



Marden High School

Friday, 21 June 2019

Dear All

You may be aware that OFSTED have revised the framework they use to inspect schools and there is now a much stronger emphasis on OFSTED inspecting the curriculum that schools teach. In our eyes, this is a positive development as it is the curriculum, that is the skills, knowledge and understanding, which is key to our young people being equipped for their future education and working lives.

We have always been very clear on what the intention of the curriculum is here at Marden. The aim of our curriculum is to equip our young people with the knowledge and skills from KS3, make them ready for KS4 and beyond KS4 ready for the next stage in their lives. Through this we want to ensure that pupils leave with a high level of literacy and are able to communicate confidently through both the written word and oracy. Our curriculum is predominantly subject based but is also supplemented by the wealth of opportunities available outside of the classroom: from structured clubs and activities, such as debate and dance, to playing chess at lunchtimes; being a prefect with a specialist interest such as media or maths. By the time they leave, pupils will know what they need to excel in their exams but, due to the structuring of the curriculum and style of delivery, will be able to draw on rich cultural capital and knowledge and apply this to a love of life long learning.

Detailed information on the curriculum at Marden across all the different subjects and for the various year groups, can be found on our website and it is well worth parents accessing this information on a regular basis as it gives a very clear idea of what the children are studying at different points in the year. This information is located in the Curriculum Skills and Content section of the Learning tab on the school website.

We have had some sad news this week, that Frank Lloyd, a former headteacher at Marden High School, passed away last week. Our thoughts go out to Frank's family at this sad time, and Mrs Glover will be representing the school community at his funeral on Tuesday to show our respect and offer our condolences.

We are very pleased that Marden High School has been nominated for the Diabetes UK 'Good Diabetes Care in School' Award. The award celebrates and showcases schools that deliver good care and support to children and teenagers with type one diabetes. As part of

the nomination, Diabetes UK is inviting parents and carers to complete a brief online parent survey at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/school-nomination. Responses to this parent survey will be used by Diabetes UK to assess our school's nomination for the award, so please do complete this short survey if you feel you are able to show your support for this nomination. You can find out more about the 'Good Diabetes Care in School' Award at www.diabetes.org.uk/school-award.

Now that our Year 11 students have finished their exams, we have been able to start our morning assemblies again. It is always good to be able to have a whole year group together so that everyone can share in the same message. This week has been about teamwork, something that, of course, we see many examples of around school each day. One classroom visit in particular, showed how our young people were working together on initial ideas and, recognising each others strengths, had arrived at sophisticated theatre pieces, describing the horror of discrimination and prejudice, with breathtaking skill. It really is such a privilege to see the ability and potential of our students develop each day.

We have an exciting event coming up in July involving Year 7 students and our Sports Prefects who will be organising our Playground Challenge (sponsored by Soccer Aid for Unicef). It is great to see our new, specialised prefects getting involved with such worthwhile projects and we look forward to seeing the photo report on the website. The same prefects will also be assisting staff at Monkhouse Primary School at the end of this month to run an afternoon of sport - great support for the community, but also a great opportunity for them to further develop their leadership and interpersonal skills.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher