



Marden High School

Friday 5th December 2025

Numeracy News

Each week in form time, students read Marden's Numeracy News - a collection of local, national and international stories and focus on the numbers behind the headlines. Recent editions have included news of the unveiling of Mary Ann Macham's statue in North Shields, Sam Fender's donation to grassroots music venues and the promise of an increase in spending on social housing in the north-east. Students are asked to discuss the figures that appear in the stories, for example, asking, is that a big number? How much money would that mean one person gets? How much of a grant is coming to the local area?

To further bolster numeracy skills, a number of year 7 students are undertaking a programme from the National Centre for the Excellence in Teaching Mathematics (NCETM) called *Securing Foundations*. The programme is designed to support students who may have gaps from previous key stages in order to allow them to access the key stage 3 curriculum. The programme also includes a focus on supporting students to be able to reason mathematically and it is great to hear the students explaining to each other the differing approaches they have taken to the same question.

Christmas appeal

Newcastle Dog & Cat Shelter helps animals that are lost, unwanted, neglected, abused and abandoned. They reunite lost animals with their owners and find loving new homes for those no longer wanted. Sadly they are seeing more abandoned and vulnerable pets come through their doors. At Marden High we have had a longstanding relationship with the shelter and are appealing for donations. Form 7A, with Miss Randall are coordinating the collection of unopened cat and dog food, treats and other necessities to ensure these animals are looked after during their stay at the shelter. The last day for donations is Tuesday 16th December. Donations can be brought to Miss Randall in SC6 or dropped off at the science prep room. For more information about the shelter and donations please click on this link <https://www.dogandcatshelter.com/>

Singing

We have enjoyed several early morning singing sessions this week, practising for our visit to St George's Church on the 19th December. Students in Years 8 and 9 have been exercising their vocal chords and

reminding themselves of how to conduct themselves when at the church - quietly and with respect. I have been very impressed with our students' enthusiasm and listening skills in assemblies this week. Thanks also to those staff who attended the assemblies to give the students extra encouragement. Year 7 will be practising very soon.

Sports

This week has seen many of Marden's football teams playing in the North Tyneside and County Cups, with the Year 8 boys team playing in their North Tyneside Schools CVL at Valley Gardens on Monday evening. They faced some tough opponents in the form of St Thomas More, Norham High School and Kings Priory. They played some fantastic football throughout the competition and came away with a 0-0 draw against St Thomas More, a 7-0 win against Norham and a 1-1 draw with Kings Priory. The second part of this competition will be in the new year, and the boys are in a great position to take the title.

The Year 7 boys played Blyth Academy this Wednesday in the first round of the County Cup. The boys started off strong, scoring 2 early goals, playing some brilliant one touch football. Blyth fought back with spells of possession but Marden took control of the game and scored a further 5 goals, ending the game with a 7-1 win. They face tough opposition in the next round, away to Burnside.

And finally, the Year 8 boys futsal team played in the North Tyneside leg of the Northumberland County tournament. They narrowly lost to St Thomas More 5-6, before winning against John Spence 10-3 and drawing with Valley Gardens 2-2 in their final game. Well done to all players involved in the games this week.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher