

24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

### Parental Update 22

As a first week back it was an extremely busy one, with staff INSET focussing upon adaptive teaching techniques, Ash Wednesday Assemblies, Year 9 Options Information Evening, a Year 10 Scholars' Trip, a Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) day for Year 10, a pancake tossing house competition, Year 11 college interviews and Performing Arts Drama showcase.

Looking ahead, some Year 8s are continuing their outreach work with LFC, the Year 8 Assessment window opens, we have the governor Behaviour, Attitudes and Personal development Committee and of course we sadly lose Tuesday as a strike day.

### Whole School Focus: Big Ask Feedback Part 4

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 final section of the Big Ask focusses upon Personal Development.

Q#	Question	Autumn 22 (out of 5)	Change compared to avg of previous year
23	The school has provided my child with an understanding of equality and diversity	4.17	-0.3
24	There is a good variety of extra-curricular activities on offer for my child	3.68	0.1
25	The school has taught my child how to stay healthy both physically and mentally	3.75	-0.2
26	The school offers opportunities for my child to take a leadership role	3.57	-0.2
27	The school teaches my child about British Values and their importance	3.7	-0.2
28	The school teaches my child about relationship and sex education appropriate to their age	4.01	-0.3
29	My child understands what character traits are and how strength of character can help them in their life.	4.01	-0.3
30	The school ensures my child is developed spiritually and supported on their faith journey	4.03	-0.3

## Key points from your responses:

The Personal Development section scores are good and broadly similar to previous years. Key points being:

- Several parents commented positively on the range and depth of opportunities provided.
- Though the score for extra-curricular activities went up, several parents believed that there were currently fewer opportunities than in previous year, especially related to sport.
- Some parents requested more information about when extra-curricular events and clubs take place.
- 2 other comments related to the cancellation of events at short notice.

As with all of your feedback, we listen and look to act on the valid issues you have raised.

## Parental Webinar on Helping Your Child Revise at Home

As part of our subscription to Elevate, we have access, for parents, to support materials. We're excited to announce that Elevate Education will be hosting a free webinar for our parents on **Tuesday 28th February**.

Elevate Education works with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series you will learn how you can help better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school: **Tuesday 28th February @ 6:00pm (GMT) - *How to Help Your Child Prepare for Exams***

[Click here to register for free](#)

In this webinar, we will be discussing:

- ✓ **High Priority Work:** The kinds of work students should be focusing on in the build-up to exams to maximise marks
- ✓ **Time Management:** How to ensure your child has enough time to prepare for their exams
- ✓ **Practise Papers:** How to prepare effectively using past questions and practise papers

## Praise for the students

I wanted to include in my bulletin praise for our students' behaviour this week, echoing my thanks to them in my morning notices to students. In particular for their behaviour during our Ash Wednesday services this week, and to our Year 10 students for the Drop Down RHSE Day.

Let's be honest, on the surface the whole placing a cross of ashes on your head is a pretty strange idea for young people to take on, especially after considerable gaps of COVID. So, it was amazing to witness all 5 year groups behave with such respect and maturity during their individual services. A big part is down to Sam our chaplain, who prepared a really thoughtful service and explained the concept so well, also to the staff who accompanied the students.

## Strike Day – 28<sup>th</sup> Feb

I wrote to parents today to confirm that Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February will be another strike day and, as such, the school will be closed to all students, except our most vulnerable students who will be invited in.

## Attendance Data

We are now neck and neck with the national average.

September 2022 – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023:

- School attendance **91 % (up 0.1%)**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **91% (up 0.2%)**
- Gap: **0**

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

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

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

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 (yrs 7 and 8)

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

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

Thu 16<sup>th</sup>: yr 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 (5pm)

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 (3pm)

**And finally...**

This week was a reminder that COVID is still around us with a couple of staff cases and even Mrs R catching it. Her illness meant two things, firstly I have spent the week in the spare room (though I am unsure why when I had COVID I ended up in the spare room and now she has COVID I end up in the spare room?). Secondly, it meant that I had to take on responsibility for the household shopping.

This involved a late-night dash around Aldi (other stores are available) yesterday. A combination of the current fresh food shortages, my very short attention span and the Aladdin's cave that is the centre aisle of Aldi, meant that our weekly shop was lighter on tomatoes, lettuce and cucumber, but heavier on welding mask, cordless power tools and a storm lamp with Bluetooth speaker. As for the 12v mini-fridge, you should have seen Mrs R's face light up when she opened it.

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



February 2023 is LGBTQ+ History Month. You can read more about it here.



Maybe you already identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community, or maybe you're not sure yet (that's ok too!). Either way, something you might be interested in are LGBTQ+ inclusive employers. You can have a look at the full list here.



The NHS are running a number of LGBTQ+ events throughout February and March. Check them out here. They're taking place all over the UK but most have recordings so if you can't make it in person, you can watch back at a later date.

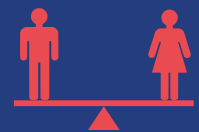


The Queer Student Awards (QSAs) are an annual hybrid celebration of talented young LGBTQ+ people, in the U.K. and beyond, who are proudly leading in their lives and the communities around them. You can read more here.



LGBTQ+ History Month focus is forward-facing. Challenge Works are looking at more recent LGBTQ+ innovators whose work moves us forward, either because they're still working today, or because their innovations have a direct impact on shaping today's shared future. Without any relative value judgements of their importance and in no particular order at all, here are 10 LGBTQ+ innovators (still) shaping our shared future.

## JOB OF THE WEEK



Equalities officers make sure people are treated equally in an organisation by promoting positive practices and attitudes. The annual salary is £22,000 to £45,000 and expect to work 38 to 40 hours a week. There will be 3.9% more Equalities officer jobs in 2027.

[Click here to read more.](#)

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

In the latest three-month period, the number of people unemployed for up to six months increased, driven by people aged 16 to 24 years.

Why do you think there are a higher number of 16 to 24 year olds not working?

[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



The recruitment window for BMW is now open and students have until the 19th March to submit their applications. From Mechanical to Bodywork to Customer Service roles, they have something for everyone! You can review their roles [here](#).



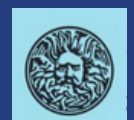
Specsavers apprenticeships are now open. They currently have 1200 apprentices in their business and 90% of their apprentices staying working with them after their training programme has finished. Click [here](#) to read more and see their current roles.



Zurich are excited to announce we have launched our Apprenticeship Opportunities for this year, which will be open for applications until the 19th March. Our Apprenticeship programmes cater for a range of skillsets and gives individuals the chance to be part of a global company striving to make a difference. You can read more about their current opportunities [here](#).



Have you heard of Aziz Foundation? To date, they have invested over £7 million in more than 500 scholarships for British Muslims pursuing postgraduate education. You can read more about their work [here](#).



Target Bath is a free programme for Year 12 students of Black African and Caribbean heritage where they can find out about life at the University of Bath. The programme is run in partnership with Rare, a leading organisation in diversity recruitment with a proven track record of supporting Black students to gain places at the UK's top universities. You can read more [here](#).



78% of students saying that they worry about money while at university. Whether you are in the process of applying to university or currently studying at undergraduate or postgraduate level, make sure you understand what types of additional funding might be available to you from scholarships, grants and bursaries. This is free money that you never have to give back. Don't miss out! Check out [The Scholarship Hub](#) to see what you could be entitled to.

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"We are Gateley: a commercially minded, entrepreneurial group which brings together legal and business professionals to solve problems for our clients. Whether you're an experienced partner, or at the start of your career, everyone is valued, supported and trusted to be their very best. The first commercial law firm to float on the London Stock Exchange, we stand apart from the crowd." You can read more about their careers [here](#).

## UNI SPOTLIGHT



### UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

"At Leeds, you'll gain new skills and experiences and take advantage of life-changing opportunities that will be invaluable to you, personally and professionally. You'll be challenged to explore, question and discover, and join the next generation of independent critical thinkers – shaping the future world around you." You can read more about University of Leeds' courses [here](#).

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