



De La Salle
School

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11th September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Parental Update 1

A warm, welcome back to school in this very hot and humid start to the autumn term. Its very kind of summer to show up as we return to school! The start of term has been an extremely positive one with the students settling back in very well – it makes such a difference not having any building work or COVID disruptions as in previous years.

To our new Year 7 parents, a special welcome, and I hope that your child is enjoying their first week here at De La Salle. The Year 7s have really impressed with their maturity and positivity so far. For information, I will try to write out with a short update at the end of every week and produce a more colourful and detailed newsletter at the end of each term.

Today's update provides a lot of key information about contacts and the year ahead, they aren't normally this full! Along with today's update there is:

- Careers newsletter: we share these weekly and encourage you to discuss with the students
- List of key information including names and contacts along with this year's term dates.
- Our Lasallian Ways (in-school guides) for dealing with Uniform issues and Late to Class

Whole School Focus – School Organisation and Structures

Often the school will receive calls from parents wanting to speak to me directly about an issue, as this is what often happens in a primary school. As I am sure you can imagine, in a school of 1200 students and 150 staff, there are layers of management and leadership who will pick up and address issues and more importantly will know more about them and be better able to help you.

To help you identify who you should contact the key people are highlighted below and attached a list of key contacts:

1. For **subject issues**, the **class teacher** will support students helped by their **Head of Department (HOD)**.
2. For **pastoral issues**, we have a tiered structure of staff to support students. This structure is different to those in most primary schools as we have far more students. The structure is:
 - **Form tutor**: this is your child's daily contact for most low-level things in school.
 - **Pastoral Support Manager (PSM)**: the PSMs deal with the mid-level issues that a student might face and support their Head of Year with the Year Group.
 - **Head of Year (HOY)**: the HOYs oversee the whole year group, pick up the more serious issues and direct the work of the PSMs and Form Tutors.
 - **Senior Leader (SLT)**: each Year group is also overseen by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. They deal with the serious issues that arise and oversee the work of the HOY.
 - **Deputy Headteacher (DHT)**: Years 7 and 8 are overseen by one of the Deputy Headteachers (Mr Ross) and Years 9-11 are overseen by another Deputy Headteacher (Ms Flaherty).
 - **Headteacher**: this is me. I oversee standards across the whole school and all aspects of school life. I generally deal with the high level, whole-school strategic issues rather than individual issues, or at least try to!

You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care.

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** this is Mrs De'Ath and her deputy DSL, Mr Ross, and they have ultimate responsibility for the safeguarding of staff and students across the school.
1. For **SEND Issues**, our SENDCo is Miss McCann for the main school, whilst Mrs Bullock has responsibility for the ASC Base. They are both overseen by a member of the SLT, Mrs Wellens.

GCSE Results

We are delighted that this year's GCSE are the best the school has had since the current GCSE system was introduced. This rise was fully expected and predicted but, with grade boundaries changing nationally, leading to a fall in grades, it was good to see our results go up with a healthy jump across the board. We wish all of last year's Year 11 students well as they begin their college courses and apprenticeships.

Information Evenings

We started these last year and have learnt from the way we ran them, so they will hopefully be even more useful to parents. These will take place as follows:

- **Year 7:** this took place in July and the materials covered can still be accessed in the link below. There will also be a parental meeting with your child's form tutor on Thursday 19th October: <http://www.delasalle.st-helens.sch.uk/admissions/primary-to-secondary-transition/>
- **Years 8 and 9:** Wednesday 20th September (details to follow)
- **Years 10 and 11:** Thursday 28th September (details to follow)

Uniform and Lateness to Lessons

I know some parents will think – why is he banging on about this again? The answer is simple – besides the financial/peer pressures and bullying that things like shoe brands can cause, they have a real impact upon attitude in lessons and around school, helping to create a sense of belonging and commitment to our Lasallian family. In other words, these are the basic foundations upon which we can then deliver a strong education. We are keen for young people to express their individuality, but through their writing, art, performance and sporting skills rather than expensive items of clothing.

To help you understand our expectations of staff and students, and how we manage both issues, I have attached our two Lasallian Ways (these are our in-school guides).

Welcome Mass 2023 (for Year 7 parents and students)

We would like to extend a warm welcome to each new member of our school community. To celebrate our newly formed family here at De La Salle, Fr Michael Harwood will celebrate a Welcome Mass for us on **Wednesday 25th October 2023** in St Mary's, Lowe House (North Road, WA10 2TR).

Year 7 pupils will have opportunities during the upcoming weeks to prepare for this mass to showcase and embrace all that this new cohort of students has to offer. We would love to see as many students as possible there accompanied by their families. We also have a number of new staff who will be celebrated at the same time. Mass will begin at 6:30pm and usually lasts around an hour!

There will be a ParentMail shortly for you to RSVP, in the meantime if you have any questions, or comments, please do get in touch with Chaplaincy cantillons@delasalleschool.org.uk

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

Fri 8th – Sat 9th: Year 11 English Trip
 Sat 16th: Duke of Edinburgh Award training
 Wed 20th: Year 8 and 9 Information Evening
 Sat 23rd: Duke of Edinburgh Award training
 Mon 25th – Fri 29th: Year 7 Retreats (in-house)

Thu 28th: Year 10 and 11 Information Evening
Sat 30th – Sun 1st (Oct): Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition Group 1
Tue 3rd Oct: Year 9 Geography Field Trip (group 1)
Thu 5th: Open Evening
Sat 7th – Sun 8th: Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition Group 2
Tue 10th: Year 9 Geography Field Trip (group 2)
Mon 16th – Fri 27th: Year 10 Assessments
Thu 19th: Pastoral Meetings (all year groups): 3:15 – 5:45
Mon 23rd – Fri 27th: Year 11 Mock Exams (for practical subjects only)
Wed 25th: Welcome Mass (Lowe House) 6.30pm
Fri 27th: Finish for half term (3pm)

And finally...The List

Hopefully, for most of you, the summer holiday was a time of relaxation and switching off. This was my intention until Mrs R thought there was scope for improving my productivity during the holidays, in the form of 'the list'. I am very familiar with Mrs R's lists of 4 or 5 jobs which she kindly produces to give me something to do, but this was the daddy of all lists – 70 jobs, events and activities.

Some were nice activities such as visiting the Victoria Gallery and Museum at the University of Liverpool or watching The Bear. Others were very small and fairly easy: Hoover Sam's room, tidy the loft and take gas and electric meter readings.

There were a few, however, of those niggly jobs that you know won't be quick and easy: changing my phone contract, renewing car insurance on a 4-car multicar deal, arranging the return of a damaged suitcase, liaising with the airline over compensation for our son's cancelled flight etc.

For transparency, these were a shared set of tasks, and it would also be fair to point out that Mrs R tackled them with significantly more vigour than me. So, by the end of the holidays, 69 of the 70 items on the list had been completed, the one remaining one was to tidy my bedside cabinet drawer. This one, I thought, was an unnecessary task as the drawer is always closed and the untidiness of my collection of random objects in there is only noticeable when you open it. So, after all those phone calls, jobs, emails, online chatting with AI Bots, I was making a stand!

Anyway, that went well and, needless to say, I underestimated Mrs R's determination to clear the jobs list. So, we have now ticked off the 70 jobs and I am looking for a home for an old set of rosary beads, a Beamish museum bookmark, a cable for an unknown electrical appliance, a damaged USB pen drive, a box of plasters and a Blockbuster video membership card.

Have a good weekend.

Andrew Rannard
Headteacher



De La Salle Parental Information Sheet 2023/4

Pastoral Teams

Year	Form Tutors	PSM	HOY	SLT	DHT
7	7J Miss A Neill	Mr Mather	Mr Fletcher	Mr Hale	Mr Ross
	7O Mr C Smith				
	7H Mr D Hughes				
	7N Mrs S Hampson				
	7B Miss H Heffey				
	7D Mr D McCormick				
	7L Miss A Hutchinson				
7S Mr R Cosgrove					
8	8J Mr B Rotherham	Mrs Gray	Mrs Mallalieu	Mr Ross	Mr Ross
	8O Miss R Aldred / Miss H Moran				
	8H Mrs E Ashton / Miss C Orford				
	8N Mrs A Dale-Perez				
	8B Mrs L Mayren and Mrs A Egan (DT)				
	8D Mrs J Warren				
	8L Miss D Lenahan				
8S Miss K. Piert					
9	9J Mr K Thomas / Mrs L Rooney	Mr Canning	Mrs Critchley	Ms Flaherty	Ms Flaherty
	9O Ms P Darwin				
	9H Mr C Hollins				
	9N Mrs H Blackhall-Crane				
	9B Ms K Eagle				
	9D Mr T Cummings				
	9L Miss P Taylor				
9S Miss K Piert					
10	10J Mrs K Coombs	Mrs Moran	Mr Leggett	Mrs De'Ath	Ms Flaherty
	10O Mr M Darlington				
	10H Miss E Forde				
	10N Mr P Smith				
	10B Mr K Foster				
	10D Miss A Egan (Maths)				
	10L Mr S Talbot / Mr D Allen				
10S Mr P Leighton					
Engagement Centre: Mr D Johnstone					
11	11J Miss S Farrelly / Mr S Metcalf	Mrs Marshall	Mrs Melia	Ms Flaherty	Ms Flaherty
	11O Mrs A Morris / Mrs J Millea				
	11H Mrs L Pemberton				
	11N Mr P Ingham				
	11B Miss J Askew / Miss K Moss				
	11D Mr B Ashcroft				
	11L Miss H Condon				
11S Miss M Tsai and Mrs C Skinner					
Engagement Centre: Miss J Brunt					

Term dates

Dates in bold indicate change to normal school arrangements eg early finish

Autumn Term 2023

- **INSET: Staff Training Day 1 - Monday 4th September**
- ALL PUPILS RETURN - Tuesday 5th September
- School closes for pupils - Friday 27th October
- Re-opens - Monday 6th November
- **INSET: Staff Training Day 2 - Friday 1st December**
- **School closes - Friday 22nd December (12.10 finish)**

Spring Term 2024

- Re-opens - Monday 8th January
- School closes for pupils - Friday 9th February
- Re-opens - Monday 19th February
- School closes - Thursday 28th March (3pm)

Summer Term 2024

- Re-opens - Monday 15th April
- **Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May**
- School closes - Friday 24th May
- Re-opens - Monday 3rd June
- **INSET: Staff Training Day 3 - Monday 24th June**
- **School closes for pupils - Friday 19th July (12.10pm)**
- **INSET: Staff Training Day 4 - Monday 22nd July**
- **INSET: Staff Training Day 5 - Tuesday 23rd July**

LASALLIAN WAY PUNCTUALITY TO LESSONS



1. High Expectations

Staff and students aware of expectations. Parents regularly updated on their child's punctuality to lessons.

2. Key Triggers

Students identified if they hit the trigger of 2 or more lates to class in a week.

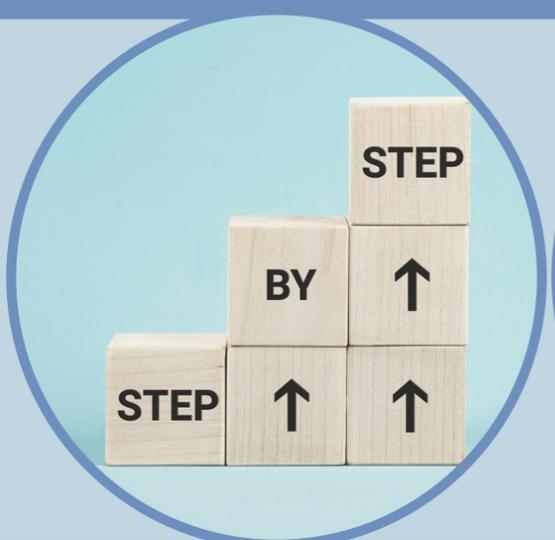


3. Detentions

Students complete the appropriate detention when they hit a trigger.

4. Punctuality Report

Students who show no improvement are placed on punctuality report and parents contacted.



5. Continued Lateness

This is now picked up as part of the graduated approach to behaviour.

The Lasallian Way

Lasallian Way - Punctuality to lessons

1. High Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All staff and students are aware of expectations for being in class on time. These are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ After break and lunch, students should be on time.◦ Between lessons, students have up to 3 minutes to get to their next lesson. Those arriving 3 or more minutes after the change should be recorded on SIMS along with the number of minutes late.
2. Key Triggers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HOYs monitor 'lates to lessons' data daily.• Those arriving late on 2 or more occasions should be placed on 30 minute 'Late to Lesson' detentions.• These detentions are after school (Wednesday and Friday).
3. Detentions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students should attend the appropriate detention. Those failing to attend the detention will be placed on a 1 hour detention on a Friday.
4. Punctuality Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students who have had 2 detentions should be placed on a punctuality report by their form teacher (HOY should alert FT) for one week.• If no improvement then this should progress to a HOY punctuality report.
5. Continued Lateness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued lateness will be viewed as non-compliance and will be addressed through the school's graduated behaviour approach.

LASALLIAN WAY - MANAGING UNIFORM



1. Worn Properly

All students should be compliant with our uniform policy at all times. Staff will check uniform regularly.

2. Correction

If challenged about incorrect uniform, students should remedy the issue immediately and without fuss.



3. Refer On

Students who do not remedy the uniform issue when asked to, should be referred to their HOY or a member of SLT

4. Compliance

Students who refuse to comply with the school uniform will be placed in Compliance by HOY or SLT and parents informed.



5. Suspension

Students who persist in non-compliance for 3 days or more will face suspension.

The Lasallian Way

Lasallian Way -

Managing Uniform: The Details

1. Worn Properly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uniform will be checked upon arrival to school, during form time and routinely during the day• Uniform should be worn appropriately in line with the school <u>uniform expectations</u>.• Key elements are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Tie worn properly with school badge showing◦ Skirts not rolled up◦ Shirts tucked in◦ No jewellery◦ School shoes (not trainers)◦ Blazer on◦ Make up and /or false nails
2. Correction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All school staff should challenge poor uniform when they see it, in a calm and Lasallian manner.• Students should correct the uniform immediately.
3. Refer On	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a student is challenged and fails to correct the uniform, then this should be referred on to the student's Head of Year, or a member of the SLT.• Parents will be informed and suitable sanction put in place for not following staff instruction e.g. detention.
4. Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If a student is referred to their HOY or member of the SLT for failing to correct their uniform, then they should be placed in Compliance until the matter is resolved.• The HOY or SLT member should arrange for parents to be informed.
5. Suspension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where a student has refused to correct their uniform for 3 days or more, then the student should be referred to the headteacher for suspension.• This should then also be picked up as part of the graduated approach to behaviour



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



Katie Stephens, a Law Graduate, recommends her top 6 legal newsletters for students interested in studying Law to sign up to receive. She states "These emails keep me up to date with legal affairs and are a great source of information about different practice areas. I also found them really helpful for knowing about different career events."



As the Army celebrates its 100th year of offering apprenticeships this year, their special webinar aims to provide insight and guidance for people leaving school on how you can access an amazing apprenticeship and career in the British Army. Join them on 7th November at 4pm to find out more and to hear from current/past apprentices on their experiences of AFC Harrogate and how it has impacted and inspired their career so far. Book your place here.



Passionate about sports and social media? Dive into the dynamic world of sports media with our remote internship! As a Social Media Intern working on a remote basis, you'll curate engaging content, interact with sports enthusiasts, and assist in media campaigns. If you have a passion for Cricket, Kabaddi and other sports, a creative flair, and a strong social media understanding, this is your chance to shine. More information on how to apply can be found here.



Introducing a new blog 'Side Hustle Of The Week' that aims to give readers the opportunity to hear from Gen Z individuals who are currently working full time and have a side hustle. To kick-off we would like to introduce you to Keira Todd, read her blog to discover more about her side hustle, how she manages working full time and having her own business plus so much more!

JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of an Actuary.

An actuary is a professional with advanced mathematical skills who deals with the measurement and management of risk and uncertainty. Watch the video to learn more about how much you could earn, the qualifications you need & what subjects link to this career.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

In April to June 2023, the number of people aged 16+ in employment was 32.93 million, and the employment rate for people aged 16-64 was 75.7%, down from 75.9% in the previous quarter.

Employment levels decreased by 66,000 in the last quarter but increased by 137,000 over the last year.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

"At British Red Cross, we empower individuals to develop skills and gain invaluable experience. We are thrilled to introduce our Future Talent Programme opportunities.



This programme offers paid internships across various departments, providing a gateway to unlock your full potential. From fundraising to data analytics, we have diverse opportunities waiting for you. Join our Future Talent Programme to contribute to our impactful work and embark on a transformative journey of personal and professional growth. We nurture talent, foster creativity, and empower our interns to make a real impact in their fields." Read more about current opportunities [here](#).



Are you trying to understand the UCAS timeline for 2024 applications? [This poster](#) tells you everything you need to know.



Getting started in any career is hard; let's talk about it! Foot on the Ladder is an Early Careers Podcast speaking to those who are just getting started to those who are helping to shape career paths. [Listen here](#).



Cleary Gottlieb's week-long virtual internship will provide you with a unique insight into working in an international law firm, meeting people from across the company. The internship will run 23-27 October, 9.30am - 1:30pm. [Read more about how to apply here](#).



If you've always dreamed of becoming a pilot, we've got news for you! Introducing our brand-new pilot cadet programme: the British Airways Speedbird Pilot Academy. Providing funded training for up to 60 individuals a year, and the opportunity to secure a position as a British Airways pilot in the future, our new programme changes the game for those hoping to take to the skies. Applications open in September 2023 and you can [read more here](#).

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"It's our mission to help as many people as we can in whatever way we can. Without our staff, this simply wouldn't be possible. We're always on the lookout for people with bright minds and big ideas to join the Red Cross Movement and help us use human kindness to overcome crisis."

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"LSE opened its doors in 1895 with three rooms and 200 students. Today more than 11,000 students study for degrees at our central London campus. But while much has changed, one thing remains constant: our commitment to the original vision of LSE, as 'a community of people and ideas, founded to know the causes of things, for the betterment of society'."

You can read more [here](#).

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