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Dear Parent / Carer.

Parental Update 23rd April

A warm welcome back to our staff and students after the Easter break. I hope the improved weather combined with falling rates of infection and the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions have been beneficial to you and your family. It is certainly great to have the students back in school again and we are all focussed upon a busy and exciting summer term, with the hope of some normality being just around the corner.

School Standards

A big thank you to parents for working with us on raising standards of uniform, especially with the PE kit. There is a noticeable improvement across the school, and the small number of exceptions can now be addressed individually. I know sometimes school rules such uniform/jewellery/phones can seem petty, but they are important building blocks that set the foundations for helping to have a calm, orderly and safe school.

Edulink One

Edulink One is a website and app that we use at De La Salle to allow you to monitor, on a daily basis, information that we produce about your child. As the parent or carer of a student at De La Salle School you can log into the Edulink One website and via the app which is available to download on Apple and Android devices. From here you can gain access to information which includes:

- 'live' attendance data
- achievement and behaviour information
- your child's timetable
- your child's full report and monitoring reports
- catering account balance and meal information (if your child buys food in the canteen)

You can also check your contact details to ensure that they are accurate.

Your child can also log in to Edulink One to view their own information using their school network username and password.

If you need your login information for Edulink One, please contact reports@delasalleschool.org.uk

Sun Screen

I realise that even typing this tempts the fate of bad weather for the rest of term but....the warm weather has been most welcome but could I ask that parents, particularly of Year 7, that as the summer progresses they ensure their child has applied some before coming to school.

The Big Ask (the government's not ours)

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched The Big Ask – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in

England. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that government can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.

All schools are encouraged to support their pupils to <u>complete this survey</u>. We have worked in school to encourage the students to have their say, but you may have other children in your family and want to support them in having their say. More information is available here:

The Big Ask resources | Children's Commissioner for EnglandChildren's Commissioner for England

Social Media / Instagram

The LA have been in touch with all schools to raise concerns about the risk of young people, especially young girls, being groomed over social media. This particularly applies to platforms such as Instagram and Tik Tok. We would encourage all parents to be aware and monitor who their child is in contact with on their social media.

Message from Merseytravel

It is likely that the roads and public transport system will be busier than when students returned in March, given other businesses have reopened. The following points may help your child travel to and from school safely:

- if you live a short distance from your school or college, walk, cycle or scoot to and from school wherever it is possible and safe to do so
- avoid sharing a car with anyone outside of your household or support bubble
- if you are using public transport to get to school or college, plan ahead and allow more time for your journey

When you are travelling by public or dedicated school transport, don't forget to:

- wear a face covering (unless you are exempt including if you are aged 11 and under). It is important you wear them for the entirety of your journey, including inside a bus or train station
- social distance where possible
- wash or sanitise your hands regularly
- be considerate to fellow passengers and staff.

Further information can be found in our <u>guidance on transport to school and other places of education</u>.

Face Coverings

The government reviewed their advice regarding face coverings in school and this remains unchanged from before Easter. So for our students they are expected on corridors and strongly recommended in classrooms.

Ofsted

At the time of writing we are still awaiting the draft of our Ofsted inspection letter which should be with us soon. As I mentioned previously this was not a full inspection so will not give an overall grade (e.g. Good), instead the inspectors make a judgement that either yes we are taking effective action to provide education or no we are not. This is usually followed by 3 or 4 areas for improvement.

Once we have received the draft letter, we check and return it. They then finalise it and send back to us for publication. We expect this process to be completed within the next 3 weeks.

Forthcoming Events

- Wednesday 28th April: Governors Curriculum Committee (5pm)
- Monday 3rd May: Bank Holiday (school closed)
- Wednesday 12th May: Governors Personnel Committee (5pm)

And finally...

It is great that local infection rates continue to fall but as we all enjoy the weather and relaxation of restrictions, could I remind parents to continue the home testing and remain vigilant for any symptoms in family members. Our collective efforts are working and it is important that we keep going and keep each other safe.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher