



Marden High School

Friday 8th June 2018

Dear All,

We have had a busy and productive week on our return to school. Our Year 11 students have continued where they left off with a great positive attitude to their exams, following a number of well attended revision classes in the holidays. The bulk of the exam will be over by the end of next week, and thoughts will be turning to their next steps and celebrating their time here at Marden. The Leavers' Prom will be on 27th June, and this will be followed by the Leavers' Assembly on Monday 2nd July, always a poignant moment as we reflect back on the experiences they have had and the friendships they have made.

Just before the half term holidays we had a visit from the Right Honourable Alan Campbell, MP for Tynemouth, who came in to see some of the classes going on and to meet our Senior Prefects. As you can imagine they had some excellent questions for him, not least of all around the topic of leadership. Alan passed on a powerful message to the students about sticking to principles, advising them to think a lot about decisions they had to make, and then to show conviction and stick to the decision that has been made, in the knowledge that they have been made on the basis of a solid foundation.

Following the video presentations that all of our Senior Prefects made to the rest of the school, and the interviews they had with the Senior Leadership Team, our students and staff were involved in elections and congratulations are due to Kate Edwardson and Joel Campbell who have been elected as Head Girl and Head Boy. The quality of presentations and information given by all nine of the prefects who put themselves forward for elections has been superb, and these students will form a core team of senior prefects who will lead and support other prefects. Kate and Joel will be producing a short video in the next few days to outline how they will be fulfilling their roles.

On Wednesday this week, a group of Year 9 students spent the day at Seaton Delaval Hall in the final stages of their TICE projects (This Is Creative Enterprises), where the students are collaborating with the creative industries. At Seaton Delaval Hall they toured the grounds, spoke to tour guides about the history of the place, and started shaping their stories, which range from gothic horror to historical romance, and all use the Hall as a setting for their work. Further T.I.C.E days will see them expand and polish their stories, leading up to a final showcase of their achievements in July.

The final results of the athletics competition held on May 23rd have arrived this week. Congratulations to the junior athletes listed as they will now go to Monkton Stadium on Friday 8th June to participate in the North Tyneside Inter Zone Competition.

The cabinet are organising a charity week beginning Monday 25th June - this will raise money for the Kwa Hilda Orphanage in South Africa which a lot of the students heard about during Prayer Space. We hope that this charity week becomes a key part of our school year, so that we can build a sustainable relationship with the Orphanage.

Our students take great pride in being members of the Marden High School community, and rightly so, for their achievements in so many different areas are excellent. One of the outward signs of our wonderful community is our uniform, which is generally worn very well, and we often receive positive comments from visitors to the school and members of the public. From September 2018 we will be adding a small but important element to our uniform which will bring clarity and simplicity when purchasing either school trousers or a school skirt. Each of these items will be of a uniform style and have a small Marden logo emblazoned, and will be available from the local uniform suppliers, Emblematic. There will be more details out soon.

On Wednesday we held a short memorial service for Tatyana Zinovyeva, a former cover supervisor and Russian teacher who spent 16 years at Marden, and who sadly passed away earlier this year. A plaque in our memorial garden was unveiled, and Father Adrian Hughes spoke to a small congregation of close friends, and those who worked with her. It was a touching reflection of the strength and depth of our supportive school community, and of the place that Tatyana has in it.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher