



Friday, 26 January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Another busy and successful week here at Marden has seen our Marden Rowers representing us at the North Tyneside competition. The students were fantastic in their attitude and support for each other at the indoor rowing competition, and it was good to see that several of them have qualified for the next round of the competition in their age groups.

Girls badminton goes from strength to strength and congratulations are due to our Year 11 girls as both doubles teams reached the final of the North Tyneside U16 Girls Badminton Doubles Competition, therefore securing the Championship and runner-up spot. The U14 girls' team also had a great tournament finishing as North Tyneside championship runners up.

I am always so impressed with the talents of our young people and I am sure those performing in the Scouts Gang Show will be true to form. We have a large number of students involved in rehearsals for our school performance of Grease coming up on 7th and 8th of March. This promises to be an excellent evening's entertainment, and tickets will be available soon from the LRC and main reception.

I am equally proud of how our children conduct themselves both in and out of school living up to the high expectations we have of them and it is not uncommon for members of the public to comment to teachers on how well behaved our children are when on school visits. It is always nice when they write to us to express this, as one local lady did this week:

"I live in Cullercoats and I just wanted to let you know how polite your pupils are. Many times I have been walking along my street and there has been a few or a great many of your pupils. They always move out of my way to let me pass and I'm always amazed at how considerate they are compared to other local school pupils."

We had a well attended and successful options evening for year 9 students this week. This is an exciting time for the students as they take the opportunity to personalise their curriculum for the remainder of their time at school. There will be a year 9 parents' evening on 28th February before the deadline for decision making on Friday 2nd March. All the Guided Choices information can be found on the school website under the Learning tab on the home page.

Earlier this week we hosted a visit of year 6 pupils from Cullercoats, who were able to enjoy being taught some very special lessons by our Learning Ambassadors. These year 9 students, with the support of Mrs Goldie and Miss Wallace, were responsible for designing

and delivering a series of lessons helping the youngsters to develop their numeracy skills, and at the same time developing their own resourcefulness, resilience and responsibility.

We have also seen the start of a series of creative writing workshops involving year 9 students working with Kath Wildman from TICE. Students will be connecting with professionals from a variety of writing industries and getting some valuable practice and advice about potential future careers.

Our year 10 students have been on their Work Experience week and early reports are that it has gone very well. It will be good to see them back next week and hear about what they have learned about themselves and about the world of work.

Next weekend Mr Topping and Mr Prytherch will be accompanying 6 intrepid student adventurers who are taking part in the Lakeside Challenge, an inter school competition involving team activities and problem solving set in the challenging environment of the Lake District. We wish them all the best in their endeavours.

Please remind your children that nail extensions are not suitable for school, as they can be a health and safety hazard. I appreciate your support in ensuring that these are not worn to school.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher