

De La Salle Download



Christmas Edition 2022



Headteachers message - December 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of the De La Salle Download. In our 50th Year, it is with great pleasure that I share some of the good news stories from the last term.

As we approach Christmas, I sincerely hope that you are able to share quality time with your families and friends. I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to a successful 2023.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of the DLS Download.

A Christmas reflection...

Based on 1 Corinthians 13 ~ A Christmas Version

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family; I am just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen baking dozens of Christmas cakes and goodies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at meal times but do not show love to my family; I am just another cook.

If I carol in the nursing home and give all my money to charity but do not show love to my family; it profits me nothing.

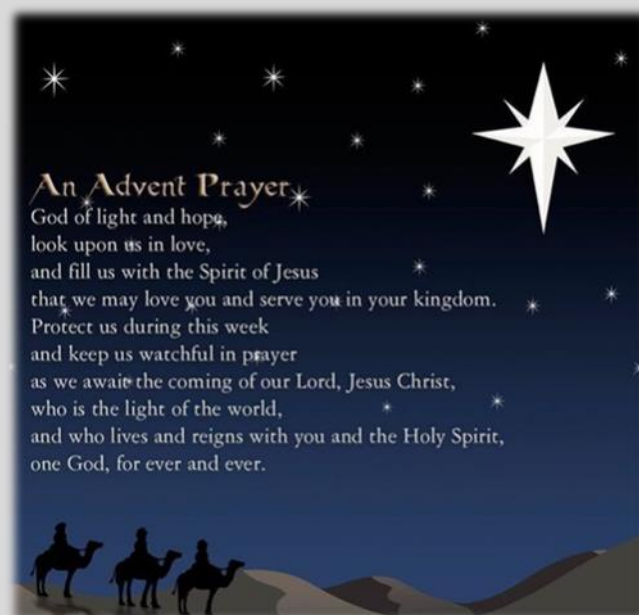
If I attend the myriad of parties and sing in the choirs renditions of the Christmas hymns, but do not focus on those I love most; I have missed the point.

In other words....

Love stops the cooking to hug a child; Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the spouse; Love is kind; Love doesn't envy another's home that has co-ordinated Christmas China and table linens; Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way; Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't. Love bears all things, relieves all things, hopes all things, endures all things; Love never fails.

Video games will break; pearl necklaces will be lost; golf clubs will rust.

I hope that you are all able to enjoy some quality family time together over the Christmas holidays. I look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year.



50th Celebration Mass

On 24th September we marked a very special Day in the life of De La Salle when we celebrated our 50th celebration Mass with Bishop Alan Williams SM and six concelebrating priests, 300 people made up of present and past staff and Students, two former head teachers including Brother Mark, our first head. Among the concelebrating priests were local clergy priests, who had been involved with the school through their ministry in the Parish, Fr Stephen Myers Episcopal Vicar for Education who read the Gospel and former pupil, Fr Damian Wade, who recently ordained and former teacher at DLS Basildon.

In his homily Bishop Alan (a former lasallian student himself) reflected on how our readings (Micah 6:6-8 Act Justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God, Psalm, Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord, Second reading: St Paul's Second letter to Timothy (as of his feast day reading 7th April) Gospel: The Beatitudes.) reflected the five core lasallian principles; Faith in the presence of God, Quality Education, Inclusiveness, concern for the poor and Social Justice and Respect for all.

It was also a chance to say thank you to Mr Nick Crouch for 40 years' service in Catholic Education. So in recognition, after a few words from Mr Paul Norris our Head, Bishop Alan presented Nick with a Papal Blessing from Pope Francis acknowledging his service.

After the Mass, we joined all together in the School Canteen for Lunch, live music and some reminiscing of stories, photos and great times. It was a great day and certainly one for the record books.

De La Salle, Basildon – we salute you and all that you do for Catholic Education in Essex.

Live Jesus in our Hearts - Forever

Ad Multos Annos

Mr. D. Mongan - Lay Chaplain





In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette journeyed on pilgrimage to England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time.

In our diocese, the relics of St Bernadette came to the Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Helen (Brentwood Cathedral) on the 16th and 18th of October, they went to Our Lady of Lourdes parish church, Wanstead until 19th October.

A relic is a part of the physical remains of a saint after their death, or an object which has been in contact with their body. Relics help us feel close to a holy person while God shows his approval of relics by granting healing, and other graces.

Lourdes is probably most famous for being a place of miraculous physical healings. To date, 70 confirmed miracles have taken place, but thousands more are under investigation by the Lourdes Medical Bureau using the most up-to-date of scientific research, with those with and without faith investigating whether there is a medical explanation for a healing that has taken place.

The relics tour was a very special event that provided an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, in a church or cathedral near them. The pandemic has meant that many have not had the opportunity to enrich their faith by going on pilgrimage in recent years.

Mrs Foley, one of our RE teachers and myself, led a 30 strong group of pupils to mark this event and went to visit the relics at the Cathedral. While we were there, there were small groups of young people from Grays Convent, Sacred Heart Upminster and the Brentwood Ursuline. Deacon Simon Conrad from the Cathedral introduced the proceedings, giving us a resume and introduction of the story of Lourdes and why it is important and then our young people had the opportunity to view and the relics. We also had the chance to pray for our community at De La Salle in front of our Lady of Lourdes statue.

It was a beautiful experience and the young people enjoyed the experience too.

Mr. D. Mongan - Lay Chaplain



London Marathon 2022

On the 2nd October I took part in the London Marathon for the amazing charity 'Children with Cancer UK'. Although it was the most physically demanding event I have ever taken part in, it was all very much worthwhile with the crowd and the charity getting me through it.

I would just like to express my sincere thanks to all students, parents, carers and staff who donated to this fantastic charity. I had originally pledged to raise £2500 for the charity and the final total was £3077.39!

Mr. M. Brinklow - Head of Year 8



Student Services

Holidays

Absence during term time for holiday will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any absence in term time must be applied for in advance. In addition, due to the importance of pupils settling into school at the commencement of the school year, Penalty Notices may also be issued if there have been at least six consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence during the first two weeks of September due to a term-time holiday. I must warn you that, if you do take your child out of school for this time, the absence will not be authorised and the local authority may issue a penalty notice to each parent of £120 for each child to be paid within 21 days, however if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, it is reduced to £60.

Reporting an absence

Please call the absence line (**02045396559**) before 9am every day your child is absent, leaving your child's **full name**, form and reason for the absence, this is part of the school's Attendance Policy. Alternatively you can notify the school via ParentMail or emailing attendance@dlsbasildon.org please do not use the info@dlsbasildon.org email.

Please ensure all your contact details are kept up to date.

Medication

Could you please keep the school informed of medication changes. Students should not be carrying medication, please contact Student Services to complete the relevant forms.

Attendance

Best form – 9N – 96.2%

Best Year – Year 7 94.6

100% students 217, well done!

Well done to 9M who are the only form this term to achieve 100% attendance for the week.

Uniform

Uniform is currently provided by SWI (further information on the school's website)

There is a uniform bank in Laindon for good quality used uniform. Please contact: <https://laindonschooluniformbank.co.uk/> for more information.

Richmond Theatre Visit

On Wednesday 28th September, the Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students went to watch the theatre performance of Noughts and Crosses at the Richmond Theatre.

Noughts and Crosses is a show themed around the idea of a forbidden love. It is an adaptation of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, capturing a pair of star crossed lovers from Shakespeare's original that are now caught up in the modern world. Despite the divide, a cross always finds their way back to a nought. An audience follows the pair as they grow up surrounded by a society full of contrast and conflict and yet within all the hate still manage to remain there for each other with love and peace. Similarly to Romeo and Juliet, Noughts and Crosses presents the contrasts of love and hate, peace and war, aiming to enable a viewer to learn that there are solutions to society; we just have to be able to see them instead of a divide.

We had brilliant seats in the stalls and the quality of acting was amazing. The show was fantastic with a gripping storyline and an intense atmosphere created for an audience through the characters but also through the use of costuming, lighting and sound effects. The visual representation of settings allowed for the story to feel more real and the acting of the characters allowed an audience to really think about the issues presented such as racism.

Watching the performance has enabled me to have an insight into what professional theatre is like and has provided me with a greater understanding of the show that I will be studying throughout GCSE Drama. It has also further educated the audience on the struggles of racism faced by many in daily life.

Lily D - Year 10



Cambridge University

My first impression of Cambridge was that it was an expensive and posh university. The activities were organised in groups, allowing everyone to participate and be involved without feeling left out. The activities were based on well-known knowledge, such as global warming. More people were encouraged to talk, think, and share ideas as a result of this. Furthermore, you were asked to sit next to people with whom you would not normally converse; this corresponded to how your first days of university would be like at Cambridge University.

The college tours were both educational and enjoyable, as we were able to ask questions and converse with one another throughout. Because university students were still in school at the time, we were able to learn about daily academic life. The pool piqued my interest because the instructor mentioned how popular it is during the summer and the food was excellent!

Wisdom I - Year 10



Warner Brothers Studios - The Making of Harry Potter

On 15th September, 26 Year 11 Creative Media students went on a trip to the Warner Brothers Studios - The Making of Harry Potter at Leavesden. The visit included a very informative lesson called 'Camera Choices'. This opportunity complimented the theory work we have been covering in school as it allowed the students to examine film sequences, helping them to develop their understanding of how a Director communicates atmosphere, meaning and narrative.

After the lesson students were able to explore the authentic sets, see the props and discover the magic behind the special effects where all eight of the Harry Potter films had been produced.

Many thanks to Mr Jacobson who kindly joined, Mr Sains and myself.

Mrs. F. McCallum

On the 15th of September 2022, our Media class went on an exciting trip to Harry Potter world at the Warner Bros studios. I enjoyed it thoroughly. We started off with a class on camera shots where we studied Harry Potter scenes and the camera shots used to broaden our knowledge on cameras and angles to help us when we started filming.

Onwards from our education class, we were able to take a tour for a few hours of the ins and outs of the behind the scenes of the Harry Potter universe - an interesting trip to say the least. We were able to view artefacts and interactive stations within the studios, which made the trip absolutely fantastic.

I really enjoyed the trip genuinely and I am grateful for the opportunity to go. I wish I could go again!
Presley P



On the 15th of September, a collection of media students went on a trip to the Harry Potter studios in Watford, London. I enjoyed walking around the studio and exploring the sets and props shown from the films. We ended up splitting off into smaller groups to make it easier for us to explore the area more.

My personal favourite part would have to be the forest or Gringotts bank because the effects and sounds used made me really feel as if I was in the actual set of filming. Overall I'd definitely go again with family or with my friends as it was a super enjoyable experience.
Inah L

On the 15th September 2022, my Creative Media class along with the other Creative Media classes went on a trip to Harry Potter Studios. We travelled by coach, which took about an hour and a half. When we walked into the building, we were greeted by a woman who took us up to a room where we sat down and were shown lots of props used in the movies, and did a quiz.

This was the first part of the day, and I thought it was ok. The fun came when we started walking through the place, on the tour. There was lots to look at, with different scenery and different features. Half way through the experience, we ate, and carried on again. Towards the end of the tour, there was a big Hogwarts figure, which took up most of the room. We then visited the gift shop and came home.

Bradly B



On the 15th of September me and my creative media class went to the Harry Potter World in London. When we entered it really felt like we were actually in the movie. When we met the workers they told us that some famous American actors visited the place to shoot scenes for their movies such as Fast and Furious, also the movie - Hulk, these actors were named Vin Diesel, Tom Holland and also Zendaya.

Carlos M



I enjoyed my visit to the Harry Potter World. It was very educational, I loved seeing all the props, all the characters, learning new ways to film and ways to use props was very interesting. But overall it was a great experience and I would recommend it.

George S

I very much enjoyed this trip and the tour around Harry Potter studios. I especially enjoyed the Forbidden Forest as it was really well made and looked really good. As well as enjoyable, this trip was equally as educational. I learned all about how they filmed the Harry Potter movies and the reasons the director made these choices. I learned how the costume designers made the costumes and how they did it to make them fit the characters. I also learned about the different camera shots and when they should be applied.

Sophie N

Going on the Harry Potter Trip was overall a fun and best experience. I was taught different kinds of camera angles and the clothes which were used in the Harry Potter film. It was educational but also fun looking at the behind the scenes and set. At the tour we looked at the special effects and CGI for Dobby and other mythical creatures showing the process to us. I enjoyed the train set when Harry and Ron entered through platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ and I took lots of photos. My favourite part was entering through the doors because I felt I was in the Harry Potter World. I would visit again with my friends and family next time.

George B



Harry Potter studios was very educational and helped me with my learning by telling me more about different camera angles and why they were used to convey different emotions within a scene. I also learnt about all the hard work that goes into making props and scenes, and the small details film makers add that we might not even notice. I got to see all the behind the scenes to the films and the costumes and set pieces up close.



Going through the tour made me realise how much effort went into making Harry Potter and made me appreciate the filmmaking process more. Overall, I enjoyed my day, it was great fun and educational. I would recommend that any Harry Potter fans should go there or any aspiring filmmakers.

Jade M



The Mathematics Department have recently subscribed to the Times Table Rock Star programme to reinforce the Years 7 and 8's confidence in recalling their tables.

Year 7 and 8 students can easily access the programme by using their username and password (conveniently this is the same as they use for Mathswatch). Students can log on to Times Tables Rockstars through the website (trockstars.com), or through the app which is available free across all Apple and Android devices.

The Mathematics teachers are actively encouraging the take up of the programme. There is an opportunity for students to amass points to gain certificates and win prizes!

It would be great if parents and carers could support and encourage students to make use of this opportunity.

Mrs. F. McCallum
Teacher of Mathematics



St Anne Line

During October, three members of the Chaplaincy Team Luke (Year 11), Anush (Year 10) and Ruby (Year 8) and myself, led an assembly at St Anne Line Infant School on the Rosary.

Our Chaplain left them with a Missio colourful Rosary which represents the five continents of the world, so that when the young people are praying the Rosary, they are also remembering young people from that continent and praying for them.

Mr. D. Mongan - Lay Chaplain



Remembrance

On Friday 11th November, Remembrance day, as well as having a whole school reflection just before 11am and holding a two minute silence to remember those who had fallen, some of our young people came in, in their outside service uniform.

Logan and Theo (both Year 10) also sold poppies outside the chaplaincy hut for remembrance Sunday.

Mr. D. Mongan - Lay Chaplain



Remember Me

This year, students and staff at De La Salle contributed to a whole school display of remembrance. The display 'Remember Me' was not only to remember soldiers who gave their lives but to also remember family members and friends that we lost to Covid and other personal circumstances.



The wellbeing of everyone at De L Salle is of the highest importance and as we came together for Remembrance Day, recently appointed Wellbeing Champions and students from across the school to remember their own personal losses by writing their personal messages on the poppies. The display was very moving and hopefully gave everyone the opportunity to express their feelings at this time of national remembrance

Mrs. A. Ansary - Teacher of Photography



Year 11 Visit to the Curwen Print Centre

Year 11 Photography students recently visited the Curwen Print centre in Cambridge to learn how to develop their portfolio photographs using different printmaking techniques. Development of GCSE coursework is key to gaining those important extra marks towards GCSE results.

Students were shown how to develop printing plates using etching tools and their own photographs. They used traditional Victorian printing presses to create etching and chine colle prints.

Student results were brilliant and students really excelled themselves and gained valuable knowledge and self confidence.

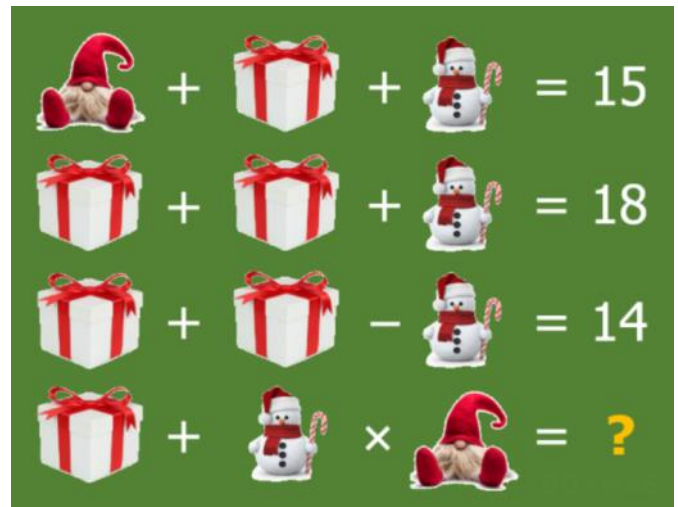
Everyone had a really productive day.

Mrs. A. Ansary - Head of Photography



Maths Puzzle

There is a prize for the first person in each year group to return their completed puzzle to **Mrs. E. Curtis - Teacher of Mathematics**



Charity Day – 21st October 2022

Part of our Catholic life and Lasallian life is raising money for Charity.

On 21st October, our student leadership arranged our massive charity day where we raised money for three charities. Breast Cancer, stand up to racism and young minds. During Lunch they held a session for the school to come and join and find out more about the various charities and engage in debate.

We raised £228.47.

Mr. D. Mongan - Lay Chaplain



PE Department

Girls Rugby

Year 7 girls have been attending weekly rugby sessions with a coach from Basildon Rugby club. The girls have been absolutely loving learning a new sport. The girls have shown great character and determination which has meant they have been invited to join the girls team over at Basildon Rugby Club.

In the New year they will also be playing some friendly fixtures against other schools, so watch this space.

If you are interesting in playing girls rugby then feel free to attend the afterschool club every Wednesday.

Well done to the following girls:

Melissa S
Crystal T
Ameilia S
Molly R
Jasmine Y
Chloe B
Imogen T

Congratulations to England Women's Rugby Team who came 2nd in the World cup!

England's record 30-match winning streak was brought to an end at Eden Park as New Zealand won the Rugby World Cup final 34-31.

Huge congratulation to these amazing athletes!



Sporting Star

Well done to the following students for achieving sporting star status within PE for their outstanding leadership and coaching in lessons and also extra curricular clubs.

David R for Basketball

Efe A for basketball

Ameilia S for netball



Congratulations to the following students for being selected as captain for their year group team

Year 7 boys basketball - Campbell H

Year 7 Girls rugby Crystal T

Year 7 boys rugby Leo J

Year 8 girls rugby Melissa S

Year 7 girls football Chloe B

Year 7 girls netball Ameilia S

Year 7 girls cross country Lina Z

Year 7 boys cross country Charlie A

Year 9 girls cross country Emma G

Senior girls cross country Lana B

If you want to know when training or fixtures are please see your year group captain.

Miss. S. Rothwell - Head of PE

Well done to George C for achieving a number of his swimming awards



Year 7 Boys Basketball Tournament

On Thursday 17th November the Year 7 boys had their first experience of basketball at DLS with a tournament at Bromford's School. The boys played incredibly well throughout the tournament and managed to secure 3rd place out of the seven schools in the district. An amazing effort from all the of the boys involved. The team included: Joel M, Trey E, Manolo M, Aaron I, Myles E, Cornelius A, Campbell , Aiden-Martin D and Andre T.



Year 7 Boys Rugby

On an evening where the rain didn't dampen their spirit, the Year 7 boys rugby team had their first experience of matches against other schools in the district at this year's rugby tournament. They have been training weekly since October and the attendance at the club has been excellent. They competed very well against all of the other schools in the district and won their final game of the evening.

A special mention to all of the boys involved including: Leo J, Stan E, Josh S, Lenny S, Caden S, Kai J, Joel M Myles E, Jack D, Aiden Martin D, Ronnie R and Max H.

Mr. M. Brinklow - PE Teacher

Girls Football update

Due to the success of the England 'Lionesses' in the summer, football is becoming extremely popular for girls to take part in. As a result we have decided to introduce the sport into the PE curriculum and as an extra-curricular sport for the girls also. We have paid for a football coach to come in to train with the girls to improve their football knowledge and skills. We are currently trying to build up our teams in Year 7, 8 and 9. We had our first tournament earlier on in the term and the girls came fifth in the district which was a great achievement for them.

The teams are in need of more players in all years so please come along if you would like to play. Training is on a Thursday 3.15-4.15pm in the sports hall.

Netball

The netball season is fully underway and the year 9, 10&11 teams have played quite a few fixtures already. The District rallies have also taken place for the U14 and U16 teams. It was a very long and chilly evening and both teams played really well. The U14 team came 6th and U16 team came 5th. The U16 team are currently still in the Essex Cup plate and play the next round next half term.

Miss. C. Davies - Teacher of PE

District Cross Country

Another successful year for the District cross country with all 8 schools from Basildon, Wickford and Billericay District competing in the competition!
We came 5th overall.

Our students were excellent as always and we had some great individual performances.



Year 7 boys team
Charlie A 5th out of 80

Year 7 girls team
Lina Z 16th out of 80

Year 8 and 9 girls team
Ashley N 8th out of 80
Grace H 25th out of 80
Olivia A 26th out of 80

Year 10 and 11 boys team
Aaron N 7th out of 80
Omon W 15th out of 80
Jack K 21st out of 80
Kingsley S 28th out of 80
Wisdom I 29th out of 80

Year 10 and 11 girls team
Lana B 17th out of 80
Keira T 19th out of 80



Also many thanks to the following students for officiating at the event demonstrating outstanding leadership skills:

Kai R	Nicole M
Edwin Joseph E	Diya S
Evie M	Lilly O

Miss. S. Rothwell Head of PE

Whole School Literacy – Buzzbooks

This half-term every child in Year 7 selected their own free reading, which they got to take home and keep. Students had the opportunity to choose from an incredible range of 17 books, from Marcus Rashford's new book *We Are Champions* to the new book in the Alex Rider series.

All the 17 books are available in the library, so you can read them all. It has created a real buzz around reading in Year 7.

Mr. K. Compton - Teacher of English



Competition - design a poster to advertise the De La Salle show - A Star is Born

And the winner is...



Holly W

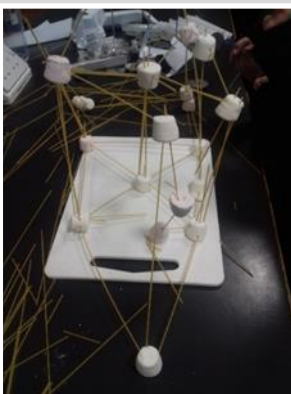
Diary Dates:

***Whole school return -
5th January 2023***



Science Club

Key Stage 3 Science Club students have been busy this term making rockets, slime, spaghetti towers and much more. Here are just a few images of the science fun! Science club also had a cinema trip to see asteroids in 3D!
Dr. M. Keown - Teacher of Science



Mathematics Department

Every three weeks a student from each class is nominated 'Star Pupil' by their class teacher. This shows that they have made a valued contribution to the lesson and are fully engaged in their learning.

Mr. A. Badger - Teacher of Mathematics

Miss Restall

7.1 Stan E
8.4 Joao Bez B
10.3 Luka D
10.6 Barney H
11.4 Chelsea O

Lacie L
Tilley H
Sandra S
Abigail P
James S

Mia H
Maisie F
Theo L
Kayleigh W
Leona A



Dr McKenna

7.5 Logan C
8.2 MaameK O
9.1 Mia P
10.4 Anush P
11.3 Sebastian K

Alister N
Jo U
Lyla B
Harriet S
Karis C

Sophie H
Deivydas B
Aneesa M
Romanie R
Katrena T

Kara A
Summer D
Jake G
Nathaniel T
George B



Mrs McCallum

7.3 Scott M
8.1 Imogen T
9.6

Ilie C
Andrew L

Jack D
Jasmine Y

Lacey A
Iliana P
Brody Hunt



Mrs Cook

7.4 Abbie T
8.5 Millie C
9.4 Alex H
10.1 Ted C
11.2 Alfie W
11.6 George S

Jessie P
Alex B
Ellie S
Leo B
Ruby P
Zena B

Harry K
Katie K
Julianne A
Toma K
Thomas B
Lennon H

Lilly N
Macey-Claire P
Tia P
Joel R
Lilly R
Scarlet D

Mrs Harrison

9.3 Callum E
9.5 Tia P
10.2 Jack M
11.1 Owen P

Dain H
Daniel S
Emily H
Nakib M

Lateefat O
Anthony O
Caleb S
Edwin Joseph E

Levi M
Sasha N
Anthonia O
Gabriel B



Mrs Curtis

9.2 Caoimhe Kenny
7.6 Majka Bar

Joey S
Clarke H

Avery V
Nathan L

Majka



Mr Badger

7.2 Trey E
8.3 Munashe M
8.6 Harry P
10.5 Stefano B
11.5 Johnde H

Matas S
Claudiu A
Ricky D
Megan S
Bradley M

Ethan H
Briana O
Evie S
Bailey N
Charlie T

Charlie A
Madison G
James L
Lilly E
Kayleigh B



GCSE Evening

The front door of De La Salle opened once more for the Year 11 group of 2017-2022 on the afternoon of Wednesday 7th December. This was the year group which had endured possibly more disruption than any other because of the pandemic and had to go through one of the longest examination periods most of us have known in our teaching careers. It was a year group that came through this adversity and still managed to break so many school and departmental records. So they collected their folders which showed the academic success they so richly deserved following their time at De La Salle.



It may only have been a few months since we had seen them last but already the changes could be seen, most notably for some of them in height. They grouped together in the street and caught up with each other about how things had been since they left but it was comforting to know so many of them were actually still in touch and many were at the same college or sixth form. It was interesting to discover how they were fitting into their new places of education or training as well as the occasional paid apprenticeship. More than anything it was good to hear their voices and laughter and see their smiles once more. The passport photos they took with them in addition to their GCSE certificates showed the transformation they have undergone since they joined us in Year 7 and in that hour of Wednesday afternoon it was clear that it's a process which continues in its most wondrous and interesting way. As always we wish them well and remind them that they will always be part of our Lasallian family.

Awards Evening

For the first time in several years the school was finally able to come together and celebrate the achievements and successes of our students on the evening of Wednesday 7th December. It was lovely to see so many different winners of the KS3 and KS4 subject awards. In addition to this was the recognition of the students who had worked so tirelessly across the range of the curriculum and consequently were awarded individual study awards.



Ellie F and Stella A impressed the audience with their strong, vocal performances whilst Abigail B produced a wonderful piece on the piano. Unfortunately, for technical reasons, the musical number of 'Revoltin' children' from Matilda was not possible on the night but hopefully the students will get to display their dancing and singing skills in the near future.

Dr. Keown received the Debbie Rooke award for continuing to inspire students in science through numerous extra-curricular clubs and activities, whilst Mrs Perfect was presented with the Noreen Withey Award for continuing to go that extra mile.



Cont'd.../

Ana V picked up the Headteacher's Academic Award for an outstanding performance across her GCSE's which saw her gain an average of over grade 8. Jesse O, Bliss O and Armandas V I am sure will be keen to follow in her footsteps as they collected their respective Key Stage 3 awards for academic performance.

As always a huge thank you to Mrs. O'Connell and Mrs. Donovan for organising both events in quick succession of each other and making the whole afternoon and evening run so smoothly.

Mr. D. Butler - Assistant Headteacher





Year 11 Retreat

Part of our chaplaincy programme is to take students on retreat.

On Thursday 10th November we took out our student leadership team to Walsingham House our Diocesan Retreat place at Abbotswick. The Theme of the day was 'The Road to Emmaus'. It encompassed how we meet Christ in every situation. The played games and had some reflection time and learnt about refugee and meeting the Christ in them.

Here's what our some of our young people had to say....

"All the activities were fun... it was educational learning about refugees".

"... got time to get to know each other."

"... educational Spiritual and Fun."

"... it made me come out of my comfort zone..."

"... would love to have stayed in the chapel longer..."

"It was an interactive and enjoyable experience..."

"definitely built stronger relationships today..."

"Inclusive"

"would love to do it again"

