

Parent Bulletin



24th 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

Monday 27th -Friday 31st October - Half Term

Monday 3rd November - Students back in school

Thursday 6th November - Presentation Evening (Years 8-12)

Thursday 20th November - Year 9 Parents' Evening (virtual)

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](#).



@TrafalgarSch

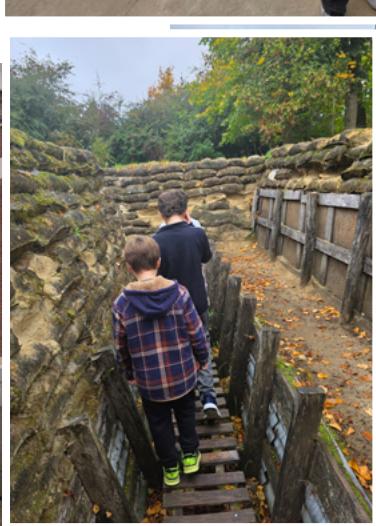
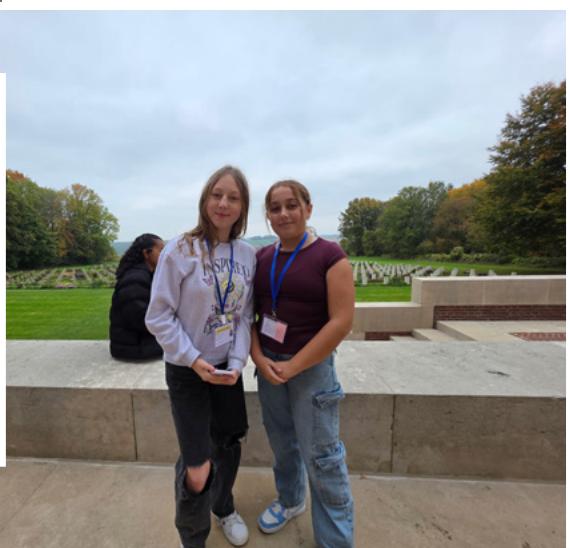
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Stepping into History - Belgium Trip 2025

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!



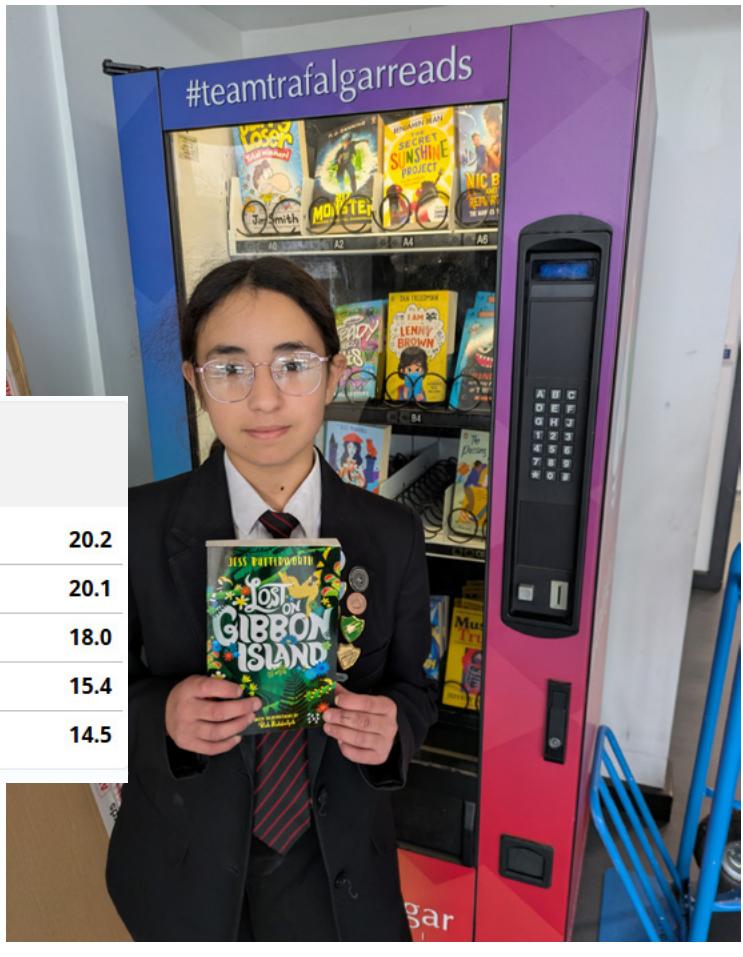
Reading Plus Winner

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.

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



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)
Monday 10 Nov	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	
Tuesday 11 Nov	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
Wednesday 12 Nov	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
Thursday 13 Nov	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>
Friday 14 Nov	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)
Monday 17 Nov	Geography 90 mins		Business 90 mins
Tuesday 18 Nov	Catch Up Session		Statistics 90 mins
Wednesday 19 Nov	Maths (Calculator) 90 mins		Science Physics (F) 70mins Science Physics (H) 70mins Triple Science Physics (H) 105 mins
Thursday 20 Nov	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>
Friday 21 Nov	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.



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

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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.



POW!

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

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