

Trafalgar Newsletter

13th January 2023

Welcome to the latest edition of our Parent Bulletin!

Our Spring term is well and truly underway and students are in positive spirits, despite the inclement weather we have been having! We are currently in the process of expanding our outdoor canopies so there is more cover available for students when they are outside at breaks and lunchtime – this will have the additional benefit of providing shade in the hotter weather alongside shelter when we get the weather this country is best known for!

Inside you will find information on our parent “reading for pleasure” survey – we are really keen to find out how much reading your child does at home and what we can do to encourage and support that. Reading for pleasure is a great thing to encourage as it leads to improved creativity, better memory, reduced stress and increased levels of happiness!

Also in this edition; you will find updates from our Art and Maths departments, as well as some helpful information and guidance about Nintendo Switch consoles and how to help keep your child safe online.

Take care and stay safe,

Team Trafalgar

Hot Chocolate with the Head!

This week's Hot Chocolate is awarded to Sofia!

Sofia is consistently a good role model to her peers and regularly demonstrates our core values. Within her lessons, she is always willing to display a positive attitude and works to the best of her ability.

She should be incredibly proud of her high attendance and punctuality, which sets a wonderful example for the rest of her tutor, her classes and her house.

Well done, Sofia!



Key Dates

Thursday 9th Feb - PD Day 3

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb - Half Term

Thursday 23rd Feb - Year 8 Parents Evening (virtual)

Mon 27th Feb - Fri 3rd Mar - Year 7 RAP Meetings (on-site)

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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Art Department Update

Year 11's have started their exam projects this term and have begun with some beautiful observational drawings! Well done Year 11!



Parent Reading Survey

We at Trafalgar are encouraging as many students as possible to read for pleasure to help them develop key reading skills in preparation for their GCSEs and life beyond school. Reading for pleasure also leads to improved creativity, better memory, reduced stress and increased levels of happiness.

We would like you to complete the parent "reading for pleasure" survey by clicking the link below to tell us about your child's reading habits at home and whether you would like further support from us in encouraging your child to read for pleasure.



Thank you!

[Parent 'Reading for Pleasure' Survey](#)



#TeamTrafalgarReads

Annual General Meeting - 18 January 2023



Notice is hereby given that the AGM of the Salterns Academy Trust will take place on Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 7pm to transact the following business:

- To receive the Trust annual report and audited accounts
- To elect the Chair and Vice Chair of the Trust Board
- To confirm the Trust's auditors
- Receive an update from the Trust CEO and Chair of the Board
- To respond to any questions submitted in advance by Parents, families, and other members of the community.

We welcome parents, families, and other members of the community to attend this meeting via Zoom, and to submit questions to be answered by the board.

To allow for sufficient time for informed answers to be provided by Trust leaders, questions must be submitted no later than 24 hours before the scheduled start time of the meeting.

To register your interest in attending this meeting, or to submit a question to be answered at the meeting please contact clerk@alns.co.uk

Please be advised that recording of the meeting is prohibited.



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Maths Department Update

Sparx Maths

We are delighted to let you know that from 16th January students will be completing their maths homework using Sparx Maths.

Sparx is an exciting online platform that offers every student personalised maths homework.



How does Sparx homework work?

Sparx personalises each child's homework, creating a weekly set of questions tailored to their level of understanding and learning pace. The questions are designed to be achievable whilst offering the stretch that learners need to make progress.

Each week, topics are set by your child's maths teacher and will make up the majority of the homework questions. Questions from previous topics will also be included in the homework so that students can keep practising the skills they have learned.

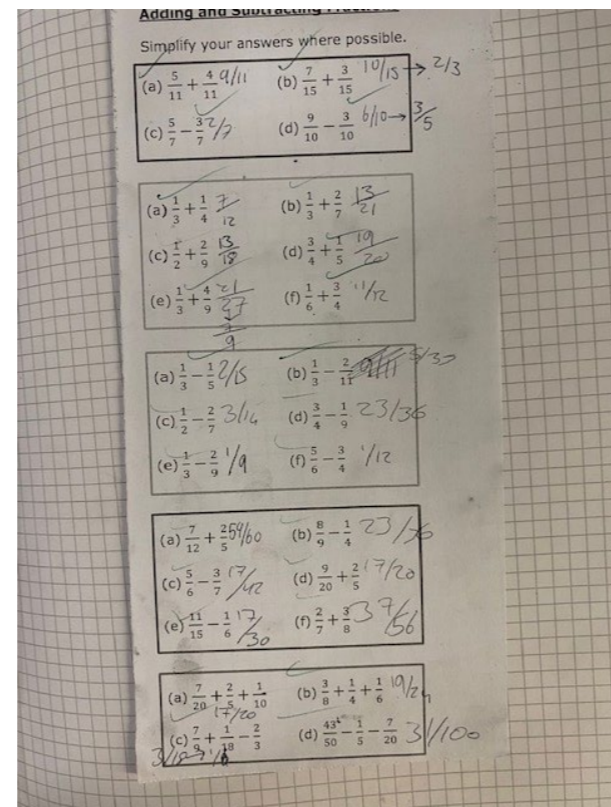
How can I help my child with their homework?

We appreciate that you will of course want to support your child with their home learning but please try not to help them with a question until they've had a go first! It is really important that they complete their homework independently, and that questions are marked as correct. They can watch the support video if they need to. This way, Sparx can make sure your child continues to see homework that's at the right level for them.

[Watch this video for further information.](#)

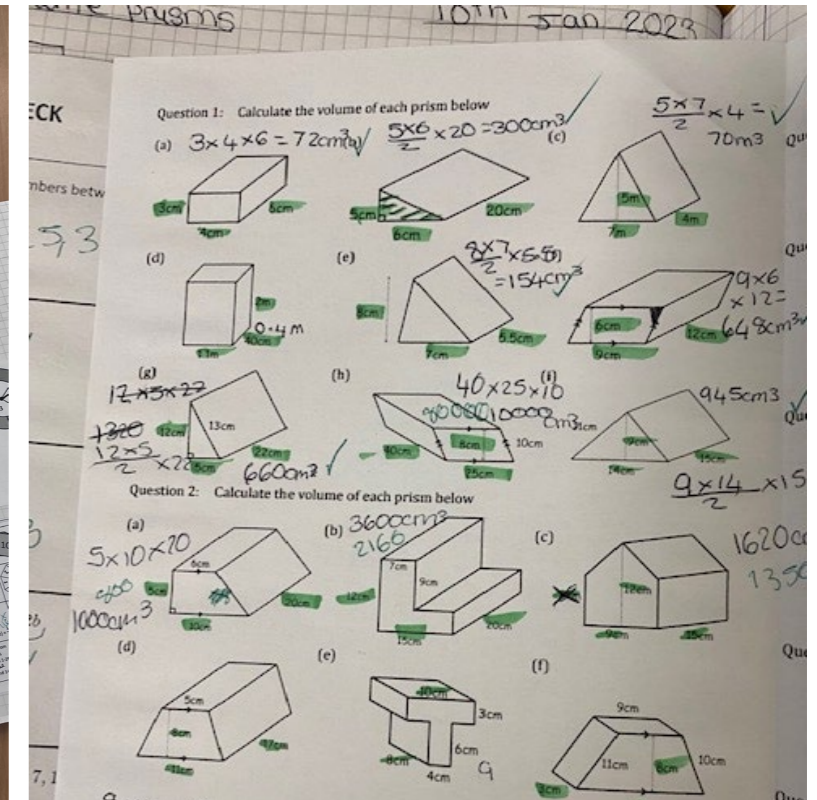
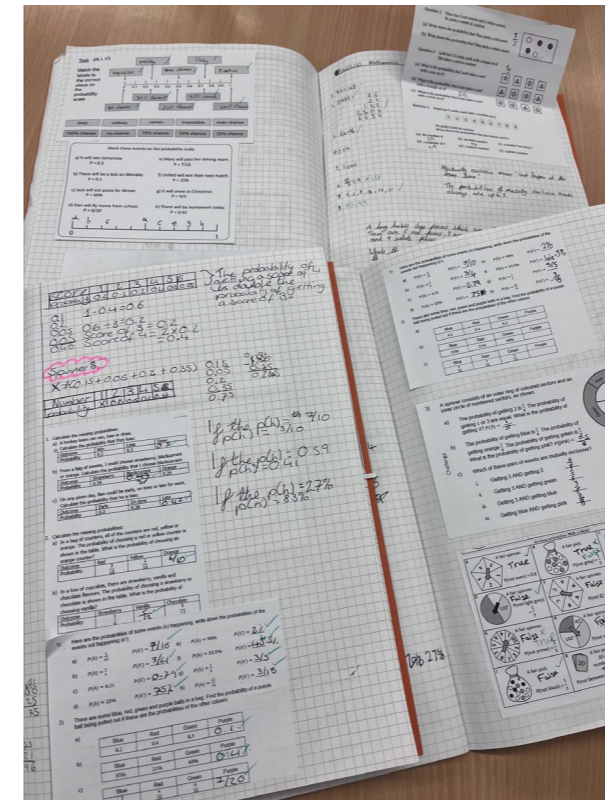
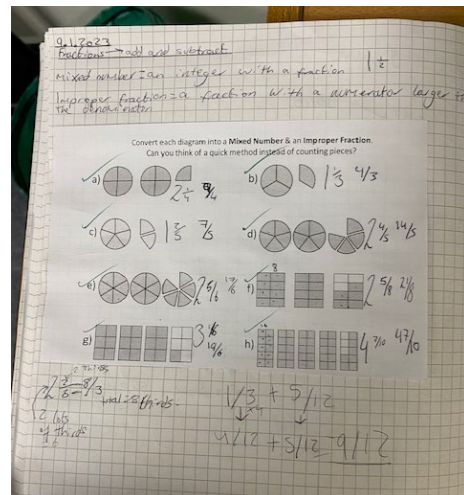
Year Group Updates

Year 7 have started algebraic expressions. First by looking at the order of operations (BIDMAS). They have also been busy preparing for and completing their landmark assessments which take place this week and next – we cannot wait to see how much progress they have made.



Year 8 have been looking at probabilities (mutually exclusive events and sample space)

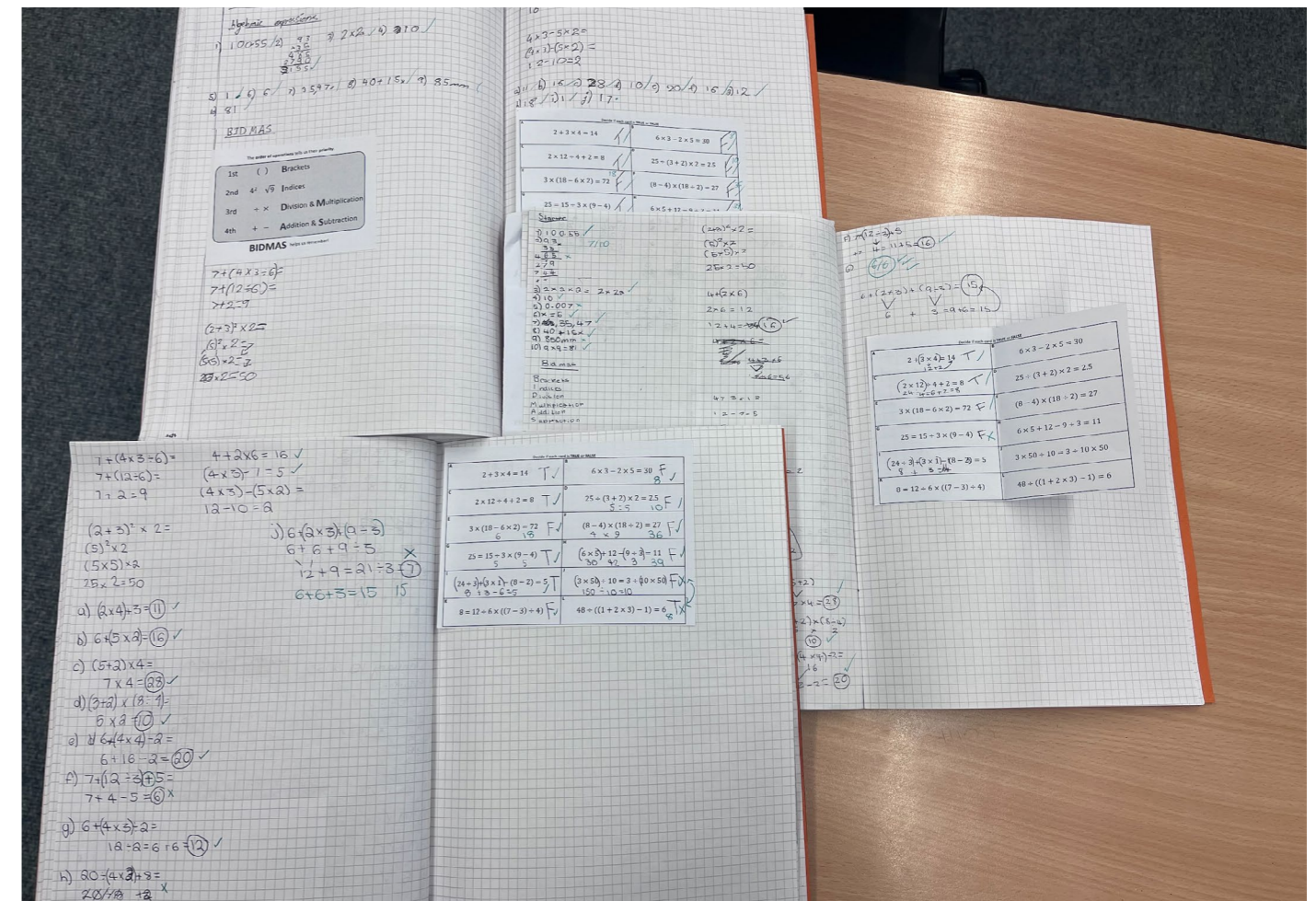
Year 9 have been working on calculating with fractions, including converting between



improper fractions and mixed numbers, and adding and subtracting fractions.

Year 10 have been calculating the volume of prisms.

Year 11 have been working on simultaneous equations.



Nintendo Switch



The Nintendo Switch was launched back in 2017 but continues to be popular. The console was the first 'Hybrid', meaning it was both portable and for home use. The console actually has a built-in screen, making it extremely popular with gamers of all ages.

Parental Controls

Nintendo has designed an App called 'Nintendo Switch Parental Controls', specifically for parents to ensure a safer experience on the Switch. In this App, after making an account, you can take advantage of the following parental control settings:

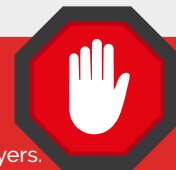
Here you can find the following features:

- Parents can control how long children and young people are allowed to play the Nintendo Switch. Parents can set time limits and an in-game alarm will let the young gamer know their time is up.
- Monitor what type of games a child or young person is playing via reports.
- Parents can choose to restrict certain games, based on PEGI Ratings.
- There is a feature to stop children and young people from posting screenshots taken on the Nintendo Switch to social media platforms.
- Restrict the ability to communicate with other players. This can be done on a game by game basis too.



Users can choose to block another user through the following actions:

1. Select user Icon via the Home menu and then press **Add Friend**.
2. From here, users select **search for users you've played with** which will deliver a list of all players.
3. From this list, identify the user you wish to block and select **block** and then **block** again to confirm.



In order to report a player, you must download the Nintendo Switch Online app on a smart device.

1. From your main menu, select your **vault**.
2. Select the **Records** square.
3. Select the player you wish to report and press A on your Nintendo Switch.
4. Add in your reasoning for making the report and then select **report** to submit.

