

# MARDEN NEWS

## February 2022 Half Term Edition



Landscape (Year 10)

Featuring	Art	ICT	Music
Message from	Business	Maths	Literacy
The Headteacher	History	MFL	The Green Team



## Marden High School

Friday 18th February 2022

Dear All,

We have a real treat in this half term's newsletter, which reflects some of the fantastic work our children have been doing. There is lots of amazing art work, and in particular I have been very impressed with the way Year 10 students have developed their landscape projects. There has been superb business acumen shown by the Enterprise Club, and there have been some fascinating local history investigations spanning two millennia, discovering the richness of our North Eastern heritage. There is so much more besides, and I am sure everyone will enjoy reading all about the students' achievements during these last seven weeks.

It has been advocated by experts for many years that if students can learn how to learn they will thrive in any educational or work setting. The ability and confidence to work independently will set any individual up for life. It is our role to nurture this and we are incredibly proud of the way our students have responded, with our support, to the demands of remote learning and have developed into much more independent learners as a result. While this is evident in lessons at the Langdale centre, students have also been transferring their skills to their Marden learning. Walking around either site, any observer would see a mix of teacher-led discussion, peer collaboration and autonomous working. It is also evident in the way that both Year 10 and Year 11 are approaching revision and their own individual approach to reviewing course content and preparing for exams. Year 10 students are in discussions with subject teachers about which revision books to buy and how to use them, and in Year 11 students are working out the most effective strategies to use in the coming months leading up to the summer exams. It has been brilliant to see so many students taking part in extracurricular clubs this half term. Alongside GCSE revision sessions a range of activities have taken place including Korean club, Russian and science club. The Gardening Environment club are continuing to develop the school garden and have set themselves the task of doing so whilst recycling as much plastic as possible. As mentioned, the Enterprise club has also had a successful half term making, marketing and selling Valentine's products in the run-up to Valentine's day and were sold out. If your child is interested in joining an extracurricular club please check the activities available on the website (https://www.mardenhigh.net/our-extra-curricular-activities/) and sign up via the SchoolGateway app. Also, please remember that homework club is on every afternoon at 3.15pm in the LRC, where staff are available to support students with their independent work.

There is the chance for students - as well as parents and carers - to get involved in the run-up to World Book Day with the Library Club's Half Term Literacy Challenges. There is a whole array of competitions to take part in over the half term break, and lots of house points to be won. From art challenges to 'Reading Selfies', a Costume Competition, to a 'Booky Bake-off', there are plenty of opportunities to celebrate reading, books and creativity. Ms Taylor has emailed students with the full menu of activities and entries can be sent to <u>libraryclub@mardenhigh.net</u>. There is also a group of students who are producing a video starring members of staff and students talking about some of their favourite books, which we look forward to watching on World Book Day.

Marden High PTA have met recently with a view to starting to get back to more face to face events, so look out for further details of the upcoming PTA quiz next half term. It will be wonderful to see parents and carers back in the school building especially as the PTA quizzes are always such fun. We look forward to seeing lots of people there.

Through our regular student voice meetings, we are able to ensure that students are listened to and that they enjoy that sense of participation and community we hold at the core of our values statement. Since the start of the new term we have met regularly with the Student Cabinet to encourage their autonomy in leading their own meetings and setting their own agenda, as we foster individuality and possibility. This is leading to great work being done by a large number of students to develop aspects of student communication, student wellbeing, fundraising and improving the environment. Alongside this, we have been meeting with students who have been enjoying their time at Langdale. Hearing their positive responses regarding the live streaming, the opportunities to deepen learning through research and expand their experiences through leading the management of learning through Google Classroom has allowed staff to continue with the aspects which work well and evolve those areas that can be enhanced further. Meanwhile, Mr Richards has been meeting form reps to ensure that our rewards are relevant, worthwhile, cost effective and inclusive. The Heads of Year are meeting their form reps too, building lines of communication amongst the student community so every student has a voice and can see that it is heard. Each of these meetings has produced valuable insight into student voice, student leadership and student participation which form the basis for future work with our children as they progress through school.

To enhance our pastoral support, we have commissioned the services of a school nurse for one morning per week to start after the half term break. The school nurse will support the school, parents and children with anything that stops them feeling safe, learning, attending, developing or growing. This might include support for anxiety, poor sleep, picky eating, low mood, establishing routines and boundaries at home, or bereavement, and anything else which relates to children's welfare. We are also delighted to have been selected as a "host school" for a new pilot initiative in North Tyneside called " Connect MHST", which aims to provide support for children with low to moderate emotional wellbeing needs. The team hopes to support a generation of children and young people to have the ability to cope with most of life's ups and downs. The Connect MHST will help students, parents, carers and staff to develop their self-care and self-awareness skills, and know how best to support their own emotional wellbeing. If you think your child would benefit from either of these services, please contact Mrs Reece, Assistant Head (b.reece@mardenhigh.net) to discuss further.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone again for all the hard work and dedication shown this half term - students, staff, parents and carers, and governors. It has been a challenging but successful and rewarding one, and we look forward to seeing everybody back on the Marden site after the half term break. I hope that staff and students get a well earned break and I hope that parents and carers are able to spend some quality time with their children.

Thank you for your continued support and take care.

Mr M. Snape Head Teacher





## Launch of the Chronicle 'Our School' Journalism Project

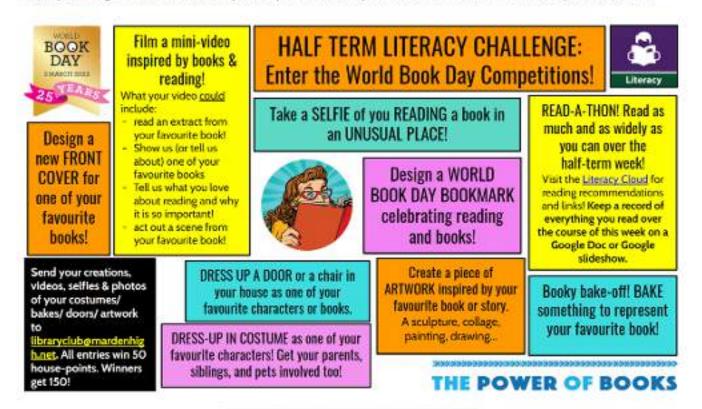
A selected group of Year 9 students have been invited to take part in the Chronicle's 'Our School' Project. The group of journalists will be working together to investigate issues, achievements and events taking place in our school and local community. They will hone their writing skills and produce a page of stories for the Chronicle newspaper. This is an exciting opportunity to experience writing for a real audience and genuine newspaper. We await its publication on 24th March with anticipation!

## World Book Day preparations begin!

A team of students have begun preparing for a World Book Day extravaganza on 3rd March. They are currently planning competitions, quizzes, activities, displays and assemblies for the whole school to celebrate World Book Day together! If anyone is interested in joining the team, we meet on Wednesdays after school in English 6!



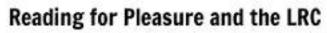
There is the chance for students (and parents and carers!) to get involved in the run-up to World Book Day with the Half Term Literacy Challenges! There is a whole array of competitions to take part in over the break and lots of house points to be won!



### Literacy Cloud

The Literacy Cloud has received some excellent creative writing from students this term. Take a look at a couple of the pieces below. Students can submit any of their creative writing- or creations inspired by their reading- to <u>libraryclub@mardenhigh.net</u>. Any pieces published on the Literacy Cloud receive 50 house-points. If looking for inspiration there are also competitions and the weekly Literacy Challenge.





Each Monday is spent Reading for Pleasure in Form Time. All students must have a reading book with them as part of their daily equipment. We encourage all students to challenge themselves with their reading this term- perhaps take a look at the Reading Lists and other recommendations on the Literacy Cloud reading page or visit the library! The Library is open every day after school to borrow books, read or complete homework. There is also the new Library website- Oliver- to browse!



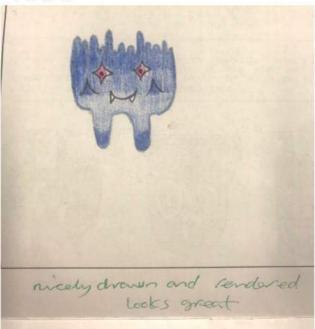
Ms Taylor



# Year 7

We have started the term with an exciting illustration and design brief for our year 7's 'Monster Creations'. After looking at famous doodle artists Jon Burgerman and Mr Doodle we are developing experimental techniques with tempura blocks and brushos to help encourage imagination whilst inspiring a well developed character design. These creations will be built from scratch taking into consideration habitat, diet and key characteristics. This will include storyboarding along with deep look into the character's personality to develop a visual idea of the character's physical features. These processes take a lot of creative energy and replicate those used by game designers, illustrators and animation designers. Please enjoy the images of our 'taking a line for a walk' starter completed recently. After looking for creature creations within the shapes made we have focused on values and rendering to bring the little creatures to life.

**YR 7** 

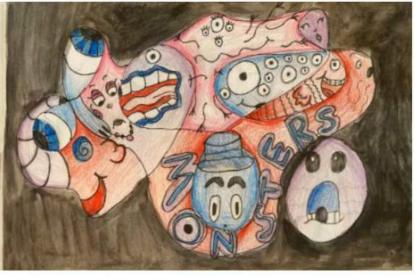






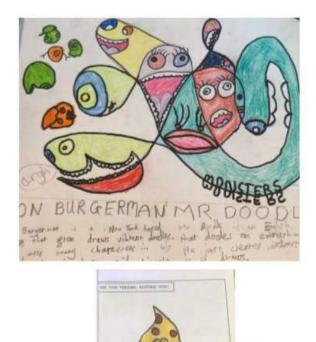












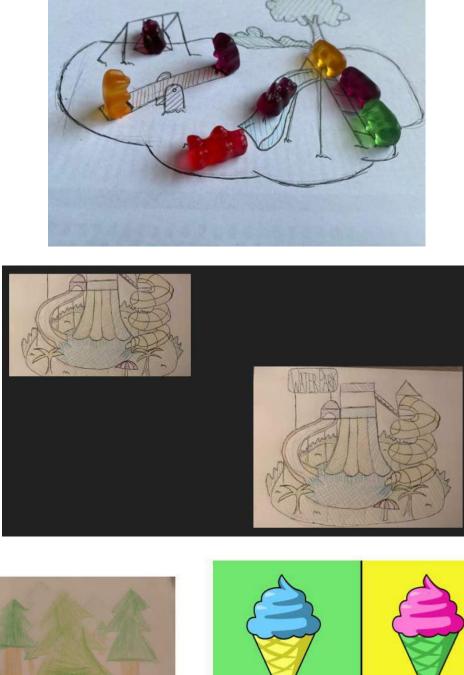


# YR 8

Students have been working very hard in their 'Truly Scrumptious' task booklets between sites and have produced some fantastic outcomes. We are looking at food as our new topic theme with individuals focusing on their favourite edible items. The skill focus for the term is observational drawing, digital design, shading and 3D construction. Pupils have impressed us with their independently produced outcomes and determination to refine each task to the best of their ability. We will be exploring the idea of popular culture, pigmentation and colour experimental processes with the aim to produce a collaboration piece using 3D design elements. This way of working helps in careers such as Graphic Designer and Architect along with many others.











## YR 9

We have turned our year 9's into shoe designers in recent weeks focusing all our tasks and ideas around their favourite types of footwear. Our goal is to develop skills in drawing, design, digital art, stop motion whilst incorporating all the foundation elements of art along the way. We aim to create original footwear designs from each student which we will later develop into a ceramic final piece. Our starting point has been to sketch designs, select a range of mediums and patterns, and complete observational studies to help refine their understanding of mark making, shape line and form. Some elements of photography will come into this body of work along with editing software to support their ideas. We have already seen some fantastic outcomes and hope you enjoy the small selection of work we have shared with you today.





# Custom Nike dunks











## TICE FASHION WORKSHOP YEAR 9

This Is Creative Enterprise (TICE) explores and focuses on developing creative opportunities for students to experience an insight into jobs within the creative industry. A group of year 9 students have been participating in a 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.

Having already completed one in school workshop, the students are now looking forward to taking part in a fashion industries day exploring many areas within fashion world led by industry professionals at Northumbria University.







#### February 2022



Our GCSE students have been working incredibly hard on their portfolios developing ideas, refining techniques whilst building their knowledge and confidence. We have seen some stunning Landscape paintings being produced in recent weeks with personal photography which would make any photographer proud. Building an understanding of depth, perspective and tone is clearly paying of in the beautifully bodies of work currently being curated.



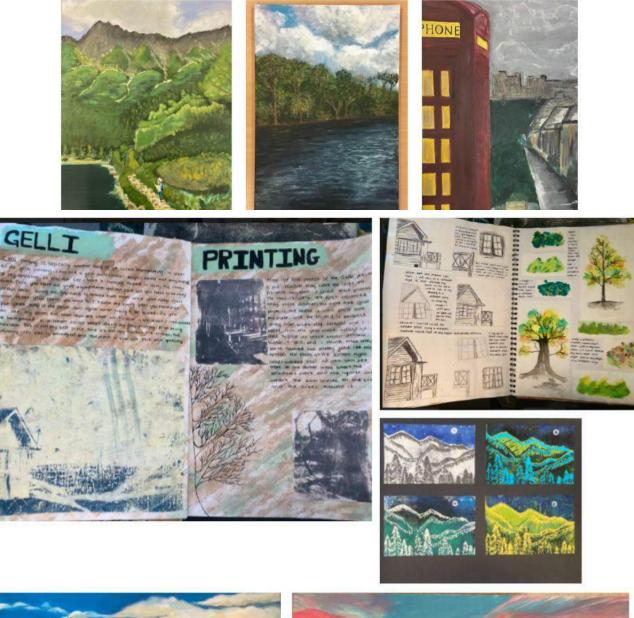
## YR 10 - LANDSCAPES





YR 10

## YR 10 - LANDSCAPES



















Ms Olbrecht



Once again, Marden High School GCSE Business students have had a busy half term. Y11 continue to feverishly work towards their GCSE exams in summer by acquiring the last few bits of new knowledge before diving head first into full revision mode to solidify that content to the best of their abilities using a range of different revision strategies. In Y10, students have not only been learning about the theoretical underpinnings of business, but also getting to grips with entrepreneurs by watching The Apprentice on BBC1. We encourage students to catch the show on a Thursday evening to watch the budding entrepreneurs in action. Who will win? Who will be Lord Sugar's next apprentice?

The Marden Enterprise Club are energetically working hard to launch their Valentines Day range of products. Both teams have designed and created a variety of products, advertised them throughout school and eagerly await the sales to roll in.



As all keen business people are, the groups are chomping at the bit to keep



the momentum going and are already considering their next product launch heading into the Easter term. With not a penny more than £10 available to spend, just how much revenue can our budding entrepreneurs make? Only time will tell.

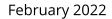
**Miss Parker** 



Year 7 Historians have been learning about the Romans, and were set a Microfiction task for homework. They had to create a historically accurate story of only 250 words, based on a Roman Artefact. They could choose between letters written by women living on Hadrian's Wall, Brocolitia Mithratic Temple and Chester's Fort.

Marlie Johnson wrote a brilliant story based on Lepedina's letters, that COULD have been the story behind the letters sent between friends.....





### The Letters

## Dear Diary, 13th September 105 AD

Remember that secret thing I told you about, well I got the letters, and we have been waiting for stupid Cerealis to come so we can kill him. The letters you saw were code. You see, me and Claudia have been planning to kill her husband so we can share all of his money. What do you think? Great isn't it! The men here on Hadrian's wall are cruel and treat us like dirt. Our treatment is atrocious and I won't take it any longer! Here's our plan...

First we are going to hide behind his turret where he keeps watch. Then we are going to kill any guards on watch. Finally we will sneak on him and DONE! This is a great plan and we've already done 1 and 2 but we are waiting and have been for 2 hours. He is so annoying. I know we are civilised but sometimes the roman soldiers can be so rude on the wall. We hate it here but the food is okay. Here he comes.. Go Claudia go go!!! I said and she stabbed him in the back! We beat the idiotic man! But here comes the guards better run! Life on the wall is hard and we do miss home but at least we don't get invaded that often. Anyway gotta, run the guards are now chasing us this might be my last entry so bye!

## North Shields Heritologists – Mary Ann Macham's Story

The North Shields Heritologists have been working with a group of Year 9 History students to create an animation aboutMary Ann Macham, an escaped slave who found her way from Virginia, USA and arrived in North Shields on Christmas Day 1831.



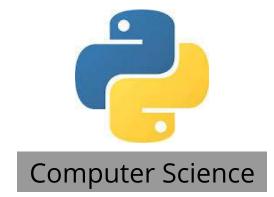
Yesterday they presented certificates to the students. If you haven't already seen their stop-motion animation, here it is:



Funded by Historic England, Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), Arts Council England and National Lottery Heritage Fund. Thanks to Writer Sue Miller and Animator Katy Hackers for their help with this project.

Copy the link below into your browser to view the article on pages 8 and 9. https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/sites/default/files/web-page-related-files/Hi\_NS\_HAZ%20Newsletter%20%28Feb%202022%29\_WEB\_FINAL.pdf

Miss Arnold



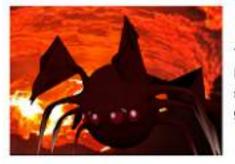
The past few weeks we have been doubling down on our focus towards careers, our Year 9's have been carefully considering their GCSE choices whilst our Year 11's are planning for their futures after Marden with content in lessons being attributed to real world scenarios and potential careers, this has also been the case with some of our extra-curricular sessions.

As an effort to bring the career paths available we have been running Careers in Computing Masterclasses sessions after school, open to students in Years 9, 10 and 11. Students who feel they may have a penchant for Computing have been able to put their knowledge to the test and begin to develop skills they wouldn't likely see anywhere else.

One of the efforts to bring careers into the spotlight has been our Careers in Computing masterclasses after school. These sessions have been open to all students in Years 9, 10 and 11. The purpose of these masterclasses is to highlight the careers available in the field and provides the opportunity to practice some of these skills that may not be covered in the national curriculum.



The masterclasses have so far covered careers and skills in Computer Forensics, where students have been conducting an investigation to trace the exact location of a single photo from the internet, using whatever software and techniques are available on the average home computer. A few of our students were able to discover the exact location, time of day and exact model of the device that took the photo. Students have mentioned that the experience has highlighted the importance of data privacy and how even the most mundane photo taken on a phone may contain location data.



The Masterclass students have recently looked at Digital Art and Design, exploring 2D design and 3D modelling design, something that is a commonly required skill for CGI and Video game design.

Our Year 7 students have been wrapping up their History of Computing topic, students have thoroughly enjoyed their time-travelling trip throughout the Industrial, War, Atomic and Information eras in relation to Computing and getting to know the influential figures such as Alan Turing. Ada Lovelace and Hedy Lamarr and their exceptional and sometimes surprising impacts on the world. These students have been very keen to learn about recent events in more detail, such as the panic of the Y2K bug and the rise of Artificial Intelligence, all whilst improving on their research skills, something which will no doubt stand them in good stead in other subjects such as History and English.

Finally our Year 8 and 9 students have been making the most out of their blended learning situation, due to having access to chromebooks the ability to research and communicate via technology has visibly improved, as has their understanding and capability for digital literacy. Whilst Year 8 have been working on their creative and audience-focus skills with their promotional materials topic. Meanwhile Year 9 students have been recently looking into How a Computer works, including the purpose of a network including how to build one.

Miss Parker



Another busy time within the Maths department with year 11 students having just finished their mock exams. They should be looking at the feedback from each test and focussing on any amber topics to ensure they continue moving forward in preparation for next year. We have also had to up roots for a couple of months to the portacabins which has been christened Mathstropolis. In addition to this we have been working hard ensuring that remote lessons at the Langdale are delivered to the highest standard.

Edexcel have finally released their guidance on the Maths GCSE taking place in the summer and I have to say it is really useful and will give students a focus on topics for each exam so they must take heed of this and ensure they're getting the most out of their final months. As always the aftermath is running well and takes place after school on Monday to support the students.



In form time on a Thursday, students have continued to work on their numeracy skills. They have been completing questions from <u>The Daily</u> <u>Rigour</u> - a free weekly numeracy newspaper which focuses on news stories in the last week and the numbers behind them. The aims of the newspaper include enabling students to develop their numeracy skills and to apply them in new and unfamiliar contexts and encouraging students to take an interest in the news. In the last couple of weeks they have seen how a per hour wage increase affects an annual income; the impact of the rise in national insurance (see example below) and the change in the energy price cap. For a recent House Challenge students have been tasked by Mrs Goldie with designing their own Daily Rigour type questions which will be used in form time after half-term.

#### National Insurance: No 10 insists planned rise will go ahead

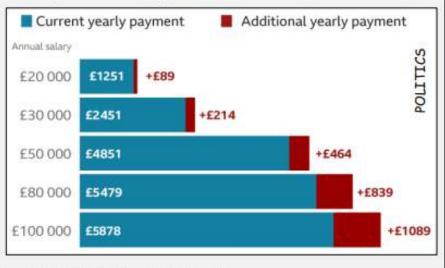
Downing Street has insisted the planned rise in National Insurance will go ahead after a number of Tory MPs called for it to be paused or scrapped. The increase is due to come into

effect in April to help fund the NHS and social care.

Currently, a UK worker pays approximately £1.14 in the pound for National Insurance.

This will rise to £1.25 although anyone that earns less than £9880 will not have to pay any.

In the current system, an employee who earns £20 000 per year has to pay £1251.



This will rise by £89 in April.

- (a) How much will they have to pay per year after the tax rise?
- (b) How much will someone earning £80 000 a year pay in National Insurance per MONTH in April?

If you want to improve your own numeracy there are a number of excellent resources from National Numeracy - <u>https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/</u>, including a the National Numeracy Challenge which helps you check and improve your numeracy - the maths you use in daily life and at work, like managing your money, working out measurements or understanding percentages.

<u>Puzzle time</u>			
TWO			
+ THREE			
SEVEN			
TWELVE			

Put numbers where the letters are to make the sum become true.

## The Solutions:

106		104
+19722		+19722
82524	or	82526
102352		102352

Mr Hiscock





## Where can a language take you?

As Year 9 move through the Guided Choices process and begin to choose their GCSE subjects, we have been looking more closely at the benefits a language can offer. As well as discussing careers and travel opportunities in lessons, Mrs Fox has also created a lovely display to show students that they can acquire a whole range of skills by further study of a language.





## <u>Le Mot</u>

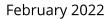
Jumping on the Wordle bandwagon, Y10 and Y11 have had a go at the French version of the game over the last few weeks - always great to get in more vocabulary practice!



## Speaking tests

Y11 students performed really well in the recent mock speaking tests, with some fantastic conversations being held in both French and German. If the students continue to work to this high standard then we can't wait to hear them again in the actual speaking exams. They have shown great resilience in challenging times and deserve to do well! In order to get the highest grades, we have been encouraging the students to use idioms where appropriate... there are some interesting ones out there, often related to food!







In recognition of LGBTQ+ History month and as part of the 'Get Over It' campaign, Stonewall have produced a range of resources in different languages to celebrate diversity and promote tolerance. We hope to make use of such resources going forward, in order to develop a more inclusive curriculum and learn a few new words along the way!



**Miss Mulvenney** 



#### A Few Notes from Andrew (Singing Coach):

It has been exciting over the last few weeks to work with the talented performers who are working on Sister Act The Musical!

We have had some great individual and group rehearsals and are loving the FABULOUS songs including "Fabulous Baby!" of course.

For those of you who love singing - we are hoping to resume Vocal Lessons next half term and you will be able to continue to develop your talents over the coming months. I can't wait to get back to doing what we love doing so much - SINGING!!





The Green Team continues to develop its Wellbeing Garden; create ideas for recycling; and promote the environment. The garden has been on hold at the moment during the winter but we have been coming up with ideas for planters and seating.

#### Trees, Trees, Trees

We have also received some free trees from The Tree Council and will be getting more as part of the Green Canopy for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We will be planting those around our garden but also around the school site to improve the biodiversity of the grounds. We will hopefully be receiving some wildflower seed bombs from the BBC as well to help brighten up the garden.



#### Pond

We have recently dug a pond and will be getting the liner after half term. We will need some plants to go in it so if anyone has any water plants they could donate we will have a good home for them.



#### Pallets galore

As the school gets deliveries we have quite a few pallets. The Garden Club is now creating seating and tables with the pallets so that the wood is recycled. We would like to paint them in all sorts of colours so if anyone has spare outdoor paint (particularly in a variety of colours) we would appreciate the donation.

#### Sunflower competition is back

After half term the gardening club will be providing each form with a sunflower seed in a pot which they have to nurture. As it grows we will give updates on whose is growing the tallest. Once it comes time to plant them out we will put them in the garden and see which form has managed to produce the best sunflower. Last year's competition was hotly contested and produced a lovely line of sunflowers in the garden.



#### Morrisons good to grow - We earnt over 2000 points.

We would like to thank all those people who gave their points to Marden for the Good to Grow scheme. We will be receiving some lovely new equipment.

Ms Mellor

# PTA (Parent Teacher Association)

The PTA continues to support the school by running events to raise funds for any of the departments or clubs in school. We have held raffles and supported music events in the past and hope to continue to do that in the future as the school gets back to normal.

Along with the funding you can see below, the PTA have recently provided funds for an electronic baby for the Child development GCSE, a pond liner for the Garden Club, books for the Book Club, tripods for Photography and some funding for the year 11 year book. The students have really benefited from receiving these items.



We would really like to build up the membership of the PTA. We meet about once a term and discuss all sorts of events that could be run and how the students can get join in with raising funds as well. You can get involved as little or as much as you like. If you would like more information email c.mellor@mardenhigh.net.



We are planning to organise one of our celebrated Quizzes on **Thursday 31st March.** More information will be coming soon on our website and twitter.

Ms Mellor



#### **Reading List**

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 7.

(You should be trying to read at least

- The Enemy Charlie Higson
- Cosmic Frank Cottrell Boyce
- Wonder R.J Palacio
- Treasure Island R.L Stevenson
- · The Adventure Series Lee Tony
- The Adventure of Huckleberry Finn -Mark Twain
- Blitzcat Robert Westall
- Holes Louis Sachar
- Stormbreaker Anthony Horowitz
- The Hobbit J R R Tolkien
- Madame Doubtfire Anne Fine
- The Edge Alan Gibbons
- Millions Frank Cottrell Boyce

#### Want a challenge?

- War Horse Michael Morpurgo
- Great Expectations Charles Dickens
- The Lord of the Rings Trilogy JRR Tolkien
- The Book Thief Marcus Zusak
- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
  Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

#### Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 8.

(You should be trying to read <u>at least</u> one of these per half-term)

- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes Sir Arthur Conon Doyle
- The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy -Douglas Adams
- The Hunger Games Suzanne Collins
- After the First Death Robert Cormier
- The Universe Versus Alex Woods Gavin Extance
- · The Enemy Charlie Higson
- Cosmic Frank Cottrell Boyce
- Carrie's War Nina Bowden
- The Foreshadowing Marcus Sedgewick
- · The Northern Lights series Philip Pullman
- Noughts and Crosses Malorie Blackman
- Treasure Island R.L Stevenson
- Martyn Pig Kevin Brooks
- The Ruby in the Smoke Philip Pullman
- Small Steps Louis Sachar

#### Want a challenge?

- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon
- · Life of Pi Yann Martel
- The Help Kathryn Stockett
- Animal Farm George Orwell
- · Jane Eyre Charlotte Bronte



#### Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 9. (You should be trying to read at least Animal Farm - George Orwell The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon Of Mice and Men - John Steinbeck The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian - Sherman Alexie Looking for Alaska - John Green Lord of the Flies - William Golding The Help - Kathryn Stockett Life of Pi - Yann Martel Want a challenge? Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte Junk - Melvin Burgess 1984 - George Orwell The Catcher in the Rye - J.D. Salinger

#### Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 10 & 11. (You should be trying to read <u>at least</u>

Tip! Try to get into the habit of reading newspapers too! This will help for your

1984 - George Orwell Animal Farm - George Orwell A Room with a View - E.M. Forster The Book Thief - Markus Zusak Brighton Rock - Graham Greene Catch 22 - Joseph Heller The Catcher in the Rye - J.D. Salinger The Color Purple - Alice Walker The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon David Copperfield - Charles Dickens East of Eden -John Steinbeck Frankenstein - Mary Shelley The Grapes of Wrath - John Steinbeck The Great Gatsby - F.Scott Fitzgerald The Help - Kathryn Stockett I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings - Maya Angelou

The Great Gatsby - F.Scott Fitzgerald