

Parent Bulletin



27th February 2026

Welcome to this week's parent bulletin. It's been wonderful to see how well our students have settled back into school life after the half-term break. Classrooms have been full of energy, and the enthusiasm across the school has set a positive tone for the weeks ahead.

A huge thank you to everyone who visited our Activities Week Pop-Up Shop this week. Your support is greatly appreciated, and we hope you enjoyed finding out more about the exciting plans for July. A gentle reminder that final payments are due by Friday 13th March.

We'd also like to remind Year 10 students that the deadline for returning Work Experience forms has been extended to Friday 6th March. Please ensure all forms are handed in to tutors or the Library by this date.

We're very excited that our Year 7 students will be taking part in an official Guinness World Record attempt next Thursday at Fratton Park! More details about this exciting opportunity can be found later in this bulletin and in the letter sent via Class Charts.

Best of luck to our Year 11 students as they begin their next round of mock exams — we are incredibly proud of their focus and determination.

Finally, a reminder for Year 7 parents and carers to book Parents' Evening appointments for next Thursday via School Cloud. If you need any assistance, please contact our Student Services team, who will be happy to help.

Stay safe and take care,
Team Trafalgar

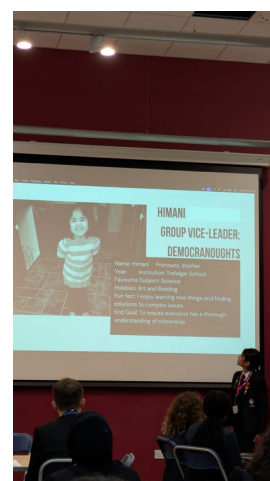
CoPs Summit 2



Five of our students represented Trafalgar at Summit 2 of CoPs (City of Portsmouth Students), held at The Portsmouth Grammar School this week.

Throughout the day, students from schools across the city came together to share ideas, discuss local issues, and collaborate on ways to make a difference in their communities.

Our students did a fantastic job presenting their group's work to their peers — we're incredibly proud of their confidence, teamwork, and thoughtful contributions.



Key Dates

Monday 2nd - Friday 13th March - Year 11 Mock Exams

Thursday 5th March - Year 7 Parents' Evening (remote)

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Thursday 12th March - Year 9 Options Evening

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://www.trafalgarschool.org.uk).



@TrafalgarSch

[trafalgarschool.org.uk](https://www.trafalgarschool.org.uk)

Reading Plus Winner

Congratulations Dexter S in Year 8, our Reading Plus winner of the week!

Dexter chose 'Doctor Who Comic - Alternating Current' by J Houser and R Ingranata. Dexter chose this comic as he is a big fan of the series. Happy Reading!

By keeping up with your Reading Plus you stand the chance to win one of our new books from the book vending machine! Which book would you choose?

Also, well done 7G3 for topping our reading leaderboard! Don't forget to help your class climb the table by keeping up with your English home learning.

Leaderboard	
Top Classes - Total Avg. Reading Lessons (SR)	
1. 7G3/En 25/26	65.8
2. 7G1/En 25/26	49.2
3. 8R1 25/26	48.1
4. 7R2/En 25/26	47.5
5. 7R1/En 25/26	44.2



Year 7 Join World Record Reading Attempt at Fratton Park

Year 7 students will be heading to Fratton Park on World Book Day, Thursday 5th March, to take part in a Portsmouth-wide Guinness World Records attempt for the "Largest Reading Lesson", organised by Portsmouth Creates as part of the city's 100-year celebrations.

Hosted by Blue Peter's Abby Cook and attended by Sunday Times bestselling author Dan Freedman, the event will also be live streamed on Portsmouth Creates' Facebook and Instagram channels (@portsmouthcreates).

Students will travel by coach, leaving school at approximately 9:00am and returning for lunch and their normal afternoon timetable.

Please note that media outlets will be present and, due to the scale of the event, usual photo permissions cannot be applied; if you do not wish your child to be photographed or filmed, or if they are unable to attend, please contact careers@trafalgar@salterns.org.



**OFFICIAL
ATTEMPT**



Portsmouth
Creates



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

Spring Term Parent Support Series

Free Parent Webinars

*Join us and Elevate Education for FREE
60- minute webinars designed to help you
support your child's studies at home.*

Scan the QR code
to register



In the Spring Term, we'll cover:

- 1. How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking**
- 13th January @6:00pm (GMT)
- 2. How You Can Make Technology an Ally (& Not the Enemy!)**
- 27th January @6:00pm (GMT)
- 3. How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory**
- 10th February @6:00pm (GMT)
- 4. How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams**
- 3rd March @6:00pm (GMT)
- 5. How You Can Support Your Child During Exams**
- 17th March @6:00pm (GMT)



HAVANT AND WATERLOOVILLE FOOTBALL CLUB

ACADEMY TRIALS

At Havant and Waterlooville Football Club we are proud to have a partnership with Havant & South Downs College (HSDC) post-16 education option linked to the development pathway of the Football Club. Our HSDC Academy team is based off-site at the South Downs Campus with all the education offerings provided by the College.

Our long-standing partnership with Havant and South Downs College allows students the opportunity to represent Havant and Waterlooville FC for fixtures in The National League Under 19 Alliance, playing home fixtures in the stadium at Westleigh Park

**WEDNESDAY 8TH
APRIL**

15:00-17:00

WESTLEIGH PARK, PO9 5TH



SCAN TO REGISTER

“ THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE COLLEGE CREATES AN EXCITING, HIGH-PERFORMANCE PATHWAY FOR ANY YOUNG PLAYER WHO WANTS TO PUSH THEIR GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL. COMBINED WITH OUR STRONG ACADEMIC COURSES FROM LEVEL 1-3, STUDENTS GET THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS. IT'S A POWERFUL COMBINATION OF TOP QUALITY EDUCATION AND A COMPETITIVE FOOTBALL PATHWAY INTO THE SENIOR GAME. ”

SAM GAME, HEAD OF FACULTY HSDC



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

OPEN EVENTS

Alton
Wednesday 11 March
2026 - 5-7.30pm

Havant
Wednesday 4 March
2026 - 5-7.30pm

South Downs
Thursday 26 February
2026 5-7.30pm

HSDC.AC.UK/EVENTS



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, allowing users to send text and voice messages, share multimedia, make video calls, and chat in groups. With end-to-end encryption, only the sender and receiver can view messages. This may offer privacy, but it also comes with risks that parents and educators need to be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats enable multiple users to message in the same space, but this can also make it easier for young people to feel excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and young people may feel pressure to respond or stay engaged even when the conversation is uncomfortable or upsetting.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers are increasingly using WhatsApp to trick users into sharing personal information. Common scams include fraudsters posing as family members in an emergency or tricking users into revealing security codes. These can lead to identity theft or access to private conversations.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp offers features like disappearing messages and 'Chat Lock', which can give users a false sense of security. While intended to protect privacy, they can be used by young users to hide inappropriate conversations or content, making it harder for adults to spot potential issues.

EXPOSURE THROUGH CHANNELS

'Channels' are an optional feature that allows users to follow updates from public figures or organisations; however, there is no way to block this feature or filter its content by age. Young users may encounter adult or distressing content, including misinformation and harmful ideologies.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp users can share their live location, and if not managed carefully, this can allow others – even those in mutual groups – to track someone's whereabouts. Also, without the right privacy settings, young users may be contacted by strangers.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp now includes ads in the 'Updates' feed and has introduced an AI assistant – Meta AI – across the app, which cannot be removed. These additions raise concerns about targeting, privacy, AI use, and the type of content children and young people might interact with.

Advice for Parents & Educators

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Help young users check who can see their profile photo, status, and location. Activate the 'Silence Unknown Callers' setting and set group chat invitations to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...' for added safety.

TEACH HOW TO SPOT SCAMS

Encourage caution around unusual and unexpected messages, especially if they involve money or codes. Help young users understand the signs of scams and what to do if they receive a suspicious message. Enable two-step verification to add an extra layer of protection.

BE OPEN ABOUT HIDDEN CHATS

Discuss why children and young people might use features like disappearing messages or 'Chat Lock'. Encourage them to share if something made them uncomfortable, even if the messages are gone. Let them know that privacy should not mean secrecy.

TALK ABOUT ADVERTISING AND AI

Explain that WhatsApp now includes ads and AI tools. Discuss the difference between genuine and sponsored content, and the potential for AI to share inaccurate or age-inappropriate responses. Encourage young users to think critically before trusting or interacting with these features.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/wuw.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.02.2026



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk