



Marden High School

Friday 6th July 2018

Dear All,

This week we had a number of year 7 and year 8 students visit the research and development centre at Proctor and Gamble to present their 'Apps of the Future' pitches to a group of 'dragons' made up of senior professionals at the company. Needless to say they were very impressed not only by the sophistication of the ideas, but the manner in which they were presented and the persuasive techniques used. The students also got to look around the various laboratories where some of the world's latest technologies are developed, giving them a good insight into future careers possibilities.

Following Marden's Got Talent last week, this week year 7 students experienced 'Marden's Got Talons', as they learnt about flight during their Super Learning Day with a very interesting 'hands on' presentation, where students had the chance to handle some of the beautiful birds of prey from Kielder. In the afternoon students went on to apply some of the design principles they had learnt about, to their own airborne craft.

The Learning Ambassadors programme is growing in numbers with 32 applications for September 2018 submitted by Year 8 students. Mrs Goldie is leading on the first year of the programme and Miss Wallace will be taking the Year 9 Learning Ambassadors through to Year 10. Both cohorts had a thought provoking afternoon on Tuesday which included an opportunity to meet Maurice Duffy, CEO of Global Blackswan, specialists in executive coaching and leadership development. Maurice advocates that attitude is of fundamental importance to our success and motivation. The students were challenged in their thinking and enjoyed an interactive presentation and workshop about the power of our own minds and attitudes. This was followed by a lively question and answer session. As always we are extremely grateful to Maurice for giving his time to talk to our students.

As part of their GCSE, year 10 students have been presenting their drama performances this week. Dealing with some difficult and sensitive issues, the three groups performed superbly well in front of mixed audiences of staff, students, parents and visitors. A huge amount of preparation has gone into this work and the performances were testament to the serious work ethic and commitment from both students and Mrs Berriman.

Six Year 10 pupils recently visited Cambridge University to sample life as a student at one of the best Universities in the world. Pupils stayed at Jesus College and completed a series of activities during their stay. This was led by student ambassadors and University staff who were able to give them a deep insight into what life would be like at not only Cambridge but at university generally. The pupils found the trip very informative and inspiring with particular

highlights being the opportunity to spend time with current students, living as students do in halls of residence and learning about the financial and logistical side of student life.

As part of the Great Exhibition of the North, the collaborative North Tyneside and Newcastle Orchestra and choir performed five major music pieces at The Sage this week, including Phantom of the Opera and Evil Ways. This was an amazing stage for such an event with great acoustics and a very large audience. It was a great opportunity for several of our students who were involved either playing instruments or singing. so it was a fantastic opportunity. All the North Tyneside young people have been rehearsing on Tuesday evenings for the last month, as well as for a full day in May half term and a morning rehearsal at the Sage today, so it's great that all the hard work paid off and that Marden was well represented.

Some news just in - a national anthology of poems called 'The Poetry Games: Across England' has just been published this week, and we have had no fewer than 42 students work which has been included - quite remarkable, and well done to all.

Some of our year 10 students visited King Edward's Primary School this week to deliver lessons in foreign languages to a variety of age groups. Whilst all children involved with this were inspired and challenged in equal measure, it was lovely to hear back from staff at King Edward's: 'Your children were amazing! Thank you so much for this morning. Our children got so much out of it! I loved the Russian and I think many of the children were inspired to learn languages, which is what this week is about.'

We look forward to seeing all of our new year 7 children and parents next week as they come in for the New Parents Induction Evening and Transition Days. There are lots of exciting lessons planned for them and we're sure they will have a great time here getting ready for their start in September.

Students will be finishing early on our last day of the year, Friday 20 July at 1.30pm, to allow staff to make presentations to those who are leaving. We have a staff training day on Monday 3 September, so the first day back for all students is Tuesday 4 September, at the normal starting time of 8.45am, when students will meet their tutors in form rooms.

This is the time of the year that we see how much lost property we have accumulated in the form of shoes, coats, blazers and PE kit. Whilst students have the chance to reclaim lost items at any time we would like to give parents and carers the opportunity to come in to school to look for missing items themselves. This will be possible each afternoon from 3.30pm during the last week of term.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher