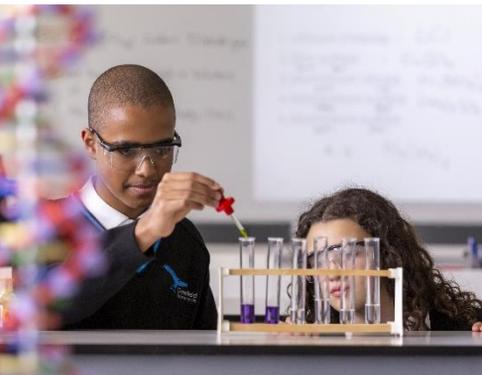


Celebrating Denefield Friday 21 April 2023





I hope the first email of the new terms finds you good and well. Two themes have been prevalent at Denefield this week: celebration and overcoming adversity. With regards to celebration, over 150 Denefield students and their parents/carers attended the CHARACTER awards on Thursday night. As parents/carers may be aware, the school has nine CHARACTER values at its heart. The first three - confidence, happiness and articulacy - are personal values. The second three - resilience, ambition and courage - focus on determination and perseverance. The final three - tolerance, empathy and respect - focus on kindness, and making the world a better place. As well as gaining certificates for demonstrating CHARACTER values, students were awarded trophies for specific subjects, for extra-curricular activities such as Combined Cadet Force and Greenpower and for acts of kindness. The Pride of Denefield Award this year went to the school's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion



group, led by Miss Bennett and Mrs Williams. The superb musical accompaniment was provided by Elisha, Mollie and Ellie in Year 10, and Lily in Year 11. Congratulations to all those who received certificates and awards!

My first-week back assemblies focused on adversity and how while everyone at some point will be affected by adversity it does not define us. I shared examples from history and media - Frederick Douglass, Franklin Roosevelt, Sylvester Stallone, Tom Cruise and Oprah Winfrey. I then focused on the extraordinary Lily Rice, now 18 years old. Lily was born with paraplegia, and by the age of 10 had lost the use of her legs. She then became a determined wheelchair motocross competitor and was the first female to land a backflip in a wheelchair. She then went on to compete in the Commonwealth Games, winning a bronze medal - this time for swimming. All these people used their resilience, articulacy and courage to overcome adversity. They were assisted by those who showed the kindness values of tolerance, empathy and respect. My message was that while we will all be affected by adversity at some point, the impact it has on us depends on how we use our CHARACTER values. During my assemblies I also reminded students of recent measures we have put in place to keep students safe in school - measures that students themselves asked for. For example, we now have a separate set of toilets for Year 7 to eliminate overcrowding, we now permit students to use any set of stairs when going upstairs in the A-block at certain points in the day, we have introduced a physical listening box for students to share concerns, as well as having a safe and quiet space every Thursday lunchtime for students who want quietude or to share information with staff. My assembly presentation can be found [here](#).

With best wishes for the weekend

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher





Term dates

Diary dates – academic year 2022 – 2023	
Monday 1 May 2023	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 May 2023	Year 8 Immunisations
Friday 5 May to Friday 12 May 2023	Year 10 PPEs
Monday 8 May 2023	Bank Holiday

Please click [here](#) for Term Dates 2022-2023

Please click [here](#) for the School Calendar

Student success

Well done to Nina M in Year 8. Nina swims for Reading swimming club and is in the pool training for 14 hours a week, including three early morning swims at 5am!. Nina's success in the swimming pool to date has seen her compete at the County Championships at the end of January this year and achieved a silver medal in the 50m freestyle in a time of 30.61 seconds.

Over the Easter holiday Nina competed in Portsmouth where she swam well, shaving more time off her personal best! Nina has now been chosen to compete at the Regional Championships for the South East of England later in May. Well done Nina, keep up the amazing work!



The Wellbeing Hub



Coming Up in The Wellbeing Hub this Week, April 24th ...
April's Theme: Diversity & Inclusion

Webinar: : Autism & Girls - Why the presentation is so different with Tessa Morton, Co-Founder of Act for Autism. **Register at the Events section of The Wellbeing Hub** for Wednesday 26th at 6:30pm - Webinar recording will remain in the **Resources section** for 2 weeks.

Preparing for the exam season? Do check out our **Resources Section** for Revision Skills with Steve Badger. There is a host of other **Resources, Q&A's** on exam success, stress and anxiety and how to overcome nerves with the use of 15 minute relaxing Yoga and Mindfulness video sessions. Use our new comprehensive search bar to find what you may be looking for.



Extra-curricular

Please see below details of our extra-curricular activities which take place during lunch times and after school. Details can also be found [here](#) on our website.

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				
3D printing Years 7 & 8		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M106	All
Choir		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M118	Years 8 to 13
KS3 Maths Boost		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A104	KS3
KS4 & KS5 Debate Club		12.20pm to 1.00pm	A204	KS4 & KS5
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				
3D printing – Years 9 to 11		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M106	All
DofE drop in		12.20pm to 1.00pm	M119	Year 9, 10, 11
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		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				
Warhammer		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Library	All
Thursday				
Architecture		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Art studio	All
Board games		3.00pm to 4.00pm	Library	All
CCF		3.45pm to 6.00pm	Pangbourne College	Year 10 and 11
Science Crest award		3.15pm to 4.15pm	P205	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				
GCSE Badminton		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports hall	Year 10 and 11
Netball - Years 8 & 9		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Courts	Year 8 and 9
Girls rugby		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	All
Wednesday				
Girls Netball - Years 7		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Courts	Year 7
Handball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports Hall	All
Thursday				
Basketball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Sports Hall	All
Friday				
No PE clubs/activities				



Reading FC Grassroots

When?

Reading vs Wigan Athletic
Saturday 29th April, 3pm

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

How to qualify for the discount and confirm your attendance?

We would be delighted if you could join us for our final home game of the campaign. And, as a thank you for participating in our Schools & Grassroots games this season, we would like to offer the below discounted prices:

12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £3

18 to 24: £5

65 and over: £5

Adult: £10

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: #DenefieldSchool in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.

How many tickets can we purchase?

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code.

Important! This offer applies to tickets in the Eamonn Dolan Stand blocks and Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski Stand. If these areas sell out, please contact our Ticket Office for further availability. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.

If you have any questions about this offer, please email sales@readingfc.co.uk or call 0118 968 1313.

We hope to see you all on Saturday 29th April for one last time this season!



Reading FC Grassroots

You have been invited to the final Schools and Grassroots fixture of the season for our Women's team!

When?

Reading Women v Everton Women
Sunday 23 April, 2.00pm

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

Prices

12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £2

18 to 24: £3

65 and over: £3

Adult: £5

Important! This offer applies to tickets in the blocks Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski Stand only. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.

How many tickets can we purchase?

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code. And, for every ticket which is purchased you will receive one entry in a prize draw for a chance to win a signed home & away shirt, plus ticket bundles for Reading vs Chelsea.

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: #DenefieldSchool in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.

If you have any questions about this offer, please email sales@readingfc.co.uk or call 0118 968 1313.