



De La Salle
School

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

Telephone: 01744 20511

Email: delasalle@delasalleschool.org.uk

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

7th June 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 31

The first week back after half term has seen the Year 11 GCSEs continue, our Year 10 mocks slotted in between the main GCSEs and our Year 8 students begin their assessment fortnight. Meanwhile, as I said, I have been away at the Lasallian Mission Council meeting in Madrid (see later) which explains the shorter than normal update.

Looking ahead to next week, we begin a series of careers events under the umbrella of 'Discovering Careers' – these will run over a couple of weeks. We also have our Governors' Personnel Committee meeting and the SLT Strategic Planning event.

I have also updated the upcoming events through to our Mission Week. Please note that this year, the early finish for our Founders week is on Friday 21st June rather than Founders Day itself. Please also note the INSET day on Monday 24th June, when school is closed to students for staff development.

Whole School Focus – Bus Strike

We have been asked to share the following information with parents about upcoming industrial action that affects the bus services for our school.

As you may be aware, drivers at Stagecoach's Gillmoss Depot have voted to carry out industrial action on the following days **13,14,15,16 & 17th June**. This will mean there will be disruption to Stagecoach services across the Liverpool, Sefton, Knowsley and St Helens areas.

Unfortunately, this will mean that the supported services for your school currently operated by Stagecoach will not be running on these strike days. We would advise that school pupils who use these services should look for alternative means of transport to and from school on these days.

The supported services to schools that will not operate are as follows:

- 751 (07:52)
- 753 (07:50)
- 754 (07:50)
- 755 (07:40)
- 753 (15:05)
- 754 (15:10)
- 743 (15:10)

We ask that you share this with parents and pupils. We understand discussions remain ongoing to avoid the strike action, but we advise that schools, parents and pupils should seek regular updates from the [Stagecoach website](#) and [Stagecoach Merseyside and South Lancashire social media channels](#) for further information, consult the [Merseytravel website](#) for alternative transport options, and look to make any necessary travel arrangements on the affected strike days.

Mission Council Meeting (Madrid)

As you will know, the Lasallian Institute is a worldwide organisation of over 1 million children, thousands of schools, colleges and universities. To help run such a large organisation it is divided

into regions (ours being RELEM: Europe and the Mediterranean). Then each Region is divided into Districts (ours being GB, Ireland and Malta).

One of my roles is to be the GB headteacher representative on our District's Mission Council – this is the group that plans and implements the district's Mission Plans. The past 2 days has seen us meeting with our ARLEP (District of Spain and Portugal) counterparts. The purpose of this has been manifold:

- To learn from their system and structures (they are a far more established District)
- To begin the process of bringing the 2 districts together, as a first step to a single European District
- To hold our own summer meeting to review where we are up to and to plan for the year ahead.

I am writing this update in snatched moments between sessions as it is fairly full on: starting around 7.30am each morning and then running through to 6.30pm before then also gathering for meals together. It has been a very interesting and steep learning experience so far.

Beat the Students

A reminder that each week I will include a few questions from a subject which would be tackled by our Key Stage 3 (Yrs 7-9) students. You can pit your wits against your child and see if you still remember the skills and knowledge you learnt at school.

This week, we move to DT. Can you answer the following questions?

- a) What is the primary purpose of a prototype?**
- b) What is CAD an abbreviation for?**
- c) What does the term ergonomics refer to?**
- d) What does a Gantt chart help with?**
- e) What is the purpose of a mood board?**

Answers at the end of the update.

Blackpool Trip

The payment deadline for the Blackpool trip has now passed, and thank you to those parents who were prompt to pay for this. There have been a number of parents who have been disappointed that they missed the payment deadline and that we have not added their child to the list, afterwards. I hope you understand that there is a huge amount of planning goes in to offering over 800 children a place, including buses, tickets and staffing, which is done as soon as we have the deadline pass. It is not a simple thing to add additional students afterwards. Thank you for your understanding.

Student Rewards

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Star: Scott Grimes
- Top Star point winner: Lucas Chong
- £10 voucher: Lola Hitchen

Attendance

Apologies this has been missing over recent weeks as the external data system we use was not working properly. Attendance continues to be a priority. Please continue to do all you can to ensure your child attends school every day.

Latest attendance data from 4th September to 24th May:

- DLS Attendance: **91.9% (no change)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **91% (down -0.1)**
- Difference: **+0.9% above the national (up +0.1)**

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

Mon 10th – Fri 28th: Discovering Careers Events for Year 9

Wed 12th: Governors' Personnel Committee

Mon 17th – Fri 21st: Spanish Exchange Visit

Tue 18th: Geography Fieldwork Trip 1 (Year 7)

Wed 19th: Governors Standards Committee (5pm)

Thu 20th: Geography Fieldwork Trip 2 (Year 7)

Thu 20th: GCSE Art, Photography and Graphics Exhibition (5pm – 7pm)

Thu 20th: Parents as Partners Confirmation meeting (5.30pm)

Fri 21st: School Finishes for students at 12.10pm (staff training)

Mon 24th: INSET Day (school closed to students)

Mon 24th – Fri 28th: Mission Week

Tue 25th: Careers Visit (Year 10)

Tue 25th: Vaccinations (Year 9)

Tue 25th: Carmel College visit 1 (Year 10)

Tue 25th: Colomendy Parents' Meeting (6:00pm)

Wed 26th: Vaccinations (Year 9)

Wed 26th: Governors Finance Committee (5:00pm)

Thu 27th: Founders' Day

Thu 27th: Carmel College Visit 2

Fri 28th: Blackpool rewards Trip

Beat the Students Answers

So how did you do? Here are the answers for this week:

- a) **To test and refine a design**
- b) **Computer Aided Design**
- c) **Designing for comfort and efficiency**
- d) **Planning and scheduling tasks**
- e) **To gather and display design inspiration**

Apologies I have not had time for this week's 'and finally...' though I am sure most of you will be relieved to see that!

Have a good weekend,

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

Student Rewards

This week's Lasallian Star Awards go to:


Form Class	Year 11	Year 10	Year 9	Year 8	Year 7
J		Summayya Abdullah	Max Whalley	Leighton Preston	Bethany Bradshaw / Alfie Rowlands
O		Jay Johns	Bethany Kay	Ella Haggarty	Tyler Arnold
H		Chloe Denning	Tilly Barrow	Liam Seasman	Amber Moss
N		Shay Varkulis	Martha Perkins	Olivia Brennan	Jessica Mower
B		Rebecca Pye	Allysia Ellison	Daniel Kelly McNamara	Chloe Dowling
D		Lyla Ball	Maddie Grimes	Francesca Fox	Jessica Naylor
L		Freddie Foulkes	James Sappa	Aiden Mandaracas	Ewan Donoghue
S		Lucy Balmer	Jamie Davies	Eryn Southern	Grace Lester
Engagement		Phoebe Weldon	N/A	N/A	N/A

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





The SAP Technology Scholarship Programme is an online learning Programme sponsored by Vattenfall and designed by Niya to give your community the foundational skills to become an ABAP SAP Developer. This is a FREE 3-month programme designed to help learners understand the fundamentals skills required to become an SAP professional developer. [Read more and apply.](#)



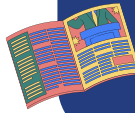
Success At School's [new Wellbeing page](#) has advice for coping with exam stress and how to boost your mental health on a daily basis, as well as focused resources to help you prepare for what may happen on results day and the transition to university.

Cardiff University have a range of upcoming webinars that may be of interest to you. This includes:

- 
- [‘What to do when things don’t go to plan’](#), on 11th June. Sometimes things don’t go to plan and that’s okay, there are plan Bs. In this webinar, we share information about what to do when you don’t quite meet the grade requirements, including details about clearing.
 - [‘What can I do over the summer?’](#), on 27th June. Find out what you can do over the summer holidays before the academic year begins. From work experience to put on your statement to visiting potential universities and cities.



UCAS also has a [Managing Exam Stress hub](#), with top tips and links to YoungMinds, The Mix and StudentMinds websites; whatever might be worrying you at this stage of the year, there is plenty of support online as well as within the College.



The [Be At Your Best ezine](#) is a practical guide for dealing with exam nerves, motivation and mindset by Sam Moinet from The Student Breakthrough.

JOB OF THE WEEK



This week’s video focuses on the job role of a [Sustainability Consultant](#).

This is a person who helps businesses to become more socially and environmentally responsible in how they operate by completing assessments and creating sustainability strategies.

Watch the video to learn more.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Interest in science from girls has declined and a gender gap has opened up, claims new report from EngineeringUK.

The report evidenced that only 12% of girls say being an engineer fits well with who they are and just 16% of girls think an engineering career is suitable for them.

[Source](#)

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Launching in September 2024, this 24 week paid training programme and work placement can open the door into the creative industry. Eight weeks of bespoke training with industry experts at SharpFutures is followed by a sixteen-week placement in a creative organisation, an opportunity to practise your new skills and make your first big splash in the creative industry. [Find out more here.](#)

Durham, LSE and Warwick have joined Imperial and Cambridge to incorporate the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) into their selection process for 2025 entry. The world-class, research-intensive institutions will be using the TMUA to select students for a number of Maths and Statistics-based courses, as well as some in Economics, Computer and Data Science. The TMUA is one of two computer-based assessments that will be delivered by University Admissions Tests-UK (UAT-UK) for 2025 entry.

Long-awaited plans to award [UCAS points to apprenticeships](#) have been revealed by the university admissions body. From this September, people completing level 3 apprenticeships could be awarded up to 112 UCAS points to apply to universities, depending on the length of their apprenticeship. This is great news as it means you can do a Level 3 Apprenticeship at the end of Year 11 and still go onto university.

Few industries capture our imagination as much as aerospace and aviation - in careers relating to these areas, the sky is no longer the limit! With the aviation and aerospace industry, there are possibilities that'll take you above and beyond, so long as you have the knowledge, skills, and passion to take you where you want to go. Springpod have joined forces with the Civil Aviation Authority, the UK's aviation and aerospace regulator, to provide you with an [inspiring programme that'll help your dreams of a career in the industry soar!](#)

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"We value our people and want them to be inspired, nurtured, developed and supported during their time with us. We know that only together can we make change that saves lives. We work together to achieve our vision and drive a culture with wellbeing at the heart of everything we do."

You can read more about Samaritan's careers [here.](#)

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"LSE is a global community of people and ideas in the heart of central London. We're a specialist social sciences university, ranking fifth in the world in the QS subject rankings 2023 and as the top university in London in the Complete University Guide 2024 and Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023."

You can read more about LSE courses [here.](#)

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