

Dear all,

## Leadership

Following on from last week's leadership assemblies we've been impressed with the number of students who have been putting themselves forward for a range of leadership opportunities at Marden. Voting closed yesterday for the shortlist for Head Prefect and the six students, with the highest votes, will complete the next stage next week. This will consist of those students presenting to the Senior Leadership team meeting and answering questions. I look forward to sharing the names of the students who successfully take on the two head prefect roles with you next week. Also next week we have 130 students in Year 9 taking part in their first Duke of Edinburgh meeting. We have also enjoyed reading the applications from those students interested in joining the school cabinet. Mr Pennington is also inviting applications to be a house captain (see below).



**Become a House Captain!**

Are you a leader?  
Do you want to make a difference?

Be the voice of your house, support your team and help create a positive school community.

- ★ Show leadership
- ★ Be a role model
- ★ Support your house
- ★ Get involved
- ★ Make a difference

Your house needs YOU!

Send an application of why you would make a good House Captain to [j.pennington@mardenhigh.net](mailto:j.pennington@mardenhigh.net).  
Come and see Mr. Pennington if you have any further questions.

Deadline: 9th November 2026

## House System - Update from Mr Pennington



We have had an impressive start to the House Competition this year with students embarking on a range of new challenges both in and out of lessons. Dunstanburgh are taking the lead again with a whopping 38083 points this year, while Alnwick are gaining on them in second with 36790. House Games are due to begin in conjunction with the P.E. Department. Starting on 05/10/2026 students will take part in the first House Games event of Cross Country where students will be earning house points and prizes for their efforts. Following this we will see a badminton tournament the following half term for students to get their teeth into. Moreover, opportunities for students to grab house points have soared over the first few weeks back. The first week back saw English host the first Academic House Competition with students from Year 7-11 showcasing their enthusiasm and effort in English. Alongside the crowning of our first House Hero of the year in Y9 earning an extra 200

house points. The past two weeks have seen our students take on a crossword and sudoku challenge with prizes for those who solved the challenges first and a further fifty points on offer for every student that takes part. This week also sees DT take on the Academic House Challenge, with students again able to earn 100 House Points for their fantastic effort in lessons recognised by their teachers.

## Upcoming events:

- **6 October Year 9 drop down day**
- **13 October Introduction to Year 10 5.30pm - 6.30pm**
- **22nd October Year 11 core evening**
- **Friday 23rd October 3.15pm break up from school. Monday 2nd November return to school.**

## Great Languages Bake off

To celebrate European Day of Languages we will be hosting the Great Languages Bake Off on 7 October 2026. Bakes from the competition will be sold in The Kabin on 8 October 2026 for students to purchase with cash. Please be aware that, in line with our allergy policy, home-baked goods are not guaranteed to be free from nuts or other allergens, so we encourage parents/carers to discuss food safety with their child before the event. See some of the fantastic entries from last year right.



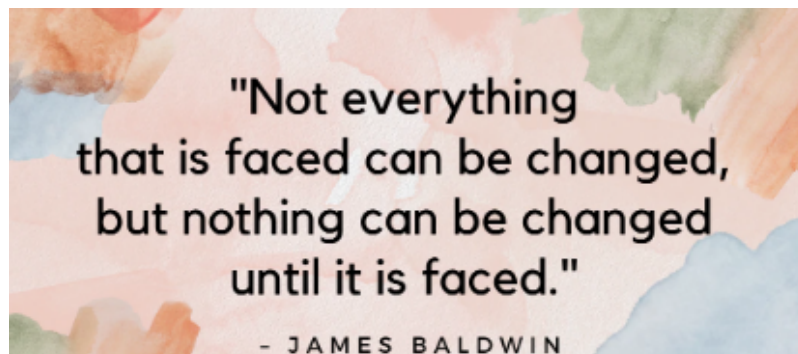
## Sport

The **KS3 badminton team** played in the North Tyneside schools competition on Wednesday evening, hosted by John Spence. The team was composed of Year 8 pupils, playing competitive badminton for the first time and both teams played some excellent badminton. All players were involved in singles and doubles games against tough opponents and showed great improvement throughout the competition. Well done to all. Our **Year 9 boys football team** made the short journey to play John Spence on Thursday afternoon in the North Tyneside league. The team started the game brightly, taking the lead inside the first 5 minutes with a well worked team goal. They doubled their lead soon after and capped a fine first half display with a third just before half time. The hosts scored midway through the half to reduce the deficit, but Marden held on to take a 3-1 victory. Some excellent football played and all players should be proud of the way they played.

Next week our **girls football teams** kick off their season as the U13 team play in the North Tyneside CVL and the U15 team travel to Whitley Bay.

## Thought for the week

This week's thought for the week comes from American writer and civil rights activist James Baldwin.



Have a great weekend!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mrs K Robson'.

Mrs K Robson  
Head Teacher