



Marr College
Parent Council and Community Council
Head Teacher Report
Wednesday 1st March 2023

On Tuesday 7th March, Marr will be hosting a visit from Keir Construction and BDP who were responsible for the design and build of the refurbishment and new build. The focus of the day is to meet with pupils and staff to learn about the positive impact of the build, as well as lessons learned from the consultation and construction process. We will also be joined by a local film production company who will record the day.

Below is an update on our work over the last month:

Students

- Mr Docherty and Mr Moncrieff accompanied a group of S1-S6 students to the Scottish Parliament to receive the Vision Schools Award for excellence in Holocaust Education. The group met the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Shirley-Ann Sommerville and also enjoyed some time exploring the parliament building. On Monday 13th March, the Holocaust Memorial Trust will be visiting to record a short film about our work in holocaust education
- Students raised £300 for the Micah Project during a recent Dress Down Day
- The Marr Allies group organised an excellent 'Purple Friday' event with a bake sale, face painting and a chance for pupils to pledge their support of inclusion and diversity in school. A further £500 was raised for LGBT Youth Scotland
- Two pupils were involved in producing an excellent Young Carers awareness raising film entitled 'The Weekend'. A red-carpet launch took place on Tuesday 21st February. This is an excellent resource that will be utilised in PSE classes.
- A class set of VR Headsets is now ready for use. An initial group of staff will be trained to use the sets before taster sessions are organised for pupils
- Our new 'Teacher Token' initiative is in its second month and has been well received. Updated House Points are shown in the Dining Hall scoreboard
- Additional tables and benches have been installed in the Dining Hall to increase capacity
- Daily Dozen meetings have focused on curriculum rationale. Following feedback from S4 learners, a workshop on exam preparation was delivered to all S4 in House groups
- Supported Study continues to be offered to all S4-S6 as well as the weekly Study Café. Details of Easter School and study leave classes will be issued soon

Captains/Prefects:

- Captains are meeting with local design company, Adworks, to plan and design a wellbeing display which will incorporate the range of supports available to young people
- S6 Leavers' Hoodies have been ordered. Students are reminded to complete their Yearbook questionnaire as soon as possible
- Mr Lindsay is working on a review of our Captains and Prefects appointment process together with our current Captains

Parents and Community Partners

- S5/S6 reports have been issued. S1 tracking reports will be issued on 3/3 and S4 on 10/3.
- Feedback has been received from parents of S1-S3 students on their online parents' evening experience. Collated feedback will be shared with the Parent Council on 1st March and will be issued to all parents
- Marr hosted an excellent 'Carers Day' on Thursday 2nd February to celebrate the work of carers in our community. The feedback from guests and visiting partners was extremely positive and we look forward to making this an annual event

- Over 600 people attended our recent Careers and Options Evening. Overall feedback was positive and will be used to plan for improvements for next session. 14 parents have expressed an interest in becoming part of a Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) focus group, led by Mr McLaughlin, PT DYW.
- The Parent Council are establishing a new Fundraising Group who will meet for 30mins prior to each monthly Parent Council meeting. There is no obligation to attend the full Parent Council meeting and anyone interested in joining the fundraising team should contact marrparentcouncil@gmail.com

Staff Update / School Improvement Plan

- Congratulations to Dr Sargent who has been appointed permanent PT English. Two further teacher of English posts have been advertised and will be appointed in the coming weeks.
- We have appointed a full-time temporary Outdoor Learning worker to take forward our successful outdoor programme. We have also appointed an additional School Assistant to support targeted interventions in the final months of the session
- Our school roll is predicted to increase again in session 2023-24 to over 1098 students. As a result of the removal of additional staffing provided post-covid, we have no staffing increase for next session
- Mr Harris is leading a 'Smoke Free Schools Initiative' aimed at raising awareness of the dangers of smoking/vaping and ensuring our school is free of smoking/vaping
- Lead Teachers of Literacy and Numeracy are working with our Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) to plan an S1 Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL) week IN May. This will involve all lessons focusing on plastic waste and will also provide an opportunity for all S1 to participate in a local volunteering activity and a group beach clean.
- S5 Mentors continue to meet with the assigned pupils and provide guidance and support to help them achieve their potential

Upcoming Events

- Art & Design Practical Exam – Thursday 2nd March
- Rotary Young Musician and Singer of the Year – Thursday 2nd March
- S1 Tracking Reports issued – Friday 3rd March
- P7 Parent Welcome Evening – Tuesday 7th March
- Options Interviews – completed by Friday 10th March
- S4 Tracking Reports issued – Friday 10th March
- Easter Concert – Thursday 30th March

G Docherty
Head Teacher
 28/02/2023