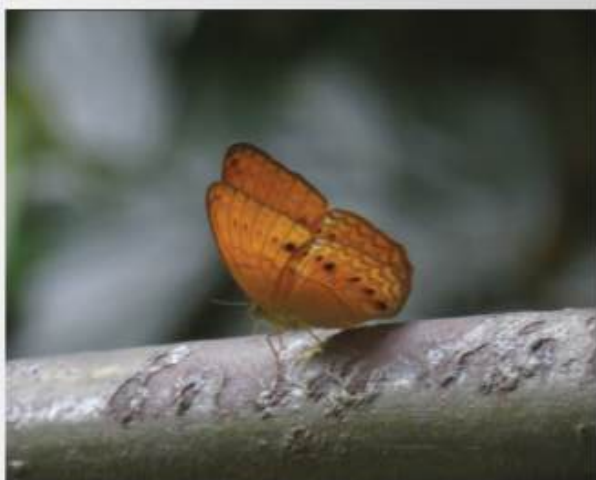




MARDEN NEWS

October 2024 Half Term Edition



GCSE Photography

Featuring

Message from
The Headteacher

Literacy at Marden

Art &
Photography

Computing

History

Maths

MFL

Music



Friday 25th October 2024

Dear All

I would like to thank the hundreds of parents and carers who engaged with us in the recent parent voice survey, the results of which are now in. The overall feedback from parents and carers is overwhelmingly positive, with almost everybody saying that they feel that their child is happy and safe in school. A similar response can be seen in the majority of other questions in the survey, and where there has been an occasional negative response, I have contacted people individually for a conversation and to see how we might be able to help. The question which had the biggest negative response was where 15% of people disagreed with the statement that 'the school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.' This then tells us that we may need to do a little more, for example, in promoting those places on the school website which give that information, for example, the pages on the [curriculum](#) and on the [subject clouds](#) give lots of information on what is being studied. We are also considering what additional methods we might employ to communicate this information. We very much appreciate being able to engage with parents and carers in this way and I would like to remind everyone that my next Parents Forum meeting will be 19th November at 4.30pm. This is a good opportunity for parents and carers to join a group discussion in a relatively informal setting about any matters they wish to raise about school life at Marden. One particular topic I am interested in hearing about is the different types of parents evenings we hold. If anybody would like to come along they should contact my PA, Mrs Scott, at school.

Students at Marden High School have been working closely with the charity Children North East to raise awareness of the impact that living in poverty has on thousands of children in our region. Together they have created a children's book designed for primary schools called 'Blue's Sad Day at School', which has now been published by Children North East. Through engaging stories and illustrations, the book encourages empathy and understanding in young readers, teaching them about kindness and the importance of helping others in need. This not only supports the charity's mission but also aims to inspire the next generation to realise their sense of agency and understand that they can be instrumental in influencing decision makers in our country, and even in becoming those decision makers in the future.

The NHS team that run the Solihull Approach have a new website inourplace.co.uk which aims to give parents and carers help and advice supporting well being in their families. inourplace.co.uk is an online learning environment developed by psychologists and health practitioners providing accessible learning about emotional health and wellbeing, proven to positively impact mental health, behaviour and relationships. As part of the NHS sponsorship of [inourplace](https://inourplace.co.uk), all of the courses and content is free to parents and well worth investigating.

This week we enjoyed our PTA Halloween quiz with a great turnout and some amazing costumes. As ever, our quiz tsar, Ms Mellor, kept the grey matter whirring, and, as ever, the Senior Leadership Team did not win. Where were the questions on the school development plan and the duties rota? Thanks to everyone involved and especially members of our newly enhanced PTA who put on a great evening.

On Monday evening, the Year 7 netball girls played in a friendly tournament, some playing their first matches for the school, and they showcased their talents well. The team of nine worked well together organising positions, motivating and supporting with a great result of three wins.

Also on Monday, the Year 7 boys football team played Walker Riverside in the first round of the County Cup. The Marden team were first to score with a well-taken, opportunistic goal, but found the rest of the game a tough challenge. Walker Riverside came back strong and scored six unanswered goals. The Marden team never gave up and were rewarded with a goal late in the second half to make the final score 6-2 to the hosts. Despite the scoreline, the game was competitive throughout and the team will learn from this game moving forward.

Tuesday evening saw the Year 10 rugby team start their County Cup competition away to St Mary's Catholic School. The Marden team got off to a brilliant start scoring straight away from the opening kick off. In an exciting to and fro game Marden opened up a 17-5 lead. But St Mary's fought back and scored two more tries, the second coming in the final play of the game. The hosts needed the conversion kick to level the score, but a charge down from Marden meant they kept hold of the lead and won the game 17-15. A great game played in the right spirit by all.

It was the turn of the Year 10 and 11 boys volleyball teams on Wednesday afternoon, as they were in action at a CVL competition. The Year 10 team came up against strong opponents, often made up of Year 11 players, and managed one win from four games. The Year 11 team won all four of their games, taking their place at the top of the table. All players were outstanding throughout the competition and we look forward to their next round of games after the half term break.

On Thursday evening the Year 10 netball team took part in the U16 netball league, playing St Thomas More A and B team. With a dominant performance Marden had a considerable lead at half time, and after a reshuffle of positions and a well needed water break the team went on to successfully win both games 20-3 and 17-3. The Year 11 team put in two fabulous performances but unfortunately were beaten by John Spence but came back with a brilliant win against St Thomas More B.

It has been another enjoyable and successful half term, on the back of another set of record breaking results in the summer - a great start to this academic year. I hope that everyone gets the chance to recharge the batteries ready for next half term. In particular, I hope that our Year 11 students capitalise on the time they have next week to do just a little revision alongside rest and recreation in preparation for the mock exams which will be starting the second week back.

Wishing everyone a pleasant half term break, and thanking you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher



Inktober

We always get very excited in the Art Department at this time of year as Inktober entries start to flood our desks. We are treated to a variety of creative ideas, techniques and ink mediums. Some come to us completed in felt tip, biro or drawing ink. The students never cease to impress us with the outcomes they produce. This year will be no exception as we are already seeing lots of entries are arriving through email evidence and physically handed in work. Please use the prompt list for Inktober 2024 which is provided below along with the rules. Please encourage your children to get involved and not only earn themselves house points but also the opportunity to be posted on the #Inktober instagram official page which is seen by thousands of people.

Please enjoy the gallery of previous entries and winners. We look forward to seeing our students entries.

Inktober rules:

- 1) Make a drawing in ink (you can do a pencil under-drawing if you want).
- 2) Post it*
- 3) Hashtag it with #inktober and #inktober2024
- 4) Repeat

Note: you can do it daily, or go the half-marathon route and post every other day, or just do the 5K and post once a week. Whatever you decide, just be consistent with it. Inktober is about growing and improving and forming positive habits, so the more you're consistent the better.

That's it! Now go make something beautiful.

*Post it on any social media account you want or just post it on your fridge. The point is to share your art with someone.



OFFICIAL 2024 PROMPT LIST

1. BACKPACK	11. SNACKS	21. RHINOCEROS
2. DISCOVER	12. REMOTE	22. CAMP
3. BOOTS	13. HORIZON	23. RUST
4. EXOTIC	14. ROAM	24. EXPEDITION
5. BINOCULARS	15. GUIDEBOOK	25. SCARECROW
6. TREK	16. GRUNGY	26. CAMERA
7. PASSPORT	17. JOURNAL	27. ROAD
8. HIKE	18. DRIVE	28. JUMBO
9. SUN	19. RIDGE	29. NAVIGATOR
10. NOMADIC	20. UNCHARTED	30. VIOLIN
		31. LANDMARK

@INKTOBER #INKTOBER #INKTOBER2024

Previous entries & winners



Year 7

We're thrilled to share the exciting journey Year 7 Art students have embarked on this term!

Exploring the Theory of Colour

Our students have kicked off the school year with enthusiasm, diving into the theory of colour. This foundational topic has sparked their creativity and set the stage for personal outcomes based on the knowledge and skills they are acquiring.

Upcoming Focus Areas

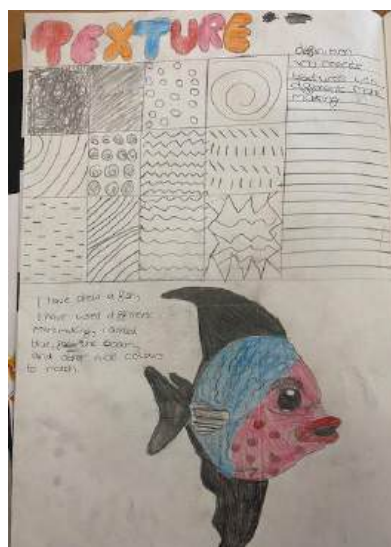
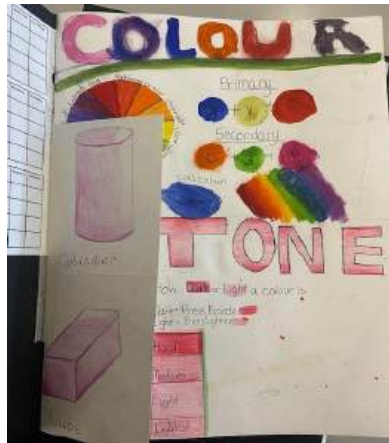
After completing our exploration of colour, we'll be delving into texture, line, value, pattern, shape and form. This comprehensive project will carry us through to the next term, equipping students with the essential knowledge and understanding they need to create successful art pieces.

Encouraging Personal Exploration

Throughout this project, students will have multiple opportunities to develop their own outcomes in response to the skills they've learned. This emphasis on personal exploration will allow them to showcase their creativity and imagination, encouraging them to express their unique artistic voices.

We are excited to see how each student interprets these concepts and develops their artistic practice. Thank you for your support as we nurture their creativity and passion for art.

Gallery Year 7



Year 8

We are excited to share the wonderful journey Year 8 Art students have been on as they explore African culture and the significance of masks in various tribes!

Discovering African Masks

Students have been engaging deeply with the topic, learning about the rich history and meaning behind African masks. This exploration has inspired them to incorporate patterns and geometric shapes into their work, while also focusing on line and proportions to create symmetry and balance in their drawings.

Layering Tonal Variations

Currently, students are layering tonal variations using a range of earthy hues to enhance the form of their masks. This technique allows them to add depth and dimension to their drawings, bringing their artistic vision to life.

Moving Towards 3D Creations

Over the next few weeks, these mask drawings will serve as a foundation for developing a three-dimensional piece of work. We look forward to seeing how students will translate their drawings into 3D creations, allowing them to further express their understanding and creativity.

Encouraging Artistic Growth

This project not only enriches their understanding of African culture but also encourages artistic experimentation and growth. Thank you for your support as we continue to nurture their artistic talents.

Year 9

We're excited to share what our Year 9 Art students are working on this term as they dive into an inspiring urban trainer-themed project!

Exploring Design Ideas

Students have begun exploring various design ideas and methods related to urban trainers. This project allows them to express their creativity while learning new techniques.

Developing Artistic Techniques

Throughout the project, we'll focus on tonal ranges, building and blending coloured pencils, and using contour lines to convey form and texture. These skills will empower students to enhance their design work significantly.

Music as Inspiration

In our next phase, students will draw trainers based on inspiration from music pieces to create their own customised trainers. This personalised approach ensures that each design reflects their unique personalities and artistic visions.

Creating a Relief Piece

As the project progresses, we'll culminate our efforts by creating a relief piece made from recycled materials. This aspect not only encourages creativity but also fosters an awareness of sustainability in art.

We're excited to see how each student interprets their ideas and incorporates their influences into their work. Thank you for your continued support as we nurture their artistic journey.



Gallery Year 9





GCSE Art

As we reach the midpoint of the first term, we're excited to share some fantastic achievements and updates from our Art GCSE program!

Year 11: Destroy and Distort

Our Year 11 students have been diving deep into the "Destroy and Distort" project. This theme has inspired some incredible creativity, with students exploring various techniques and mediums to express their interpretations. We've seen remarkable progress in their individual styles, and it's wonderful to witness their artistic growth.

As we prepare for the upcoming mock exams in December, students are focusing on refining their work and honing their portfolio skills. This is a pivotal time for them, and we encourage them to keep pushing their boundaries and experimenting with their ideas.

Year 10: Macro Natural Form and Formal Elements

Meanwhile, Year 10 students are engaging in their own artistic journey, working on macro natural forms and exploring formal elements through experimental workshops. These sessions have allowed students to develop their observational skills and understand the intricacies of natural shapes and textures whilst also exploring a range of techniques and mediums.

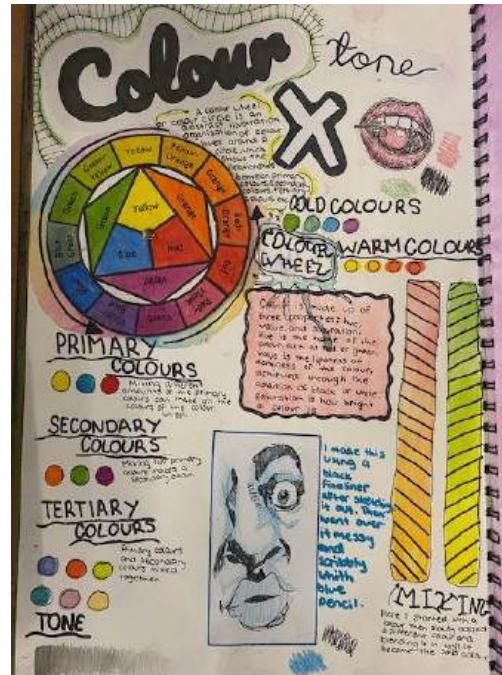
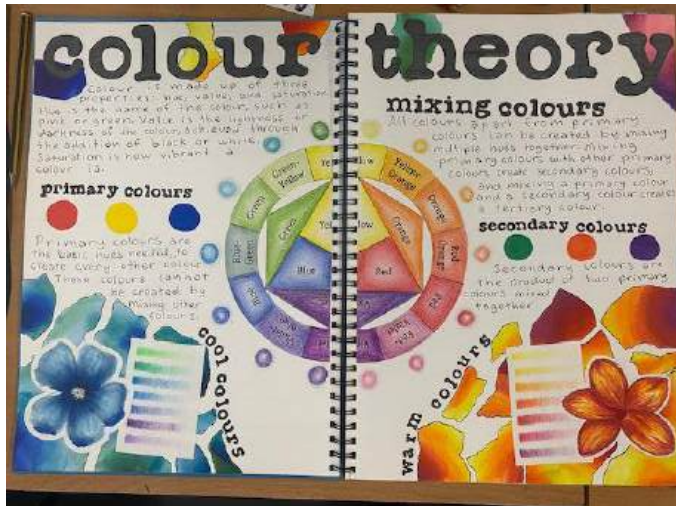
The hands-on workshops have been a highlight, fostering collaboration and sparking inspiration. Students are encouraged to take risks and explore new techniques, and the results have been impressive.

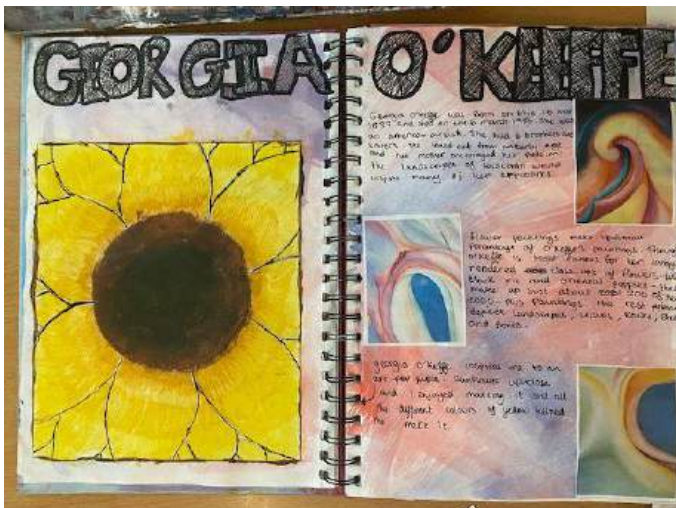
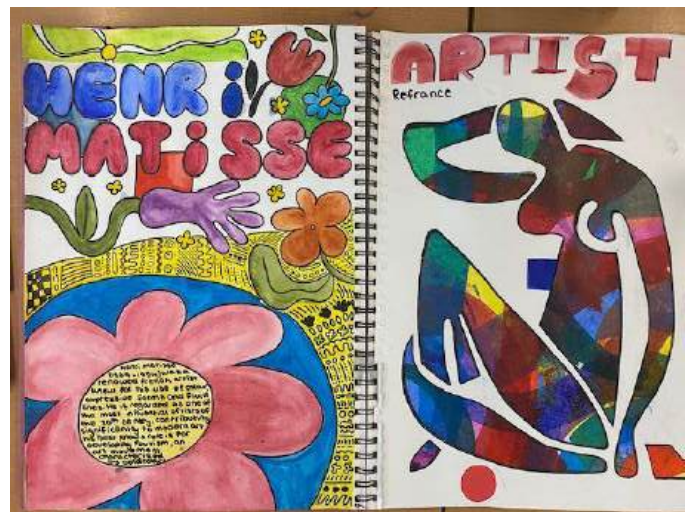
We are so proud of all our students' hard work and dedication this term. As we continue to nurture their creativity, we look forward to seeing their final pieces and celebrating their achievements at the end of the term.

Thank you for your continued support.

GCSE Art & Design Gallery







GCSE Photography

As we move through the term, we're thrilled to share the latest developments in our GCSE Photography course!

Year 11: Portfolio Development and Mock Exam Preparation

Our Year 11 photography students are currently focused on developing their portfolios, refining their work and exploring refining their ideas. This creative journey is crucial as they prepare for their mock exam in December, which will provide them with valuable experience in an exam setting. We encourage them to think critically about their projects and push their artistic boundaries.

Year 10: Exploring Macro Imagery

In Year 10, students are diving into the fundamental elements of photography with a special emphasis on macro imagery. Each week, we conduct workshops that inspire practical exploration, and we encourage students to develop their ideas further outside of school. This approach not only enhances their skills but also fosters a deeper appreciation for the art of photography.

Camera Equipment Recommendations

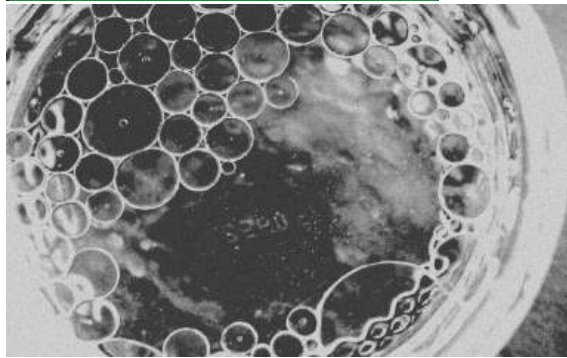
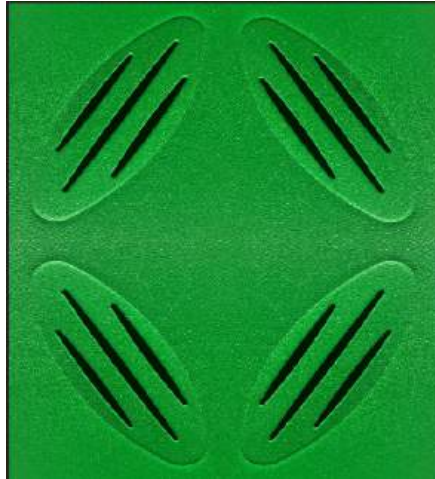
For parents and carers considering camera equipment for their students, we highly recommend visiting the London Camera Exchange. They offer affordable options and have knowledgeable staff who can provide expert advice tailored to each student's needs.

We are proud of the creativity and commitment shown by all our photography students this term. As they continue to develop their skills and ideas, we look forward to seeing their unique perspectives shine through in their work.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Gallery GCSE Photography





My favorite photos

I decided to add another element to this photograph by including a hand, which gives a different perspective to the photograph, this stems away from the theme of Liam J. Currie, as he did not use human form in his photos, however, I have continued to use the light source and pick out the red light. I like how the light bounces off the can and also casts a red dot above on the hand, blending the whole photo together.

In this photo you can see that the light changes in intensity. Holding a green light to the left of the can created this effect, which reminds me of the Aurora. It also picks up clear water droplets running down the can and you can even see water at the rim of the can trickling down.

I decided to take this photograph using natural sunlight, the window to the right of the drink can bounced off the silver can to create what looks like glitter. The shadow of the can on the black background adds light and shade to the photo. I think the colour contrast and lighting makes the red writing look very bold and draws your eye to the brand.



My favorite photos

I like this photo because the angle in which I took it shows the water droplets in detail. I like the composition of the can, drawing focus to the ring pull and the logo. The sharp water droplets are exactly how I wanted the photos to look. I used the orange ring light at distance and the two tone background that this has produced is interesting, creating depth to the photo.

I like this photo because after I experimented with different colours and positioning of the light, I understood that the red light created a better droplet effect. The use of the bold red against the green can makes the photo vibrant. The red light also reflect off the top of the silver can which I like. I originally thought I would use the same background colour as the can but found mixing the colours gave greater focus to the product.

In this photo I wanted to create a two tone effect, so I used a blue light and a red light on either side of the can. I really like how the black can picks up the reflections of the lights and that the two lights blurred together to create an interesting shadow and multiple purple hues in this photo. The water droplets are not as focused as the other photos but I'm pleased with the light effect here.

The Human Condition



The human condition is the key characteristics and the key events of human life. Some examples of this would be traditional portraits, environmental portraits, candid photography, and self portraits. All of these examples display something that makes up the events in human life.

Mood Board

Idea 3: Sequence Photography



The next idea that I have chosen to explore is sequence photography, this is when an action take place and the photos capture each movement or shape in a pattern or sequence.


Photographer Reference

Idea 1: Michael Berkeley



Michael Berkeley is an action photographer, who focuses on many different sports and activities. He catches the fun sides of a sport but also the more sophisticated and tense side of a sport, to show the whole reality of what it's like.

Editing Process




I used the quick selection tool to select the hands as only colours in the background.

I used the burn tool to make the background darker.

I used the adjustment tool to make the hands black and white other selected.

DONE




IDEA ONE - THE HUMAN CONDITION
ARTIST REFERENCE
NOEMIA PRADA

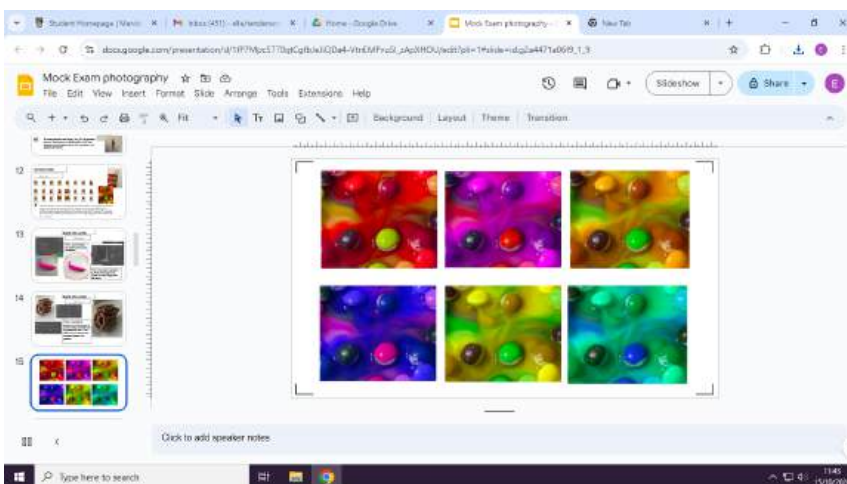
For my first artist reference I decided to use noemia prada as her work is most like my ideas. I will use her work as references to try crete my own.

Mini Final Peice:

I took the photos from the contact sheet and edited them all to be black and white, this was because I wanted to make the colourful patches stand out compared to each section. Once I had done this I wrote the corresponding letters with the correct symbols.




Edited Photos:

Miss C Olbrecht



Exciting Opportunities Ahead! As we move into the next part of the term, we have some exciting news and important dates to share with you.

BIMA Digital Day – Coming Soon!

We're thrilled to announce that our school will be participating in *BIMA Digital Day*, an exciting event aimed at inspiring the next generation of digital professionals! On 13th November, students in Year 10 will have the chance to work with real-world companies on creative challenges and learn about the various career opportunities in the tech and digital industries.

Students will collaborate in teams to solve real-world business problems using digital solutions. It's a fun and interactive way for them to apply their computing skills in a professional context!

GCSE Computing Mock Exams – Starting 11th November

A reminder for all Year 11 students: our *GCSE Computing Mock Exams* are just around the corner, starting on 11th November.

These exams are a vital part of your preparation for the actual GCSEs. They not only give you a chance to practise exam techniques but also highlight areas where you may need additional revision. Use this opportunity to identify any gaps in your knowledge and to test your understanding under exam conditions.



How to prepare:

- **Revise key topics:** Ensure you're confident in areas like algorithms, programming (Python is a must!), data representation and computer systems.
- **Practise coding:** Take time to work on past coding exercises. Focus on Python, as this will be key in the exam.
- **Use past papers:** Try timed mock papers to familiarise yourself with the format and time constraints.
- **Attend revision:** Every Wednesday lunchtime 12.40pm - 13.10pm in IT2.

Parents, please encourage your child to create a revision schedule and maintain a healthy balance between study and relaxation.

Reminder: Warhammer Club Is Up and Running!

Don't forget, our *Warhammer Club* has started and it's open to all students who want to engage in some creative fun while sharpening their strategic thinking skills! See Mr Townshend for further details.

It's a busy but exciting time, and I'm sure both students and parents will enjoy seeing these activities enrich learning over the next few weeks.

Miss D Parker



Students have made an excellent start to this academic year.

Year 7 students have settled well and have now completed an introduction unit to the skills required to be a successful historian. Their transition from primary school into secondary school has been smooth with their enthusiasm impressing staff across the department. This has been highlighted with their responses to “The Stamp Champ” homework challenge and the work they are producing in lessons.

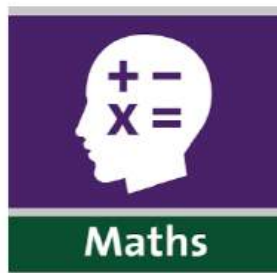
Year 8 students have been busy getting to grips with the Tudors. There have been some outstanding discussions around Henry VIII and his reign. Students in one class have written to Catherine Howard to advise her on her upcoming marriage - an insightful piece of work and again, the discussions around this highlight an excellent knowledge and understanding of the course so far.

Year 9 students have started their 20th Century course looking closely at the causes of WW1. Students have completed their first assessment, an extended piece of writing, examining the causes of WW1 and which they believe was the most important cause. The team have been impressed with the responses students have crafted as they show a clear grasp of the complicated situation in Europe in 1914. Students have been set the 20 point challenge homework task. This challenges students to be creative with a wide range of tasks to complete in order to gain 20 points. The team is looking forward to seeing how creative Year 9 will be this year.

Year 10 students have started the GCSE course well. Students have settled into their new classes and have once again, shown staff their enthusiasm for history by embracing our first GCSE unit America 1920-1973 Opportunity and Inequality. Students have been covering a wide range of topics within lessons and have been answering GCSE style questions to develop their exam technique. Students have all received a homework booklet which contains GCSE style questions. This homework is essential in helping students to practise exam style questions.

Year 11 students have been completing the third unit of the GCSE course Britain: Health and the People. Students have been working hard in lessons covering complex scientific discoveries. Year 11 students will have their mock exams in November where students will be completing a Paper 1 - America 1920-1973 Opportunity and Inequality & Conflict and Tension in Asia and Paper 2 Britain: Health and the People. Staff have been providing lunch time revision sessions to support students and we would encourage all students to attend these sessions as well as using google classroom which has all the course materials.

Mrs A Thompson



A busy time within the Maths department, year 11 students are fully focussed on maximising the time they have left at Marden High School. Extra revision and support for year 11 takes place on a Monday after school in what we call the Aftermath so please ensure your child is attending. In addition to this we have had an excellent uptake for further maths and the sessions held by Miss Cotterill have been very well attended and received. Again this takes place after school on a Monday and Wednesday lunchtime.

We have held two maths support evenings this term, one aimed at key stage 3 and the other at key stage 4. Both evenings were very well attended and received. The aim of the evening was to promote the subject and give parents the knowledge, resources and advice they need to best support their child in maths. We have also taken on a student teacher this term and Mr Whyborne will be with us developing his craft until christmas.

We will be welcoming back some old students from Whitley Bay Sixth Form who will be helping out in the Maths department and offering support to our year 7 and 8 students. Mr Hiscock and Mrs Goldie are currently working with the Great North Mathshub to develop our pedagogy around supporting our year 7 students with their transition into high school. In addition Mrs Goldie has been on a visit to Whitley Bay High School to do some collaborative work on teaching and learning.

Puzzle Time

Each Halloween object is worth a *different* integer between 1 and 6 (inclusive).

Use the row totals to work out the value of each object.



				= 13
				= 24
				= 14
				= 20

Record the value of each Halloween object below.

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Mr M Hiscock



Spanish club is up and running again on a Thursday lunchtime. Ms Fuentes is giving students the opportunity to learn about Spanish culture, as well as the language. It is not too late to sign up, so any students wishing to come along will find Ms Fuentes in MFL2 at 12.30pm. There may be opportunities to learn about other cultures too over the coming year.



MFL
Club

Years 7, 8 & 9
Thursday Lunchtime MFL2
Ms Mulvenney and Ms Fuentes

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES - THE BAKE-OFF

We recently held our annual MFL Bake-Off competition, in honour of the European day of Languages. This year we had a record number of entries - 32 in total! There were some fantastic ideas and the standard of presentation was higher than ever. All bakes were judged by Mrs Robson, Mr Ranson and Mrs Ramage before being sold at breaktime to raise money for Macmillan. A superb effort for a fantastic cause.



Ms L Mulvenney



Musical Extra Curricular Activities

<p>Monday Lunch</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Concert Musicals Club</p> <p>Preparations are underway for our Christmas concert. Songs and dances from Grease, Hairspray and High School Musical. See Mrs Gibbings or Mrs Berriman to sign up.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Practice Rooms Available</p> <p>Practice rooms are available for students to do some private practice.</p>
<p>Thursday AM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Band</p> <p>Come along to play with the school band. We have looked at a range of different music so far this term including Samba De Janero, Dr Who and Jurassic Park. This is a club for students who play an instrument.</p>
<p>Wednesday PM & Thursday PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Concert Musicals Club</p> <p>Rehearsals run on a rotation between our three extracts from Grease, Hairspray and High School Musical. Check the rehearsal schedule on google classroom for more information.</p>
<p>Friday AM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Samba Band</p> <p>No prior experience necessary, anyone is welcome. Come along to join our Brazilian Samba band to play a selection of drums and percussion.</p>
<p>Friday PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vocal Group</p> <p>Anyone is welcome and we sing a range of songs across a variety of genres.</p>

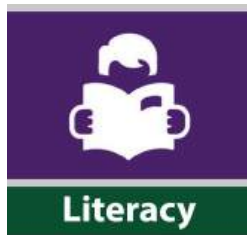
Christmas Concert - Thursday 12th December (6pm - 7pm)

Our rehearsals have been going well for our Christmas Concert. The evening is shaping up to be an exciting event with a wealth of talent on display. Students have been rehearsing songs from musicals, rock songs, percussion pieces and Samba.

Instrumental Lessons

We have a number of instrumental teachers who visit the school to teach the following instruments: trumpet, trombone, drum kit, guitar, voice, keyboard, piano, cello and flute. Anyone interested in starting should contact Mrs Gibbings for a form that puts you in touch with the relevant instrumental teacher.

Mrs A Gibbings



Literacy at Marden 2024-2025

We have lots of exciting opportunities available for students to develop their reading, writing, vocabulary and oracy skills this year. [This video](#) gives an overview of our weekly literacy routine for 2024-2025. From *Reading for Pleasure* to *Reflection Time Oracy*, the *Weekly Literacy Challenge* and celebrating students' creativity on the [Literacy Cloud](#), there's lots to get involved in (and lots of house points to be won!).



Supporting Literacy development at home

Further to this here is a [short video](#) with strategies for developing students' literacy skills at home. It offers an overview of the literacy opportunities available to students in school as well as some easy tips for encouraging Reading for Pleasure, developing vocabulary and maximising opportunities for developing oracy (discussion) skills at home.

The Weekly Literacy Challenge

Every Monday students are emailed the [Weekly Literacy Challenge](#). Linked to the theme of the week, they will have the opportunity to be creative, receive 50 house points and have their pieces published on the [Literacy Cloud](#).



The challenge will be connected to the Theme of the Week...

Be creative and use your imagination!

- ★ Write poems, songs, stories, articles, speeches...
- ★ Draw, design, collage, sculpture, paint...
- ★ Dance, video, sing, play an instrument...
- ★ Bake!

All entries will be **published on the Literacy Cloud** and receive **50 house-points!**

Email your creations to literacycloud@mardenhigh.net

Year 11 Literacy Prefects

Literacy Prefects have begun work in their new role this term. The role is one which encourages leadership and independence, with these students planning and delivering a Literacy Mentoring programme to selected Year 7 students. The sessions are shaped by the interests and needs of the Year 7 students they are working with, and have a focus on developing Reading, Vocabulary and Oracy skills.

Literacy Leaders for 2024

Students in Years 7-10 have been elected by their Form Classes as this year's new Literacy Leaders. In their new role, they will be leading *Reading for Pleasure* discussion and *Reflection Time Oracy*, encouraging reflective discussion amongst their Form Class in their exploration of the Library Book of the Week, Themes of the Week and other important social and cultural events and issues.



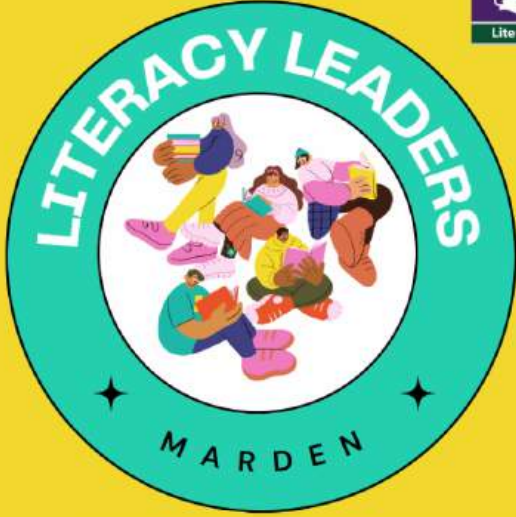
Join the Literacy Leaders/Library Club!

Are you a voracious reader, a brilliant writer, a superb public speaker? Would you love to be involved in planning events, activities and competitions?

You can be involved in:

- Running the library
- Helping to put on literacy activities, events and competitions around school.
- Literacy assemblies
- Coming up with Reflection Time Oracy activities.
- Choosing the Book of the Week
- Creating displays

We need Literacy Leaders to come up with ways to encourage writers, inspire readers and empower voices!



Interested? Email Ms Taylor a.taylor@mardenhigh.net

Sparx Reader pilot

This year we have the exciting opportunity to take part in a pilot of Sparx Reader with Year 7. After an initial reading test, students are able to choose their first e-book. Regular comprehension quizzes then check their understanding (and offer the opportunity to win some Sparx points!). The app is available for Year 7 students to access through the school website, both at home and in school. Each week the top 3 Sparx readers are also awarded extra house points!



SPARKX READER!



Sparx Reader

An online reading challenge using e-books!

Pick a novel, take a quiz after each section you read and earn sparx/house points!



Counting Stars

by Erin Regan

It took a while to count the stars,
That drifted through the night sky,
A night of darkness, counting for hours,
A sky full of stars that never seemed to end.

The glow of the sun slowly engulfed the night,
The stars fading into nothing,
The night had been swallowed up once more,
Despite the ever growing light, the stars still drifted on.

The night draws nearer, the sun fades away
But there are no stars to be seen,
As clouds consumed the darkening sky,
The stars had been surrounded by the dense clouds.

literacycloud@mardenhigh.net



Time

by Sophie Harrison

We blink in milliseconds
We breathe in seconds
We move in minutes
We live our lives in hours

1 day is 24 hours
2 days is 48 hours
And so on, and so on
Tick Tock Tick Tock on the Clock

literacycloud@mardenhigh.net




NATIONAL POETRY DAY
30th ANNIVERSARY
OCTOBER 2024

Where I am
by Joshua Marchbank

In the house on 6th street
In school
Wherever i will be ticking
Tick tock
On a wall still as a house
My arms moving
Let me free
My cogs turning round and around
Until i stop
My cogs slowing down slower than a tortoise
Then when i come back on it goes faster
Like a heartbeat
Faster and fast it builds up
Until again it stops...
Wherever i may be you will see me
My arms slow stiff like i have arthritis
Going rusty
The new age no one needs me phones computers and tv will tell the time
I waste away

literacycloud@mardenhigh.net







NATIONAL POETRY DAY
30th ANNIVERSARY
OCTOBER 2024

WE MADE A CAKE TO DO WITH MR PRYTHERCH'S FAVOURITE POEM, THE SURFER'S HAIKU. MADE BY BEATRIX GOLDEN AND JESSICA ATTHEY

literacycloud@mardenhigh.net

Half-Term Halloween Competition!

There is an exciting Halloween Competition for students to take part in over the half-term holiday. After all of the excellent entries received for National Poetry Day, we are looking forward to seeing students' imaginative, engaging creations! Students should send their creative writing to the literacycloud@mardenhigh.net. Every entry wins 50 house points and will be published on the [Literacy Cloud](https://literacycloud.com).



**"I STARTED FROM MY SLEEP
WITH HORROR; A COLD DEW
COVERED MY FOREHEAD, MY
TEETH CHATTERED..."**
FRANKENSTEIN, MARY SHELLEY

Halloween Literacy Challenge...

**CREATE SOMETHING INSPIRED BY THIS
IMAGE OR QUOTATION FROM
FRANKENSTEIN!**



- You could:
- ★ Write, create a comic or graphic novel...
 - ★ Draw, design, collage, sculpture, paint...
 - ★ Dance, video, sing, play an instrument...
 - ★ Bake a cake!

All entries will be **published on the Literacy Cloud** and receive **50 house-points!**

Email your creations to
literacycloud@mardenhigh.net

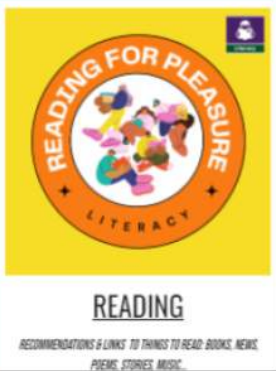
The Literacy Cloud and LRC

There are lots of reading recommendations and links, literacy challenges and a celebration of students' creations on The [Literacy Cloud](#). Take a look!



Looking for things to read alongside your books?

Visit the "Reading" section of the [Literacy Cloud](#).



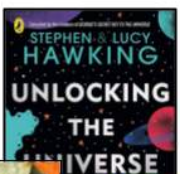
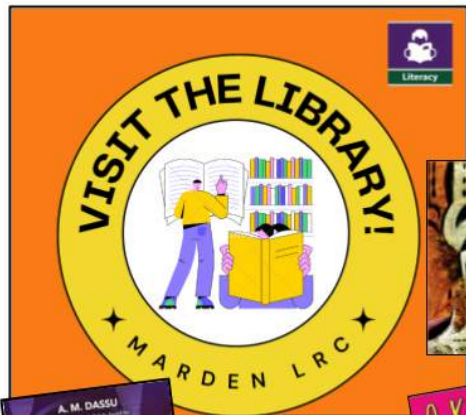
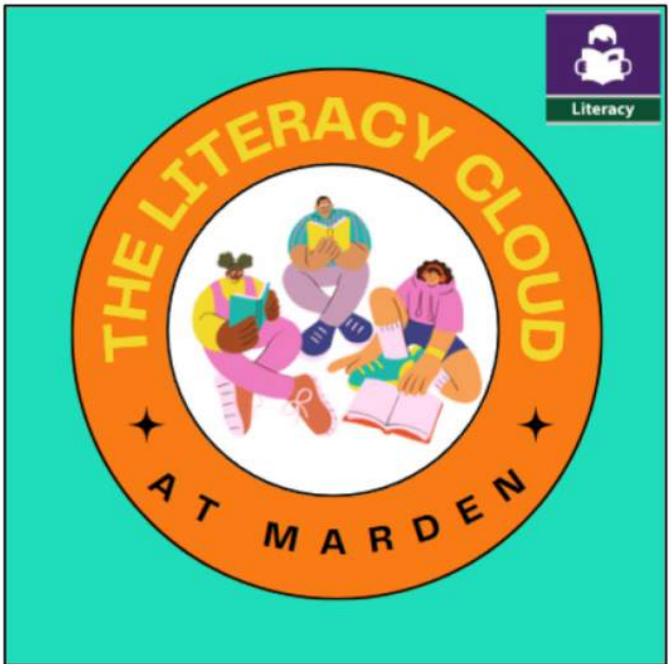
Novels, poems, news articles, blogs, talks, magazines, journals, audiobooks...

Get published on the Literacy Cloud!

If you would like to be featured on the [Literacy Cloud](#) then check out the weekly challenges & competitions!



Send your entries to literacycloud@mardenhigh.net.
Each entry wins 50 house points!



Visit the Library in the LRC!



Remember to bring your book to school each day!



Ms A Taylor

MARDEN

READS

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 - *J.R.R 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 at least one of these per half-term)

- The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - *Sir Arthur Conan 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 Bawden*
- 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*



MARDEN



READS

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

The Great Gatsby - F.Scott Fitzgerald

Reading List

Here are some suggestions of books you might want to read over year 10 & 11.

(You should be trying to read at least

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