



De La Salle  
School

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24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

### Parental Update 16

A very busy week and struggled to fit in the parental update, so apologies it isn't as full as usual. This week has seen our skiing trip out to Andorra - a big thank you to the staff who were on this especially Miss Aldred for running it, and Mrs Mallalieu for her support of one of our students who was injured. We also saw the completion of our Year 9 assessments and the Year 11 mock exams. All the students have been a credit throughout these (well almost all of them!).

Looking ahead to next week, we have the Year 11 Mock Interviews on Wednesday and Thursday after school (see later), a writer's workshop for Key Stage 3 students, a visit from our school Improvement Partner and a Governors' Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee.

Alongside the update today you should also receive:

- Weekly careers newsletter
- Weekly Chaplaincy Update
- 2 adverts for LA SEND support meetings
- 750 Bus diversion information

### Whole School Focus – Our Values

Two weeks ago, I shared a reminder of our school mission – basically what we are trying to achieve as a Lasallian School. This was very much our own mission, designed by and for our school by staff, students, governors and parents.

Alongside this mission, runs our Core Lasallian Values (below). These are not just used in our school, but are shared across the Lasallian community around the world. These provide us with the 'how' for achieving our mission and are reflected in our reward system.

Our 5 Core Values are:

**FAITH: Faith in the Presence of God:** The Lasallian school nurtures belief in the living presence of God in our world. Faith in the presence of God calls all students into a deeper awareness of their saving relationship with a caring and loving God and to see the world through the "eyes of faith". This core principle is reflected through this Lasallian expression of faith: "**Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.**"

**COMPASSION: Concern for the Poor and Social Justice:** The Lasallian school calls its members to an awareness of the poor and victims of injustice and responds to their needs through programs of community service, advocacy, and justice education. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "**Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve.**"

**RESPECT: Respect for All Persons:** The Lasallian school engages in a concerted effort to respect the dignity of all persons. Respect-filled relationships are at the heart of Lasallian education and are a key expression of the acknowledgement of each other's identity as children of God. This core principle is reflected through the Lasallian expression of faith: "**Live Jesus in our hearts...Forever.**"

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

**CHALLENGE: Quality Education:** The Lasallian school provides an education that prepares students not only for college and career but also for life. This education advances the students' abilities to use their talents to critically examine the world in light of the message of the Gospels and to take greater responsibility for their own education. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "**Teaching Minds and Touching Hearts.**"

**BELONG: Inclusive Community:** The Lasallian school is a united community where diversity is respected, where no one is left out, and where everyone finds a place. Individuals within the school community recognise and accept another's strengths and limitations. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "**The Lasallian Family.**"

### **Year 11 Mock Interviews - Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in the Hall.**

These are taking place this week and students must check their own interview date and time – student lists have been given to all form rooms, a copy is with the Year 11 Office, Student Services and outside the Careers Room. A very small cohort of students, including Asdan and Engagement, will have their interviews during the school day on 4<sup>th</sup> February.

30 employers are attending on both evenings and attendance for students is compulsory, full school uniform to be worn and arrival 10 minutes prior to allocated interview time.

### **School Car Park**

Can I please remind parents that they should not be coming into the school car park of a morning to drop their children off. It is a relatively small car park and can easily become clogged if used by parents. This has been a particular issue whilst the automatic gates have been out of action. Thank you for your support.

### **For Parents of Children with SEND (message from the LA)**

Families and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are invited to a special SEND Information Day on Tuesday, 28th January 2025, at the Totally Wicked Stadium.

This exciting event provides a valuable opportunity to meet local service providers, explore the support and resources available, and learn about the wide range of services tailored to young people with SEND.

The event will feature two drop-in sessions to accommodate different schedules:

- Afternoon Session: 10am - 2pm
- Early Evening Session: 5pm - 7:30pm

From education and employment support to health and wellbeing services, attendees will have the chance to connect with providers face-to-face, ask questions, and gain insight into the opportunities available in the local area.

Whether you're looking for advice, resources, or new ideas to enhance your SEND journey, this is the perfect chance to get informed and network with experts and other families.

Save the date, spread the word, and drop in to Saints Stadium on 28th January!

### **Temporary Closure of Burrows Lane (from Monday 27th January)**

Please see the attached information from Stagecoach who operate the 750 bus service, regarding a diversion to their usual route owing to the temporary closure of Burrows Lane.

### **Trainers & Boots**

If any families are having a post-Christmas sort-out and getting rid of trainers or boots, the PE department would welcome any donations of any footwear that no longer fits.

## **St Helens Choir (message from Music Service)**

We are delighted to inform you that St Helens Council Music Service is launching a new choir, *Vocal Youth*, on Monday, 27th January. This exciting new group is open to children and young people aged 8 and over, with rehearsals taking place fortnightly at St Helens Town Hall. The choir is fully funded by the Music Service and we warmly invite any child interested in singing and performing in concerts to join us.

The attached poster includes all the details about *Vocal Youth* and we would love to see children and young people from all across the Borough involved.

## **Term Dates (repeated item for info)**

This is the time of the year that many families start to look at booking their holidays. Obviously, we are keen that students are not taken out of school for holidays. So, to help avoid this, I have provided our term dates for the rest of this year.

Please note that by having 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of July as Training days, this provides families with the opportunity to start any holidays from afternoon of Fri 18<sup>th</sup> onwards, and potentially cheaper flights and offers.

### **Spring term**

- School closes for pupils - Thursday 13th February
- **Staff Training Day - Friday 14th February**
- Re-opens - Monday 24th February
- School closes - Friday 4th April

### **Summer Term 2025**

- Re-opens - Tuesday 22nd April
- **Bank Holiday - Monday 5th May**
- School closes - Friday 23rd May
- Re-opens - Monday 2nd June
- **Staff Training Day - Friday 27th June**
- School closes for pupils - Friday 18th July (12.10pm)
- **Staff Training Day - Monday 21st July**
- **Staff Training Day - Tuesday 22nd July**

## **Upcoming Events**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Fri 24<sup>th</sup>: Year 11 mock exams

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Fri 24<sup>th</sup>: Year 9 Assessment window

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> – sat 25<sup>th</sup>: Year 9 Ski Trip

Thu 23<sup>rd</sup>: Year 10 HAP Study Skills Workshop

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – Wed 5<sup>th</sup> (Feb): Year 10 Retreat

Tue 28<sup>th</sup>: KS3 Writer's Workshop

Wed 29<sup>th</sup>: Governors Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee (5pm)

February:

Fri 7<sup>th</sup>: Year 10 travel and Tourism trip

Wed 12<sup>th</sup>: Governors' Catholic Life and Culture Committee (5pm)

Fri 14<sup>th</sup>: INSET Day (students do not attend)

Half Term

## **And finally...Come Fly With Me**

As I have mentioned before, I love flying: not only on a simulator but also in real life. Top Gun was always my favourite film, I bore my family rigid at airport gates pointing out the differences between

the Boeing 737-300er and the A380 and I like nothing more than flying on Microsoft Flight Simulator (like the farm sim but in the air, and fewer tractors!)

I have been very fortunate to have had a number of taster flights, and have to say I am completely hooked. Learning to fly has always been a dream but one I was intending to keep until I retire (still some way off despite my aged appearance). However, COVID made me reconsider priorities and since then, I have been saving up each month so that I can start my Private Pilot License. In my mind, I will be like a balding 'Maverick' (Tom Cruise) who has a liking for cream cakes.

Just before Christmas, I finally had enough to start my lessons and booked my first two flights for January. The whole Christmas holidays was a time of great excitement, not because of Santa, but knowing my flying lessons were starting on the 6<sup>th</sup> Jan. Sure enough, waking up so excited on that Sunday morning, the 6<sup>th</sup> Jan was the day of the heavy snow fall – flight cancelled. Gutted.

Nevertheless, my second flight was booked and I have been excitedly looking at the weather each day. However, you guessed it, it is for this weekend, just as Storm Eowyn arrives and we have the red and amber weather warnings, so will almost certainly be cancelled again. Mrs R is seeing the plus side of this and has suggested that the savings I have made in not flying this month, could pay for some more panelling in the house!

Have a good weekend.

**Andrew Rannard**  
Headteacher

# Catholic Life at De La Salle



2nd Week of Ordinary Time



## STUDENTS WITH TASH FROM THE B-TALES THIS WEEK

We've had formation week this week! With a special visit from The B-Tales to enrich the experience for our students. It has been wonderful to gather with SVP, MVP, ARISE, 1719, Fratelli Tutti, our Form Captains and members of staff throughout the week to continue to be "formed for mission" during formation workshops in Chapel.

### The B-Tales

We first met Tash back in September as part of a Chaplaincy networking event. Tash and The B-Tales offer interactive and dynamic performances and workshops for students to give them a greater understanding of God's love and word. This work has been broadly primary school based, but after a calling to venture into secondary school ministry, we were delighted to welcome Tash into De La Salle for our Year 8 retreat programme this year.

This week though, Tash has been spending time with our older students to conduct research for an upcoming initiative titled God's Grace. This new program will target girls in Years 9, 10, and 11, with a focus on supporting those who struggle with self-esteem and helping them recognise themselves as unique, valuable, and loved—a true product of God's grace.

During her visit, Tash was engaging with students in discussions, listening to their perspectives, and exploring what they believe would make a positive difference in their lives. Her goal is to ensure that God's Grace is not just another program, but one that truly speaks to the challenges and experiences faced by young women in our school community and beyond.

This collaboration is a testament to the power of meaningful partnerships. The B-Tales bring a fresh and energetic approach to faith and personal development, and we are proud to be part of the story as they create something that will uplift and inspire young women for years to come.

### St Anne and Blessed Dominic

Over the years, Chaplaincy here has been enriched by a collaboration with other Catholic secondary schools in the area and this year is no different! We're teaming up with the Catholic Life Team at St Augustine's to plan an exciting venture for the Jubilee Year. This week we were fortunate enough to have some time with Fr. Ilunga in St Anne and Blessed Dominic parish, Sutton. The church is home to the shrine of Blessed Dominic, Venerable Elizabeth Prout and Venerable Ignatius Spencer.

*This parish has been named as one of the official spots of pilgrimage throughout the Jubilee Year and whilst we're planning a school event to offer students an opportunity to visit, we'd love to take this moment to encourage you, as families, to take a trip to this special place and learn more about the lives of some remarkable people who had service of the community at the very heart of their work and mission.*

### Year of Jubilee!

*This week we have been launching our Year of Jubilee during Prayer and Liturgy. Just to give you an insight, we wanted to share the message that students have received this week: This special Year of Jubilee is a sacred time of renewal, restoration, and rejoicing in the Church. Rooted in biblical tradition, Jubilee is a moment to reflect on God's mercy, reset our relationships, and seek justice and peace in our lives and communities. It reminds us of the call to free ourselves from what burdens us, reconcile with one another, and care for the most vulnerable among us.*

### Our Next Theme

Next week is the third 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; **Holocaust Memorial Day**. Our wonderful head of History usually prepares us a beautifully informative and reflective time of prayer at this time of year. We pray for her as she is on maternity leave and we hand the reigns over to the RE department who will lead us through this sensitive and hard-hitting theme next week.

*The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2025 is "Building a Better Future" as we're encouraged to learn from the tragedies of the past to defend and promote a future that is brighter for us all.*

Catholic Life Team

## FLAME

- Plans are well underway for our trip to Wembley Stadium in March for the CYMFED FLAME event. We still have a few spaces available so get in touch!

## Student Spotlight

During Staff Prayer this week, our scripture reading was about Jesus being lost in the temple. There is a beautiful line in the reading that says "they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them... his mother treasured up all these things in her heart."

Sometimes we don't understand the lives of our children and young people, but we long to have a greater understanding of the things they face and the feelings they experience. During the research with The B-Tales, one of our Year 10 students shared one of the pressures that burden young people today.

"We're told to be our own person, but not stand out"

It seems like an impossible task for our students and we hope and pray they each of them find somebody along their path who will empower them to stand out and celebrate the unique people they are.

## Pray for us...

Loving Father, as we begin this Year of Jubilee, may it be a time of grace, renewal, and reconciliation. Open our hearts to Your mercy, and inspire us to live in justice, love, and unity. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

# 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

National Storytelling Week will be taking place from Saturday 1 February to Sunday 9 February. This fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world; they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy; they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills. The theme for National Storytelling Week 2025 is 'Reimagine your world'.



To celebrate the week, National Literacy Trust have organised a range of online writing workshops. The stories in the events are aimed at younger students but they offer the chance to hear from authors so may still be useful for you to learn more about their careers - there may be the opportunity to ask questions. You can find out more here: Tolá Okogwu - 3rd Feb, Steven Camden - 4th Feb, Joseph Coelho - 6th Feb

If you are an avid writer or illustrator, here are some writing competitions that may be of interest:



The Young Cartoonist Awards 2024 are now open to anyone under the age of 30 who is resident in the UK. We are accepting submissions of pocket (gag) cartoons, political cartoons and short strip cartoons. We are looking for a wide range of cartoonists from different regions within the UK, and with different backgrounds.



The Chaucer Heritage Trust has launched its eighth annual writing competition for schools inspired by the works of Geoffrey Chaucer, considered by many England's greatest medieval poet. The special theme of the competition this year is 'Surprise, Surprise!'.



The theme for the Orwell Youth Prize 2025 is 'Freedom is...' Write about what freedom means to you, in any form you choose, and get personalised feedback and the chance to win a cash prize and books for you and your school.

If you have any questions or need support, please contact [moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk](mailto:moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk)

## JOB OF THE WEEK



Writer

A writer is a person who uses written words in different writing styles, genres and techniques to communicate ideas, to inspire feelings and emotions, or to entertain. This could be a play, book, song, article or essay.

Watch the video to learn more about how much you could earn, working hours and pathways into the industry.

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The writing & journalism sector has changed dramatically in the last decade, with the rise of the internet, tech and social media changing the daily flow of newspaper circulations. The number of advertised journalism jobs increased by 79% over from 2019-2022.

Source

# CAREERS NEWSLETTER



## OPPORTUNITIES



Returning for the 13th time, the [Grierson DocLab: New Entrants](#) is for UK-based 18-25 year olds with a passion for documentary and factual TV who are new entrants to the industry. The programme aims to equip up to 12 successful trainees with the knowledge, connections and work experience to launch their doc careers. There is a [webinar](#) to find out more taking place Wednesday 22 January. If you are not yet 18 but interested in working in the TV industry, this is definitely an opportunity to remember for when you do reach Year 13 and turn 18!



The [Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships](#) is the new A-Z guide to degree apprenticeship employers in the UK. Produced in partnership with The Careers & Enterprise Company and the Department for Education, the guide explains how degree apprenticeships offer a work-led, debt-free route to a university degree and a graduate job.



Springpod have opened applications for these amazing in person work experience opportunities for [Year 10](#) and [Year 12](#) with the Civil Aviation Authority. Applications close on February 28th.



urfuture helps young people get hired in their dream career based on their personality. Just like how Netflix replaced Blockbuster and Uber changed Transport, urfuture is on a mission to create a fresh approach for young people engaging with jobs. You can [read more about how the platform works here](#).

PLAY



If you're in Year 10 or 11, you may have heard of T Levels but have questions about what they are or how they work. A T Level takes 2 years and gives you a mix of learning in the classroom and a minimum 9 week placement with an employer. This means you'll learn what a real career is like while you study. If you want to find out more, you can [take part in this short course](#) to help you decide if it's the right pathway for you.

You can also find a short course on [Apprenticeships](#) and [Higher Technical Qualifications](#).

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Bloomsbury is a place for ambitious, driven and passionate people to flourish. As part of our ongoing commitment to [diversity, equity and inclusion](#), we are delighted to offer the Publishing Assistant Apprenticeship. Each apprenticeship is 15 months long, with the majority of Publishing Assistant Apprentices going on to secure roles within the industry." Read more about [Bloomsbury Careers here](#).

## UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Being a student at UCL is about so much more than just acquiring knowledge. Studying here gives you the opportunity to realise your potential as an individual. With more than 400 undergraduate degree programmes and 42,000 students from 150 different countries, we're London's truly global university."

Read more about [University College London here](#).

If you have any questions or need support, please contact [moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk](mailto:moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk)



## ROAD WORKS/SPECIAL EVENTS

Reference: RW 1694A / AEW

Notification received from: St Helens Council

Date this notice was sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Notice prepared by: John Owens

### Details of the work/event:

#### Temporary Closure of Burrows Lane, Eccleston

From **Monday 27th January 2025 for 3 weeks** Burrows Lane, Eccleston will be closed from the junction of B5203 Gillars Lane to the junction of Mere View for the installation of a new water valve on behalf of United Utilities / O Connors Utilities.

The closure is expected to be in place for **3 weeks**.

### Diversions:

#### Service 750

- From Rainhill Stoops, Warrington Road, Norlands Lane as normal to Prescott, St Helens Road, at Burrows Lane, (do not turn left) but continue via St Helens Road and Prescott Road until St Helens, Dunriding Lane then left Dunriding Lane, to left Knowsley Road, to the Millfields Roundabout, and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit via Millfields to the Griffin Inn Mini Roundabout and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit / right via Church Lane and resume normal route to Eccleston, De La Salle High School.

*Omits Burrows Lane.*

- From Eccleston, De La Salle High School as normal via Alder Hey Road, Dodd Avenue, Ellison Drive, Knowsley Road, Millfields, to the Griffin Inn Mini Roundabout and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit / right via Church Lane (not the 1<sup>st</sup> exit / left via Burrows Road) and then via Church Lane, to Broadway Mini Roundabout and take the 3<sup>rd</sup> exit /right via Chapel Lane, to right Mill Brow, Ackers Lane, left Alder Hey Road to Eccleston, De La Salle High School (only operate if required by pupils)
- From Eccleston, De La Salle High School as normal via Alder Hey Road, Dodd Avenue, Ellison Drive, at Knowsley Road turn left (not right) then via Knowsley Road to right Dunriding Lane, to right Prescott Road then via St Helens Road eventually resuming normal route to Rainhill Stoops, Warrington Road, Norlands Lane

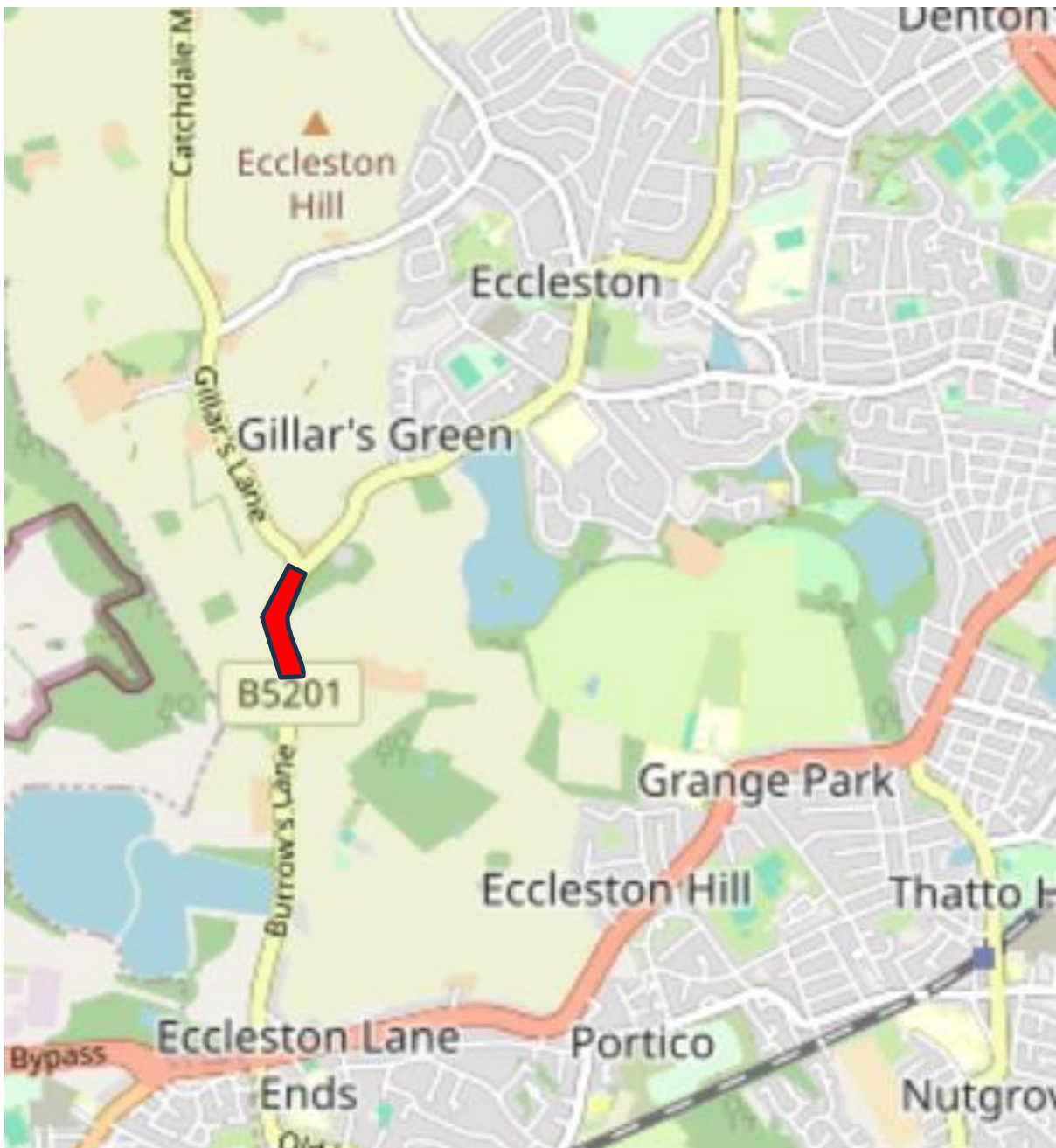
*Omits a section of Knowsley Road, Millfields and Burrows Lane.*



**Service 791**

- From Eccleston, Knowsley Road, Alder Hey Road, as normal to Rainford High School
- From Rainford High School as normal to Eccleston, Church Lane to the Griffin Inn Mini Roundabout and take the 1<sup>st</sup> exit / left via Millfield to the Knowsley Road Roundabout and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> exit via Knowsley Road, to right Dunriding Lane, to right Prescott Road then via St Helens Road to Eccleston Lane Ends, St Helens Road, St James Road

*Omits Burrows Lane.*



# Chat & Chill Over a Brew!

Wonderland  
Community  
Centre



*For all  
Parent  
Carers*



Drop in to chat with other parent carers in a relaxed setting, tell us what is working well and what isn't working so well with health, education and social care services and to help improve them.

*Free  
Parking  
Available*

Reflection  
Court, Canal  
Street,  
St Helens  
WA10 3JQ



*Friday's  
10am-  
12pm*

*10th January  
7th February  
14th March  
4th April  
9th May  
6th June  
11th July*

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*Free  
Parking  
Available*

*Tuesday's  
6.30pm-  
8pm*

*21st January  
25th February  
25th March  
22nd April  
20th May  
24th June*

Reflection  
Court, Canal  
Street,  
St Helens  
WA10 3JQ

