

12th May 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 30

I am finishing today's update earlier than normal, as much of the day will involve preparation for and taking part in the Year 11 celebration mass, so apologies again for some missing student rewards. This is the end of the last of the truncated weeks and hopefully some normality and routine can return, though staff and students have worked hard to try to ensure no time has been wasted over the past few weeks. I am also pleased that our attendance seems to be holding up well, compared to the national picture.

Looking ahead to next week, the GCSEs start fully and we wish all of our students good luck in their final preparations and the exams. At the other end of the school, work is well underway to prepare for our new intake of students, with the school being heavily oversubscribed again, which is pleasing to see. The summer term sees us collecting key information from the primary schools, sharing information with parents and preparing for our week-long transition programme in early July in order to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

Whole School Focus: 1719 Society

One of the strengths of private schools is the time and effort they dedicate to developing character and leadership in young people and I see no reason why our students should not have the same opportunities. The idea for the 1719 Society came from my time at Notre Dame, in Everton. I was fortunate enough to visit Emmanuel College in Boston (USA not Lincolnshire) where I witnessed the work of their student leaders, called the 1804 Society (the year their foundress St Julie established the Sisters of Notre Dame). When I returned, I looked to create something similar and now both Notre Dame Schools in Liverpool have 1804 Societies.

So, when I arrived here in 2017, it was very clear to see the real potential in our students, and the 1719 Society was born as our student leadership group. It is named after the year of our Founder, St John Baptist de la Salle's death and the symbolic point at which his legacy was passed on to others to carry out.

We are clear to students before they apply for the society that this is not simply a tick for your CV, this is about sacrifice and servant leadership – the concept that they are there to serve others, share responsibility and measure success through growth and development. In return we provide the students with support and training – this ranges from basic leadership skills development, teamwork and communication through to a very strong level of formation. Formation being the opportunity for the students to reflect upon themselves, their role and their faith.

The Society has grown in strength every year so far, under the excellent leadership of Mrs Millea, Mrs Rooney and Sam our chaplain. So much so, that we had over 40 extremely strong applications to be part of the society this year.

The idea is also something I have shared with the other Lasallian schools in the UK, Ireland and Malta, many of whom are keen to create their own 1719 Societies, paving the way for what could be a future international element to the programme such as joint conferences and cooperative projects. I am also really excited about building the alumni community of the school and, in particular, past members of the society. Watch this space!

Sporting Success

Last night, the De La Salle boys' Year 10 team successfully defeated Hope Academy 38-4 in the St Helen's Schools Rugby Final with the help of 2 year 9s - Callum Holmes and Jacob Davies.

The winning team consisted of Charlie Molyneux, Nathan Kilgannon, Tiernan Conway, Thomas Fairclough, Jacob Davies, Charlie Bennett, Billy Traynor, Isaac Sams, Rohan Atherton, Callum Holmes, Matthew Smee, Ellis Horton, Finley Dyer, Aaron King, Warren Hyland, Alfie Barrow, Josh Yates. Man of the match was Billy Traynor.

Uniform Donations

Though still some time off yet, over the summer holidays most parents will be looking to update and replace elements of school uniform. Could we ask that, before you throw away any used items of uniform, that you consider donating it to the school? We are always on the lookout for any items of school uniform that may still be in good condition.

During the past 18 months, such has been the level of need, that we have gone through most of our existing stock of pre-used uniform. Likewise, if you or your family are facing financial barriers to buying replacement uniform, then please contact us and we can provide very discreet support. Any items can be dropped off at reception or we can arrange to pick them up. Please just let our Student Services Officer, Mrs Shepherd, know by email at shepherds@delasalleschool.org.uk

Staff Absences

This week and for the next few weeks, we are being hit by quite a number of staff absences. These are related to operations and planned medical treatment that had been delayed due to the pandemic. Obviously plans are in place to prioritise our Year 11 in their final weeks, and also limit the impact of these absences for all students, but we would ask for your understanding during this time.

Free Wellbeing taster Sessions

Does your child need support with their wellbeing? Would you like help from a service that has been tailored to meet individual need?

As part of a Wellbeing Initiative, we have been given access to a limited number of Wellbeing Warriors free taster sessions for children and young people at De La Salle.

For more information or to discuss further, please contact wellbeingwarriors@outlook.com

Rewards

Lasallian Star awards (please see attached)

Additional Rewards:

- Top Star point Winner: Adam Heaton
- £10 voucher winner: Jacob Lewis
- Lasallian Award: Ella O'Hara
- Special mention from Mrs Rooney for the two Year 10 Geography classes

Attendance Data

5th September 2022 – 5th May 2023:

- School attendance **91.2 % (same)**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **90.8% (same)**
- Gap: **+ 0.4% (same)**

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

Mon 15th: GCSE Exams start

Wed 17th: Governors Personnel Committee 5:00pm

Thu 18th: Year 10 Parents Evening (please note this will follow the new arrangements)

Fri 19th: Inter-school formation Sessions

Wed 24th: West Park House Mass

Half Term (Mon 29th May – Fri 2nd Jun)

5th Jun – Fri 16th Jun: Year 7 Assessment window

W/B 5th Jun: Year 10 Mocks begin (running through until Fri 16th Jun)

Thu 8th: Year 8 Parents' Evening (please note this will follow the new arrangements)

Wed 14th: Governors Behaviour Attitudes and Personal Development Committee

And finally...

Today I will end with a lesson that sometimes God has other plans for us.

Last weekend we had the 'joy' of going to an 80s themed fancy dress 40th birthday party. For me and Mrs R these were our formative teenage years, so lots of fond memories and ideas for fancy dress. Mrs R opted for a fairly generic 80s look: frizzy hair, leg warmers, neon colours and a 'Frankie says Relax' t-shirt. Whilst my eldest, Charlie, was in full Indiana Jones rig.

After much thought I decided to go as 'Live Aid Bono', who at the time was a hero of mine (before he became a bit odd). Several charity shops and amazon orders later, I had the black military jacket, white shirt, cowboy boots, cowboy thread tie and belt, and of course the mullet wig.

Feeling proud of my efforts, we arrived to a fairly full party, awash with every 80s icon you could imagine: Wonder Woman, Hulk Hogan, Madonna, John McEnroe, Pretty Woman (technically 90s), Bananaman, Harry Enfield's Scousers, Slash from Guns and Roses – you get the picture.

Obviously, eyes were on everyone arriving in anticipation of the next costume. A few steps in, several family and friends rushed over to compliment Mrs R on her 80s look, Charlie on his Crocodile Dundee outfit (near enough I guess) but then they turned to me and said "but yours is the best, your Meat Loaf is spot on." Feeling mortally wounded at first, but when it happened again and again, I decided to embrace it, picked up a red cloth from behind the bar, to act as my handkerchief, and went full Bat Out of Hell.

Have a good weekend

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

Lasallian Awards:

Form Class	Year 10	Year 9	Year 8	Year 7
J	Jessica Braniff	Ellie O'Neill	Hallie Segar	Not available at time of writing
O	Tbc	Harrison Pilling	Amber Mallon	
H	Tbc	Jesse Ferguson	Lola Rankin	
N	Dona Biju	Yuvishan Thevasagamani	Tyler Purcell	
B	Ethan Preston	Jack Rennie	Alyssia Ellison	
D	Beth Perry	Lilly Norman	Leo Jackson	
L	Naomin Jakubczyk	Ewan Speakman	Max Mitchell	
S	Tbc	Maddison Birch	Ella O'Hara	

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



Aspire Guide is now available for Year 12 students to order. The latest edition of the guide is packed full of information and advice to support your next steps, including going to university, gap years, apprenticeships, school leaver programmes and further education colleges. The Guide also provides extensive information on different career pathways from upReach's very own careers team, as well as additional guidance on student finance, budgeting, writing a CV/cover letter, applying for work experience, and more! You can order by emailing aspire@upreach.org.uk.



See it Be it Films Ltd has produced a series of ten films about green Jobs. Find out how Millie's passion for caring for animals led her to a job in engineering, learn how football fan Ashley took the leap into Data Analysis and never looked back, understand from Chloe what it takes to be an energy engineer, even when your health is a challenge. [Watch here.](#)



The Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) have an exciting opportunity for students looking for an apprenticeship. The DLUHC has up to 12 roles available for a range of Apprenticeship schemes. Students can apply now with their predicted grades. The deadline is Wednesday 10th May 2023. [Read more here.](#)



Many universities offer financial support for students attending open days, applicant days, and interview days. [University Finder UK has compiled a list of these universities and their financial support.](#)

JOB OF THE WEEK



MPs represent people's concerns and interests in the House of Commons.

The annual salary is £82,000 to £150,500 and you can expect to work 44 to 46 hours a week, including evenings and weekends.

There will be 4.8% more MP jobs in 2027.

[Click here to read more.](#)

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

A BBC Survey suggested that young people from London are the most willing to do a job they would not enjoy, even if it was well paid (40%).

Whereas those from the North East were the least willing (23%) to do so.

[Read more here](#)

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES



Talent is everywhere, opportunity is not. Niya's opportunity platform connects communities to jobs, training and mentorship opportunities at global organisations. Niya's platform uses community and technology to bridge the opportunity gap, creating free and fair access to opportunities. Through their AI solutions, their platform helps you to plan your career based on your skills, preferences and career aspirations; matching you to the best mentors, training and job opportunities at the right time. Join their community to access free training; connect, collaborate and network with employers; and find exclusive opportunities. [Sign up here.](#)

BREAKING NEWS: UCAS points for apprenticeships planned by the end of 2023. The chief of the UK's university admissions body says it is "doable" for apprenticeships to secure UCAS points by the end of 2023. It follows the organisation's announcement last month that it will expand its apprenticeship offering on the website from the summer, to enable prospective learners to see different routes into careers side-by-side, with students able to apply for apprenticeships on the site from autumn 2024. [Read more here.](#)

In this online session, University of West London will explain the UCAS application process for undergraduate courses, including how to build your personal statement. We will explore how to make the most out of your skills, knowledge and experiences to create a unique personal statement which will help your application stand out. [Register here.](#)

How can contemporary architecture help tackle global challenges such as climate change and inequality? In this webinar with University of Bradford, a range of architectural projects will be investigated, examining why good architecture is needed more than ever. [Register here.](#)

Do you enjoy studying maths and want to find out more about the history and applications of number theory? Join us for this virtual maths taster session where you'll experience life as a student studying mathematics at university in a lecture led by Dr Kurinczuk! [Register here](#)

Bin the sticky notes. Delete your screenshots. Now you can organise everything – including your applications – [in one place](#). Start by exploring your options, favouriting subjects, and using our handy tools.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

BEAUTY BAY CAREERS

At BEAUTY BAY, we're all about sharing our beauty obsessions with the world.

We source the hard-to-find brands and products you can't find elsewhere, in order to bring our customers the best, first.

We couldn't do this without our dynamic, inspiring, diverse, and dedicated team.

You can read more about their careers [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Taking you beyond the classroom into the world of work. Our courses and facilities are designed to help you develop the qualities and expertise that your future employer will look for.

We are number 1 in the UK for student satisfaction, student voice and academic support in the National Student Survey (NSS) 2022."

You can read more about University of West London courses [here](#).

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