



DE LA SALLE SCHOOL

Mill Brow, Eccleston, St.Helens, Merseyside. WA10 4QH
Telephone: 01744 20511 Fax: 01744 20543
Email: delasalle@sthelens.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr. A. Rannard BA (Hons) NPQH

24th January, '18

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope this letter finds you refreshed and rested after the Christmas festivities. It is pleasing to see staff and students return in a very positive frame of mind and eager to work hard this term.

Welcome

The new term sees us welcome Miss Tsai as Head of Learning Area for Modern Foreign Languages, she joins us from my old school and is a very welcome addition to our staff. We also welcome Mr.McCabe, Mrs.Clague and Miss Moran into positions as cover supervisors. Their roles are crucial in providing quality and consistency to any day to day cover needs the school may have.

Staffing

Before my arrival, the school had addressed many of its recruitment issues but still had some long term supply. These staff are doing a good job on behalf of the school but it is my intention to ensure permanent staff are appointed between now and the end of the school year. All of the vacancies will appear on the school website and I would ask, if you know of any suitable candidates, that you encourage them to consider applying.

Mission & Vision

As I said when I first arrived, I did not wish to impose my vision upon the school, but rather develop a shared mission and vision with staff, students, parents, governors and trustees. Over the coming weeks you will be given the opportunity to feed in to that development, please engage with this opportunity to help shape our mission and vision moving forward.

School Trips

As you will be aware, we have increased the number of school visits since September. I am a firm believer that these offer an additional dimension to a student's education. The intention is that, across the 5 years, students would have a range of opportunities to consider. Though we work hard to keep the costs down and have lengthy payment schedules, many of them are expensive, so I would urge parents to consider the trips across the five years and not as an annual 'must have' event.

Curriculum

Obviously much of the curriculum and subjects studied are prescribed to us. However, where possible, I am keen to ensure we have a more vocational offer for students, particularly within technology areas. This will apply mostly to those students about to complete their options (Year 8) but, where appropriate, we are considering upgrading some qualifications, for example, Year 10 Resistant Materials has now been changed to engineering. These changes, enriched with traditional GCSEs will ensure we offer a broad engaging and varied curriculum.

Parents' Evenings

Can I apologise that you were not informed sooner about the recent Year 8 Parents' Evening; this was a clerical error and has now been addressed. The same arrangements apply to all of the Parents' Evenings with students finishing at 1.30pm. The dates for these are as follows: Monday 29th January (Year 11), Monday 5th March (Year 10) and Monday 19th March (Year 7).

Finally, can I also flag up the following key events taking place this term:

29 th January	Year 11 Parents' Evening – school closes at 1.30pm
31 st January – 2 nd February	Year 11 Science Mock Exam
9 th February	Half Term, school closes at 3.00pm
19 th February	School Re-opens
Week beginning 19 th February	Year 11 MFL Exams
Week beginning 26 th February	Year 10 Reports issued to Parents
5 th March	Year 10 Parents' Evening – school closes at 1.30pm
5 th – 16 th March	Year 7 to Year 10 Exams
Week beginning 12 th March	Year 7 Reports issued to Parents
19 th March	Year 7 Parents' Evening – school closes at 1.30pm
26 th & 27 th March	Year 9 Injections
Week beginning 26 th March	Year 11 Monitoring Reports issued to Parents
29 th March	End of Term – school closes at <u>12.00pm</u>
16 th April	School Re-opens

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. A. Rannard
Headteacher