



# Trafalgar Newsletter

## Special Events:

### Autumn Term 2024

#### October

- 21<sup>st</sup> Harvest Festival donations
- 24<sup>th</sup> Whole School 'Let's Get Creative' morning
- 28<sup>th</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Nov Half term break

#### November

- 4<sup>th</sup> Return to school
- 6<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm Parent Consultations
- 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

## Happy Half Term



On behalf of the Trafalgar community, we wish you all a very happy and healthy half term break with the chance to enjoy the change of routine.

From the staff perspective, the children have settled well and are established in their new classes. If you have not yet signed up for a Parent Consultation with your child's class teacher after half term please remember to do so before 3<sup>rd</sup> November via the on-line booking system at <https://trafalgarschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Following 3<sup>rd</sup> November, you will need to contact the School Office to book an appointment.

We will look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November**.

Miss Hickie  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Reception Parents



If you haven't already, please could you complete a very short survey to tell us about your child's experience of starting school. What has been most helpful for you and what else can we do so that they continue to thrive at Trafalgar? The survey is completely anonymous and should take no more than 5 minutes. Please complete it by following this link:

<https://forms.gle/Bygo4Rn1ZcE7bAVa6>

25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

## Assembly Theme

The assembly theme for this week is:

**Welcome Back and Core Values**



## Attendance Update

**Highest Class Attendance for this week goes to:**

**Squirrel Class – 95.71%**

**Whole School Attendance is 96.63%**  
(National Expectation is 96% or better)

The attendance rate (proportion of possible sessions attended) was 94.1% across all schools in the week commencing 07 October 2024. The absence rate was, therefore, 5.9% across all schools.

## Scooters/Bikes & Lost Property



Please ensure that all bikes and scooters are taken home today. Please also come and look in the blue lost property 'bin' if your child has mislaid anything as all unnamed items may be recycled.

Please can we also reiterate how important it is that bikes, scooters and helmets are named, along with all items of clothing.

## Reception Year Woodland Time



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For Reception's 'Woodland Time' this term we have been on Autumn walks to Trafalgar Recreation Ground. The children have learnt about staying safe when we are out and about and have found out more about our local area. To appreciate and find out about Autumn the children made 'Autumn Crowns', played in the leaves and learnt a game called 'when the wind blows...'. They also loved using their core strength and risk assessment skills to challenge themselves in the Rec playground!

"I like playing with the leaves"

"I saw squirrels"

"I heard leaves crumpling"

"I smelt bonfire"

"I can hear rustling leaves, like the sound of rain"



## Get 'Spotty' on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November for Children in Need

On Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> 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-1729601727532>

## Hedgehog Box



This week John Preston and David Bridges from the Holy Trinity Neighbourhood Council delivered a new Hedgehog Box to Trafalgar School. The box has been constructed by volunteers from the local Men in Sheds charity.

In addition to helping with the conservation of hedgehogs, another of their aims is to raise awareness of hedgehogs and highlight how such hibernating boxes can increase their number. We look forward to welcoming any future residents to the box.



## Let's Get Creative



## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

### Let's Get Creative – Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October



A big thank you to those parents/carers who came into school and volunteered their time to work with the children this week.

A great time was had by all!

Poppies, along with a variety of other Poppy fundraising merchandise (wristbands, rulers, stick on Poppies etc. as pictured above), will be available in School, for a donation, after half term. Please encourage your children to support this charity to provide financial, social and emotional support to millions of people who have served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces and their dependants.

If anyone is keen to know more about the work of the British Legion, they can be contacted on **0808 802 8080** or visit [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk).

### Group Interventions : 'Friendship Rings'

What are the qualities of a good friend? How can friendships be maintained and developed? What coping strategies are available when difficulties arise in friendships?

These are questions that children participating in our Friendship Ring intervention groups consider as they join Mrs Bolton on a journey to discover and share their hidden talents, talk about their passions and consider the strengths and skills in themselves they're most proud of.

Each Wednesday and Friday the Trafalgar community builds an increased understanding of these concepts and applies its existing knowledge to a variety of new situations and settings.

This term some budding chefs and event planners have been embracing a range of seasonal events including Halloween and there's no better way to showcase their fantastic friendship skills than by preparing some healthy treats to share with others around the table. Scary cheese and ham wraps, monster apple faces or creamy yoghurt mummy bananas anyone?

Throughout the year a range of children are invited to attend Friendship Ring to share their thoughts about the special times they can spend with others as this important life skill's embedded. And in line with this Mrs Bolton's always happy to explain why building connections is both rewarding and fulfilling.



## 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 Richard King, Safeguarding Lead Governor



One of the most important roles of the governing body is to ensure safeguarding at Trafalgar is effective. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and refers to the umbrella of measures we have in place, and undertake every day, to proactively ensure children are kept safe. As indicated by our most recent Ofsted inspection, safeguarding in our school is effective, but it is very important that we don't become complacent. This academic year the government updated their safeguarding statutory guidance, so the governors have been busy making sure the latest developments are included in our updated policies, with safeguarding always being a topic of conversation at every meeting of the full governing board. As the lead governor for safeguarding, it was great to attend the staff training session on this topic during the summer and witness first-hand how it continues to be a priority for the school. More information on safeguarding is available on the school's website, and please remember that if you ever have any concerns (no matter how minor they might appear) it is always a good idea to share them with one of Trafalgar's designated safeguarding leads - Miss Hickie, Mrs Cotton or Mrs Edgal.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and safe half term break.

Richard King, Parent Governor

## Harvest Festival – Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October

Thank you to everyone who provided a donation for our Harvest Festival assembly on Monday. Your response was amazing and many homeless people and families in need around the area will benefit from your generosity. Any late donations have been added to the Trafalgar Food Bank in the staff car park.



### Did you know....?

“Reading *for pleasure* can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing, and their mental health.”

(<https://www.highspeedtraining.co.uk/hub/why-is-reading-important-for-children/> )

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

**Talk with your child about the differences between fiction, non-fiction, chapter books, picture books, and poetry.** Are they ever more than one thing? Can they find an example of each? **What else might you read** (e.g. adverts, leaflets, top trump cards, cereal boxes)? What do they like reading most? Why?

Can they make a poster (or posters!) for the school library to explain to others about the many different types of things that you can read?