



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

18th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parental Update 7

A very busy week again in school with 2 Parental Information evenings (Years 7 and 10), a meeting of the Parent Reference Group, a visit from Carmel College to see our Year 11s, our Year 7-10 Pastoral Parental Meetings, our 1719 Society were on retreat at Kintbury, several rugby tournaments and our various student leadership groups have been planning and developing their work for next half term. I was also at the Lasallian Headteacher Conference and will be heading down to Kintbury later today to celebrate 50 Years of the Lasallian retreat centre, St Cassian's, this weekend.

Looking ahead to the final week of the half term and it is another busy one: we have our second Formation Week of this academic year – with plenty of opportunities for our students and staff to receive formation, we have flu vaccinations for those who have given consent, a Year 11 Graphics trip and Year 11 reward trip, a Governors Personnel Committee, Year 11 Parents' Evening and a Year 8 and 9 Girls Football 'She Inspires' Festival. In addition to all this, we are honoured to be the only Lasallian School in the District to be visited as part of the Brother Superior's visit to GB, Ireland and Malta – I will need to get the duster out!

Whole School Focus – CSI Inspection

The Catholic School Inspection (CSI) in England is a formal review process that evaluates how well a Catholic school upholds and promotes its Catholic values, faith, and teachings. These inspections are overseen by the Catholic Church in partnership with local dioceses, and they take place alongside standard school inspections like those from Ofsted.

CSI focuses on three key areas:

- **Religious Education (RE):** It examines the quality of religious instruction, ensuring that children are receiving a comprehensive and engaging education in Catholic teachings, scripture, and Church traditions.
- **Catholic Life of the School:** This looks at how the school fosters a strong Catholic ethos. It includes the school's sense of community, how it promotes values like compassion, respect, and justice, and how it integrates prayer, worship, and participation in the sacraments into everyday school life.
- **Spiritual and Moral Development:** Inspectors assess how well the school supports the spiritual growth of students, helping them to develop a strong moral compass grounded in Catholic teachings. This includes how students are encouraged to live out their faith through actions, behaviour, and involvement in the wider community.

For parents, CSI offers insight into how well the school is nurturing their child's faith, while also ensuring a strong academic foundation. It ensures that the Catholic identity of the school is being actively lived out and maintained.

The CSI is relatively new and we have not yet been inspected under the new framework, our last inspection was in 2018 under the old Section 48 framework. We expect our first CSI inspection to take place at some point this academic year and work is well underway in preparation for it.

Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

We are looking to resurrect our PTFA as a tool to providing additional funding opportunities and greater community engagement. The first PTFA meeting of the year will take place 5.30pm Thursday 7th November 2024 in school. At present, there is not really an active PTFA; this is something we would like to rectify. If you feel you could support the PTFA in any way please come along to the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to offer your support/ideas for future events speak to Eve Wilcox or Lisa Jackson at the school.

Student Recovery Medication

Just a reminder to Parents that students who need rescue medication in school (EpiPens and reliever inhalers) should have them on them at all times, especially for PE. We strongly suggest parents send a spare one into school in case their child forgets or loses it. There have been a few students over the last few weeks without their inhalers and unfortunately, we have no spare in school.

National Porridge Day – A message from our 1719 Society

As I am sure you know, Tuesday 22nd October is National Porridge Day - an event held since 2009, dedicated to the unique and delectable dish that porridge is. The event aims to raise funds for Marys Meals, a charity which helps children in developing countries. It creates awareness of those in need but also celebrates Marys Meals positive work.

To help support this, our 1719 Society will be running a variety of activities including a form time quiz, treasure hunt, Year 11 charity football match and a flapjack sale.

Parent Information Evening Resources

Many of the resources we have shared with parents as part of the recent Parental Information Evenings, are now accessible on the school website. These resources can be found through the link below: <http://www.delasalle.st-helens.sch.uk/parents/revision-and-independent-study/>

Parent Reference Group

A big thank you to those in Year 7 who have come forward to be part of the Parent Reference Group. We met on Monday and, alongside a general update, spent time listening to the update on our CSI work and capturing parental feedback on our chaplaincy and Catholic life of the school. Thank you to those who could attend and who shared their views as parents, this was, as always, very useful.

Learn to Ride

One of the things schools are seeing is the large number of students who either cannot ride a bike, or are not confident in riding a bike. For any parents who want to develop their child's bike riding skills, there are 3 free Learn to Ride sessions on the 31st Oct. The location is Taylor Park St Helens and the sessions are run by Bike Right, free of charge.

If parents would like to sign their child up for this then sessions can be booked via this link: <https://www.bikeright.co.uk/courses/child-group/>

Annie

We are pleased to announce that our Christmas Musical Show will be the well-known and much-loved musical – Annie. The show will take place on **Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th December** (Starting at 6.30pm). Tickets are available at £5 and £3 for concessions.

The rehearsal schedule for those involved is below:

- Monday lunch – Band
- Tuesday lunch – Singers
- Wednesday after school Band (week A)
- Thursday lunch – full cast

- Thursday after school Band and full cast

I was able to witness some of the numbers as students performed them during the Open Evening, and they are brilliant – well worth coming along to.

Calling all De La Salle Alumni!

Mrs Smedley our HAP Co-ordinator - would like to get in contact with past pupils who would be available to come into school to talk about their education and career journey with our current pupils.

Our **Inspire Me** talks are to create opportunities where pupils can endeavour to raise their aspirations by attending these informal but very informative sessions. Please email if you could support these sessions. smedleyk@delasalleschool.org.uk

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

Thu 17th – Sun 20th: 1719 retreat to Kintbury (St Cassian's 50th Anniversary)

Mon 21st – Fri 25th: Formation Week

Tue 22nd: Flu Vaccinations – all year groups (for those with consent)

Tue 22nd: Year 8 and 9 Girls Football 'She Inspires' Festival

Wed 23rd: Year 11 Reward Trip

Wed 23rd: Governors' Personnel Committee

Thu 24th: Year 11 Parents' Evening

Fri 25th: Finish for half term

Half Term

Mon 4th Nov: School re-opens (normal time)

Thu 7th: PTFA Meeting (5.30pm) – All welcome

Mon 11th – Fri 22nd: Assessment Window for Years 7 and 10

Tue 19th: Year 10 and 11 Theatre Trip

And finally...

As I mentioned earlier, I am driving down to Berkshire this afternoon, for the 50th Anniversary of St Cassians, the Lasallian retreat centre at Kintbury. When I was planning the journey down and visit, I thought I would combine business and pleasure so I am also treating Mrs R to a lovely weekend in rural Berkshire – she was delighted.

I declined the kind offer of staying in the retreat centre – it is a lovely old building with clean basic accommodation which is fine when on retreat, but not sure Mrs R would be too keen. Instead, I have booked us a lovely Airbnb cottage in the village (for clarity, obviously there is no cost to the school for this).

In true Mrs R fashion, she has been scouring the guides and events. She currently has a list of places and things to do during our time down there: walks, markets, stately homes, bars, restaurants. Unfortunately, I noticed a few of them were for Saturday afternoon – this is when the main celebration and mass with the Bishop will be taking place.

At least I have a 4-hour car journey during which I can drop that little bombshell, and I am sure she will be delighted. As the Irish headteachers I have been with at the conference would say "ah she'll be grand, so she will."

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

14th-20th October 2024 is Recycle Week. It's the one week of the year where retailers, brands, waste management companies, trade associations, governments and the media come together to achieve one goal: to galvanise the public into recycling more of the right things, more often.

This year's Recycle Week theme is 'Rescue Me'; focusing on rescuing recyclable items from the rubbish bin.



We would consider jobs that promote recycling, Co2 reduction and the promotion of environmentally friendly causes a "green job". Here is a [blog from the National Careers Service](#) that tells you everything you need to know about Green Jobs.



If you're feeling inspired and think you might like to work in a green job in the future, check out this [Green Jobs board](#) which shows you a range of roles available, how much you could earn and the sort of things you'd be responsible for in each role.



If you want to understand more about the industry, check out these virtual work experiences on Springpod:

- [Engineering a Sustainable World with IChemE](#)
- [Grow Your Sustainable Career - Work Experience in Farming](#)
- [Sustainability Unveiled: Virtual Work Experience in Green Careers](#)
- [Met Office Careers - Forecasting Your Future](#)

If you don't want to commit to a full work experience programme yet but would like to learn more, these talks from Speakers4Schools will also be of interest:



- [Why Your Involvement In Nature Is No Longer Optional](#)
- [How the NHS are working to lessen their environmental impact](#)
- [Figuring Out The Small Changes You Can Make To Have A Positive Impact on Sustainability And Society](#)

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

JOB OF THE WEEK



[Sustainability Consultant](#)

Sustainability consultants use their expertise and knowledge to advise and guide businesses to become socially and environmentally responsible. In addition, their expertise touches on how the company operates in a more sustainable way. Watch the video to learn more about working hours, salary and qualifications needed.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

LinkedIn reports that between 2022 and 2023, the number of people with the skills to help address the climate crisis **grew by 12.3%**. However, the share of jobs posted over the same period that required at least one green skill increased by nearly **twice as quickly, at 22.4%**.

[Source](#)

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Future Financial Adviser is a digital community providing career advice, peer-to-peer connections, mentors, events, and career opportunities within the financial-advice sector. Join us this Autumn for a series of 40-minute webinars covering;



- Understanding financial services and the different roles that are available, 16th October 2024, register [here](#).
- Get the skills you need to secure your first job: personal branding, CV and interview tips, 20th November 2024, register [here](#).

Sportfolio help UK students to pursue their sporting ambitions alongside their education. They proudly work with the leading sporting and academic institutions throughout the UK to offer Sportfolio users an opportunity to find out all you need to know regarding sport at University and the prospects available. You can read more about [how it works here](#).



Are you thinking about the end of Year 11? Choosing your A Level subjects is a big decision. [Read the Complete University Guide's advice](#) on how to decide, whether you know what you want to study at university or not.



Alternatively, you may decide to take a vocational qualification instead. In [this guide from UCAS](#), you can read more about what they are, who they suit and whether or not universities accept them.



A great way to make choices about the end of Year 11 is to attend the open days for the places you're interested in studying. In order to make the most of these events, it is good to create a list of questions. [Here is a guide](#) to help you consider what questions might help you to make a choice about what and where to study.



Have a fantastic October break!

Your Careers Newsletter will return for Term 2 week commencing 28th October.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"RSK is a global leader in the delivery of sustainable solutions. Our family of more than 200 environmental, engineering and technical services businesses works together to provide practical solutions to some of the greatest challenges societies have ever faced. People are at the heart of our business."

Read more about [RSK Careers here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Choosing the right university and course for you is one of the biggest decisions you'll ever make, but it does not have to be a complicated one. At Kingston, all our courses are developed with your career in mind, so that you get the most up-to-date information and gain the relevant work-related skills needed for the modern work environment." Read more about [Kingston University Courses here](#).

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