



Marden High School

Friday 14th September 2018

Dear All,

We often have visitors to the school and it is always interesting to hear their perceptions of what they see. Of particular interest were the comments made by a group of vicars and Bishop Ingeborg of More in Norway, who were quite taken by the friendly, calm and focused atmosphere that they found at lunch and on their tour around the school, saying that the students and staff must be very proud of the school. This is, of course, what we expect as normal here at Marden, but nevertheless it is good to hear it from people who, as part of their work, visit many schools both in this country and in Norway.

As part of our continued work within the community and to support safety on public transport, we have representatives from NEXUS coming in to speak to our students next week. We look forward to continuing to build relationships with various local groups and organisations as it forms such an important part of our role in the coastal area. Transport safety and living in a community are such important aspects to growing up, and we look forward to hosting what promises to be an interesting assembly.

As we are at the start of the year, staff are busy planning the Extra Curricular Programme, and indeed, a number of clubs have already started. It has been good to hear about several individual successes from students competing in athletics, football, gymnastics over the summer and at weekends. These are students who are competing and doing very well at a high level but don't forget, it is just as important to be taking part, so I would encourage all our students (and staff) to take up the opportunities when they arise. Getting involved with the Extra Curricular Programme will give you enjoyment and help you meet new friends, and you might even find that with some practice, you get very good at your new skill. Remember: "100% of the shots you don't take don't go in". The Extra Curricular Programme is displayed around school and can be found on the school website.

Our successful partnership with Dance City will continue this year. A new programme is about to start on Tuesday 18 September. It is hoped that plenty of our new year 7 students will enrol on the programme. Senior girls are looking forward to the opportunity of working with the new students.

The revision timetable for year 11 students is already up and running, and I would encourage all our students to take advantage of this excellent support which is put in place for them. The timetable is displayed around school, as well as on the school website. Those students who start to put a little extra time in at this point in the year will find it easier when it comes to key assessment points during the year because they will have developed the habits of extra learning and learning at home.

Next Thursday sees our year 10 English evening starting at 6pm, and this will be an opportunity for parents to hear about the requirements of their child's English exams, as well as useful materials and revision techniques.

I have spoken previously about the wonderful writing that our students do, and as a regular supporter of Young Writers, Marden High School has been awarded 5-star school status. Following an exciting year of writing success and competition wins, we have been granted this exclusive honour by Young Writers, and it is good to see that there has once again been a strong interest this term so far in creative writing.

Please note that next Friday year 7 and year 10 students will have their photographs taken, and parents will then receive a proof copy of their child's photo, with the option of purchasing larger versions should they wish. Details will be brought home by the children.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Snape'.

Mr M. Snape
Head Teacher