



De La Salle
School

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4th November 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 9

We have plunged straight back into things after, what I hope, was a restful and enjoyable half term for everyone. This week saw two art trips to Liverpool for our Year 10 art students, a STEM competition for several Year 7 students at Unilever, the launch of our Year 10 scholar's programme, Blood Brothers theatre trip for Years 10 and 11 dramatists and a celebration of Mexican Day within MFL.

For Years 8-11 we also welcomed in the Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Advisory Team (YPDAAT) to speak to the students throughout the week in their assemblies to raise awareness of the dangers of drugs, in particular Ketamine. These included factual information about the drug, the effects it can have on the body, what to do if someone has taken a substance and the legal consequences of drug use and supply.

Next week looks very busy with Year 10 assessments starting, careers event on Thursday and our Remembrance Service on Friday.

Whole School Focus: Student Services

We are keen to continue to improve the student experience at the school. Part of this improvement has been the introduction of a new Student Services base in Sister Marie Hall. This is a dedicated point in the heart of the school that all students can go to if they have any questions, issues or problems. It is currently staffed by Mrs Shepherd with occasional support from the Admin Team.

So far it has proved very successful in dealing with a full cross-section of issues from selling poppies, collecting in food for our HOPE campaign, dealing with the sick or injured, looking after students waiting to be picked up and any other issue that may come up, including just a chat.

Parking

Can I once again plead with parents to be considerate in parking. Before half term we had a student injured as a result of selfish parking by parents. Help us to keep the young people safe.

New Parent Governors

Thank you so much to all those who put themselves forward and who took part in our Parent Governor elections. It was a great collection of parents who came forward and I am delighted to announce that Claire Millen and Natalie Lynch were voted in. We look forward to welcoming them in our governor meeting in December.

Year 7 Netball Success

Congratulations to the following year 7 students who played their first netball game yesterday, against Cowley. The girls displayed great teamwork and determination throughout, beating their opponent's 20 - 1; progressing through to the next round of the St Helens Schools Cup.

- Hannah Balmer
- Lotti Lowry
- Isabella Lally
- Lola Ballesteros
- Abby Jackson
- Eden Nightingale
- Hope Bayley
- Rose Kirkham

School Trips – Available Spaces

We have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of parents and students for the trips that we have run or are running. After the lack of trips through the pandemic, trips this year have all been heavily oversubscribed. I realise that those who do not get selected for a trip will be very disappointed and several parents have asked why we don't simply add more spaces. Sadly, it isn't as simple as that, as logistics such as staffing, availability, safety etc often limit the number of staff we can use, especially as we don't want other students missing their normal teachers more than is necessary.

School Trips – Allocation

In terms of who gets to go on the trip. Some trips are very specific for identified cohorts or groups of students e.g. this week's art trips were only available to Year 10 students who are studying art. Most trips, however, are for general access. In these cases, where we are oversubscribed, we will select students randomly. Sadly, this can mean friendship groups being split up. Where there are a number of big trips within a year group, we have recently started to give preference to those who have not been allocated a place on previous trips. None of these systems are perfect and there will always be those who are disappointed, but they are the fairest way to try to ensure as many students as possible access them.

Attendance

Since September:

- School attendance is: **92.15%**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **92.5%**

We need to try to get our figure up towards 97%. Together we can achieve this.

Building Work

There has been rapid progress on the dining room building over half term and into this week. All the external frame is in place and is also now glazed, making the space weather proof, apart from one set of doors that haven't yet been installed to provide access to the machinery. I have again tweeted pictures of these developments. Next steps involve finishing off the small elements of cladding, laying the floor and installing the internal rood and lighting. I will share some images on my school twitter account of the latest work.

Lockers

Before half term we had our new 'outdoor' lockers installed. These are easily accessible for all the students under cover in our courtyard. These are free for students to use, they just need to bring in their own key or combination lock. They are only intended for daily use and we will monitor the level of demand, should we require more in the future.

Careers Newsletter

This week's newsletter has a green theme – exploring the many careers related aspects of green technology, skills and opportunities for young people as they progress into the future labour market.

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

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

W/B 7th: Year 10 Assessment window opens (closes Fri 18th)

Wed 9th: Governors Finance and Premises Committee (5pm)

Wed 9th: Ski Trip Meeting (yr 9s) 5.30pm

Thu 10th: Your Future Careers Event

W/B Mon 14th: Year 8 Assessment window opens and Year 10 continues

Mon 14th: Football Beyond Borders (Yr 8)

Thu 17th: Shakespeare Schools Festival (25 yr 7 and 8 students)

W/B Mon 21st: Year 8 assessment window continues

Wed 23rd: Governors Quality of Education Committee (5pm)

Wed 23rd: Music Showcase Concert

Mon 28th: Year 11 Geography Field Trip to Liverpool (100 students)

Mon 28th: Football Beyond Borders (Yr 8)

Wed 30th: Yr 8 Retreat Number 1 (on site)

Thur 1st: Yr 8 Retreat number 2 (on site)

Fri 2nd Dec: INSET Day – school closed to students

Wed 7th Dec: Full Governors Meeting (5pm)

Thu 8th: Yr 8 Retreat number 3 (on site)

Fri 9th: Yr 8 retreat number 4 (on site)

Mon 12th: Football Beyond Borders (Yr 8)

Tue 13th: School Show Night 1 (details tbc)

Wed 14th: School Show Night 2 (details tbc)

Thu 15th: School Show Night 3 (details tbc)

Fri 16th: Pensioners Christmas party (2-4.30pm)

Wed 21st: School Closes 12.10pm

Christmas Holidays

Wed 4th Jan: School re-opens (normal time)

Thu 12th: Year 11 Parents' Eve (compressed day – school closes at 1.30pm)

Fri 13th: PSHCE lesson 3

And finally...

The week or two after October half term are always a challenge, with the clocks going back, colder wetter weather, marking and reports etc. Add to that the national and international woes that lie ahead of us, it is easy to draft into a low mood. So, it is important that we are on the lookout for the things that might cheer us up. In school it can be one of our many wonderful, funny and kind students, or the generosity and selflessness of staff.

This week, for me, it was a combination of staff and student that brought me some light relief. Walking down the science corridor I saw a member of staff having stern words with a Year 7 girl. As I got nearer, I realised it was Mrs. Mallalieu, but it was Tuesday, and she was in full Mexican day Aztec warrior ensemble: headdress, face markings and tattoo transfers etc.* To Mrs Mallalieu's credit she was deadly serious with the student and, even more impressive, was the Year 7 girl who was also taking the admonishment very seriously. I was the only one struggling to keep a straight face and only just made it into my office before breaking into laughter.

*to clarify Tuesday isn't Mrs Mallalieu's dressing up day, this was Mexican day in school.

Have a good weekend.

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

OPPORTUNITIES

Around 60% of young people are 'worried' or 'extremely worried' about climate change, (according to a global survey conducted by Bath University in 2021) so we want to use this week's newsletter to celebrate Green Careers Week and highlight the amazing career pathways you can follow to improve the future climate.

In a recent article by Global Citizen, there are six main areas where green careers – or careers and jobs where environmental protection will be a major thrust – will really flourish, they are as follows:

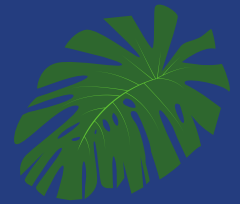
- Green Design
- Environmental Scientist
- Green Home Architect / Builder
- Sustainability Consultant
- Wave Power Engineer
- Urban Agriculture

On 10th November, there is a "Protecting our Planet" day, full of talks about different areas of the World, from forests to deserts to oceans. Expert speakers will discuss what is being done and what more needs to be done to protect that particular area of the Planet. Click here to see the full schedule and sign up to watch the ones you are interested in.

In their own words, the Environment Agency (EA) "works to create better places for people and wildlife, and support sustainable development" and as such we couldn't think of a more apt government agency to partner with for Green Careers Week. Established in 1996, the EA employs 10,600 passionate people with offices in Bristol and London. Check out their YouTube Channel & Careers Website to learn more.

If you have any questions or need support, please contact moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk

JOB OF THE WEEK



Rather than spotlight just one job for you this week, we are going to share the whole database of Green Jobs!

You can check them out here to see how much you could earn, what hours you may work and the estimated growth of demand for the job role by 2026.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Many green skills are on the rise and are among some of the fastest growing skills in the economy.

Sustainable Fashion, Environmental Services and Sustainable Growth have all grown by over 60% in the last 5 years.

Source



CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

BBC
BITESIZE

This Month will be 27th annual 'Conference of the parties' (COP 27) and in order to tie into this global event BBC Bitesize Careers will be launching brand new content all around 'Green Careers and jobs to save the planet'. Check out [BBC Bitesize Careers](#) from 7th Nov to watch videos about people working in jobs like Sustainable Engineer, Fuel Scientist and Sustainable Events Manager.

STEM Learning UK have now launched their new [Green Careers Webpage](#). You can see a range of Green Careers explored, the Virtual Green Careers Fair, links to the Climate Change Educational Partnership initiative as well as how to become a Climate Ambassador.

LinkedIn's Global Green Skills Report, "An Action Plan for Climate Change", is now available to read. It shares key information about current hiring trends for Green Jobs and where action can be taken to improve recruitment in this industry. The report has lots of diagrams that make the information really accessible for visual learners. [Check it out here](#).

LinkedIn's Global Green Skills Report categorises job roles into the following four "green" categories:


Green

Eg: solar technician

Green jobs are ones that cannot be performed without extensive knowledge of green skills.


Greening

Eg: civil engineer

Greening jobs are ones that could be performed without green skills, but typically require at least several green skills.


Greening Potential

Eg: data analyst

Greening potential jobs are ones that could be performed without green skills, but typically requires at least one green skill.


Not Green

Eg: nurse

Non-green jobs currently don't require any green skills.

Think about the job role(s) you are considering doing in the future, which one of these categories does it fit into?

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"Beyond our atmosphere, the need for green and sustainable thinking is also vital for protecting our space environment. The UK is a world leader in supporting innovative missions to clean up dangerous space debris, so that space can be used safely and sustainably by everyone."

You can read more about UK Space Agency jobs [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT



Unis are under increasing pressure to be kinder to the environment – but how many are actually taking action? These university rankings reveal the best and worst places for sustainability.

[Here are the comprehensive results](#) charting the environmental and ethical performance of unis in the UK.

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