

Parent Bulletin



6th December 2024

Welcome to this week's Parent Bulletin! As we move closer to the festive season, there's plenty of excitement and activity around the school.

We're delighted to share the success of our Lille Christmas Trip last Friday. Students had a wonderful time exploring the festive markets, practising their French, and soaking up the culture of this beautiful city. It was a truly memorable experience for everyone involved!

We also launched our exciting Christmas Attendance Competition this week. Let's aim for excellent attendance in the lead-up to the holidays! Students with 100% attendance from now until the end of term will be entered into a prize draw for some fantastic rewards.

In other news, the campaign to make Oakwood Road one-way is gathering momentum. This initiative aims to improve safety and ease congestion. Your support is vital—please consider signing the petition or sharing your thoughts with local representatives.

Finally, as we approach the holiday break, why not consider enjoying some quality time away from screens? We have shared a document with **12 Top Tips for a Tech-Free Christmas**, packed with creative ideas to help your family embrace the festive spirit together.

Stay safe and take care,
Team Trafalgar

**We're proud to have received the
Autism Inclusion Award from the
National Autistic Society!**



National
Autistic
Society

Autism Inclusion
Award



Key Dates

Autumn 2024

Wednesday 11th December - Year 7 Charity Disco

Thursday 12th December - Year 11 Parents' Evening

Friday 13th December - Flu Jabs

Wednesday 18th December - Year 7 Christmas Concert

Uniform & Equipment

Please ensure your children have the correct uniform & equipment with them each day. If you require any support, contact your child's form tutor. Please ensure students have a bag. You can find full details of what they need [here](#).



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Exploring Lille: Trafalgar School Edition



Last week, Trafalgar students enjoyed a memorable day in Lille, experiencing the culture and traditions of northern France. The trip was a great mix of learning, discovery, and festive fun.

The day started with a classic French breakfast at a local café, where students tried freshly baked croissants and got a taste of French café culture.

Next, the group visited Bruno's Bakery – La Boulangerie D'Escouilles. They had the chance to learn about traditional French bread-making, try out baking techniques, and even pick up some new French vocabulary. It was a hands-on experience that combined learning with creativity.

In the afternoon, students explored Lille's famous Christmas Market. Surrounded by festive stalls and sparkling lights, they enjoyed the holiday atmosphere and discovered more about French seasonal traditions.

This trip was a fantastic way for students to learn outside the classroom and connect with another culture. From food to language and festive traditions, Lille offered a valuable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.



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Campaign to make Oakwood Road One-Way

Following many years of disruption and frustration, 98% of the residents of Oakwood Road have recently voted in favour of the road becoming one-way.

We all believe this will:

- Reduce congestion in Oakwood Road and surrounding roads
- Be safer for your children when walking to and from school
- Promote a calmer start to the day for both parents, children and residents
- Reduce the number of damages to parked and moving cars
- Reduce carbon emissions



The petition was supported by local councillor Russell Simpson, who presented it directly to the relevant council department. We are now looking for support from those who are impacted by the issues in the road to support the campaign.

Following a recent meeting with the Executive Headteacher, Claire Copeland she has given her support, so we are asking for parents and guardians to [click the link and complete the form](#) (no more than 5 minutes of your time required) and support this proposal.

With many thanks

The residents of Oakwood Road

Christmas Dinner 2024

Each house will enjoy a festive Christmas dinner together during the last week of term! On their designated day, students will gather in the main hall to share lunch as a tutor group.

Here's the schedule for each house:

Temeraire – Monday 16th December
Sovereign – Tuesday 17th December
Victory – Wednesday 18th December
Britannia – Thursday 19th December

Students have made their meal choices in tutor sessions this week.

Payment details have been sent via Class Charts.



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Year 10 Visit the Careers & Apprenticeship Show



On Wednesday 27th November, our Year 10 students attended the Careers & Apprenticeship Show at the Mountbatten Centre in Portsmouth. The event gave them the chance to learn about what they might do after leaving school, including apprenticeships, further education and different career paths.

With a range of exhibitors, including local businesses, apprenticeship providers, colleges, and universities, the show offered plenty of information and advice. Students could ask questions, find out about different roles and see what skills and qualifications they might need for the future.

The visit was a good opportunity for students to start thinking about the choices they'll be making in the next couple of years. Many came away with ideas and useful information to help them plan ahead.

A big thank you to everyone who helped organise the trip and made it possible for our students to attend.



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12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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