



Marden High School

Friday 28th March 2025

Dear All

We are delighted to announce that our excellent examination outcomes from last summer have been recognised by SSAT (The Schools, Students and Teachers Network) in this year's Educational Outcomes Awards. The award recognises that Marden High School is among the highest performing secondary schools in the country, based on 2024 performance data and information from Ofsted. Marden High School was recognised for being in the top 20% of non-selective schools nationally for student attainment in the 2024 end of KS4 exams. To be recognised with an Educational Outcomes Award is a significant achievement and a testament to the work of our whole school community. Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said: "Congratulations to Marden High School on winning an SSAT Educational Outcomes Award. This success is down to the superb learning and teaching, outstanding support and inspirational leadership of staff. You have made a huge difference to the lives of the young people in your school."

We are currently considering putting in place an arrangement to provide 1:1 access to technology, enhancing the learning experience for our students and helping to continue to deliver the highest standards of education. As you are aware we use Chromebooks in school to support students in organizing their work, communicating, and engaging in learning. We want to extend this access so that students can use a chromebook at home too, where appropriate. We think it is an advantage for students to have access to technology wherever and whenever it is necessary. In an increasingly digital world, school should reflect the way young people will interact with information in their future working lives. By integrating technology, we can give students access to a vast range of knowledge and empower them to learn in ways that suit their individual needs. We have approached Converge Technology Solutions to explore a pay monthly package for parents. The company will provide a Chromebook, that can be used at school and at home, protective carry case, education specific repair service (with zero excess), software and full on-site support for the duration of the scheme whilst the child remains a student at Marden High School. Clearly, this would involve families being a big part of this programme and so we would like some feedback from parents to gauge interest. We are looking to implement the programme in September 2025 if there is enough interest to secure a cheap enough cost. [This is a link to a quick survey](#) I would appreciate parents engaging with which will assist us in making the right choices around product and price. The survey also includes a little

more detail about what the package provides. I will write to everyone again once we have the results and we have been able to make a decision.

As part of our ongoing work with The Girl's Network, last week a group of Year 10 students visited London to celebrate International Women's Day. They visited the House of Commons and spoke to female MPs from the North East and North West about the empowering work they have been doing this year, and gained insight into their career routes that led them to their positions in Parliament. The students heard about different job roles within the political sector, and expanded their knowledge on the impact that the suffragettes had on women in democracy and British politics. Photographs from the visit are available to view on our school website.

On Monday the Year 8 netball team played in the North Tyneside Schools tournament. The team have had a great season and carried this form into the competition where they played 4 games, winning all 4 with fantastic teamwork and determination demonstrated throughout. This qualified them for the Tri-area tournament on Wednesday, where they faced the best schools from North Tyneside, Newcastle and South Northumberland. The girls continued to play brilliantly, playing some of their best netball of the year. They faced tough opponents from the private schools in the form of Dame Allens and RGS, as well as Walbottle Academy and John Spence. They finished with a record of three wins and one draw, meaning they finished in joint first place and shared the trophy with John Spence. A fantastic achievement to end what has been a brilliant season.

Our Year 7 boys football team were in action on Wednesday afternoon, in a league game away to North Gosforth Academy. Starting the game brightly, the Marden team pressed forward at every opportunity and tested the home defence time after time. The breakthrough came after 15 minutes when some smart inter-play through the middle of the field allowed the Marden team to score. The boys kept up the pressure and managed another two goals to take a 3-0 lead into half time. Playing with the wind behind them, the Marden team had the bit between their teeth and kept up their first half momentum, scoring another seven goals making the final score 10-0 to Marden. A wonderful result to take into their North Tyneside Schools Cup semi final next week.

The Year 8 boys football team played St Thomas More this week. The team put up a valiant effort, taking the lead early in the match and defending with determination throughout. They were the better side for most of the game, showcasing grit and resilience. However, despite their hard work, the visitors found their rhythm in the final 10 minutes, scoring twice to snatch a dramatic 2-1 victory. It was a heartbreaking defeat for the home side, who deserved more after their solid performance.

Finally, Year 9 had a special end to their week as we welcomed local MP and the Labour Government's Chief Whip, Sir Alan Campbell for his annual visit to the school. It was really good to see students exercising their sense of agency with their well researched questions, and we thank Sir Alan for his open, honest and very interesting answers and insight into the world of governmental decision making.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Snape'.

Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher