



De La Salle
School

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

25th November 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 12

I am once again away from school, this time in Dublin for the Lasallian Headteacher Conference. It is a really crucial conference as there are a number of big issues that the Lasallian Institute needs to consider and make decisions upon that could massively affect our school, including:

- Preparation for the upcoming District Assembly (which only takes place every 4 years)
- The future of our district as the Brothers become older and fewer in number
- The future of all the English Lasallian Schools in terms of academisation.

Whole School Focus: Mock Interviews (Year 11)

As you will know, we place a strong emphasis upon careers here at De La Salle School both in careers education and also careers-related experience. One of the key experiences that our students find daunting, but incredibly useful, is the Year 11 mock interviews. We deliver these across two 'Mock Interview' evenings for all Year 11 students.

This year, the interviews will take place on **Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th January 2023 from 3.30pm – 5.30pm**. We are also delighted that this year the mock interviews will all be face to face, in the school hall. Students have been working on their CV's which will also form a part of the interview process.

However, for these interviews to work, we need people from the world of work to come in and help interview the students. If you would like to be involved in this event by volunteering on one, or both evenings, to interview students, please email Nicola.scully@careerconnect.org.uk

You don't need to be Alan Sugar to volunteer (in fact he would be terrible at it!), you just need to be willing to give up a couple of hours to come in and carry out some of the interviews. If you are interested then please let Nicola know by Wednesday 7th December, that way we can ensure there are enough volunteers and finalise arrangements before the Christmas break. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

COP 27/Lumi Project

As part of the recent COP 27, the Commonwealth showcased the Lumi project and several of its participants, including students from De La Salle School. Here is a video that was showcased there and has given them worldwide attention https://youtu.be/ya-Fb-b_DoQ. This illustrates the kind of recognition and impact young people can achieve via such challenging and interesting projects like Lumi, which will help them long into their future. Well done!

Lunch Money System

Last week the catering system that handles payments was upgraded. As part of this upgrade, this required any balances to be moved from the old system to the new. This was done automatically but sometimes took a few hours to be processed. This is why some parents may have noticed a zero balance for a short period of time. These transfers have now all been completed and all the balances successfully transferred across.

The more eagle-eyed of you may also notice on Edulink that once or twice your child might seem to have ordered something strange like Tea. This is because the new system is coordinated by the council across all of their kitchens and each kitchen has its own unique items that other kitchens do not sell. Whilst these are still being added, the need to be put through the system as something of the same value. I am assured that they are hoping to have added all the unique items in the near future.

Finally, on catering, one benefit for our students has been a uniformity in pricing across all of the primary and secondary schools – which for some items, has made them cheaper.

Careers Award Winners

We have some winners from the careers event (Your Future), these students collected all the 'stamps' required and completed the feedback questionnaire:

Elizabeth Reed 9B

Aimee Newcombe 10B

Jack Kirkham 11H

We also had a competition sponsored by Sarah Caine from Maclaren Group for estimating how many bricks are in the empire state building? The answer being – 10 Million

Year 9 – Jess Smith 9N

Year 10 – Joseph Barret (10S)

Year 11 – Jack P (11H)

Netball Success

Congratulations to our Year 9 girls' netball team (with a couple of Year 8s) who were fantastic this week at the St Helens Netball Festival. They played 4 games and won 2: Best results

- 10 - 1 Win vs Outwood Grange
- 8 - 6 Win vs Rainford High

Attendance

Some improvements this week but a wave of sickness is still keeping us under where we would want to be.

Since September:

- School attendance has dipped further this week to: **91.4%**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **92.5%**

Building Work

Work continues at a pace with most of the electrics now complete and the new suspended ceiling in place and merging seamlessly with the exiting canteen ceiling. We are getting closer and closer to completion which is exciting. Once the dining room is completed, we will be looking to have students eat their food within the dining room. At the moment, by necessity, there is a lot of grab and go food but from January, we hope to return to cutlery, plates and sitting down to eat.

Teardrops Christmas Fair

Along with this week's update, I have attached a flyer for the Teardrops Christmas Fair. This is on Sunday 4th December between 11am and 4pm at the Teardrops Hub on Crab Street. Teardrops is one of the charities our students love to support as it provides help for those in most need within our local community.

Discriminatory Language

In school we have worked hard and quite successfully to address the use of discriminatory language amongst our students. In most cases, rather than intentionally seeking to be discriminatory, students often used words out of ignorance, often following the example of various online 'influencers' such as Andrew Tate.

We would ask for your support at home to look out for and address any discriminatory language: whether homophobic, misogynist, disablist, sexist, transphobic or any other form of discrimination – whether this is from your child or people they may be talking to, including online.

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.

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

Mon 28th: Football Beyond Borders (Year 8)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mon 12th: Football Beyond Borders (Year 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 importance of this Lasallian meeting in Dublin, however, has not stopped the rest of the SLT ribbing me about being away 'on my holidays' again. I suspect they have a vision of me living life to the full in a shamrock hat, chorusing "The Fields of Athenry" and enjoying the craic on the banks of the Liffey.

Sadly, the conference is at an airport hotel 5 miles away from Dublin and only several hundred yards away from the airport. It is so close in fact that the planes fly very close to the hotel before they land. Indeed, I am sure I saw someone at the end of the corridor with what looked like two table tennis bats waving one in to land.

Have a good weekend,

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

TEARDROPS

Christmas

FAYRE

FREE
ENTRY

SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER

11AM - 4PM

★
STALLS

SANTA'S GROTTO

LIVE MUSIC

FESTIVE FOOD AND BEVERAGES

RAFFLE, GAMES AND TOMBOLA

JOIN US FOR SOME FESTIVE FAMILY FUN!

TEARDROPS HUB, 110 CRAB STREET, ST. HELENS, MERSEYSIDE, WA10 2DJ

TO BOOK A STALL PLEASE EMAIL FLORENCE@TEARDROPS.ORG.UK



Marie Perle

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



Explore 320+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the November edition of the Higher & Degree listing 22/23. Discover vacancy details from over 60 employers, including; Vacancy locations, Salary information and Direct application links. Download the Higher & Degree listing in PDF format and press "control and F" on your keyboard to search for specific industries, locations and employers you're interested in. [Click here to read more and download.](#)

SCL Education have partnered with UK-based esports organisation Guild Esports (co-owned by David Beckham) to launch a brand-new revolutionary full-time esports study programme to young people between the ages of 16-18 years old. The Guild College education programme will begin enrolling learners in September 2023 and consist of a one-year BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Esports and a two-year Level 3 Diploma in Esports (dependent upon entry requirements). Please see for more information on how to apply for a course. [Click here to read more.](#)

Step into Law is a new initiative to help aspiring Legal Apprentices during the recruitment process by providing private 1:1 mentoring and group mentoring packages. The calls are with Sisay and Sela, current Legal Apprentices. You can book your call [here](#) and check out their [instagram](#) and [TikTok](#).

There are currently 1677 university events listed on UTD. [Check them out here](#) and book on to any you are interested in.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Human resources (HR) managers develop, deliver and manage HR policies and plans. You can earn £35,000 to £150,000 per year and expect to work 37 to 39 hours a week. There will be 5.1% more Human resources manager jobs in 2026. [Click here to read more.](#)

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Jobs of the future could include: Paramedic drone programmers, AI speech coaches, Zero carbon transport planners and Tech fashion designers!

Can you think of any other jobs that don't exist now but will be needed in the future?

[Source](#)

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that there are LOADS of Instagram and TikTok accounts that apprentices from across the UK have created to share more about their journey and apprenticeship role? Whether you're interested in Rolls Royce, Google or Legal firms, there are options available for you to follow. Check them out here:



- [MyLegalCareer - Maia](#)
- [Business - Haider](#)
- [Parris in STEM - Parris](#)
- [anHRapprentice - Olivia](#)
- [Only2Nerds - Evie & Callum \(accounting\)](#)

When looking at these pages, Instagram will automatically suggest other similar pages for you.

Join Upskill Me to learn from inspiring speakers, entrepreneurs, careers advisers and employers about the essential skills you need to succeed in life. Watch videos, attend virtual events and take eLearning courses to improve your employability. Develop the transferable skills employers and universities want, and track this through earning points, badges, and by climbing up the levels. [Read more and create your account here.](#)



If you have spare time and want to help your future self, doing an online course is a great idea. You can find lots of options on:



- [MOOCS](#) - Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free online courses available for anyone to enroll. MOOCs provide an affordable and flexible way to learn new skills, advance your career and deliver quality educational experiences at scale.
- [YourGamePlan](#) - Standing out from the crowd can be difficult when you're all starting off at the bottom of the ladder. You need to give yourself a competitive edge... but how? That's where we come in... At YourGamePlan, we are all about compiling the best resources for you to upskill yourself with the knowledge to help raise your CV to the top of the pile.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"Veolia is the UK leader in resource management. Our climate is changing. Natural resources are running out and biodiversity is collapsing. This is why Veolia aspires to a challenging purpose: ecological transformation to combat climate change."

You can read more about Veolia jobs [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT



"With around 24,000 students from 80+ countries, Birmingham City University is a large, diverse and popular place to study. We put students at the heart of everything we do, giving them the best opportunities for future success."

You can read more about Birmingham City University's courses [here](#).

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