



## Marden High School

Friday 7th March 2025

Dear All

During the half term break we had a contingency of students and staff visiting the Alps for the school ski trip. By all accounts it was a fantastic week with some good snow conditions and, as you would imagine, our students did themselves and the school proud, with both hotel and coach staff commenting on how respectful and polite they were throughout the week. There have been some lovely emails from parents expressing how much their children enjoyed the holiday, and our thanks go to all the staff who supported the students through the week.

We celebrated World Book Day this week, and the theme of 'Read Your Way', with Ms Taylor and the Literacy Leaders having planned a whole host of activities for staff and students to take part in. On Monday we had a *Reading for Pleasure* special, where form classes received their [tokens](#) and explored extracts from this year's free books. Literacy Leaders had photographed staff "shelfies" and compiled them into a quiz along with discussion questions for Wednesday's *Reflection Time*. On Thursday (officially World Book Day) Literacy Leaders showcased their impressive assembly, designed and filmed by them over the last few weeks; at lunchtime students got together to create book origami and story chains; and in English lessons students celebrated with a quiz and creative responses to their books and reading. Students have two weeks to enter the Literacy Leaders' competitions: book cover redesigns, reading-inspired creations and a book-themed Treasure Hunt around school. Entries should be sent to the Literacy Cloud ([literacycloud@mardenhigh.net](mailto:literacycloud@mardenhigh.net)) and we look forward to seeing them all!

This week a group of our year 7's have been enjoying a residential trip to High Borran. They have been doing a wide range of activities including kayaking, caving, ghyll scrambling and even a singsong around the campfire while they toasted marshmallows! Mr Wallace who leads the trip has been incredibly impressed by the bravery and resilience of the students as some of the activities can be very challenging. All of the students have shown tremendous team working skills and have been supportive of each other throughout the week. Mr Wallace and the other staff have worked hard with the incredible and knowledgeable leaders at High Borran to ensure a fun week has been had by all and they are very proud of the skills and maturity shown by the Marden High pupils this week.

This week has been National Careers Week and we have been reminding students of the excellent resources and support they have within school to inform their decisions for the future. Career pathways take many shapes and forms, rarely following a straight course. As you move through different stages of your life your interests, skills, values and motivations will more than likely change, and this often results in your career goals and aspirations evolving alongside. Mrs Brennan has put together a [short presentation which has links to some useful resources](#), including quizzes, virtual careers fair and short video clips which may help younger students start to think about their future career pathway, something that parents and carers might also want to have a look at. You will be supported with your career development throughout your time at Marden High. Some of the activities you will take part in are detailed below:

- Work experience
- Mock interviews
- Career fairs
- Career 'speed dating'
- Career Conversations
- Employer encounters with local, national and international companies
- Workshops and presentations with Post 16 providers
- Workshops with Apprenticeship providers.

Everyone has access to individual career interviews with trained careers advisors, and if any student would like to make an appointment for a careers interview or talk about any other aspect of career development, please email Mrs Brennan.

We are pleased to announce that the nominations for the 2025 North Tyneside Learning Trust Star Awards are now open. The Star Awards recognised the outstanding, non-academic achievement of children and young people from across North Tyneside. Anybody can nominate a child or young person from a Trust Partner School, so it is well worth looking at the [NTLT website](#) so that you can see the various categories that can be nominated for.

The Year 9 boys football team played their County Cup quarter final on Tuesday afternoon, away to Kenton School in Newcastle. It was the hosts that enjoyed the lion's share of possession in the opening exchanges, and this possession turned into goals, as the home side scored three quick goals to take a commanding lead in the game. The Marden team were perhaps caught cold in the first 20 minutes, but began to grow into the game and scored two well taken goals before the half time whistle. Marden picked up where they left off in the second half, piling pressure on the home defence and were awarded a penalty for their efforts, coolly converted to make the score 3-3. The visitors now had all the momentum and with 5 minutes left on the clock, scored to take the lead for the first time. As the hosts threw everything into their attack in search

of an equaliser, Marden took advantage of the space left in defence to score a final goal with the clock in the red. Final score 5-3 to Marden, who progress to the semi final against St Thomas More. A fantastic team display throughout and we wish them all the very best for the next round.

On Wednesday evening, it was the turn of the Year 9 girls football team, as they played the final round of CVL fixtures at John Spence. Playing their final 2 games of the 3 stage tournament, the girls faced a determined John Spence team, playing some fantastic football to come away with a 1-1 draw. In the second game, they played a talented Valley Gardens side and were held to a 0-0 draw. They finished their evening off with a friendly game against Norham High School, winning 1-0. The team has shown great progress this year and can be proud of their efforts in this competition.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher