

21 July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As another academic year draws to a close, it is hard to believe how quickly the time has gone! It has been a year filled with achievement and memorable experiences, and I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate some of the highlights from the summer term.

Our Year 11 students recently completed their GCSE examinations and were outstanding throughout, demonstrating resilience and aspiration to the very end. We were delighted to celebrate their achievements at the Year 11 BBQ and Prom. This year's Prom, held at The Queens Hotel, was our biggest and most successful yet; a great evening for students and staff alike.

I look forward to welcoming Year 11 students back from 9-11am on Thursday 20 August for Results Day. Year 10 students who sat their Citizenship exam can also collect their results on this day from 10-11am and I wish all students the best of luck.

Activities Week was another huge success. It was fantastic to see our students enjoying a wide range of experiences and creating lasting memories. As you know, the weather brought some challenges this year, but staff and students were incredible in adapting activities accordingly. The overwhelming support from you, our families, did not go unnoticed so a heartfelt thank you on behalf of all staff. Plans are already underway to make next year's experiences even bigger and better!

Our annual Sports Festival once again showcased the talent and team spirit that make Trafalgar such a special place. Congratulations to Britannia, who were crowned overall champions, and to Victory, who finished just two points behind. It was a fantastic competition, and I am sure Victory House will be eager to claim the title next year!

Our final PD Day of the year developed students' confidence, knowledge and understanding of how to keep themselves and each other safe within the community. These experiences play an important part in helping our young people become well-rounded individuals and it has been great to see increasingly high levels of student attendance this year.

Last week's production of *Our House* was another huge success! Students and staff devoted countless hours to bringing the production to life, and their dedication and enthusiasm shone through. We are incredibly lucky to have such talented performers within our school community, and I know many are already excited about the announcement of our next whole-school production.

Following a rigorous selection process, I am delighted to announce that Eva and Mackenzie have been appointed as our new Head Girl and Head Boy, supported by Ella and Imogen as Deputies and Eliana, Emily and Alex as Senior Prefects. Alongside our largest-ever team of prefects, they will play a key role in shaping the future of the school. In September, they will develop and present their Student School Improvement Plan to the Governing Body, and I look forward to working with them closely throughout the year.

We will end the year with one of my favourite events; our celebration assembly at the Mountbatten Centre, recognising the many achievements and successes of our students. Students will be dismissed from the Mountbatten Centre from 12:30pm. Congratulations in advance to all our award winners.

The assembly will also give us the opportunity to say farewell to several members of staff. We would like to thank Mrs Brownlee, Mrs Clements-Gander, Miss Rice and Mr Jean for their hard work, commitment and service to the school. They will all be missed but we wish them every success and happiness as they move on to new opportunities.

Significant improvement works are already underway across the school site, including:

- A refurbishment of the PE areas, including new gym flooring
- Upgraded changing rooms and facilities
- The creation of a new dance studio

- A new food technology room
- Essential fire safety improvements, including upgraded fire alarms and fire doors.

These developments represent substantial investment from Portsmouth City Council and the Department for Education. They will help us meet future demand for secondary school places and also enhance the safety of our site and the quality of the facilities available to our students.

Please note that the changing rooms are likely to remain unavailable until the end of November. During this period, students should continue to wear their PE kit to school on timetabled PE and Dance days.

In addition to this, we are finalising the exciting move to Microsoft Cloud over the summer which will affect how students access our systems. Therefore, it is essential all students bring their Chromebooks to school in September.

As we prepare for the new academic year, please take a moment to familiarise yourself with our uniform and equipment expectations, which are available on the school website. You may be aware the government has recently introduced legislation regarding the number of branded uniform items families should need to purchase. This limits schools to three branded items (plus a school tie). To help keep costs as affordable as possible for families, all Trafalgar students are expected to have a school tie, a plain white shirt, plain black trousers, a branded school blazer, and a branded house-colour PE top. A few additional branded items remain optional, including the school jumper, PE training top, branded school shorts and school skirt. We will be reviewing our policy over the coming year and will keep parents informed of any planned changes.

A full calendar will be available on the school website during the summer holidays however, key dates for the first half-term include:

Tuesday 1 September – INSET Day

Wednesday 2 September – INSET Day

Thursday 3 September – Years 7 and 11 return (8.50am start)

Friday 4 September – All students return (8.50am start)

Thursday 17 September – Preparing for Year 11 Evening

Thursday 24 September – Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening

Monday 28 September – Activities Week Launch Event (virtual)

Thursday 1 October – Live Well Event

Thursday 8 October – Open Evening

Friday 16 October – Activities Week Choices Deadline

Attendance remains a key focus nationally, and we are delighted by the improvements seen once again as we finish this year with attendance levels which are better than the national average! Regular attendance is one of the most significant factors in helping young people achieve their potential. If your child is unable to attend school, please notify us as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary attendance follow-up procedures.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I look forward to welcoming all students back in September and continuing to support them to achieve their very best.

Have a wonderful summer break.

Yours sincerely,



Miss G Pearse
Acting Headteacher