

THE LASALLIAN

CELEBRATING ACADEMIC AND EXTRA CURRICULAR SUCCESS

DLS STUDENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018



A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD STUDENT - ADAM MCKENNA

As Head Student of De La Salle College, I would firstly like to welcome you to this issue of our 2018/19 Newsletter series.

As we reach the end of our first term, it's time to reflect on our successes and achievements so far in this academic year.

Recently, I was delighted to be a part of our school's annual Prize Night. This was a real pleasure personally and I was grateful for the opportunity to address our pupils, staff and parents.

It was a memorable night of celebration for myself and my fellow pupils. I also had the pleasure of having a few insightful conversations with our guest speaker, and Lasallian, Paul McCrory. I found this extremely inspiring and I am sure his speech and personal words had a positive effect on my fellow students as well.

I would like to congratulate our student editorial team. I hope you enjoy our winter newsletter, and that you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

INSPIRATION

Inspirational Youth Awards of the West

SUCCESS

Achievements recognised at our packed prize night

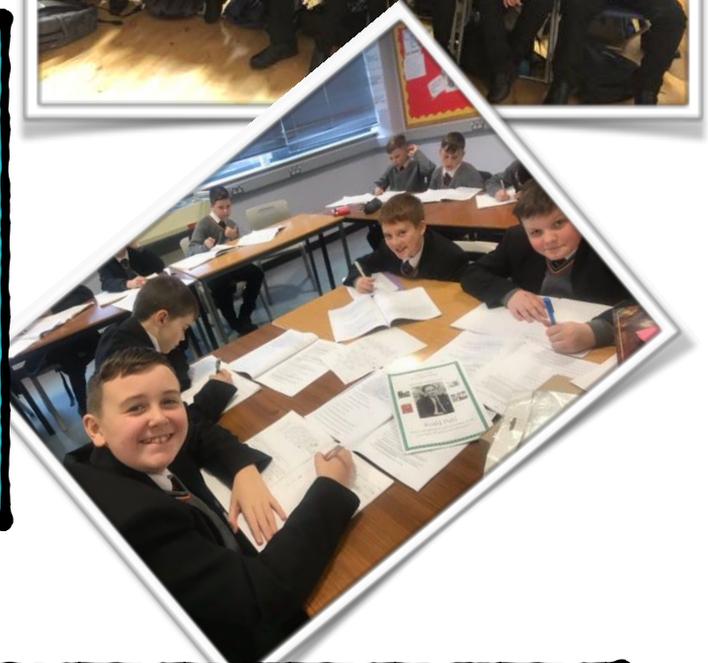
PERFORMANCE

DLS's The Wizard of Claus proves a real success

BECOMING A LASALLIAN

I have met many new people. My best memory of my first term is joining the choir and our trip to St George's market. My favourite subject is English because the teacher is very funny yet strict. I would tell P7s to see the school for themselves. The teachers are nice, strict and fair.

Daniel Hyndman, St Peter's Primary School



One of the big things for me in La Salle was meeting my new class and making many new friends. I love doing P.E. as we get to exercise as well as playing sport. The teachers in my school are very nice. You can talk to them if you are worried about something.

One of my favourite memories from my first term in De La Salle was making fans in Technology. However, my favourite subject so far has been History. This is because you get to learn about interesting times in the past. I would tell P7s that La Salle is very enjoyable. You will make lots of good friends and they make learning enjoyable.

Nathan Mulligan, St Kevin's



YEAR 8 LIFT THEIR FIRST GAELIC FOOTBALL TROPHY

WE TALK TO NATHAN, SHEA AND CONNLAOI WHO ALL PLAYED ON THE VICTORIOUS TEAM

On Friday 7th of December, we were picked up at 9:10 at the school. After arriving in Cookstown, we played our first game against Carrickmore. Despite being six points down in the first half, we came back and won by a point. In the final against Omagh we played brilliantly to lift the title.

NATHAN MULLIGAN, FORWARD.



In our first match in Cookstown against Carrickmore we fell behind by six points early on. We played better in the second half and ended up winning by a point. In the final match against Omagh we played extremely well. The best moment was when the final whistle went and all you could hear was... "Champions"

SHEA FLYNN, DEFENDER

We were picked up at ten past nine and made our way to Tyrone on a luxurious bus. From the start we walked out like champions, proud to represent our school. I was on the bench for the first half and saw our team fall behind. Then...boom..boom...boom...we came back to win. I played in the final. We kept giving the ball to Rhys Walsh as he was playing like lightning. We won well and we screamed and celebrated at the final whistle. We left the pitch as Ulster Champions.

CONNLAOI SPENCER, DEFENDER



SANTA HAT AEROBICS CREATES CHRISTMAS CHEER

**YEAR 9 ETHAN PATTERSON TALKS TO US
ABOUT THE 2018 SANTA HAT AEROBICS**

WHY DO YOU TAKE PART IN SANTA HAT AEROBICS?

There are two main reasons. The first reason is that it is great to see so many people get involved and doing the same thing at the same time and enjoying it. The second reason is that it makes you feel good that you are raising money for charity. This year we raised money for deterMND.

WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS DURING IT?

We do a lot of dance and aerobic moves to some high beat tunes. It is actually really tiring and you feel wrecked at the end of it but it is enjoyable throughout. We wear our own clothes that day which helps a lot.

WILL YOU TAKE PART NEXT YEAR?

Yes, definitely. This was my second year doing it and I already can't wait until next year. We raise a lot of money for good causes.



YEAR 10s EXCEL AT GAEL LINN QUIZ

The Gael Linn Quiz was held in the Falls Leisure Centre in October 2018. Over thirty teams competed in the quiz and six of the teams were from De La Salle College. Each team was made up of four pupils.

The quiz consisted of seven rounds which were made up of ten questions per round. I felt that the most memorable rounds were the famous

people and music rounds. We knew that we had done well and when they called out the scores for all the teams my team had finished in second place!!

I was so proud afterwards that we had represented De La Salle with distinction and I look forward to competing in future years.

Aaron Fennell, Year 10



OISIN MAGERR - 2018 GOLD FÁINNE RECIPIENT

My first experience with the Irish Language was when my parents sent me to Bunscoil Phobal Feirste. In Year 10 in De La Salle, my friends Sean and Daire joined me in asking our teacher if we could do our GCSE in Irish early. She said yes and we stayed after school every day for a few months.

I was a bit nervous when I came to do the exam but when it started I felt fine. Months later I received my result - an A! When I was invited to Prize Night to receive my gold fáinne (fáinne Óir) I was delighted. I now wear it to school every day.



YEAR 11s STRIVE TO KEEP STUDENTS SAFE ONLINE

YEAR 11 JACK HILL EXPLAINS THE WORK BEHIND THE DIANA AWARD INITIATIVE

The Diana Award is a project that I, Jack Hill, am very proud to promote. The Diana Award is a funded project that is directed at young people about the online world and how to stay safe surfing the web.

The campaign is delivered by young people and directed at young people. There are ten modules to address these including:

- My Digital Life
- Cyber Bullying
- Coding and Creativity
- Digital Footprint
- Peer Pressure Online
- Selfies and Self Esteem
- Critical Thinking Online
- Social Media
- Power of Play
- Digital Detox

The modules above allows us, as young people, to learn about the dangers of the online world and how to avoid the huge threats that are out there in the wide web. They also take away the knowledge of how what they write online can affect their education, life and social relationships.



We talk about how whatever you put online is permanent; even if you delete it there is still a carbon footprint in cyber space and that when you apply for a job or college all of this can be traced and can affect the decisions of the

employer or college enrolment director makes.

We also instruct students how to balance their lives with social media and still be able to have social interactions and school. From recent surveys we have gauged information which suggests that some pupils find themselves tired

during school hours because they were up all night on social media or a device.

This year we have a mentor in every KS3 form group. These mentors are in these classes to ensure that all pupils have somebody in their form class who they feel comfortable to talk to and tell them if they have issues that they are facing online or if they just want to get advice that are mentors are able to give.

Yr 12 WORK PLACEMENT 2018

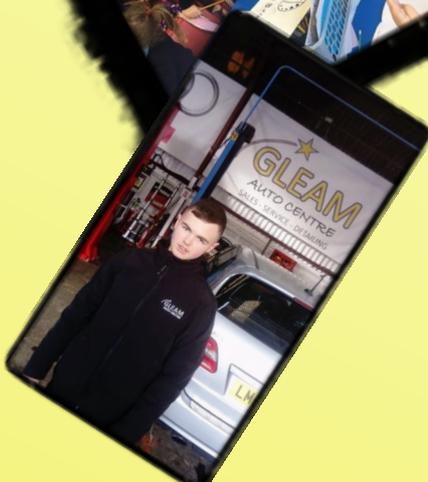


My work placement took me to O'Neills Sportswear shop in the Kennedy Centre. My job was to manage and label clothes, whilst helping customers who had questions on a range of issues. All of the staff were really nice, offering me advice on my future. I was well looked after and received a memento for the week's work.

CONALL MCSTRAVICK 12E

My work placement took place in the Andersonstown News office, in the media department. I wrote articles during the week and experienced how busy a newspaper's office can be. An article I wrote on my experience at the paper was published in the paper, which I am very proud of.

MATTHEW HUNTER 12A



YEAR 12'S **JOEL FORSYTHE**: INSPIRATIONAL WORK IN THE COMMUNITY AWARD WINNER

We talk to **Joel Forsythe** about his recent award for work in the local community

My name is Joel Forsythe. I am a Year 12 student at De La Salle College and recently I won the Inspirational Work in the Community award in the Inspirational Youth Awards in West Belfast.

I currently volunteer in a local nursing home where I engage with elderly people living with dementia. Also, I attended a dementia training workshop to help me and my group interact with those in need of help.

I also volunteer with young people in my Youth Club for a variety of activities in helping out in the community. I find this type of work immensely fulfilling and it makes you feel good that you're contributing to your community in a positive manner.



My group and I have organised a number of charity events such as stay awakes and bag packing activities in Asda for hampers for elderly people in the local area. I plan to organise another stay awake for Cancer Awareness. During the summer I took part in a march in the city centre to celebrate 70th anniversary of the NHS and to highlight the mental health stigma associated with young people.

I didn't expect to win the award as I was up against stiff competition. I feel so grateful for the support for the work I do with my Youth Club and other initiatives. I was delighted to receive the award but with or without awards, I will still continue to work in my community.

THE WIZARD OF CLAUS A MASSIVE SUCCESS



We talk to Marcus Toner (8f) who attended the show on Thursday night

WHAT WERE YOUR STANDOUT MOMENTS?

There were too many to mention as it was funny throughout. The actors were really professional though and I admire what they do.

WHAT WAS THE THE ATMOSPHERE LIKE IN THE HALL?

Everyone laughed a lot and there was a lot of clapping and stamping of feet after most scenes. Even though I was sitting at the back, I felt like I had the best seat in the house. I'm already looking forward to our next show though I don't know if I'll be acting!

2018 PRIZE NIGHT

PADRAIG TOQUILLO 11A

WERE YOU SURPRISED WHEN YOU WON THE AWARD?

I was really surprised because I didn't think I was getting the Key Stage 3 award for ICT.

ARE YOU HOPING TO GET A JOB IN ICT?

Well, I need to keep studying ICT because I want to achieve my dream job of becoming a Game Developer.



NATHAN MCARDLE 11B

I won an award on Prize night for English and Religion. I also won the Pat Durkin award for best Key Stage 3 pupil. I believe I won these awards because I enjoy both of these subjects. I think I won the Best Key Stage 3 pupil because I worked hard and studied when I needed to.

In the future I would like to stay on in sixth form and study two sciences and maths. I would like to go to university, possibly overseas and study a science. I would like to be an engineer or work at something in this area.





EDITORIAL TEAM

Chief Editor:

Jonathan O’Kane 11C

Journalists/Contributors:

Adam McKenna 14AD

Joel Forsythe 12B

Matthew Hunter 12A

Conall McStravick 12E

Ruairi Rooney 11C

Jack Hill 11B

Padraig Toquillo 11A

Oisin Magerr 11C

Nathan McArdle 11B

Aaron Fennell 10D

Ethan Patterson 9D

Shea Flynn 8A

Nathan Mulligan 8A

Connlaoi Spencer 8A

Daniel Hyndman 8A

Jamie Harden 8A

Marcus Toner 8F