

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Parental Update 21

This first spring half term has been a very busy one and has flown by. We have seen several school trips, including skiing and Iceland, Sam and I have attended the Lasallian District Mission, we held two of our Parents' Evenings, the Year 11s completed their second set of mocks and the dining room was completed.

Looking ahead to after half term, the pace continues with a staff INSET training day on the Monday, assessments for years 8 and 10, Year 10 RSHE drop down day, several trips, including the Italy trip, HYPE (the 1719 Society organised disco for yrs 7 and 8), and our Spring concerts. That's not to mention all the more mundane daily events that take place in the school every week.

### Whole School Focus: Big Ask Feedback Part 3

Across the whole Big Ask (142 parental responses), the vast majority of parents say they are happy with the school with our overall average rating being 3.9 stars (out of 5), though this is down slightly on last year's rolling average of 4.1. The main theme in the parental comments is one of thanks and praise for the staff and the school, which is lovely but, as always, to improve it is the concerns you raise that need to be looked at.

The third section of the Big Ask focusses upon Behaviour and Attitudes:

Q#	Question	Autumn 22 (out of 5)	Change compared to avg of previous year
14	I feel Behaviour for Learning across the school is improving	3.6	-0.4
15	I feel my child is safe when in school	3.91	-0.3
16	My child is rewarded for positive behaviour	3.94	-0.3
17	I understand what it means for my child to be Lasallian	4.27	-0.3
18	The school rules are clear and help my child to behave	4.15	-0.4
19	Sanctions used by the school are appropriate in dealing with poor behaviour	3.62	-0.3
20	Bullying is dealt with effectively	3.39	-0.3
21	I understand my child needs to be punctual for lessons	4.74	-0.1

## Key points from your responses:

The behaviour and attitudes section scores the highest of our section so far (a very positive 3.95 out of 5) which is good, but again there is a pattern of lower scores compared to our rolling average for last year.

- We had 7 comments about negative behaviour. Two questioned what sanctions are used in the school and whether they are effective? (See detention changes below)
- The others raise low level behaviour concerns and one raises concerns about vaping in the toilets.
- Four comments around personal experiences of bullying, though recognition in two of these cases that it was dealt with quickly and efficiently.
- Six comments speak positively about the atmosphere and 'feeling' around the school for their child.

As with all of your feedback, we listen and look to act on the valid issues you have raised (see later paragraph on homework), in order to make the school a better experience for everyone. Next week's section will focus upon the Personal Development section of the Big Ask.

## INSET Day

Just a reminder that **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February** is an INSET day, for teacher training and development. Students do not attend this day, they will return at the usual time on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

## Year 9 Options Evening

The Year 9 Options evening is on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** starting at **6:00pm** and will run for approximately 90 mins. On the evening parents will be provided with information about the options process, given information on the core subjects and then have access to the other departments for questions and discussions. This is one of a number of events that form our options preparation, ensuring our students (and parents) are well informed ahead of selecting their options.

## ParentMail

We have been notified that at the end of February 2023, ParentMail will be changing their payment provider for credit and debit card payments from Pay360 to Barclays. They are doing this for a number of reasons, but the main ones are improved security, performance and access to new payment methods.

For security reasons, parents' saved cards will be removed and, when making a payment after the switchover date, you will be required to enter your card details and save for future use.

## Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

Thank you for those who shared their views on the Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy. The feedback was unanimously in support of what was proposed.

## Detentions Restructured

Linked to parental feedback on the Big Ask and as part of our ongoing work with behaviour, after the half term we will begin after school detentions on Wednesday and Friday. These will be an escalation for those who do not attend lunchtime detention. Lunchtime detention is given to those who are late to school or truant lessons. Parents will be given notification by ParentMail, thank you in advance for your support.

## Discord App

The LA have asked all schools to inform parents of concern regarding the Discord App and possible inappropriate content. They have provided the following link for parents to understand the issue and concerns:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Listing/?keyWord=staying%20safe%20online&p=3>

## Lasallian Mission Assembly

I am typing this in stops and starts as I make my way back home from the Lasallian District Assembly. The event was an incredibly important one for planning the work of our Lasallian District

(GB, Ireland and Malta) over the coming years. This, in particular, affects the schools and the Retreat Centres.

Far from being a religious organisation in retreat, the direction statements that have now been agreed set out an exciting and audacious future with the creation of new networks for supporting schools to develop staff at all levels, support the formation of governors and, (most importantly for me) student leaders across all the district schools. This final element was in large part, down to the great success and work of our very own 1719 Society.

There were other elements also agreed around creation of funds for schools to create and develop sustainability-projects, investing in more research to listen to and act upon the experiences of lay Lasallians and young people and building greater links to our Lasallian alumni.

Each day was 7am to 7pm with some very intense sessions during which horizons statements were built upon and then turned into directional statements. With each having to be agreed through delegate voting at key stages. Long, tiring but worthwhile.

### **Attendance Data**

Yippee! Last week we jumped above the national average (admittedly by that figure falling rather than ours rising, but we will take the win!).

September 2022 – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023:

- School attendance **90.9% (unchanged)**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **90.8% (down 0.2%)**
- Gap: **+0.1% (up +0.2%)**

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

#### **Half Term**

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup>: INSET Day (students do not attend)**

Tues 21<sup>st</sup>: Students return

Thu 23<sup>rd</sup>: Year 10 RSHE Drop Down Day

Mon 27<sup>th</sup>: Year 8 assessment window opens

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Mar: Governors Behaviour Attitudes and Personal Development Committee (5:00pm)

Sat 4<sup>th</sup>/Sun 5<sup>th</sup>: Year 9 DofE Training Walk

Mon 6<sup>th</sup>: Year 10 Assessment window opens

Fri 10<sup>th</sup>: SpringFest (Years 7 and 8)

Wed 15<sup>th</sup>: Performance Management Meetings

Wed 15<sup>th</sup>: Governors: Finance and Premises Committee (5:00pm)

Thu 16<sup>th</sup>: Year 10 and 11 Theatre trip (evening)

Tue 21<sup>st</sup>: LJMU Science Lesson (Period 3)

Tue 28<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Apr: Shakespeare's Italy Trip

Wed 29<sup>th</sup>: Full Governors Meeting (5:00pm)

Wed 29<sup>th</sup>/Thu 30<sup>th</sup>: Spring Concert/Music Showcase (evening)

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Mar: school closes for Easter (3:00pm)

#### **And finally...**

Though the district assembly has been taking place in the conference centre of the hotel, the rest of the hotel is a normal holiday hotel. The other residents consisting largely of retirees but with a few younger families thrown into the mix. All of whom seemed to gather in the evening for some rather interesting entertainment in the 'Kozy Bar'.

After our late arrival on Sunday evening, me and a fellow head went in to the Kozy Bar looking for some bottled water to take up to our rooms, but we entered midway through the weekly Karaoke evening with 'Pete' from Southend entertaining what looked like the cast from Cocoon with Robbie Williams' 'Angels', or at least that was what I think he was trying to sing. All together now "... and through it aaaallllllllll..."

Have a good weekend and half term break.

**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

### NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK: 6-12 FEB 2023

The biggest & best National Apprenticeship Week yet!

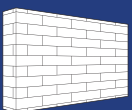
This week is National Apprenticeship Week! Below are a selection of events, videos and activities for you to learn more about apprenticeships.



This useful short film provides an overview of National Apprenticeship Week and the free resources available to you from Amazing Apprenticeships.

Check out the Apprenticeship Arcade which has the following games to help you learn more about apprenticeships:

- Video Quiz: Can you guess which apprenticeship these apprentices are describing? Take this video quiz and discover the range of apprenticeships available!
- Whack-a-Mole: In this game, you can win points by hitting the moles with real apprenticeships on them! You'll get extra points for speed, but there will be some non-apprenticeship roles in there also so be careful not to hit the wrong moles! Work through as many levels as you wish. What score can you achieve?
- Educandy: In this collection of games, we have split some apprenticeship roles in half. Match up the apprenticeship halves by playing one of these fun and interactive games.
- Wordwall: In this game, we have split some apprenticeship roles in half. You have to pop the balloons and drop the apprenticeship halves into the wagon labelled with the matching halves!
- True or false: How much do you know about apprenticeships? In this game, apprenticeship facts fly by at speed! Choose 'correct' or 'incorrect' to win points! What score can you achieve?



## JOB OF THE WEEK



Chief inspectors manage operational teams in their districts like CID or neighbourhood policing, co-ordinating responses to major incidents. The annual salary is £42,000 to £63,000 and expect to work 44 to 46 hours a week. There will be 4.8% more Chief inspector jobs in 2027.

[Click here to read more.](#)

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The finance and business services sector saw the largest regular growth rate at 7.0%, followed by the wholesaling, retailing, hotels and restaurants sector at 6.6%.

[Read more here](#)

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



# CAREERS NEWSLETTER



## OPPORTUNITIES



Considering apply for apprenticeships but need a CV to get started? Have a look at this Rapid Read from Amazing Apprenticeships which will cover "[How do I write a CV and why do I need one?](#)".



As well as a CV, you will also need a cover letter. You should always include a covering letter when you send your CV and/or an application form to an employer. This [quick guide](#) sets out what you should include in a covering letter.



There are lots of ways to stand out in the application process and ultimately, employers are looking for the candidates who are most passionate and suited to their organisation. [This guide](#) will help you to prepare for the application process and be ready to show you are the right person for the role you want.



Amazing Apprenticeship's collection of short [Apprentice Story films](#) showcases the breadth and variety of apprenticeships, including Firefighting, Engineering, Broadcasting, Zookeeping and more.

If you're in Year 11 or 13 this year and would like support to find and apply for apprentices, check out the Apprenticeship Academy. It's free to sign up, just go [to the website](#) and click "register now". Sessions cover:



1. What apprenticeship am I looking for?
2. Where can I find apprenticeships?
3. How can I write successful applications?
4. What will the application process be?
5. What to expect at interviews and assessments
6. How to manage my applications



Check out the Not Going to Uni [Instagram page](#) to view their Top Trumps, which tells you more about a range of different apprenticeship employers from across the UK.



NGTU also have a range of live events taking place on their [instagram](#) throughout the week which allow you to hear from and ask questions to current apprentices.

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"Morgan Sindall Group plc is a leading British Construction & Regeneration group, headquartered in London employing around 6,700 employees. Everyone is unique and we value the different ideas, experiences and perspectives that each individual brings to their work, their team and the wider business." You can read more about their careers [here](#).

## UNI SPOTLIGHT



"The University of the West of England is a public research university, located in and around Bristol, England, UK. With more than 30,000 students and 3,000 staff, it is the largest provider of higher education in the South West of England."

You can read more about UWE's courses [here](#).

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