

Parent Bulletin

8th November 2024

Welcome back! We hope everyone enjoyed a restful week off.

Last night, we had a wonderful time celebrating the achievements of our students at the Presentation Evening. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the event so memorable!

Looking ahead, our Year 11 students will be starting their mock exams next week. They've been preparing diligently, and we wish them all the very best as they take on this important step in their academic journey. The mock exam timetable can be found in this edition to help students prepare.

We're also excited to announce that the date for Prom has been revealed—be sure to read on for all the details!

Finally, if anyone in our school community is able to help with *The Big Interview* event on 26th November, please see the bulletin for more information on how you can get involved.

Here's to a great week ahead—let's keep up the momentum!

Stay safe and take care,

Team Trafalgar

Save the Date: Prom 2025

Our Year 11 Prom is set for **3rd July 2025**—and it's shaping up to be the event of the year! From a beautiful venue to great music and all your friends, it's a night you won't want to miss.

Tickets are **£45**, with an initial **£15 deposit** required to secure your spot by the end of this term. This small step guarantees you'll be part of an evening filled with dancing, laughter, and memories that'll last a lifetime. Don't miss out on this incredible celebration—let's make it amazing together!

#Prom2025 #Year11 #TeamTrafalgar



Key Dates

Autumn 2024

Monday 11th - Friday 15th November - Year 11 Mocks (Week 1)

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd November - Year 11 Mocks (Week 2)

Thursday 21st November - Year 9 Parents' Evening (virtual)

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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Celebrating Excellence: Matilda Published in The Scholar!

We are delighted to share that Matilda has been chosen to feature in this year's edition of *The Scholar*! *The Scholar* is an academic journal of outstanding pupil work from The Scholars Programme (The Brilliant Club).

The Brilliant Club is run by the Scholar's Programme- an organisation that works with schools and universities in the UK to help students gain access to competitive universities!

Students work with a university researcher in small groups to give them an experience of what it's like to study at university.



On the programme, students learn beyond the curriculum; PhD tutors share their subject knowledge and passion for learning to stretch and challenge students as they develop their academic skills, and at the end of the programme, students complete a final assignment of 2000 words. This is marked using the university grading system and allows students to show the progress they've made. Student achievement is then celebrated with a visit and graduation ceremony at one of the UK's top universities!

At the end of programme, the PhD tutors of the course were given the opportunity to nominate final assignments that were reviewed by an expert panel of PhD researchers, with only the highest scoring published. Matilda should be extremely proud of her final assignment, having been successful in a very competitive year of reviewing and being one out of just 30 selected for publication! There were over 21,000 students who took part in the academic year of 23/24 so this is such a huge achievement, and we are super proud of Matilda who was awarded first class!

Big Interview - Help Needed

Do you have interview experience and enjoy speaking to young people?

We are appealing to parents, and the wider community, to see if you can offer your services at the Big Interview during our upcoming PD Day on 26th November.

If you can help, please contact Miss Passmore at careers@trafalgarschool.org.uk by Friday 15th November and she will be able to provide more information.

#PDday #careers #aspirations



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Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable

Below, you'll find the Year 11 mock exam timetables to help you prepare for the upcoming assessments.

Please review the schedule carefully and make sure you're ready for each exam day. Good luck to all our Year 11 students!

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS – 11th November 2024 (Timetable Week B)

All am exams start in tutor	Tutor and Lesson 1 (8.50- 10.00)	Lesson 2 (10-10.50)	Lesson 3 (11.10 - 12.00)	Lesson 4 (12:00 - 12.50)	Lesson 5 (13.20-14.10)	Lesson 6 (14.10-15.00)
Monday 11 November	Maths Calculator Paper 1 F 90 mins Maths Calculator Paper 4 H 90 mins				English Lit Paper 2 Unseen Poetry 50 mins	
Tuesday 12 November	Science Biology F 70 mins Science Biology H 70 mins Triple Science Biology 105 mins		Film Studies 70 mins Music (Performance)			
Wednesday 13 November	Maths Non-Calculator Paper 2 F 90 mins Maths Non-Calculator Paper 5 H 90 mins				French Writing F 60 mins French Writing H 75 mins Spanish Writing F 60 mins Spanish Writing H 75 mins	
Thursday 14 November	Science Chemistry 70 mins F Science Chemistry 70 mins H Triple Science Chemistry 105 mins				History Crime and Punishment 75 mins	
Friday 15 November	English Lang Paper 2 105 mins				Science Physics 70 mins F Science Physics 70 mins H Triple Science 105 mins Physics	

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS – 18th November 2024 (Timetable Week A)

All am exams start in tutor	Tutor and Lesson 1 (8.50- 10.00)	Lesson 2 (10-10.50)	Lesson 3 (11.10 - 12.00)	Lesson 4 (12:00 - 12.50)	Lesson 5 (13.20-14.10)	Lesson 6 (14.10-15.00)
Monday 18 November	Maths Calculator Paper 3 F 90 mins Maths Calculator Paper 6 H 90 mins				Geography Paper 2 Challenges in the Human environment 90 mins	
Tuesday 19 November			Sociology Exam Length 105 mins Drama (Performance) Hair and Beauty 90 mins		Business Studies 90 mins	
Wednesday 20 November	PE GCSE Paper 1 90 mins Dance (Performance)		Dance (Performance)		History Germany 60 mins	
Thursday 21 November	Computer Science Paper 1 120 mins Food Prep 90 mins		French Listening F 35 mins and Reading F 45 mins French Listening H 45 mins and Reading H 60 mins			
Friday 22 November	Spanish Listening F 35 mins and Reading F 45 mins Spanish Listening H 45 mins and Reading H 60 mins		Geography Paper 1 Living with the Physical environment 90 mins		Drama (Performance)	

****Mock speaking exams for French and Spanish will be scheduled at individual times by your French/Spanish Teacher****



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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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