

18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of the autumn term, it is a time to reflect on all the achievements and successes of our students. Some stand out moments for me have been celebrating our best GCSE results ever (once again!), seeing those representing Trafalgar School at the Remembrance Service, the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards, rehearsals for the school concert and the Year 7 annual trip to the pantomime!

There has been something for everyone to get involved in and our first PD Day was a huge success, with all our students provided with the opportunity to work with and learn from external organisations, who always share such wonderful feedback with us.

Another highlight was hosting the Department for Education (DfE) who were keen to learn more about Trafalgar School's approach to inclusion and relational practice. The DfE have heard incredible things about the innovative work Trafalgar School, and the Salterns Academy Trust schools continue to do in this area and were keen to see it in practice. They were inspired to see such a passionate approach to meaningful inclusion so a huge well done to the many students and staff who supported this visit.

### **Attendance Matters**

We all know good attendance and punctuality are essential in helping our children to reach their full potential. Last academic year, those students with good or better attendance achieved, on average, over half a grade higher than their peers across subjects!

Attendance at Trafalgar School is once again better than it was last year, so a huge well done to all. Please remember to contact the school if you require any help or support improving your child's attendance.

### **Year 11**

Year 11 took their first set of mock exams very seriously and their outcomes reflected this. Lessons are now focussed on what they need to do to improve for their next mock exams in March.

Their Prom date has been announced for Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July at The Queens Hotel. Prom is always a wonderful opportunity to come together one final time as a year group to celebrate their collective achievements in style. Tickets are available now from Student Services with deposits due early January.

We have a 'Prom Shop' to support families with the costs of prom; the shop has a range of dresses, suits, shoes and accessories for students to borrow. If you are able to donate to our 'shop' or if you would like support with the cost of the prom, then please do get in touch with Mrs Crouch who would love to hear from you. I am delighted to announce we will be running free barber and hairdressing services on site for our students; details to follow soon!

## Free School Meals over the Christmas holiday

If your child qualifies for free school meal vouchers, you will be sent a voucher for £30 per child to cover the two-week holiday period. The vouchers are funded by the Household Support Fund from the Department for Work and Pensions, and are intended to help families with the cost of living this winter. Please do get in touch with our Student Services team urgently if you believe you are entitled to a voucher but have not yet received one.

## Celebrating success

Celebration events have been taking place all week in school and excitingly, we are all travelling to The Mountbatten Centre to further celebrate our students' many achievements as a whole school on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. We really value the opportunity to come together as a community to recognise the achievements of students and staff, therefore please ensure your child attends so they don't miss out! All students will be dismissed from there at 12:30pm.

## Looking forward to 2026

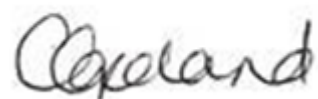
The school re-opens for all students on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025**.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of students being in school on time. School starts at 8:50am and those students who arrive late can be disadvantaged; they miss starting the day with their peers and, often, the beginning of lessons which can lead to them being unsettled and/or confused about their learning. Punctuality to school will therefore be a key focus for us throughout 2026.

Please remember, upcoming and important dates can always be found on our weekly newsletter which is sent home via Class Charts and be aware, on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January** the school will be closed for our Trust training day.

Finally, I thank you for your continued support this term and I wish you all a wonderful, warm and very happy Christmas with your loved ones.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Claire Copeland  
Executive Headteacher