



Marden High School

Friday 13th June 2025

Dear All

Following any student survey it is important that we then delve deeper into certain questions and hear from students about their experiences within the school. Following the most recent student panels it was heartening to hear phrases such as; "students felt welcomed by other students and staff. There was a nice atmosphere where people want to help you", "It was the small things that contributed to a sense of belonging ", "Students like it here. Teachers are friendly and know their students well" and "There is a really clear structure for rewards and for sanctions and this helps in lessons to encourage positive behaviours". Our next student survey will take place at the end of June, with a student-led assembly being shared in early July where certain aspects of students' experiences will be shared and as such, we will continue to put student voice at the heart of everything we do.

On the theme of surveys it is that time of year again when we would like to invite parents and carers to give their views via our [parent/carers survey which is linked here](#). We usually get great engagement with these surveys which is really useful to us as we do factor your feedback into our future decision making and planning for the school. I look forward to hearing your views.

Last week was Volunteers' Week, an annual UK-wide campaign held from the first Monday in June to celebrate and recognise the contributions of volunteers. Launched in 1984, this initiative has been running for over 40 years, providing organisations and communities a platform to thank current and past volunteers for their invaluable efforts. As part of this celebration we were very pleased to receive a Social Value Certificate for the school from the Duke of Edinburgh organisation. This Social Value Certificate recognises the fantastic work our students do as Duke of Edinburgh participants do, both in and for their communities. It gives a monetary value to participants' efforts towards the Volunteering section of their DofE. National Duke of Edinburgh annual statistics revealed that participants clocked up a huge 5,225,285 hours of volunteering as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award this year – a huge jump of 10.6% from 23/24, with an estimated total value of £33.4m. Volunteering can change lives, which is why it is such a vital part of the Duke of Edinburgh programme. In addition to giving time, of course, our students discover passions, build

confidence, and gain skills that last a lifetime. We look forward to our next cohort of students embark on their Duke of Edinburgh award next year.

You may remember that I have asked for uniform donations in previous newsletters. Many thanks for the numerous donations that have so far been received. We now have a very healthy supply of, in particular, good quality PE hoodies and jumpers as well as some blazers. We also have a supply of new (still with tags) school shirts and trousers. It would be great to be able to reuse as much uniform as possible to support both the environment and families financially. Some of our SSAs are overseeing the uniform that is coming in and redistributing it to anybody who requests it. You can contact them at uniform@mardenhigh.net to either request to come in (with or without your child) to identify uniform or, alternatively, if you email your requirements they will be able to put a bag of uniform together to collect or go home with your child.

The Year 10 boys tennis team played Kings Priory on Tuesday afternoon, in their final tennis match of the season. The boys all played brilliantly in their singles games, but their opponents proved to be too strong, winning all four games, albeit with close scorelines. In their doubles games, the scores were even closer, but it was the Kings players that came out on top. Not the result the team were looking for, but a sterling performance by all four players.

The Year 7 boys cricket team were in action on Thursday in the North Tyneside schools tournament held at Tynemouth Cricket Club. They were placed in a group with John Spence, St Thomas More and Churchill and managed to win all three games to top the group and move through to the semi finals. Here they faced Marden Bridge and in a tight game needed to take a wicket with the last ball of the game to progress to the final. Unfortunately it wasn't to be, and the Marden boys had to settle for 3rd place overall in the tournament. All players showed great skill and determination throughout the day and can be proud of their efforts.

We wish our Year 9 and 10 athletes the best of luck for the Northumberland County competition tomorrow, being held at Wentworth Track in Hexham. 22 of our pupils qualified for this competition and will represent the North Tyneside Schools team, with the possibility of qualifying for the Northumberland team, who will compete next week at Gateshead International Stadium in the Inter-Counties competition. Good luck to all the Marden competitors.

We are now well into our summer sports programme, and we will be enjoying our annual Sports Day on Friday 4th July. House captains will be working with PE staff to organise the House teams for this competitive event featuring both track and field events, as well as the traditional tug of war competition. It is

always great to be able to celebrate the students' achievements at the end of Sports Day in our awards ceremony.

Mary Poppins (Junior) flies into the auditorium of Marden High School on the 9th and 10th July. The "practically perfect" 70-minute musical, is based on the classic P.L. Travers stories and the Walt Disney film, with a cast and crew of 40 students led by the Creative Arts Team. All of North Tyneside is shouting from the rooftops about this exciting stage adaptation of the classic tales of Mary Poppins. We hope you will be able to join us and the Banks family as they encounter adventure after fun-filled adventure with their curious new nanny, Mary Poppins. Adapted especially for young performers, this musical includes favorite songs such as "A Spoonful of Sugar," "Feed the Birds," and "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious". With colourful characters and an irresistible musical score, *Mary Poppins JR.* is sure to be a crowd-pleaser for all ages. For information on purchasing tickets please visit the school website or contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

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

Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher