

Trafalgar Newsletter



2nd December 2022

Welcome to this week's edition of our Parent Bulletin!

Thank you to everyone who has attended our Year 10 RAP meetings so far. These meetings are vital for setting goals and targets as the students head towards their final GCSE year. If you are yet to have a meeting with your child's tutor then don't panic, these are running in to next week too, so if you haven't heard from your child's form tutor please don't hesitate to contact the school directly to arrange this.

We held our second PD Day this week and students were focused on activities relating to careers and aspiration. We had Unloc back in running their highly popular enterprise day and then a whole host of employers in, carrying out The Big Interview with Year 10's and running a fantastic careers fair for Year 7's!

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the correct procedure when we are contacting home for a student. If for any reason we feel a student needs to go home then a staff member from our student services or house team will contact you to discuss. We would not ask a student to contact home and say they need to be collected, it will always be a staff member who talks to you regarding this.

Take care and stay safe,

Team Trafalgar

Hot Chocolate with the Head

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

Gracie and her partners took part in a regional competition at the weekend, completing 2 routines and becoming IDP 2 Southern Region Champions for 2022!

This is an amazing achievement that reflects all the hours and hard work she puts in!

Congratulations Gracie, enjoy your hot chocolate!



Key Dates

Thursday 8th Dec - Year 11 Parents Evening (virtual)

Thursday 15th Dec - Christmas Concert

Friday 16th Dec - Celebration Assembly/12:30pm finish

Mobile Phones in School

Please remember that students are not allowed to use their mobile phone in school for safeguarding reasons. Whilst we understand that students use their mobile phones to communicate safe arrival at school etc, please remind your child that on arrival to school, mobile phones should be turned off or on silent.



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MFL Department Update

Spanish

An excellent effort from our Linguist of the Month, John-Luke! He has been consistently using the 11 lines of rainbow and achieved excellent results for his mocks!

Congratulations to our Spanish Home Learning Heroes:



Home Learning - Sentence Builders

Students must complete their home learning via <https://www.sentencebuilders.com/log-in>, a platform which supports students with memory recall but also allows them to practise their reading and listening skills from home. If students need any support with their home learning in languages, they can attend the drop-in sessions after school in LA1.

Home learning in Sentence Builders puts greater focus on the pre-learning which takes place prior to the lesson so that the lesson can focus on applying the knowledge. This creates opportunities for students' independent learning before their lesson. As a result of this, it is essential that students complete their assignments on a weekly basis.



SentenceBuilders

Year 7

In Year 7 we have just started to talk about physical descriptions and personality traits. In order to consolidate their vocabulary knowledge, they have been using Sentence Builders to produce a short description about their friend.

Year 8

Last week the Year 8's covered the topic of TV programmes as well as using the comparatives. They have been learning the key vocabulary related to the subject and worked in pairs by doing a dictation. Student A had to read the paragraph that was provided and Student B would have to actively listen and write down what they heard. This activity was a way to assist in the development of speaking and their pronunciation skills.



Year 9



Year 9 have been consolidating their vocabulary through Sentence Builders. They are currently learning the topic about school in Spanish. Students have done a carousel reading activity where they had to fill in a table with all the relevant information related to the topic of school subjects.



Year 10

Year 10's must be completing their Sentence Builders home learning on a weekly basis. These tasks will focus on key structures and vocabulary for the different topics covered in class. As well as this, students will be given a list of 20 key words to memorise for that week and they will have a short 10-minute vocabulary test once a fortnight. The aim is to not only support memory recall and knowledge over time, but also to develop a glossary of key terms that students will be using to support their GCSE revision in Year 11.

MFL Cafe



"What huge success the MFL Cafe has had this Autumn term. As a non-profit little enterprise (solely run in the purpose of exploring the cultures of France and Spain) we have sold over 1,500 pains au chocolat, croissants, crepes and bottles of Orangina during our break times. I would like to thank my amazing and dedicated team of sales associates Tegan, Elisabeth and Matilda". - **Mr Kohli**



Come along to Local Offer Live to learn more about SEND services that matter to you

Portsmouth Local Offer are holding an information event to support families who have or think they may have children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This is taking place at Central Library on Wednesday 7 December from 10am - 2pm.

This drop-in event allows families to arrive at any time throughout the day. Community groups and organisations will be available to provide information and advice to support children and young people aged 0-25 years old at the event.

We will also be hearing from expert speakers who will be talking about 2 key SEND areas:

- Moving from primary to secondary education (transitions) (10am - 11am)
- An introduction to the neurodiversity team (1pm - 2pm)

The event is hosted on the third floor of Central Library in the Menuhin room. There is no need to register for a ticket - just turn up! For more information, visit the [Portsmouth Local Offer website](https://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org.uk).



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Social Media Platform Updates: Your Guide to the Latest Changes

Recently, many of the popular online platforms that we use every day released plans to improve the experience for users under 18. But will these changes actually improve the online safety for children and young people? Our analysts have reviewed the latest changes announced by Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, and Google to provide you with this guide to the latest updates.

Instagram

There have been many platforms making significant changes to privacy settings over the last few months in an attempt to tackle cyberbullying and mental health concerns. Instagram has been at the forefront of this movement. As one of the most popular social media platforms to date, it has introduced a series of changes that it is hoping will help make its platform a more welcoming place for everyone.

- A new feature called 'Limits' automatically hides comments and direct messages from strangers who do not follow a user
- Users have the option to limit the number of comments found on their posts by turning on the "hide more comments" feature
- Another new feature called 'Hidden Words' will automatically filter offensive content found in direct message requests and comments on posts. This is a predefined list of offensive terms developed by Instagram, but users have the option to create their own custom list as well. Users can access the hidden folder to see these messages, and will be given the option to accept, delete, or report the content

Will This Keep Young People Safer?

All features mentioned can be found and switched on in a profile's safety settings. It is worth mentioning that these are currently being rolled out to different devices and may not be live on your young person's device yet. While these changes seem positive, our testers found that many of these features require manual activation, only last a temporary amount of time, and do not consider abuse made by a user's followers. It is important to involve yourself in how the young person in your care chooses their safety settings while using Instagram. To learn more about how to configure safety settings, visit our Safety Centre.

TikTok

After recently taking over Facebook as the world's most popular app, TikTok has continued to improve its platform by making changes to its privacy settings. These changes are significant as they focus on the way the app is used by under 18s – it's biggest user demographic.

- All users under the age of 16 will have a private account by default. This disables direct messaging, content downloading, and popular features 'Duet' and 'Stitch' (which allow users to interact with videos made by other users)
- Users between the ages of 16-17 will receive a prompt asking them to review and confirm privacy settings when they first use direct messaging
- There is a new 'Video Downloads' feature that must be turned on to allow others to download any other user's videos
- TikTok has decided to take a more mindful approach to push notifications in an attempt to combat excessive screentime use by young people. Any users aged 13-15 will not receive push notifications from 21:00 onwards. Users aged 16-17 will not receive notifications from 22:00 onwards

Will This Keep Young People Safer?

TikTok has begun to roll out these features across the UK, so they may not be currently available. Many of these changes seem to take definitive steps to protect accounts belonging to under 16s. However, there are still ways to get around the settings. This would be especially appealing to a young person eager for their shared content to go viral. However, young people who want to share content with friends may not understand the need for safety settings or the risks of sharing. It's important to have conversations with your young person about the dangers around publicly sharing videos, outlining what is appropriate to share and how safety settings could protect them.

Portsmouth City Council Climate Summit Simulation event

On 16th November our students took part in a role-playing negotiation game focusing on climate change, hosted by Portsmouth City Council and the University of Portsmouth!

This was an excellent opportunity for our young people to learn a little about climate change and think about what our school and students could pledge to help make Portsmouth net zero by 2030.



The event was held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall and students even had the chance to speak with Councillors and the Lord Mayor!

Well done to David and Harris who were excellent ambassadors for the school!

#worldclimatesimulation #planforthefuture

From our social media

Keep up to date with everything going on here at Trafalgar School with our social media accounts:

Facebook: @TrafalgarSch

Instagram: @TrafalgarSch

Twitter: @TrafalgarSch

