

# Trafalgar Newsletter

## Special Events:

### Spring Term 2026 February 2026

9<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Children's Mental Health Week  
10<sup>th</sup> Safer Internet Day  
13<sup>th</sup> FTS NNS & Cake Sale after school  
16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Half Term break  
23<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day. School closed to the children.  
24<sup>th</sup> Return to school

### March

4<sup>th</sup> 9.15am Supporting Parents Workshop  
5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day  
10<sup>th</sup> Horsham Museum to visit Y1  
17<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Reception Performance to Rabbit Class parents  
18<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Reception Performance to Mole Class parents  
19<sup>th</sup> 9am-12pm Let's Get Creative a.m.  
3.20-4pm Open Afternoon  
20<sup>th</sup> Red Nose Day  
30<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Apr Easter holidays

### Summer Term 2026 April 2026

13<sup>th</sup> First day Summer Term

### May 2026

15<sup>th</sup> JP Photographic - Class Group photographs  
25-29<sup>th</sup> Half Term break

### June 2026

1<sup>st</sup> Return to school

### July 2026

20<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Term  
21<sup>st</sup> INSET Day. School closed to the children.  
22<sup>nd</sup> INSET Day. School closed to the children.

## Happy Half Term Break



I would like to thank you all for your support this half term. So many of you help us in all sorts of ways and it is certainly appreciated.

On behalf of the Trafalgar community, we wish you all a very happy and healthy half term break with the chance to enjoy the change of routine.

## INSET Day

Please remember that there will be an **INSET day on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February** and **school will be closed to the children.** Therefore, we will look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February.**

## Parent Consultations

If you have not yet signed up for a Parent Consultation with your child's class teacher please remember to do so before 6<sup>th</sup> March via the on-line booking system at <https://trafalgarschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Following 6<sup>th</sup> March, you will need to contact the School Office to book an appointment.

Miss Hickie  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for our first week back will be:

**Welcome Back and Core Value - 'We are healthy and active'**



## Attendance Update

**Highest Class Attendance for this week goes to:**

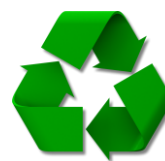
**Rabbit Class – 96.46%**

**Whole School Attendance is 95.29%**

(National Expectation is 96% or better)

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 93.37% across all schools in the week commencing 19 January 2026. The absence rate was, therefore, 6.63% across all schools.

## Scooters/Bikes & Lost Property



Please ensure that all bikes and scooters are taken home today. Please also come and look in the blue lost property 'bin' if your child has mislaid anything as all unnamed items may be recycled.

Please can we also reiterate how important it is that bikes, scooters and helmets are named, along with all items of clothing.



## Reception Post Box Walks

Rabbits and Moles enjoyed a walk to the local post box this week to post their thank you letters to the doctor, the dental nurse and the firefighters who visited us this term. The children were very excited to be leaving school and going on a short trip and we even saw the postman on our travels.

"You need a stamp."

"Look! There is the postman's van!"

"There is the postbox, it is red!"

"You need letters and numbers on the letter so the postman knows where to send the letter to."

We saw some daffodils and crocus growing in someone's front garden. When we arrived back at school we even saw some snowdrops growing in the Rec.

"The daffodils are growing. They are yellow. What are the purple flowers?"

"The white flowers are called snowdrops."

The walk gave the children a wonderful chance to practise real-life skills, like crossing the road safely. We may have got a bit wet in the rain but we enjoyed singing our favourite songs, talking about our own experiences and spotting the signs of winter and early spring. We definitely got our steps in this week!

Reception Year team

**Safer  
Internet  
Day 2026** | **Tuesday  
10 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

[saferinternetday.org.uk](https://saferinternetday.org.uk)

This week, the children took part in **Safer Internet Day**, where we learned how to use the internet in a safe way. Our teaching this year was based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices - Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. The children talked about how to stay safe whilst using the internet, asking a grown up for help if something feels wrong and keeping personal information private.

**In Reception, the children talked about voice assistants and how we can safely use them.**

"I have an Alexa at home and it can play music."

"They are not a real person."

"They can tell you a fact about centipedes."

"Miss Carne put a timer on the iPad without touching any buttons!"

**In Year 1, the children created smoothies on Purple Mash and they talked about how they keep their personal information private, for example their log in details.**

"You have to log in with your password. You don't share your password with anyone but you can tell your trusted adult like my Mummy."

"You have to remember to log out so no one can use your Purple Mash log in."

**In Year 2, the children also talked about voice assistants.**

"Voice assistants could tell you a story but it might do a scary one...so you need to say 'tell a story for a 7 year old boy'."

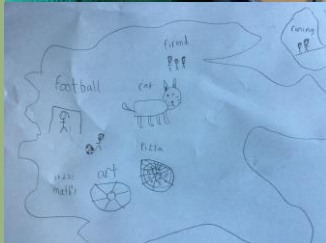
"An Alexa can't throw a ball."

"A voice assistant is like a computer speaker."

**It is really important to talk with your children on an ongoing basis about staying safe online and when using technology. Here are a few conversation starters to help:**

- Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online or when using technology.
- Ask them about how they stay safe online or when using technology.
- Ask them if they know where to go for help, when at home or at school.

Trafalgar School Fund  
QR Code:



## Reception Year Performances – 'Rhyming Rabbit'



Join us for a journey underground as our Reception children bring '*The Rhyming Rabbit*' to life! Meet a very special rabbit who sees the world a little differently – through rhyme, rhythm and a big imagination. Tired of being ignored by the other rabbits, the Rhyming Rabbit hops off on an adventure, discovering new friends, new sounds and new inspiration along the way.

We are looking forward to performing for **Rabbit Class** parents and carers on **Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March** and **Mole Class** parents and carers on **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March** at 9:30am.

We hope you enjoy our performance and look forward to seeing you there!

To help the school to continue to provide the best possible resources for the children, there will be collection buckets and a QR code available for donations into our school fund, no matter how small. Any contribution that you are able to make is really valuable to us.

Many thanks for your support.

## Mental Health Week 2026

As part of **Children's Mental Health Week**, the Reception children took part in calming yoga sessions, learning simple movements to help their bodies relax and their minds feel calm. We also spent time talking together about what makes us happy, from playing with friends to spending time with family.

The children shared some wonderful ideas and showed some awareness of their own feelings. It was a lovely opportunity to support their wellbeing and help them understand the importance of looking after their minds as well as their bodies. Take a look in the windows of Rabbit and Mole classrooms and you will see the children's '**Proud Clouds**'.

**Badger Class** watched the video about special places for the theme This is my place and belonging to places.

They then designed a map showing places that are special to us and how they are linked.

## Year 2 Pizza Making

Year 2 have enjoyed making pizzas as part of their DT project this half term. We have tasted and chosen our bases from a variety of breads, discussed which pizza toppings we like (black olives and pepperoni were very popular!), tried a variety of pizzas to choose what we would like to have on ours, looked at how to design an eye-catching box before reaching the end and making our own pizzas to eat and evaluate!

Thank you so much for supporting us during this topic and contributing ingredients, it has been greatly appreciated.

"I loved adding the pineapple, it was really easy to cut up."

"The cheese was different to my cheese at home but it tasted nice"

"I could cut the ham into small pieces and put it all over my pizza."



## Term Dates 2025/2026

### Autumn Term:

3<sup>rd</sup> Sept - 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

- Half Term 27<sup>th</sup> Oct - 31<sup>st</sup> Oct
- Christmas break 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2025 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2026

### Spring Term:

5<sup>th</sup> Jan - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

- Half Term 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Easter break 30<sup>th</sup> March - 10<sup>th</sup> April

### Summer Term:

13<sup>th</sup> April - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

- Half Term 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> May

## INSET Days 2025/2026

- Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2025
- Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2025
- Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026
- Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026
- Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

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## Could you become a school governor?

Your school Governors have been busy working with Miss Hickie, Mrs Cotton and the staff over the last few months since the start of term. We have had the pleasure of seeing some of your children enjoying their day in school through our 'Learning Walks' and we've also been making sure that we have good insight and discussion of the school's priorities - both mid term but also looking at areas such as strategic planning for the next school year - its already that time of year for new Parents to register their children for our Reception class! We have also been following Government and West Sussex updates with regard to SEND provision and understanding best practice in the locality - an important and highly visible topic for all schools at the moment.

All school's benefit hugely from the volunteers that work in the best interests of the pupils and the staff - whether its volunteering to be part of the Friends of Trafalgar raising funds that directly benefit your child, or volunteering to be part of the Board of Governors helping set direction of travel and bringing varied and diverse expertise to the overall leadership of the school. Did you know that by becoming a School Governor you would be joining the largest group of volunteers in the country? Feb 12<sup>th</sup> is also **National School Governors Awareness Day** too. We are actively seeking Parent Governors - we cannot function without you! Why not find out more about the role - email [office@trafalgarinfant.com](mailto:office@trafalgarinfant.com) to express an interest or take the quiz!



[Could you Become a Governor?](#)



### Did you know....?

"Language develops through interaction with others. Inevitably, by the time they start school, some children understand more and know more words than others, because of the quantity and quality of the interactions they have already had with adults and others. *Children who begin school with a poor understanding of language will need considerable support to develop their spoken language.*"

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1050849/Reading\\_framework\\_Teaching\\_the\\_foundations\\_of\\_literacy\\_-\\_July\\_2021\\_Jan\\_22\\_update.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1050849/Reading_framework_Teaching_the_foundations_of_literacy_-_July_2021_Jan_22_update.pdf))

### Challenge(s) of the week...

- **Make a 'story sack'** at home, based on a favourite story or a story you have just read! Can your child make/draw/find things that they could use to bring that story 'to life'?
- Discuss the key parts of the story - can you **make a 'story map' to go with your story sack?** A story map is a series of pictures and simple words with arrows between them. You can use the 'map' to retell the story. (Example below, for the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'!)

