



## Marden High School

Friday 6th October 2023

Dear All

Our quote this week is '*we do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors but borrow it from our children*'. This speaks to the passion that our School Cabinet have expressed this term, to campaign to keep our environment clear from waste and sewage protecting others from harmful toxins in our local waters. Through work alongside Surfers Against Sewage, who have actively sought to prevent the dumping of waste in our waters, our Cabinet will be raising awareness of what we can do as local activists for a national problem, and our students will be speaking on this topic at the Youth Parliament later this term. Meanwhile, recycling stations in school, with different areas for different rubbish will help ensure that what can be reused will be. As agents of change, our students will be the leaders of tomorrow and this very exciting and hopeful work means that there will be a tomorrow to be proud of, not just in North Tyneside but across the country.

After half term Year 11 will be completing their formal mock exams between the 13th and 24th November. These exams are supervised by external invigilators. Mock exams provide a dual purpose. Firstly, they provide important diagnostic information about where students are in their learning and the areas they need to work on, and secondly, they give a useful insight into how the summer exams will work. We would ask all parents and carers to ensure that their child has a plan in place for revision and we encourage them to contact us at school if any support is required with this. Linked here is the presentation which Mrs Robson will talk the students through on Tuesday, including the mock exam timetable and some [useful revision resources](#).

There will be a core subject evening for parents of Year 11 on Thursday 26th October from 5.30pm until 6.45pm, where staff will offer expert advice on exam preparation. Revision guides will be available to buy during the evening. If you would like to express your interest in the event or pre-order revision guides to pay for and pick up on the evening please fill in the [form attached](#). Following the half term break students will receive individual timetables containing information about rooms and seating, and parents and carers will receive more detailed information about their child's performance in the January full report and have the opportunity to discuss their progress on January 18th during remote Parents' Evening.

I would like to also remind everyone of the open invitation to all parents of children in Key Stage 3 (Year 7, 8 and 9) on Wednesday 11th October to come and find out more about their child's curriculum and learning, and about how they can support their child with home learning and revision. This takes place 5.30pm - 6.30pm in the Auditorium. Please fill in [this form](#) to express your interest. We look forward to seeing lots of parents and carers there and, of course, students may attend.

This week the English department took a group of some forty Year 10 and 11 students to the Northern Stage Theatre in Newcastle to watch an English Tour Theatre production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. This was an incredibly powerful performance, with a key focus being on the superb staging, developed in a Frons Scenae style, meaning the audience were immersed in a grand backdrop framing the stage creating a 'building within a building' feel moving through multiple locations with a large screen above showcasing more intimate moments. Whilst the staging, costume and props had been modernised, the language was true to Shakespeare, allowing our students to be intrigued by the adaptation alongside hearing words they are hopefully familiar with, deepening their understanding of the study. Highlights of the evening were one of our students being questioned by the Porter character who 'broke the fourth wall', and Mr Horn being taken up onto the stage to be part of the pivotal banquet scene! This was a brilliant and thought provoking evening; a memorable event for all involved.

On 6<sup>th</sup> December we will be hosting GIRLtalks, (Girl's Inspiring Real Life Talks) an evening of thought provoking and inspiring talks from six of our very own Year 10 girls. The girls will be asking some big questions such as *'does the future of schooling need to be different?',* as well as persuading us to *think twice about buying a dog* and opening our eyes to *the superpower that one in seven of us possess but do not often realise*. There will also be a high profile female speaking about her career journey so far, and the whole evening promises to offer interesting and exciting views of life. This event will be open to students and parents, as well as invited guests, and more details will follow.

On Wednesday evening the central venue league for the U16 girls Football team commenced. The girls put in some awesome team performances against strong teams from Monkseaton High, John Spence, St Thomas More, and Whitley Bay High. Winning three out of the four games, this was a spectacular evening with some brilliant football on show and a real togetherness with laughter, happiness and goals all round. On the same evening, the Year 8 boys Football team made the long journey to Prudhoe for the first round of the County Cup, in very blustery conditions. In a high tempo game Marden kept battling through the tough conditions to finish as 3-0 victors. They progress to the next round full of confidence after a hard-fought win away from home. The Year 10 boys had an away visit to Longbenton High School, putting in a solid

performance, scoring two goals in the first half, then controlling play in the second half, to guarantee the 3 points. All players worked extremely hard in difficult conditions.

The Year 9 Boys Badminton team played their first round of Central Venue League fixtures this week, with fantastic effort from all the players resulting in 3 wins and one narrow defeat. This was a great learning experience and everyone represented the school with distinction. The Year 9 mixed Basketball team played their first competitive fixtures at the Central Venue league on Thursday night. After some exhilarating basketball, they came away with a record of 4 wins and one draw, and are looking forward to more games in the future. Everybody contributed well, producing some sublime skills and teamwork. Finally, the Year 8 Boys Rugby team played their first competitive game on Thursday at Percy Park RFC. In a pool consisting of Kings and St Thomas More the boys more than held their own and lost only to a late try in both games. The team showed an excellent attitude against more experienced opponents and were a credit to Marden.

Ms Arnold and Mrs McLeod have been impressed with all those who have signed up for Debate Club so far; if students would still like to join it is not too late. Debate Club is a fun way to improve public speaking skills, and looks great on a curriculum vitae. It also promises to showcase some contentious issues and exciting exchanges, with upcoming debates including: *"The remake is never as good as the original"*; *"A jaffa cake is a biscuit"*; *"Britain should reintroduce the death penalty"*. Debate Club takes place each Thursday lunchtime in room Hu1.

Thank you for your continued support and take care.



Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher