



Marden High School

Friday 29th November 2024

Dear All

This week, our Year 9 students have had a fantastic opportunity to explore the world of work through our Careers Speed Dating event. With 15 representatives from a diverse range of industries—including the NHS, Barclays, the Department for Work and Pensions, and Capita—students were able to engage with professionals and gain valuable insights into various career paths. We were particularly delighted to welcome back four of our alumni, who shared their career successes and personal journeys, inspiring our students to dream big and aim high.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, our Careers Conversations programme is up and running once again. In recent weeks, students have enjoyed hearing from a heart consultant at the Freeman Hospital and a professional from the Digital Design sector. These talks have provided students with a deeper understanding of the qualifications, roles, and responsibilities associated with these fields. We are incredibly grateful to the professionals who have offered their time and expertise. If you are able to support our Careers Conversations programme, we would love to hear from you. We are particularly seeking speakers from the Law, Veterinary, and Pharmaceutical sectors, as these are areas students have expressed interest in. Please get in touch with Mrs. F. Brennan at f.brennan@mardenhigh.net if you would be willing to share your career experiences with our students.

Looking ahead, next week, our Year 11 students will have the opportunity to meet with a variety of post-16 providers to explore their options after GCSEs. Representatives from Whitley Bay Sixth Form, Newcastle College, Tynemet College, North East Futures UTC, Connexions, and ASK Apprenticeships will be joining us to guide students through the opportunities available to them.

This coming week, on Thursday 5th December, North Tyneside Carer Forum is holding a coffee evening in the auditorium from 5.30pm until 6.30pm. This is open to any parent or carer who has a child or children who experience difficulties or struggles in their lives, or who has any Special Educational Needs/Disabilities (SEND). No diagnosis is required to join the group, and this is a good opportunity to meet with other parent carers and staff from North Tyneside Carers Centre. If you would like to attend, please email Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Reece (b.reece@mardenhigh.net).

Year 11 have now completed the formal part of their mocks exams and are still completing some additional assessments in their classes. The mock exams provide a dual purpose. Firstly, they give students a very clear idea of how the exams work logistically and the experience of working with invigilators rather than their usual teachers. Secondly, they provide diagnostic information about where students are in their learning and the areas they need to work on. This information is vital for students to know what to focus on and for their teachers to adapt their teaching, and for parents and carers to support them at home. We were very impressed with how Year 11 students conducted themselves during the mock period. They were focused, well prepared and followed exam regulations well. As students receive their feedback from staff it is important that they formulate a plan going forward, planning their independent revision effectively to fully prepare for the summer exams. Students should have a clear plan for revising their subjects, strategies for revising subject content and for the application of skills, and of course they should be aware of looking after their physical and emotional wellbeing by factoring in activities with friends and family.

Our Christmas Concert is coming up on the evening of 12th December. There will be a variety of music including acts from musical theatre, choral music and students demonstrating their instrumental skills. It promises to be a great evening, guaranteed to get us all in the Christmas spirit with refreshments from the PTA and our School of Sanctuary group. I look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Monday evening saw the Year 8 boys football team in action in their 7-a-side CVL. The team have been training hard in recent weeks and put on a strong display of teamwork and effort in their matches. It was a tough tournament with two defeats and one draw, but the hard work the team put into their games was evident throughout. Well done to all pupils involved in the games.

The Year 7 netball team were also in action on Monday evening playing in their North Tyneside league fixtures. The girls have been dominant so far this season winning all but one of their games. They continued this strong run of results with three more victories this week, beating John Spence 4-1, George Stephenson 12-0 and Longbenton 3-0. The team have performed brilliantly so far this year and look like they will continue going from strength to strength.

Wednesday saw two of our football teams in action with the U16 girls football team playing in their CVL and the Year 7 boys team involved in the county cup Futsal tournament. The girls team played some exciting football, coming away with victories against St Thomas More and John Spence, but narrowly losing to Whitley Bay and Monkseaton. The standard of football was excellent from the girls, and they can be very proud of their efforts. The Year 7 boys team played in the newly formed County Cup Futsal League and showed why they are regarded as one of the strongest teams in the competition. They won all 4 of their

matches, beating Burnside 3-1, Churchill 4-1, John Spence 11-0 and St Thomas More 5-0. A fantastic result for the boys and they look forward to the next round of competition in the new year.

The Year 10 and 11 boys volleyball teams played in the latest round of competition at Whitley Bay High on Wednesday evening. The Year 10 team won 4 of their 5 matches, a record matched by their Year 11 counterparts. Volleyball is becoming a more popular sport at Marden and we anticipate more victories like this in the future.

And finally, a special congratulations to our four Year 10 girls that have been selected for the Northumberland County U16 Rugby team for this season. A fantastic achievement for the girls and we wish them every success in their upcoming match against Cumbria this Sunday.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Snape', written in a cursive style.

Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher