



# Trafalgar Newsletter

## Special Events:

### Autumn Term 2024

#### November

- 12<sup>th</sup> Flu Vaccination Day  
3.30-5pm Parent  
Consultations
- 13<sup>th</sup> 3.30-5pm Parent  
Consultations
- 15<sup>th</sup> Children in Need

#### December

- 10<sup>th</sup> Y1 Performance to  
Parents/Carers
- 11<sup>th</sup> Y1 Performance to  
Parents/Carers
- 13<sup>th</sup> FTS Christmas Market  
& Christmas Jumper Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> FTS Pantomime treat
- 20<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Term
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 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

## Parent/Staff Communication



We hope you have all been able to attend a parent consultation appointment with your child's class teacher this half term. Parent Consultations will be on offer again in February/March and other opportunities to see your child's learning are at the three open afternoons which we advertise in our newsletter and which take place at the end of each term.

You will also get a summary of your child's strengths and ways forward in their annual report at the end of the year, with an opportunity to meet to discuss the report after this is sent home should you wish to. However, you are able to make an appointment to see your child's teacher at any other point in the year when you would like to see your child's learning or speak to your child's teacher about their progress and wellbeing.

Miss Hickie  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Parent Governor Recruitment

Further to our previous communications regarding our Governing Body seeking to recruit two parent governors for our school, we are extending the nomination deadline to Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

This is a really exciting opportunity for a parent/carer to make a difference to our school, so please do carefully consider if you would like to apply. In addition to this Newsletter you will also have received today a Parent Governor recruitment letter and nomination form via ParentMail earlier this week. If you would like a copy of the letter and/or nomination form printed please do let the School Office know and this can be arranged.

The deadline for the return of the nominations to the Headteacher (via the School Office) is **Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> November at 10am**. If you are aware of anyone from the community who is not a parent, who might be interested in becoming a co-opted governor, we would also love to hear from them.

We thank you for your continued support of our school.

15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for next week is:

**Keeping safe**

**(Safety on a Bike or Scooter)**



## Attendance Update

**Highest Class**

**Attendance for this week goes to:**

**Deer Class – 99.59%**

**Whole School Attendance is 96.34%**

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

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 93.0% across all schools in the **week commencing 21 October 2024**. The absence rate was, therefore, 7.0% across all schools.

## Reception Year - World Nursery Rhyme Week



## Reception Year - World Nursery Rhyme Week 2024

World Nursery Rhyme Week promotes the importance of nursery rhymes in early childhood development and education. The five official rhymes for 2024 were:



Twinkle Twinkle  
Old Macdonald  
The Big Ship Sails  
Incy Wincy Spider  
5 Currant Buns



Nursery rhymes are excellent teaching tools and can help to develop: language and literacy skills, numeracy skills, social, physical and emotional skills - they are so much fun!

The children enjoyed taking part in a range of activities this week linked to our daily nursery rhyme. We made star wands, star paintings, spider headbands, farm animal puppets, playdough current buns and construction ships.

### Children in Need



Thank you for supporting Children in Need today. We have raised a grand total of **£312.00** through your donations and saw some amazing outfits!

Donations can still be made via our fundraising page at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/trafalgar-community-infant-school-1729601727532>

### PSHE Lessons



At school this week, as part of our PSHE classes, children have been talking about how we touch each other safely and where we are allowed to touch. We also talk about which parts of our bodies are private.

If you would like to reinforce this message at home there are some good age appropriate resources on the NSPCC website using the Pantosaurus character. It is an important message children need to understand and helps to keep all children feeling safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

### Visit of Dental Nurse to Reception Classes



Reception were lucky to have a special visitor on Thursday morning. Lucie the dental nurse from a local Practice came to talk to the children about how to keep our teeth clean and healthy. We met 'Crocodile' and practised cleaning his teeth. We looked at some photos of healthy teeth and gums and then learnt about the plaque that can form on our teeth if we don't regularly brush.

We enjoyed a story about an imaginary mouse who made our teeth squeak when super clean. We talked about and held the special instruments that dentists use to look at our teeth and talked about how important regular visits to the dentist are.

Finally, we talked about foods that are good for our teeth and those that we need to be careful about not having too much of.

### Reception Team

Miss Carne, Miss Risby and Mrs Lung

## Year 2 Carol Services

Due to rising costs the Church has asked for a fee for the use of the Church on both nights, for the heating and lighting. We would really appreciate any donations to help us fund these costs. Please donate in cash or card to the school office. Alternatively pay direct to the School Fund account via the QR code.



## *Year 2 Carol Services at Holy Trinity Church*



The Year 2 children are holding a Carol Service 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.**

You are welcome to join us at either service but we will be requiring your 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.

## *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.

## *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.

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



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.

## 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

Trafalgar CI School  
Victory Road  
Horsham  
West Sussex  
RH12 2JF

**Phone:**  
01403 254925

**E-Mail:**  
[office@trafalgarinfant.com](mailto:office@trafalgarinfant.com)  
[Facebook](#)

## Christmas Pantomime - Special Christmas Treat!



On Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, The Rainbow Theatre Company will be coming into school to give the children a seasonal treat by performing their classic fairy tale production of 'Cinderella'.

A big thank you to the Friends of Trafalgar for funding this very special event again.

### Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December Lunch

Due to the Christmas Pantomime being set up in the Hall on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, we will be unable to serve hot lunches.

As with the Christmas Market day (Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December), 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.

### Christmas Lunch – Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December



EasyLunch will be providing the children with a special Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December. If your child usually brings a packed lunch to school and you would like them to have a hot Christmas meal **instead** on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, please let the School Office know by 9.00am on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December at the latest. Thank you.



#### Did you know....?

The key aspects of early phonics learning are:

- “grapheme/phoneme (letter/sound) correspondences (the alphabetic principle) in a clearly defined incremental sequence
- to apply the highly important skill of blending (synthesising) phonemes in order, all through a word, to read it
- to apply the skills of segmenting words into their constituent phonemes to spell
- that blending and segmenting are reversible processes.”

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/379093/Reading\\_20by\\_20six.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/379093/Reading_20by_20six.pdf))

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

**Think about when you read to your child(ren) and when you listen to them read to you.**

It sounds obvious, but it's worth keeping reading sessions for times when your child isn't too hungry, tired or distracted to focus. Everyone's different, and you'll know the times that work best for your child.

Watch your child before and after school, when are they relaxed, focused, engaged? When might be the best *reading time* for them? How can you make that into a new reading habit?