



# Trafalgar Newsletter

## Special Events:

### February

28<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm Parent Consultations (Whole School)  
29<sup>th</sup> Let's Get Creative

### March

6<sup>th</sup> 3.30-5.30pm Parent Consultations (Whole School)  
7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day  
3.30-5.30pm Parent Consultations (Whole School)  
12<sup>th</sup> 9.15am Maths Workshop in the Hall  
18<sup>th</sup> African Drumming Workshop  
19<sup>th</sup> 9.45am YR Performance to Sky class (all) and Navy class A-M surnames Parent/Carers  
20<sup>th</sup> 9.45am YR Performance to Turquoise class (all) and Navy class N-Z surnames Parent/Carers  
21<sup>st</sup> Spring Term Open Afternoon  
25<sup>th</sup> Navy Class Woodland Time  
26<sup>th</sup> Sky Class Woodland Time  
27<sup>th</sup> Turquoise Class Woodland Time  
29<sup>th</sup> Mar-12<sup>th</sup> Apr Easter holidays

### April

15<sup>th</sup> Return to school

## Welcome Back to Spring Term 2024!



Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term 2024. We hope you all had a good half term break and were able to enjoy the milder, sunny weather. It was nice to see the children return smiling and full of energy, ready for learning this week.



## Open Afternoon

On Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March we will be having an Open Afternoon from 3.15-4.00pm.

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 Spring term. Please feel free to visit other classrooms too.

Miss Hickie  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Parent Consultations – Spring Term 2024

The on-line booking system is now closed however, if you haven't yet booked an appointment to meet with your child/ren's teacher on either Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February (4.00-7.00pm), Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March or Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March (both 3.30-5.30pm) please contact the School Office and they will be able to look at available dates for you.

Due to Ms Bowles being absent last half term, she will not be holding Parent Consultations on these evenings as she will need some time to work with staff to find out how the children's learning has progressed and what their current next steps are.

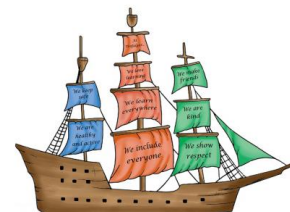
However, Turquoise Class parent/carers are invited to look at your children's work on either Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March or Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March instead and have an informal chat with a member of staff after school (3.15pm to 4.30pm) in the classroom. We will then rearrange the parent consultation evenings for Turquoise Class when Ms Bowles has all the information she needs to share with you.

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

## Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for next week will be:

## Our School Values at Lunch and Playtime



## Attendance Update

Highest Class  
Attendance for this week  
goes to:

Lime Green – 100%

Whole School Attendance is 95.29%  
(National Expectation is 96% or better)

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 91.9% across all schools in the week commencing 5 February 2024. The absence rate was, therefore, 8.1% across all schools.

## *Visit by Horsham Museum to Year 1*

Year 1 really enjoyed their visit from Horsham Museum this week and being palaeontologists. A very big thank you to everyone for your voluntary donations to cover the cost of this valuable experience.



## *WSCC SEND Register*

Did you know that West Sussex County Council has a responsibility to maintain a register of under 25s who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The information helps the County Council to map, plan and tailor services to meet the needs of communities across West Sussex.

<https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/disability-register-0-25>

## *INSET Days 2024/2025*

For the advance notice for our current Reception and Year 1 families, please find below the five INSET days scheduled for academic year 2024/2025 at Trafalgar Community Infant School. These are days that school will be closed to the children.

***Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024***

***Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024***

***Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025***

***Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025***

***Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025***

## Term Dates 2023/2024

### Autumn Term:

1 Sept - 15 Dec 2023

- Half Term 23 - 27 Oct
- Christmas break 18 Dec - 1 Jan 2024

### Spring Term:

2 Jan - 28 March 2024

- Half Term 12 - 16 Feb
- Easter break 29 March - 12 April

### Summer Term:

15 April - 23 July 2024

- Half Term 27 - 31 May

### INSET Days

- Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2023
- Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023
- Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023
- Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024
- Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

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## Lunchtime Club

Our popular Lunchtime Club is a calm, safe space that gives children the opportunity to interact with their peers during a more unstructured time of the school day. These sessions can improve social skills, increase friendships and promote social acceptance and feelings of happiness with an equal focus given to spending independent, reflective time as well as exploring the concepts of teamwork, cooperation and collaboration.

Rotating around our six Year 1 and 2 classrooms each half term children become familiar with new areas of our school and sometimes enjoy returning to their old classroom or maybe spending time in what could be their future learning environment. Sessions run on a daily basis with the exception of wet play times and are always accompanied by mindfulness based, background music and low lighting in order to reduce arousal levels.

At present this opportunity is open to all children and we'd obviously like this to continue to be the case so if you have any of the following age appropriate resources that are in good condition/complete we'd love nothing more than to take them off your hands please!

We urgently need:

**Scratchy art paper**

**Chalks/pastels**

**Patterned paper/card**

**Wind up, light up and liquid toys**

**Stress balls/pop its/stretchy toys**

**Magnetic building**

**Slime/putty/play foam**

**Puzzle games**

**Lego/K'nex**

**Bubble solution**

**Scented/tactile pens/pencils**

**Stickers**

**Art/craft kits**

**Sensory mats/tiles**

**Water beads**

**Play Doh**

**Kinetic Sand**

**Jigsaw puzzles**

**Construction sets**

Warmest thanks in advance for your support.

Mrs Bolton, ELSA



Did you know....?	Challenge(s) of the week...
<p>“Decoding refers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• reading unfamiliar words (words that have not been decoded before) by saying the sounds corresponding to the letters in the words and then blending the sounds together, either aloud or silently</li><li>• reading familiar words accurately and silently ‘at a glance’, that is, no longer saying the sounds consciously....</li></ul>	<p><b>Play the ‘word ladder’ game with your child this week!</b></p> <p>You/they write down a word, then you take it in turns to change one letter each time it’s your turn. You decide if the word has to be a real word, or if it just has to be a word they can say (e.g. fap).</p> <p>How many different words can you make, changing only one letter every time?</p> <p>E.g. cat, hat, ham, ram, rag, rug, mug, mum, hum line, fine, five, live, like, lake, tape, cape, cake</p>
<p>When they can read most words ‘at a glance’ and can <i>decode</i> unfamiliar words <i>easily</i>, they are free to think about the <i>meaning</i> of what they read.”</p> <p>(<a href="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</a>)</p>	