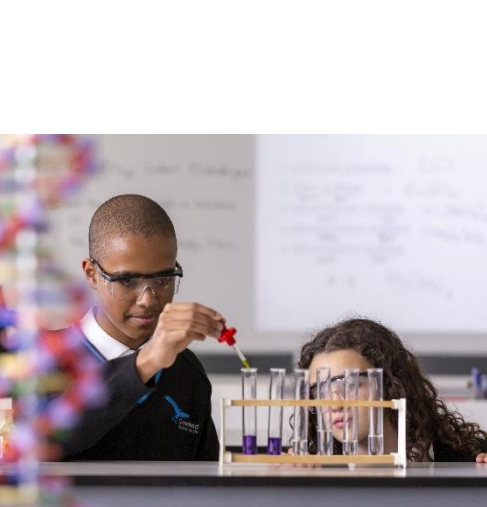


Celebrating Denefield

Friday 11 November 2022





Remembrance Day, 11 November 2022

I would like to congratulate all members of the Denefield community on the way they came together to commemorate Remembrance Day earlier today. It was 104 years ago to the day that the guns of the First World War fell silent, and Denefield today played its part in remembering and respecting soldiers and civilians who died in that conflict and the many that have taken place since. All 1250 staff and students, including many from the Combined Cadet Force, assembled in perfect silence from. We heard our Deputy Head Boy, Zac Mancey, who is a Naval Cadet, read the powerful poem 'In Flanders' Fields' by John McCrae. Many students then came forward to make pledges to honour the sacrifice that fallen soldiers and civilians have made. Each House laid a wreath, before Miss Nicholl, music teacher, played Last Post and Reveille. It was an extraordinary moment of collective reflection, and shows how Denefield's CHARACTER values, including tolerance, empathy and respect, are embedded into the school's culture.



Well done also to Year 11 students, who this week sat their PPEs (mock exams) in English, Maths and Science. These are excellent practice for the final examinations, and enable students to understand what they can already do, and what they need to focus on more. Students will have a further set of PPEs, across all examinations, later in the year.

With best wishes for the weekend.

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher



Diary dates – academic year 2022 – 2023

Friday 18 November 2022

Children in Need – non-uniform day

Thursday 24 November 2022

Sixth Form Open Evening 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Friday 16 December 2022

End of term



Tutor group – Mr Shaw

Well it's November already which means that all the winter-babies are looking forward to being sung to by me and the rest of the form. What could make a better gift than that? I'll tell you what! A form singing and me playing half of a recorder – using only my cupped hands as a means of trying to find a new note. (That's Science, right there!). It's all happening here in K-SHW.

Vertical tutoring is well under way students are beginning to relax in each other's company and I must say that they are a good bunch. There are definitely some who have taken the roles within our little community: tidiers, organisers, smilers to name but a few, all helping to keep the K-SHW machine, well-oiled. In some cases, it has been very rewarding to see students from one year group, willingly help those of another, ensuring that the bonds and trust are being created and strengthened.

The Year 11 students are just starting their PPE's so the mood has changed slightly as things 'get serious'. It will be good to catch up and see how it went for them. Fun and laughter all the way eh? Who doesn't like a good examination?

On a more relaxing note: As 'reading for pleasure' features twice in the week, I have noticed that three of the available magazines are a) culinary and b) seasonal so I am very much looking forward to seeing how this pans out. Could it be that we will be seeing some home-cooking and baking products being brought in to share? (Probably not to be honest – but it may be worth mentioning at this point, that I do love a meringue).

I'll leave you with that happy thought – Happy November everybody.

(Ps – if you would like your child to learn an instrument – please get them to collect a letter from me!)

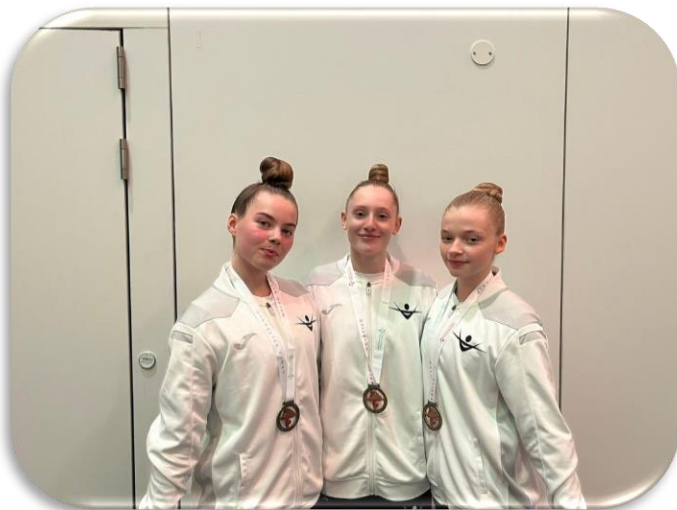
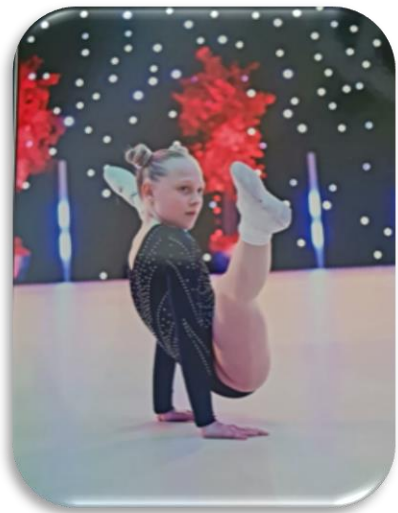




Gymnastics success

Last weekend six of our students who attend Virtue School of Gymnastics competed in the Welsh Aerobic Gymnastics Championships in Newport, Wales.

After stiff competition against some of the top gymnasts, they were rewarded for their hard work and continuous training with Gold medals for Aimee, Kiera and Tiana in their Five Group. Naomi and Teagan achieved Gold medals in their Trio and Isabelle came home with a Silver medal for her Duo. Congratulations and well done to all of the girls!





PE

It's been a busy start back to school for PE, with plenty of fixtures and extra-curricular clubs on offer. The girl's football team have made a strong start back for Year 8 and 9, after winning all of their matches last week, the finals are definitely within our reach! The Year 8 boys have also started the year with a strong performance in rugby, winning the majority of their matches so far, they have been successful in making it into the league finals which they will face this week. Alongside our usual clubs, we are excited to be running some new activities after school which include badminton and basketball. Shuttles have been flying for some of our GCSE students, who have been having training sessions with a professional badminton coach once a week to support with their practical examinations. Opportunities for athletic development are on offer right through the school with us at Denefield, our Sixth Form students have been training and competing hard with support of high-quality coaching from Mo at Virtu Football Academy. We are also excited as the countdown for sports tour to Barcelona begins, students are starting to get creative in thinking of ideas to fundraise as a school, so keep a listen out for some different activities coming soon! Our GCSE, BTEC, Health and Social Care and A Level students have also been working hard in their theory lessons as examination and coursework periods creep closer. Our newsletter entry this term, brings you the opportunity to put a face to our names and to find out what we all teach.

Meet the team

Our newsletter entry this term, brings you the opportunity to put a face to our names and to find out what we all teach.



Miss Colbourne

Miss Colbourne is Head of PE and Health here at Denefield. Studying at the University of Brighton, Miss Colbourne has a BA (Hons) in Secondary Education with QTS. She is an avid netball, athletics, basketball and football fan and her sporting hero is Rio Ferdinand. Miss Colbourne is teaching Year 10 GCSE PE, Year 12 and Year 13 A Level PE and Year 12 and Year 13 Health and Social care

Mr Clare

Mr Clare is Deputy Head of PE and Health. Studying at Cardiff Met University, Mr Clare has a Sports Coaching and Science (BSC Hons) degree and Physical Education PGCE. Mr Clare is a huge fan of Newcastle United and massively interested in cricket and rugby with his sporting hero being Freddie Flintoff. Mr Clare is teaching Year 10 GCSE PE, Year 11 Health and Social care, Year 12 and Year 13 A level PE and Year 13 BTEC Sport





Mr Wright

Alongside his role within the PE and Health department, Mr Wright is also Deputy Head of Kentwood House. Mr Wright studied at Sheffield Hallam University and Loughborough University and has a degree in Sports Business Management and a PGCE (MSC). Another lover of football in the department, Mr Wright enjoys the success of all the Midlands teams of where he is originally from. He also enjoys cricket and is a keen golfer. Mr Wright's sporting hero is Alan Shearer.

Mr Wright currently teaches Year 11 BTEC Sport, Year 11 Health and Social Care, Year 12 BTEC Sport, Year 13 A level PE and is part of the Virtu Football Coaching Academy working here at Denefield.

Mr Clarke

Mr Clarke is L-JCK tutor alongside his role as PE Teacher here at Denefield. Mr Clarke studied with the Open University and the University of Bedfordshire and has a Sport Fitness and Coaching (BSC Hons) degree and a PGCE in Secondary PE. Mr Clarke is a lover of Chelsea FC and his hometown team Swindon Town FC. Mr Clarke also enjoys rugby, basketball, cricket and golf. He is also player/manager of his local football team and Mr Clarke's sporting hero is former Spanish goalkeeper Iker Casillas. This year Mr Clarke is teaching Year 10 Health and Social Care and Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 BTEC Sport.



Miss Wheeler

Miss Wheeler is tutor for N-CWR and teaches core PE, BTEC Sport and Year 7 and 8 Science. Miss Wheeler studied at New Buckinghamshire University and has a Bsc (Hons) in Sports and Exercise Science. Her favourite sport is table tennis and she also enjoys football and hockey and her sporting hero is Serena Williams.

Miss Angell

Miss Angell is tutor for S-EAL and teaches core PE, GCSE and A Level PE and GCSE Biology. She attended Swansea University where she gained Bcs (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Science. Miss Angell enjoys netball and tennis and her sporting hero is Roger Federer.



Autumn music recital

Last week's Autumn Recital saw a wealth of musical talent, from students ranging from Years 7 to 13.

There are many pianists in the school and we had a fine selection of pieces, ranging from Blues and popular melodies through to the classical tradition – notably the Year 10 GCSE musicians giving their bespoke ensemble version of Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy'.

Additionally we heard French Horn (Joseph H), Violin (Joshua J) Saxophone (Daisy H) numbers and a Metallica duet played by Joseph and Larry H. There was also some lovely, expressive singing from Liv H, Evie W, Elissa G, Megan C and Kemianna S. Well done everyone for all your preparation and the excellent quality performances.



Extra-curricular activities

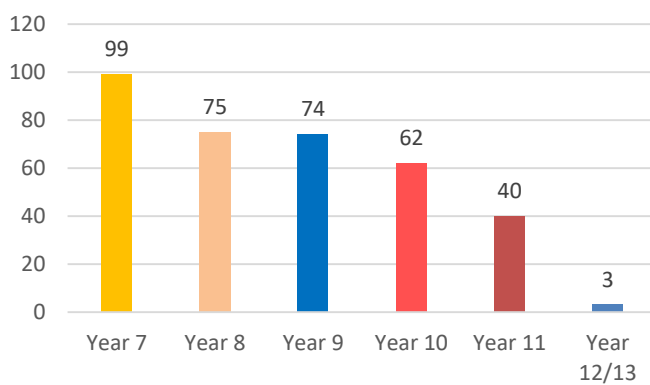


Since the post-COVID relaunch of extra-curricular activities at Denefield last year, clubs, enrichment and projects have grown apace, taking place both at lunchtimes and after school. This year, a third of all Denefield students have attended a club, from cooking, 3D printing and choir to chess and netball.

Highlights

Choir – Singing songs from the Lion King
 Baking – Cooking cheese straws
 Board Games – Playing “Potions Explosions”
 Architecture – Designing Tree Houses
 PE – Rugby, Football, Netball, Basket Ball
 Chess – No one has yet beaten the teacher!
 Pride Club – Topical debate

Attendance to Clubs by Year groups



The Kite Awards – Don’t Forget!

Students that have attended two clubs for 10 weeks or more and attended a trip or an extra activity will receive their Kite Award at the end of the year. Awards can be completed at any time, which allows for seasonal and temporary clubs or activities. The award is achievable by anyone. Students can join a club anytime



DENEFIELD SCHOOL	DENEFIELD SCHOOL	DENEFIELD SCHOOL	DENEFIELD SCHOOL	DENEFIELD SCHOOL	DENEFIELD SCHOOL
EXTRA-CURRICULAR	EXTRA-CURRICULAR	EXTRA-CURRICULAR	EXTRA-CURRICULAR	EXTRA-CURRICULAR	EXTRA-CURRICULAR
<p>Participate in two activities for 10 weeks one from enthusiasm and the one from discovery. Plus attend one school trip within the year or a third Activity.</p> <p>YEAR 7 KITE AWARD</p>	<p>Participate in two activities for 10 weeks one from enthusiasm and the one from discovery. Plus attend one school trip within the year or a third Activity.</p> <p>YEAR 8 KITE AWARD</p>	<p>Participate in two activities for 10 weeks one from enthusiasm and the one from discovery. Plus attend one school trip within the year or a third Activity.</p> <p>YEAR 9 KITE AWARD</p>	<p>Participate in one activity for 10 weeks. Attend one school trip within the year or second Activity. In addition participate in one extra activity to support the community – can be externally evidenced. E.g. Charity/Fundraising</p> <p>YEAR 10 KITE AWARD</p>	<p>Participate in one activity for 12 weeks. Attend one school trip within the year or second Activity. Plus participate in one extra activity to support the community – can be externally evidenced. E.g. Charity/Fundraising</p> <p>YEAR 11 KITE AWARD</p>	<p>Supporting in running a club for the duration of a year. Support other students in school educationally one period a fortnight. Attend an activity of your own choice for 16 weeks</p> <p>YEAR 12/13 KITE AWARD</p>
Be confident	Be happy	Be ambitious	Be courageous	Be resilient	Be respecting

Extra-curricular

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

Lunchtime		When	Room	Years
Monday				
Learn a language		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A301	All
Ukulele club		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M117	All
Tuesday				
Choir		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M118	Years 8 to 13
KS3 Maths Boost		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A104	KS3
Pride Club		12.30pm to 1.00pm	A201	All
Wednesday				
Enterprise		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A304	All
Fashion		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M106	All
Thursday				
Choir – Year 7		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M118	Year 7
DofE drop in		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M119	Year 9, 10, 11
Gardening		12.20pm to 1.00pm		All
3D printing		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M106	All
KS4 Maths Boost		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A104	KS4
Friday				
Chess Club		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A204	All
Feminism Club		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A201	All

After School		When	Room	Years
Monday				
Manga		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Library	All
Tuesday				
Baking club		3.00pm to 4.30pm	P206	All
Books		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Library	All
Boxing		3.00pm to 4.00pm	PE	All
DT		3.00pm to 4.00pm	M106	All
Wednesday				
Denefield Discusses Podcast		3.00pm to 4.00pm	A206	All
Warhammer		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Library	All
Thursday				
Board games		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Library	All
CCF		3.00pm to 4.45pm	Pangbourne College	Year 10 and 11
Architecture		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Art studio	All
Friday				
Aim high		3.00pm to 4.00pm	A203	All
Greenpower		3.00pm to 4.00pm	M106	All



PE Extra-curricular

After School PE		When	Where	Years
Monday				
No PE clubs/activities				
Tuesday				
Girls Football		3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	All
KS4 Basketball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	Year 10 and 11
Wednesday				
Girls Netball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Courts	Year 8 and 9
Girls Netball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Courts	Year 10 and 11
Football		3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 10 and 11
GCSE Badminton		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	Year 10 and 11
Thursday				
Netball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Courts	Year 7
Badminton		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	All
Football		3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 7 and 8
Football		3.15pm to 4.15pm	3G Pitch	Year 9
Friday				
No PE clubs/activities				