



# De La Salle School

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Headteacher: Mr. A. Rannard BA (Hons) NPQH

16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Parental Update 3

Firstly, an apology for an error in the Information Sheet I sent with the last update. The correct dates for the Key Stage 4 information evenings are:

- Year 10: Wednesday 28th September (6.00pm)
- Year 11: Thursday 29th September (6.30pm)

It has been a strange week in school, following the death of the Queen and the students have been interested and inquisitive about many aspects of the period of mourning and the transition to a new king.

Elsewhere in school we have been carrying out our first week of quality assurance activities: these involve us watching lessons, looking at student work and, of course, speaking to students about their experiences. This is an important part of us monitoring standards around the school, though we try to make this as a supportive experience for our staff.

### Whole School Focus: Form Time

After trialling extended form time last year, we have now made every form time 30 minutes long. This time is spent as a form class with a range of activities each morning. In addition to daily business, registration and collective worship, across the 5 days the students will have:

- **Assembly** (as a whole year group)
- **Extended Collective Worship**: the students engage with a theme and resources provided by Sam our Chaplain, and now have prayer journals to capture their own thoughts and reflections.
- **Reading**: one morning a week is dedicated to form classes reading collectively. This can be an ongoing novel, article or short story and is supported by discussion of the text.
- **Just Say It**: this is a circle time activity for the class to discuss a topic that they are provided with, or which they choose.
- **News and Careers**: students will watch a relevant clip from Newsround, take part in our weekly news quiz and/or cover aspects of careers

### Parent Governor – Your School Needs You!

We are looking to recruit two parents to join the governing body as parent governors. Governors play an important part in setting the strategic direction of the school and challenging me and the SLT to ensure we are delivering the required improvement.

There are 4 full governing body meetings in the year and we expect each governor to serve on one committee as well (usually 3 meetings per committee each year). Our meetings take place Wednesdays at 5:00pm and are blended so that they can be attended virtually or in person. If you think you might be interested then please contact [delasalle@delasalleschool.org.uk](mailto:delasalle@delasalleschool.org.uk) and mark it FAO Ms Warburton.

### ParentMail Payments

We are aware of an ongoing issue which is affecting a small number of parents when paying by card on ParentMail. ParentMail are working on a solution and we are awaiting further information from them.

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

## **Year 9 Geography Field Trips**

Our Year 9 students will travel to Snowdonia for their Geography Field Trips. These take place on:

- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September - Geography field trip to Snowdonia for Y9 Classes A1,A2,B1,B2 (Forms JOHN)
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September Geography field trip to Snowdonia Y9 classes C1,C2,D1 and D2 (Forms BDLS)

## **Year 7 Retreats**

These are an opportunity for our Year 7 students to pause their academic work and spend a day getting to know each other better and taking time for some reflection. These are taking place in school and being led by Sam our Chaplain and supported by VIDES. The dates are:

- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Forms J&B
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Forms O&D
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September Forms H&L
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September Forms S&N

## **Parental Information Evenings (reminder)**

As I mentioned earlier, these are short year-based meetings with parents (no need for students to attend, except for the Year 11 meeting), to outline the year ahead, share key information and answer any questions you may have. The dates / times are below:

- Year 7: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September (6.00pm)
- Year 8: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September (6.00pm)
- Year 9: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September (6.00pm)
- Year 10: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September (6.00pm)
- Year 11: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September (6.30pm)

## **Buses**

Merseytravel have informed me that the issues with the 750 have only arisen this year as, unlike previous years, the bus now has a second route to complete once it has done the 750 route in the afternoon. This means the driver has to leave at 3.05pm. Hopefully the changes we have made to the finish times at the end of the day have now resolved the issue of students missing the buses.

## **Building Work**

This continues to make progress as the preparations are being made for the concrete floor for the new dining space. Apart from the occasional bursts of noise from power tools, the building works and new school operations seem to be operating fine.

## **And finally...**

Our necessary emphasis upon practical arrangements in school as a result of the building work has slightly delayed the launch of this year's House Competition. For new parents, all students are members of one of 4 houses:

- Mount Carmel Crusaders
- Team Champion
- West park Wonders
- Notre Dame Raiders

Like last year, we will run a series of competitions and activities for students to compete in, earning house points for their house. Mrs Mulhall, is still gloating after Team Champion's success in the House Cup. Good luck to all the houses for this year!

Have a good weekend,

**Andrew Rannard**  
Headteacher