



De La Salle School

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7th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parental Update 7th May

We have had another busy week and it feels like we have managed to fit a normal 5 day week into the 4 days we have had. Since last week's letter, as well as finding out who H was in Line of Duty, we have, more relevantly, completed assessments across all year groups in preparation for their end of year reports which we are just about to start writing. We are, amongst other things, also finalising our 3 Year plan, preparing for Year 6 transition, re-writing our curriculum in all subjects for next year and planning for returning to life without year bubbles in September.

Founder's Day

Our Founder's Day will be celebrated across the Lasallian world, on Friday 14th May. During that week we will be sharing the founder's story through our collective worship and encouraging students to put their faith into action through the Lasallian Awards programme.

On Thursday, we will be planting trees in our new Lasallian Garden: 5 trees representing the 5 core Lasallian values, which will be planted by representatives from each of the 5 year groups. Then on the Friday, we will join the district-wide online celebration along with the many other schools in the UK, Ireland and Malta.

Post-Lockdown Plans

We are keen to bring elements of normality back to school as and when the guidance allows it. Over the coming weeks we are expecting further government advice which will, hopefully, allow the mixing of bubbles before the end of the school year. If this is the case, we will look at how we can open up all of our external spaces for students to use. Due to the logistics involved, it is likely that for lessons students will remain in the current year group bubbles and locations until the end of term.

Students Feeling Unwell

Just a reminder that if your child is feeling ill in school during the school day, they need to attend the year office and speak to a member of the pastoral staff who will make an assessment on their condition. Students are not to ring home and request to be picked up, as this can cause logistical and safeguarding issues. Any requests to leave school should only be granted by the year office.

Year 9 Scholars Programme

Mr Talbot has asked me to share some information with our Year 9 families regarding the Scholars' Programme. The attached documents give more information. In summary the details are:

- Aimed at current Year 9 students who have the potential to go to a good university.
- 12 places available, 7 of which are for students from disadvantaged backgrounds/have parents who didn't experience higher education/from poorer areas designated by postcode.

You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care.

- Designed to give students a taste of university life - includes 7 tutoring sessions and 2 visits to a prestigious university.
- Free for pupils - school covers the costs.
- The project will run from October 2021 to February 2022.
- Written application needed (see attached word document for details of how to apply and closing date).

Forthcoming Events

Wednesday 12th May: Governors Personnel Committee (5pm)
Friday 14th May: Founder's Day (normal 3pm finish)
Friday 28th May: School closes for half term (3pm)
Monday 7th June: School Re-opens

And finally...

My admiration goes out to all the parents who have managed to engage with the online Parents' Evenings this year. We had my son's Year 13 meeting this week, which Mrs R and I needed to access separately due to work commitments. We spent the first 4 minute slot managing to disconnect each other from the meeting, much to the amusement of my son's maths teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Rannard
Headteacher