



De La Salle
School

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15th November 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 10

An interesting week in school saw us have an external review of our work to support students who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, we held a number of 'Team Around the Child' meetings – to help inform staff on how best to support identified students, began the Year 7 and 10 assessments, had a charity cake sale, held a Finance, Premises and Personnel governor meeting and said goodbye to Mrs Morris who has started her maternity leave. We also had final confirmation from the DfE that we will acdemise on 1st December.

Looking ahead to next week, we have a review of our SEND provision, a Year 10 and 11 English trip to the theatre, will hold our annual 'Your Future' Careers event for Years 9, 10 and 11 and our GCSE Awards evening.

Whole School Focus – Remembrance Service

November always feels a very sombre month with the feasts of All Saints, All Souls and then Remembrance Day, and it was in a pensive and sombre mood that, as a school, we took time on Monday to come together to remember those who have given their lives for our country. This year, our chaplaincy team were keen to have everyone feel involved, so we also encouraged staff and students to share the names of family and friends, who may have recently passed, and who they would like us to remember.

It was a beautiful service, which was held on the bridge across the courtyard, with classes joining in the inner courtyard or from their classrooms. I was joined on the bridge by a number of our students who are part of various uniformed groups: cadets, scouts, guides etc. Amber, in year 8, began the service with a short prayer:

History can inspire or trap.
Walls can protect or divide.
Words can encourage or inflame.
Power can free or destroy.
Touch can comfort or violate.
Peace can be shared or withheld.
Loving God, on this day,
when we remember past and present conflicts,
we pray for the divided peoples of the world,
that leaders, governments and each one of us
may use our resources,
our opportunities and our lives
in the service of reconciliation,
for the sake of future generations
and to the glory of your name.
Amen

I then read the poem, For the Fallen, then Mr McIntyre played the Last Post to mark the start of our 2-minute silence, during which our uniformed students stood to attention, our students observed

You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care.

the silence impeccably, and a poppy wreath containing all the names put forward by our community, was raised.

At the end, Mr McIntyre played the Reveille which brought the service to a close. A very special and moving moment for the whole school.

Winter Menu

The LA catering team have shared with us the winter menu which will start on Monday 25th November 2024 and is scheduled to run until Friday 5th April 2025. The offer consists of three weeks of menus, and I have attached a copy of these, along with the price list for other items.

EduLink Reminders:

We are trying to increasingly use EduLink for most student specific information to parents. With that in mind, can I remind you to check it for:

- Rewards: please check EduLink regularly to stay aware of any reward (or behaviour) points and certificates that your child might receive.
- EduLink will also be used for attendance messages and information.
- Dinner balances: can parents also ensure their child's dinner balance is in credit and they have enough money for their break and lunch.

Bake Sale

Yesterday we held a bake sale to raise funds for Diabetes UK, organised by one of our Year 10 students, Beatrice. This was a great success and a big thank you to all who bought cakes, badges and wristbands at the bake sale. A lot of money has been raised to donate to Diabetes UK to help with all the amazing work they do. Winners of the name the teddy competition and guess the sweets competition will be announced on Monday to students as well as the total amount raised. Well done Beatrice!

New Music Hub

As you may know, the old music service has been replaced by a new Music Hub across Merseyside and Warrington which has been named 'Sound! Music Hub'. They are looking for young people to apply to join the new music hub's Youth Board and have asked if we could share the following information with our school families and on our social media channels.

Are you passionate about music? Do you want to make a difference in your community? Join our Youth Board and help shape the future of music in your local area...

[JOIN THE SOUND! MUSIC HUB'S YOUTH BOARD - BeMore](#)

Local Authority SEND Strategy

The St Helens SEND Partnership have asked schools to share with stakeholders an invite to the launch of their SEND Strategy and the unveiling of their new SEND Information Hub website, a comprehensive resource designed to support young people with special educational needs and their families. The event will focus on the five key priorities of the strategy, the actions and the initiatives that will enable positive outcomes for children and young people with additional needs in St Helens.

The event will be held on **Monday 2nd December, 9.30 – Totally Wicked Stadium.**

Booking on this event is essential, and can be done so by following the link:

[SEND Strategy and Information Hub Launch Event Tickets, Totally Wicked Stadium | TryBooking United Kingdom](#)

Catholic Life at De La Salle (Repeated item)

Once again you will find the Catholic Life Update attached. We are also keen to capture the views of parents and students about Catholic Life in the school. We would be very grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing the short survey below. It will be really helpful for us in getting your perspective in knowing what works and what we need to improve.

Parent Survey: <https://participate.schoolsurveys.com/tWfbmbzp7nlKYOnl>

Important Payment information regarding ParentMail Shop (repeated item)

Due to the upcoming academisation of our school on 1st December, we have had to temporarily suspend payments for items in our ParentMail school shop, as the contract switches over. This includes school trips, revision guides, music lessons and uniform. Payments for these services will resume from 1st December.

However, please note that **dinner money payments are not affected by this change and should continue as usual.** We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this transition period. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Easy Fundraising (repeated item)

As a school, we have 269 supporters raising free donations for our school every time they shop online, and you can join in too! Sign up to support us on #easyfundraising and over 8,000 retailers will make a donation on your behalf when you shop with them. All the big names like Sainsbury's, M&S, Argos, Just Eat and many more are ready to donate at no extra cost to you. Every donation will help us! Plus, join today and they could win us a £300 donation:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/delasalle/13KFGT/s2s/ZdU7Z020/SE878/facebook/>

Annie (repeated item)

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.

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

Mon 18th – Fri 22nd: Formation Week 3

Tue 19th: Year 10 and 11 Theatre Trip

Thu 21st: Your Future Event (for Years 9, 10 and 11)

Thu 21st: GCSE Presentation Evening (for summer GCSEs)

Tue 26th: Year 11 Apprenticeship show visit

Wed 27th: Year 11 Geography Fieldtrip

Wed 27th: Governors Catholic Life and Culture Committee (5pm)

Thu 28th: Year 11 Parental Information Evening

Fri 29th: Anthony Walker Foundation Ambassador training (Year 8)

Wed 4th: Mount Carmel House Mass

Thu 5th: Year 8 Parents' Evening

Fri 6th: INSET DAY: School closed

And finally...Wincey Willis

I am increasingly aware of becoming old, not there yet, but well on my way. Nowhere is this more evident than in people not getting my cultural references anymore. This was very obvious yesterday when I was with the other Laetare CMAT headteachers as part of the CEO interviews.

Now for context, all of the other heads are younger, or much younger, than me, which became very apparent, when one of them gave us some rather interesting information about the weather and I said it was like having Wincey Willis (Google her) in the room. They all just looked at me blankly.

This isn't just a one off, I spent 20 mins the other day trying to explain to my sons about rotary landline telephones "What you had to put your finger in the phone and turn it to your number? Like a safe?" was their response in disbelief. Then, I had to explain the concept of a landline, as though I'm describing some ancient relic of a pre-smartphone era, like the horse-drawn carriage of telecommunications. Then they asked what I meant when I told my wife I had taped Strictly Come Dancing. I let that one pass.

There are now very few people left who will get many of the sayings from those old public information films such as "Dip don't dazzle", "Clunk click every trip", "Think once, think twice, think bike", "Charlie says don't go with strangers". As a side note, I think many people my age are still traumatised by some of those especially the ones about playing near water, messing with fireworks and going near electricity pylons.

The worst part? I catch myself apologising for it now. "Oh, you probably don't know what I mean when I say..." I say, like a shameful relic of a bygone era. But deep down, I know it's not me; it's them. I'm just ahead of the curve. One day, they'll look back and say, "Wow, remember that time everyone didn't get that skibbidy riz craze. That was weird." Until then, I guess I'll keep laughing at my own jokes while I slowly become the cultural equivalent of my nan asking if I've seen Happy Days.

Have a good weekend,

Andrew Rannard
Headteacher

Catholic Life at De La Salle



32nd Week of Ordinary Time



ONE OF OUR YEAR 7 FORM CLASSES AT MASS IN ST TERESA OF AVILA

When it comes to making decisions, hosting events or planning projects, our Gospel values and prayer are always central to the things we do as a Catholic Life team. Prayer has been a big theme for us this week as Chaplaincy led year group Prayer and Liturgy, we hosted our monthly Day of Prayer for staff and students and we took a Year 7 form class to Mass with us in St Teresa of Avila.

This Week

As a school community, there are a number of times throughout the year that we have the opportunity to gather for the celebration of Mass. Pre-Covid our school Chapel was host to weekly community Mass, a time for staff and students to be joined by members of our local community with Mass celebrated by Fr, now Bishop, Tom Neylon. With Tom being moved on from St Helens and the huge impacts of Covid, community Mass has not been something that we've been able to re-establish. We do believe that the weekly time of Mass and the opportunity to meet and mix with local parishioners is super important. After consideration and time of prayer we decided that it would be a good idea to get ourselves into our local church to keep that connection alive!

We now take classes from Year 7 and 8 for weekday Mass in St Teresa of Avila with Fr Martin Kershaw (who many of our students already know through their primary school). A huge thank you to Mr Ingham this week for the way he supported Chaplaincy in getting his form class to church!

HOPE 2024 (Repeated information)

We have launched our *Hope 2024* campaign again. This is a project we promote each year and as people of hope we aim to Help Other People Eat (HOPE). This year, we're asking form classes to collect £24. They can decide together if this money will contribute to our Mary's Meals collection or if it will be donated to our own school food pantry to support with our Christmas parcels for families in need. Either option will hugely support important projects.

Although we're going for a coin collection to support these two projects we will, of course, be extremely grateful for any donations of food for our pantry. Please consider if you're able to support in any way, it will be warmly received.

Opportunities

As explained last week, our prayer theme this week was **The Earth You Created**. We encouraged our students to consider themselves as part of creation, and suggested that to get themselves in the right position to do good for the world, they should also look at how they're treating themselves as part of creation. How do they take opportunities to nourish themselves spiritually, emotionally, physically and academically. As Catholic life there are a number of dates in our diary that we shared with students! Information will be sent out to relevant year groups over the next week or so!

Prayer and Liturgy

On Tuesday 19th, a number of members of staff will attend a Prayer and Liturgy Launch event. This is a day designed to celebrate a new-ish document called the *Prayer and Liturgy Directory: To Love You More Dearly*. This document guides us as we plan and prepare our pattern of prayer here in school. In a typical week students have access to Form Class Mass, Year Group Prayer and Liturgy, and daily Form Time Prayer and Liturgy. In each of these spaces students have a variety of prayer styles to explore, from meditation and silence, to discussion and open prayer. We also have monthly Days of Prayer where students can gather to pray and have tea and toast together in Chapel.

Our Next Theme

Next week is the 33rd week of Ordinary time. At this time of year we use the colour green within our displays and materials produced for times of prayer and liturgy. This colour is symbolic of growth and freshness. We use green to represent that our understanding of scripture, and our hope is always new, developing and fresh within our community.

The theme of our prayer and liturgy will be; **Judgement** as we focus on the International Day of the Child. We're called by God to become more like little children in our lives and so we're inspired by the young people around us. Year Teams will be leading us in our weekly Prayer and Liturgy, and we will be exploring the words from **Mark 13:24-32**

Catholic Life team

Opportunities to look out for

- Year 10 Residential to St Cassian's Retreat Centre
- Year 11 Mindfulness Day
- FLAME
- Christmas Party (1719)

Student Spotlight

Students who gathered for our Day of Prayer for the World were asked to write something down that they could do to help protect the planet that we all call home. One of our Year 7 students shared their commitment with others and this is what they had to say:

"I will write to our local MP because I pray that our world leaders understand that if we keep saying but not doing nothing will change for our world."

Pray for us...

Loving Father, help all people to understand that we are pilgrims here on earth. You gifted the world to all people, not a few. May we always be mindful of our role in protecting, caring for and nurturing our common home. We pray for world leaders as they begin their conversations in COP29. May they make meaningful and lasting decisions that will have positive and life-giving impacts on earth.

Winter 2024 Menu

Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event 1 £2.35	Penne Bolognese Bake	Teriyaki Chicken / Teriyaki Quorn	Cooks Carvery (Kitchen's Choice of Meat)	Chicken & Ham Melt	Battered Fish
The Main Event 2 £2.35	Winter Cheese Pasta Bake	Spiced Salmon	Sausage	Cheese & Bean Potato Bake	Southern Style Chicken Burger
With (included with either of the above)	Garic Bread & Corn Cob	Rice & Seasonal Vegetables	New Potatoes, Peas & Gravy	Seasoned Wedges, Carrots	Chips & Peas
Dessert £1.20	Fruit Crumble & Ice Cream	Flapjack	Belgian Waffle	Brownie	Winter Berry Cheesecake Crumble

£2.60 Meal Deal

x1 Main Event with Side, plus Dessert or 500ml Water

GRAB...GO...GONE £1.45 £1.80 £2.10 £2.50	Sausage Roll	Homemade Noodle Pot	Calzone	Cheesy Bacon Wedges	Fish-less Fingers
GRAB...GO...GONE £1.45 £1.80 £2.10 £2.50	Pepperoni Pizza Slice	Jacket Potato with Choice of Filling	Salt & Pepper Chicken Rice Box	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Coated Chicken Strips
GRAB...GO...GONE £1.75/£2.20/£2.25	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Did you know some of our dishes are suitable for vegetarian and vegan diets?

Alternative Dietary specific menus, Allergen and Carb information available upon request.

The menu maybe subject to change to ensure ingredients are used to the optimum quality or to meet the needs of an individual school.



De La Salle School

Winter 2024 Menu

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Main Event 1 £2.35	Pork Sausage Roll / Sausage Roll	Homemade Chicken Curry	Roast Chicken	Chicken Pie	Battered Fish
The Main Event 2 £2.35	Cheese Omelette	Baked Chilli & Lime Fish	Quorn Fillet	Homemade Curry	Coated Chicken Strips
With (included with either of the above)	Mini Potato Chunks & Baked Beans	50/50 Egg Fried & Naan, Broccoli	Stuffing, Mashed Potato, Gravy, Seasonal Veg	Garlic & Herb Diced Potatoes, Seasonal Veg	Chips & Peas
Dessert £1.20	Pineapple & Ice-cream	Chocolate Brownie	Blueberry Muffin	Shortbread	Chocanana Pot

£2.60 Meal Deal

x1 Main Event with Side, plus Dessert or 500ml Water

GRAB...GO...GONE £1.45 £1.80 £2.10 £2.50	Sausage Roll	Warm Ham & Cheese Melt	Chicken & Stuffing Baguette	Beef & Cheese Filled Flatbread	Battered Dippers
GRAB...GO...GONE £1.45 £1.80 £2.10 £2.50	Pepperoni Pizza	Jacket Potato with Choice of Filling	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	BBQ Chicken & Bacon Loaded Wedges	Fish Finger Butty
GRAB...GO...GONE £1.75/£2.20/£2.25	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings	Fresh Bread & variety of sandwich types and fillings



ST HELENS
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De La Salle School

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

Discover! Creative Careers Week 2024, 18th - 22nd November. It's an opportunity for young people to gain insight into real job roles and pathways from employers through online and in-person events.



There's a career for you in the creative industries. Use this page to discover a range of job profiles across the creative industries, featuring careers information from our industry partners. If you're aged 16+, download the ERIC app for free where you can discover creative internships, bootcamps, events, training schemes, courses and more.



Apprenticeships can be a fantastic way to start a career in the creative industries. This vocational route allows you to combine formal training with real workplace experience through employment. Read more here about the basics of apprenticeships in England, useful information and links to resources and opportunities, plus case studies of current and former apprentices working across the creative industries.



Aimed at learners aged 11-18, the online insights feature industry professionals talking about their jobs - what they involve, what it's like working in their sector, how they got into it and also some advice and tips for young people looking to enter a similar field.



Even if you don't want to work in a creative field, creative thinking is an essential skill if we want to consistently develop original and innovative concepts. Read more about the importance of creativity here.



Check out this video from West Yorkshire Business and Skills about creative industries. It was made with the support of The Burberry Foundation. They run a programme called Burberry inspire which is a global programme dedicated to providing safe spaces for young people to explore their creativity, develop new skills and build a more positive future.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Fashion Buyer

A fashion buyer is a professional who selects clothing and accessories for a company or retailer to sell to the public. They ensure that the merchandise they choose is on trend, complements the store's aesthetic, and helps the company achieve its goals. Watch the video to learn more about working hours, salary and qualifications needed.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Approximately **73%** of **organisations** surveyed in the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Survey reported that **creative thinking skills** was a **top priority** for them when considering talent as we move into the future, agreeing that this skill set is increasing in relevance and importance.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES



If you want to experience a creative industry, check out the relevant Springpod virtual work experience programmes; [Graphic Design](#), [Fashion](#) and [Architecture](#)



[BAE Systems](#) Apprenticeship Application Window is officially open. Are you ready to make a difference? You could be a pioneer, fast-tracking the future of BAE Systems through innovative technology and next-generation engineering feats. With our apprenticeships you'll earn while you learn and receive job-specific training, experience and recognised qualifications that will kickstart your career. There are over 1300 roles available nationwide. [Read more here.](#)



AWE offers A-Level to Degree level equivalent opportunities across a range of business areas. From Science to Engineering to Manufacturing to Business Services, there's something for everyone. This award-winning scheme offers students the chance to launch a unique career in the defence industry, all whilst playing a pivotal part in keeping the nation safe! [Read more here.](#)



Worried about your university choices? Welcome to [Uni Myths Busted](#). The place to go for stats and facts that tackle common university misconceptions and guidance from real university students, alumni and employers. Here you'll find advice and stories from employers and students; reliable, original data; and a whole host of useful information to help you feel more confident about it all.



Explore is an engaging digital resource from the [University of Oxford](#). As the 'Home of Big Questions', it aims to challenge those from 11 to 18 years with debates and ideas that go beyond what is covered in the classroom. [Read more here](#) and [check it out here.](#)



Have you seen [Southampton Solent University's 52 things to do?](#) It provides weekly activities, challenges, and guides to help you get ready for university, from now until freshers' week. Picking a course, paying for uni, registration and applications, moving in – they'll have something to support you every step of the way.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Join an inclusive team in a business that's ever-evolving. Play your part in creating pioneering security products and services that can change the world we live in.

Whichever early career programme you choose, you'll learn, grow and thrive here. With all the training and support you need to find your unique place."

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Based in the lively and diverse city of Southampton, Solent University is home to a global community of students from all walks of life. We've been awarded triple gold by the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), have first-class facilities, and strong industry links, getting you ready for employment."

Read more about [Southampton Solent courses](#) here.

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