



De La Salle School

Mill Brow, Eccleston, St. Helens,
Merseyside WA10 4QH

Telephone: 01744 20511
Email: delasalle@sthelens.sch.uk

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

23rd September 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 4

A really busy this week, saw our first set of Year 7 retreats, parental information evenings for Years 7, 8 and 9, training for our new Year 10 Mentors in Violence Prevention and a planned fire evacuation – to ensure staff and students are able to evacuate the building based upon new routes whilst the building work is taking place. The students were an absolute credit during the evacuation.

Looking ahead, to next week, this is even busier with lots of activities taking place (see information at the end of the update).

Whole School Focus: Just say It

Last week, I shared information about how we use form time every morning. One of our weekly activities is something we call '**Just Say It**'. This is something we were keen to introduce to allow our students time and a safe space to talk and explore topics and themes. It is also an opportunity to help them improve the skills and manner in which they communicate and to address issues of inappropriate or discriminatory language.

The idea is very simple, as part of extended form work each week, there will be one day that we ask students to quickly move their room around and create a circle. They then have time to discuss a topic. The discussion point can be thought of by them, or they could use one of the examples that we provide. We are a community here, and it is important to us that we develop strong relationships with one another, so we need to learn about each other! Some questions/statements/topics of discussion will challenge them and that is okay, the students are each entitled to their own opinions and views so...JUST SAY IT!

Careers Newsletter

Please find enclosed our weekly Careers Newsletter. We place great importance on careers education as a way to help raise awareness and aspirations with our students and it is shared with the students in form time. Miss Moran, our Careers Lead, has also suggested ways in which you could use this at home:

- Click on the links for the 'Job of the Week' (which takes you to the Career Pilot Website) 'Employer Spotlight and 'Uni Spotlight' to form a discussion. Have you or anybody you know done the job of the week or been to the university of the week?
- Discuss the opportunities available to students this week. These would look great on their CV's!
- Share your Careers journey with the students e.g., previous jobs, courses you studied etc.

Parent Governor – Your School (still) Needs You!

I pushed this last week but sadly, so far, it has met the same level of enthusiasm as I have when suggesting to Mrs R and my sons that we could watch a BBC Four political documentary instead of #MAFSUK. So just as a reminder and in the hope that you may just be shy, we have extended the deadline for parents to express an interest in being a Parent governor until next Wednesday, information on what it entails, is below.

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 and mark it FAO Ms Warburton.

Building Work

This week saw the laying of the concrete floor for the new dining area. This involved two specialist cement delivery vehicles as well as one of those revolving cement trucks, as the cement had to be piped the 50 yards into the quadrangle. This has now been successfully laid and levelled and the builders are waiting for it to set (though I suspect that isn't the technical term).

Forthcoming Events (dates in **bold** indicate a change to normal finish times)

I have tried to list all the key events running up to half term. Some are additions to the document I sent at the start of the year as more events are added.

Monday 26th September: Geography field trip to Snowdonia for Year 9 Classes A1, A2, B1, B2 (Forms JOHN)

Monday 26th September: Year 11 St Helens College Assembly

Tuesday 27th September: Year 7 Freshers' Fair (Lunchtime)

Tuesday 27th September: Geography field trip to Snowdonia Year 9 classes C1, C2, D1 and D2 (Forms BDLS)

Tuesday 27th September: Year 9 ski trip lessons, 1.30 – 7.00pm (Group 1)

Wednesday 28th September: Forms 7H&7L in-School retreat

Wednesday 28th September: Year 9 ski trip lessons, 1.30 – 7.00pm (Group 1)

Wednesday 28th September: Full Governors Meeting (5pm)

Wednesday 28th September (6.00pm): Year 10 Parent Information Evening (students not required to attend)

Thursday 29th September (6.30pm): Year 11 Parent information Evening (students should attend)

Thursday 29th September: Forms 7S&7N in-school retreat

Friday 30th September: Staff Macmillan Coffee Morning

W/B 3rd October: Assessment window (Year 9) / Year 11 mock exams (practical subjects)

Tuesday 4th October: Year 9 ski trip lessons (group 2) 1.30pm – 7:00pm

Tuesday 4th October: Year 11 Apprenticeship Assembly

Wednesday 5th October: Year 9 ski trip lessons (group 2) 1.30pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday 5th October: performance management meetings

Thursday 6th October: OPEN EVENING 4.30 - 7.30pm - students finish at 12.10pm

Friday 7th October: Year 11 Carmel College Assembly

W/B 10th October: Year 11 Mock exams

Tuesday 11th October: Year 9 ski trip lessons (group 3) 1.30pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday 12th October: Governors Behaviour, Attitudes and Personal Development Committee (5:00pm)

Wednesday 12th October: Year 9 ski trip lessons (group 3) 1.30pm – 7:00pm

Thursday 13th October: BBC 'Tell Your Story' Roadshow (Years 7-10)

Sunday 16th October– Wednesday 19th October: 1719 Society Visit to Rome

Tuesday 18th October: Year 9 ski trip lessons (group 4) 1.30pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday 19th October: Year 9 ski trip lessons (group 4) 1.30pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday 19th October: Governors Personnel Committee (5:00pm)

**Thursday 20th October: Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 pastoral meetings 2:00pm to 4:00pm (online)
students finish at 1.30pm**

Friday 21st October: school closes for half term (3:00pm)

And finally...

Yesterday we had our first 'wet lunch' of the year (two words that strike fear into every school leader!) though our plans seemed to work fairly well. One thing that always puzzles me, however, is that whenever you want students to stay in, they want to go out and when you want them to go out, they want to stay in! I am sure there is a deep philosophical message in there somewhere.

Have a good weekend.

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher