



De La Salle
School

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24th November 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 11

This week was incredibly busy with a range of activities and events for our students: Your Future Careers, West Park House Mass, Presentation Evening, vaccinations, our first Governors Standards Committee and bookshop visits. Next week, is a shorter week with Friday being an INSET Day.

Whole School Focus – Fundraising and Charity Work

This half term, we have a number of activities taking place across the school to raise funds and awareness for different causes.

Thank you for the generous donations that we have already received for our **HOPE** (Help Other People Eat) Campaign so far. Our HOPE Campaign contributes to our efforts to make sure that the families in our school community are fed, especially during the longer breaks in the school calendar. Once we have packed parcels for our own families in school that need it, we then distribute goods to other organisations in the area, each year helping more people than the year before. For this to continue to happen, we of course need some more donations to keep coming in to school. Please consider making a contribution to the HOPE Campaign that will continue to run until the 15th December!

Three students in Year 7 have launched their own fundraising event for Cancer Research UK. Joseph, Charlie and Adam are leading the way as each Year 7 form walk 1 mile per week in the run up to Christmas. This will mean that by the 22nd December the year group will have collectively walked over 53 miles. On the last day of term, the three boys will hop onto our school treadmills and walk, run or jog for 53 consecutive minutes. We're asking to donations to be made via our personalised fundraising page. All donations go directly to Cancer Research UK, an organisation that is so close to the heart of many members of our school community. Please donate via the following link <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/sams-giving-page-34631>

VIDES UK is a charity ran for and by young people. We work with this organisation throughout the year as they assist us with our Retreat programme in school. Many of our students attend VIDES UK projects and events during their half-term holidays too. One of our Year 11 students, Isabel is a VIDES UK Youth Councillor and is currently raising funds for the charity. The latest VIDES UK fundraiser is "Win the Calendar" an opportunity to win some gifts and prizes, including Christmas Eve boxes, hampers and even an overnight stay at a Liverpool hotel. To play, all you need to do is purchase a date on the Advent Calendar (you can buy as many tickets per date as you would like). Tickets cost £5 each, and on each day throughout December a draw will take place to announce the winner for the day...meaning if you're the only person to buy a ticket for that day, you're guaranteed a win!! You can get in touch with Sam, our Chaplain (cantillons@delasalleschool.org.uk), or visit the VIDES UK Facebook page for more information.

Year 7 and 8 Football

Apologies that I omitted to include our Year 7 and 8 girls' football success last week. The team played a match at Sutton Academy on Tuesday afternoon in torrential rain and wind. They were

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

simply magnificent, winning 5:0 (or 7:0 according to Mr Metcalf) - Sutton even played 2 extras players during the second half. They look like one of our best sports teams so far this year!

DLS Pensioners' Christmas Party

We are running the pensioners party again this year on 14th December if you know of anybody in the community, including family, who would like a ticket please drop me an email rooneyl@delasaleschool.org.uk

We are also looking for any donations including:

- Raffle prizes
- Christmas crackers for the tables
- Old Christmas decorations

If you feel you can contribute in any way please pass any donations in to reception.

Social Media Awareness

We recently received some interesting information about the way some young people communicate drug use across social media through including certain emojis in their profiles. We thought that it would be helpful for parents to be aware, not only for their own children, but also those who may be friends of their children. The list is below:

- Horse = Ketamine
- Snowflake = cocaine
- Leaf = cannabis

LUMI Quest

This week saw the start of the LUMI QUEST for a very excited group of pupils in Year 9. They had their first session to meet their facilitators over zoom to begin their QUEST to design an application to tackle the issues of sustainability. Pupils will meet regularly on Tuesdays after school before their final presentation in March. This project is sponsored by Skipton Building Society and has been running for a number of years with great success. Pupils gain much confidence in using the latest technologies whilst developing their entrepreneurial skills.

Collecting Students

We have had a number of occasions in recent weeks where students have phoned home to be collected by parents. All such contact should go via Student Services or the Year teams. If your child does contact you, can you please contact the school before coming to collect them.

Presentation Evening

A big thank you to those parents of last year's Year 11 who attended last night's Presentation Evening. Frank Cottrell-Boyce was our guest speaker and didn't disappoint with yet another moving, funny and inspiring speech. It was wonderful to see our students coming back, looking so grown up!

HAF (from the LA)

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is aimed at providing nutritious food and enriching activities for primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible for benefit related free school meals during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays for children and young people aged 4–18 years who are eligible for and receiving benefits-related free school meals (FSM), and their families. Children and young people who are in receipt of a support plan via Early Help, Child in Need, Children We look after, EHCP or receives additional hours at school then they are also eligible for the HAF programme.

Throughout the Winter holidays eligible children and young people can access a variety of free activity sessions and all of these sessions will include a nutritious meal.

For more information on the exciting activities and opportunities that are available, dates and times please follow the link below or call Central Link Children's Centre on 01744 673445.

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/4060/Holiday-activities-and-food-programme>

The sessions are fully funded by the Department for Education (DfE).

Catering Information in Edulink

We have been informed of an issue in Edulink where school lunch balances are showing incorrectly. Until this is resolved, we have turned the Catering link off. Parents who top up via ParentMail can view catering information, including itemised lists of what their child has eaten, in the ParentMail app under the Accounts section. Students can check their balances using the top-up machines in the canteen and Student Services. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, we are working with Edulink to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

Attendance

Our attendance is doing reasonably well and above national average levels but could still improve further. Please continue to do all you can to ensure your child attends school every day.

Latest attendance data from 4th September to 17th November:

- DLS Attendance: **92.7% (change of +0.1)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **92.0% (no change)**
- Difference: **+0.7% above the national (change +0.1)**

Student rewards

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Star: Dan Speakman
- Top Star point winner: Amber Mallon
- £10 voucher: Dan Spark
- Year 7 Stars outside of school: Isabella Davies great resilience and technique at the All England Dance Festival, Fletcher Moorcroft winning Player of the Year for Thatto Heath U11s rugby Finley Cassidy awarded Coach's Player of the Year in rugby.

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

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

Tue 12th December: Year 11 Parents' Evening

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

And finally...Judith Chalmers

Once again, I am writing this on my travels as I am heading to St Cassians Retreat Centre in Kintbury for this weekend's Lasallian Headteacher Residential. For those of you who have never been and are imagining that I will be indulged with some lovely country spa-like experience, the best I am hoping for is that I am not in a bunk bed!

On a serious note, there are several key issues facing the Lasallian Community, district and our school and it is important that we are there to represent the interests of our school and its community. Some of these issues include the move from the aging Brothers towards lay leadership within the district alongside the arrangements and structure for the Laetare Multi Academy Trust which we will be shortly joining.

It is also an opportunity to hear how other schools are getting on, and I am especially excited to hear how some of their new fledgling 1719 Societies are progressing. It is also good to meet fellow headteachers from the other GB Lasallian Schools and Associate Schools, who over the course of the 2 days I am sure to get to know very well, especially if they are on the top bunk!

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	Not available at time of writing	Lily Ainsworth	Mia Allen	Not available at time of writing	Bethany Bradshaw
O		Andrew Bate	Lola Hitchen		Nyomi Adepetun
H		Stephen McFarlane	Emily Hilton		Evan Davies / Noah Ormond
N		Callum Holmes	Beatrice Woodhouse		Jessica Thompson
B		Charlotte Johnson	Kara Crooks		Megan Foster
D		Josh Bailey	Sophie Dowling		Michael Canavan
L		Bryn Edwards	Lyle Monti		Krzysztof Mendala
S		Lucy Balmer	Sam Tyrer		Tilly Glynn
Engagement		Lola Woods	N/A	N/A	N/A

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



Are you considering a career in performing arts? This quiz from Getting into Theatre matches your skills and personality with a career in the industry. Remember, this is just a guide and the more research you do, the more informed a choice you can make about which job role is right for you.



Sony are running a photography competition for people aged under 19. The theme this year is "Through your eyes". What is your (and your generation's) perception of the world? From your family to the local environment to your day-to-day life, show us what – through your eyes – are the subjects and themes you want to photograph and share. Whatever the genre, technique or subject matter, we want to see your photographs. You can enter up to three images for free.



Pentabus are offering a FREE 6 month scriptwriting course for those ages 16. Through a series of online evening sessions you will work with experienced writers and directors to develop a short script. Your work will be realised in a digital format. Read more here.



The Black Academic Futures Scholarships offer UK Black and Mixed Black students financial support to pursue graduate study at Oxford. Each scholarship will cover your course fees in full and will provide you with a grant for living costs. Awards are made for the full duration of your fee liability for your course. Read more here.



NGTU have a library of online resources to help with a range of topics like writing a cover letter and understanding the world of work.

JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of a Urban Designer.

Urban designers create practical and visually pleasing places, including buildings, open spaces, and landscapes.

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

New research has revealed that one in five jobs in London is in the creative economy – increasing from one in six in 2016 when Sadiq became Mayor.

The capital is contributing more than half of the UK's entire creative industries economic output.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES



A [live virtual panel event](#) with Virgin Atlantic takes place during Disability Awareness Month! This is for young people across the UK to hear members of the Virgin Atlantic Disability Engagement Network team share their stories and gives young people involved a chance to discover how the airline promotes accessibility and inclusion for all! Apply by 11/12/2023.



You've probably seen a Boots on your local high street – the first store was opened in 1849! Perhaps you've been in-store or online and made a purchase, but what do you really know about this renowned retailer? Come and join this [unique opportunity to learn more about careers](#) within the market leader in the world of healthcare, beauty and retail. Hear from members of the Boots team about the wealth of opportunities available in Healthcare, Retail, Supply Chain and STEM to name but a few. Apply by 20/12/2023.



Top international law firm Reed Smith LLP is pleased to announce that they are inviting students to attend [their next Insight Day](#). The day is designed to give students in Year 10 & 11 an insight into the various career opportunities at a top law firm. Apply by 08/12/2023.

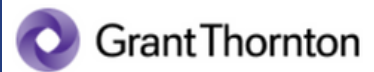


There has never been a more exciting time to join Bentley. They are transforming, reinventing every aspect of their business, to become a global leader in sustainable luxury mobility. They're seeking fresh ideas, diverse perspectives, and innovators to join us on this pioneering journey. Bentley's world-class careers and apprenticeships offer a range of pathways across Manufacturing, Engineering, Business, Digital, Project Management and more. Learn more about these apprentice options in their [Apprenticeship 101 event](#). Apply by 09/01/2024.



Meet CareerChat's unique, animal-themed [AI guides](#) who will answer your career queries. From psychology to personal training, they cover a wide range of professions.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"With the scale and variety of clients we have to work with, no two days are the same at Grant Thornton. So not only will you get all the skills and training you need to become a trusted advisor, joining straight after A-Levels you could qualify a year earlier than those joining as graduates." You can read more about their careers [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Our breadth and depth of expertise, interdisciplinary approach, long term partnerships and global reach are already having an incredible impact around the world. At University of Exeter, you can be part of a community leading the way to a greener, healthier and fairer future". You can read more about University of Exeter's [here](#).

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