



Marden High School

Friday, 5 July 2019

Dear All

You may remember a few weeks ago I wrote about many of our Year 10 students becoming prefects. This year our prefects have an activity or subject specialism and are already providing valuable support to students and staff in those areas, as well, of course, as acting as role models to all other students. We have now completed a rigorous selection process for our Head Prefects, including video hustings, presentations to the Senior Leadership Team, and voting by students and staff. The results of all of this is that our new Head Prefects are Emma Brown and Jack Maitland, both of whom will, I know, do a fantastic job of representing Marden High School. Congratulations to all of the students who took the opportunity to put themselves into the competition for these roles, as they all displayed a variety of significant leadership qualities.

Another very important aspect of our student voice is the School Cabinet, and currently Heads of Year are preparing arrangements for next year. I would encourage all students to consider what contributions they might be able to make to student voice through the Cabinet. They may wish to become a Form Rep, or to apply to be a House Captain, for example. The end of the school year is a good time to reflect on the opportunities we have taken, and on what we might want to achieve next year. We look forward to seeing our student leaders embed their work year on year.

Our junior athletes in Year 7 and 8 contributed towards the success of North Tyneside in the Northumberland Schools' AA Minors Championships at Gateshead Stadium. The North Tyneside Team came first overall beating Newcastle, Tynedale, North Northumberland and East Northumberland. Congratulations to all involved!

Marden's Got Talent this week was a very special evening of fantastic performances. There was considerable variety as the audience were treated to acts ranging from singing to magic to dancing, and the talent was enormous, something that never ceases to amaze me. But what made it such a special evening was the atmosphere of courage and resilience from performers, and support from the audience, reflecting true Marden spirit. Proceeds from the night will go towards supporting the Kwa Hilda orphanage in South Africa.

This week our year 7 students also experienced 'Marden's Got Talons', as they met a variety of hawks, vultures and owls, learning about flight during their Super Learning Day. There was a very interesting 'hands on' presentation, where students had the chance to handle some of the beautiful birds of prey from Kielder. In the afternoon students went on to apply some of the design principles they had learnt about, to their own airborne craft.

Ten Year 10 pupils recently visited Cambridge University to sample life as a student at one of the best Universities in the world. Pupils stayed at Jesus College and completed a series of activities during their stay. This was led by student ambassadors and University staff who were able to give them a deep insight into what life would be like, not only at Cambridge, but at university generally. The pupils found the trip very informative and inspiring with particular highlights being the opportunity to spend time with current students, living as students do in halls of residence and learning about the financial and logistical side of student life.

We look forward to seeing all of our new year 7 children and parents next week as they come in for the New Parents Induction Evening and Transition Days. There are lots of exciting lessons planned for them and we are sure they will have a great time getting ready for their start in September.

During the last week of term all our students have the chance to develop their extracurricular interests in a wide range of exciting opportunities. We have two groups of students leaving us for residential visits; one to France as part of the annual year 9 MFL trip whilst a group of our year 7 pupils head off to High Borrans for outdoor adventure. This year will be our second Sports Day, and this promises to be an exciting opportunity for students to represent their House and earn House Points, and for us to continue to embed this new tradition. Students will also have the opportunity to visit Lightwater Valley during the week, as well as getting involved in a wide variety of other activities including 'The Great Marden Bake Off', 'Make a Film in a Day', 'Make a Play in a Day', junk modelling with Biffa, and fitness training with the police.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher