



Friday 14th January 2022

Dear All,

After another busy and enjoyable week we are very much looking forward to welcoming all our students back to school for full time face to face education. I know from talking to key stage 3 children and parents, that they are looking forward to getting back into routines and being able to have that personal interaction with their teachers and other staff. It will be great to have everyone back at the same time.

So a reminder that on Monday morning Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 will be working in the school building and in the Portakabin classrooms on the Marden site, and should arrive as normal to start their week. Year 8 will be working with teachers at the Langdale Centre and should arrive in school at 8.45 and make their way around the outside of school to the Cafe where they will meet their form tutors and Mr Topping, as well as the teachers that will be with them at the Langdale Centre, to be registered before boarding coaches for Langdale. We are confident that the provision we have in place for students at the Langdale Centre, with two teachers working in partnership to deliver each lesson, will deliver quality learning, and to ensure this is the case, we will be monitoring carefully the implementation of our plans so that we can ensure every child is making good progress and feels happy, confident and secure.

With work on the roof now underway, we have new arrangements for routes into the building on the Marden site and around the site to incorporate the Portakabin classrooms. These routines and protocols will no doubt all become second nature to students and staff as next week unfolds, and this week, we have been talking to students via assemblies, of the protocol for the coming weeks at both the main Marden site and the Langdale Centre. Some of the detail of these routines can be seen in this [assembly link](#).

During the week of January 24th, we will all enjoy the rewards week postponed from the end of the autumn term. During the week, students in Year 8 - 11 who have gained form tutor awards, Head of Year awards and Headteacher awards, will receive their certificates, whilst all students will be able to cash in their House Points for prizes available. On Friday 28th January the school will enjoy a non-uniform day, raising money for the Cat and Dog Shelter and the Bay Foodbank, as has become our tradition here at

Marden. Keen to ensure that we keep prizes exciting, Mr Richards is meeting with student form reps over the coming fortnight to gather ideas for future rewards we can add to our menu of options.

Our student voice input continues not just with form rep meetings but with the cabinet too. The Cabinet, who are students that have applied for leadership posts from all year groups, are meeting for subcommittee meetings responsible for student well being, communication, the environment and charity during the next week. The charity committee's first task is to strategise the sharing of information and fundraising across the course of the year, continuing with the non uniform day. Meanwhile, a group of students will see their assembly shared in two weeks to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day,.

On Monday 17th January Year 11 students will have an opportunity to visit Queen Alexandra College to experience life at a college and to sample taster sessions in new subjects they may wish to study after they leave Marden. There will also be a focus on wellbeing with sessions led by "Tree of Life" on preparation for exams and a practical sports participation session by The Newcastle United Foundation.

It has been lovely to hear from so many parents and carers who have expressed to us that they have very much appreciated the efforts pastoral staff have made to contact parents and students in Years 7, 8 and 9 about their wellbeing and progress whilst they have been learning from home. Some parents and carers have also naturally asked questions to the senior team here about routines, procedures and learning on the new site. Parents and carers have been reassured that many of the same expectations, provisions and procedures will be the same as they have always been at Marden and as a result, feedback from parents has been extremely positive and students are very much looking forward to the new arrangements for face to face learning. Some parents have enquired about how meals can be purchased at The Langdale. Again, arrangements are as they are here on site at Marden, and lunches should be purchased using ParentPay.

On Wednesday 19th January, Year 11 Special Needs reviews will be taking place with Mrs Reece via our online parents evening system. Invites have been sent by email to parents/carers involved.

Year 11 Parents Evening will take place on Thursday 20th January using the Parents Evening System School Cloud. Appointments will open on Monday 17th January and full reports will also be sent out at the end of Monday. We look forward to conversations with parents at this important time for their children. JCQ's message is that exams will still be going ahead in the summer, but we will be sending exam contingency information to parents and carers of Year 11 students next week.

It is that time of year again when the exciting opportunity of TICE (This is Creative Enterprise) arises for students. TICE explores and focuses on developing creative opportunities for students to experience an insight into jobs within the creative industry. The year 9 students will participate in an exciting 10 week fashion programme. Projects are chosen by students and focus on particular areas of fashion, design, illustration, photography and film. The thought provoking projects are designed to combine the experience of new skills and knowledge through projects linked to fashion industry professionals. We will be running an in school TICE workshop on the 18th January 2022 as a full school day activity and we look forward to being able to share with you all their progress during the rest of the year.

Thank you for your continued support and take care.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Snape'.

Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher