

# Parent Bulletin

24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

This half term has flown by, and it's been a busy few weeks across the school.

Our Year 11 Art and Design students recently took part in exciting workshops led by the Art and Design Department from City of Portsmouth College — a brilliant opportunity to explore college-level projects and gain inspiration for their own work.

We have been delighted to see students showing ambition, curiosity and kindness in many ways — whether through getting involved in enrichment clubs or supporting one another with assessments and project work.

Following successful surgery this week, Miss Pearse is now recovering at home. She is planning to return to work by the end of November. We are sure you will all join us in wishing her a very speedy recovery!

Wishing everyone a restful and well-deserved break,

**Team Trafalgar**

## Creative Futures: College Art Workshops Inspire Year 11 Students

Last Friday morning, our Year 11 Art and Design students enjoyed an inspiring visit from the Art and Design Department at City of Portsmouth College. The team delivered engaging workshops tailored to each of our 11D classes — Graphics, Photography, Fine Art, and 3D Design.



During the sessions, college staff introduced students to the kinds of projects and expectations they can look forward to at college level, shared examples of students' work, and led hands-on activities linked to each subject area. Graphics and Photography students explored themes around Marvel and the film industry, while Fine Art and 3D Design students focused on natural forms, connecting their work to current project themes.

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain insight into creative study beyond school and to be inspired by the possibilities of future artistic pathways.



### Key Dates

#### Autumn 2025

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> -Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October** - Half Term

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** - Students back in school

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November** - Presentation Evening (Years 8-12)

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November** - Year 9 Parents' Evening (virtual)

### 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](#).



@TrafalgarSch

[trafalgarschool.org.uk](http://trafalgarschool.org.uk)

# Stepping into History - Belgium Trip 2025

Last week, our History students stepped back in time with an unforgettable visit to the WWI trenches.

From walking through preserved dugouts to hearing powerful stories of the soldiers who lived there, everyone gained a deeper understanding of the realities of life on the front line.

The trip was a huge success — filled with reflection, learning, and respect for those who served. A big thank you to our wonderful students for their curiosity and excellent behaviour, and to our staff for making the experience so meaningful!



@TrafalgarSch

[trafalgarschool.org.uk](http://trafalgarschool.org.uk)

# Reading Plus Winner

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

Anousha chose *Lost on Gibbon Island* by Jess Butterworth. Anousha usually likes mystery and thought this survival adventure story sounded exciting. Happy reading!

Also, well done 7G1 for topping our reading leaderboard!

## Leaderboard

Top Classes - Total Avg. Reading Lessons (SR)

1. 7G1/En 25/26	20.2
2. 7G3/En 25/26	20.1
3. 7R1/En 25/26	18.0
4. 7R2/En 25/26	15.4
5. 8G4 25/26	14.5

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



## 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](mailto:clerk.trafalgar@salterns.org).

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



@TrafalgarSch

[trafalgarschool.org.uk](http://trafalgarschool.org.uk)

# Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable - Nov 2025

The week after students return from half term, our Year 11 students will be sitting their first round of mock exams. Please find the timetable for the whole fortnight below:

## (Timetable Week B)

All am exams start in tutor	Tutor and Lesson 1 & 2 (8.50- 10.50)		Lesson 3 & 4 (11.10 - 12.50)		Lesson 5 & 6 (13.20 - 15.00)
<b>Monday 10 Nov</b>	Maths (Calculator) 90 mins		Spanish Writing F 70 mins H 75 mins French Writing F 70 mins H 75 mins German Writing F 70 mins H 75 mins		
<b>Tuesday 11 Nov</b>	History (Crime) 60 mins History (Elizabethan) 60 mins  Ancient History (Persia) 60 mins Ancient History (Alexander the Great) 60 mins				Maths (non calculator) 90 mins
<b>Wednesday 12 Nov</b>	Computer Science 120 mins Sociology 105 mins		Child Dev 75 mins PE 90 mins Film Studies 90mins		Science Biology (F) 70mins Science Biology (H) 70mins  Triple Science Biology (H) 105 mins
<b>Thursday 13 Nov</b>	English Language (Writer's viewpoint) 105 mins				German Reading F 45 mins H 60 mins German Listening F 35 mins H 45 mins  <i>Music, Dance and Drama work on Assessment in class</i>
<b>Friday 14 Nov</b>	Science Chemistry (F) 70mins Science Chemistry (H) 70mins  Triple Science Chemistry (H) 105 mins				Food Prep 90 mins

## (Timetable Week A)

All am exams start in tutor	Tutor and Lesson 1 & 2 (8.50- 10.50)		Lesson 3 & 4 (11.10 - 12.50)		Lesson 5 & 6 (13.20 - 15.00)
<b>Monday 17 Nov</b>	Geography 90 mins				Business 90 mins
<b>Tuesday 18 Nov</b>	Catch Up Session				Statistics 90 mins
<b>Wednesday 19 Nov</b>	Maths (Calculator) 90 mins				Science Physics (F) 70mins Science Physics (H) 70mins  Triple Science Physics (H) 105 mins
<b>Thursday 20 Nov</b>	French Reading F 45 mins H 60 mins French Listening F 35 mins H 45 mins				English Literature (Section C Unseen Poetry) 50 mins  <i>Students will attend their period 5 lesson then be brought down to the canteen at 13:45 for a 14:00 start.</i>
<b>Friday 21 Nov</b>	Spanish Reading F 45 mins H 60 mins Spanish Listening F 35 mins H 45 mins		Music Dance and Drama work on Assessment in class.		

A 60 minute Geography mock paper will also be taken in class, Geography teachers will advise students on when this mock will take place.



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

# Year 11 Intervention Timetable

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

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

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	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
2	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:

Evie	V03
Jack	B07
Jessie	B10
Freddie	S05
Clark	B10
Kaitlyn	T09
Harvey	T07
Lena	B08
Lily-Marie	B08
Caleb	B03



*Trophy Image by Jessica\_Designer from Pixabay*



@TrafalgarSch

trafalgarschool.org.uk

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION  
**PEGI 12**

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

### ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

### IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

### VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

### CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

### FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

### POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

### SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

### ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

### BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.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: 22.10.2025



@TrafalgarSch

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