



Friday 25th May 2018

Dear All,

As you are aware, one of the essential aspects of education and development here at Marden is making sure that all of our students have the right information and decision making skills so that they can make informed choices for the future. To this end, we have developed a comprehensive calendar of careers events which start long before students are in their final year. This can be found in the Careers section of our website. One of the exciting new ventures we are developing is a programme of careers talks from a variety of people involved in a range of services, businesses and other organisations. We would be very keen to hear from anybody in our community who would like to contribute to this programme, by giving a short talk on what it is they do in their job, the qualifications and skills needed for it, and the route they have taken to get there. We think that having a wide variety of such talks will give the students a really good insight into what the possibilities are for them in the future, and help them to reflect on the skills they need to develop and are developing here at Marden. Students and their parents will be invited to attend these talks after school so that they can choose to investigate the areas that most interest them. In order to assist our planning of these events, I would be grateful if you could contact me or Mrs Brennan, our World of Work coordinator, if you feel that you, or a member of your family may be able to contribute to these Careers talks. You may wish to have a look at some of the "I could ..." stories which give an idea of the type of information we are aiming at providing for our students:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/icouldstories>

Whilst our Year 11 students have been busy preparing for and sitting their second week of exams, the rest of our students have had the opportunity to select their Head Girl and Head Boy from a shortlist of senior prefects. We are very impressed with the enthusiasm of our Year 10 prefects so far, and with the maturity and responsibility with which they have approached their new roles. Nine of these students have presented, not only to the Senior Leadership Team and their Head of Year, but have also produced a short campaign video watched by everybody in the school. These presentations have been an important part of the selection process, as the voting by students and staff will also be. The successful candidates will have an important role in our school community, as they will be leading the other prefects in their work, acting as a role model to other students in the school, and representing the student body at important events such as open days and during VIP visits.

As ever, our teachers continue to go the extra mile in supporting our students with their exam preparation, and there is another programme of revision sessions during the half term holidays. This can be found in the exams section of the school website.

During the first week back after the holiday, we will be hosting another Open Day on Friday 8th June. This is designed to allow parents of Year 5 (or younger) children to come and have a look around the school, and experience some of the great learning and activities going on. Please remind any family or friends with children of that age about this event. Places on the Open Day can be booked by calling the school. We are looking forward to showing lots of people around.

We also have our Year 8 parents evening during the first week back. This will take place on Thursday 7th June.

Last Friday evening we had a team of Year 7 students competing in a rugby league festival at Kingston Park followed by watching the Newcastle Thunder vs Bradford Bulls game. This was a great event enjoyed by all. Of the 6 games played at the festival they won five and drew one game. They conceded only one try throughout. Well done to all students participating. Their behaviour was impeccable and they were a credit to the school.

A Year 7 rounders team played in their first matches on Monday evening. It was a trial team and the girls have to be congratulated on their commitment and responsibility when representing the school. They won two games and were in the process of completing their third game when the match had to be cut short due to time. Congratulations to all.

In athletics we continue to have considerable success. Year 7 and Year 8 athletes took part in trials on Wednesday with a number of them qualifying for North Tyneside representation. Confirmation of these results will be released next week. We have already had confirmation that 18 students from year 9 and year 10 have qualified to represent the county at Wentworth in Hexham on Saturday 9th June. On Thursday evening we took 35 students to St Thomas More in the North Tyneside Schools Athletics and this was to qualify to represent North Tyneside Minors at Monkton Stadium. All students showed great sportsmanship and many students were successful.

I hope all our students have an enjoyable holiday, and we look forward to seeing everyone back rested and raring to go on Monday 4th June.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher