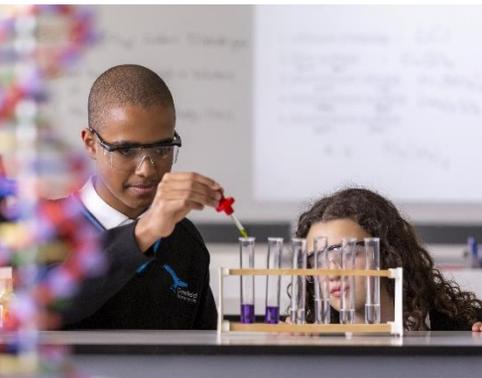


Celebrating Denefield Friday 12 May 2023





Life during the past two shortened school weeks has focused on both exam preparation and on wider life skills and values. Well done to all Year 11 GCSE Drama and Art students for their fantastic work in their practical exams. Well done too to Year 11 BTEC Travel and Tourism students, who have completed all their assignments and exams. Other GCSE and A-Level examinations are about to begin in earnest – good luck to all students! Meanwhile, Year 10 have been taking their PPE (pre-public examinations) or mock exams – these are excellent practice for the ‘real thing’ in a year’s time.



Much of Denefield’s other work over the past week has focus on wider skills and values. This week’s assemblies, led by Mr Beard (Head of Langley House) have focused on truth and campaigning for justice. Using the powerful example of the Hillsborough football disaster that unfolded

in 1989, when 96 Liverpool supporter tragically lost their lives, Mr Beard focused on the initial attempts by the police and the media to place the blame on football supporters. It was only as a result of determined campaigning that the truth was revealed and the football fans were exonerated. Thankfully, modern football stadia such as the John Madejski stadium in Reading are much safer than Hillsborough was then, with the replacement of terraces by seating, and wider boulevard-style entrance areas to remove potentially lethal bottlenecks.

With the best of luck to all students in forthcoming examinations.

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher

Included in this edition...

Celebrating our students...

Equestrian success

Well done to Glenn in Year 13 who has competed in The International Competition under the Kassel System which was held at Chelwood Equestrian Centre on Saturday 29 April. Glenn was competing in a senior competition against riders of a number of nationalities.....Greece, Hungary, UK, Switzerland, Czech Republic and Italy. After being thrown from his horse at full canter during warm-up, he was permitted to compete in a later round, but on a borrowed horse which he'd never ridden before! Incredibly Glenn finished 4th, beaten only by three highly experienced competitors of Greek, Hungarian and British nationality.

Despite being shaken and sore from his fall, he managed to record his highest score in the competition, setting a new British Record for a young rider in process.

He is officially ranked Number 3 in the UK by the World Federation of Equestrian Archery, which is a great achievement, especially since he's only been training in horseback archery for less than three years.

Celebrating our students...

Greenpower

Over the last two weekends in April, the Greenpower team have been in action at Castle Combe and Oultonford race tracks.

On the 24 April the team travelled to Malory Park. Denefield Racing car team had been modified by adding gearing this year and made a good start. They set off with good speed and stayed in line with many of the rivals. Being the first time out for these changes meant that we were learning their limits we could push that car. Unfortunately there was a problem with the mounting of the new gearing and wheels which came loose during the second race. They still managed to place 5 out of 27 in the 100cc category. Denefield Racing car worked well as a team during the race with one team member that had joined this year getting involved. Race driver Zach made good headway on his lap with good speed. With good consistent driving throughout they managed to finish in 6th position behind car two.

The following weekend at Goodwood track saw a consistent week for Denefield racing car one. The team really worked on the roles of team with team leaders Jacob and Harry leading throughout. Everyone worked well and they finish 16th in the first race and 17th in the second. Specially members to fill in who weren't ready had to make headway through the field making up five places during the first time in a race. Denefield racing car two were first during this fortnite with no intervention needed by any staff or volunteers. They worked perfectly throughout the day. In race one they played it a bit safe but finished a respectable 15th. They had a great start to race two and moved up the field to 10th place. Unfortunately they had a battery issue in the latter stages of the race and moved back to 16th. A great race was had by all. A good celebration send off to Anton and Jack who had their final race for the Greenpower team.

We would also like to thank our volunteers for both weekends Mrs Heritage, Mr Hayton, Mr Dixon, and finally Mr Wallbank.

Another mention needs to go to any of the companies that have donated over the last few months. Crown motor club and GJ Property Developments thank you for support.

Other news...

Library news

The library is open at break, lunch, and after school until 4pm for students to use the computers and printer, and to read and borrow books. The library is a great space for students wishing to revise or read and relax.

There are also e-books and audio books available for free on Sora. Students can log into Sora online. Follow the links from our library web page. Access tags and search the helpful user guide! or download Sora App for free from Apple App or Google Play stores.

Miss Fogarty, the librarian, is always available in the library should anyone have any questions or need help logging in.

Diary dates – academic year 2022 – 2023	
Monday 15 May 2023 to Thursday 29 June 2023	GCSE and A-Level examinations
Thursday 25 May 2023	Year 7 online parents evening
Sunday 28 May 2023 to Thursday 1 June 2023	Sports Tour
Monday 29 May 2023 to Friday 2 June 2023	May half term
Monday 5 June 2023	Students return to school



Equestrian success

Well done to Glenn in Year 13 who has competed in The International Competition under the Kassai System which was held at Checkendon Equestrian Centre on Saturday 29 April. Glenn was competing in a senior competition against riders of a number of nationalities.....Greece, Hungary, UK, Switzerland, Czech Republic and Italy. After being thrown from his horse at full canter during warm-up, he was permitted to compete in a later round, but on a borrowed horse which he'd never ridden before! Incredibly Glenn finished 4th, beaten only by three highly experienced competitors of Greek, Hungarian and British nationality.

Despite being shaken and sore from his fall, he managed to record his highest score in the competition, setting a new British Record for a young rider in process!

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Greenpower

Over the last two weekends in April, the Greenpower team have been in action at Castle Combe and Dunsford race tracks.

On the 24 April the team travelled to Malory Park. Denefield Racing car two had been modified by adding gearing this year and made a good start. They set off with good speed and stayed in line with many of the rivals. Being the first time out for these changes meant that we were learning how much we could push the car. Unfortunately there was a problem with the mounting of the new gearing and wheels which came loose during the second place. They still managed to place 5 out of 27 in the kit car category. Denefield Racing car worked well as a team during the races with new team member that had joined this year getting involved. New driver Zach made good headway on his laps with good speed. With good consistent driving throughout they managed to finish in 6th position behind car two

The following weekend at Goodwood track saw a consistent week for Denefield racing car one. The team really worked on the roles of team with team leaders Jacob and Matty leading throughout. Everyone worked well and they finish 16th in the first race and 17th in the second. Specially mention to Millie who worked really hard to make headway through the field making up five places during her first time in a race. Denefield racing car two were pros during this fixture with no intervention needed by any staff or volunteer. They worked seamlessly throughout the day. In race one they played it a bit safe but finished a respectable 15th. They had a great start to race to and moved up the field into 5th place. Unfortunately they had a battery issue in the latter stages of the race and moved back to 16th. A great race was had by all. A good celebration send off for Anton and Jack who had their final race for the Greenpower team.

We would also like to thank our volunteers for both weekends Mrs Herbage, Mr Hayton, Mr Dixon, and finally Mr Wallbank.

Another mention needs to go to any of the companies that have donated over the last few months. Craven motor club and GS Property Developments thanks for your support.





Social Science

This week's update is from our Social Science department, from Mrs Kelly to our Year 11 students

Dear Social Sciences students,

As the end of the academic year approaches, you are preparing to sit your Psychology, Sociology and Criminology exams. These exams are an important milestone in the academic journey, and I want to take a moment to remind all of you of your incredible potential and the power of hard work and dedication.

It is no secret that exams can be challenging, but you need to remember that by now you have spent countless hours preparing for this moment. You have studied complex theories and studies, analysed complex concepts, and critically evaluated research, all in preparation for this moment. Now, it is time to show what you are capable of.

I want to remind you that your worth as a person is not determined by your exam results. However, I also want to remind you that these exams are an opportunity to showcase your knowledge, skills, and potential.

So, as you prepare to take your exams, I urge you to take a deep breath, believe in yourself, and remember that you are capable of achieving great things. Trust in the hard work that you have put in over the past year, and know that it will pay off.

If, however, you feel you have not put all your effort into this yet, remember, it is never too late to start preparing for exams.

Take advantage of any revision resources provided, such as revision sessions, study books, past exam papers and model answers, and consider forming study groups with classmates to help motivate and support each other.



Here are the essential dates for all of you:

Psychology GCSE: 19 and 26 May
Psychology A-level: 19, 25 May and 5 June
Sociology GCSE: 16 and 25 May
Sociology A-level: 22 May, 9 and 14 June
Criminology Level 3: 18 May

I wish all of you the best of luck in your upcoming exams, and look forward to celebrating your achievements. Remember, with hard work and dedication, you can achieve great results.

Mrs Kelly



The Wellbeing Hub



Coming Up in The Wellbeing Hub this Week, May 8th ...

May's Theme: Managing Challenging Behaviour

Blog: Julia Philpott (Parenting coach and trainer in The Wellbeing Hub) titled "From punishment to problem solving".

Catch the Webinar with Tessa Morton on Autism and Girls: Why the presentation is so different. This webinar is available until midday on Thursday 11th May.

For more specific support, knowledge and advice please use our new comprehensive search bar to find what you may be looking for.



Coming Up in The Wellbeing Hub this Week, May 15th ...

May's Theme: Managing Challenging Behaviour

National Mental Health Awareness Week - "Anxiety"

Visit the Homepage of The Wellbeing Hub for support and further understanding of Anxiety.

Webinar: May 17th 6:30pm Managing anger and other difficult emotions with James Hawes, an experienced psychotherapist and an accredited member of the British Association for Counsellors and Psychotherapists. Join the Webinar or watch on catchup in the Resources Section from May 18th.

For more specific support, knowledge and advice please use our new comprehensive search bar to find what you may be looking for. Click the Full Overview button for options to filter within any topic.

Library news

The library is open at break, lunch, and after school until 4pm for students to use the computers and printer, and to read and borrow books. The library is a great space for students wishing to revise or read and relax.

There are also e-books and audio books available for free on Sora. Students can log into Sora online (follow the links from our library web app, Accessit [here](#) and watch the helpful video user guide) or download Sora App for free from Apple App or Google Play stores.

Mrs Fogarty, the librarian, is always available in the library should anyone have any questions or need help logging in.

BookTok Made Me Read It

Trending On TikTok



Celebrate The Coronation Of King Charles III With A Royal Read



Crown Yourself with Royalty



The digital library is
always open
even when school
is closed!



Sora

The student reading app
soraapp.com

Sora

The right book.
At the right time.
For every student.



[CHECK IT OUT](#)



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			
Rounders	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	All
Wednesday			
Athletics	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	All
Thursday			
Cricket	3.15pm to 4.15pm	Field	All
Friday			
No PE clubs/activities			

School uniform



The following information has been received from Price & Buckland regarding school uniform deliveries

As you are aware, we currently deliver parent orders into school on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. However we suggest going forward, you let parents know that their orders will be available to collect on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

This is to allow for any orders which may be delayed due to circumstances beyond our control. We will still aim to get the deliveries to you by the Monday. However if this is not possible, they should be with you by Tuesday ready for collection on the Wednesday.



Swimming lessons



MADDEN SWIM SCHOOL

SWIMMING LESSONS FOR CHILDREN

- 5 day May Half Term Intensive Course
- 5 day July Intensive course
- Downe House School pool, RG18 9JJ
- 29th May-2nd Jun / Jul 24-28th
- 10am or 10:30am courses
- Swimmers from 3.5 years to 16 years
- 6 children per class
- 25 meter pool with viewing gallery
- £65 per swimmer
- Weekly lessons available

BOOK NOW! PLACES LIMITED!

07788 427227
Julie@maddenswimschool.co.uk
www.maddenswimschool.co.uk

Tilehurst Parish Council

TILEHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Supporting the Communities of Brick Copse, Calcot, Denefield and Washford

MNR COACHING
Reading - Slough - Maidenhead

BERKSHIRE YOUTH BY

MAY H/T ACTIVITIES: SPORTS IN THE PARK



Try out different sports, meet new people and have lots of fun this May Half Term as we partner with the MNR Coaching team to provide FREE "Sports in the Park" sessions across the local community for children & young people aged 8+

Tuesday 30th May	Multisports, including: football, basketball, rounders, step challenge and more!	1:00pm - 2:00pm	Cotswold	Cotswold Sports Centre Downs Way, Reading RG31 6SL
		2:30pm - 3:30pm	Cornwell	
		4:00pm - 5:00pm	Turnhams	
		5:30pm - 6:30pm	Calcot	
Thursday 1st June	Multisports, including: football, basketball, rounders, step challenge and more!	1:00pm - 2:00pm	Cotswold	Cornwell Centre 4 Home Croft, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 5WJ
		2:30pm - 3:30pm	Cornwell	
		4:00pm - 5:00pm	Turnhams	
		5:30pm - 6:30pm	Calcot	
				Turnhams Farm Little Heath Rd, Reading RG31 5TX
				Calcot Highview, Calcot, Reading RG31 4XD

jessica.kirbyberkshireyouth.co.uk 07881941345