpson	FRI	M102	Year 7 and 8

PE Extra curricular

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

Lunchtime	Staff	When	Where	Years
Monday				
Year 9 and 10 handball	Mr Wright	MON	Sports hall	Years 9 and 10
Tuesday				
Girls indoor cricket	Mr Clare	TUES	Sports hall	All
Wednesday				
Years 7 and 8 handball	Miss Wheeler	WED	Sports hall	Year 7 and 8
Thursday				
Girls volleyball	Miss Smith	THU	Gym	All
Friday				
Basketball	Mr Clarke	FRI	Sports hall	Years 10 and 11
After School	Staff	When	Where	Years
Monday				
Year 7 and Year 8 Girls Football	External coach	3.00pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 7 and 8
Tuesday				
Year 8 boys football	Mr Clare	3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 8
Badminton	Miss Smith	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	All
Wednesday				
Year 9 girls netball	Miss Smith	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Netball courts	Year 9
Year 9 boys football	Mr Lean	3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 9
GCSE Badminton	Miss Colbourne	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports Hall	Year 10 and 11
Thursday				
Year 7 girls netball	Miss Colbourne	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Netball courts	Year 7
Year 8 girls netball	Miss Colbourne	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Netball courts	Year 8
Year 7 boys football	Mr Wright	3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 7
Year 10 boys football	Mr Clarke	3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 10
Friday				