



De La Salle
School

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5th December 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 13

Apologies that last week's update is much shorter and more basic than normal – with school being closed Friday, and me being at a Lasallian District meeting, I haven't been able to produce the normal update (a relief for most of you I am sure!).

The week has been very busy: it was our first week as an academy, we welcomed 4 colleagues from DLS Malta who wanted to come and see how we do chaplaincy, our Catering students completed their practical exam, rehearsals continued at a pace for Annie, a plethora of PE events and coaching sessions took place and we held Year 8 Parents' Evening.

Academy Life – Our Press Release

De La Salle School, St Helens, is pleased to announce that it has joined the **Laetare Catholic Multi-Academy Trust** (Laetare CMAT), marking an exciting new chapter for the school community. This decision reflects the school's commitment to providing an outstanding, faith-based education and offering new opportunities for both students and staff.

De La Salle School is proud to be the first of many that will join the Laetare family of Religious Order schools in the coming months, which shares De La Salle's core values of faith, academic excellence, and community. With a focus on delivering high-quality education rooted in Catholic teachings, the Trust provides a strong foundation for collaboration and growth. By joining Laetare CMAT, De La Salle School will enhance its educational offerings, benefit from shared resources, and contribute to a wider network of schools working together to serve young people.

"We are thrilled to be joining the Laetare Catholic Multi-Academy Trust," said Mr Andy Rannard, Headteacher of De La Salle School. "This partnership will enable us to further enrich the experience of our students and strengthen our commitment to providing an education that nurtures their academic, spiritual, and personal development. Together with the Trust, we are excited to embrace new opportunities and continue our journey of growth."

As part of the Laetare Catholic Multi-Academy Trust, De La Salle School will have access to a wide range of collaborative opportunities, professional development for staff, and shared resources designed to benefit all members of the school community. The Trust's ethos of faith, inclusion, and excellence is a natural fit for De La Salle, which has long been dedicated to providing a holistic education based on the values of love, respect, and compassion.

The move to join Laetare CMAT aligns with De La Salle's strategic vision for the future and ensures the school will continue to provide a nurturing environment where all students can thrive. This partnership promises to bring exciting new initiatives, ensuring that the school remains at the forefront of education in the area.

For families, this transition means that De La Salle School will continue to uphold its strong Lasallian identity while benefiting from the enhanced support and resources available through the Trust. The focus on faith, personal development, and community will remain central to the school's mission, with students receiving the best possible care and education.

"We look forward to this new chapter and the many possibilities it will bring," said Mrs Samantha

Murray, Chair of Governors. "We are proud of our strong De La Salle community and excited to work with the Trust to provide the very best education for our students."

Request for Interviewers

The careers team are organising two 'Mock Interview' evenings for all Year 11 students. The interviews will take place **on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th January 2025** between 3.30pm – 5.30pm. 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. We are looking for prospective interviewers, so if you would like to be involved in this event by volunteering on one, or both evenings, or would like some additional information, please email delasalle@delasalleschool.org.uk

ParentMail School Shop

Now that we have transferred over to being an academy, parents should now be able to access the ParentMail payments and school shop which we have re-opened. If anyone is having any issues after this switch, please contact the school.

Chess Champion

We were delighted to hear that one of our Ukranian students, Danylo in Year 9, was successful in a recent competition. Danylo took part in the chess tournament on December 1st in Bolton. The tournament involved over 70 people and ran for 6 hours. Thanks to his training and perseverance Danylo took 1st place and received a prize of £200 pounds. Well done Danylo!

Чемпіон з шахів

Нам було приємно почути, що один з наших українських учнів, Данило в 9 класі, успішно взяв участь у нещодавньому конкурсі. Данило взяв участь у шаховому турнірі 1 грудня у Болтоні. У турнірі взяли участь понад 70 осіб, він тривав 6 годин. Завдяки своїй підготовці та наполегливості Данило посів 1 місце та отримав приз у розмірі 200 фунтів стерлінгів. Молодець Данило!

Raffle Prizes – A Request (repeated)

We have a range of events, including the Pensioners' Party, where we are looking for suitable raffle prizes. These could include bottles (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), toiletries, chocolates, gift sets etc (we are only looking for new items, not used). If you have anything that you could spare, these can be handed in to main reception.

Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)

The winter Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) will be running from Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025 for all eligible children, young people and families. The activity bookings links will go live on Tuesday 3rd December at 1.00pm for families to book their Winter activities, please note that activity places are subject to availability. We would like to ensure that as many eligible families take this offer up over the Winter to remove some of the financial burden to families who may already be on the brink.

Please see below the link to the HAF webpage with all of the information about the Winter programme. [HAF Winter Programme 2024 - St Helens Borough Council](#)

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

Wed 11th: Care Home visit
Wed 11th: Full Governing Body Meeting
Wed 11th: Performance of Annie
Thu 12th: Christmas jumper day
Thu 12th: Flu Vaccinations mop-up session
Thu 12th: Santa Dash in school (tbc)
Thu 12th: Performance of Annie

Fri 13th: Care Home visit
Fri 13th: School Christmas Dinner
Fri 13th: Year 10 Rewards activity
Fri 13th: Christmas Jumper Day
Tue 17th: 1719 Pensioners' Christmas Party
Tue 17th: Year 7 Rewards activity
Wed 18th: Year 11 Retreat
Wed 18th: Community Advent Service (evening)
Wed 18th: High Achievers Programme Year 10)
Thu 19th: Student advent services
Fri 20th: School finishes at 12.10pm

And finally...Berry and Rye

As a senior leadership team we had our Christmas night out last Friday and had arranged to meet in one of those 'secret' cocktail bars in Liverpool. This one, is made to look like a derelict shop front, but you knock and, if your face fits, you get entry into the speakeasy.

This filled me a bit with dread and leading up to going I had pestered the team to meet outside rather than in the bar, as I had tried on 3 previous occasions to get in and they had never answered the door to me. I put this down to my unwelcoming face!

So on the night we all met, including Mrs Wellens who had brought her passport to travel out of St Helens, and walked down to the bar. It was only when we stopped and one of the team knocked on the door, that I realised why I had never been admitted before – I had been knocking 2 doors further down, on a door that was actually a derelict shop. Maybe my face isn't that unwelcoming after all!

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

Human Rights Day took place on 10th December and is celebrated around the World. It commemorates the anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This landmark document enshrines the rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

The 2024 Theme is "Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now". The theme is a call to acknowledge the importance and relevance of human rights in our everyday lives. We have an opportunity to change perceptions by speaking up against hate speech, correcting misinformation and countering disinformation.



You might be thinking "What even are Human Rights?", this page explains more in written and video format.



Whether you are a teacher, an actor, a factory worker or a miner, every person has human rights in the workplace. In the future, you may feel that you have been treated unfairly by your boss, or denied a promotion to which you feel that you are entitled. This article discusses how human rights can protect you in the workplace.



If you're passionate about ensuring that workplaces are inclusive for all, then you'll be pleased to hear that there are job roles that focus on just that! Equality, diversity and inclusion officers aim to reduce workplace discrimination, fight for equal access to services and promote positive attitudes. You can read more about this here.



Lawyers can also help ensure Human Rights are being adhered to in the workplace. Join Lottie Dodd as she explores the laws surrounding dismissal in the workplace, claims around unfair dismissal, and how businesses should approach fair dismissal from a legal and ethical standpoint.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Chief Diversity Officer

As a Chief Diversity Officer, one of the key responsibilities is to guide employees and executives on matters related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This involves developing and implementing training programs, policies, and procedures that promote a culture of inclusivity.

Watch the video to learn more.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Equality, diversity and inclusion officers typically start on salaries of £18,000 to £28,000 depending on employer, qualifications and experience.

With experience, salaries of £35,000 to £50,000 can be achieved.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES



Pathways to future success - realise your potential! Springpod have created a new set of resources and online courses that focus on different types of course that you could study in and outside of the workplace. You can [read more here and sign up for the ones you're interested in.](#)



They also have a new range of "virtual to reality" work experience placements which begin as virtual but can lead to in person work experience placements; "Imagine stepping into real workplaces, and immersing yourself in the day-to-day realities of your dream career. [With our new "Virtual to Reality" programmes, that dream becomes a reality!](#)"

If you are thinking of applying for apprenticeships in the future, you may be surprised to hear that the process to apply is much trickier than applying to colleges, sixth forms or universities.

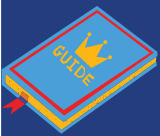
The first thing you need to know is that employers advertise their apprenticeships in all different places (and some of them only advertise on their own websites!). Here's the sites you need to know about where you may find apprenticeships that you're interested in:

- [Gov.uk](#)
- [UCAS](#)
- [Get my First Job](#)
- [Not Going to Uni](#)
- [Springpod](#)
- [Student Ladder](#)
- [Rate my Apprenticeship](#)



Once you have found an opportunity you want to apply to, the following advice may be useful. Remember, every employer's application and recruitment process will be different so you need to prepare for each process individually.

- [Writing applications](#)
- [Interview tips](#)
- [Assessment Centres](#)
- [Preparing to start](#)



EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"When you join the Army, you'll not only learn how to be a world-class soldier or officer, but you'll continue to learn while you work.

With a range of qualifications available, from apprenticeships to Master's degrees, the Army offers many opportunities to support you to develop & learn while you serve."

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Universities are so much more than degree-awarding seats of learning. They are drivers for economic innovation and advancement, catalysts for social change and champions of cultural development. Our undergraduate degrees are the perfect stepping stone to secure the future you deserve. It's your future."

Read more about [Plymouth University courses here.](#)

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