



Marden High School

Friday 14th November 2025

Winter lunchtimes

Due to the arrival of the wet weather the fields will now be closed until the Spring term. There are lots of places for the students to be at lunch such as the greenhouse, the cafe, the auditorium and our new Kabin space. In addition Te3 is open for students to play board games everyday. STEM is open for Year 10 and 11 students as a study space, there are passes available for the LRC and the fitness suite is open (students should pick up a pass the day before). In addition to this there are a great range of clubs and activities for students to get involved in. Please talk to your child about what is on offer by looking at the [Extra Curricular activities](#) link on the website.

Trip to the Theatre Royal

Year 7 students are being given a fantastic opportunity to see a brand new musical production based on Shakespeare's Macbeth, entitled: Weird. Limited tickets have been given (free of charge) to schools across the North East to see the world premiere at Newcastle's Theatre Royal before it is released to the general public. The performance will take place on Friday 30 January and this will be a superb event for our Key Stage 3 students to engage with the narrative of Macbeth as well as developing an early appreciation of Shakespeare before studying his plays as they move up through school. Letters have been emailed to parents and carers, and physical copies are available from your child's English teacher. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Cathcart: e.cathcart@mardenhigh.net

BIMA Digital Day

On Wednesday this week a number of Year 10 students were involved with BIMA Digital Day. The only digital initiative of its kind, Digital:Day is aimed at students studying GCSE Computer Science and BTEC Digital Information Technology and sees digital professionals head back to school for a day to inspire students and give them insight into a world of digital careers. For the 5th year running we had a global agency called HedgeHog Labs join us in school. The students worked in small groups to create a digital solution for a well known brand, this year the challenges were provided by Aston Martin and Hello Fresh. The day culminated in a Dragons Den style presentation where two groups were crowned the winners of the Aston Martin Challenge, and the Hello Fresh Challenge.

Carol Service

Friday 19th December is the last day of this term, and it has been a long standing tradition for us to visit St George's Church in Cullercoats for our Carol Service, to celebrate our term together and to welcome in the Christmas period. Space is limited in the Church and as we have grown in numbers recently, we will be taking Years 7, 8 and 9 to the church after lunch, while Year 10 and 11 will have an earlier finish at the start of lunchtime. Further details and a reminder of these arrangements will be sent out closer to the end of term.

Parent/Carer Survey

We have had a good response to our Parent/Carer Survey so far. If you would like to take part in the survey but have not yet done so, please be aware it closes on Sunday night (16th November). I will feed back the main findings from the survey in a few weeks time via this newsletter.

Fundraising

Today we saw fundraising take place in school to support our M10 students in their upcoming visit to Mexico where they will be building homes for families in need. We have tied it in with the national 'Children In Need' fundraising as it is the children in Mexico that will be supported by our students next summer. This project takes place every year with students from Marden accompanying the charity M10 in this work. It is a fantastic opportunity to develop leadership, autonomy and the skills of organisation and communication. Any students in Year 10 who are interested in this project for 2027 will learn more in the summer term.

Parents' Forum

On Wednesday next week we have our next Parents' Forum. Those people who have already been to one will know that this is an opportunity to have an informal chat with me and other parents and carers on the topic of general school matters, rather than their own children specifically. Items that we have discussed in the past have been as varied as academisation, catering, extra-curricular provision and school uniform. If you would like to come along on Wednesday at 4.30 for a chat and a cup of tea you would be very welcome.

Remembrance Day

To mark this year's Remembrance Day, students in Years 7 and 8 were assigned a special homework task to commemorate Armistice Day. They had the option to choose from two creative activities: creating a poppy-themed piece or cooking a dish related to wartime traditions. The response was exceptional, with students producing a wide range of impressive outcomes. Some designed striking computer-based poppy artwork and 3D models, while others baked and decorated cakes and biscuits, whilst others still prepared

savoury dishes reminiscent of wartime meals. The dedication and creativity shown by our students was remarkable, reflecting both their artistic skills and respect for this important occasion.

Sports

The Marden cross country running teams took part in the North Tyneside Schools championships held at Monkseaton High School last week. In fair conditions, the teams all performed magnificently, with many of our pupils finishing inside the top 10. These pupils will go through to represent North Tyneside in the Northumberland County Championships later this term. A special mention to one of our Year 11 runners, Phoenix Hayton-Rowell, who came first place in the Inter-Boys competition, also beating the Senior Boys runners from Year 12 and 13 who ran their race at the same time, by a margin of over 2 minutes. A fantastic individual achievement and we look forward to seeing his future successes in the sport.

On Monday night, the Year 8 girls' netball team had a fantastic run at John Spence High School, securing a 2-0 and 3-2 victory over the two St Thomas More teams, a 3-2 win against Longbenton High School, and a 3-3 draw against John Spence. Their teamwork and skill were evident throughout the matches. The following day, Tuesday, saw the start of the after school Dance Festival sessions. The 25 chosen pupils picked up the routine incredibly fast, already showing their commitment to the 2026 shows. Additionally, Marden was at John Spence on Thursday evening with the U16 netball team. They played against the John Spence Year 11 and Year 10 teams, narrowly losing 14-11 to the Year 11s, but bouncing back with a solid 13-6 win over the Year 10s. Great performances all around!

The Year 9 and 10 girls football team hosted Kings Priory on Tuesday afternoon in the Northumberland County cup. The game started at a frantic pace with Kings pressing the home team from the first whistle. A corner for the visitors was turned into the home net in the 2nd minute, sparking a fantastic response from the Marden team. They quickly moved the ball up the pitch from the restart and shot from just inside the box to find the corner of the goal. This opened the floodgates as Marden ran rampant scoring another 5 goals to make the half time score 6-1. With the bit between their teeth, Marden kept up this pressure in the second half, scoring a further 4 times to stretch their lead and take the result. The visitors never gave up and managed to score two late goals to make the final score 10-3 to Marden. Well done to everyone involved.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher