



Trafalgar School **NEWS**

+ **Dance Live! 2024** + World Book Day 2024
+ **Athletics Superstars**
+ Holocaust Memorial Day 2024 + **PD Day 3**
+ Lots more!

Welcome to Trafalgar News

It has been a busy Spring term at Trafalgar School!

It was my pleasure to cheer on our dancers at Dance Live at the Guildhall in February. Their performances go from strength to strength every year and I was so proud of their energy and commitment! Our two Personal Development Days focussed on supporting our students with the knowledge and confidence they need to keep themselves safe physically, mentally and online. These days are an important opportunity for our students to learn about relevant topics in more depth outside of the formal curriculum. All of our students took part in the live webinar that marked Holocaust Memorial Day. Opportunities to hear from Holocaust survivors are very limited now so it is important we seize them while we still can.



We celebrated World Book Day on 7th March and it was great to see staff and students in so many fantastic costumes that celebrated their favourite characters from the books they are reading. Unsurprisingly, the English department won the best costume prize! Our Science department then took the dress up reigns for British Science Week; dressed up as their favourite scientist, students had to use their scientific knowledge to guess which famous scientist they were.

We welcomed Stephen Morgan MP to Trafalgar on Friday 22nd March to judge our Science competition. He was really impressed with the quality of work our students had produced and really enjoyed meeting with them.

Our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze practice expedition took place last weekend with all students successfully navigating their way to their end point!

Year 11 have successfully completed their final round of mock exams ahead of their real exams starting shortly after the Easter break. There are a range of intervention sessions taking place over the holidays to support the students with their revision and exam techniques and I would strongly encourage your children attend as many of these as possible. It really is the final push to the end for them now!

I wish you all a wonderful Easter break!

Mrs Copeland - Executive Headteacher

WORLD BOOK DAY 2024

This year's World Book Day saw students and staff get in on the dress-up fun!

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

World Book Day is a charity that changes lives through a love of books and reading. Their mission is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every young person the opportunity to have a book of their own.

Reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a young person's future success – regardless of their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income.

Students were given book day vouchers and everyone had the chance to dress up as their favourite fictional characters. There were some fantastic costumes and here are a few of our favourites!



ATHLETICS SUPERSTARS



We are extremely proud of our students who represented Trafalgar School and the Portsmouth area as part of the Hampshire Schools Cross Country Championships in Aldershot this term. The students did very well, but unfortunately didn't make it to qualify to the next stage. Jess and Oren finished as the first Portsmouth runners and in respectable 48th and 44th place overall. Colby started out strong, at the front of the pack, ending up at 52nd overall.

Jess has also been competing in the Chichester Corporate Challenge, again representing Trafalgar School. She has so far completed one of three races in the series of 2.1km road races and achieved a fantastic 3rd place result. Zoey, Year 7 has also been competing in the Chichester Corporate Challenge, where she represented Trafalgar School. This was Zoey's first ever race she has competed in and has so far completed one of three races in the series of 2.1km road races and achieved an amazing 13th place with a time of 9:32. We look forward to hearing from Zoey about how the rest of the competition goes!

Miss Nerssessian completed an interview with Jess to find out more about how and when she got into athletics and why she enjoys it so much.

Why did you get involved in athletics?

"I always loved running when I was about 5/6 and I used to do junior park runs. I was achieving 12 minute 2km runs so I knew I was quite good at running at that age. I sometimes do the adult park runs now and do this at the Lakeside event on a Saturday morning".

Who do you compete for and train with?

"I train and compete with City of Portsmouth Athletics Club at the Mountbatten Centre".

<https://www.portsmouthathletic.co.uk> for more information.

How do you feel when you compete or train?

"After I finish a race, I feel so good physically. I also get runners high, which is feeling really proud of myself after a good, successful run. This isn't always about beating others but about taking time off my personal best".

What is your favourite event?

"I love the 1500m. If you mess up the start of the race, there is time to fix it. In the 800m, there isn't time!"

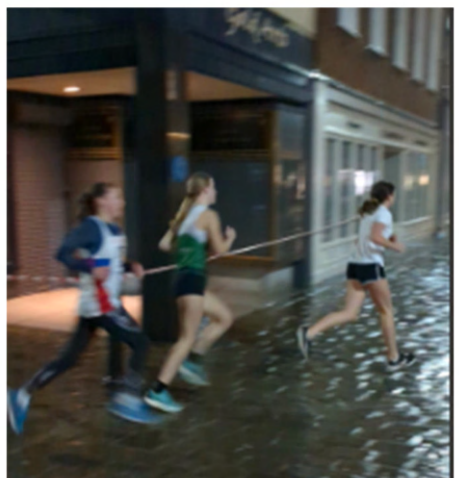
Who inspires you in your sport?

"Eilish McColgan. I like her story and how she has progressed through her career. We use her training programmes to help us sometimes and follow them".

What was your proudest moment?

"Last summer I managed to take 35 seconds off my personal best for the 1500m race at my Athletics Club. I hadn't trained over the summer so I didn't expect it and in running, 35 seconds is a lot!"

Thank you Jess; we can't wait to see how you get on in the rest of the Chichester Corporate Challenge series. Good luck; we are super proud of you!





Trafalgar bring home awards from Dance Live! 2024



In February, Trafalgar took part in Dance Live! with students performing their routines at the Portsmouth Guildhall, competing against other schools from the area.

Our students represented Trafalgar School superbly at the annual competition, bringing back with them an award for their costumes.

The dedication and skill displayed by the whole group was exceptional and has done the whole school proud!



Trafalgar commemorates Holocaust Memorial Day 2024



In January we marked Holocaust Memorial Day, with a week-long commemoration of tutor activities, including reading about the Cambodian Genocide, and watching an assembly about the fragility of freedom and the story of Leon Greenman.

On the day itself, the whole school came together to hear the testimony of Hedi Argent MBE, who survived the Holocaust and Nazi persecution she faced in Austria. Students said they felt huge empathy for Hedi and found her story fascinating. In doing so, the students have become important witnesses to the history of the Holocaust.

We have also had a visit from Penny Mourdaunt to meet with Mrs Hudson-Roberts, Miss Arnold and some Year 9 and 10 students to see the work that we have been completing towards our Beacon School accreditation.

ASPIRATION STATION

Work Experience success story - Well done Imogen!

We would like to say a huge well done to Imogen who was invited as a guest speaker to the Shaping Portsmouth event at the Guildhall.

Imogen completed her work experience with Shaping Portsmouth last year and was successful in securing employment. She has achieved incredible things since starting with them and was even featured as a 'future business woman' to look out for in their newsletter!

We are incredibly proud of Imogen who really embraced the opportunity to get the most out of her work experience.

#bemoreimogen #wex #teamtrafalgar



We had the Apprenticeship Bus come to Trafalgar to visit our Year 10s. They had the chance to speak to a range of providers and apprentices, to learn what life completing an apprenticeship is like and what is on offer to them.



Our Year 8 students had a fantastic time learning about further education, participating in a mock trial, and discussing the Equality Act and various types of discrimination.



Congratulations to our amazing Year 9 and Year 10 students who completed The Scholar's Programme!

These students have been part of 'The Brilliant Club' for several weeks, working closely with a university PhD lecturer to complete a thousand-word essay on refugee poetry and how the media can manipulate reader response.

Students were assessed under the university grading system and some even received first-class grades! They visited The University of Bath to experience life as a university student, touring the campus and attending a lecture. The day concluded with a graduation ceremony to celebrate their amazing achievements.

We are incredibly proud of you all and hope this experience has shown you your true potential and given you the ambition to achieve great things in the future beyond Trafalgar School. #teamtrafalgar

Year 10 - Army visit

Year 10 had an army careers visit centered around STEM and career opportunities available to Post-16 students.



Trafalgar participates in Made in Portsmouth challenge 2024



Gunwharf's Enterprise Challenge, Made in Portsmouth, launched on Monday, 11th March, with Admiral Lord Nelson School, Miltoncross Academy, The Portsmouth Academy, and Trafalgar School taking part. This is the sixth time that the competition has been run - but this year was different.

The 'Made in Portsmouth' challenge has been given a refresh for 2024, with a totally new project for students to get involved with. The brief invites participants to reimagine and repurpose a vacant unit for the benefit of the Portsmouth community and guests. Students took part in three workshops focused on: placemaking; customer insights and guest experience; and sustainability, community and responsible consumerism, before designing their retail space.

The teams will then be invited to pitch their ideas to an expert panel, applying the principles gained during the workshops. Pitches will cover all aspects of creating a sustainable retail space, from establishing their concept and understanding their key audience, to how they would design and market the space.

PD DAY - RESPECT



For our third PD Day of the year we welcomed a host of visitors to the school to address the students.

The focus for this day was on developing knowledge and understanding on how to keep ourselves safe; both physically and online. Students learnt to recognise, challenge and understand the impact of abuse on themselves and others, appropriate to their year group.

We designed this day in response to government guidance, as well as feedback from our parents and students and this is the third time we have run the event now.



A challenging but essential topic to learn about, this day was a real success with feedback from students revealing a 50% increase in the number of students who were able to recognise abuse and know how to seek support.

Thank you to **Elevate Education**, **Stop Domestic Abuse**, **St Giles Trust** and **Prison Me! No Way!** for all their support and efforts on the day.





Spring 2024