

Friday 17th December 2021

Dear All.

It has been wonderful this week to see our Key Stage 3 students in school at various times. They seemed to be enjoying seeing each other and were very engaged in the activities that their staff had laid on for them. I have had some lovely feedback from Diane Buckle, Assistant Director for Education in North Tyneside and the staff at the Langdale Centre who have all commented on how polite and enthusiastic our Year 7 students were when they went there on Thursday. The children did us all very proud. Year 10 and Year 11 have continued with their mature hard work right up to the end of term, and I hope that they now have a good rest over the Christmas period so they are ready for next term. Students have also continued to look forward to and plan for various events in the Spring and Summer terms as School Cabinet committee meetings have been taking place - it's impressive to see these committed young people showing such great student leadership.

At the end of this term we say goodbye to two members of staff, Miss Stamp who will be retiring after a long and impressive service to education, and Mr Sankey, who will be pursuing his career as a professional musician full time. We thank them both for everything they have done, and wish them all the best in their future ventures. In January we welcome their replacements Mr Devlin and Mr Turner.

There is information from Wendy Burke, Director of Public Health, on the school website about the availability of COVID-19 vaccinations for young people aged 12-15 over the festive period. Within North Tyneside, Wallsend Primary Care Network is providing pop up clinics specifically for 12–15-year-olds who still need to get their 1st dose, and for those who are eligible to get their 2nd dose, and more details can be found in the 'latest news' section of the website.

Students enjoyed our Marden Christmas Message on Friday morning in which we heard some beautiful poetry written and read by Marden students, as well as an address from Father Adrian Hughes, and a thought from me about 'being the person your dog thinks you are'. You can find the video of the message on our school website.

In terms of a building update, the business that I spoke to you about on Wednesday this week is continuing and I hope to be able to add to that information in more concrete terms on Wednesday next week. Many thanks to everyone, staff, students, parents and carers for your continued efforts. I hope that everybody has a good holiday and gets some well earned rest.

Thank you for your continued support and take care.

Mr M. Snape

**Head Teacher**