



# Trafalgar Newsletter

## Safeguarding : Parking

25<sup>th</sup> September 2026

### Special Events:

#### Autumn Term 2026

##### September

- 1<sup>st</sup> INSET day. School closed to the children.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> INSET day. School closed to the children.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> First day of Autumn term for the children

##### October

- 1<sup>st</sup> National Poetry Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Assembly
- 6<sup>th</sup> Year 1 Come and watch a phonics session (2.30pm)
- 9<sup>th</sup> Individual school photos being taken in school - JP Photographic
- 15<sup>th</sup> Reception Parents '6 week in meeting' 2.15pm
- 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> Half term break

##### November

- 2<sup>nd</sup> INSET Day. School closed to the children.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Influenza Vaccination Day - Whole School
- 10<sup>th</sup> Year 2 Come and watch a phonics session (2.30pm)
- 13<sup>th</sup> Children in Need 2026
- 18<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm Parent Consultations
- 24<sup>th</sup> 3.40-5pm Parent Consultations
- 25<sup>th</sup> 3.40-5pm Parent Consultations

##### December

- 8<sup>th</sup> Year 1 Performance to Parents/Carers
- 9<sup>th</sup> Year 1 Performance to Parents/Carers
- 11<sup>th</sup> FTS Children's Christmas Market
- 15<sup>th</sup> FTS Pantomime treat
- 18<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Term
- 21<sup>st</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Jan Christmas break

Thank you to those parents who continue to park safely when dropping off children at our school. Please continue to park in a safe and respectful way, not blocking another car or a neighbour's driveway and not on any yellow lines or zigzags. The yellow lines are there to ensure there are safe crossing points for our children and their families.

Please remember that the car park is for **staff only** - unless you have a parking permit on display which you will only have if you have discussed it with the Headteacher. Thank you for your co-operation.

## School Gates



Please be aware that while we will always try to open both gates for drop off and pick up, there may not always be a school adult on both gates and one of the gates may need to be closed early. Please always supervise your children while you wait for them to go into class and at the end of the day.

A reminder also that the Pirate Ship and Trim Trail should **not** be used at these times because we do not necessarily have first aiders on site before and after school and our insurance will only cover useage during the school day.

Miss Hickie  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## How do we keep ourselves safe in school

In our assemblies this week we've been thinking all about how to be safe. As part of this we found out about allergy awareness. You might like to talk about it at home too.

## Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for this week has been:

**'How do we keep ourselves safe in school'**

and for next week will be:

**'Poetry'**



## Attendance Update

### Highest Class

**Attendance this week goes to:**

**Mole Class – 99.02%**

**Whole School Attendance is 94.89%**

(National Expectation is 96% or better)



## *Year 1 Phonics and Reading Workshop : Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October @ 2pm*



We are delighted to invite our Year 1 parent/carers to our Year 1 Phonics and Reading Workshop at 2:30pm on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October.

This relaxed and informative session is a wonderful opportunity to find out more about how phonics is taught in Year 1, how it builds on the learning from Reception, and what to expect from the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check that children complete later in the year.

As part of the workshop, you will also be invited into the classroom to watch a live phonics lesson, giving you a chance to see first-hand how we teach phonics and support children as they develop their reading skills.

Whether you would like to learn more about phonics, see a lesson in action, or simply ask questions, we would love for you to join us.

**Year 1 team**

## *Reception Year 6-week-in Parent/Carers Meeting Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October*



A reminder that we would like to invite Reception Year parent/carers to our '6 Weeks-In Meeting' on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October from 2.15-3.30. This will be an opportunity to find out more about the structure and content of the Reception year and to spend some time in class with your child.

**2.15-2.45pm** Mrs Cotton will talk about the Early Years Foundation Stage and how we teach different areas of learning, including phonics and maths. There will be a chance to ask any questions.

**2.45-3.00pm** An opportunity to watch your child during a whole class phonics session.

**3.00-3.15pm** Time for your child to show you around the classroom.

**3.15-3.30pm** You are welcome to leave, but the classroom will remain open if you would like to spend longer

If you would like to attend this meeting, please email the School Office at [office@trafalgarinfant.com](mailto:office@trafalgarinfant.com). If you are unable to make the meeting, please don't worry. We will share information on Seesaw and there will be future Open Afternoons as well as our Parent Consultations where you will be able to visit classes.

**Reception Year team**

*Massive Thank You!*



A big thank you to Mr Street from Data Mail Solutions Limited for another large quantity of A4 paper that has been donated to school.

It is hugely appreciated and will make a massive difference.

## Parent Survey Response

Last year our parent survey was overwhelmingly positive. 98% would recommend Trafalgar to another parent and feels their child is safe at school and 93% are confident their child does well at Trafalgar. We also had some amazing comments including... "There is a strong culture of care throughout the school", "We have been very impressed with the quality of teaching and happy with our experience. Thank you", "SEND support is excellent".

However, there is always more we can do and we strive to make our school even better...

### You Said:

While over 95% of parents said 'the school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year'; 21% of responses said they were unsure if 'the school had high expectations for my child' and some comments highlighted that parents weren't sure what was being taught in different subjects.

### We Did:

Implemented 'Seesaw Learning Platform' across all year groups so parents have more ways to see what their child is learning and hopefully an easier way to access the 'weekly overviews' for each class which tell you about what is being learnt in each subject and ways you can support at home.

Offering further opportunities to see learning in action: Phonic Workshops happening this term where you will be able to watch the teaching of phonics.

### You Said:

About 10% of parents were unsure 'how the school supports my child's wider development' and if 'my child can take part in clubs and activities'

### We Did:

One of the 4 key priorities on our 'School improvement Plan' this year is Personal Development. We want to embed an ambitious and cohesive personal development offer to ensure children, including those in vulnerable groups benefit from a range of experiences and a sense of belonging. This means we are looking at the range of clubs and enrichment activities like trips and special events that we offer and making sure as many children as possible can access these. This will include things like strengthening our Woodland Time provision, embedding our Sports & Wellbeing Week and creating a yearly timetable of enrichment.

If you have any ideas of ways you can support this priority please let us know! Maybe you work in the local community and know a great place we can visit; or you would like to be involved in running a club; or you could share something about your religion, a festival you celebrate, or the country you're from?

## Individual School Photos – Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> October



The school photographer will be available to take individual school photos of every child in each class on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> October.

If you would like siblings who **do not** attend Trafalgar to have their photographs taken together, please be ready at school for 8.00am promptly and go straight to the Hall. Siblings in school will automatically have their photographs taken together during the school day.

Unless you have completed relevant paperwork to say you **do not** wish your child to be photographed, we will assume that you are happy to have your child photographed.

Please let the School Office know by Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October if this is **NOT** the case.

## Term Dates 2026/2027

### Autumn Term:

1<sup>st</sup> Sept - 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2026

- Half Term 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> October
- Christmas break 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2026-1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2027

### Spring Term:

4<sup>th</sup> Jan - 25<sup>th</sup> Mar

- Half Term 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February
- Easter Break 26<sup>th</sup> Mar-9<sup>th</sup> Apr

### Summer Term:

12<sup>th</sup> Apr-21<sup>st</sup> July

- Half Term 31<sup>st</sup> May-4<sup>th</sup> June

## INSET Days 2026/2027

- Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2026
- Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept
- Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November
- Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2027
- Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> July

**Trafalgar School Fund  
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## *A message from the Governors*

### *Coming soon: Consultation on joining the GLF Academy Trust*

Further to our communication issued last year, the governing body are actively considering the potential for Trafalgar Community Infant School to join the GLF academy trust. There are a number of schools across Sussex and Surrey that are part of this trust, including Greenway Junior School.

As part of this process, we will be running a consultation to allow all interested stakeholders, including staff, parents and carers, to share their views. While no decision has been made at this stage, the governing body's current 'minded to' position is to recommend Trafalgar joins the GLF trust and becomes an academy school, albeit this is subject to both the consultation and further due diligence undertaken by all parties involved.

We understand that many of you will have questions about what this change could mean. Firstly, we want to reassure that the priority of the governing body is to only ever take a decision that we are confident is in the best interest of the school and the pupils themselves. As part of the upcoming consultation launch we will be issuing a more detailed explanation of the proposal under consideration and offering an opportunity for an in-person after school meeting for parents and other interested parties to come and hear from the governors, the school, and GLF representatives (dates and further details to follow).

Thank you for your continued support of the school and we hope you will take the opportunity to engage in the consultation process when it goes live.

**Richard King**

Parent Governor and Co-Chair of the Governing Body

## *Website Translator*



A reminder that our website can be translated at the touch of a button to another language... by clicking on the 'select language' menu at the top of the home page.



### Did you know....?

"Evidence suggests that children who *read for enjoyment every day* not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures."

(<https://www.pearson.com/uk/learners/primary-parents/learn-at-home/help-your-child-to-enjoy-reading/why-is-reading-so-important.html>)

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

- Set aside some time this week to read the **reading section of our school website:** [https://trafalgar.eschools.co.uk/web/english\\_-\\_phonicsreading/176619](https://trafalgar.eschools.co.uk/web/english_-_phonicsreading/176619)
- Make a resolution to **spend at least 10 minutes every day** reading a story (or chapter of a story) to your child/children.