



De La Salle College
Dundalk Co. Louth



29th March, 2017.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your son's/daughter's report for the Pre Exams is available online through the school website, www.delasalle.ie I would encourage you to discuss these results with your son/daughter.

I would like to take this opportunity to bring the following to your attention regarding the Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate examinations.

1. Students are advised not to engage in after school and week-end work and other activities that might interfere with their study in the term before the examination.
2. Students must **attend class** and perform work set by their teachers up to the **end of the school year**.
3. **Junior Certificate students** have now decided the level (Higher, Ordinary, Foundation) at which they intend sitting the examination in the various subjects. The Department of Education insists that the examination be taken at the chosen level. Changes will only be allowed for the most serious of reasons and in all cases requests for change should be made in writing by the parents of student and signed by the subject teacher not later than one week before the beginning of the examination.

The final term of the year begins on Monday, 24th April, 2017, and I would ask you to encourage your son/daughter to give as much time as possible to revision and to support his/her efforts in every way you can. An organised study schedule is strongly recommended, together with a good diet, adequate rest and a balanced leisure pattern over the coming weeks. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Social Network Sites/Mobile Phones. You are aware of the various social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter available over the Internet. While these sites have their value, they can also be used in inappropriate ways and can lead to bullying and harassment. These sites are public and no member of the school community should be subject to any type of improper or unacceptable comment. I would urge you to keep a careful check on how these sites are used and to ensure that no inappropriate material is accessed or passed to other contacts. If you have any concerns or come across material that is not proper, please let us know. To ensure the

privacy and safety of all members of the school community, students must have mobile phones turned off at all times during the school day. Any phone confiscated will be returned to a parent/guardian only.

Discipline. Respect is a core value in the school. Any form of aggression, verbal or physical is in breach of the school's Code of Behaviour. Fighting poses a physical threat to health and safety and brings the school's good name into disrepute. Any student involved in fighting, organising or encouraging fighting, recording or circulating such recordings will be brought before the school's Board of Management for sanction up to and including permanent exclusion.

Uniform. Parents are requested to ensure that students wear the full uniform to school every day. (This includes the journeys to and from school). A note must be provided if any item of uniform is missing, and every effort made to replace it as soon as possible. Non-uniform jackets will be confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian only. Following consultation with students and parents a new school jacket, which is both waterproof and breathable – Hunter Premium, has been introduced from September 2016 and is compulsory for all students purchasing new fleeces. The new jacket is available from Michael Lynch Menswear, Clanbrassil Street.

Voluntary Contributions. A sincere thanks to all who have made a contribution this year. Your support helps to narrow the gap between Department funding and the costs of running the school. If you have not yet contributed and are in a position to do so, payment may be made to the school office or through Easy-Payments Plus.

Administration fees for Junior and Senior Cycle contribute towards the costs of standardised testing, pre-exam papers, student Journals and photocopying and are requested at the beginning of each cycle. Inability to pay does not exclude participation at any level and parents/guardians in financial difficulty are invited to notify the Principal in confidence and are given every support possible.

Parents' Association. We thank the Parents' Association sincerely for the contribution they make to the school year after year, both in terms of support and financial assistance. This year, again, they will be distributing a €25.00 ticket per family after Easter. The target is to raise €15,000.00 to support development of the school's resources. The money raised will help fund the provision of a school oratory. We urge you to support this initiative for the benefit of your sons. Please find enclosed letter from The Parents' Association.

We appreciate your full co-operation and support in these matters. With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

Patricia O' Leary

Principal