



De La Salle  
School

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Dear Parent / Carer,

### Parental Update 16

The end of week 2 and also, thankfully, the end of the very cold weather. A big thank you to all the students, staff and parents who ensured that school was able to continue, and particularly to our wonderful site team who have been gritting for England!

This week, we had the Year 8 Parents' Evening (online), art workshops for Year 8, Drama workshops, Year 10 Scholars programme, our KS3 Reading Mentors were out at St Teresa's primary school, Tutor Trust science tuition took place for some Year 10 and 11 students and today we have 76 Year 11 students out on their Geography Fieldtrip. Meanwhile, next week we have our Year 9 ski trip going out, we wish them all the best on the slopes.

### Whole School Focus – Values

Last week, I shared a reminder of our school mission – basically what we are trying to achieve as a Lasallian School. This was very much our own mission, designed by and for our school by staff, students, governors and parents.

Alongside this mission, runs our Core Lasallian Values (below). These are not just used in our school, but are shared across the Lasallian community around the world. These provide us with the 'how' for achieving our mission.

Our 5 Core Values are below:

**FAITH: Faith in the Presence of God:** The Lasallian school nurtures belief in the living presence of God in our world. Faith in the presence of God calls all students into a deeper awareness of their saving relationship with a caring and loving God and to see the world through the "eyes of faith". This core principle is reflected through this Lasallian expression of faith: "**Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.**"

**COMPASSION: Concern for the Poor and Social Justice:** The Lasallian school calls its members to an awareness of the poor and victims of injustice and responds to their needs through programs of community service, advocacy, and justice education. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "**Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve.**"

**RESPECT: Respect for All Persons:** The Lasallian school engages in a concerted effort to respect the dignity of all persons. Respect-filled relationships are at the heart of Lasallian education and are a key expression of the acknowledgement of each other's identity as children of God. This core principle is reflected through the Lasallian expression of faith: "**Live Jesus in our hearts...Forever.**"

**CHALLENGE: Quality Education:** The Lasallian school provides an education that prepares students not only for college and career but also for life. This education advances the students' abilities to use their talents to critically examine the world in light of the message of the Gospels and to take greater responsibility for their own education. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "**Teaching Minds and Touching Hearts.**"

**BELONG: Inclusive Community:** The Lasallian school is a united community where diversity is respected, where no one is left out, and where everyone finds a place. Individuals within the school

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

community recognise and accept another's strengths and limitations. This core principle is expressed through the Lasallian ideal: "**The Lasallian Family.**"

### **Equipment Expectations**

One of the biggest issues we find that slows up lessons and learning, is students not having the correct equipment for school. I know some schools have lengthy lists including dictionaries, highlighters etc. For us, we are trying to keep this simple and manageable. So, for every lesson, students should have:

- Black or blue pen (ideally a couple for when one runs out)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Planner (year 7)

Can we ask parents to ensure that your child has these every day? Students can also purchase them for cash and at cost from Student Services.

### **Recent Snow – Learning Points**

This week's cold weather and disruption has highlighted a couple of issues where we can try to do better and be clearer. Namely:

- Parents should always assume school is open unless we tell you otherwise. Any closure alerts will come through ParentMail and via Twitter from my headteacher account: @DLSheadteacher and the school official account: @DLS\_StHelens
- Sadly, we struggle to get information on whether school buses are running or not – as the bus company phone lines are flooded. Any information we do get, we will share with you (again using the methods above)
- Parents please don't come on site to drop children off. Our car park is fairly steep in places, and incredibly busy. We don't have the resources to grit it so it can become dangerous with too much traffic.

### **Beat the Students**

A reminder that each week I will include a few questions from a subject which would be tackled by our Key Stage 3 (yrs 7-9) students. You can pit your wits against your child and see if you still remember the skills and knowledge you learnt at school.

This week, I feel we are on safer territory, with some history questions. In which years did the following events take place?

**A - Battle of Hastings    B – Execution of Charles I    C - Great Fire of London**  
**D – Wall Street Crash    E - Attack on Pearl Harbour**

Answers at the end of the update.

### **Year 11 Mock Interviews**

We will be holding our Year 11 mock interviews after school on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January. All Year 11 students were given their mock interview date and time on Monday this week.

**It is really important that students attend their given slots**, as we have brought in over 50 professionals to carry out the interviews. Any students where there are issues, should see Mrs Scully or Mrs Moran ASAP.

### **Student rewards**

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Star: David Haddock
- Top Star point winner: Noah Ryan
- £10 voucher: Samuel Tyrer
- Your Future Event Voucher winners: Year 9: Callum Bradbury Year 10: Josh Jones Year 11: Freddie Greenall

## Attendance

Attendance continues to be a priority. Please continue to do all you can to ensure your child attends school every day.

Latest attendance data from 4<sup>th</sup> September to 12<sup>th</sup> January:

- DLS Attendance: **92.1% (change of +0.1)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **91.3% (change of -0.1)**
- Difference: **+0.8% above the national (up 0.1)**

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

22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>: Year 9 Ski Trip

Wed 24<sup>th</sup>/Thu 25<sup>th</sup>: Year 11 Mock Interviews

Wed 24<sup>th</sup>: Governor Finance and Premises Committee (5:00pm)

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Feb: Year 11 Mock Exams (for practical subjects)

Wed 7<sup>th</sup>: HAP Study Workshop

Wed 7<sup>th</sup>: Governor Personnel Committee (5:00pm)

Fri 9<sup>th</sup>: School closes for half term (3:00pm)

## Beat the Students Answers

So how did you do? Here are the answers for this week [**in brackets**]:

A - Battle of Hastings [**1066**]    B – Execution of Charles I [**1649**]    C - Great Fire of London [**1666**]    D – Wall Street Crash [**1929**]    E - Attack on Pearl Harbour [**1941**]

## And finally...Dante's 10<sup>th</sup> Circle of Hell

The 15<sup>th</sup> Century Italian writer, Dante, spoke of the 9 Circles of Hell as part of his Divine Comedy – each circle being a punishment for various sins. I mention this because it is linked to Dry January; it isn't Dry January that is the circle of hell but the activities that go with it. Let me explain...

Last Friday, free from any end of week drink, Mrs R and I were at a loose end and found ourselves heading to Tesco for the weekly shop. I couldn't help but feel this to be a particularly sad low point in our lives, though this was not the new circle of hell I mentioned earlier, indeed it had its positives – with the shop being empty, apart from the occasional other middle-aged couples doing Dry January.

No, the circle of hell came on Saturday night. Mrs R, emboldened by persuading me to go to Tesco the day before, upped her game suggesting we maybe go to IKEA, as she needed to get a shoe stand and luring me in with a promise that I could get a new chair that I had seen online. So not being quick witted enough to think of a reason not to, we found ourselves at 8.30pm entering IKEA.

For those who haven't had the joy of IKEA, it consists of a single path that winds its way from start to finish. Everyone passing along the same path, and going past every section of strangely named items in the store. It is here that the new circle of hell is based. Not only was it torture to have to pass through 99% of things you have no interest in, but it would appear that Saturday night was the 'bring a pushchair and walk very slowly at least 3 abreast' themed evening.

An hour later we finally emerged, Mrs R with her shoe stand and a host of other unnecessary items, but me without my chair as this was one of the few items they didn't have in stock!

A big thank you to Mr Abram, Head of Haydock Academy, who after me describing my experience in IKEA, sent me this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMhywl7ZznI> which sums it up perfectly.

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
<b>J</b>		Jessica Smith	May Roberts	Luke Gibson	Veronika Pasko / Elijah Whalley
<b>O</b>	Rachel Naylor	Tink Ratcliffe	Alex Wands	Ava Rose carter	Matthew Shearman / Joe Queen
<b>H</b>	Ellis Horton	Matilda Bittner	Joshua Walsh	Rose Kirkham	Alfie Lawrenson / Elijah Houghton
<b>N</b>		Evan Monti	Olivia Worrell	Isla Millen	Layla Lynch / Liam Langtree
<b>B</b>	Ava Thomas	Ben Smith	Ruby-Lynn Talbot	Lucas Kelly	Jacob Worthington / Jayden Dowling
<b>D</b>	Brendon Jones	Thajinnaa Jethiskumar	Joshua Gee	Mia Peers	Dexter Boardman / Sophie Whittaker
<b>L</b>	Lottie Richards	Harry Ball	Jamie Hughes	Maisie O'Brien	Ewan Donoghue
<b>S</b>	Rein Eustace	Bella Scales	Archie Mather	Michael Woodward	Daisy Woodcock / Charlotte Hughes
<b>Engagement</b>		Heidi Donachie	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 interested in finding out more about the NHS's new Medical Apprenticeship? Yes that's right, you can now become a Doctor via an Apprenticeship! [Read the Frequently Asked Questions here.](#)




Buro Happold are currently recruiting for over 40 different summer placements. [Read more and see if there are any that interest you here.](#) *Some of them require you to be studying at degree level so they may be a name to remember for the future rather than applying to right now.*



If you're considering studying Social Work in the future, you'll be interested to hear that [councils across the UK are currently being given extra funding](#) to offer more Apprenticeship opportunities.



Applications for Unilever's 2024 Year 12 Work Experience opportunities close this Friday 19th January. You will learn the processes of working for a fast-moving consumer goods company and what it entails – from concept development to the product launch on market shelves – via tours of the facilities and seminars/workshops hosted by staff from the key functions on site. [Here is the link for more info / to apply.](#) *Apologies for the short notice, we have only just found out about the opportunity!*



Your Career As A Doctor Starts With Medic Mentor. They are a non-profit national medical organisation that invests in wellbeing, mentoring and widening access programmes for all applying students who want to become doctors. Your medical career starts with Medic Mentor, and our mentoring support continues throughout medical school and even when you become a qualified healthcare professional. 1000s of students obtain medical school offers every year with our help. [Learn more here.](#)

If you have any questions or need support, please contact [moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk](mailto:moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk)

## JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of a [Furniture Designer.](#) They are responsible for creating and developing designs for various types of furniture, considering aspects such as aesthetics, functionality, and ergonomics. 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

Listed below are the occupations with the highest median average pay for full-time workers according to ONS research for 2023:

- Chief executives: £84,131
- Marketing, sales and advertising executives: £83,015
- IT directors: £80,000

[Source](#)


# CAREERS NEWSLETTER



## OPPORTUNITIES




Next Month marks the start of the 2024 UK University and Apprenticeship Search fairs. Exhibitors include Red Brick, Modern and Russell Group Universities and Apprenticeship providers from across a variety of sectors. Each Fair has a range of vital seminars/talks covering topics such as student finance, why take an apprenticeship and how to write a personal statement. We want to give students the floor when it comes to making a decision about their next step. [Read more here.](#)




Are you dreaming of working for a Luxury Fashion House when you're older? It is becoming easier than ever with big companies, such as LVMH now offering [internships](#) and [apprenticeships](#). Want to learn more now? Keep reading...



INSIDE LVMH: Launched in March 2021, the [INSIDE LVMH Platform](#) gives the next generations access to the behind the scenes of the luxury industry and to the LVMH ecosystem. It is a new digital meet-up to find exclusive content and events, and to obtain a unique certification twice a year, the INSIDE LVMH Certificate, to learn the fundamentals of luxury and of LVMH. Read more on the [INSIDE LVMH Program here.](#)



Ready to make your mark in film and TV? Enrol in this [FREE Storytelling Course](#) and ignite your journey into the entertainment industry! Learn the art of transforming your raw ideas into captivating short films that'll leave audiences spellbound!



Festival of Apprenticeships 2024. This [FREE online event](#) is a one-stop shop for anyone looking to find out more about apprenticeships. From discovering opportunities with organisations first-hand, through to guidance on how to apply for and make the most of an apprenticeship, the event will cover all!

## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

### BURO HAPPOLD

"Buro Happold are integrated consulting engineers and advisers. Delivering creative, value led building and city solutions for an ever changing world. Our strength is in our diversity, and you'll join a team that thrives on openness, respect and collaboration."  
You can read more about their careers [here.](#)

## UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Studying at Bath means joining our multicultural student community on a vibrant, friendly campus in a Historic City. We're a highly ranked university for overall performance, student satisfaction, and graduate employment."

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

If you have any questions or need support, please contact [moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk](mailto:moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk)