



De La Salle
School

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9th February 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 19

A very hectic, wet and chilly end to the week and this half term. It has felt a strange one as I have been out at a variety of meetings most days, which always leaves me feeling slightly disconnected and playing catch-up with work, though I am grateful to my SLT, and particularly my deputies, for running things in my various absences.

I mentioned to staff this morning that, as we reach the half-way point of the academic year, though challenging, there is much to look back on and be proud of: the range of activities, events, trips, clubs and great lessons to name but a few. So next week is a week of rest before the hard work starts all over again, as we run our two pilots, build up to mock and then full GCSEs, start our Year 9 options process, begin our Year 6 into 7 transition and of course, plan for academisation.

Whole School Focus – Corridor Movement Pilot

Last week I spoke about the Year 10 Behaviour Pilot that we will be running after half term. Today I want to talk about the second pilot that will also be running after half term – that is focusing upon how we behave when moving around the school. This is an issue that has started to appear in the student feedback.

Students are usually very calm and orderly when moving around the school, but not always thoughtful or paying attention. For example, it can be common for 4 burly Year 11 students to be walking along chatting about footy or similar (I realise I am really stereotyping here!) and not notice the couple of lovely Year 7s who they have brushed past without noticing. Our corridors can be fairly tight, especially with students moving in two directions or passing other students queuing outside of a classroom.

So, throughout this week, Mr Hale has been taking the assemblies with all year groups to explain what the issues are and to give some expectations for all students when walking around the school. These are:

- Keeping to the left
- Walking a maximum of two abreast or single file in narrow areas e.g. stairs and some doors
- Waiting sensibly at junctions or bottle necks

To help remind students of this, over half term we are having centre lines put down on all corridors and for the dining queue – making it very clear where students should be when walking around. Hopefully this will help with the congestion and students will feel even safer when travelling around the school.

Sad Loss

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been saddened to hear of two former staff members who have passed away. Mrs Ballout who worked as student support and a language assistant in Modern Foreign Languages and Mrs Foster, who worked as student support within the SEND team. They were both long serving members of staff and true Lasallians. They will be greatly missed. RIP.

Sporting Results (from Team PE)

After considerable success last week, there was more of a mixed picture of results this week, though we are proud of those students who have been out to represent our school and congratulations to our winning teams and commiserations to those who tried but came a close second! This week's results are below:

- Y9 Football lost 3-0 Maghull Monday County Cup
- Y9 Football lost 4-0 Hope Wednesday District Cup
- Y7 Netball beat Cowley 13-1 Monday District League
- Y10/11 Netball lost 24-16 to Hope Tuesday District League
- Y11 Football beat Kirkby and face the winners of All Saints & Maghull in next round in the Tuesday County Cup game.

After half term, there are further fixtures in various competitions including:

- Y7&8 girls Football in national cup away to St Mary's Wirral.
- Y7 Football vs Kirkby / Rainhill in the County Cup
- Y10 Football vs Haydock in the District Plate
- Y11 Football vs All Saints / Maghull in the County Cup
- Y11 Football District Cup semi-final TBC

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 (Years 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, we move on to Geography. To which countries do the following capital cities belong?

A – Beirut B – Harare C – Lima D – Nairobi E - Vienna

Answers at the end of the update.

Student rewards

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Star: Cole Speakman
- Top Star point winner: Laila Rigby
- £10 voucher: Sophie Dowling
- Year 7 Stars Outside of School
 - Yr7 Girls Football beat Kirkby on pens after a thrilling 3-3 draw - National Cup
 - Yr7 Boys Football beat St Edmond Arrowsmith 5-2 - Merseyside Cup
 - Rosie McCulley – raising much needed awareness and over £300 for Willowbrook hospice. All in her own time! A real superstar and Lasallian effort.
 - Jigsaw club – your commitment is awesome – you've created some amazing puzzles in your own time.

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 4th September to 2nd February:

- DLS Attendance: **92.0% (down -0.1)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **91.2% (no change)**
- Difference: **+0.9% above the national (down -0.1)**

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

Half Term

Mon 19th – Fri 30th: Year 11 Mock Exams, Year 8 and Year 10 assessments

Wed 21st: Year 7 Parents' Evening

Wed 21st – Thu 22nd: Year 9 Cambridge HAP Visit

Wed 21st: Year 7 and 8 Shakespeare School Visit
Sun 25th – Thu 29th: Iceland Trip

Beat the Students Answers

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

A – Beirut [**Lebanon**] B – Harare [**Zimbabwe**] C – Lima [**Peru**] D – Nairobi [**Kenya**] E
– Vienna [**Austria**]

And finally...Strange Conversations

I don't know if it is my age or just fatigue but by around 9.30pm, I am like a nodding dog on the couch trying my best to stay awake for whichever crime drama we are currently watching. On Wednesday though, Charlie, our eldest, was home and chatting away, though I was still drifting in and out of dozing whilst half listening.

Charlie has always loved to ask extremely random questions (would you rather have duck's feet or giraffe's neck and so on). Do your children do that, or is it just mine? Anyway, on Wednesday it was Mrs R with the random question – would Charlie rather only ever earn the minimum wage for the rest of his life or earn a million pounds every year but be followed by a snail which, if it caught him would kill him. (I understand this is something of a legendary question)

For the next 30 mins I was unsure if I was in the real world or dreaming whilst napping, as the ensuing conversations and additional questions flowed. How fast could the snail move? (0.029mph) Could it cross water? (yes) Could the snail be killed? (no) Could he use salt? (yes but it wouldn't stop the snail) How will the snail track him? (it has a natural tracking sense) Etc etc.

Eventually Charlie had worked out that he could go to live in Australia and it would take the snail approx. 40 years to get there so after 38 years he would then come back to the UK and then keep swapping every 38-40 years. This seemed the end of the conversation.

That was until I piped up to ask if the snail could board a plane? The answer was yes and the whole thing started again. I am not sure it is worth the million pounds to be honest!

Have a good weekend and result half term break,

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	Mrs Melia has been absent this week	Lily Ainsworth	Callum Bradbury	Warren Renshall	Ellie-May Roberts
O		Jasmine Hodgkiss	Laila Rigby	Noah Hayton	Harry Monteith
H		Ruby Russell	Ellie Harrison	Rose Kirkham	Josh Critchley
N		Tom Pelham	Alisha Kenneally	Martha Bain	Holly Spencer Storey
B		Charlotte Johnson	William Dickinson	Daisy Hughes	Daragh Lyle
D		Amelia Johnson	Lucas Chong	Eddy Richards	Esta Cardwell
L		Bryn Edwards	Abigail Kay	Grace Ng Perkins	Krzysztof Mendala
S		Louie Melling	Eden Ho	Max McGowan	Melissa Goddard
Engagement		Phoebe Weldon	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



Happy National Apprenticeship Week! Search #NAW2024 to find relevant social media posts from current apprentices, employers and education companies.

If you'd like to learn more about Apprenticeships, you can check out the following resources:

How much do you know about apprenticeships? Test your knowledge with this fun quiz and learn a little more about what roles are available, when to apply, when companies advertise and what they might be looking for.

"Me and My Apprenticeship" resource which allows you to discover real life apprentices as they tell you their story including; what apprenticeship they are currently doing and why they love it. You can use this as a guide to find your perfect apprenticeship and also share with others who might find it useful.

"Meet Your Employer" resource which allows to you discover lots of different apprenticeship providers in this useful guide and hear from an apprentice at each company about why they love working there. Download it now and feel free to share with others who might find it useful.

The Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Listing showcases hundreds of vacancies from a diverse mix of employers starting in 2024. The variety of vacancies listed range from Engineer to Police Constable – there's something for everyone.

If you have decided that an apprenticeship is for you and would like to speak to your parents, Amazing Apprenticeship's Parents and Carers information pack will help.

JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of a Drama Therapist. Dramatherapy uses role play, voice work, movement and storytelling to help clients explore and solve personal and social problems. 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 government figures show that apprenticeship starts in England were up 7 per cent in the first quarter of 2023/24 compared to the same period last year.

Provisional in-year data reports 130,830 starts in August, September and October of 2023, up from 122,290 for the same period the year before.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Have you ever wondered what the subjects you study at school or college have to do with work and your career? Or maybe you really enjoy a subject at school or college but wondered if there will be any future use for it in the workplace? Are you pondering what value your qualifications have to employers? [SkillsMap® is here to help you.](#) SkillsMap® shows you a selection of the transferable skills developed in each of 36 different academic subjects typically taught in pre-18 education. These are the skills that employers are looking for. You can also find the skills that different subjects have in common. Try searching your favourite subjects and see what skills you are developing.

The Queer Student Awards (QSAs) are the U.K.'s first annual student celebration focused on talented young LGBTQ+ people who are proudly leading in their lives, and the communities around them. The awards are judged by a panel of student recruitment industry experts, queer influencers and young LGBTQ+ people from schools, colleges and universities. [Award nominations are now open.](#)

[Chanel You, Me & Us: Designing Futures](#) is a free 20 week-long mentorship programme for young creative enthusiasts who are keen to learn more about the world of Chanel and opportunities to engage with the wider industry. This programme is open to young creatives aged 18-25. If you're not old enough yet, this is definitely a programme to remember for the future!

Are you wondering what apprenticeships your favourite subjects might lead to? Head to the [Amazing Apprenticeships Resource page](#) then in the search box type "apprenticeships linked to". This will provide you with a series of poster that tell you what subjects can lead to what apprenticeships.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Computacenter brings together over 20,000 people across the globe, who together deliver digital technology to some of the world's greatest organisations. Most people who join us, stay with us. They are proud of our reputation and our values as we learn, earn and have fun. This is how we deliver great service to our customers, year after year."

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Kent is a place for everyone, somewhere you can be yourself. Whether you're an out-of-the-box thinker, boundary-breaker or change-maker, this is where you'll get ahead and find your place as part of a global community."

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

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