

## **Celebrating Denefield Friday 11 February 2022**





This has been a positive and inspiring week at Denefield. On Thursday, Mrs Davis and I met with several local and national leaders of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF). Denefield already has approximately ten members of the CCF in Year 10, who work with students at Pangbourne College to develop vital skills including emotional intelligence, self-control and regulation, and team building skills, as well as skills specific to the armed forces. As a result of this week's meeting, Mrs Davis, who is the assistant headteacher responsible for extra-curricular activities, and I are keen to extend CCF into Year 11, and to train further members of staff to run CCF activities on site.

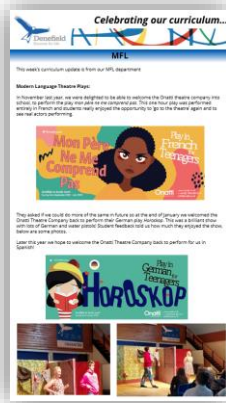
I gave assemblies this week to all year groups regarding the importance of the basics – being absolutely on time to lessons, not missing lesson time because of wanting to go to the toilet or to first aid, and acting in a positive and helpful manner while walking around our large site. These are the little but vitally important things that mean that students themselves will get the best education and the best grades, but also that will help them in the world of work. I talked about how self-regulation and self-control is vital in employment, and how an employee who arrived late to work, was inattentive or didn't follow instructions, would soon find themselves out of a job. Of course, the vast majority of Denefield students get these things right every time.

Finally, I do hope you take the time to read the research that 10NCH have done on Denefield's history, featured below. As a History teacher I am fascinated by local history, and in particular was confused as to where Dark Lane got its name from. Now I know. And if you ever find that we have added Danish to our languages curriculum, you will know why!

Long may the sunshine continue, and I wish you a pleasant weekend.

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher

Included in this edition...



## Diary dates – academic year 2021 – 2022

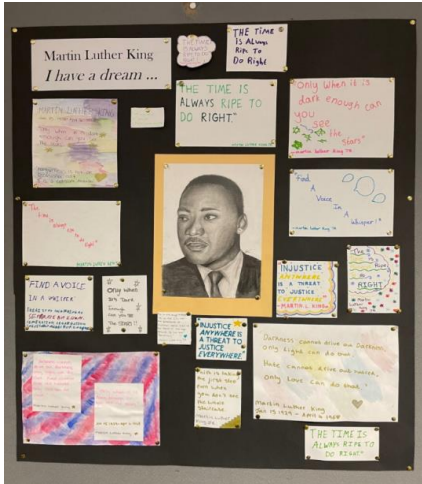
Wednesday 16 February	Year 9 'Y' Parents Evening
Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February	Half term
Saturday 26 February	Visit – Year 10 & 11 Music students – Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, The Hexagon
Monday 28 February	Students return to school
Tuesday 1 March	Year 9 'X' Parents Evening
Friday 4 March to Sunday 6 March	Sixth Form Geography Field Trip





## Year 10 Tutor Group

L10- NCH have been very busy in tutor time recently. Two weeks ago we made our fantastic Martin Luther King tribute display. We discussed the life and achievements of Martin Luther King, and students chose their favourite quotes from Dr King. These are displayed alongside an excellent pencil portrait, created by Joey Hill.



Last week was our assembly, in which we presented to the whole of Year 10 in the Da Vinci Space. Our assembly was about how Denefield School got its name. Following extensive research, we found out that Denefield is actually 'Danes' field' ... or the field where the Danes were. Local Village Englefield is 'English field' or where the English or Anglo Saxons were. The Danish army, or Vikings as they are usually called, led by Halfdan Ragnarson, were camped on the site of Denefield School in December 870. The Saxons led by Aethelwulf of Berkshire were camped at Englesfield, shortly before the Battle of Englesfield.



The fighting was hard, and there were many casualties on both sides, eventually the Anglo Saxons pushed the Vikings back to Tilehurst. We discovered that Dark Lane has this name, because, according to the Anglo Saxon Chronicle, written by scholars in King Alfred's time, during the battle 'the hill ran dark with Viking blood'. King Alfred finally drove the Vikings out of Reading in January 871, following the Battle of Reading. We finished off the assembly by explaining how important King Alfred was to the development of the United Kingdom as a concept, the idea of uniting smaller Anglo Saxon Kingdoms into one United Kingdom under one monarch.





## MFL

This week's curriculum update is from our MFL department

### Modern Language Theatre Plays:

In November last year, we were delighted to be able to welcome the Onatti theatre company into school, to perform the play *mon père ne me comprend pas*. This one hour play was performed entirely in French and students really enjoyed the opportunity to 'go to the theatre' again and to see real actors performing.



They asked if we could do more of the same in future so at the end of January we welcomed the Onatti Theatre Company back to perform their German play *Horoskop*. This was a brilliant show with lots of German and water pistols! Student feedback told us how much they enjoyed the show, below are some photos.

Later this year we hope to welcome the Onatti Theatre Company back to perform for us in Spanish!





## Shared Learning:

In December our Year 7 students embarked on a joint project with their parents/carers to research Christmas in the countries of the languages they are studying. We had some fantastic pieces of work submitted and you can see some examples below:

### How Christmas is celebrated in Germany

- Christmas starts in Germany at the start of advent the forth Sunday before Christmas day
- 6<sup>th</sup> December is Saint Nicholaus day and the children are told if they have been good or bad. If they are good they get sweets and little presents or told off if they have misbehaved. Knecht Ruprecht, a folklore figure and companion of Saint Nicholas, who punishes children that misbehaved throughout the year with his birch.
- Gifts are exchanged on the 24<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Eve)
- 6th of January, children and teenagers, dressed as the 'Three Wise Men', will go from house to house to sing carols, pray and 'bless' the houses and to collect money for a good cause
- Germany is known for there Christmas markets, where they sell decorations, food and drink, such as lebkuchen (ginger bread) and gluhwein (mulled wine)



### German Christmas Vocabulary

- Weinachten – Christmas
- Heiligabend - Christmas Eve
- Der Weihnachtsbaum - Christmas tree
- die Heiligen Drei Könige - the day of the Three Wise Men 6<sup>th</sup> January
- Frohe Weihnachten - Merry Christmas
- Adventskalender - advent calendar
- Lebkuchen - gingerbread
- Weihnachtsmarkt – Christmas Market
- Glühwein – Mulled Wine
- Das Geschenk – Present
- Kranz – Wreath
- Mistelzweig – Mistletoe
- Zuckerstange – candy cane
- Strumpf - Stocking
- Glocke - Bell

### German Christmas Song

**O Tannenbaum**

O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum,  
wie treu sind deine Blätter!  
Du grünst nicht nur zur Sommerzeit,  
Nein auch im Winter, wenn es schneit.  
O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum,  
wie treu sind deine Blätter!



O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum!  
Du hantst mir sehr gefallen!  
Wie oft hat nicht zur Weihnachtszeit  
Ein Baum von dir mich hoch erfreut!  
O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum!  
Du hantst mir sehr gefallen!

O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum!  
Dein Kleid will mich was lehren:  
Die Hoffnung und Beständigkeit  
Gibt Trost und Kraft zu jeder Zeit.  
O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum!  
Das soll dein Kleid mich lehren.

- O Tannenbaum - German Christmas song - Bing video

### Match the picture to the word

- Der Weihnachtsbaum
- Die Kerze
- Das Rentier
- Das Geschenk
- Der Stern





What a Super Pair!  
Write a letter to Santa Claus  
writing about your wishes for the new year.

## Noël

By: L. Lucas  
P. Lynn

Christmas in France is celebrated vastly and has some similar and different traditions from England. Christmas lights can be a big decoration in England but in France they are not part of the festivities. Another example is in France there are many insect traditions that are very specific and are not in England which will be mentioned later on. Also the food is extremely different as French people eat seagood and England eat an assortment.

### Christmas Menu

- Caper, turkey and G-goose stuffed with truffles.
- smoked salmon with oysters, brown bread and real butter
- Fourgoss which is goose or duck liver-plate.
- vegetables such as green beans, cooked garlic, butter and provincial herbs souleed potatoes.

### Food Traditions

Le réveillon is the name for the Christmas meal held on Christmas Eve. It is called this as it came from the verb réveiller which means to wake up or revive. More people begin to eat this on Christmas Day. Midnight Mass is a Church service held after

La fête des Rois is celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January and is there to celebrate the 3 king's arrival. Some places parade on the streets to guide and celebrate the travels. Advent is the 4 weeks before Christmas and they use an advent calendar to count down to Christmas day.

### Decorations Traditions

Table decorations are a big important display in France and if they are set out beautifully it makes it elegant and inviting to guests. They also place 3 candles commonly on the table which represents trinity. People also knot the end of table cloths so the devil can't get under the table and steal the food. There are also some small things that are around the house. They keep their shoes in front of the fire place so Père Noël (Father Christmas) can give them with some small gifts and treats. Mistletoe is a decoration where you hang it above a doorway and when you walk under it it gives good luck. Outside decorations are not

the meal and is very important to attend it, but more people are also beginning to do this on Christmas day.

Les Treize desserts is a Provençal Christmas tradition where there are 13 desserts eaten after the meal. This symbolises Christ and the 12 apostles on the last supper. The typical goods for these are fruits, nuts, sweets such as dried figs, walnuts and also a cake, Pompe à huile. Everyone has to eat a part of the desserts or it means bad luck.

Mulled wine is a traditional drink which is important everywhere but French houses filled with important people. Good wine is very important and champagne is another important thing.

### community Traditions

Les devrins is a tradition where you give each other a memorable gift to people who provide for you such as firelighters, mailman, cleaning lady and more. Closer time to new years, people who serve gather and go to people's houses and give a calendar or money to say thank you.

a part of the tradition and are very rare. Also, The first Christmas tree in France was around 1821 and was decorated with apples that were red and lights which symbolise the birth of Christ. It was also a gift tree because they don't lose their leaves which represents hope and eternal life.

Here is a matching exercise to test your knowledge and to see how much you know:

<p>Père Noël</p> <p>Joyeux Noël</p> <p>Nous vous souhaitons un joyeux Noël.</p> <p>Une bonne nouvelle année</p> <p>Profitez de vos cadeaux</p> <p>Joyeux fêtes</p>	<p>Happy Holidays</p> <p>Santa Claus</p> <p>Enjoy your presents</p> <p>We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year</p> <p>Happy Merry Christmas</p>
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Answers on your side:

4+5  
2+7  
0+8  
3+7  
0+1

Joyeux Noël!!!

### Traditional French Christmas Celebrations

A traditional French Christmas often includes 'Advent', which is the four weeks leading up to Christmas. On December 1<sup>st</sup> children open their first window in the advent calendar, starting off the excitement of the Christmas season.

Christmas eve is very important in France, families will sit down together and enjoy lots of festive foods and drinks. The meal can last up to six hours with families enjoying time together around the table. The name of this meal is 'Le Réveillon' which comes from the meaning to 'revive.'

#### Christmas Food

Food is a large part of French Christmas traditions, different regions in France have particular dishes but the most common food served at Christmas is often:

- Smoked Salmon and oysters with bread and butter.
- Goose or duck liver pate
- Roast goose
- Turkey stuffed with chestnuts
- Vegetables such as green beans cooked with garlic and butter and herby potatoes.

At the end of the Christmas feast a beautiful Yule log is often served, decorated with chocolate and chestnuts. It is called La Bûche de Noël in French.



A very traditional dessert is Les Treize Desserts (13 desserts). It involves 13 desserts after the main Christmas meal and represent Christ and the 12 apostles at the last supper.

French people wish each other Joyeux Noël or Bonnes Fêtes. It is considered bad luck to wish anyone a Bonne Année (Happy New Year) before midnight on New Years Eve.

#### The Kings Cake - La Galette des Rois

The king's cake celebrates Epiphany in France. The cakes are usually puff pastry with apple and frangipane in the middle. The cakes are sold in special bags with a paper crown for the person who finds the figure or prize inside.



## German Christmas Traditions

### **Advent**

The four weeks before Christmas are dedicated to preparations for Christmas. On 1 December children open their first 'window/door' in the Advent calendar. This French Christmas tradition makes kids even more excited about upcoming Christmas events.

### **Christmas Eve - Le Réveillon**

This is the name of the French Christmas Eve meal, which is a big and long feast. The name comes from the verb *réveiller*, to wake up or revive. The evening of December 24th is when French families sit down together to celebrate Christmas and enjoy festive French foods and wines. If you've heard about French people eating long and slowly, this dinner is the greatest example of this French custom. The meal can go for up to six hours.



### **Midnight Mass**

A church service is held on Christmas Eve. It is actually an important Christmas tradition in France for many people who try to attend the mass, although more and more people prefer services on Christmas Day.

### **Shoes in front of the fireplace**

French children put their shoes near the fireplace so that Père Noël can find them and fill them with small presents or treats.



## Traditional French Christmas Song - *Vive le vent* – Jingle Bells

<https://youtu.be/V-PD5iz7qdE>



### ***Vive le Vent* chorus**

***Vive le vent, vive le vent,***

*Long live the wind, long live the wind,*

***Vive le vent d'hiver***

*Long live the winter wind,*

***Qui s'en va sifflant, soufflant***

*Which goes whistling, blowing*

***Dans les grands sapins verts.***

*In the big green Christmas trees!*

***Vive le temps, vive le temps,***

*Long live the time, long live the time,*

***Vive le temps d'hiver***

*Long live the winter time,*

***Boules de neige et jour de l'an***

*Snowballs and new year's day*

***Et bonne année grand-mère.***

*and happy new year Grandma*

## French Christmas Word Search



### **Christmas Day**

December 25th

S	R	S	U	G	A	R	P	L	U	M	Z	G	E
T	W	R	T	L	E	L	S	M	E	E	J	N	E
A	R	D	O	U	C	T	E	E	O	E	Q	I	R
R	E	S	S	U	H	R	R	T	N	P	N	K	E
E	A	U	T	G	R	T	L	A	Y	R	A	C	E
S	T	A	I	Y	I	E	C	G	R	E	M	O	D
L	H	L	O	D	S	Y	P	N	A	S	W	T	N
E	R	C	N	I	T	L	E	I	W	E	O	S	I
I	I	A	M	P	M	H	A	L	K	N	N	P	E
G	N	T	S	C	A	O	C	O	V	T	S	O	R
H	O	N	L	A	S	L	E	R	C	S	O	L	A
E	R	A	E	N	O	S	B	A	S	X	R	E	A
A	T	S	C	D	M	G	F	C	Y	L	L	O	H
I	H	O	U	Y	R	E	B	M	E	C	E	D	S

CANDY  
CANE  
CAROLING  
CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER  
HOLLY  
LIGHTS  
MERRY

MISLETOE  
NORTH  
POLE  
PEACE  
PRESENTS  
REINDEER  
SANTA CLAUS  
SLEIGH

SNOWMAN  
STAR  
STOCKING  
SUGARPLUM  
TREE  
WREATH



## A FRENCH CHRISTMAS

Like

France has a very "casual" Christmas, Post offices, banks, cafes, etc. are all closed, like England. They decorate a tree, share a festive meal with family and friends... But in a slight twist of events, the French open their gifts on Christmas Eve!

In France, Santa Claus to us in England, is their equivalent of "Père Noël", also known as "Papa Noël". The French leave their shoes by the fire place filled with treats for Père Noël's donkey, Gui. In return, that is if the children have been good, Père Noël will leave a present!

Listen to this! "Minuit, Chrétiens" by Adolphe Adam

### Wordsearch!!!

A	D	Z	U	B	C	E	Q	R
L	P	O	N	T	O	V	G	T
O	L	E	Z	K	O	S	U	N
H	V	D	R	I	R	T	A	A
C	N	S	D	E	O	U	D	V
E	I	D	E	N	T	R	B	
T	V	D	N	O	R	N		
C	M	V	L	E	T	E	I	
R	E	A	P	N	O	O	L	
I	S	E	H	R	Q	U	Z	E
D	I	N	E	R	A	R	E	

Words: Couronne - Wreath, Arbre - Tree, Père Noël - Santa Claus, Rubrique - Rubric, Dîner - Dinner, Citrouille - Pumpkin

## Recherche de mots de Noël

J	A	Q	T	U	A	Q	U	T	E	F	Q	A	R	C	M
O	B	O	N	H	O	M	M	E	D	E	N	E	I	G	E
Y	I	R	H	Q	P	A	R	M	A	V	X	V	L	T	
E	S	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	E	J	E	Z	S	G	L
U	R	E	K	J	C	B	J	I	S	E	V	X	J	E	V
X	V	R	O	T	E	V	O	J	G	U	L	Y	S	P	M
N	B	E	D	A	R	B	R	E	D	E	N	O	E	L	I
O	A	N	J	A	E	A	E	S	R	T	E	W	R	O	F
E	M	O	N	H	A	T	I	A	H	B	N	A	B	V	D
L	T	E	O	T	F	U	L	N	R	D	M	D	E	I	E
V	G	L	H	I	V	E	R	T	E	O	K	Y	N	S	J
F	B	O	S	U	G	O	T	O	E	A	V	T	G	C	D
V	W	M	A	R	I	A	I	N	S	Z	V	J	E	N	L
C	V	U	E	V	P	F	W	V	A	B	N	E	R	H	M
Z	D	N	I	Z	C	I	R	C	O	N	F	J	G	E	L
K	N	E	T	G	E	Y	P	O	E	D	X	M	V	I	
E	F	U	O	O	Q	A	J	G	E	A	U	N	P	X	I
E	K	E	Y	V	E	G	R	O	G	E	G	V	O	R	Z

Turquie	Lumière	Présente
Jouet	Traineau	Ruban
Rouge Gorge	Arbre de Noël	Benger
Bonhomme de Neige	Jeu	Renne
Joyeux Noël	Gui	Père Noël
Neige	L'hiver	Santon

## How is Christmas celebrated?

- French children traditionally place their shoes where at the fireplace in the hope Père Noël will leave gifts in them.
- Santa Claus, who are hung on the tree overnight.
- The tradition is to buy their French people their own their family on December 24th.
- In England, the day after Christmas (Staying) is traditionally used to visit family and friends.
- English people also enjoy an annual Queen's Speech.
- Gifts exchanged on 25th December.
- Similarities:
  - Advent Calendars
  - Wreaths
  - Father Christmas
  - Turkey

## Christmas Vocabulary

- Turkey - Turkey
- Jouet - Toy
- Père Noël - Father Christmas
- Ruban - Ribbon
- Gui - Mistletoe
- Benger - Shepherd
- Neige - Snow
- Présente - Present
- Rouge Gorge - Red Robin
- Bonhomme de Neige - Snowman

I would love spending time in France or England for Christmas because they seem pretty similar and Christmas is fun.

## Christmas in Spain!

Spain celebrates Christmas on December 25th, which is also the day of the birth of Jesus Christ.

On December 28th, Spain celebrates "El Día de los Santos Reyes" in English that would be "Holy Innocents' Day".

After dinner and the gift exchange, Spaniards spend the night watching the clock strikes midnight, preparing to ring in the new year.

People gather in places or homes to eat the "12 uvas de la suerte" (12 lucky grapes). During the last 12 seconds of the year, everyone eats 12 grapes or wish will be on their wish list for a whole year to come.

Similarities:
 

- They both celebrate on the 25th of December.
- They both have gift exchanges.
- They both have special foods.

Differences:
 

- Spain celebrates on December 28th, while the UK celebrates on December 25th.
- Spain has a tradition of eating 12 grapes at midnight, while the UK has a tradition of eating mince pies.
- Spain has a tradition of watching the clock strikes midnight, while the UK has a tradition of watching the clock strikes midnight.

## NAVIDAD

La Navidad es una de las fiestas más importantes de España. Se celebra el 25 de diciembre y el 26 de enero. En esta época, las familias se reúnen y los niños reciben regalos. También se hacen comidas especiales y se ven películas de Navidad.

En España, la Navidad se celebra el 25 de diciembre y el 26 de enero. En esta época, las familias se reúnen y los niños reciben regalos. También se hacen comidas especiales y se ven películas de Navidad.

### Words

P	r	e	s	e	n	c	i	a
S	a	b	i	d	a	d	a	d
U	r	d	e	h	u	m	a	n
Z	b	c	a	e	a	p	e	
T	o	r	w	n	x	q	e	
O	L	S	X	D	O	R	C	
X	E	L	A	P	Z	E	U	
P	E	P	V	D	W	X	L	

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## CHRISTMAS in Spain and Germany

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Germany celebrates Christmas on December 25th, which is also the day of the birth of Jesus Christ.

On December 26th, Germany celebrates "Heiligabend" in English that would be "Holy Evening".

After dinner and the gift exchange, Germans spend the night watching the clock strikes midnight, preparing to ring in the new year.

People gather in places or homes to eat the "12 uvas de la suerte" (12 lucky grapes). During the last 12 seconds of the year, everyone eats 12 grapes or wish will be on their wish list for a whole year to come.

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## SPANISH CHRISTMAS

Each year between December 24th and January 6th, Spain celebrates Christmas, or "Navidad" in Spanish. During this time of year, everyone strives to fill their days with joy and love.

Although Christmas Eve isn't until December 24th, the biggest popular Spanish Christmas Lottery takes place December 22nd, which is when the winners are drawn. Many Spaniards buy tickets to see if they will get lucky!!!

Listen to this! "Noche de Paz" by Andrea Bocelli

Other great songs:
 

- Suecia: Suecia
- Spain: España
- Germany: Deutschland
- France: France
- Italy: Italia
- UK: UK

### Wordsearch!!!

P	X	L	X	C	L	O
B	A	E	R	S	E	S
T	A	P	P	I	P	E
A	R	B	A	Q	O	E
P	R	M	A	N	R	K
L	E	B	K	S	O	T
A	R	G	O	C	P	E
R	O	D	A	L	F	O



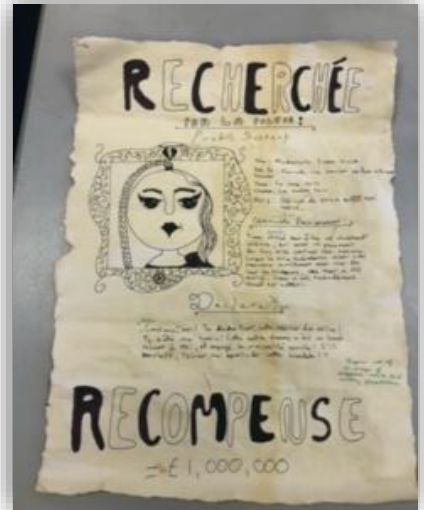
Year 7 also spent some time learning about families and here is a truly super example of a family tree!



Some Year 7s have also recently spent time making wanted posters. Our motley crew include Mr Towill – oops, what has he done?







Our Year 8 Spanish students have been learning about food, and have recently completed their mid-term assessment. Here are some fantastic examples of what they have produced

desayunar churros y queso. desayuno a los siete. bebo zumo de naranja. Como las hamburguesas, la fruta, los caramelos. Leno el arroz, los carne. No me gusta nada el agua porque aburrido. No me gusta nada el pescado porque es horrible. ayer comi patatas fritas, los hamburguesas, los caramelos. ayer bebi zumo de naranjada, el agua me hermano como el arroz y los hamburguesas, los caramelos. me hermano bebo te, zumo de naranja. el fin de semana fue viene voya comer pollo con ensalada.

Por la mañana Desayuno tostadas y yogur. Bebo zumo de naranja. ¡Que rico! Como un bocadillo y patatas fritas. Bobo agua. Ceno hamburguesas y ensalada mixta. De postre un pastel. ¡Que apetecible! Me encantan los churros porque son muy sabrosos. Odio el maníaco porque no es sabroso. La semana pasada comi pollo con ensalada y con patatas fritas pero no me gustó porque es indigesto. A mis padres les encanta comer las chuletas de cerdo. Y a mi hermano le gustan los caramelos voy a ir a El fin de semana que viene voy a ir a una fiesta mexicana con mis amigos ¡Que divertido! Ayer fui a un restaurante con mi familia comimos el filete ¡Muy delicioso! Pero el filete es más rico que el pollo.

Nammente como tostadas de desayuno con leche pero nunca como zumo de naranja porque sabe a fruta cítrica, además, no me gusta el azúcar porque es muy dulce. A los doce y media como pesadito con agua y con helado que está que rico! A veces como la comida con queso pero no me gusta mucho porque no me gusta la textura. Por la cena, yo como garbanzos con leche agria. ¡Que rico! La cena es la mejor parte del día típico. Ayer ya comi tostadas con miel de desayuno. ¡Que bueno! A los doce comi un McDonald. Estaba bien pero hubiera preferido una tarta de nata. El fin de semana que viene voy a comer agua de desayuno. ¡Que rico! A los doce y media voy a comer una paella deliciosa. ¡Que bien! Voy a comer una ensalada nutritiva. Gracias por escuchar!



## Year 8 German

Our Year 8 German class have also been learning about typical foods from German speaking countries this term and have been surprised to find out how different some of the food is. The class have been researching recipes from Germany and choosing their favourites. Some popular choices have been:

Korinthenplätzchen, Kartoffelsalat, Bretzeln, Pfeffernüsse, Buchteln, Schoko-Haselnussplätzchen, Gefüllte Lebkuchenherzen, and Rehbraten

Talia even made some [Schwarz-Weiß-Gebäck](#) at the weekend. Well done! They look delicious!



We have also been watching Peppa Wutz (Peppa Pig in German) to further enhance our food vocabulary and understanding of German!



## Year 10 Spanish

Our Year 10 Spanish pupils have been working hard on Theme Two of their GCSE course. In particular, they have been practising how to tackle 90-words tasks. In their recent mid-term assessment, they were asked to write about their region. Here are a few examples of what they came up with

<sup>calurosa</sup> Mi región <sup>calurosa</sup> ~~está~~ <sup>está</sup> en el norte de España. <sup>El</sup> La clima es muy ~~calurosa~~ pero es bastante húmeda también. En el invierno es muy frío. ~~y tenemos~~ Vivo en una ciudad pequeña y toda está a mano. No hay mucho que hacer para los jóvenes pero habrá un nuevo centro comercial. ¡Que emocionante! Me molesta mi ciudad pero porque <sup>como la</sup> ~~la~~ ciudad es muy antigua ~~me~~ renovaría los edificios viejos. ~~Tenemos muchas~~ <sup>Por otro lado</sup> ~~áreas verdes~~ En el otro ~~lado~~ <sup>lado</sup> hay muchas áreas verdes. Recientemente fui al cine con mi amiga ~~per~~ y vimos un película de acción. Ayer fui al ~~parque~~ con mi perro. En el futuro me gustaría vivir en japon porque quiero intentar otras experiencias.

Vivo en ~~en~~ Reading en el sur de Inglaterra, El tiempo es intermitente pero mayormente nublado y, a veces, lueves <sup>ligera</sup> ligeramente. Está bien y Nosotras tenemos un gran centro comercial y un par de centros de ocio. Me gusta mi ciudad, Lo mejor de vivir en la ciudad es que hay una red de transporte público pero, Lo peor es que el centro es tan ruidoso y hay tanto tráfico. Recientemente, en <sup>mi</sup> ~~tu~~ ciudad fui a tiendas y fui <sup>a</sup> ~~una~~ peluquería. En el futuro, pienso que vivo en Grecia porque tiene unos <sup>tan</sup> impresionantes paisajes naturales y ~~se~~ se puede probar platos típicos.

Vivo en <sup>ciudad se llama el</sup> el centro de London, y está en el sureste de Inglaterra. Mi ciudad es bastante antigua y es la capital de Inglaterra, además es muy famosa. El clima suele <sup>ser</sup> ~~hacer~~ y siempre ~~hay~~ <sup>en invierno</sup> nublado. A veces hace sol pero no es común y puede estar <sup>hacer</sup> ~~mucho~~ <sup>mucho</sup> calor pero <sup>hace</sup> ~~es~~ más frío que ~~en~~ Perú. Me encanta mi ciudad ya que es interesante pero el índice de criminalidad es muy alto, mi ciudad <sup>es peligrosa debido al</sup> está en peligro <sup>que</sup> porque de crimen de cuchillo. Hay mucho <sup>hacer</sup> especialmente para mí, por ejemplo se puede ir a la playa. En mi opinión, mi ciudad es <sup>lo</sup> ~~el~~ mejor pero mi hermana cree que es muy aburrido y <sup>lo</sup> ~~es~~ peor. Recientemente, hice equitación con mi caballo pero <sup>lo</sup> ~~esté~~ <sup>pe</sup> ~~esté~~ en las afueras. También, fui al café con mi amigo mejor y bebimos ~~los~~ <sup>los</sup> cafés con leche. En el futuro, cuando sea mayor, ~~me~~ <sup>quisiera</sup> quisiera vivir en Tokyo porque es muy moderno, <sup>tiene</sup> la tecnología mejor en el mundo! Si no puedo vivir en Tokyo, me gustaría vivir en Girona con un perro porque los bosques son preciosos y las playas son guay.

## Culture - how to look the part

On 4 November last year, to celebrate *el día de los muertos*, Year 7 and Year 8 students were given the option of coming to school dressed up. Many students embraced this idea enthusiastically and we had lots of excellent costumes. Even the teachers got involved and wore headbands all day! Many students also made masks like the ones pictured here and some even wore theirs to school







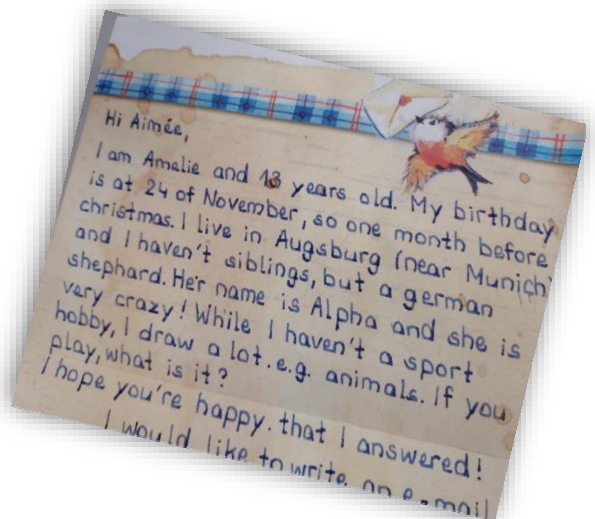
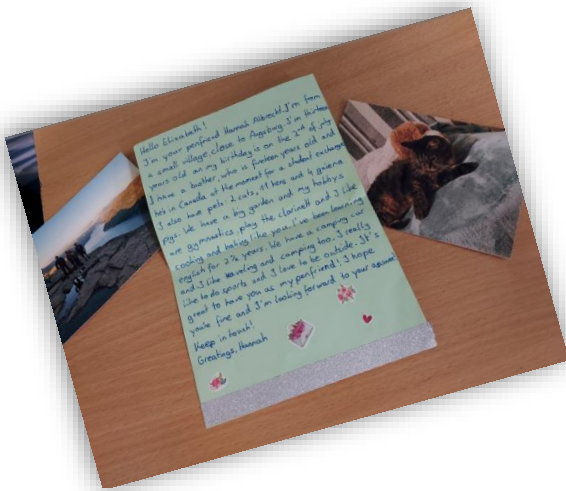
In February we will celebrate *Karneval* in the same way. Year 7 and Year 8 students will be invited to dress up in school on Friday 18 February. The best costumes will receive prizes – we look forward to seeing your outfits!



## German Penfriends in Years 7 to 9

German students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been eagerly waiting for replies from their German penfriend letters, which were sent off to our German exchange school just before Christmas.

A few students have now heard from their penfriends either via email or social media and others have now started to receive hand written letters.



**If you are yet to receive your reply, keep checking your post and your email accounts!**

We are also just starting to write penfriend letters to a Year 7 class in France too and are very excited about hearing back from our partners.



## A Trip in the classroom

For Year 9 we decided that if we couldn't take them on a trip to France we would bring a little of France to the classroom so at the start of February they took part in a *town* lesson. We set up the classrooms to have a train station kiosk, a cinema kiosk and a café and students then used fake Euros to buy themselves a train ticket, a cinema ticket and some yummy French food in French in the lesson. The German students will also be doing this activity during the last week before half term.



## Student feedback

Recently we asked our Year 10 and Year 11 students how they found studying a language – they were asked to sum up their course in three words, these are some of the words they used

Useful Informative Enjoyable Applicable  
Knowledgeable Challenging Cultural  
Fun Interesting Helpful Amazing  
Exciting Intriguing Factual Educational  
Insightful Different Important Exciting

We then asked why they had chosen to study a language and what they thought it could do for them

### Why study a language:

It widens the spectrum of jobs you can do, for example a translator.

It is really interesting to learn about the culture and actually improves your English as well.

You could use your language skills when on holiday and it looks good on your CV.

It provides a challenge and can sometimes be hard, but overall it is worth it.

It is extremely useful in the future as most jobs want you to know a different language.

To have more opportunities for further education .

It helps to increase comprehension and is interesting to learn about events/culture of another country.

It builds confidence and it is a cool thing to learn.

So you have more opportunities and can communicate with others from different countries.



## National apprenticeship week

### National Apprenticeship Week 7-11 February 2022

This week is National Apprenticeship week so we have had activities taking place in school to support our students awareness of apprenticeships and how to be successful when applying for them. Each year group has had tutor time activities designed by the National Careers service and a fun quiz 'Guess the Apprentice'. Did you know that former Manchester United football manager, Alex Ferguson, started his career as an apprentice tool maker in a Glasgow shipyard?



On Friday, we have a visitor in school to do a lunchtime talk on engineering apprenticeships on the Railways and how he went from 16 year old apprentice to running a team of engineers working on the record-breaking, high-speed Eurostar train.



Also, this week some of our Year 10 and 11 students took part in an event led by SSE, the national energy company and heard about apprenticeships available for 16 and 18 year olds in this area. Kayleigh and Emma showed them clips of where they could be working and what the different roles entailed as well as all the great reasons to work for a company with such good job prospects and credentials. They also spoke about interviews and assessment centres and how to make a positive impression on the recruiters. The students said afterwards that it had been really helpful, so thank you to SSE for doing this.



## Covid-19 Vaccinations

### Vaccination opportunities for 12-15-year olds during Spring half-term

Any parents/carers that wish to take their children for their Covid-19 vaccination during the Spring half term have a number of clinic options available to them - these are listed below for the local area.

Parents/carers will need to use the National Booking System to make an appointment for their child at one of these vaccination centres.

Please find the link to the booking system [here](#)

Region	Area	School Name \ Vaccination Site	Postcod
South East	Berkshire	Denefield School	RG31 6XY
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Newdays Pharmacy - Coley Park	RG1 6DJ
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Broad Street Mall Vaccination Centre	RG1 7QE
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Newdays Pharmacy - Twyford	RG10 9EH
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Boots - Newbury	RG14 1DJ
South East	Hampshire and the Isle of Wight	Jameson House	RG24 8AG
South East	Frimley Health and Care ICS	Waitrose Sports Hall	RG12 8FB
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Marlow Longridge Activity Centre	SL7 1RE
South East	Frimley Health and Care ICS	Birch Hill Medical Practice	RG12 7WW
South East	Frimley Health and Care ICS	Maidenhead Town Hall	SL6 1RF
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Wycombe Town Hall	HP11 1BG
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Burnham Health Centre	SL1 7DE
South East	Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West	Oxford Kassam Stadium	OX4 4XP
South East	Frimley Health and Care ICS	Windsor Yards	SL4 1TH
South East	Frimley Health and Care ICS	Salt Hill Activity Centre - Mass Vaccination Site	SL1 3SS
South East	Surrey Heartlands Health and Care Partnership	Glucorx Pharmacy	GU3 2DX



## PE Fixtures - Covid-19 requirements

For any students that are selected to take part in PE fixtures, we are requesting that a lateral flow device test is taken the night before or on the morning of the fixture. We will contact students if this is required prior to a fixture and will request that results are emailed to the member of staff organising that fixture.

## Covid-19 information

Students should continue to test twice weekly at home and [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#) and to the school [here](#). Anyone with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate and follow the guidance below.

### **Temporary suspension of confirmatory PCR tests in education and childcare settings**

Confirmatory PCR testing following a positive result on a lateral flow device (LFD) has been temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January.

This means that for all education and childcare settings, staff and students who have tested (either at home or through ATS) and reported a positive LFD result will no longer be advised to get a confirmatory PCR test.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms listed above, even if your symptoms are mild, stay at home and [arrange to have a PCR test](#).

There are several other symptoms linked with COVID-19. These symptoms may have another cause and are not on their own a reason to have a COVID-19 PCR test. If you are concerned about your symptoms, seek medical advice.

If you have received one or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine and have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or have received a positive LFD or PCR test result, you should still follow this guidance. This is because it is still possible to get COVID-19 and spread it to others, even if you are vaccinated.

Education and childcare settings are not expected to trace contacts of a positive case as this will remain the responsibility of NHS Test and Trace. Contact tracing is triggered once a positive LFD test is reported.

### **Stay at home and self-isolate**

Stay at home and self-isolate if you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have a positive LFD or PCR test result. Self-isolation will help protect your family, friends and the wider community by reducing the risk that you will pass the infection on to others.

Your self-isolation period starts immediately from when your symptoms started, or, if you do not have any symptoms, from when your positive LFD or PCR test was taken, whichever test was taken first. Your self-isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days. It may be possible to end your self-isolation earlier (see below).

This means that if, for example, your symptoms started at any time on the 15th of the month (or if you did not have symptoms but your first positive COVID-19 test was taken on the 15th), your self-isolation period ends at 23:59hrs on the 25th of the month.



## Covid-19 information

You can return to your normal routine and stop self-isolating after 10 full days if your symptoms have gone, or if the only symptoms you have are a cough or anosmia, which can last for several weeks. If you still have a high temperature after 10 days or are otherwise unwell, stay at home and seek medical advice.

### Ending your self-isolation early

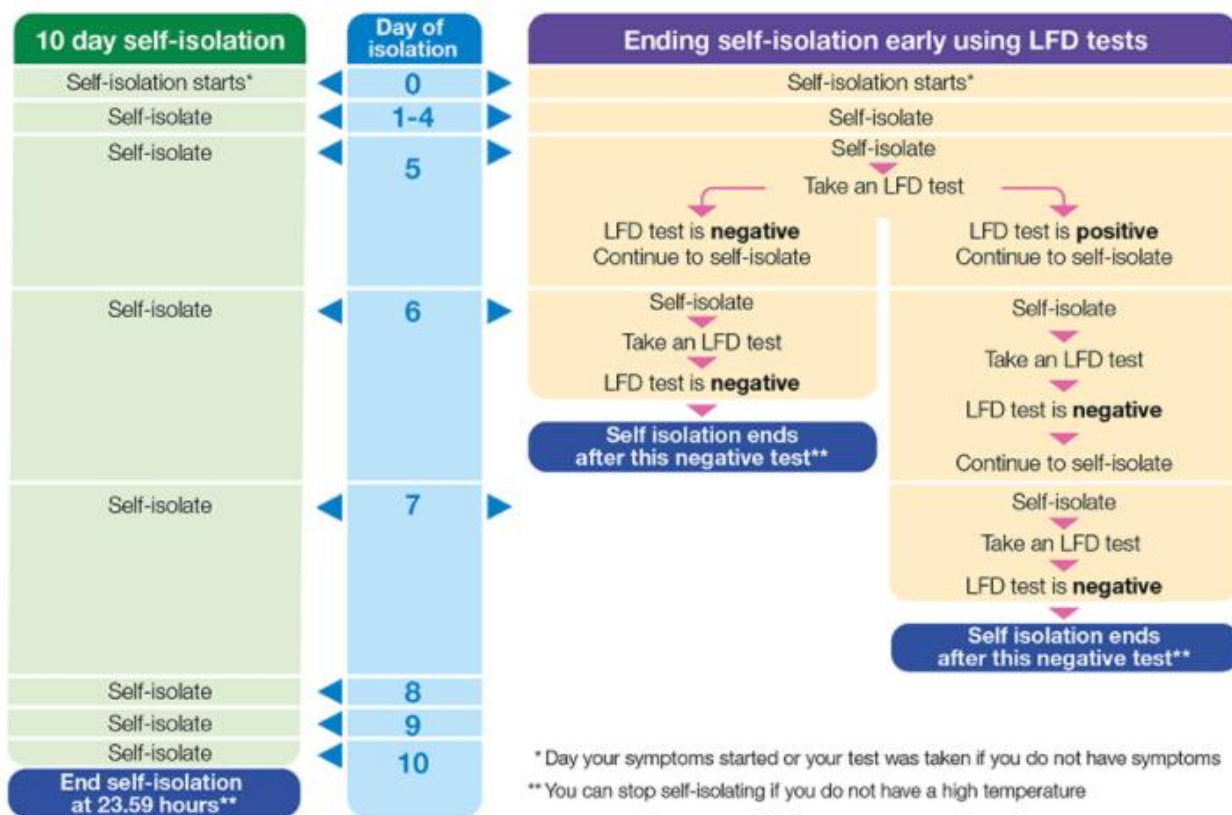
The self-isolation advice for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 5 full days if you have 2 negative LFD tests taken on consecutive days. The first LFD test should not be taken before the fifth day after your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms). The self-isolation period remains 10 full days for those without negative results from 2 LFD tests taken a day apart.

[Report your LFD test results](#) after taking each test and to the school [here](#)

This guidance also applies to children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting.

### **Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result**

#### **Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result**



Further information can be found in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

## 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>				
Ukulele Club	Mrs Idowu	MON	M118	All
GCSE Drama Booster	Mr Shaw	MON	Studio	KS4
Mixed Basketball	Mr Clarke	MON	PE	KS3
<b>Tuesday</b>				
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
<b>Wednesday</b>				
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
<b>Thursday</b>				
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
<b>Friday</b>				
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
<b>Monday</b>				
Baking Club - 10 wks only	Mrs Gough	MON	P206	KS3
<b>Tuesday</b>				
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
<b>Wednesday</b>				
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
<b>Thursday</b>				
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
<b>Friday</b>				
Music GCSE Catch Up	Mrs Idowu & Mrs Bridger	FRI	M118	KS4
Greenpower	Miss Simpson	FRI	M102	Year 7 and 8



## 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
<b>Monday</b>				
Year 7 basketball	Mr Clarke	MON	Sports hall	Year 7
<b>Tuesday</b>				
Year 10 and 11 basketball	Mr Clare	TUES	Sports hall	Years 10 and 11
<b>Wednesday</b>				
Year 8 and 9 basketball	Mr Wright	WED	Sports hall	Year 8 and 9
<b>Thursday</b>				
Year 7 to 9 Girls Dance	Miss Smith	THU	Gym	Years 7 to 9
<b>Friday</b>				
Girls badminton	Miss Colbourne/ Miss Wheeler	FRI	Sports hall	All year groups

After School	Staff	When	Where	Years
<b>Monday</b>				
Reading FC programme	Mr Wright and Mr Fuller	MON	As per fixture list	Years 10 to 13
<b>Tuesday</b>				
Year 8 boys football	Mr Clarke	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 8
Year 7 girls rugby	Miss Smith	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 7
Year 11 boys football	Mr Clare	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 11
Year 7 boys football	Mr Wright	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 7
Year 8 and 9 mixed badminton	Miss Wheeler	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	Years 8 and 9
<b>Wednesday</b>				
Year 9 boys football	Mr Lean	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 9
Year 10 and 11 girls netball	Miss Colbourne	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Netball courts	Year 10 and 11
Year 7 and 8 boys handball	Mr Clarke	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	Year 7 and 8
Year 8 and 9 girls hockey	Miss Wheeler	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 8 and 9
<b>Thursday</b>				
Year 7 and 8 girls football	Miss Colbourne	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 7 and 8
Years 10 and 11 GCSE mixed badminton	Mr Wright	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	Year 10 and 11
Year 10 boys football	Mr Clare	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	Year 10
<b>Friday</b>				

## Children's mental health week

Please click [here](#) for information about Children's mental health week which takes place between 7 to 13 February 2022.

## Purley Sustainability Group

### Purley Sustainability Group (PSG)

Please email [purleysustainability@gmail.com](mailto:purleysustainability@gmail.com) for the link to the meetings or with any other questions



### The World in Our Supermarket – How Do We Tackle Plastic Pollution and Deforestation?

**Online talk: Thursday 24 February 2022, 7.30–8.30pm**

PSG are hosting a local Greenpeace speaker who lives in Reading to talk about the problems caused by plastic pollution and deforestation, what needs to be done to tackle these problems, and how we can all help. She will also talk about the climate emergency and answer any questions from the audience. We really hope that you can join us.



### Online launch event – Solar Streets Thameside: Thursday 3 March 2022, 7.00–8.30pm

With the huge increases in energy prices, there has never been a better time to install solar panels.

Solar Streets is a community project that enables you to purchase solar panels for your home at a discounted price. Solar energy will enable you to save money on your energy bills and cut your carbon footprint. Approximately 1 tonne of carbon emissions per year are saved with every residential installation. Join us at the launch event to hear more about the scheme, including approximate prices, and ask any questions.

### Community Allotment

Since taking on the allotment, the space has been transformed. We are experimenting with 'dig' and 'no dig' methods and Graham has made us a fantastic compost bin out of old pallets. With Spring around the corner, this would be a lovely time to get more people involved and experience the mental and physical benefits from spending time outdoors and the satisfaction gained from growing your own fruit and veg. Please send us an email if you would like to help out.



### Purley Repair Café (every second Saturday of the month)

Please keep bringing your broken items for our friendly repairers to fix. The next event will be **Saturday 12 February, 3.00–5.00 pm at the Mad Duck Café, Wintringham Way, RG8 8BG.**