

# Trafalgar Newsletter

## Special Events:

### Autumn Term 2024

#### December

9<sup>th</sup> 6pm Y2 Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church  
10<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Year 1 Performance to Parents/Carers  
11<sup>th</sup> 6pm Y2 Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church  
12<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Year 1 Performance to Parents/Carers  
13<sup>th</sup> Open Afternoon  
17<sup>th</sup> FTS Christmas Market & Christmas Jumper Day  
20<sup>th</sup> FTS Pantomime treat  
23<sup>rd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Jan Last Day of Term  
Christmas break

### Spring Term 2025

#### January 2025

6<sup>th</sup> Spring Term begins

#### February

17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Half Term break  
24<sup>th</sup> INSET Day (school closed to the children)

#### March

#### April

7<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Easter holidays  
22<sup>nd</sup> Summer term begins

Trafalgar School Fund  
QR Code:



## Christmas Celebrations



A reminder that on **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December** EasyLunch will be serving a Christmas Lunch to all those children who have a hot meal each day. If your child brings their own packed lunch to school, you may wish to give them something a little festive in their lunchbox on this day. Please remember our 'No Nuts' policy though.

Please also remember that on **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December** and **Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December** the children who have signed up for a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) each day will be provided with a lunchbox rather than a hot meal due to the Hall being out of use for the Children's Christmas Market and the touring pantomime 'Cinderella' respectively. Thank you to the FTS for both these much anticipated events.

We will also be having a celebration assembly on **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December** where end of term certificates will be given out. In addition, we are hoping Father Christmas will be visiting the children outside their classrooms on **Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December**. We believe that if each class behaves really well they will receive a present from Santa's grotto.

Miss Hickie  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## 'A Christmas Recipe' – Year 1 Performance



A reminder that our Year 1 children will be performing for up to a maximum of two parents/carers at 9.30am on the mornings of Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December. The Tuesday performance will be for Mouse class (all) and Otter class A-K surnames and the Wednesday performance will be for Squirrel class (all) and Otter class L-Z surnames. We look forward to welcoming you into school.

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 which you are able to make is really valuable to us.

Many thanks for your support.

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for next week is:

**Kindness**



## Attendance Update

**Highest Class**

**Attendance for this week goes to:**

**Otter Class – 99.56%**

**Whole School Attendance is 96.01%**

**(National Expectation is 96% or better)**

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 93.0% across all schools in the week commencing **18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**. The absence rate was, therefore, 7.0% across all schools.

## Children's Christmas Market - Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December



Please remember that on Children's Christmas Market day all children, staff and volunteers at Trafalgar are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers to give it an extra special Christmassy feel.

Due to the Christmas Market being set up in the Hall on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, we will be unable to serve hot lunches.

However, if your child usually has a Universal Infant Free School Meal please don't worry as a free lunch box will be provided instead and the children will 'picnic' in their classrooms. If your child usually brings a packed lunch to school, you need do nothing different but you may wish to give the contents a festive feel on this particular day.

## Year 2 Carol Services at Holy Trinity Church



It's been wonderful hearing our Year 2 children practicing for their Carol Services at Holy Trinity Church, Horsham for family and friends on **Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December** and **Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December** at 6pm.

Please remember to come and join us at either service but we will be requiring your Year 2 child at both services. On each night you will need to bring your child to the church at 5.45pm, no later than 5.50pm please. They should be wearing school uniform and do not need anything else. The service should finish at 6.45pm and the children will be released to you one class at a time. Please be patient at this time as the safety of your child is priority. We look forward to you joining us.

Year 2 team

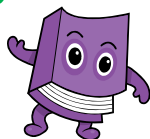
## Open Afternoon – Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December



On Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December we will be having an Open Afternoon from 3.20-4.00pm.

We hope you will take this opportunity to come into school and have a look around your child's classroom at all the interesting learning that has been taking place during the Autumn term. Please feel free to visit other classrooms too.

## Trafalgar School Books



**Please, please remember** to look for any Trafalgar School books you may have lurking under beds, in drawers or down beside sofa cushions and return them to school before the end of term ... no questions asked!

Thank you very much.

## No Nuts



Please be aware that products containing nuts could be a risk to other children in school with a nut allergy, so please avoid giving your child **anything** containing nuts to eat in their snack or lunchbox.

Thank you.

## Group Interventions – ‘Narrative Tales’

Christmas is a time for storytelling when characters and settings are at their most magical as Mrs Bolton and her Narrative Tales groups have been discovering. "Of all the different kinds of beliefs there are, the belief of a child is by far the most unbelievably unstoppable" as Tom Fletcher told us in 'The Christmasaurus' of course.

The concepts of who, where, when, what happened next and the end are used to retell events and plan stories every Thursday at Trafalgar and with a sprinkle of festive focus the children's imaginations have been in great spirits recently.

Week by week they've been developing a sparkling bank of vocabulary and jingling all the way with images that can be drawn upon and daydreamed about to invent new stories.

By thinking about the roles of both authors and illustrators the children are encouraged to: pick out and retain key information about characters; remember where and when events happened; and recreate alternative scenarios to change endings and outcomes. They also learn actions to make key question words memorable and well known and new stories alike are shared and developed to support the groups' story structure skills.

As this term nears an end Mrs Bolton and her little helpers have been exploring: who Santa may meet if Rudolph were to get lost en route back to the North Pole; what the elves might wear for their annual fancy dress selfie; and how Mrs Claus would feel if Christmas was moved to the middle of summer during her annual sunshine ho-ho-holiday to Spain!



## Changes to Contact Details



Please ensure that if you change any of your contact details that you advise the School Office as soon as possible.

Thank you.

## Term Dates 2024/2025

### Autumn Term:

2<sup>nd</sup> Sept - 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024

- Half Term 28<sup>th</sup> Oct - 1<sup>st</sup> Nov
- Christmas break 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2024 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2025

### Spring Term:

6<sup>th</sup> Jan - 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

- Half Term 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Feb
- Easter break 7<sup>th</sup> April - 21<sup>st</sup> April

### Summer Term:

22<sup>nd</sup> April - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

- Half Term 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> May

### Inset Days

- Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2024
- Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2024
- Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025
- Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025
- Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025

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## Message from Holly Prescott, Vice Chair of Governors



As we approach the end of this first term and the festive season is upon us, we would like to take the opportunity to update you on some exciting developments from The Governing Body.

We continue to work on the school's priorities for 2024/25 looking at the positive impact that some of the new programmes have had.

Governors are supporting teachers and subject leaders to continue the fantastic work they do to provide opportunities for learning to all children. We have had some fantastic presentations in maths and computing from the children during the most recent pupil progress and curriculum committee meeting. They've taken great pride in showing us their work.

If you would like more information, a copy of the Governor Impact Statement is displayed on the governor noticeboard by the School Office. If you would like to speak to a governor, please contact the School Office.

Holly Prescott  
Vice Chair of Governors



### 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'!)

