

Trafalgar Newsletter

21st January 2022

Another week of Spring term completed, and our Y9's and Y10's will have just finished two weeks of landmark assessments, so well done to all of them.

We've seen a vast improvement in our students' uniforms in the past week and would like to reiterate how being in correct uniform drives the school community feeling, as well as giving students a sense of dignity and belonging. We are proud to see our students wearing their uniforms and house colours with pride.

Whilst we have 70% of parents signed up to our new communication and reporting system, Class Charts, to ensure you don't miss any important information, we need absolutely everyone signed up to receive letters, notifications, important information about your child and much more. If you are having trouble, please contact studentservices@trafalgarschool.org.uk and we will help get you set up.

The future is looking bright with covid restrictions expected to ease drastically from next week, and we hope to be able to see you all face to face for future parents evenings, and such. But until then, please continue to encourage your child to keep themselves and others safe with cleanliness, spatial awareness and optional mask wearing.

Take care and stay safe.

Team Trafalgar

Hot Chocolate with the Head

This week's 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' goes to Oliwier!

Over the last academic year Oliwier has made amazing improvements. He has shown both commitment and resilience to ensure he is being a positive member of the Trafalgar community. Oliwier is always willing to help both staff and students which showcases his value of inclusion.



Well done, Oliwier!

Key Dates

2022

Wb 7th February - Year 8 RAP Meetings

Thursday 10th March - Year 9 Options Evening

Wb 14th March - Year 9 RAP Meetings

Reminder about essential equipment:

Please ask students to check their bags before they come to school and make sure they have all essential equipment with them. Due to Covid restrictions, we are still unable to lend out equipment, so please ensure your child has everything they need before they get to school!



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

Activities Week Update

We are ready for adventure in 2022 with our Activities Week trips ranging from Ninja Warrior to Harry Potter World, and gaming days to residential in the New Forest, Paris, Barcelona and Rome. It's shaping up to be a week to remember!

As the deposit payment deadline has now passed, we are busy creating the final lists and booking our trips. For those hoping spaces may have become available on days where the mystery activity has been allocated please look out for our Pop-Up Shop running in February 2022 where we will be selling any remaining places. Information about the location of the Pop-Up Shop, the activities available and their costs will be sent to you in advance of this date to give you and your child time to discuss their options.

A key date for your diary is **Friday 25th March 2022** when final payments are due. Payments can be made in full or paid in instalments via Parent Pay. If you have any questions about payment or the week in general, please email -activitiesweek@trafalgarschool.org.uk

Photography Department Update

Year 11 Photography students have been showing some outstanding experimentation and creativity in the development of their portfolios.

Inspired by a variety of artists and styles, they have begun creating their own styles of work using our ring lighting, graphics tablets and creative cloud software to push boundaries within their work.



Art Department Update

Year 10 Fine Art students have been learning about portraiture and developing their own expressive portraits.

They have all begun by taking photos of each other, using our photographic studio and lighting, then creating accurate, realistic portrait drawings. They are now developing these by looking at artists such as Jenny Saville and Françoise Nielly to help develop their own expressive styles in ink, paint and oil pastels.



Year 7 and 8 have been some of the first to begin learning how to work with clay. Year 7 have been making their own clay tiles inspired by the work of William Morris, and year 8 have been looking at underwater forms to inspire their clay shells!

Maths Department Update

The maths department would like to say a huge well done to all of our Year 9 and Year 10 students who have been completing assessments in lessons over the last two weeks. Their behaviour, effort and approach to these assessments has been amazing. Well done Year 9 and Year 10.

In other exciting news, we have recently invested in a new platform for students to help them practice their multiplication skills. Times Tables Rock Stars allows students to either compete against each other or on their own in a bid to improve their recall of multiplication facts. To get the best out of this program it is recommended that students play for 3 minutes, four or five times a week.

As we don't want our Key Stage 4 students to feel left out, we will also be sharing log-in details with those classes – just because they're a bit older, it doesn't mean they don't need the practice, too!

With the second set of Mock exams rapidly approaching for Year 11, we want to give them as big a boost as possible.

Can you therefore please remind your Year 11 children that Maths interventions run after school every single week.

Week 1: G Band Tuesday

R Band Thursday

Week 2: R Band Tuesday

G Band Thursday

Sessions are run in students' normal maths classrooms with their usual class teacher. We would appreciate it if you could encourage your child to attend.



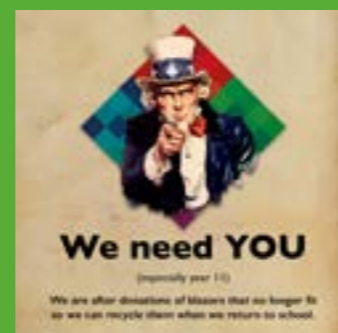
IMPORTANT: Students with nut allergies in school

Please could students refrain from bringing food to school that contains nuts. We have students with us who are severely allergic to nuts. They do carry epi-pens, but we need to all do our part and to keep each other safe. Our school kitchen is a nut free environment and any products bought in externally will be marked with a notice to confirm if it may contain traces of nuts. Thank you for your support with this!

Pre-loved Uniform

Here at Trafalgar we run a pre-loved uniform scheme and we are after donations of uniform, especially blazers that no longer fit, so we can distribute them to our current/new students and help support with uniform needs.

If you are able to help then please drop uniform that no longer fits to our student entrance.



Clicking a Link? Stop and think!

Article shared from Ineqe.com

Instagram has recently changed its link sharing in Stories feature to allow all users access to add links. Previously, this ability to add links into Stories was limited to those with verified accounts or users with a certain number of followers. It was first introduced in August 2021 as the main link-sharing method, replacing the previous 'Swipe Up' option.

Although Instagram says they are currently working on ways to customise the stickers so that it's clear what will be seen when someone clicks on the link in question, this new feature brings up wider concerns that apply to all social media sites: what are the dangers of clicking on shared links?

Top Tips

- Chat to the young person in your care about the possible dangers of following unknown links. Ask them to always think twice before hitting a link, no matter who posted it, and that if they're in doubt about the link, just don't click it.
- Ensure they know who their Trusted Adults are so that they know where to turn if they see something that upsets them online.
- Encourage the young person in your care to discuss the news with you.
- Take the time to reassure the young person in your care that they can always talk to you or an adult they trust if they have clicked on a link to discover content that has scared, worried, or upset them.
- **Remember, be safe and be smart!**



Class Charts - Guide for Parents

We have changed our way of communicating with parents from sending emails to using 'Class Charts' - a brilliant software where you can receive instant messages, view your child's attendance and behaviour in real time and check many more things such as home learning work.

Every parent will have their own login which links to their child's account. If you need your child's login code, please contact the school either by phone on 02392 693521 or email studentservices@trafalgarschool.org.uk

Class Charts have created a comprehensive guide on how to sign up for and use the service, which can be viewed [here](#).

If you have any issues with signing up to Class Charts, please contact us via the same channels noted above.

Have you downloaded the free ClassCharts Parent app?



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk