

Trafalgar Newsletter

Special Events:

Autumn Term 2025

November

3 rd	INSET Day. School closed to the children.
14 th	Children in Need 2025
19 th	4.00-7.00pm Parent Consultations
25 th	3.30-5.00pm Parent Consultations
26 th	3.30-5.00pm Parent Consultations

December

8 th	6pm Year 2 Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church
9 th	Year 1 Performance to Parents/Carers
10 th	Year 1 Performance to Parents/Carers
12 th	FTS Christmas Market & Christmas Jumper Day
16 th	FTS Pantomime treat
18 th	9-11:45am Let's Get Creative morning
	3:20-4pm Open Afternoon
19 th	Last Day of Term
22 nd -2 nd Jan	Christmas break

Spring Term 2026

January 2026

5 th	Spring Term begins
16 th -20 th	Half Term break
23 rd	INSET Day. School closed to the children.
30 th -10 th Apr	Easter holidays

Summer Term 2026

April 2026

13 th	First day Summer Term 2026
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May 2026

15 th	JP Photographic - Class Group photographs
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Reminder: Get 'Spotty' on Friday, 14th November for Children in Need



A reminder that next Friday, 14th November we would like to invite the Trafalgar children (and staff) to come to school wearing something 'spotty'. This can be something to complement their school uniform or an entirely spotty outfit for a donation to 'Children in Need'.

Get SPOTacular and help us raise funds to support children and young people across the UK by fundraising for BBC Children in Need!

Please make donations via our fundraising page at:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/trafalgar-community-infant-school-7?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Miss Hickie

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

7th November 2025

Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for next week will be:

Anti Bullying Week

- showing kindness and speaking up if we see unkind behaviour



Attendance Update

Highest Class Attendance for this week goes to:

Fox Class – 98.98%

Whole School Attendance is 95.89%

(National Expectation is 96% or better)

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 93.98% across all schools in the week commencing 22nd September 2025. The absence rate was, therefore, 6.02% across all schools.



'First Class' Special Edition

Just a reminder to our Reception parent/carers that if you would like to pre-order discounted copies of the West Sussex County Times 'First Class' Souvenir Edition, the deadline is **10th November**.

Pre-ordered copies are discounted to £1.50 per copy (Single copy price £1.90). You can pre-order either via their Event partner website: westsussexcountytimes.eventbrite.co.uk or by calling the West Sussex contact centre on 0330 403 3004. Please note that website orders are subject to additional fees which are charged by Eventbrite.

Pre-ordered copies will be delivered to school for collection on the day of publication. Don't miss out!

Christmas Card On-Line Ordering – Deadline Noon on Friday, 14th November

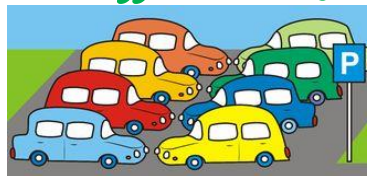


Please look out for your child's personalised Christmas Card proof/order form that would have come home with them this week.

The deadline for ordering is midday on Friday, 14th November. Please note that after this date the online shop will close and no more orders can be taken.

The items you have ordered will come home with children once they arrive at the school.

Staff Car Park



A friendly reminder that the staff car park is not to be used by parents/carers for drop off/collection except in exceptional circumstances, and **only if agreed in advance by the Headteacher**. It is really important that we have spaces available for our staff, and visitors to the school, hence please only park in there if you have permission and a permit to display in your car. We also regularly have visitors and parents in school who require use of a Disabled parking bay. These bays should only be used with a valid Blue Badge on display.

We also ask the local community to vacate the car park by 8.00am each morning too. This is to ensure that we have enough space for our staff and visitors to park each day.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Parent Governor Recruitment

On Monday we will be sending out a letter asking for parent volunteers who might be interested in becoming a parent governor.

Attached to this Newsletter is some additional information about the role of a school governor.

Please look out for the communication next week! We would love to hear from you.



**TRAFALGAR
COMMUNITY
INFANT
SCHOOL**

GOVERNOR VACANCY

Are you passionate about education in our Horsham community? Would you like to help shape the future of our school? Do you have valuable skills or professional expertise you can offer? Are you committed, willing to question, analyse and learn?

If you answered YES, we'd love to hear from you!

- Support the school Leadership
- Contribute to and set the school's strategy and priorities
- Make sure the school uses its assets and resources effectively
- Attend approximately 13 meetings a year as well as performing learning observations

Parent and non-parent positions available

For more information scan the QR code & email Office@trafalgarinfant.com to express an interest

Victory Road, Horsham
<https://trafalgar.eschools.co.uk/web>



"I have loved my role as a school Governor – the opportunity to shape the school's future, as well as seeing our children thrive in the school has been wonderful"



Visit of the Invertebrates to Trafalgar School!

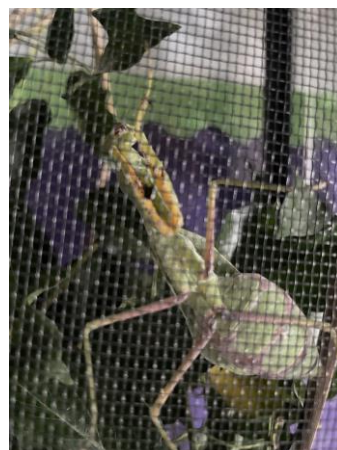
Just before half term Mrs Bolton was delighted to welcome Zach, a former pupil, back to Trafalgar. He'd kindly offered to share his praying mantis and collection of stick insects with current children to allow them to engage with his passion and experience at first hand taste how to care for invertebrates.

As the world's longest creepy crawlies the visiting stick insects, also known as walking sticks, spent much of their time munching on leaves while remaining completely still to blend in with twigs and branches.

The children attending these sessions learned more about these insects' habitats and unique features including their amazing ability to camouflage which led to several great games of hide and seek! There were also exciting opportunities to carefully handle and study them in close proximity which involved staying calm, being gentle and sometimes overcoming a few uncertainties.

Our Receptions, Year 1s and Year 2s were also able to think carefully about the life cycle of the praying mantis, watch this carnivore's fascinating behaviours and postures and think about the stereo vision that allows it to see in three dimensions.

A huge thank you to Zach and his family for offering and enabling these wonderful interactions which were hugely valuable and super insightful to our whole school community.



Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term:

3rd Sept - 19th Dec 2025

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

Spring Term:

5th Jan - 27th March 2026

- Half Term 16th - 20th Feb
- Easter break 30th March - 10th April

Summer Term:

13th April - 22nd July 2026

- Half Term 25th - 29th May

INSET Days 2025/2026

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

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Do you have subtitles on when you watch films/telly?

Turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can double the chances of them becoming good at reading. Yes, really!

Here is a link to some of the key evidence: <https://turnonthesubtitles.org/research/>

You can turn on subtitles on live television, on streaming services, on YouTube, and, of course, on DVDs!

It's simple to do, just Google it if you're unsure how to on your device.

10 seconds to do it, and lifetime's impact for your children. All backed up by decades of scientific research.

One academic study of 2,350 children found that 34% became good readers with schooling alone, but, when exposed to 30 minutes a week of subtitled film songs, that proportion more than doubled to 70%! The studies also found that most children *didn't notice* they were absorbing the words of the subtitles, but were *benefitting* from them being on anyway!

So, let's turn those subtitles on and happy reading whilst watching!



Did you know....?

C.S. Lewis (Who wrote 'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe'), said:

"It is a good rule after reading a new book, never to allow yourself another new one till you have read an old one in between."

What do you think?

Challenge(s) of the week...

- Good listening vitally underpins phonics, reading, and so many other areas of learning!

Help your child to develop their listening skills by showing them what good listening looks like, making your listening more explicit - e.g.: 'Wait a minute, I need to listen carefully.', 'Let's be quiet so I can concentrate on what you're saying.'

Take opportunities to praise your child(ren) when they show good listening to reinforce this skill and habit.

Some ideas:

- 'I could tell you were going to say something interesting: I could see you were listening carefully and concentrating.'
- 'You must have listened carefully to have remembered that!'
- 'Well done for using that special word from the story yesterday. I am pleased you listened hard.'