



## Marden High School

Friday 13th September 2024

Dear All

Over the past few years we have had a strong PTA at Marden High with lots of events organised ranging from quizzes to raffles to organising refreshments and even a summer fete. The aim of the PTA has always been to help support the educational experience of our children, in particular with funding extra-curricular resources, as well as helping to foster that great sense of community we enjoy here at Marden. We have, however, lost a number of key people from the PTA as their children have left the school and gone on to sixth form and college. We want to ensure that we build numbers back up in the PTA so that we can continue to enjoy the wonderful contributions this group has brought us in recent years. It is with this in mind that I have organised a short 20 minute meeting for those parents and carers interested in getting involved on Tuesday 24th September at 6pm. This will be to outline the different ways that people can be involved and to discuss the events and activities that we want the PTA involved in. The meeting will be in the Learning Resource Centre, the first space you come to when entering the school, with tea and coffee available.

Following the outcome of the '*Inspiring IAG*' annual review for the Quality in Careers Standard, we are very pleased to let you know that Marden High School continues to meet the requirements of the award. Mrs Brennan, our Careers Lead, has put in place an action plan which will support us in maintaining the standards of the award into the future. All of our CEIAG (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance) can be found on our school website under the 'Life at Marden' tab, and it is well worth parents, carers and students visiting this regularly as there are lots of events and activities taking place throughout the year.

Later this term, as part of our continued work with The Girl's Network, we will be welcoming applications from current Year 10 students to participate in the programme. For successful applicants, The Girl's Network sessions will take place throughout the academic year and will focus on developing skills relating to communication, employability and team work. If you have any questions or would like further information about The Girl's Network programme, please contact Miss Laing at [e.laing@mardenhigh.net](mailto:e.laing@mardenhigh.net).

This week in our whole school assembly, Mrs Robson outlined important routines not only in school but also before and after school. Students were reminded about the need to get their uniform, bag and equipment ready the night before school; to set an alarm to enable them to get up, dressed, eat breakfast and travel to school to ensure that, when the bell sounds at 8.45am, students are on the school site. Students are welcome to come into school from 8.00am and free porridge is available each day in the cafe. Important routines in school include following the one way system, arriving on time for lessons and being fully equipped. Students were also asked to consider where they wanted to spend lunchtime, ensuring they get a pass for lunch clubs and considering if they need to use the LRC or the IT room to complete their homework. Now that students do not have paper planners, a good routine would be to check their Google Classroom for homework so that they can manage this alongside their out of school activities. Homework club, for all students and supported by staff, is available every afternoon in the LRC from 3.15pm to 4.15pm. Good routines will help all our children manage their time and ensure their day runs smoothly, allowing them to focus on their learning.

The sports extracurricular clubs are back up and running as of this week, with a wide range of activities on offer for our students. The hugely popular football and netball clubs have seen fantastic numbers this week, with over 150 Marden students attending the various clubs and team practices for these sports. The lunchtime sports clubs have also been very well attended, with students from all year groups enjoying games of badminton, volleyball and table tennis during their lunch break. Games and fixtures for our representative teams have already been planned and will begin in the coming weeks. Students should keep an eye on the PE notice board for news of these events. The full program of the sports extracurricular offer can be found on the School Gateway app and we encourage as many students as possible to get involved with our sports clubs.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher