



De La Salle
School

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8th March 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 22

I am writing this on Thursday evening as tomorrow and Saturday I am at the ASCL Conference (see later), hence some of the student awards not being included.

This week was National Careers week, we saw our Feel Good, Feel Better activities take place throughout the week, the start of the first formal practical exams (Drama), a well-attended Year 9 Parents' Evening, Full Governor Body Meeting, Year 9 & 10 Healthcare Visit, Year 8 STEM visit, the start of our Evolve assemblies on substance misuse, success in our sporting fixtures and, on Saturday, our students are competing in the Mock Magistrates Competition at Bootle Town Hall. In addition to this, we had World Book Day, with some staff dressing up as characters from their favourite books – an interesting sight!

Whole School Focus – Parent Charter

There have been a couple of incidents recently where parents have been unhappy with something in school and wanted immediate responses or have come up to the school wanting to speak with a specific member of staff. I fully understand how, as a parent, these issues can be upsetting and of the utmost importance. However, it is really important that parents understand that staff are usually fully booked with teaching, meetings or other commitments and we cannot just drop everything to be available.

To help address this issue, a few years ago, we introduced the Parent Charter which tried to make clear how we will support parents and the expectations you can have of us, but also the expectations we have of parents too. So, it might be useful to share this again with parents, to ensure we are all on the same page.

As a Lasallian school:

- We will work alongside you to achieve the best outcomes for your child.
- We will keep you informed of your child's progress in an open and respectful manner.
- We will listen to your views on how we can work more effectively, we will seek these regularly through the Parental Surveys.
- We will never turn you away: **you will always be seen by a trained member of our staff.**
- We will respond to any concerns within clear time frames (**24 hours for the most serious issues and 48 hours for all issues**).

As Lasallian parents:

- You will work alongside the school to achieve the best outcomes for your child.
- You will keep us informed of any relevant issues or information relating to your child.
- You will share your views with us in an open and respectful manner.
- You will understand that others may have a different perspective on events.
- You will understand our clear time frames for responding to concerns and you might not always be able to speak to a specific member of staff immediately.

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 back to maths. How well do you know your fractions? Put these fractions in order, smallest first:

4/7 1/10 5/6 2/5 1/2

Answers at the end of the update.

Sporting Success

Another great week of sporting success across the school (each report is from Team PE staff):

- **Year 8 Boys Football:** a phenomenal performance and a tactical masterclass saw a rejuvenated Year 8 team maintain their unbeaten run in the quarter final of the Town Cup. A determined performance saw us win on penalties against Outward Grange Academy Haydock. MoM: Fitzpatrick and Rankin
- **U13 Girls Football:** A fantastic attacking display saw our U13 girls make it safely through into the last 16 of the County Cup with a 4-2 win against Gateacre Comprehensive. Very proud of all of our resilient young ladies. Girl of the Game: Barter
- **Year 11 Boys Football:** Congratulations to our Year 11 Boys' Football team who put in a class performance in Wednesday night's Town Cup Final beating Cowley. Well done to all involved. Man of the Match: Palfrey

National Careers Week

As a school who understands the importance of CEIAG (Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance) we have enjoyed celebrating National Careers Week, in a variety of different ways, including:

- Form activities such as 'Guess the Teacher'
- Careers Focused lessons including a Live stream from Knowsley Safari Park, which looked at the various job roles within the park.
- A Year 10 Healthcare Science Skills Show at Knowsley College
- A Year 8 STEM trip to Liverpool John Moores University.

There are a number of fantastic free resources available for students, parents and carers to access, all of which can be found at [NCW One Stop Shop \(ncw2020.co.uk\)](http://ncw2020.co.uk)

ASCL Conference

As I mentioned earlier, I will be attending the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) Conference. This conference is always an important one in getting a clearer idea of developments in the world of education, but more so than ever this year with a new head of Ofsted in place and an upcoming general election.

Across the two days I will be listening carefully to Sir Martyn Oliver's (new head of Ofsted), Gillian Keegan (Conservative Education Secretary), Bridget Phillipson (Shadow education Secretary), Munira Wilson (Lib Dem Secretary for Education) as well as many other key voices.

Cheerleader Success

A number of our students, across various year groups, are part of the Saints Elite Cheerleader Team. In their most recent competition, 'Future Cheer - Circus' in Sheffield, they took part against teams from all over the UK. The girls performed brilliantly and achieved:

- 4x 1st places
- 1x 2nd place
- 2x Grand champions
- 3x 'Zero runs'

Amelia Rylance, Year 11, had her first competition as a coach with her team placing 1st! Whilst the other students competing were:

- Charlotte Hughes, year 7
- Hollie Hughes, Year 7
- Holly Owens, year 8
- Olivia Hewitt, year 8
- Daisy Hughes, year 8
- Scarlett Traynor, year 9

Student rewards

Additional Awards go to:

- Lasallian Star: All the students who helped at Parents' Eve: Dan Speakman, Zach May, Daniel Lomax, Kate Finnigan, Alfie McFarlane, Ellie Hestor, Xan Chisnall, Callum Bradbury, Elliot Maguire, Kiera Graney and Allysia Ellison
- Top Star point winner: Amber Mallon
- £10 voucher: James Palathingal

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 1st March:

- DLS Attendance: **92.0% (up +0.1)**
- National Secondary Attendance: **91.1% (down -0.1)**
- Difference: **+0.9% above the national (up +0.2)**

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

Sat 9th: Mock Magistrates Court Competition

Tue 12th – Thu 14th: GCSE Catering Practical exam

Wed 13th: Governors Finance Committee

Tue 19th: Year 10 Engineering Visit

Wed 20th: Year 7 Reward trip (part 2)

Fri 22nd: Mount Carmel House Mass

Mon 25th – Thu 28th: Year 10 Shakespeare's Italy Trip

Wed 27th: Governors' Standards Committee

Thu 28th: School finishes for Easter (3pm)

Mon 15th Apr: School re-opens

Beat the Students Answers

So how did you do? Here are the answers for this week in order from smallest to largest:

1/10 2/5 1/2 4/7 5/6

And finally...Money, Money, Money

I know times are hard for everyone at the moment, so I was interested to find out that Mrs R has been working with her friends to create a news source of revenue. What they would describe as writers or creators in the household magazine – Take a Break!

They have discovered that by sending in a random picture, brief letter or, my favourite, top tips, they receive payment from the magazine to the tune of £20 or £25. All they do is change the name or email address for the item they have sent in. It has amazed me at how low the bar is for the magazine to consider something newsworthy and publishable.

So far, their efforts have netted them over £100 and include: one of the girls taking part in the charity fundraising trek called 'Coppa Feel' raising money for breast cancer. This was followed by a picture of them all whilst on a girls' weekend away in Krakow. Then a picture of one of them with Jedward at the recent Eurovision Competition (I mean really?) and then a picture of one of their dogs pretending to be on a computer.

However, my favourite was one Mrs R sent in as a top tip (I am sure many of you will recall Viz Magazine's regular Top Tips). The tip being to save all the lint and fluff that you get in the tumble drier and use it for helping to start your fire, log burner or BBQ at home. And it was published! The one flaw in their plan, however, is they also seem to be spending a fortune buying copies of the magazine each week to see if they are in it!

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	Bradley Harrison	Daniel Speakman	Arabella Evans	Not available at time of writing
O		Joe Thomas	Isabella Vaquerano	Brandon Tench	
H		Joe Burke	Ellen Evans	Liam Revill	
N		Shay Varkulis	Frazer Sweeney	Rosa Graceffa	
B		Darcie Foster	Thomas Flatley	Evie Bayliss	
D		Luke Owen	Natalie Wilson	Layla Seagraves	
L		Niamh Flynn	Cole Speakman	Esme Scott	
S		Maddie Birch	Mia Hesketh	Frankie Ford	
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 Careers Week! As well as the events we shared last week, remember, you can use the hashtag #NCW2024 to find opportunities and events from employers and education companies.




The NGTU Shape your Career guide showcases different career pathways and success stories from their ambassadors. You'll get to hear from them as they discuss each career path and how it helped them shape their career!




COMPETITION - LAUNCHING 4TH MARCH 2024! Join the conversation and make your mark. you have to do is pick the industry or job that sparks your interest the most and tell WWF how it can be made greener! You can read more here.



The fashion industry and creative sector offer a broad range of roles that we often don't get to learn about. Here, The Fashion Minority Report break down the responsibilities of the role and the skills required.



Which tech job is right for you? Take BCS's short quiz and they'll match your answers with the people working in real roles in the tech industry (yes, they took the quiz too!) to see which jobs might suit you the best.



BT Apprenticeship Applications are now open. "We offer a huge range of opportunities for school-leavers and graduates as well as people looking for change of career direction. It's a chance to gain hands-on experience in one of the world's leading tech companies. You'll learn from the best, unlock your potential awards and start building a brilliant career." You can check out all of their apprenticeship vacancies here.

JOB OF THE WEEK



This week's video focuses on the job role of a Social Worker.

You'll work with people to find solutions to their problems. This may be helping to protect vulnerable people from harm or abuse.

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

Doctor has topped the list of jobs teenagers want the most when they're older, up two places since last year according to the annual BBC Bitesize Careers survey.

The survey, of more than 4,000 13-16-year-olds, also suggested young people would choose to work for the NHS ahead of companies like Google and Disney.

Source

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

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

UCAS

At the moment, if you choose to do an Apprenticeship at the end of Year 11, you cannot go on to university as Apprenticeships do not gain UCAS points. However, UCAS are planing to change this from September 2024! [Read more here.](#)

“We know that your next step in education is a big one. UK University & Apprenticeship Search are here to help. We host large scale fairs at prestigious sporting venues and university campuses all across Britain. We ensure every student gets the chance to meet a variety of apprenticeship providers, universities and colleges in person, at one event, for free.”

[Here](#) is a folder of videos from employers that you can learn from. More will be added as they're received from employers during NCW 2024. You can also find videos with apprenticeship stories on [here](#).

Whether you're exploring college, 6th form, or university options, attending an open day is crucial for gathering valuable insights. [In this video](#), Chris from CXK will delve into specific open day questions to ask, tailored for each educational institution. From understanding courses to campus facilities and student support services, we'll equip you with the right queries to make the most out of your visit.

Remember, this week is also International Women's Day. IWD is on March 8th and is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality. You can read more [here](#) and search events [here](#).

When picking your Level 3 subjects and discussing A Levels, you may have heard people talk about facilitating subjects.... But, what are they?! [This blog](#) will help you to understand.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

“Whether you're a student, graduate or looking for your first job, you're in the right place.

We offer multiple opportunities for those who want an inspiring career where they can make an impact, at work and beyond. At HSBC, we'll provide the tools, support, and training to help set you up for success.”

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

UNI SPOTLIGHT

“At Plymouth you'll uncover new passions and dive deep into what you love. Our undergraduate degrees are the perfect stepping stone to secure the future you deserve. Over 95% of our graduates are working or studying 15 months after graduating. It's your future. Make it count.”

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

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