



Marden High School

Friday 7th February 2020

Dear All,

You may be aware that last term we were proud to issue the first student led Marden High School magazine called Revolution, and now we have the second edition about to be released. The quality of presentation and curating of articles is superb, and reflects the dedication and creativity of our student editorial team. In terms of the articles themselves it is wonderful to see so many students contributing to the magazine, the variety of topics, depth of analysis, and thoughtfulness of opinion is all quite excellent. Marden's student magazine is yet another manifestation of the amazing possibilities that our students can realise. I hope you get the chance to have a read, as this edition is, to coin a phrase, purely belter.

You may be aware that it is Safer Internet Day on 11th February. This day aims to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. At Marden using digital technology in a positive way is uppermost in our minds, and we are proactive in raising awareness of the potential pitfalls of the internet.

These 10 tips to stay safe online produced by the UK Safer Internet Centre are useful starting points for parents in giving advice to their children:

1. You should only talk to people you know and trust in real life – anyone can pretend to be a child online.
2. If you do talk to people you don't know, don't give away personal information – like what street you live on or where you go to school, or share your location with them. Say no to any requests they send you for images or videos of yourself, and stop talking to them.
3. Set your profiles to private, to limit what others can see.
4. Be 'share aware' – think carefully about what you share and with who. Once it's out there, you've got no control over what the other person does with it. Remember, it's illegal to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s, full stop.
5. Be mindful of your digital footprint. What you post online now could come back to bite you later, like when applying for jobs, college or university.

6. If you see something upsetting, or someone bullies you, tell an adult you trust.
7. Be aware that people will try to make their lives look more exciting online. There's a lot people can do with photo editing to make their photos look better. So don't assume everything you see is a true to life representation.
8. Watch out for hoaxes and scams, like messages you're meant to forward on or that ask you for payment details or your password.
9. Take any content that glamorises gang lifestyles with a very large pinch of salt – it's not as glamorous as it looks. Be wary of schemes promising easy cash for receiving and transferring money too, they're almost definitely criminal activity.
10. Watch out for loot boxes or other parts of games where you pay money to take a chance on getting a reward – you can get sucked into spending lots of money on them.

For more information on safer internet usage, click on this NSPCC link:-

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety>

Recently we have conducted a number of surveys with students and parents, and it has been good to see the results of these continue to reflect our high standards and high levels of satisfaction with the experience we provide our children with. 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child is happy and feels safe in school and the same percentage felt that we set high expectations for their child and that their child does well at this school. In addition to the surveys, we always welcome parents' thoughts and ideas, and one of the best ways to communicate these is through the Parents Forum, the next one being on 25th February at 2.30pm. Any parent interested in attending this informal meeting can call Elaine Scott at school.

Our U14 netball A and B teams played this week and both achieved excellent results winning against North Gosforth Academy 22-1, and 16-1. Several Year 9 and Year 10 students took part in a regional rowing competition this week and achieved some excellent placements and personal best times. Our handball team has also achieved success recently finishing 2nd overall in the league. All the students have performed brilliantly and have, of course, been a credit to the school.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher