

De La Salle Download



Summer Edition 2023



Headteacher's message Summer 2023

Another DLS Download marks the end of yet another term - and just like every other term - it's been an action packed one. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the key events that have happened in the last few weeks in this latest edition of our newsletter.

This term also marks the end of another academic year. Our 50th Anniversary year has been a memorable one. Starting the year with so many alumni visiting our school for the 50th anniversary mass, celebrated by Bishop Alan and attended by Bro. Ben Hanlon, our Brother Visitor.



To mark our 50th anniversary we were privileged to receive a new statue which was kindly donated to the school by Bro. Michael Curran. Please look out for this when you visit the school. It is a very special statue and takes pride of place in our reception.



We also installed new flag poles at the front of the school. We intend to buy as many national flags as possible so we can proudly fly flags on national days to represent the diversity of our community.

Our senior prefect team celebrated a fantastic year with lunch at Miller and Carter. They were solely responsible for organising our Culture week, which culminated in a talent show and gala event where students came to school in their national dress. Their efforts in organising this were highly commended. It was a fantastic achievement!

I continue to be filled with pride at the achievements of our students. Their Lasallian attitude drives them to be the best that they can be and they are an amazing credit to themselves, the school and their families. I send my sincerest best wishes to all students leaving DLS this year. I wish you every success for the future - Keep in touch!

I hope you all enjoy a restful family summer over the next few weeks. We look forward to welcoming Year 7 and 11 back to school on Wednesday, 6th September with ALL year groups returning on Thursday, 7th September.

St John Baptist De La Salle, *Pray for us. Live, Jesus in our hearts, Forever.*



Chaplaincy & Catholic Life

During the Easter Holiday, Mr Norris and Mrs Tough led a group of four young people to attend the Mass of Chrism (Chrism Mass) at Brentwood Cathedral.

The Mass of Chrism is an important ceremony that happens during Holy Week just before we begin the sacred three days – The Easter Triduum which begins on the evening of Holy Thursday.

At the Chrism Mass three separate urns of oil are offered by the faithful and presented to the Bishop for the blessing — the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and finally the Oil for the Holy Chrism. The Chrism Oil is mixed with fragrant balsam and because of its prominent place in the rites of Christian Initiation and Holy Orders, it is blessed with a prayer of consecration.

Anointing with the sacred oils is integral to several of the Sacraments and other rites of the church. An infant presented for baptism is anointed with Oil of the Catechumens before the baptism. An adult catechumen may receive this anointing several times during the time of preparation. The Oil of the Sick is used in the Sacrament of anointing, during times of illness or before surgery, also during what we call The Last Rites.

The Sacred Chrism is an integral part of the Sacraments of baptism, confirmation and ordination. The Mass at the invitation of Bishop Alan, our four young people carried up the Offertory.



As per our custom at De La Salle when we arrived back we lit our large Easter Paschal Candle. Our Chaplain explained to our young people and staff the symbols and symbolism on the Candle.



Faith Based Assemblies have been continuing this term either in the sports hall or gym alternating between KS3 and KS4.

During this term we launched Lasallian Awards 2023. This year, we streamlined the awards, so that Year 7 achieved Bronze, Year 8 - Silver, Year 9 Gold and this year we introduced a new award level - Platinum for Year 10. Lilly D won in the District Draw. In our local draw, Joel M, Year 7 and Marcin G Year 8 won Kindles, Makafui N Year 9 and Tobiah A won Chrome Books respectively.

Well done to all our winners and participants, we will do the same next year.



We as a school celebrated the Coronation of His and Her Majesties the King and Queen by decorating the School in Royal colours and wearing red, white and blue.

On Friday 12th May, we celebrated our Founders Day celebration with a district celebration in which two of our students read very beautifully, in my opinion, the gospel reading. My thanks to Cherelle and Wisdom from Year 10 who read.

Our thanks to Fr Basil Pearson who celebrated a voluntary Mass for the Solemnity Feast of the Ascension.

Our thanks to Fr Martin Hardy who kindly celebrated our Leavers Mass. Our young people participated fully and reverently and at the end received their DLS Bags with their young people's student survival kit.

My Thanks to Mr John Ravi from Aid to the Church in Need, who gave us a presentation to their work - we will be gearing up 29th November Red Wednesday. We had to deliver it from the chapel as the heavens really opened that morning!

Along with our CAFOD group one form per year are producing a set of Prayers in answer to Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Sii - Care for the Environment. He asks us what kind of world do we want to leave our children and children's Children.

Our SVP group have met regularly and in the Autumn Term are embarking on two major projects -

- 1 Sleep Out - to highlight the plight of homelessness and raise money for SVP and homeless charities
2. Autumn Senior Citizen Party from the local parishes of Basildon.

They are also in the process of setting up a Vinnie's Cupboard for people to access – more news on this in the next newsletter.

Thank you once again to Fr Martin Hardy for coming to celebrate our Mass for Solemnity Feast of St Peter and Paul- Holyday of Obligation



Lasallian Camp - 7th-9th July 2023

We took 11 young people to Kintbury for the annual Lasallian Camp. Our Thanks to Mr Westbrook and Miss Rodol who helped lead the group.

As part of their final liturgy our young people performed the following:

We came to Lasallian camp as Lasallians with a lower case L,
We leave Lasallian Camp as Lasallians with an upper case L.

This year at Lasallian Camp we have gained Respect, Commitment, Selfishness, Teamwork, Family Friendship Strength Community Passion.

We ARE Lasallian!



Liturgy and Prayer

On a Friday morning before school, we have been continuing having Service of the Word and Eucharistic Distribution - each form group take it in turns and it has been a success. We have around ten people plus that attend each week.

Morning Prayer continues in Form Time either by students including chaplaincy reps or staff. Each day has a different prayer according to the theme of the week or the feast day it is.

In chaplaincy for our KS3 Easter meditations we have been reflecting on the Emmaus Story.

Cards with this picture have been given to every KS3 student



Looking Forward in chaplaincy development for 2023/24

From September we will be creating a new School Chaplaincy Website. This will be part of the main website. Its function will be a resource for students, staff and parents/carers to access information about the school, our charism and liturgical calendar.

We will be creating a new Weekly Chaplaincy Newsletter. This will be in addition to our main newsletter. A weekly publication reflecting what has been happening in chaplaincy and reflections.

Mr. D. Mongan - School Chaplain

End of Year Prayer

Let us Pray,

Holidays are wonderful! We vacate our regular lives and fill them with new things, experiences and memories.

Help us Lord to be thankful for the memories from this past year. Bless us; our colleagues and students - Keep them safe over the summer. Keep us safe as we enjoy the outdoors.

Thank you for filling us with your spirit.

Fill us with your joy as we start our summer vacation.

Help us make each new day a time to learn new things and be closer to you.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Times Table Rock Stars

This year the Mathematics Department subscribed to the Times Tables Rock Stars programme and it has proved quite popular with students in Years 7 and 8. The programme reinforces students' confidence in recalling their tables.

In the next academic year it is planned to build on the initial success of the programme by holding half-termly competitions giving students the opportunity to gain certificates and win prizes.

It would be great if parents and carers could encourage students to make continued use of the Times Tables Rock Stars programme over the long summer holiday.

As a reminder, 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 (ttrockstars.com), or through the app which is available free across all Apple and Android devices.

Mrs. F. McCallum - Teacher of Maths



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. Please note: if you have previously **received a Penalty Notice for an offence of failing to ensure** regular school attendance or been the subject of prosecution for any child in relation to irregular school attendance, **you may not be given the opportunity to pay the further Penalty Notice; your case may proceed directly to court.**

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 - 10A - 95.2%

they have had their trophy filled with sweets!

Best Year group – Year 7 - 93.3%

36 students with 100% attendance

Well done!

Uniform

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

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

Pitsea uniform bank:

Basildonhelpwithuniform@hotmail.com

Lost property

We have a lot of lost property in our office. If this is not claimed by the end of the term we will donate it to the uniform bank.

Mrs. T. Carlane - Student Services Manager

Student Achievement

Grace had a very tough competition and came 2nd in her group routine.

Grace placed 3rd twice and 2nd place in all of her group routines, her family are so proud of her.

Grace attended another big competition on the 4th June and came first!

Well done Grace!



Maths Stars

Congratulations to all the students this year who were nominated for 'Maths Stars' by their teachers, to recognise the hard work and dedication towards their maths lessons over the past academic year.




Mr. A. Badger - Teacher of Maths


	Sep-22	October 2022	01/11/2022	01/12/2022	Jan-23	10-Mar	27-Apr	23-May	07-Jul
Miss Restall									
7.1	Stan E	Lacie L	Mia H		Alyssa I	Tegan W	Victoria H	Layla A	
8.4	Joao B	Tilley H	Maisie F		Charlie W	Alicia L	Lily S	David O	
10.3	Luka D	Sandra S	Theo L						
10.6	Barney H	Abigail P	Kayleigh W		Ellie-May F	Morgan K	Ore C	Callum T	
11.4	Chelsea O	James S	Leona A		Joey T	Clarke O	Hannah H	Stella A	
Dr McKenna									
7.5	Logan C	Alister N	Sophie H	Kara A	Eren C	Clarke H	Elsie S	Benaiah O	Lina Z
8.2	MaameK O	Jo U	Deivydas B	Summer D	Elodie G	Piotr O	Max H	Annie S	Molly S
9.1	Mia P	Lyla B	Aneesa M	Jake G	Arian B	Harry R	Lyla B	Havilah V	Paul O
10.4	Anush P	Harriet S	Romanie R	Nathaniel T	Lami W	Kendra-Jesse O	Warwick J	Justyna S	Harriet S
11.3	Sebastian K	Karis C	Katrena T	George B	Greta M	Sayana R	Jesse B		
Mrs McCallum									
7.3	Scott M	Ilie C	Jack D	Lacey A	Lateef O	Leo J	Ollie S	Lilly N	Emily L
8.1	Imogen T	Andrew L	Jasmine Y	Iliana P	Andrew L	Iremide A	Leona I	Christian U	Alex J
9.6				Brody H	Daniel M	Arish P			
Mrs Cook									
7.4	Abbie T	Jessie P	Harry K	Lilly N	Logan C	Abbie T	Noah C	Lucy G	Skye D
8.5	Millie C	Alex B	Katie K	Macey-Claire P	Seth S	Seth S	Julia M	Millie C	Seth S
9.4	Alex H	Ellie S	Julianne A	Tia P	Lily-Rose	Sky-Mia	Ryan M	Marcus G	Jessica F
10.1	Ted C	Leo B	Toma K	Joel R	Bliss O	Anna A	Bliss O	Wisdom I	Casie C
11.2	Alfie W	Ruby P	Thomas B	Lilly R	Selina G	Diya S	Jack S		
11.6	George S	Zena B	Lennon H	Scarlet D	Kiera M	Kiera M	Zena B		
Mrs Harrison									
9.3	Callum E	Dain H	Lateefat O	Levi M	Dexter G	Maja S	Jazmine M	Lilly R	Simona V
9.5	Tia P	Daniel S	Anthony O	Sasha N	Luke P	Aaron O	Isaiah O	Anthony O	Julia G
10.2	Jack M	Emily H	Caleb S	Anthonia O	Armandas V	Amelia E	Vanessa O	Rihanna M	Akosa O
11.1	Owen P	Nakib M	Edwin J	Gabriel B	Kai R	Keira T	Beatrice P	Piper D	
Mrs Curtis									
9.2	Caoimhe K	Joey S	Avery V		Jake G				
7.6	Majka B	Clarke H	Nathan L	Majka B	Jake F				
Miss Rodol									
7.6	Jamie S						Caitlyn M	Crystal T	
9.2	Daniel O						Taylor C	Tobi A	
9.6	Blake H						Shannon R	Elise R	
10.3	Sandra S						Amarah I	Elise S	









Maths Puzzle


Can you find the values of the icons in the multiplication table?


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



2



3


		3
2		
		25
	48	




















Business Studies Trip...a Cadbury World away!

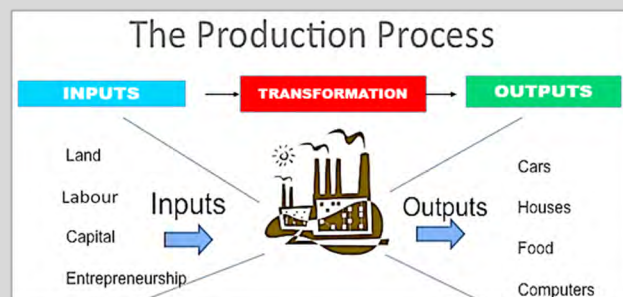
A new date has been announced for the highly anticipated Year 11 Business Studies trip to the Cadbury World attractions in Birmingham. On Friday 22nd September 2023, the students will get the opportunity to extend their cumulative knowledge, as the trip aims to support their understanding of the production component of the national GCSE Business Studies curriculum.

The trip was originally scheduled for July 2023 but had to be postponed as it coincided with Cadbury World's site maintenance.



Upon their arrival, the students will tour the facility and enjoy the ambiance. Later in the day, they will attend the Design and Food Technology academic presentation. As they do so, they will pay particular attention to the information relating to the production operations. They will study on the input phase, which focuses on the cocoa powder, sugar, salt and other raw materials required to produce our favourite chocolates.

Another aspect that the students will note is how the input items are turned (transformation process) into tasty products that we find so irresistible.



The final exercise is to ask questions about the finished items that roll off the production line enclosed in the packaging we are accustomed to seeing in shops and supermarkets. This phase is called the output stage of the production process.

An in-depth discussion will ensue upon the students' return to school to embed their knowledge of the production process. This interaction will be centred on some of the organisations that might be involved in Cadbury's supply chain and how their actions can impact the availability, quality and price of chocolate-based products.

Mr. S. Cain - Teacher of Business



Work Experience

As part of the careers programme at De La Salle, we have reintroduced work experience to the curriculum. As parents and carers, you may remember the traditional work experience where by you filled in a questionnaire and were matched with a 'job', however, these were not always successful matches and as a result, problems occasionally arose.

At De La Salle, due to the pandemic, we initially introduced online work experience or virtual industry insights. These were useful but nothing compares to real hands-on experience that students can only get in person. Over the past year with the help of the Unifrog platform, we have encouraged our students to go out to find their own work experience. Some have worked with family members, and others have gone outside of their comfort zone and reached out to local employers.

All students who have completed their work experience have found it invaluable, if tiring, having to get up early during their school holidays. I am immensely proud of all the students who have completed their work experience this year, the employers' feedback has been glowing with praise and compliments for our students.

Mrs. H. Butler - Assistant Headteacher

I did my work experience in a play school called Barnett Bears Nursery, I have always wanted to do something with children. My role was to be a teacher assistant, play with the children and entertain them.

The overall experience was very good and knowledgeable but I feel I would like to work with an older age group next time as I want to be able to educate children rather than just play with them as they were very young.

I worked 9.00am to 4.00pm which is a typical work day for an educator so I got to experience what times a teacher may come in and leave. As I worked for so many hours, I feel as I had earned the children's trust as well! Working in the nursery showed me that taking care of children is not as simple as I anticipated, you need a lot of patience when working with children. When I had my breaks, I was able to talk and get to know the employees, which also made me feel more like I was working.

All in all, I think I now have a good understanding of what working with children would be like and the whole experience showed me how work has similarities and differences to school, for example in school you have different subjects throughout the day whereas working you only focus on one thing. But overall it was a good experience and I got to know a lot of people which I will never forget.

Rihanna M

I did my work experience at Barnett Bears Nursery for three days. I worked from 9.00am until 4.00pm and had three breaks, a ten-minute break in the morning, an hour break for lunch and finally a ten-minute afternoon break. My main role was to play with the children and keep them entertained, however, whenever I wasn't doing anything, I was always offering the staff help or asking them if they needed me to do anything else. When the children were outside, I would offer to stay in and clean up a bit more. I spent two days in the age 2-5 room and one day in the baby room. This was helpful as it allowed me to see the dynamics in both rooms and see the similarities and/or differences.

I also made sure to interact with the staff in both my breaks and whilst I was working, asking them lots of questions to ensure that I could make the most of this opportunity that I had been given. Work experience has allowed me to gain a better insight and a deeper understanding into what life is like after school and what responsibilities we may have. I have learnt a lot of new skills and competencies such as; patience, perseverance, empathy and problem solving, to name a few. This work experience has enabled me to really think about what I would like to do in the future and I am so grateful to have had this opportunity.

Ela U



I went to work at Camp Epic for my work experience. I worked with the Prospects Company.

The best part about the work experience was seeing what it was like to work at Camp Epic and it help me understand what a day of work would be like.

I learnt about leadership skills and how to solve problems with my group. I would recommend doing work experience because you can see what a typical day of work would look like. It also helps to explain what you would be doing if you went to work with a company full time.

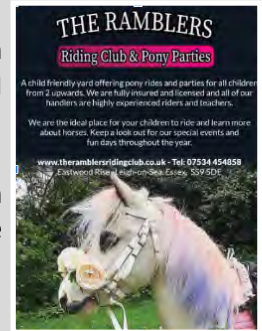
Personally the time I spent there allowed me to understand what I would be doing if I went to work with Prospects.

Lilly T

For work experience, I helped out at the Ramblers Riding School. Here I was able to learn stable management and how to interact with customers. Also, I was able to help SEN children, which made me feel happy.

I would recommend work experience as it helps you to understand how to interact with more people and how to care for different animals. You also get to see the difference between a school and a work environment . It has opened a door for me, as it's a career I would be interested in, in the future.

Ruby H



I did my work experience at Belson and Sons Independent Opticians in Grays.

During the work experience I learnt how to add patients to the system, make appointments for sight tests and improve my social skills.

I would recommend this experience to other students because it gave me the opportunity to broaden my knowledge of working life and experience things I wouldn't do in everyday life.

Roan H

Working alongside with Maximus UK helped me understand what a working life is like, I was taught how to understand that people's emotions really affect how they live their life. It also allowed me to talk to new people to interview to know what their job is like.

I would recommend this work experience to anyone who is looking to help people with mental health issues and to understand what people's life is like. It also gave me an opportunity to know what my dream job is like.

Lilly E

For my work experience I worked at Go Bonkers. It was a very fun experience, I got to meet a lot of new people and learn a lot of new skills.

I would definitely say that this was quite different from any other place of work, it was a very hands on experience and wasn't in an office type place, it was outside where I got to experience lots of different things.

I would definitely encourage everyone to do work experience because it could give you an excellent opportunity to figure out what you want to do, for example I have always wanted to work with children and this has given me an excellent opportunity to work with them and will be great for me to get into the college or sixth form I choose.

There will always be hard work and it might be exhausting but it is really rewarding and a good fun opportunity. I was also offered a job there which is great because I can now earn money doing something I enjoy and got the chance to do it out of work experience which is great. I would honestly really encourage for everyone if they get the chance to take part in doing work experience. **Vanessa O**



At the Knowledge Recruitment Office, I got to learn all new things and meet some really nice people. I learnt so many skills. I learnt for example how to plot data on a spreadsheet and how to laminate paper.

There were many key roles in the office such as a manager, assistant manager and many more employees.

I would encourage people to work there because everyone is so welcoming and the job is easy.

Maddie A

I went to CICC (Cumberlege Intermediate Care Centre) which is located in Rochford Hospital for my work experience. It was very interesting and I learnt a lot of things like how they treat and take care of patients.

At my work experience I got to observe many procedures, unfortunately as it was a hospital I was unable to participate as much as I would have liked.

I observed the physiotherapy sessions and the arts & crafts they did with the patients to make them feel engaged. I followed the senior nurses when they went on their 'drugs rounds' giving out medications to patients.

I would recommend for people to do work experience as they can see what it's like to do certain jobs and also be appreciative of the people who work these too.

Anna A



While I worked at New Hollands, I learnt how to use CAD (Computer Aided Design). This software allows you to create next to anything from plastic to metal, in which I created and 3D-printed off a design that they gave me. I learned how to drive a tractor, which wasn't as complicated as it looks and it was great fun. I also learned how to test a tractor using a dyno which puts force on the engine of the tractor and simulates

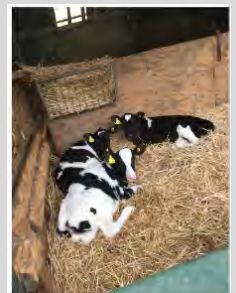
farming, so it can be tested and changes made if necessary. Overall I enjoyed my time at New Hollands very much and I would love to do it again in the future.

Leo B

During the week off I spent five days working 9-5 at Bradfields Dairy Farm, this experience allowed me to learn a lot of things revolving around cows and the care they require. This includes basic animal care such as feeding and mucking out, but also things such as how to burn off their horns, put in an ear tag, castrating, how to check they are in calf and how to milk them properly and what a lot of the machinery does. Not only was this experience really interesting but it was also a lot of fun and was an experience I'd recommend to anyone.



Another reason I enjoyed this was not just because you start to get used to your surroundings and it becomes a second nature but you also allows you to gain bonds with not only the people that your working with but the cows. I personally found this experience extremely enjoyable but also fascinating too.



I feel like this experience has helped with my future career as it has made me fall in love with animals even more and has made me realise how much I enjoy being surrounded by them which has made me lean more towards having a job working with animals.

Fleur J

I worked at Ranson for my work experience during the Easter holidays. At the workplace, I helped the finance department file and handle documents. I worked from 7.30am until 4.00pm.

Kacper R



The Scholars Programme - Brilliant Club

The Scholars Programme helps students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to progress to the most competitive universities. We train our PhD tutors to deliver The Scholars programme in our partner schools and colleges across the UK. They share their subject knowledge and passion for learning with small groups of students ages 8-18.

The Brilliant club was a great opportunity to gain skills and learn about university life. We started off by visiting Queen's College before the programme started. This was an initial taste of university life and advice and guidance. During the programme our sessions consisted of learning about our subject, sports. We gained lots of information with our PhD tutor and it was an amazing experience.

Our PhD tutor was a person who really differentiated. He was someone who had knowledge on the subject however his teaching skills could somewhat be improved. Overall, I loved this experience and am overjoyed that I got given this opportunity.

Anessa M



Before we had any tutorials we visited Queens College, Cambridge. The visit was really engaging and we got a first hand glimpse into what university life could be like for us if we decided that we would want to go to university.

The tutorials were somewhat exciting because I didn't have any previous subject knowledge on Sports and the British, so I was quite eager to learn something new. Our tutor was engaging and was a very unique individual who had some interesting views to present on the chosen subject.

Makafui N



In the Brilliant Club, I learned about 'Sports and the British.' I found the tutorials interesting and inclusive, we got to ask and answer many questions for our tutor. We also had the opportunity to choose an event to research and write about.

In our course, we also had the chance to visit Cambridge University - in which we had a tour of campus and a welcome session that explained effective methods of study and how to manage life at university. Overall, I enjoyed my experience and I'm grateful for the chance I was given.

Marnie B

Brilliant Club had a great kick start with the trip to Cambridge, where we participated in many activities as well as a tour of the campus. This was very insightful regarding university life and really informed everybody on what the Scholars' program would ensue.

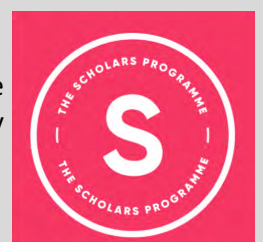
The tutorials were also very insightful and engaging thanks to Desmond, the tutor of my group, and the whole experience has encouraged me further to pursue higher education like university. Each tutorial was greatly looked forward to every week.



Being involved in Brilliant Club has made me more confident with my ability to strive for higher education in the future and has made me aware of my level of skill at the present time having achieved a grade 2:1 in the final assessment. It is for definite that I have developed at large compared to the first brilliant tutorial. Personally, my ambition has grown astronomically, and I feel strongly that I have secured a place for myself in this modern competitive industry.

I am proud to have been part of this experience and the permanent credibility it has given me along with the personal development I have gained, and even a stronger passion for my school subjects. Brilliant Club has taught me the importance of punctuality, too.

Angeleen S



Madrid - May 2023

The trip to Madrid was a fantastic opportunity for our DLS students to come together for an invaluable educational and personal growth experience. Students should be proud of themselves, they couldn't have behaved better. They were WOUNDERFUL.

Madrid is a beautiful city full of a fantastic variety of cultural attractions, art galleries and lively plazas that gave the students an authentic taste of Spain. I was so impressed to see how they put the theory of the classroom into practice and took the opportunity to converse with native speakers in real life situations.

I have to give a BIG THANK YOU to my colleges; Mr Fogarty, Mr Futchter & Mrs O'Connell for their help and support during the trip, they made the trip even better!

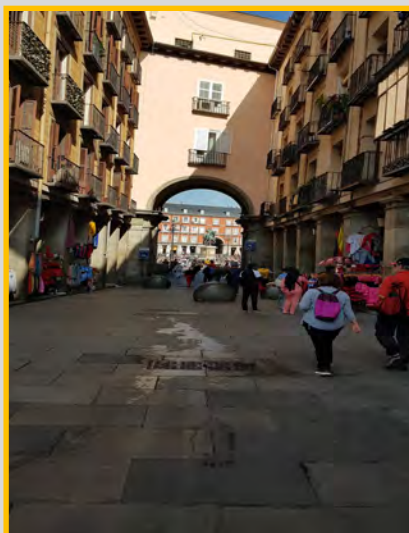
There is only one more thing to say, that I am looking forward to taking my new set of Year 10 students, next year, to the lovely Madrid.

Mrs. S. Lillo - Trip Leader



The trip to Madrid was a great experience. Visiting many different places, trying new foods and meeting new people allowed me to broaden my knowledge of the Spanish culture. I was also able to put what I have learnt into practice by ordering food and buying things in Spanish.

I had an amazing time and learnt many new things: I even made some Spanish friends!



Going to Madrid was a really fun experience. I had an amazing time and I'm so glad I had the opportunity to speak to new people and try new things. Meeting Spanish people was so fun, everyone was really friendly and trying to speak in Spanish helped me to feel more confident. The activities were great, my favourite was the theme park, the roller coasters were really fast! I was able to deepen my understanding of the Spanish culture and put what I had learned into practice. Overall, it was an amazing trip, I had a great time!

Lilly



I enjoyed building my relationships with friends through team work and understanding the Spanish culture.

Isabella

I really enjoyed my time in Madrid as it was fun and a new experience. I was able to put my knowledge into practice, whilst learning much about the Spanish culture. Also, I was able to try different Spanish dishes.

Toma



I really enjoyed the trip because of how many different things there were to do however, I felt very rushed. I really liked the theme park and the explanation that came with it. It was also really good fun to talk to the Spanish people and make new friends.

Mollie

The Ski Trip - 2023

Considering the trip got off to a bad start, we were delayed 24 hours, it turned out to be a fantastic experience for all involved in the end.

When we finally got on our way, we arrived at Dover, to very long queues of coaches all fighting to be let through. Lucky for us, the queue for Irish Ferries was pretty much clear. We made our way down the entry lane, with what I can only describe as 'death stares' from the other coach drivers that were queuing for up-to 14 hours in the P&O lane. Once over the channel the hours of travel ahead of us seemed daunting... this wasn't to be! There was a mixture of broken sleep, films, card games and chatter which made the time go by a lot quicker than expected.



On arriving in Italy and at the hotel, we couldn't have asked for much more. The views of the surrounding mountains just added to what was already becoming a once in a lifetime trip for the students.

We would wake up to a buffet breakfast each morning then don our ski wear ready for the slopes. After a scenic ride on the ski lift we would be greeted at the top by the friendly faces of the ski instructors. After a couple of days on the nursery slope all students progressed to going up the mountain and were amazed at the breath taking views. Lunch was a welcome break each day for everyone to regroup for a short rest, a hot chocolate and a bit of sunbathing!

What followed was more days of students progressing and gaining confidence on the slopes. By the end of the week I think nearly all had plucked up the courage to follow their instructor and take on a black run. The fun did not stop on the slopes though, after a buffet dinner each evening there were activities such as laser tag,



a scavenger hunt, a cinema trip, shopping and a disco.

Whether it was a Year 11 student telling me they were going to do flips on their first day or a Year 9 student telling me this is going to be easy as they had been ice skating, the students quickly learned that skiing was not a walk in the park. We had tears, tantrums and even some wanting to give up at times. However, after some encouragement and inspirational words from Mr Fogarty, Mrs Donovan, Mrs Starling and the very patient ski instructors, all students hit the slopes every day and made huge strides and improvements.

Students who on day one said they couldn't do it and never wanted to go again were sad to be leaving by the end of the week. Some of these e-mailed me as soon as we were back to ask for another trip to be planned again. Whilst the cost of a skiing trip seems extreme, I cannot stress enough, the experience and life skills the students develop. Other trips aside, a ski trip leaves students with memories that they will never ever forget.

All students who attended this trip should be immensely proud of themselves for both their conduct and determination on the slopes.

Mr. K. Jacobson - Head of Lower School



At first I was wary about going as I had never skied before; however, the experience has changed my mindset on life and has made me less hesitant.

The memories I made were meaningful and overall the week was better than ever anticipated. The skiing itself was fun, and so were the evening activities. If I can come next year, I will!

Angeleen



The ski trip was one of the best experiences of my life, it was really great and I had an amazing time!

It really helped me realise that there's more to life than football, skiing was amazing and from the very start I already knew I was going to thrash skiing.



The ski lift was an amazing experience and displayed some amazing views, even though it did stop a couple of times. Skiing was very tiring, especially going down mountains. Getting off the ski lift was the hard part because I sort of snapped my stick, but I got the hang of it at the end.



The resort we stayed at was great. There were two lifts and most the time they were full so we would have to walk up a very long spiral slope for six flights.

Overall the trip was very good and made me want to explore new sports.

Kyran A

The ski trip was the best trip that I have been on and is such a great experience and such lovely staff members and very well organised.

Make the most of it and don't be scared because you will regret it later. It is so worth it. I miss it so much and hope to go again, the best trip I've been on.

Eve M

The hotel rooms were very nice with a big bathroom and hairdryers. The beds were very comfortable and the room had a lot of space. I liked that it had local shops that were cheap. In the rooms the Wi-Fi was very bad and it only worked in the restaurant and the lounge.



I liked how the hotel had a locker room which saved us carrying all our equipment up and down the spiral all day. Each night we did many fun activities, for example, scavenger hunt, discos, laser tag and we went to the cinema.

Whilst on the ski slopes, the instructors were very nice and helped, when we were unsure of how to do it. The ski boots were very uncomfortable and made your calves sore the next day. I like how one day we got the choice if we wanted to stay on the nursery slopes or go to the top of the mountains. The experience of the whole holiday was so much fun and definitely worth the



money.

Overall the ski trip was very good and worth all the money. I am so grateful I got the opportunity to go skiing abroad with all my friends. I even made so many friends there.

Jazmine M

On the first few days we were getting used to the ski boots because they are uncomfortable at first but you get used to them, the ski instructors were so helpful and were supportive if you didn't know what to do.

I didn't feel unsafe at any point during the entire trip and it takes time to get used to skiing but once you get the hang of it is so amazing.

There wasn't very good Wi-Fi but you barely had time to go on your phone anyway!

Waking up everyday was hard but so worth it. Your shins and calves ache after skiing so you need to make sure your boots properly fit or they will be so uncomfortable. For the trip there and back we were on the coach for hours but it went by pretty quickly but falling asleep was awful because you had no space.

As well as skiing the afternoon activities like laser tag, movie night and shopping were good as well as the



Student Achievement

Over the last few days, Christian Ugiagbe represented England at the WUKF World Karate Championships in Dundee. Over 30 countries were represented at these championships.

I am delighted to say that he won his individual category and is World Champion! A fantastic achievement.



World Champion - Christian Ugiagbe

Enterprise in Education

On the 24th of May, we were delighted to be working with Enterprise in Education again, when they came in to work with our Year 9 students on a Financial Capability programme, fully funded by SS&C. The ladies from SS&C were overwhelmed by the calibre of the student's responses and their presentations in the afternoon. We had a number of winners on the day who received a range of prizes.

Well done Year 9's.

Mrs. H. Butler - Assistant Headteacher

The careers and enterprise company workshop was very informative and helped me gain a better understanding of finances. It was very enjoyable and I had a lot of fun. It helped me understand the importance of saving and I learnt new words and what the initials stand for. We were also taught life skills such as communicating, respecting. We did a presentation on our own business to help people save money. What was good about this but was we wasn't aloud to use our phones so it really made us think about what we had to do. I liked the quizzes we did they were really fun and hard but I learned things from it. Overall I would say this is was a great workshop and I would recommend it to people who don't understand finances.

Tia B

Essex Outreach programme

As part of the University of Essex Outreach programme Year 8 pupils were invited to attend the 'Big Debate' day in April. Students enjoyed a range of activities throughout the day.



Summer Book Review – Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve

I always associate the holidays with reading – probably because our holidays were spent in caravans at Cleethorpes or Skegness. And because it rained a lot!

I have enjoyed 'Talking Books' with the Year 7s I have tutored this term as part of their intervention sessions; it is interesting to hear what they enjoy and why. I have used snippets from Philip Reeves 'Mortal Engines' many times over the years (the opening is wonderful) and so when I came across a copy in Mr Powney's classroom, I borrowed it and read it greedily, in one sitting.

'Mortal Engines' is set in a futuristic dystopia; huge swathes of our planet having been laid waste by a short but catastrophic war. When the novel opens, we find London is hungry and weak; a predator on the hunt for even weaker, smaller prey in order to survive. In common with other communities, London is now a huge traction city, able to traverse huge stretches of wasteland and ice to seek out the prey that is its only means of survival.

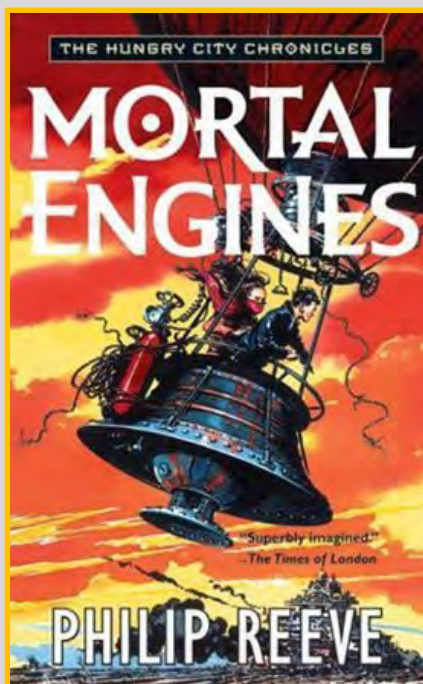
We meet Tom in the museum when the novel opens – he is an apprentice historian and is expected to stay at his post whilst others celebrate London's successful 'catch', but he sneaks away to join other gathering on the viewing platforms to cheer London's victory. A man he admires, the mayor of London, no less, and a fellow historian, greets him in a kindly way and introduces him to his daughter, Kathryn, and her wolf, who is named Dog. The celebrations are marred by an attack on the mayor, Valentine, by a very angry young woman. We learn that this is Hester, whose mum was a colleague of Valentine's (historian and mayor) many years ago. Hester knows of events leading up to her mum's death – and that Valentine is in possession of an ancient but potentially lethal weapon.... (no spoilers – OK?)

The story becomes a race against time – can Tom and Hester escape? And if they do, will they be in time to prevent Valentine's wicked plan being implemented?

The great news is that there are no less than 7 – yes! – 7! Books in the series – the original quartet and 3 – yes, really! – 3 prequels. And even better news? Mrs Kiggins-Burns has purchased the whole set for the Ihub. (Form an orderly queue!) There is a film version which is exciting to watch, but doesn't really let you get to know the characters. I am now reading the second book in the quartet, because I couldn't forget Hester and Tom and wanted to find out what happened next.

Happy reading! And wishing you all a wonderful summer break,

Mrs. A. Smith - One to One Tutor



PE Department

The O2 British Basketball League Play-Off Finals

On Sunday 14th May students attended a trip to The O2 to watch The British Basketball League Play-Off Finals. The students were able to see the high intensity games of both the professional women and men's games with entertainment at halftime of each game too.

The women's game was between London Lions and Leicester Riders and finished 57-41 to the London Lions. The men's game was also between London Lions and Leicester Riders and finished 88-80 to the London Lions. It was a fantastic day and the students were a credit to the school on the day.

A thank you to Miss Davies and Mr Westbrook who accompanied us on the day.



District Athletics KS3 & KS4

On Tuesday 27th and Friday 30th June our athletes attended Basildon Sporting Village for this year's District Athletics. On both days the students performed incredibly well in both track and field events finishing in a very respectable 5th position in what is a very tough district for athletics. Overall the girls finished on 225 points (4th) and the boys on 254 points (4th). A big congratulations to all students for representing DLS this year, your commitment to training has been outstanding. I am extremely pleased to say the following students have broken previous school records:

Amelia S – Year 7 – Javelin – 20.61m
Cornelius A – Year 7 – Long Jump – 4.98m
Max H – Year 8 – Hammer – 23.27m
Michael O – Year 9 – 100m – 11.42s
Collins J – Year 9 – 200m – 24.86s
Cherrelle O – Year 10 - Hammer – 22.77m

A few other stand out performances from the day were:

Girls

Tobi A – High Jump – Bronze – 1m 30
Ashley N – 800m – Bronze – 2m 51s
Olivia C – 100m – Bronze – 13.95s
Divine E – Long Jump – Bronze – 3.74m
Rosalyn O – Shot – Bronze – 7.15m
Aituajie W, Akosua A, Anna A, Katelyn M – Yr 10 Relay – Bronze – 59.43s
Cherelle O-B – Hammer – Silver – 22.77m
Melissa S – Discus – Silver – 15.80m
Mia H – 100m – Silver – 14.53s
Divine E – 200m – Silver – 30.66s
Chloe B – 800m – Silver – 3m
Mia H, Chloe B, Divine E, Chidera O – Yr 7 Relay – Silver – 59.50s
Amelia S – Javelin – Gold – 20.61m
Chloe B – Long Jump – Gold – 4.01m



Boys

Cornelius A – Gold – Long Jump - 4m 98.
 Juan Carlos M – Gold – Triple Jump 11m 92
 Cornelius A – Silver – 100m - 13.20s
 Michael O – Silver – 100m – 11.42s (New School Record)
 Marcus G, Collins J, Michael O, El A – Silver – Relay – 50.43s
 Jack K – Silver – 1500m – 4.37
 Michael N – Silver – Discus – 27.56m
 Osaro A – Bronze – 200m – 28.89s
 Cornelius A, Sean A, Tyler G & Jayden J – Yr 7 Relay – Bronze – 58.84s
 Reggie S – 100m – Bronze – 12.55
 Collins J – 200m – Bronze - 24.86s (New School Record)
 Tommy L-Y – 300m – Bronze – 43.40s
 David I – Hammer – Bronze – 24.93m
 Michael J – 100m – Bronze – 11.70s
 Kingsley S – 200m – Bronze – 23.83s
 Omon W – 800m – Bronze – 2m 17s
 Omon W, Kingsley S, Michael J, Jack K – Relay – Bronze – 49.03s
 Tobiah A – Long Jump – Bronze – 5.10m
 Freddie O – Hammer – Bronze – 26.38m



Mr. M. Brinklow - Teacher of PE

Participation Award Scheme update

Attendance at extra-curricular clubs this year has been a fantastic once again. There are now more girls who have achieved a bronze certificate for attending 10 sessions either after school or at lunchtime. We have 13 girls who have achieved a silver certificate by going to 20 sessions or more. This year we also have 7 students who have attended over 30 sessions which means they have achieved a gold certificate.

Congratulations to all the girls who have attended extra-curricular sessions this year. It shows the commitment and enthusiasm they show for our subject. All their names are listed on the tables below:

Name	Year Group	Award
Isabelle W	7	Gold
Amelia S	7	Gold
Chloe Burton	7	Gold
Divine C	7	Gold
Leona	8	Gold
Kornelia	8	Gold
Nfemi	8	Gold
Angel A	9	Gold
Perla B	9	Gold
Teegan W	7	Silver
Kara A	7	Silver
Nancy M	7	Silver
Lina Z	7	Silver
Lacy A	7	Silver
River F	8	Silver
Emma G	8	Silver
Tillie A	8	Silver

Name	Year Group	Award
Grace H	8	Silver
Annie S	8	Silver
Imogen T	8	Silver
Olivia C	8	Silver
Tobi A	9	Silver
Mia H	7	Bronze
Sophie	7	Bronze
Evie M	7	Bronze
Shammah A	7	Bronze
Sabina A	8	Bronze
Lily D	8	Bronze
Alexia A	8	Bronze
Rebekah J	8	Bronze
Tatyana	8	Bronze
Jasmine Y	8	Bronze
Olivia A	9	Bronze

Name	Year Group	Award
Mirabella C	9	Bronze
Brooke E	9	Bronze
Annabel E	9	Bronze
Jasmine M	9	Bronze
Ashley N	9	Bronze
Ruby R	9	Bronze
Ellie S	9	Bronze
Lily R	9	Bronze

Year 7 Sporting Stars

Congratulations to the following year 7's who have achieved sporting star status within PE:

Name	Sport/Event
Amelia S	Netball and Leadership
Mia H	Games and athletics
Divine E	Games, athletics & Leadership
Chloe B	Athletics
Jayden J	Football
Cornelius A	Athletics
Campbell H	Basketball

Girls Basketball and Netball District results:



Miss. C. Davies - Teacher of PE



Netball

Year 7 - 2nd
Year 8 - 3rd
Year 9 - 4th
Year 10 - 3rd
Year 11 - 3rd

Basketball

Year 7 - 2nd
Under 14 - 2nd
Under 16 - 3rd

Miss. S. Rothwell - Head of PE

Student Achievement

Well done to Max Lowe in Year 9 who was recently presented with the Catholic Citizenship Award from Bishop Alan.

The award was in recognition of Max climbing Ben Nevis which took 16.5 hours in total and raised £2,563! £500 of which was raised by Max and his two brothers alone by walking or riding to work and school instead of using cars or buses.

The money raised has gone to The Royal London hospital for help with Cancer Care and to the Dementia Charity 'Thank You'.



Well done Max!



Boulogne 2023

We were delighted to take 50 students from Year 7 and 50 from Year 8 back to France this year. Both groups visited Nausicaá in Boulogne, the biggest aquarium in Europe, and the Boulangerie d'Escoeuilles nearby. Bruno, the boulanger, demonstrated how to make traditional bread, and quizzed us on our knowledge of numbers in French. Everyone had a go at making the loaf, and some people put bread into the wood-fired oven. Then all students received a pain au chocolat in the little café.



Nausicaá had really impressive tanks, including one window as big as a cinema screen, and a wide variety of fish, sea lions and penguins. The rays were enormous. It also had a shop and an ice cream counter, where students could spend their euros. Students managed the long days really well, and Bruno asked if we were from a private school, as behaviour on both bakery visits had been so good. Mes compliments aux élèves, et aux profs qui nous ont accompagnés!

Mrs. S. McMahon - Head of MFL



"It was a very fun trip. We saw lots of new things that nobody else has seen. I am very lucky to experience this trip as it was very eye opening to me to experience French culture. My favourite part was the aquarium, as it was very interesting to see different types of sea creatures."

Eryca, Year 8



Science Department news

Year 9 students have been visiting Universities this term. On 20th April students considering taking the Triple Science option took part in the 'Stem-tacular' event at Essex University, Colchester. The day was designed to showcase courses students could study at Essex University and included an excellent talk by Simon Watt from the Ugly Animal preservation society which encouraged students to prevent extinction of all species. In the afternoon students chose a practical activity (pictured) or a lecture on Psychology.

Students were also invited to a practical Chemistry experience day on 21st June at King's College University, London, Waterloo Campus. A report on the day has been written by Aneesa Miah. Students spent most of the day carrying out practical tasks usually completed by 1st year undergraduate students.

30 Year 10 students attended the Sustainable Futures day at Anglia Ruskin University on 7th July to learn about the range of careers aiming to tackle climate change.



Students participated extremely well and we were told they were the best students they had ever had! Well done to all of those students for representing the school so well.

Dr. M. Keown - Teacher of Science



King's college trip by Aneesa M

On the 21st of June a group of year 9 students who had chosen triple science for their GCSE's along with a couple of students who wanted the experience went to king's college for a day.



We started by going into the lab and getting a talk about how the day would go. Half of the group completed a caffeine extraction practical while the other half completed a simple chromatography experiment. This took part for the first half of the day. After lunch, both groups switched and in the end everyone had completed both practicals. One of the specialists then gave a speech about the distillation of cherry coke.

After both practicals, we were given a careers speech about different career paths, and what studying science can offer you. Some of the helpers were students, they gave an insight to how student life would be.

Overall, I think that the day out to king's college was an amazing experience for all students and really helped us understand the different careers and paths science can take you.



Aneesa M - Year 9

Diary Dates:

Year 7 & 11 Return - Wednesday 6th
September 2023

Whole school return - Thursday 7th
September 2023

Whole school photos - Wednesday 13th
September 2023



Prom 2023

Friday the 7th July, was a night of celebration for De La Salle students at their leaving Prom in Stock Brook Manor Country Club, Billericay.

The girls made sparkling entrances in their glamorous dresses and the boys didn't disappoint with their smart and colourful suits. Transport varied from limousine to horse and carriage and even the odd sports car too!

The Prom awards were hosted by Mr Norris and Mr Butler. Prom King and Queen were announced to the delight of their peers and certificates were handed out for the many categories voted for by their student peers. The music set the scene for the night to come when DJ David Carew took over to the delight of students and staff. Everyone joined together to sing and dance the night away, creating a fun night for everyone to remember!

Goodbye Year 11, thank you for your outstandingly good conduct throughout the evening of the Prom, you were a credit to yourselves and to De La Salle School.

On behalf of all the staff at DLS I would like to wish the Class of 2018-2023, great success both in your exams and in your future; and hope that you will go on to fulfil all your hopes, dreams and ambitions.

God Bless.

Mrs. G. O'Brien - Prom Co-ordinator



Prom Queen	Luba N
Prom King	David C
Funniest person	Toby H
Smooth talker	Euan N
Best dressed	M - Juan C / F - Stella A
Most outrageous	Emmanuel O /Toberu A
Gossip Queen	Rianna O
Drama Queen	Miki B
The Joker	Joe D



Harry Potter - Studio Tour

On 10th July, Year 10 Creative Media students went on a trip to the Warner Brothers Studios (The Making of Harry Potter) at Leavesden. The students experienced an engaging workshop called 'Camera Choices'. This session complimented the theory work we have been covering in school, it allowed students to examine film sequences, helping them to develop their understanding of how a Director communicates atmosphere, meaning and narrative.

Following on from the workshop there was a tour of the studios enabling students to explore the authentic sets, see the props and discover the magic behind the special effects where all 8 of the Harry Potter films had been produced.

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

Mrs. F. McCallum





JULY 2023

Newsletter

EXTRA SUMMER SESSIONS

Thursday
20th July

18:00 - 20:00



Supporting a Child with ADHD

interactive session explaining what ADHD is and offering a range of interventions that can make lasting differences.

Thursday
27th July

18:30 - 20:30

Anxiety Explained

Whether it is your anxiety or your children's, what exactly is it and how do we manage it?

Thursday
3rd August

18:30 - 20:30



Drug Awareness talk for Parents

Cannabis, vaping, ketamine, energy drinks? How much do you know? what are the risks? Increase your knowledge and awareness of the issues.

Videos to rent for £5
Understanding the Teenage brain
Cannabis Awareness
Introduction to ADHD

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