

26th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parental Update 32

Some lovely weather has accompanied us to the end of this half term, however, the final week of this half term still sees me sat waiting eagerly for the phone to ring (Ofsted) for the call that just doesn't seem to come (a flashback to my teenage years). Despite this, school remains a hive of activity with the GCSEs and Year 10 mocks running concurrently, we held our first House Mass for West Park, welcoming Fr Michael into school, and our Year 8 boys' rugby progressed to the national finals.

Ahead we have our final half term break of the year, with lots of revision in store for most of our students. After half term, we see the final couple of weeks of GCSEs and Year 10 mocks, transition week in July for our Year 6s and the usual end of year activities: Founder's Day, performances, foreign trips and of course our Year 11 Prom.

Whole School Focus: NPQs

In the world of teaching, as well as our degrees and teaching qualifications, teachers can also follow specialist training courses, these are called National Professional Qualifications (NPQs). The first of these was the NPQH (Headship) and was introduced by New Labour in 1997 to ensure that all headteachers had a level of training and skills to fulfil their role.

At that time, anyone could apply to do it and I did mine back in 2004 whilst being a Head of Year – with hindsight this was far too early in my career and the course has since changed to only allow those who were about to become headteachers to take it.

It was soon recognised that all school leaders needed structured support well before becoming headteachers and so the programme was expanded to NPQML (Middle Leadership) and NPQSL (Senior Leadership). These proved popular, especially as the government largely funded the cost of these courses.

More recently, it became clear that the NPQML was covering too broad an area and so was replaced by more specific training courses:

- NPQ for Leading Teaching
 - NPQ for Leading Behaviour and Culture
 - NPQ for Leading Teacher Development
- (the above 3 NPQs came into effect from September 2021)
- NPQ for Leading Literacy
 - NPQ for Early Years Leadership
- (the above 2 NPQs come into effect from September 2022)

In light of the increased number of Multi Academy Trusts, the NPQEL (Executive Leadership) was also introduced.

The courses are useful in combining theory and practice against a framework of knowledge and skills and in school we have strongly supported staff to complete all relevant courses and now, most of our middle and senior leaders have at least one NPQ. Even I have just submitted my final assessment for the NPQEL.

Year 9 Option Choices

With staff movement and rearrangement of timetabling, we have had to delay the confirmation of Year 9 option choices. These will be confirmed as soon as possible, but this will not be until into next half-term.

Rugby Success

Year 8s competed in a Rugby League 9 a side Festival on Wednesday, after successfully winning all their games. They will now compete in the national round of the festival. The squad is: Joey Bannerman, Dylan Cross, Noah Ryan, Ryan Yates, Samuel Lomax, Finley Coaley, Jack O'Brien, Jayden Foster, Connor Ryan, Alfie Arnold, Elliot Davies, Will McLearn, Aaron Hutton, Ben Westhead (Y7), Mason Mullen (Y7), Kian Potter and Aaron Hutton. Outstanding squad performance, thanks to pupils, parents and staff for turning up and supporting the team, Mr Burgess is one very proud coach!

House Mass

This week we were able to hold our first House Mass. This saw the two West Park form classes in each year group coming together in the main hall for mass celebrated by Fr Michael. Such events are lovely as they bring together students from different age groups, with a shared sense of belonging. Our school choir provided the music and singing whilst our readers did a great job. Rather fittingly the gospel was St Paul's letter describing us all being the different parts of the body – interdependent on each other. This is the true description of the House and the Lasallian family and it was apt that we finished with our international song: [One Heart, One Commitment, One Life](#).

Summer Menu

We have now received this half term's summer menu from Ryan, the Local Authority Catering Development Manager. This will be in place for the rest of the summer term and operates on a 3-week cycle. I have attached the menu. In addition, there are also daily additions of hot and cold favourites.

Interviews

This week is the 'worry week' for headteachers as staff and schools rush to meet the resignation deadline – think Football Transfer Deadline Day but without Jim White. You spend the week hoping none of your staff leave whilst also holding your own interviews ahead of today's resignation deadline. Across the country it is a very hectic week and frenzy of activity, at the end of which you hope that you have a full complement of staff. After half term I hope to give you an update on any staffing changes we might have made for September.

Rewards

This week's Lasallian Star awards are attached. Additional Rewards:

- Top Star point Winner: Brooke Hide
- £10 voucher winner: Ellis Butler
- Lasallian award: Maddison Knockton

Attendance Data

5th September 2022-19th May 2023: Our attendance is holding steady against the national average.

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

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

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

Mon 19th: Year 11 Art Exhibition

Tue 20th – Wed 21st: Vaccinations

Tue 20th: Geography Taster Day

Tue 20th: Carmel College Experience Day (Year 10)

Thu 22nd: A Night of Music (Perf Arts Concert)

Fri 23rd Carmel College Trip (Year 10)

Fri 23rd: Year 11 Prom

Mon 26th: INSET Day

Mon 26th – Wed 28th: Year 8 Maths Trip to London

Tue 27th: Geography Fieldwork Trip (Year 10)

Wed 28th: Prefect Reward Trip (Year 11)

Wed 28th: Governor Finance and Premises Committee (5pm)

Thu 29th – Sun 2nd: Year 9 and 10 Barcelona Trip

Fri 30th: Founder's Day

Mon 3rd Jul – Fri 7th July: Year 6 Transition Week

And finally...

The week ahead looks set fair with the weather and I am sure many of you will have plans for taking a break next week. My mother in law has kindly gifted us some money to have a nice break midweek in Cardiff. So far so good, booking made, I have always wanted to visit Cardiff. It was whilst I was exploring restaurants and activities in the city that I overheard Mrs R on the phone to my mother in law. It turns out the slight catch was that she was meant to come with us. Oh...good I thought.

However, though my mother in law does want to come to Cardiff she cannot make next week, so I think I broke the land speed record for changing a booking, and Newcastle here we come, just the two of us. Why aye pet.

Have a good weekend,

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

Form Class	Year 10	Year 9	Year 8	Year 7
J	Unavailable at time of writing	Luke Adair	James Howard	Alicia Barlow
O		Jacob Hyde	Bethany Kay	Ava Rose Carter
H		Anne Barlow	Ellen Evans	Maisie Allen
N		Lucas Rainford	Beatrice Woodhouse	Alex Marsh
B		Elizabet Reed	Thomas Flatley	Josh Miller
D		Amelia Johnson	Jamie Rowley	Ben Westhead
L		Lottie Northey	Marth Perkins	Finn Myers
S		Maddison Birch	Jayden Foster	Frankie Ford

Meal of the Day Menu

Summer 2023

Week 1

W/C Dates: 05/06/23, 26/06/23, 17/07/23,
18/09/23, 09/10/23, 30/10/23, 20/11/23

Monday

Spaghetti Bolognese
Mac "n" Cheese (v)
Carrots & Peas
Raspberry Ice-cream

Tuesday

Chicken Curry
Quorn Curry (v)
Rice, Naan & Seasonal Vegetables
Mango Yoghurt

Wednesday

Beef Dinner
Choice of Filled Wrap (v)
Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potato, Carrot & Swede, Gravy
Homemade Flapjack

Thursday

Sausage Roll
Sausage Roll (v)
Mash, Broccoli & Cauliflower & Gravy
Fruit Salad

Friday

Battered Fish/Fish Fingers
Chicken Goujons/Dippers
Chips & Peas
Homemade Cookie

Week 2

W/C Dates: 12/06/23, 03/07/23,
04/09/23, 25/09/23, 16/10/23, 06/11/23

Monday

Homemade Loaded Pizza
Cheese & Tomato Pasta Bake (v)
Broccoli & Carrots
Fruit & Ice-cream

Tuesday

Pasta & Meatballs
Hot Dog & Spaghetti Hoops (v)
Sweetcorn
Apple Slices & Raisins

Wednesday

Chicken Dinner
Quorn Dinner
Mash, Cauliflower, Carrots & Gravy
Chocolate Cookie

Thursday

Sliced Ham
Sausage Roll
Potato Wedges & Baked Beans
Fruit Cake

Friday

Fish Fingers
Battered Nuggets
Chips, Peas & Sweetcorn
Banana & Custard

Week 3

W/C Dates: 19/06/23, 10/07/23,
11/09/23, 02/10/23, 23/10/23, 13/11/23

Monday

Beef Hotpot
Tomato & Mozzarella Panini (v)
New Potatoes & Broccoli
Doughnuts

Tuesday

Roasted Chicken & Potato Wedges
Spaghetti Bolognese (v)
Sweetcorn
Sponge Cake & Custard

Wednesday

Sausage Dinner
Sausage Dinner (v)
Mash, Seasonal Vegetables & Carrots
Banana & Raisins

Thursday

Chicken/Salmon Stir Fry
Vegetable Fingers (v)
Noodles & Stir Fry Vegetables
Shortbread

Friday

Battered Fish
Vegetable Pizza (v)
Chips & Beans
Fruit & Yoghurt

(Plus, a wide selection of hot & cold favourites available daily)

(v) - Vegetarian. Meal options and menus available on request for special dietary requirements including
Gluten Free, Dairy Free and Egg Free, Halal, and Carbohydrate Counts can be provided for diabetic students

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



The NHS recruitment and training body, Health Education England (HEE), confirmed funding for a new Medical Doctor Degree Apprenticeship in January. Apprentices will earn a wage while training to nationally recognised standards, and like most degree apprenticeships, they won't have to pay any tuition fees. The first applications are likely to open for the pilot scheme in September 2024. To read more about the NHS Doctor Apprenticeship, [please click here](#).



Youth Employment UK will be hosting the 1st annual Youth Employment Week, 3rd-7th July. Youth Employment Week will be a celebration of all things youth employment! Connect with great opportunities to build your skills, work experience and knowledge as well as finding youth friendly employment opportunities including apprenticeship, entry level and graduate roles. To find out more, [please click here](#).



30-year-old Ben Francis is the founder of Gymshark and Britain's youngest new billionaire. The company was launched in 2012 by Ben and his friend when they couldn't find the bodybuilding gear they wanted to wear when training. It's now a fully fledged sportswear brand, taking on established giants like Nike and Adidas and turning over hundreds of millions of pounds a year. In recognition of that, he was awarded an MBE for his services to the business sector. [Listen to the news clip here](#).



Are you thinking of studying Art and Design in the future? You will find [this video](#) helpful to understand the options and routes into the industry.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Merchant Navy deck officers look after the day-to-day running and navigation of ships, and take care of passengers and cargo. The annual salary is £12,700 to £40,000 and you can expect to work 52 to 54 hours a week. There will be 3.9% more Merchant Navy deck officer jobs in 2027. [Click here to read more](#).

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

There were 49,000 fewer unemployed young people in January to March 2023 compared to January to March 2020, a 9% fall. The youth unemployment rate has fallen from 12.3% to 11.3% during this period.

[Read more here](#)

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for something to do during the school holidays? Here are some options...



Use [UniTasterDays](#) to search for University Events - there are a mixture of in person and online events that cover generic topics as well as subject specific options. If you need more information, each event tells you how to enquire/get in touch with the university. This will be helpful for anyone who isn't sure about university yet or those who know they definitely want to go. Remember, the more you take part in, the more of an informed choice you can make about your future.



Use [SpringPod](#) or [Speakers For Schools](#) to find Virtual Work Experience - whether you are applying to university, apprenticeships or employment in the future, having work experience on your application shows your commitment to the industry/subject area, that you have developed key skills and have been dedicated to complete a programme. You will receive a certificate at the end of the programme.

Research the career you're interested in - it is never too early (or too late) to learn about a new career! You can use a career website, university website, employer website or YouTube to research and find out more. Simply search "How can I become a X in the UK" on the internet (of course, you need to replace the X with the job role you're interested in).

Not sure on the job role you're interested in? That's ok too! - Check out the [UCAS Careers Quiz](#) which will ask you a series of questions then match you too a list of job roles that you may be interested in.

Make a UCAS Hub account - this is a great way to explore your University AND apprenticeship options in readiness for your future. Once you have an account, there are [lots of features you can take advantage of](#).

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

BAE SYSTEMS

"Find a new purpose at BAE Systems.

At the core of BAE Systems is an overarching purpose – we play our part in protecting what matters; making the future more secure for everyone by creating bold, pioneering security products and services that can change the world we live in."

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"We are an ambitious community of students and academics with no limits on where you come from and no limits on what you can do next. Our three campuses in London and Kent are where minds meet, ideas spark and new adventures begin. We're one of the few London universities that has everything you need in one place."

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

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