



## Marden High School

Friday 15th June 2018

Dear All,

So far this month we have welcomed many of our new year 7 students from Monkhouse, Cullercoats and King Edwards Primary Schools as they visited for taster days in readiness for September. When Year 6 students from Cullercoats visited Marden on Monday this week, they might have been surprised by their teachers, because their lessons were created and delivered by Marden's Year 9 Learning Ambassadors instead of regular teaching staff. Each group from Cullercoats had a lesson with the Learning Ambassadors, one sports based and the other using the medium of creative writing to further develop their literacy skills. This is the second time Year 9 students have taken on this leadership role and it is evident that their confidence is growing. The Year 6 students were also accompanied by 'buddies' from Year 7 who also showed great leadership qualities during the day. We look forward to welcoming students from Holystone and Preston Grange, among others, over the coming fortnight.

Many of our athletes were competing at the County Championships at the weekend in Hexham. The level of competition was very high, and on an excellent track surface and in beautiful sunny weather, there were a number of athletes who secured personal best performances. Congratulations to all who took part. Congratulations also to our junior athletes who have qualified to represent North Tyneside at the County Athletics Championships in Hexham next weekend.

Recently we have had a visiting coach from Beverley Park Tennis Club who has been delivering a number of introductory sessions to classes in year 7 and year 8 this week. Interested students will be encouraged to attend further club based sessions during the summer. It would be great to see lots of children taking up this opportunity. We also had some competitive tennis last night in extremely demanding conditions. Boys from our year 7, 8 and 10 teams played exceptionally well and produced some fantastic tennis against a good St Cuthbert's team, winning many of their games.

The year 7 rounders team had a great victory against St Thomas More, John Spence, Churchill, Marden Bridge Middle and North Gosforth. They showed great character and determination and have become North Tyneside Champions. Well done!

We think it is important to give our students plenty of opportunities to prepare for their exams thoroughly, and this includes getting used to the environment where they will be sitting their final GCSE exams. For this reason we have taken advantage of the fact that our auditorium is currently set up for the GCSE exams and so year 10 students have been sitting practice science exams on several afternoons this week. It has been an interesting experience for

them and it has been good to hear their reflective thoughts after each exam. It is clear that many of them are starting to realise what will be required to prepare for their exams next year.

You may have seen from our website that some year 9 RE students visited Samye Ling, a Tibetan Monastery in Scotland this week, to learn more about Buddhism. Not only is this good preparation for their RE GCSE, but it helps enhance our students' global awareness. We believe strongly that providing opportunities for our young people to explore new areas of knowledge beyond the classroom, connects them to others living far afield and helps nurture a sense of tolerance and community cohesion.

Earlier this week our year 9 writers continued their work with TICE, this time at Northumbria University, finalising and perfecting their compositions ready to exhibit to industry professionals and their families at the TICE Final Show next week. Keep an eye on the website to see these pieces in the coming weeks. Don't forget, as well, we have our Summer reading competition coming up - details are on our website.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher