



## HEADMASTER'S NEWSLETTER

MAY 2010

### INFORMATION REGARDING THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TEACHING ASSOCIATIONS AND THE STATES OF JERSEY.

You will be aware that there is a dispute between ESC and the Teacher's unions concerning the 2009 pay settlement. As a private College we are not involved in this dispute. Unless I contact you to the contrary please continue to send your son to school as normal.

### CONTACTING THE COLLEGE DURING THE HALF TERM BREAK

The admin department of the college will be closed from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June inclusive. The boys will be expected to start school on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June. Although no teachers will be in school over the half term the College buildings will be open from Tuesday to Friday, via The Beeches house, for boys on study leave who may wish to collect books etc.** If you have an issue that you feel cannot wait until the college re-opens then the following staff can be contacted throughout the half term break via e-mail

Mr J Turner on [j.turner@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:j.turner@delasalle.ac.je)

Mr K McGinty on [k.mcginnty@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:k.mcginnty@delasalle.ac.je) for academic and curriculum matters

Mr L Keenan on [l.keenan@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:l.keenan@delasalle.ac.je) for assessment and reporting

Mr S Stevenson on [s.stevenson@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:s.stevenson@delasalle.ac.je) for pastoral issues

Mr D Sharrock on [d.sharrock@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:d.sharrock@delasalle.ac.je) for lower school issues

Mr A Cook on [a.cook@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:a.cook@delasalle.ac.je) for upper school issues

Mr J McCarthy on [j.mccarthy@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:j.mccarthy@delasalle.ac.je) for sixth form issues

I would ask that these e-mail addresses be used for emergency only and all non urgent matters be left until school reopens.

### YEAR 12 STUDY LEAVE

This can be a confusing time for parents as some boys will have taken all of their AS examinations before half term while others will have many more to sit. The date when all boys in Year 12 must be back in school is Monday 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2010. **The only exception is boys who have A2 examinations to complete. I would ask parents of these boys to e-mail Mr McCarthy indicating the days they will be taking study leave.** From this point the boys will be completing either coursework or an extended task in their scheduled lessons. Please note you will be contacted by the school office if your son is not in school as normal. If you have any queries about this please contact Mr J McCarthy on [j.mccarthy@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:j.mccarthy@delasalle.ac.je). I would also like to restate that no one will be allowed to drop a subject until the results of their AS examinations are known on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2010.



### **ISLAND WALK – 2010**

I would like to say a sincere thank you to all the old boys, parents and friends of the school that assisted the Island Walk. Without their help and support we would not be able to administer this fantastic event.

It is very easy to forget that the purpose of the walk goes beyond personal endeavour but also raises significant amounts for local and national charities. I am as always astonished at the sums that individuals manage to raise. In our assembly I will recognise those boys who have raised significant amounts of money but I feel I should mention Conrad Nuth who as a new member of our school community raised a fantastic sum of money. Could I ask you to encourage your sons to bring their sponsor money into school as soon as possible. If your son has lost his sponsor form then I would ask that a donation is given to charity.

### **YEAR 13 LEAVERS MASS**

This mass is on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 18.00. The evening commences with a Mass at St Mary & St Peter's, followed by a buffet.

I understand that some boys feel that the first day of study leave is their leaving day, I would emphasise that it is not. The boys in year 13 have reached the beginning of the end of their time at De La Salle. They must now devote all their effort and energies into revision until their last exam. The school is open for their use after half term.

We will celebrate their achievements together on their leaving day (2<sup>nd</sup> July) when all their examinations are complete and they can relax and enjoy themselves.

### **SIGNING OFF DAY- 5<sup>th</sup> of July - YEAR 11 & YEAR 13**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of July from 09.00 the Year 13 boys and 11.00 the Year 11 boys should bring back their text books. Heads of Department will be waiting in the library and will then sign them off as having returned these items. Items not returned in good condition will incur a replacement charge.

### **PROJECT TRIDENT**

From the 21<sup>st</sup> June the boys in Year 10 will be given a taste of the world outside the walls of De La Salle. They invariably enjoy this experience and the reports from employers frequently 'sing the praises' of the boys placed with them. Mr Conoops (Project Trident co-ordinator) spends time discussing the requirements of this experience with the Year 10's but you may have particular questions you would like to be clarified. Please feel free to contact Mr Conoops on [n.conoops@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:n.conoops@delasalle.ac.je)

### **ENRICHMENT WEEK**

This begins on the 28<sup>th</sup> June and I **have enclosed with this newsletter** information about the events that will be taking place. They are many and varied! Mr Woodward is co-ordinating these events, please contact him on [a.woodward@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:a.woodward@delasalle.ac.je) if you have a concern. This week is an opportunity for your son to participate in an enrichment activity that will help him develop many of the social skills that we take for granted. These activities are designed to support the academic curriculum but they also bring so many other benefits that are hard to measure. I believe we are very lucky to have a group of staff who are prepared to devote time and energy in and out of school hours to this week. When we hear on the mainland of the decline in out of school activities I am grateful that



here at De La Salle we still value and maintain the immeasurable experiences that fulfil our lives.

### EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS FOR YEAR 10 & EXPRESS

Boys in **10 EXPRESS** will be taking GCSE examinations in Maths, English Language and French after half term. They will be allowed to study at home from **the 7<sup>th</sup> June to 15<sup>th</sup> June** or revise at school in silence according to their normal timetable.

Boys in 9 Express, 10 RED, 10 Green, 10 Blue who are taking their RS (Mark's gospel) exam on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June may stay at home and study on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June or revise at school in silence according to their normal timetable. (I would remind boys in Year 10 Geography that their first exam is on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June am)

Boys taking study leave must be in school by 12.30 at the latest for their afternoon examinations and by 08.45 for any morning exams. If your son wishes to study in school on these dates please inform Mr Cook by e-mail [a.cook@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:a.cook@delasalle.ac.je)

I again draw your son's attention to the following rules and regulations:

- These exams will be held in the gym.
- You must be wearing the complete school uniform.
- Remember that the appropriate equipment and materials as detailed below are your responsibility.
- Be aware of the regulations that apply to all public exams, **especially concerning mobile 'phones – see below.**

| THINGS TO HAVE:            | THINGS <u>NOT</u> TO HAVE:    |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                            |                               |
| <i>PENS with BLACK INK</i> | MOBILE 'PHONE                 |
| <i>PENCILS</i>             | i-PODS                        |
| <b>RULER</b>               | <b>MP3 PLAYERS</b>            |
| <b>ERASER</b>              | <b>TIPPEX</b>                 |
| <b>COLOURS</b>             | <b>FIZZY/SWEETENED DRINKS</b> |
| <b>MATH. INSTRUMENTS</b>   |                               |
| <b>CALCULATOR</b>          |                               |
| <b>WATER</b>               |                               |
| <b>TISSUES</b>             |                               |

### INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

For boys in **Year 7 & 8** their examinations will be administered by their subject teacher in their normal lessons during the week beginning **14th June**. Thus there is no difference to their normal routine. As a consequence examinations should be 45mins duration.



Boys in **Year 9 & 10** will be required to complete a Mock GCSE Examination or Rigorous Internal Examination completed under exam conditions or a Controlled Conditions assessment by June 18<sup>th</sup>.

As you will note from my proceeding remarks the vast majority of boys in years 9 & 10 now take external GCSE examinations and so the grades reported to you in your sons final report will give an indication of our expectations for the actual GCSE results.

### **OUT OF SCHOOL VISITS IN THE SUMMER TERM**

University Visits will be organised by Mr J McCarthy and will take place during activities week. These visits are very important and all the boys in the lower sixth are encouraged to attend. Virtually all of the boys will be attending university on the mainland and for many this is their first opportunity to make decisions on the type of campus and institution in which they would like to study. By participating in this visit your sons are demonstrating a degree of motivation and independence that is valued by Higher Education institutions.

I also want to wish all the boys from Years 12 & 13 who are going to Namibia at the end of June a happy and enjoyable trip. This visit for four weeks to experience a different culture will be an astonishing achievement and I am grateful for Mr Blanchard and Mrs Murray who have organised this and will be accompanying the boys.

### **BOOTS!**

Thank you, for all parents who worked with the school to ensure that the high standards of our uniform were maintained. I know that as a Headmaster I am blessed to have such a supportive body of parents who work with us to ensure we have a College we are all proud of.

### **CRIME AND SAFETY AWARENESS DAY**

It was with regret that I had to take the decision to cancel this day for year 8. The disruption caused by Volcanic ash caused problems for many staff returning to the school after the Easter break. The priority was to keep the school timetable functioning properly. In these circumstances and as important as this event was it was necessary for it to be cancelled. We will look at rescheduling this day later on in the year.

### **LASALLIAN VOICES**

Mr P McCarthy has asked that I highlight to you our need for contributors to the school magazine. The first three editions have been very successful but we need more articles. I know many boys take part in a variety of activities and events, we need their stories! Please encourage your son to sit down over the half term holiday and write an article for the magazine. The article can be submitted on line to [secondary.admin@delasalle.ac.je](mailto:secondary.admin@delasalle.ac.je) care of Mr P McCarthy.

### **CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT**

#### **JIS TRAINING BAND & ROYAL MARINE MUSIC WORKSHOP**

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April, Boys from DLS joined with the Band of the Royal Marines to have a fantastic morning of music. Tom Morris along with other boys in Year 7 had a



thoroughly enjoyable time and I think have developed a taste for such performances. I am sure they will make excellent additions to the Beaulieu/DLS big band.

### **RUGBY**

This year has been a fantastic success for all the boys who have participated in Rugby. We have an excellent set up and although Mr Kemp who has coached the boys this year is moving to the Mainland I hope that his successor will continue to develop the sport. I have asked Harry Cochrane in Year 10 to produce an article in the school magazine describing his experiences representing Hampshire in national competitions. I hope it will inspire many more boys to follow his example.

### **JUNIOR ISLAND TRIATHLON**

Congratulations to Hugh Percival (Year 8) who won the Island Triathlon held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May. Considering this was Founder's day this year. I think that St John Baptiste De La Salle would be very proud of his young student from Jersey.

### **JAZZ SOUS LES POMMIERS 2010 (14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2010)**

Mr Mcillwee who organised this event for the Big Band wanted to say the following:

*"Everyone worked hard with rehearsals, which we had Friday evening and all Saturday morning. When we arrived at our concert site in the evening, there were a lot of people and the marquee was full which made it quite nerve wracking when we started playing.*

*As each number finished the tent got fuller and fuller with people standing, sitting in the aisles and loads more standing outside. When we finished our set after an hour and fifteen minutes we received a rapturous applause and standing ovation. We then played an encore which they loved and we only left the stage because the next band was already 30 minutes later than scheduled. The organisers loved us and the sound technician said having been setting up and running that stage for 8 years, he considered we were one of the best bands he had seen perform. The Festival organisers definitely want us back if we can come next year."*

This has been a big project over many months and Mr Saunter (from Beaulieu) did a fabulous job with the arranging, conducting and solos. Mr McIllwee and Mrs Murray worked tremendously hard organising and supporting the boys and girls from the Beaulieu/De La Salle big band at this competition.

### **TENNIS**

Simon Johnson (Yr 8) was selected for the Channel Islands Junior Tennis Team who are playing Under 14's County Cup in Cardiff. Simon travelled to the UK on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April and competed hard on the Saturday and Sunday. I am sure there will be many more selections ahead of him.

### **CRICKET**

Rhys Munro (Yr 9) has been selected on numerous occasions to play Cricket for Jersey. But I felt it important to note that Rhys was drafted in to play in the Sixth form verses staff, cricket match on Founders day. Although delighted to see him, I did feel like lodging an official complaint, at the sixth form captain for playing an under age player. Especially when Rhys bowled out several of the staff !



### **SAM LEROY – YEAR 11 RHODES**

Sam Leroy had an amazing trip to Sheffield to attend the National Speed Lifesaving Championship. He broke one Island record in the 15-17 years group in the rope relay and he took part in the Club record in the Open (adult) Rope Relay. I am delighted to recognise Sam it is a wonderful experience to know that in your sport you are more accomplished than anyone else in your age range on the Island. Well done.

Accompanying Sam was another boy from DLS, George Queree from Year 9. George was awarded best new comer and most improved member of the Jersey Aquatic Rescue Club. This was his first competition at speed life saving and I hope that he takes inspiration from the example of his older Lasallian competitor.

### **CHARLIE HASSETT- YEAR 8**

Charlie will be following in the footsteps of Ryan Shaw (Yr 12) when they compete in the World Pool Association Under 18 Championship in Blackpool at the end of June. It is wonderful to see boys competing in a sport that they enjoy and in which they excel. However, it is always with great pride when I see De La Salle boys mentoring and supporting one another at such an event.

### **SURF TRIP TO FRANCE- 2010.**

I would like to thank Mr Martin, Mr Townsend and Mr Stevenson for all their hard work and effect on the surf week. The boys returned from France on the 29<sup>th</sup> May and were tired but overjoyed at their experiences. It is a delight for me when I talk to these young boys because their pleasure is evident. It is these qualitative achievements and experiences that make De La Salle so special. Quantitative success via examination grades is important and I was overjoyed last year at our 88% pass rate and value added score of +1 (in the top 4% of schools nationally). However, what really makes teachers happy is the joy in the eyes of young people when they have achieved something special. When our boys acquire memories that will be with them for life.

Once again may I congratulate **all the boys** who have taken part in the various competitions and events that have been organised this term. It is a constant source of pride to myself and other members of the La Sallian family here in Jersey to share in their reflected joy.

**J Turner**  
**Headmaster**