

Parent Bulletin



19th September 2025

We're delighted to share the latest news and celebrations from Trafalgar this week.

A big thank you to our Year 11 students and parents who attended the Preparing for Year 11 event last night. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaging with the next steps in this important year.

In this edition, we are celebrating the achievements of some of our talented students, including outstanding success in both boxing and cooking, which truly showcases the dedication and spirit of our school community.

A reminder to Year 7 parents to book your appointments for the Meet the Tutor event next week. Details have been sent home via Class Charts.

We are also looking for new parent governors to join our governing body. See inside for details on how you can make a difference.

Take care and stay safe,

Team Trafalgar

Student Boxer Strikes Gold at International Tournament

Our very own Betty-Mae achieved a remarkable victory last weekend at the Barum Box Cup, a renowned international boxing competition.

Betty impressed throughout the tournament and faced a talented Irish opponent in the final. Showing skill and composure, she secured a first-round stoppage win to claim the gold medal.

"It was such a great experience," Betty said. "I fought in the final against an Irish girl and won by first round stoppage."

We're incredibly proud of Betty's dedication and success - an inspiring example of hard work paying off!



Key Dates

- Thursday 25th September** - Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening
- Thursday 2nd October** - Activities Week 2026 Launch (virtual)
- Thursday 9th October** - Open Evening 6:00-8:00pm
- Friday 10th October** - Late start for students - 9:40am tutor

Autumn 2025

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](#).

James Shines in Prestigious Chef Course

Before the holidays, James successfully completed a 10-week chef course run by Fareham College in partnership with the Royal Navy. Out of 75 applicants, he was one of only 10 students selected after a competitive interview - a fantastic achievement in itself.

The course concluded with a special evening where James and a fellow chef prepared an impressive three-course meal with freshly baked breads for their parents, teachers, and members of the Royal Navy.

The menu included:

- Spinach and Ricotta Tortellini
- Pan-Roasted Chicken Breast with Confit Chicken Bonbon
- Dark Chocolate Fondant



Guests were amazed by the quality and presentation. James graduated as one of the top chefs in the programme, received a professional chef's knife set, and was even offered places at culinary schools should he wish to continue his training.

We are incredibly proud of James for his hard work, creativity, and outstanding culinary talent!



Join Our Governing Body – We Need Your Skills!

Our school is looking for new governors to help guide and support our community. Being a governor is a rewarding way to make a real difference to the education and wellbeing of our children.

We are particularly keen to hear from parents or community members with experience in:

- **Navy or Military** – to represent and support our large community of service families
- **Finance** – to help oversee budgets and strategic planning
- **Health & Safety** – to ensure we maintain the highest standards of care and compliance



Governors play a vital role in setting the school's vision, holding leaders to account, and ensuring every child thrives. Full training and support are provided.

If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact clerk.trafalgar@salterns.org.

Help us shape the future of our school - your skills can make a lasting impact!

Year 11 - College Open Events

As Year 11 prepare for the exciting next steps in their education, we've put together a timetable of upcoming college open evenings.

These events are a great opportunity to explore your options, meet staff and students, and get a feel for life at different colleges.

Make sure to check the dates and times listed below. If you have any questions or need further information, don't hesitate to ask your tutor or visit Miss Passmore in the Library.



College	Dates	Times
City of Portsmouth College Sixth Form Campus 0923 92 383131 www.city-of-portsmouth-college.ac.uk	Wednesday 15th -Thursday 16th October 2025 Please contact the college directly, if you would like to book a 1-1 visit.	4:30 - 7:30pm
City of Portsmouth College Highbury Campus & North Harbour Campus 02392 383131 www.city-of-portsmouth-college.ac.uk	Wednesday 15th -Thursday 16th October 2025 Please contact the college directly, if you would like to book a 1-1 visit.	4:30 - 7:30pm
Havant South Downs College (HSDC) South Downs Campus Havant Campus 02393 879999 www.hfdc.ac.uk	Havant - Wednesday 1st October 2025 South Downs - Tuesday 7th October 2025	5 - 8pm
South Hampshire College Group 01329 815200 https://shcg.ac.uk/	Fareham College campus: Tuesday 14th October 2025	5 - 7pm
St Vincent College www.stvincent.ac.uk 02392 588311	Wednesday 15th October 2025	5 - 7pm
Chichester College www.chichester.ac.uk 01243 786321	Tuesday 7th October 2025	4:30 - 7pm



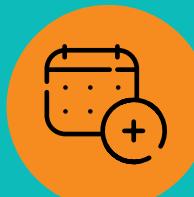
CAREERS & APPRENTICESHIP SHOW



Parents, Carers, College Students and Young People aged 15–25 are invited to book FREE tickets to this event. Don't miss the chance to attend the Show, where you can meet with employers face-to-face and talk to training providers about how to achieve your dream job.



**Mountbatten Centre
Portsmouth**



**24 September 2025
3:00pm – 6:00pm**



@CASPortsmouth



Scan to Book

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPSTREAK

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🎉 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgmentally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

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.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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