

Celebrating Denefield Friday 28 January 2022





It has been an incredibly exciting and rewarding, but also very sobering, week at Denefield. The opening ceremony for the 3G pitch took place on Wednesday. This began with a football tournament between our primary school feeder schools – Long Lane, Westwood Farm, Park Lane, Purley and Downsway, supervised by sports ambassadors from Denefield. This was followed by a tournament between girls' and boys' teams from Denefield itself, before Shandon Baptiste, a former Denefield student who now places in the Premier League with Brentford, officially opened the pitch. Shandon was a fantastic role model and proved extremely popular with our students, talking to them, signing autographs, and having his photo taken with our students. Thank you to Miss Colbourne for organising the tournaments and to Mr Hamilton for organising the opening ceremony.

The third football tournament of the week took place on Thursday after school, when we welcomed Year 8 teams from Bohunt, John Madjeski Academy, Theale Green, Oakbank, the Wren, Little Heath, Prospect, Willink, Maiden Erlegh and Reading Boys' schools to our 3G pitch. This is the sort of event that simply couldn't have happened without the 3G pitch and its floodlights. Thank you to Mr Clare and Mr Wright for organising.

On a more sombre note, this week is Holocaust Memorial Week, in memory of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau on 27 January 1945. Throughout the week, three sixth formers – Elise, Lucy and Rachel – have been delivering assemblies on the Holocaust, based on the work they have been doing with the Holocaust Education Trust. In addition, on Wednesday all of our Year 9 students heard live testimony from a Holocaust survivor who had been born in a Nazi concentration camp three days before it was liberated. Students were clearly deeply moved and responded with extremely sensitive and well-judged questions. I would like to congratulate the year group on the exemplary conduct and maturity that they showed.

Finally, the annual routine of academic life in school continues. A week ago, Mr Peacock gave an exceptionally clear assembly to Year 11 students on the most effective ways to revise, and during form periods this week students in this year group have been practising their revision skills. This will continue until half term, in preparation for students' second set of PPEs.

Wishing you a pleasant and enjoyable weekend

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher









3G Pitch Bookings

If you would like to enquire about pitch hire please see the details on our website [Hire our Facilities](#)

Dates for the diary

Diary dates – academic year 2021 – 2022

Wednesday 2 February	Year 9 Level 2 options information evening online – details TBC
Friday 11 February	Non uniform day – see email for details
Wednesday 16 February	Year 9 ‘Y’ Parents Evening
Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February	Half term
Monday 28 February	Students return to school
Tuesday 1 March	Year 9 ‘X’ Parents Evening

Year 11 Tutor – S11-HBM

S11-HBM are embracing what will be, for some of them, their final year at Denefield, and showing maturity through their attitude to their studies and by being empathetic and supportive to each other. Students from the group are active members of the school community, taking part in sports such as boxing, netball and football and extra-curricular activities such as Pride club and feminism club.

We have engaged in activities each week such as discussing current affairs, including a very competitive quiz, and topics such as discrimination, positivity, World Aids Day, and last week when we created a Martin Luther King wall in our tutor room, to highlight how his work relates to our own character values.

We have also been working on preparation for Post-16 learning by using our online careers platform, Unifrog, which helps to narrow down potential career paths, looking at studying different subjects or finding out about jobs that interest us. We have spent time working on CV writing, and have discussed how to approach college and Sixth Form interviews, with those that have already done this, sharing tips and advice for the others. We will be finding time in the coming weeks to look at successful job interviews, assessment centres and finding our first job.

Last week, we had a really useful assembly on ‘How to revise’ so this week will be working on revision timetables and discussing this in more detail, with our new Study Skills guide.

We are taking part in a Year 11 challenge to get the most Achievement Points this term so are avidly tracking our rewards and recognition. We are extremely proud of how many achievement points and Top Awards we are awarded each week, and this is represented by the fact that 13 students have now received their Bronze achievement point certificate (and a Star on our tutor noticeboard) and we have the very first Year 11 student to be awarded a Silver Certificate – well done Ellie-May

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

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

After School	Staff	When	Where	Years
Monday				
Reading FC programme	Mr Wright and Mr Fuller	MON	As per fixture list	Years 10 to 13
Tuesday				
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
Wednesday				
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
Thursday				
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
Friday				



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

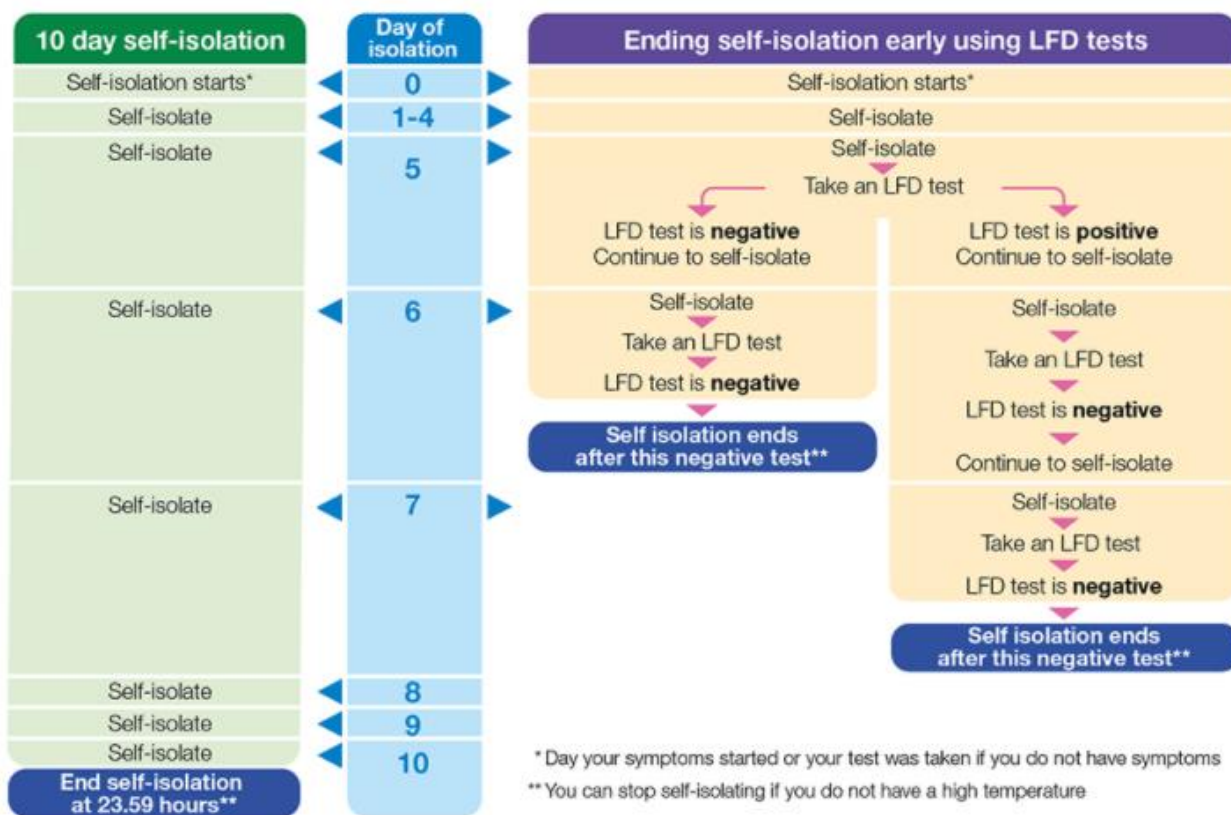
The self-isolation advice for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 5 full days if you have 2 negative LFD tests taken on consecutive days. The first LFD test should not be taken before the fifth day after your symptoms started (or the day your 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](#).



Parental survey

We are constantly trying to improve the education that we offer our students at Denefield. We are at a stage in the school year where we would like you to tell us how well you think we are doing, and suggested improvements in the areas that are important to you.

Please spare ten minutes to complete this questionnaire via the link [here](#)

The password to log in is **DS12197Parent** and is case sensitive.

By completing the questionnaire for each child that you have at Denefield, you will be informing us how you think we could be spending our time and resources, to make our school the best that it can be for your child. Each completed questionnaire is vital in finding out what parents think. Your answers will be treated in the strictest confidence and will make a difference to how we operate the school and plan for the future.

Many thanks in advance for taking the time to complete this questionnaire by Monday 31 January.

Job vacancy

The following vacancy is currently being advertised

KGB, Denefield's cleaning team, are currently recruiting for one cleaning position. This role is Monday to Friday from 3pm to 6pm (15 hours/week) £9.58 per hour
No experience is necessary and full training will be provided.

Please contact Teresa for more information or for details on how to apply –
theresa.fillery@kgbsouthwest.com