



De La Salle
School

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20th October 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 7

Another week of activities as Year 10 Assessments have started, half of Year 7 visited Alton Towers (the other half go later in the year), the Year 9 ski trips continued, Winstanley College visited our Year 11s, some Year 9 and 11 students visited the theatre to see Metamorphosis, our new School Improvement partner (SIP) visited and we had our pastoral parents' online meetings. Next week is our final week of the half term and looks very busy with Year 10 assessments continuing, Year 11 mock practicals starting, ski lessons continuing, Warrington College speaking to Year 11, inter-school formation, Governors Personnel Committee, another DofE Assessment Friday and Saturday, our Year 7 Welcome Mass at Lowe House and then breaking up for half term

Whole School Focus – School Improvement Partner (SIP)

I mentioned earlier that our School Improvement Partner (SIP) was in school this week. We have recently just changed SIPs and this was Dr Antony Edkins' first visit to the school. I thought it might be useful to share with parents, how the SIP operates and helps with our school improvement.

SIPs are usually very skilled educationalists, with a track record of improvement, and that is the case with Antony who as well as previously being a Headteacher and Chief Executive of a MAT, is also a serving Ofsted inspector. Having met with him, I am confident that he will be a strong and positive force for good on our school improvement journey, as he clearly understood our school, the journey it has been on and what it needs to do to improve further.

As part of their role, SIPs will do the following:

- Advise and challenge headteachers and Senior leaders
- Work in supporting middle leaders
- Carry out the headteacher's performance management
- Broker any additional support with other schools or organisations
- Provide detailed update reports for governors in order to help their understanding of the progress in school.

Yesterday's visit was very positive and he could clearly see the impact of the improvement work we have been doing since the summer.

Year 9 Football

Our Year 9 boys' football team achieved a remarkable success in this week's St Helens football festival tournament remaining unbeaten throughout and not conceding a single goal. Player of the tournament was Samuel Lomax displaying an incredible performance at the heart of defence. Congratulations to the boys on their fantastic victory! - Mr Smith

PE Kit Notice 1

Please can parents support the PE department in ensuring students have their full PE kit for their allocated PE day, including trainers. Please note: even students who are ill/injured are expected to wear their PE kit. Please see the communication from the PE department on 10th October for further details on the "Sick or fit, bring your kit" ethos.

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

PE KIT Notice 2

If any member of our school community or their relatives have any unwanted trainers that are in usable condition and no longer fit: the PE department would welcome their donation for spare kit for lessons. Please bare this in mind all year round if you are ever in the position to be getting rid of trainers as they will always be greatly welcomed. The same also applies for any PE kit that no longer fits.

Extra-Curricular Activities and Clubs

I have attached the latest list of extracurricular activities, clubs, teams, practices etc that we have on offer at the school. Please note that this is liable to change.

Attendance

Our attendance started positively this year, well above the national average. However, a recent bout of illness has seen it fall, though still above national average. Please continue to do all you can to ensure your child attends school every day.

Latest attendance data from 4th September to 13th October:

- DLS Attendance: **93.0% (change of -0.3)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **92.3% (change of -0.2)**
- Difference: **+0.8% above the national (change -0.1)**

Term Dates for 2024/25 (reminder)

I realise that this is a very long way off, but you may find it useful to know the term dates for following academic year (not this year). They are:

Autumn Term 2024:

- Mon 2nd Sept to Fri 20th Dec
- (Half term: Mon 28th Oct – Fri 1st Nov)

Spring Term 2025:

- Mon 6th Jan – Fri 4th Apr
- (Half term – Mon 17th Feb – Fri 21st Feb)

Summer Term 2025

- Tue 22nd Apr – Fri 18th Jul
- (Mon 26th May – Fri 30th May)

Student Rewards

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Stars: Natalie Wilson
- Top Star point winner: Dylan Parry
- £10 voucher: Sophie Dowling
- Year 7 Star outside of school: Aaron Brennan: selected by his team of coaches and players as the most improved player at his recent cricket awards. Great award and recognition to receive – especially from your peers.

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

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)

Half Term

Mon 6th Nov: School re-opens

Mon 6th – Fri 17th Year 11 Mock exams (non-practical)

Tue 7th and Wed 8th: Year 10 Art Fieldwork Trips

Tue 21st: Flu Vaccinations

Thu 23rd: Your Future Careers event for Years 9-11

Thu 23rd: Presentation Evening (last year's Year 11)

Fri 1st Dec: INSET Day: School Closed to students

Fri 22nd Dec: School Closes for Christmas (12.10pm) No Buses

And finally, . . . A tale of two half terms

About 10 years ago, it was decided to create a standardised school year in order to help align school holidays across schools and across local authorities. This made lots of sense and helped families ensure they could have breaks together.

However, as time has passed, different authorities started to have their own versions of the standardised school year (which sort of stops them being standardised). And so it is that, today, Mrs R finishes for half term, whilst we (DLS) don't finish until next week.

Understandably Mrs R has questioned how this has happened, especially with me being the headteacher and having considerable say in the matter. I have assured her that it was just St Helens' version of the standardised school year, and yes very sadly we won't have a chance to go shopping or walk around IKEA or visit whichever random event she might have planned but it will allow me a bit of Farm or Flight Sim time, maybe a round of golf and a trip to the Lakes with one of my mates – every cloud . . .

Have a good weekend.

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

Student rewards

This week's Lasallian Star Awards go to:

Form Class	Year 11	Year 10	Year 9	Year 8	Year 7
J	Ronan O'Hanlan	Wesley Orellana	Roi Odekina / Zach May	Cameron Kilgannon	Harry Burrows
O	Megan Brown	Jasmine Hodgkiss	Catlin Bond	Ella Haggarty	Rory Butler
H	Kian Power	Daniel Dinov	Mia Fair	Solomilla Laba	Poppy Egan
N	Kieran Dugdale	Grace Harrison	Adam Heaton	George Ryan	Jessica Thompson
B	Libbie Dawber	Keira Nevin	Kiera Graney	Holly Owens	Lucas Wright
D	Remy Naylor	Joshua Bailey	Natalie Wilson	Archie PArr	Kadie Lea Shelley
L	Charlie Dixon	Bethany Thompson	Emma Frodsham	April Jones	Maisie Foster
S	Olivia Speakman	Lucas Fair	Samuel Tyrer	Jack Simpson	Owen Riley
Engagement	Joshua Kelly	Chesley Norcross	N/A	N/A	N/A

PE Extra Clubs

Events are after school unless indicated otherwise

Year Group	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7		Girls Football Rugby (G+B)		Netball Football	Basketball (Lunch)
Year 8	Football	Girls Football		Netball	Basketball (Lunch)
Year 9		Girls Football	Netball	Netball (Lunch) Rugby	Basketball (Lunch) Football
Year 10		Girls Football Football	Netball	Netball (Lunch) Rugby	Basketball (Lunch)
Year 11		Girls Football Football	Netball	Netball (Lunch)	Basketball (Lunch) GCSE Intervention (Lunch)

Other Whole School Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Twelfth Night 1:30	Choir P1 1:30	Musical Theatre 1:30	Puzzle Club T7 1:30	
Young Saints F15 lunch	Eco School F4 Lunch	Collectors Club 1:10 –1:55	Code Club	
Chaplaincy 3-4		Board Games Week A 1:20 – 1:50		
Geog Squad F2 Lunch		Ethical Crafts Lunch		
Art Lunch				

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



Bulla Co are currently on the hunt for Student Strategists to assist with our creative briefs for incoming campaigns! This is paid work that can be done remotely from anywhere. There is no lower age limit. It's a fantastic opportunity for successful applicants to share their ideas for campaigns and learn first-hand about the creative process from initial brief to strategy proposal. [You can read more and learn where to send your CV here.](#)

[New research](#) shows that although over half of school leavers (53%) are interested in pursuing a career in the TV and film industry, only 18% believe it is realistic for them. Are you considering a career in Film or TV? Young BAFTA have an [entire YouTube playlist](#) of educational interviews and behind-the-scenes info from the most popular shows on TV.

[Youth Employment UK](#) have launched [Good Youth Employment Standards](#). This is a membership that employers can sign up to in order to showcase that they meet the 10 Youth Employment Standards. What does this mean for you? Well, if you see on the job advertisement that the employer has made this commitment, you know that they are meeting the standards which have been written to ensure you have a fair and inclusive employment experience.

Are you in Year 11 or 13 and considering doing an apprenticeship at the end of the academic year? More employers are opening their applications earlier than ever so don't leave it too late to start your search! [Amazing Apprenticeships](#) have some great resources to get you started.



JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of a [Marine Biologist](#). Marine biologists study how the ocean currents, tides and many other oceanic factors affect ocean life forms, including their growth, distribution and well-being. 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

Do you know you want to work in the creative sector but worried about the salaries available?

[Check out this resource from Career Smart](#) that allows you to compare salaries for creative job roles.

Marketing Directors come in at the highest; £82,907 and Upholsterers are the lowest at £20,336.

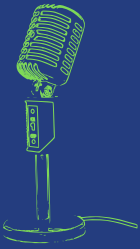
If you have any questions or need support, please contact moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk

COMMITTED TO
GOOD YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
STANDARDS
2023

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES



Introducing The Uni Guide Podcast which aims to support students, teachers, careers colleagues and parents with all things university. In this podcast series, UniTasterDays will be providing listeners with the cutting edge and most up-to-date information and conversations about university. In plain English, without the jargon, and from the lived experience of everyone involved in the process - including guest experts, current students and recent graduates. [Take a look at the topics and listen to any that interest you here.](#)

Do you spend a lot of time on Instagram? Would you like to fill your feed with more useful content that can help you to plan your future? If so, check out these pages:

- [UCAS](#): The official page for the University Admissions Service in the UK.
- [Side Hustle Network](#): Connecting young, aspiring and ambitious entrepreneurs engaged in side hustles with forward-thinking employers.
- [Not Going to Uni](#): A school & college leaver jobs board & early careers advice hub
- [Get My First Job](#): It starts here; your first steps into the world of work!
- [Black Apprenticeship Network](#): The first apprenticeship community established worldwide, aiming to be the first for our black community.
- [Go Construct](#): We provide resources for anyone looking for a career in the Construction & Built Environment sector, showcasing the rewarding opportunities.
- [National Apprenticeship Events](#): The National Apprenticeship & Education Events Team in Newcastle Manchester Birmingham and London
- [The University Guys](#): Specialists in international university applications, working with students all over the world.

& remember that every university will also have their own instagram page too so be sure to follow any that you're considering applying to in the future.



EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT AIRBUS

"Living the Airbus life means a lot to us. We feel, act and behave as one large family – We Are One – and create an engaging and inclusive workplace that favours well-being, fun and trust to drive team work." With so many different industries, there are so many ways to Find Your Future at Airbus. You can read more about their careers [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"For over 60 years the aim of our courses, research, culture and campus has been to stimulate, excite and challenge. So from scientific discovery to global policy, from student welfare to career development, Sussex innovates and takes a lead."

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

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