

19th May 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 31

Last week I was writing just ahead of attending our Year 11 Celebration Mass, which was a beautiful service and, as always, really well supported by parents, so thank you if you attended. This week has also seen the start of the GCSEs proper for Year 11, which so far seem to be going well, and the mocks for Year 10, again who have been very positive in their attitudes.

We also held a second parents' evening (Year 10) under the new system – I hope parents are finding this useful and helpful to have the option of online or in person. Both events seem to have worked well, though yesterday's was a bit more cramped as we didn't have the usual tables to use in the dining room, as they are all being used for the exams.

Looking ahead to the final week of half term, much of our focus remains on the Year 10 and 11 exams, with a house mass on Wednesday for West Park. Though we do finish the week with our very own De La Salle Eurovision House Song Competition on Friday lunchtime, before finishing for half term at 3:00pm.

Whole School Focus: Team Reims

Last week I explained how the 1719 Society was formed and a little information about its background. I also mentioned the incredible quality and quantity of applications that we had this year to join the 1719 Society, well over 40 high quality applications.

During the interview process, we obviously had to select the 18 students for the 1719 Society, but it was very apparent that there were also a large number of other students, who in any other year, would almost have certainly made the society and were so passionate about wanting to serve the school and their fellow students. This left all involved in the selections feeling that we needed to do something more to harness this potential.

After much thought, the idea of Team Reims emerged. It was important that this wasn't just a Poundland (other supermarkets are available) version of the 1719 Society, as that would be tokenistic, was not something we needed and, more importantly, the students deserved better than that.

Our vision for Team Reims linked to a key figure in De La Salle's early life, Sister Louise, who De La Salle met during his retreat at Parmenie. This is known as a key encounter during De La Salle's time at Parmenie as she listened, advised, offered space and when necessary, challenge to return to his duties and continue the work that God had begun in him. Sister Louise, the notion of encounter, Parmenie and the concept of the Leavening Project being run at the moment by the Lasallian international community to go to the peripheries asking the question, "Where is my brother, where is my sister?", will form the foundation for this particular group.

In practical terms this will include the group:

- Listening to students' voices, especially those who may not be the ones typically heard.
- Helping create safe spaces of encounter in school.
- Being attached to each year group to offer this service to that particular year group.

- Receiving formation and retreat experiences to enable them to be a retreat for others in school.

The name Reims, relates to De La Salle's home city in France.

Year 8 Language Options

After COVID we looked to increase our language offer in school with students getting to study French and Spanish from Year 7. The first cohort doing this are coming to the end of Year 8 and have received letters giving them the option to choose whether they would like to:

- specialise in Spanish in Year 9
- specialise in French in Year 9
- continue studying both French and Spanish in Year 9

Just to be clear to parents, **this is only the choice for their time in Year 9 and is separate from the Key Stage 4 Option Choices** that take place in spring of Year 9. Can I also remind Year 8 parents that the **deadline for this choice is Friday 26th May**.

What's My Job Winners

A couple of weeks ago I mentioned the careers event – **What's My Job**, where volunteers come in to school, in their civvies, to answer questions about their job with students trying to guess what job they do. As part of the event there is a competition for students to enter. The following students have been awarded a £10 Amazon voucher for completing all the worksheet and evaluation forms so well:

7J	Alicia Barlow
7O	David Bleakley
7H	Ariella Stafanakis
7N	Lottie Lowry
7B	Lucas Brown
7D	Mia Bruen
7L	Samuel Petko
7S	Isabella Thomas

Rewards

This week's Lasallian Star awards are attached.

Additional Rewards:

- Year 10 star awards: Successful Rugby Team: 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
- Top Star point Winner: Paige Jackson
- £10 voucher winner: Eden Ho
- Lasallian Award: Elliott McGuire and Zack May
- Special mention from Mrs Rooney for the two Year 10 Geography classes

Attendance Data

5th September 2022 – 12th May 2023:

- School attendance **91.3 % (up 0.1%)**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **90.8% (same)**
- Gap: **+ 0.5% (up 0.1%)**

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

Wed 24th: West Park House Mass

Fri 26th: School finishes at 3:00pm

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...

I have missed much of the news recently and only just read that Jerry Springer had passed away. He has always been my secret weapon any time that I have been asked to give an interesting fact about myself – I was once on the Jerry Springer Show. This, as you can imagine this often leads to lots of follow up questions.

The reality was that, many years ago, during the height of his show's fame, Mrs R and I, pre-children (oh those inexpensive days) really enjoyed the show and were heading over to America for a holiday, Chicago I think. A few weeks before, at the end of one of the shows on tv, it gave an email address to book tickets. So, I sent off explaining when we were coming etc thinking nothing would happen. Then a week or two before our holiday, I received a reply saying we had tickets and to turn up.

We went along, though Mrs R made it a condition that I was not allowed to speak or ask a question as nobody could understand our accents. When there we met Jerry who was really interested in us being from the UK, and particularly a younger Mrs R! We then got great seats on the end of a row, right where he often stood to speak or question his guests. We did manage to video tape our show a few months later, and we were very clearly visible several times, at one point standing right next to him.

I realise I have blown my interesting fact in sharing this, but I do have the time I ate crocodile with Nicholas Parsons on TV, this again is true but for another time. Have a good weekend.

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

REWARDS

Form Class	Year 10	Year 9	Year 8	Year 7
J	Awarded to Rugby team (see below)	Luke Adair	Simon Critchley	Willow Brown
O		Jacob Hyde	Amber Mallon	Jack Jarmolowicz
H		Harry Gerrard	Annie Meredith	Alex Carter
N		Lucas Rainford	Adam Heaton	Anna Farr
B		Eloise Emmett	Ruby Molyneux	Connie Ferguson
D		Joshua Bailey	Honey Mae Barton	Abby Jackson
L		Orla Postlethwaite	Bianca Telisca	Noah Carney
S		Harrison Arnold	Arlo Shawcross	Isabelle Bannister

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



Would you like to work in the Gaming industry in the future? Start your journey into games now using the [intogames website](#). Whether you're looking to find a career, build a game, go to an event, get a mentor or find opportunities, there is something for everyone. [Check it out here.](#)



The new 2023 rankings for the Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers and Top 50 SME Apprenticeship Employers will be announced during a special live broadcast, celebrating the country's leading apprenticeship employers. Be the first to hear which employers are featured in this year's new rankings by [registering for the event on 29th June](#).



Throughout the rest of the year, UK University search have fairs happening across the UK that allows you to meet universities, attend workshops and network with people who can help you in the future. You can [see all the dates and book a place here](#).



Not sure that university is for you? Would you rather find out about apprenticeship opportunities? Fear not - there is a career fair for that too! The Festival of Apprenticeships takes place at three locations across the UK. You can [see all the dates and book a place here](#).



Emile Vidal Carr, an award winning fashion designer, is opening his studio up to 5 budding fashion designers who are under 18. The information can be found [in this video](#) and the email to contact if you're interested is hq@emilevidalcarr.com.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Robotics engineers design and build machines (including AI!) to do automated jobs in industries like manufacturing, aerospace and medicine. The annual salary is £27,500 to £55,500 and you can expect to work 37 to 40 hours a week. There will be 3.3% more Robotics engineer jobs in 2027.

[Click here to read more.](#)

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

A BBC Survey suggested only two out of 10 teenagers said they wanted to work from home when they're older, with the majority saying working outdoors or in an office would be their ideal work environment.

[Read more here](#)

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES



Now in its third year The Side Hustle Initiative is a nationwide campaign helping young entrepreneurs grow or launch their own business. Hosted by lead judge, The Apprentice star and first ever winner Tim Campbell. The competition is open to anyone aged 13-18 (at the time of applications opening) and is based in the UK. You can enter individually or in teams of up to 4. There is a £10,000 prize pot available for the top 10 young entrepreneurs to help accelerate the growth of their business or charity. [Read more and sign up here.](#)



"The GoodWorkEarly Careers Programme gives young people, aged 18-25, the opportunity to kickstart their career and access the training, support and community they need to be successful. Our Early Careers programme is a paid, six-month long, internship programme, based in London. The first two weeks of the programme are dedicated to paid, full-time, inperson work readiness training. You'll spend the rest of the programme gaining on-the-job experience in a host organisation, who will help you learn about their business and develop the core skills that you need to fulfil your role." Applications open from Friday 5 May to Friday 2 June. [Read more about how to register here.](#)



Are you considering what to study at university in the future? These [helpful "why study" videos](#) from unitasterdays are a great resource to learn about what different subjects cover at university, where they could lead your career and what to expect on the course.



YourGamePlan now have four main areas to their offer; [Digital & Tech](#), [Employability](#), [Money & Wellbeing](#). Each offers a range of digital learning courses that you can register for, helping you to develop your skills and confidence. They also have a CV builder so all of the courses you complete with YourGamePlan will be automatically added to your CV.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"We're the Government Communications Headquarters - otherwise known as GCHQ. Tasked by UK government, we're a world-leading intelligence, cyber and security agency. Our mission is to keep the UK and its citizens safe. We're really proud of our purpose - and our people. Join us to be a part of it all."

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Ranked in the top 30 for Student Satisfaction in the Guardian University Guide 2023, the University of Lincoln puts students at the heart of everything we do. One of the world's great historic cities, Lincoln is renowned for its fusion of old and new. The winning combination of a vibrant city centre and a historic Cathedral Quarter makes Lincoln a fantastic place in which to live and study." You can read more about University of Lincoln courses [here](#).

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