

# Parent Bulletin



5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Here's your weekly update on the latest news and events from Trafalgar.

Earlier this week, students enjoyed a fantastic day of cultural and linguistic immersion on our first school trip to Lille. From sampling French pastries to exploring the Christmas market, it was a memorable experience for all involved. Read more inside this bulletin for a first-hand account from Miss Desbiens, our French trainee teacher.

A reminder for Year 11 parents to book appointments for Parents' Evening next Thursday (11<sup>th</sup> December). This will be an in-person event, following feedback from students and parents last year, and details on how to book were sent via ClassCharts. Please book early to secure your preferred appointments.

We also congratulate our Year 11 geographers on completing their field trips this week. Despite the typical British weather, students showed great enthusiasm and dedication while gathering data and exploring the local environment.

Stay safe and take care,

**Team Trafalgar**

## Reading Plus Winner

Congratulations Hugo in Year 7, our Reading Plus winner of the week!

Hugo chose Marcus Rashford, You are a champion, how to be the best you can be by Carl Anka. Hugo loves football and thought this book looked great. Happy reading!

### Leaderboard

Top Classes - Total Avg. Reading Lessons (SR)

1. 7G3/En 25/26	29.0
2. 7G1/En 25/26	28.2
3. 7R2/En 25/26	22.5
4. 7R1/En 25/26	22.2
5. 8G4 25/26	18.3

Also, well done 7G3 for topping our reading leaderboard again!

Don't forget to help your class climb the table by keeping up with your English home learning.



## Key Dates

### Autumn 2025

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 11 Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 7 Parent Concert 13:45

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Concert 18:00

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** - Celebration Assembly - 12:30 finish

### Uniform & Equipment

Please ensure your children have the correct uniform & equipment with them each day. If you require any support, contact your child's form tutor. Please ensure students have a bag. You can find full details of what they need [here](https://trafalgarschool.org.uk).



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# Lille Christmas Market 2025

We were delighted to take students to Lille on 28 November for a day of cultural and linguistic immersion. Below, Miss Desbiens, our French trainee teacher, shares her personal account of the trip:

*"Bonjour! I was thrilled to be able to participate in the school's trip to Lille on the 28th of November. It was a very rewarding experience, both for me as a PGCE trainee and especially for the students who joined us. As a French woman, and someone who studied in Lille last year for my master's degree, I was looking forward to observing how students would react and respond to the city."*

*I am delighted to say that I was impressed with how well they adapted to a full day in diverse, authentic French-speaking environments. For a first experience with a trip led by our school, it was quite an enlightening one. I would like to thank Trafalgar and the supervising teachers for such a beneficial opportunity. School trips are such a great learning experience - culturally and personally - for students, particularly when it comes to language learning. Getting to engage with real, everyday French is invaluable for their development, especially when done through such fun activities!*

*The students were lucky to begin the day with a nice French breakfast in a lovely restaurant in Calais; I had missed the fluffy bread we were given with a nice apricot jam! Then, we had the great opportunity to learn how to make such bread with a passionate boulanger in his bakery in Escoeuilles. The students were very enthusiastic and showed a great grasp of French while answering his questions.*

*I was happy to guide them through the variety of viennoiseries available in the shop. It was heart-warming to see them enjoy the different cakes and pastries - mille-feuille, beignet, pain suisse, chausson aux pommes - which they were curious enough to buy and ask for in French! I was delighted to see them embrace the novelty around them and speak as much as they could in the foreign language.*

*Lille was very nice, despite the English-like weather, and the students had a blast in Sephora, on the Ferris wheel, and at the Christmas market."*



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# Year 11 Intervention Timetable

Please find below a reminder of our Year 11 Intervention Timetable.

These sessions run every day after school from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b>	History and Geography	Maths	Sociology Comp Science Travel & Tourism  (Additional Languages)	Creative Arts: 3D Art Fine Art Graphics Photography Food Prep	Film Studies Health: Sports Studies GCSE PE Child Development Health and Social Care
<b>2</b>	Science	English	Business Ancient History  Yr10 Citizenship Online 4-5pm	Languages French Spanish German  Lunchtime also available	Triple Science Performing Arts: Dance Drama Music

To support us in closely monitoring and celebrating student engagement in our intervention sessions, staff will now record attendance through Class Charts, awarding them an intervention reward point.

This will allow us to clearly track participation and acknowledge the effort students are putting into attending extra learning sessions. We will continue to work with Curriculum Leaders to use this information to recognise and celebrate students' commitment and progress.

Well done to the following year 11's who are in the top 10 attendees to interventions this week:

Freddie	B07
Charlie	B02
Sofiane	B11
Caleb	B03
Lena	T05
Kelsie	B02
Kaitlyn	T09
Christabel	B06
Dennis	V09
Caileigh	T02



*Trophy Image by Jessica\_Designer from Pixabay*



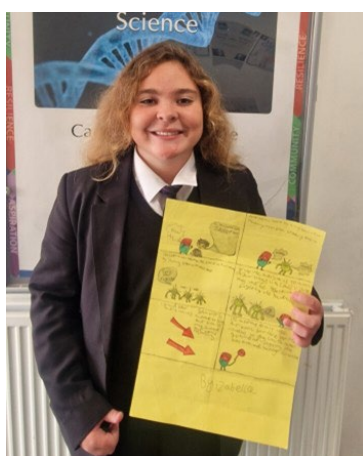
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# Trafalgar Girls Dominate the Hampshire Competition!

We are proud to celebrate two of our talented students who have been recognised for their creativity and scientific understanding in raising awareness about antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Aleena won first place in the Key Stage 3 category of the NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight AMR Art Competition, with Izabella named a runner-up.

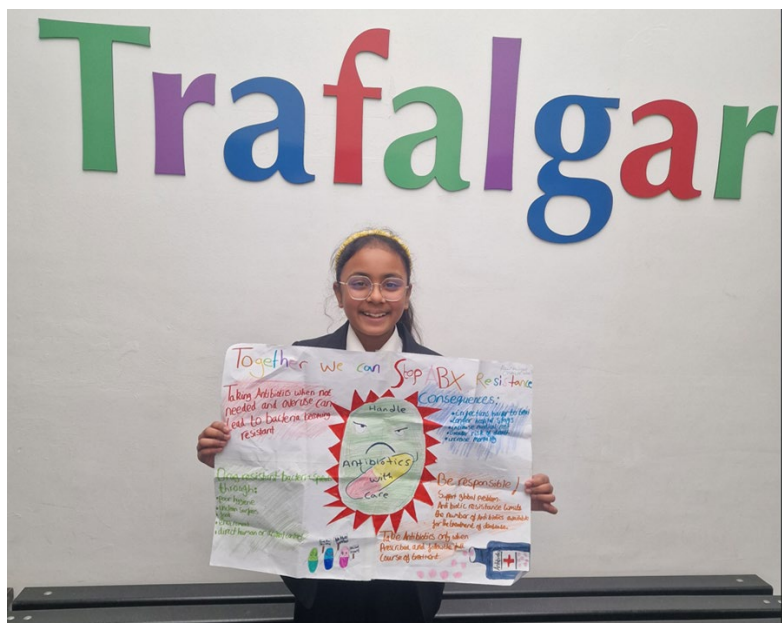
Held during World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week (18–24 November 2025), the competition encouraged students to highlight the importance of responsible antibiotic use. Aleena and Izabelle impressed



judges with their inventive designs and clear messages about the risks of antibiotic misuse and the growing challenge of AMR.

Their work helps strengthen young people's understanding of antimicrobial stewardship and encourages conversations in schools and homes about protecting the effectiveness of medicines for the future.

NHS Hampshire has shared this fantastic news across its social media channels, celebrating the girls' achievements and inspiring others to learn more about AMR.



## Christmas Dinner 2025

Next week, each House will enjoy its Christmas lunch on its designated day:

- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Britannia**
- **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Temeraire**
- **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Victory**
- **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> – Sovereign**

On these days, students in the House will be dismissed 10 minutes early for lunch and may stay in the canteen until they have finished eating. Year 7 students will have normal lunch hours.

During the House lunches, the canteen will not be open to other students, but alternative lunch options will be provided.

A movie will also be shown daily in the Main Hall, open to all year groups.



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# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

### 1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

### 2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

### 3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

### 4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

### 5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

### 6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

### 7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

### 8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

### 9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

### 10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

### Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



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