



## Marden High School

Friday 16th May 2025

Dear All

Last week, we celebrated the achievements of our 2024 Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants with a special award ceremony recognising their commitment, resilience, and personal growth across all sections of the programme. A huge congratulations to all who received their Bronze Awards. Meanwhile, the 2025 cohort is already off to a strong start, with the first stage of their Expedition section taking place this Saturday, 17th May. Participants will embark on their practice walk around the local coastal areas, developing vital navigation and teamwork skills in preparation for their assessed expedition later this year. We look forward to seeing what this new group will accomplish.

Next Friday sees the final Year 11 assembly held in the auditorium. Always a poignant moment, this will be a celebration of the students' time here at Marden as we look back over the years. Year 11 students are now in non-uniform for the exam season, but may wish to bring a school shirt in with them on Friday for the traditional shirt signing which takes place after the assembly. We are a week into the main exams now, and it has to be said that the attitudes and demeanour of Year 11 has been excellent, as we would all expect, and I am sure that will continue through the rest of the exam season.

Next week Marden High School will be hosting a 'collaborative consultancy' day with *Voice 21*. It will bring together the six leading professionals in the *Voice North East Project* (Marden High School, Astley Community High School, Marden Bridge Middle School, North East Futures UTC, Wellfield Middle School, and Whytrig Community Middle School) and this will give us the opportunity to explore ways to continue to develop oracy in each of our schools. As we are hosting the day, visitors will have the opportunity to see the excellent practice that is going on in our classrooms, as Marden becomes a live case study of oracy in action.

The Connect Mental Health Support Team works with 40 schools in North Tyneside to deliver low and moderate intensity interventions to support students who face difficulties with their wellbeing. Every month, Connect holds an online virtual support group for parents and carers who are supporting children and young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs. The next support group, about

“Understanding Low Mood and strategies to support your child”, takes place on 21st May at 6pm. Places can be booked via this link [Virtual Support Group Registration - May](#).

As usual, we look forward to starting our new timetable two weeks before the end of the summer term. This year this will be on Monday 7th July. At this point we will also welcome new students into new Year 9 and Year 10. This is always a good opportunity for students to become familiar with their new teachers, to get used to their new timetables and, for Year 10 students, to start options subjects. There are a couple of changes with the KS3 curriculum where Personal Development (PD) will become once a fortnight. These lessons will be on a Tuesday P1 and with your child's form teacher. Students at KS3 will have a new lesson, led by PE teachers, focusing on wellbeing and physical healthiness to complement their core PE lessons.

The Year 8 football team were in action twice this week. First, they played their final 7-a-side league games, where they secured two wins, two draws, and one loss. Despite having little rest between matches, the boys showcased some excellent football and endurance. Later in the week, they faced Burnside in their final 11-a-side league game. Burnside proved to be a tough opponent, the team battled hard but were defeated 6-3.

The athletics season is in full swing and all Marden teams were in competition this week. On Monday it was the Year 7 and 8 teams at the Tynemouth Schools event where pupils were encouraged to enter a number of events on the night. The pupils performed brilliantly, with many pupils achieving a first, second or third place finish. They eagerly await the final results to confirm those qualified for the next round of competition at Monkton Stadium in June.

On Thursday afternoon it was the turn of the Year 9 and 10 pupils as they travelled to Monkton Stadium for the North Tyneside Schools competition. Again, there were lots of fantastic results, with those in first, second and third place awaiting confirmation of progress to the Northumberland County competition at Hexham in June.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher