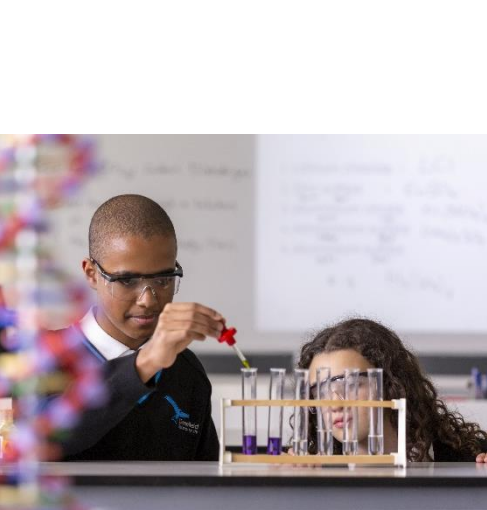


# Celebrating Denefield Friday 15 September 2023





Thank you all for your support as Denefield students continue their great start to term. Students are working hard and happily in tutor groups and lessons and are conducting themselves with kindness and courtesy around the school site. Our focus on cross year-group relationships in tutor groups has begun well. Our new canteen arrangements are operating smoothly, with two identical serveries opposite each other, thus increasing capacity. Although there are inevitably queues, they move quickly and students act patiently and sensibly while they wait.



Some of our extra-curricular activities have already begun, with the first Greenpower cars taking to the tracks in regional competitions, and the Drama department taking Year 11 students to see Blood Brothers in Oxford. After-school sports have begun already – please see the schedule later in in this newsletter. We will shortly announce the remainder of our extra-curricular programme and there will soon be a launch event so students can sign up. The new, really quite large, house cup has been purchased and next week heads of house will be announcing the details of all the house competitions that will take place during the year.

The publication of the first Headteacher’s videocast has been put back until next week. It will focus on partnership. We have relaunched our Facebook and Instagram channels and will shortly be using them to celebrate Denefield students and events. And the first of the Headteacher’s ‘open house’ events will take place in the coming weeks, offering an opportunity for parents/carers to meet me and discuss issues of interest or concern to them.

It is an exciting time to be at Denefield. I am very proud of our students. Thank you for entrusting them to our care and thank you for your support.

A reminder that school closes at 12.50pm on Monday 18 September as we prepare for Open Evening, and that school is closed to students on Friday 22 October because it is an INSET day.

With best wishes for a first class weekend

Mr E Towill MA (Oxon), Headteacher

Diary dates – academic year 2023 – 20234	
Monday 18 September 2023	Early closure for Students – Students finish at 12.50pm  Open evening for prospective students and parents/carers 6.00pm to 8.00pm
Friday 22 September 2023	INSET day
Monday 16 October to Friday 20 October 2023	Visit – Year 10/11 visit to Cologne (select students)
Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2023	Half term
Monday 30 October 2023	Students return to school



## Denefield gets social!

Hello Denefield community!

I'm Miss Swadling and I am Denefield's Marketing and Communications Officer. It has been a busy start of the new term and start in my new role, which I am thoroughly enjoying.

Due to the nature of this role, you will be undoubtedly hearing a lot from me- and this won't necessarily be via your usual communication routes. I can now confirm Denefield is LIVE on Facebook and Instagram and you are our audience!

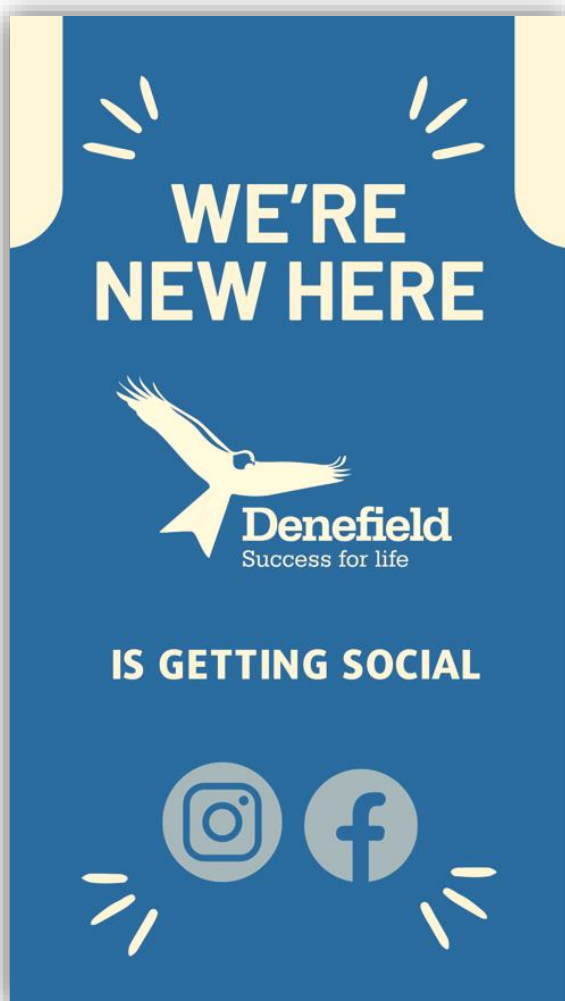
Please share this update with fellow parents/carers as it is my absolute pleasure to be posting all of the wonderful news, events and achievements the Denefield community are involved in via our new social platforms.

Find us on Facebook [here](#)

Find us on Instagram [here](#)

I look forward to meeting you, hearing from you and sharing great news with you all.

Have a lovely weekend.

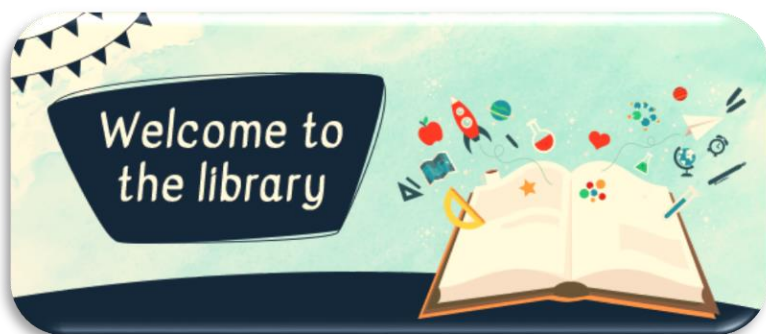






## Library news

Library inductions will be organised and run by tutor groups this year so all students will have a refresher and introduction to the library. In the meantime, please see the general information below and feel free to contact the librarian, Mrs Fogarty, at [bfy@denefield.org.uk](mailto:bfy@denefield.org.uk) if you have any other queries.



**Opening times:** The library is open at break and lunch (although no food is allowed in the library) and after school until 4.00pm for students to read, borrow books, and use the computers and printer for homework.

**Borrowing books:** Students can borrow up to five books at once. Books are issued for two weeks but can be returned early or renewed. Students with overdue library books will receive a letter via their tutor explaining that overdue items are charged at 5p per day (excluding weekends and school holidays) up to £5. Items that are lost or damaged beyond repair are charged £5 towards a replacement. New items cannot be borrowed if there is an outstanding charge or overdue book. Fines can always be paid at a later date so it is advisable to return items asap. If there are any issues or concerns, students are asked to speak with Mrs Fogarty who can override the system if necessary.

Students can also sign up to be a library helper, working at the desk once a week at break or lunch to issue, return, and shelve resources. Ask in the library for more information.





## Extra-curricular

We are currently working on our full extra-curricular activities for this year. Please keep a look out in the coming weeks for details of the clubs which will be on offer from October. In the meantime, here are our PE extra-curricular activities which are starting next week, week commencing 11 September.

Lunchtime PE		When	Years
Monday			
No PE clubs/activities			
Tuesday			
Girls Basketball		1.05pm to 1.30pm	All
Girls handball		1.05pm to 1.30pm	All
Spike-ball		1.05pm to 1.30pm	KS3
Handball		1.05pm to 1.30pm	KS3

After School PE		When	Years
Monday			
No PE clubs/activities			
Tuesday			
GCSE Badminton		3.15pm to 4.15pm	Years 10 and 11
Wednesday			
Girls Football		3.15pm to 4.15pm	All
Boys Handball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	All
Thursday			
Boys Basketball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	All
Friday			
Girls Basketball		3.15pm to 4.15pm	All

## Trustee vacancy

The school's Trust Board are looking for a Parent Trustee to join the current team and help in driving Denefield forward! If you are interested, please email Trev Keable, Chair of Trustees, on [tke@denefield.org.uk](mailto:tke@denefield.org.uk) who can discuss further with you.

The deadline for submission of nomination forms is 3.00pm on 29 September 2023.

## Buses on Monday 18 September

School closes at 12.50pm on Monday 18 September. The 15a bus will not be available for our early closure on Monday. The 16 service will still run from outside of school, there will be a bus at 12.55pm and 1.15pm. Please see link [here](#) for details.



## Corn Exchange

Corn Exchange courses and classes, FREE family activities and shows for Secondary school aged children:

### CREATIVE WRITING (AGE 11-14)

MONDAYS 18<sup>TH</sup> SEP – 16<sup>TH</sup> OCT, LEARNING CENTRE

[HTTPS://CORNEXCHANGENEW.COM/EVENT/CREATIVE-WRITING-AGE-11-14-AUTUMN-2023](https://cornexchangenew.com/event/creative-writing-age-11-14-autumn-2023)

### CREATIVE WRITING (AGE 15-18)

MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCT – MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> NOV 2023, LEARNING CENTRE

[HTTPS://CORNEXCHANGENEW.COM/EVENT/CREATIVE-WRITING-AGE-15-18-AUTUMN-2023](https://cornexchangenew.com/event/creative-writing-age-15-18-autumn-2023)

Particularly suited to young people interested in theatre, film, TV or writing for the page, these creative writing sessions will help you harness your imagination and develop a good story, all while playing with ideas and language.

### TEEN YOGA (AGE 13-16)

WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEP – WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> NOV, LEARNING CENTRE

[HTTPS://CORNEXCHANGENEW.COM/EVENT/TEEN-YOGA-AUTUMN-2023](https://cornexchangenew.com/event/teen-yoga-autumn-2023)

Led by Ellen Clinch from Yoga Den, these sessions are a great way to help regulate mood and manage stress. You will learn exercises to help de-stress and build strength and flexibility while focusing on breath and mindfulness. Bring your friends along to this fun sociable group and improve your overall fitness and wellbeing!

### JUNIOR YOUTH THEATRE (SCHOOL YEARS, YEAR 3 – YEAR 9)

TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEP- 28<sup>TH</sup> NOV & SATURDAYS 23<sup>RD</sup> SEP- 2<sup>ND</sup> DEC, LEARNING CENTRE

### INTERMEDIATE YOUTH THEATRE (SCHOOL YEARS, YEAR 10 AND YEAR 11)

THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEP – 30<sup>TH</sup> NOV, LEARNING CENTRE

### SENIOR YOUTH THEATRE (SCHOOL YEARS, YEAR 12 AND YEAR 13)

THURSDAY 22<sup>ST</sup> SEP – 1<sup>ST</sup> DEC, LEARNING CENTRE

[HTTPS://CORNEXCHANGENEW.COM/LEARNING/YOUTH-THEATRE](https://cornexchangenew.com/learning/youth-theatre)

Our Youth Theatre offers young performance the chance to make new friends and learn performance skills with the support of our professional theatre practitioners. Every year we aim for all groups perform on the corn exchange stage, producing large scale performances with a professional team.

### FAMILY LANTERN MAKING WORKSHOPS SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOV- SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DEC, 101 OUTDOOR ARTS, GREENHAM BUISNESS PARK FREE, PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

[HTTPS://CORNEXCHANGENEW.COM/EVENT/LANTERN-MAKING-WORKSHOP-2023](https://cornexchangenew.com/event/lantern-making-workshop-2023)

These workshops are a great chance to get involved in one of our biggest annual events, so come along and join in with the creative fun. Standard pyramid lanterns take between 1 and 2 hours to make and the team are on hand to support you if you'd like to make something unique. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

## FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2023, NORTHBROOK STREET AND MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY

FREE (UNTICKETED EVENT)

<https://cornexchangenew.com/event/festival-of-light-2023>

Soak up the atmosphere and watch the hundreds of twinkling lanterns as the procession travels through Newbury town centre in our popular, annual *Festival of Light*. This popular winter event brings together the local community to celebrate the festive season. In the run up to the event, we will be offering lantern making workshops with schools, community groups and the general public. Book your free slot on one of our Lantern Making workshops or Lantern Making for the Brave workshops to secure your space.

## YOUNG CREATIVES (CAREERS IN THE ARTS)

(AGE 14-25)

THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> SEP- THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOV, CORN EXCHANGE BALCONY BAR

FREE

[HTTPS://CORNEXCHANGENEW.COM/EVENT/YOUNG-CREATIVES](https://cornexchangenew.com/event/young-creatives)

Young Creatives is a weekly drop in session where young people can meet, socialise and learn more about working in the arts. Held in the Corn Exchange Balcony Bar, these sessions are part of our Careers in the Arts programme and run in conjunction with The Watermill Theatre.

We've also got some great shows coming up:

*Speakeasy*

*Fatherhood*

*Brown Boys Swim*

*Emerald Storm*

*Spontaneous Potter*

Swan Lake Presented by Crown Ballet

And our yearly Pantomime, *Beauty and the Beast*



## Grass roots

Schools and Grassroots fixtures return for 2023-24 Season!

Last season was not the campaign we all hoped for. But the dust has settled on the disappointment of last season and, together, we are aiming to rebuild and bounce this club back to where it belongs.

We'd like to sincerely thank you for your continued support and valued loyalty throughout what has been a challenging period for all loyal Royals.

Last season more than 250 schools and clubs from Berkshire and the surrounding areas sold over 20,000 tickets through our School and Grassroots Scheme which sees them earn a discount code which they can pass on to their students or players for specific fixtures in the Royals' campaign.

We want your noise and support to return this season and we are on sale now with our first School and Grassroots fixtures of the season for both our men's and women's teams.

Please share the below with all your children, friends, family and staff and let me know if you require any further information.

You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 1<sup>st</sup> Schools and Grassroots Fixtures of 2023-24!

When?

Reading vs Burton Albion

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 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 1<sup>st</sup> schools and grassroots fixture of 2023-24.

And as part of our special invitation, 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. And, for every ticket which is purchased you will receive one entry in a prize draw for a chance to win a series of 'money can't buy experience' prizes!

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

You can also use the same coupon code to join us for the below women's fixture:

When?

Reading Women v Sheffield United Women

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 12pm

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium





## Grass roots

### 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 blocks G9 and G10 of the West Lower Stand only.

Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.

If you have any questions about either offer, please email [sales@readingfc.co.uk](mailto:sales@readingfc.co.uk) or call 0118 968 1313.

Come on URRRZZ!!