



Marden High School

Friday 3 September 2021

Dear All,

Year 7 have now experienced their first two days in school and I have had lots of positive feedback from staff about how pleasant, polite and enthusiastic the children are, something that I have also seen this week and during the successful Summer School which we held here. It has been fantastic to see them looking so smart and getting to know their way around school

The testing of students has gone very well this week, with our now experienced testing team working tirelessly and efficiently to get through hundreds of tests each day, being superbly led by Mrs Thompson. With regard to this, I would remind all parents to register their child's test result on the government website. Details on how to do this can be found on the registration card given to your child when they were tested.

Years 10 and 11 have also now returned back to school in great style, and we have had some lovely conversations about how the holidays went, and what they are looking forward to. It is clear to me that our Key Stage 4 students have returned to school with some serious intent to do as well as they possibly can in their learning this term, and of course, to enjoy it as well. From next week we will see many of our Year 11 students wearing their purple prefect ties as they support and help younger students around the school at the start of what promises to be an exciting term full of opportunities.

On the theme of taking opportunities, I have spoken to students in Form Time this week about the importance of looking for, and taking, those opportunities when they arise. Every day in school I see a great range of talents and skills in our students which they have developed by engaging deeply in their learning or by getting involved in the many extra-curricular activities we have at Marden. Now that we are able to offer the full complement of such activities, I am looking forward to lots of our students taking these opportunities and developing their talents. In the inimitable words of Wayne Gretzky, "100% of the shots you don't take, don't go in".

I have been informed by the council that the school crossing patrol that operates on Rothley Avenue and Hartington Road will be absent until further notice. If your child walks to and from school this way, please do remind them of the importance of road safety when crossing.

There has been a lot of speculation in the media this week about whether the COVID-19 vaccination programme will be extended for all 12-15 year olds. A decision is awaited imminently by the independent Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) which provides advice and guidance to the Government on all vaccination programmes. The NHS is currently considering how and where the offer of vaccination could be made to this group of young people while JCVI makes a decision. Parental consent for vaccination of young people under the age of 16 will be a very important part of the process should the vaccination programme go ahead.

Here's looking forward to an enjoyable term of our whole community working together to provide the best opportunities for our children. Take care.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher