



Marden High School

Friday 31st January 2020

Dear All,

At Marden we focus on thinking about learning and developing student independence. Learning is at the heart of all that we do, and the personalised provision we give our children helps develop resilient and resourceful young people.

As part of this, we are committed to providing our students with a Careers Programme which is engaging, inspiring and individualised. Qualifications such as GCSE and A level are changing, and opportunities in higher education extend now beyond the UK to other parts of Europe and further afield. Students need help to make choices and manage transitions: they need good quality careers education, information, advice and guidance. So it is our intention that throughout the programme of Careers Education, our students will be provided with information, advice, guidance and practical experiences which will ultimately help them to make positive decisions for their future, as well as encouraging a culture of lifelong learning. We aim to motivate each student to succeed in whatever route they choose beyond compulsory education; higher education, training or employment.

You will notice that we have made some changes to the Careers section of our school website, which has been updated to reflect the increasing and wide variety of opportunities available to Marden students. Please take a look as this will provide you with more detailed information on what we provide for all our students, from Year 7 through to Year 11. We are also keen to hear from parents who have expertise and experience in their professional lives which we could tap into to enrich the careers education offer for our children. This has worked very well previously for such events as Mock Interviews, Careers Speed Dating, and bespoke careers presentations. If any parent feels they could contribute some time in this way, or wishes to have a conversation about this, I would welcome a phone call.

Following our analysis of the Year 11 mock exams and feedback from their teachers, each student should be clear about what it is they now need to do to take the next steps in

preparing for their GCSE exams in their different subjects. We are generally pleased with the progress Year 11 have made so far this year, and I know that staff are impressed with the attitudes of the great majority of students towards their studies. With regard to GCSE revision, year 11 students should plan out their time each week so that they are doing some form of revision each evening during a school week and each weekday during the next half term holiday. This work should be alongside any additional revision classes in school, and should be done in the same place and at the same time to develop a routine which will make it easier to start each session. Students could consider giving themselves perhaps small rewards along the way which can help maintain that motivation, and of course the planning and the rewards is something that parents can often help with.

This weekend we see a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students head off to the YMCA Lakeside Centre in Cumbria for a weekend of outdoor activities. Mr Topping, Miss Griffiths and Mr Prytherch are leading the trip which includes building rafts, nightline, canoeing and other exciting team challenges, which culminate in a competition pitched against other schools from across the country. We wish our two teams the best of luck and hope that they can follow in the success of last year's team who achieved highly in the national competition.

The strong performance of our Netball teams continues with the Year 7 team playing three matches this week. There were some really positive results, winning 5-1 against Churchill, losing 0-5 against John Spence and winning 4-3 against Wellfield. The girls all really enjoyed the matches, showing a great display of teamwork. Our U16 Netball players proved to be excellent role models in achieving success in games this week beating St Thomas More 22-3, and Churchill 9-4. Congratulations to all players who were involved in games this week. They represented the school exceptionally well.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher