



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

21st June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parental Update 33

The GCSEs are now officially done, and we wish our outgoing Year 11 students a restful summer break ahead of their GCSE results in August. Meanwhile in school, there is no let up as we had two big Year 7 Geography trips taking place, the Year 10 Mocks continued, a range of formation activities for staff and students, Governors meeting and last night's wonderful GCSE Art, Photography and Graphics exhibition (a big thank you to the staff and parents that attended this).

Next week is a very special week, as it is Mission Week with a range of activities and events, culminating in Thursday's Founder's Day (see below). In addition, we start the week with an INSET Day, have vaccinations for Year 9, two Carmel College visits for Year 10 Students, another Governor meeting, and SVP Conference and our Blackpool Rewards trip – with over 700 students taking part.

Whole School Focus – Mission Week

Next week sees us celebrate Mission Week. This is a week of lessons, activities and events to remind us of our Founder, St John Baptist de la Salle and how we live out his educational mission. The week actually starts today, with our staff coming together this afternoon to review and take part in joint planning around how we deliver Catholic Social Teaching. This is an important part of our holistic development of our students, to help them see how they can contribute to a kinder and fairer society.

Monday: INSET Day which will follow some of the themes above, whilst also allowing our departments to review and re-plan their schemes of work, assessments and curriculum based upon the previous year.

Tuesday: is Touching Hearts Day where students will follow their normal timetables, but each department has worked to create specific lessons within their subject area, that provide a link to our Catholic Social Teaching and our Mission statement

Wednesday: Lasallian Awards Day: this day will be dedicated to each year group coming together to celebrate their achievements and to recognise those students who have gone above and beyond in their efforts and support of our Lasallian Mission.

Thursday: One Lasalle: This is our Founder's Day and Culture Day. This is the big celebration with the students taking part in a range of tutorials and special sessions led by staff, students and visitors which celebrate the many cultures that make up our school community. Students will also attend mass with their year group and then finish the afternoon by visiting 4 different zones – each packed with entertainment, activities and displays.

Friday: School rewards trip to Blackpool and events and activities within school for those not attending.

It is an incredibly ambitious and exciting week of events for which we will keep our fingers crossed that the weather holds and all have a great time.

Important Dates

The final run-in to term is incredibly hectic so I just wanted to highlight some important dates to ensure parents don't miss anything (a fuller list is available later in the update):

- Monday 24th June: **INSET Day** (students don't attend)
- Thursday 27th June: Founder's Day: a full day of mass, events and activities for the students
- Friday 19th July: School closes for summer at 12.10pm for students

School Uniform

This is the time of year when minds turn towards the next academic year, including buying of uniform and other items. A fuller reminder of standards will be sent out before the end of term but to avoid parents making expensive and unsuitable purchases, can I remind all parents:

- Students should only wear school shoes NOT trainers or sports shoes. If they have a sports brand name (like Nike, Under Armour etc) then they are not suitable
- PE kit should only be our school branded kit, no other brands will be permitted (see separate PE kit and the PE Kit note below)
- School operates a quality seconds uniform store, please contact Mrs Shepherd if interested.

Bus Strike

Sadly, we have received notification that new strikes have been voted upon. These will take place on Monday and Tuesday next week. Fortunately, with Monday being an INSET Day, the impact will only be Tuesday 25th June. Services affected will be:

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

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 (Years 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 Photography (actually KS4). Can you answer the following questions?

- a) What aperture setting creates a shallow depth of field?**
- b) What is the term for adjusting the lightness or darkness of a photo?**
- c) What is the device that is used to stabilise a camera during a shot?**
- d) What is the name of a common post-processing software for photos?**
- e) Which rule suggests placing the subject off-centre for a balanced composition?**

Answers at the end of the update.

PE Kit Changes

Parents should have recently received a ParentMail outlining upcoming changes we are making to our PE kits for students. These changes are highlighted below and will apply to the new intake Year 7 students from September, but won't be phased in for next Year's 8-11 for another 12 months (though families are free to start changing earlier if they wish).

Key points to note:

- The new kit is shown in the attached images.
- Winter Kit: students are strongly urged to have a school hoodie or mid-layer top as PE will continue throughout winter
- Leggings are permitted but only plain black or blue and unbranded (except school branded kit). No branded items will be allowed at any time.
- PE kit is available from a range of suppliers.
- We welcome donations of quality used kit.

She Inspires

Several of our Year 8 students took part in a #SheInspires Celebration Event where the girls took part in a range of activities and sporting events. Three of our students stood out and were commended for their efforts and abilities in sport: April, Sienna and Tara.

The event organiser contacted us to praise all of our students but specifically these three saying he was particularly impressed with the way in which they got stuck in to each activity and mixed so well with all the different partners on the day. So well done girls!

Lockers

I know many of the students use the in-school lockers to store their bags and other things. It is important that by the end of the school year, that all items are removed in order for the lockers to be cleaned. Any that remained locked will be cut open and all items disposed of. The students have been informed.

Student rewards

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Star: Tobias Ginnelly-Smith
- Top Star point winner: Scarlett Ashton-Smith
- £10 voucher: Annie Meredith

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 14th Jun:

- DLS Attendance: **91.8% (down -0.1)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **91.0% (unchanged)**
- Difference: **+0.8% above the national (down -0.1)**

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

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 (6pm)

Tue 25th: BUS STRIKES

Wed 26th: Vaccinations (Year 9)

Wed 26th: Governors Finance Committee (5pm)

Thu 27th: Founders' Day

Thu 27th: Carmel College Visit 2

Fri 28th: Blackpool rewards Trip

Fri 28th: Junior SVP Youth Conference (all day)

Mon 1st – Fri 5th: Year 6 Transition Week

Tue 2nd: Year 10 St Helens College Taster Day

Tue 2nd: Belgium Trip Parental Meeting (5pm)

Wed 3rd: Year 8 and 9 Performing Arts Trip

Wed 3rd: Transition Meeting for Year 6 parents (4pm)

Thu 4th: Year 11 Prom

Fri 5th – Sun 7th: Lasallian Camp

Fri 5th – Sat 6th: Year 10 History Trip to London

Wed 10th – Fri 12th: Year 9 Residential to Colomendy

Wed 10th: Water Safety Assemblies lessons 1 and 2

Wed 10th: PSHCE Lesson 1
Wed 10th: Full Governors 4.30pm
Thu 11th: Scholars Programme Graduation (all day)
Thu 11th: MVP Diversity Conference Year 10
Sat 13th – Wed 17th: Year 8 Belgium Trip
Fri 19th: School finishes for summer: students finish at 12.10
Mon 22nd and Tues 23rd: INSET DAYS

Beat the Students Answers

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

- a) **Large**
- b) **Exposure**
- c) **Tripod**
- d) **Photoshop**
- e) **Rule of thirds**

And finally... I Knead You Tonight

One of Mrs R's wonderful qualities is her thriftiness. If ever we go for a meal she will analyse the bill, ticking every item off, whilst I will normally just hand over a card and pay whatever is asked. To be fair she has saved a considerable amount of money on restaurant mistakes, though I sometimes think the awkward exchanges with the server aren't really worth it, and I usually make it with a bigger tip.

Anyway, one of her money saving schemes occurs at this time every year in order to get us in to the Southport Flower Show. Mrs R discovered that if you enter one of the competitions, then you get free entry, thus, theoretically, saving each of us the £25 entrance fee.

Last time we went, I paid entry but Mrs R entered a honey cake. Not only did she save the entrance fee, but actually won her category, ending the day up by £15. So buoyed by her success, she has insisted that I also enter a category to ensure free entry.

So, I am faced with the choice of honey cake, lemon drizzle, Victoria sponge or walnut cake. Now, I am no luddite in the kitchen, but my skills are better served in the chaotic world of savoury pastas, stews, stir fries etc rather than the precise chemistry of baking. Despite my protestations and pointing out that the ingredients for these, taking into account a trial run, will almost be £25, Mrs R is having none of it.

Come mid-August, I shall be channelling my inner Paul Hollywood, to produce something for the competition, who knows, I might even get a rosette!

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			Kate Finnigan	Jessica May Noblett	
O			Laila Rigby	Jack Jarmalowicz	
H			Lily Chamberlain	Eden Nightinghale	
N			Rebekah Goddard	Ryan Nichols	
B			Ruby-Lynn Talbot	Archie Croall	
D			Finley Coaley	Eoghan Bessley	
L			Chad Centeno	Sonny Melling	
S			David Haddock	Jack Daniels	
Engagement			N/A	N/A	N/A



De La Salle School

POLO SHIRT



100% recycled polyester

1/4 ZIP TOP



100% recycled polyester

HOODIE



65% polyester / 35% cotton

TRAINING TROUSER



100% polyester

LEGGING



90% polyester / 10% elastane

SHORTS



100% airmesh polyester

2 IN 1 SHORTS



100% recycled polyester shell outer
90% polyester/10% elastane inner

SKORT



100% airmesh polyester outer
90% cotton/10% elastane inner

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



RSM is a leading audit, tax and consulting adviser to the middle market, globally. With nearly 5,000 people operating from 30 locations across the UK, we have a culture of understanding what it means to deliver value, and to value what we do. Our school leaver programmes are designed to challenge, encourage and reward from day one. We support our trainees at every stage, providing them with comprehensive training, hands on experience, access to industry experts and all the resources they'll need to unlock a future packed with opportunities. [Read more here.](#)




If you're weighing up what's the next right step for you – it could be an apprenticeship, maybe you're thinking about university, or perhaps you want to dive straight into your first 'proper job', 'Get In' Taster Experiences offer you the chance to see if the BBC could be where you'd like to work in the future by exploring the different early careers paths the BBC has to offer. [Read more here.](#)



UCAS have created a series of guides that are loaded with information to help you understand what's next – decisions, next steps and figuring it out. These are our road maps to navigating student life. You can [check them out here](#) and filter them to the topic that interests you.



Welcome to the "[Not Going to Uni Podcast](#)," where we explore the extraordinary journeys of apprentices who have chosen alternative career routes over traditional university paths. Join us as we dive into the inspiring stories of individuals who have embraced apprenticeships and other non-traditional avenues to success.



Kickstart Your Career in the Creative Industries. Browse thousands of internships, bootcamps, events, training schemes, courses & more using the [ERIC app](#).

JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of a [Web Designer](#).

They are responsible for creating the design & layout of a website or web pages. Unlike web developers, who specialise in creating new websites' structures & the code that forms these, web designers tend to focus on the visual aspects of a site. Watch the video to learn more.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

UCAS, with the Sutton Trust, release a flagship report into apprenticeships seeking to understand the barriers and choices made in the decision-making of would-be apprentices. Three in five (61%) former applicants did not pursue an apprenticeship because they could not find one in their preferred location.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Want to be at the forefront of renewable energy solutions? Desire a career that really makes a difference to our planet? Then get ready, as this virtual work experience programme will introduce you to some of the most exciting careers in this sector, with none other than the global leader on climate action - Ørsted. [Read more here.](#)

Want to start your journey with one of the biggest names in the hospitality industry? Learn from the experts at wagamama in this exciting programme. At wagamama, 'fresh' isn't an adjective reserved for the food - it's a way of life. Are you passionate? Energetic? Can you go from strength to strength? Discover how to master it all through interactive content, videos, and activities skillfully crafted with the help of industry experts. [Read more here.](#)

In this very topical Subject Spotlight, Dr Anne-Marie Greenslade presents; Does law shape society, or does society shape the law? The LGBT+ Community and law through time. If you're interested in Law or LGBT+ rights, this could be an interesting spotlight for you. [Read more here.](#)

Join Richard Badge as he introduces Biological Sciences at the University of Leicester within the overarching concept that the biological sciences are changing. He looks closely at biology's big data, considering how computers are integral to biology, identifies what a genome is and looks at the journey from genetics to epigenetics. [Read more here.](#)

Join Iyi Ogiehor as he explores the dynamic world of modern banking and finance. He begins by introducing you to what banking and finance actually are, why it is important to study them together, and the current trends shaping modern banking and finance. You will investigate decentralised finance and what it involves, to understand how it is shaking up the future of banking and finance as we know it! [Read more here.](#)

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"To reach net zero by 2050, we're acting now. And we need bright talent, fresh ideas, and people who want to make a difference to help power the change. Sound like you? Get your career off to a brilliant start with one of our SSE Early Careers Programmes. You'll gain a solid grounding in the energy industry and develop valuable skills in a friendly, supportive working environment." You can read more about SSE's careers [here.](#)

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Aberystwyth University, on the west coast of Wales, is your place to study, explore and grow. Aberystwyth really is an excellent choice. Since 1872, we've built a global reputation for teaching excellence and ground-breaking research."

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

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