



Trafalgar Newsletter

Special Events:

January 2024

11th 9.00am English Workshop in the Hall

February

12th-16th Half term break
19th INSET Day (school closed to the children)
20th Return to school
Year 1 Dinosaur Museum visit (in school)
28th 4-7pm Parent Consultations (Whole School)
29th Let's Get Creative

March

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

April

15th Return to school

Attendance Figures and Arriving at School on Time



A polite reminder please, that children arrive to school on time, so that they have a smooth and calm start to their day.

The school day starts at 8.50am with activities starting from this moment on, even before the register has been taken. It is very disruptive for the class if children arrive late. It is also important that the children do not miss these vital learning opportunities!

Did you know that we have our pupil attendance and lateness figures checked by the Local Authority and the DFE (Department for Education) and that any children who regularly arrive late/are absent are identified and actions then have to be implemented to improve their attendance and punctuality? If your child is even 5 minutes late, this equates to 25 minutes learning time being missed each week, which has a huge impact on your child's progress and attainment. The children get to work first thing, so please do ensure that they arrive on time, and come to school each day!

Please help the children maximise their learning by getting them into school on time and please do not remove your child from school unless it is really necessary and remember to complete the Leave from Learning request form (available from the School Office) if you do need to request absence.

The National expectation for each child's attendance is 96% or better. We are currently at a Whole School attendance figure of **94.73%**. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the whole school if all parents/carers try to ensure that their own child/ren's attendance figure remains healthy, so that learning is maximised!

Miss Hickie
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

5th January 2024

Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for next week will be:

What are our British Values?



Attendance Update

Highest Class Attendance for this week goes to:

Lime Green – 97.04%

Whole School Attendance is 94.73%

(National Expectation is 96% or better)

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 92.0% across all schools in the **week commencing 4th December 2023**. The absence rate was, therefore, 8.0% across all schools.

Daily Communication with Teachers

A reminder that unless it is essential first thing, please speak to your child's teacher after school, as they do need to be back in the classroom with the children once they have all arrived.

Alternatively, come and speak to the Office staff or email any messages to office@trafalgarinfant.com and these will be passed on during the day.

Census Day Lunch



On Thursday, 18th January
The Easy Lunch Company
will be providing a tasting
lunch for our children.

Menu

Cheese and tomato pizza
slice
and
Macaroni cheese
with
Mixed salad

Chocolate cake

Please contact the School Office by Tuesday, 9th January if you child does not usually have a hot lunch but you would like them to participate *for this day only*.

Pupil Premium Funding

You may be aware that the Government allocates additional funding to schools in the form of the 'Pupil Premium Grant'. In order to be eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant a parent or carer must be receiving one of the following benefits:

- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS) under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit.
- Child Tax Credit **only**, provided your annual household income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,190. **Anyone entitled to Working Tax Credit is not entitled to free meals regardless of income.**
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you **stop qualifying** for Working Tax Credit).
- Universal Credit (with no element of Working Tax Credit).

If you qualify for this allowance your child will be eligible for the following additional benefits here at Trafalgar -

- No charge for school trips and visitors to school.
- No charge for before or after school club (one a term).
- No charge for a complete set of school uniform to include a sweatshirt or cardigan; PE kit (including t-shirt, shorts and gym bag) and a book bag.

We also use the Pupil Premium Grant to fund a wide range of additional support in school. This may involve either small group work or one-to-one tuition and is one aspect of our drive to continually raise standards. The Pupil Premium Grant can be used to support children regardless of their ability. If you claim this funding, then we can allocate Pupil Premium Funding to provide additional opportunities and challenges for your child with the aim of enriching their educational experience at school in ways that best meet their individual needs.

Even if your circumstances change, and you are no longer receiving one of the benefits listed, your child's school continues to receive additional funding. No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

To apply, please complete a Registration Form which can be obtained from the School Office in confidence. Alternatively go to <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/#how-to-apply>.

*Parent/Carer Rescheduled Maths Workshop
(and English Workshop final reminder)*



The rescheduled date for the Maths Workshop, to be led by Mrs Brown our Maths Co-ordinator, will be **Tuesday, 12th March at 9.15am** in the School Hall. Please email (office@trafalgarinfant.com) or call the School Office (tel: 01403 254925) if you would like to attend this workshop.

It's also not too late to attend the English Workshop, taking place **at 9am on Thursday, 11th January.** This is an opportunity to see how English is taught at Trafalgar School from Reception to Year 2, and to ask questions.

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

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

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Parent Consultations – February 2024



For your advance notice, from **10.00a.m. on Wednesday, 31st January** you will be able to sign up for an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher on either Wednesday, 28th February, Wednesday, 6th March or Thursday, 7th March via the on-line booking system at <https://trafalgarschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Parent Consultations will take place in your child's classroom. If you are visiting a classroom in the main building, please come through the main door and go straight to the relevant room. If you are going to the huts, you do not need to come into the main building. If you can avoid bringing children on this occasion, you will probably find the meeting more beneficial.

Please remember that your positive comments, or suggested ways forward are welcomed. Please write a comment in our parent/carer/visitor book just inside the main entrance.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the School Office on or after 10.00am on Wednesday, 31st January and they will be able to see which time slots are still available and will be happy to add appointments on your behalf.

100% Attendance Certificates

At the end of each term Miss Hickie awards 100% certificates to those children who have attended school each day during that term. These are popped into book bags, so that you can celebrate these at home with your child (in order that those children who have had to miss school due to illness, or family events out of their control, are not upset about not receiving one).



Did you know....?

“Children who are good at reading do more of it: they learn more, about all sorts of things, and their expanded vocabulary, gained from their reading, increases their ease of access to more reading.

Conversely, those for whom reading is difficult fall behind, not just in their reading but in all subjects and a vicious circle develops.

This is why the national curriculum says, *‘It is essential that, by the end of their primary education, all pupils are able to read fluently, and with confidence, in any subject.’*”

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...

Use modern technology to make story time even more magical!

If your family/family friends outside of your household have video calling software (Skype/Whatsapp/Microsoft Teams/Zoom etc.), why not use this as a tool to help everyone join in at story time?!

Could someone in your family ‘call’ to read a story to your child? Is there a story you all know and love, that you could take turns reading chapters of?

This can help build a ‘culture of reading’ around your child, as well as showing them different ways of storytelling.