



Marden High School

Friday 27th June 2025

Dear All

We are looking forward to meeting all our new Year 7 parents and carers on Monday at our Induction Evening. This is always a very useful meeting where I, Mrs Robson our Deputy Head, and Mr Topping, the Head of new Year 7, present valuable information to parents, and it gives everybody a good opportunity to meet and ask any questions they may have regarding their child starting at Marden High. Following Monday evening, on Tuesday and Wednesday, we then welcome our new Year 7 children into high school lessons where they will get a flavour of some of the subjects they will be studying next year. This is also a good chance for them to familiarise themselves with the buildings and staff, as well as meeting people and starting to make new friends.

Year 10 students have done very well this year in securing their work experience placements. In an economic climate that is not necessarily conducive to businesses having the capacity to provide such placements, nearly 100% of our young people have managed to arrange their experience in the world of work, showing significant initiative and resilience. A big thanks should also go to the many businesses and organisations who have supported this. We wish them well as they embark on next week out of school and we look forward to hearing about how they have got on.

The Girls Get Set STEM students were out this week for their graduation at Baker Hughes, where they received their bronze and silver cadet awards. Throughout the day the girls were involved in a series of sessions including *icebreakers*, *guess the job role*, and *hiding and finding each other's oil reserves*. The competition was on with each team creating maps complete with decoys, whilst working out costings for each of their attempts by calculating their drill depths as well as the number of coordinates tested. The girls were also given the fantastic opportunity of a plant tour where they were able to see Baker Hughes's Flexible Pipe System in production. The scale of manufacturing and sheer size of the engineering equipment had all the girls in awe. Earlier in the year all 19 students had taken part in this year's Carbon Footprint Project and this week saw the winners of the presentations announced. Up against some tough competition not only from their peers but another North East school, Marden were victorious for the 2nd year running. The girls from team Pedal Energy gave an energetic, fun, confident, detailed and engaging

presentation on how to use our current gym equipment to help reduce our school's carbon footprint. Two of our students also won the carbon capture poster competition. Well done to all of the girls for their hard work this year.

Monday marks the conclusion to Marden She Wrote 2025: *Crunch Time*. Here's how the mystery is impacting on one particular family:

"Just watched the second instalment of crunch time. Of course, we have our suspicions on the person or persons who may be the thief ... May I please praise the English team. The narrative, acting, and production values are all of the highest order. We are gripped."

After several weeks of careful investigation, deduction and inference, students have submitted their theories and eagerly await the dramatic outcome. Congratulations to all of the students, staff and parents who used their critical thinking skills to identify the correct culprit(s). The denouement will be available to view on the English subject cloud from Monday.

After ten months of training walks, and learning vital expedition skills, we see 80 of our Year 9 students heading off to the rolling hills of rural Hexhamshire next week to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition. Over two days, our students will navigate through unfamiliar terrain, carry everything they need on their backs, cook for themselves at their campsites, and spend the night under canvas – all while working as a team and practicing everything they've learned throughout the year. Of course, the DofE programme is so much more than the expedition. It has been good to see students grow in confidence as they've volunteered in their communities, developed new skills, and taken up physical challenges. A big thanks goes to the staff team who have supported this year's cohort and will be giving up their time to ensure the expedition runs smoothly. The best of luck to all involved.

The athletics season is in full swing and Marden's athletes have been in fine form of late. Last weekend saw seven Marden pupils from Year 9 and 10 representing Northumberland in the Inter-Counties competition held in Middlesbrough. All of the pupils gave a fantastic account of themselves, performing in a variety of events across the day, helping Northumberland to achieve 2nd place overall in a fiercely contested championship. Two of our pupils won their respective Hammer throw events in this competition and will now qualify for the National English Schools Finals to be held in Birmingham next month. An amazing achievement and we wish them every success as they pit themselves against the very best athletes from across the country.

Tomorrow it is the turn of the Year 7 and 8 Marden athletes to represent North Tyneside in the Northumberland County competition held at Gateshead International Stadium. No less than sixteen Marden pupils will take to the track and field in an attempt to be crowned County champion. Best of luck to all our pupils competing tomorrow.

And finally, the Year 9 rounders team hosted the North Tyneside Schools tournament on Thursday afternoon, with five local schools competing in a round robin tournament. The girls showed great athleticism and determination in all of their games, only losing to the eventual tournament winners St Thomas More. Well done to all players for your outstanding attitude and for playing every game in excellent spirits.

Thank you for your continued support.

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

Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher