

Parent Bulletin

4th September 2026

We are delighted to welcome everyone to the start of the 2026/27 academic year at Trafalgar. A special welcome goes to our new families joining the school community, and a warm welcome back to all those returning. It has been wonderful to see our Year 7 students settling in so confidently, and there is already a real sense of excitement and positivity around the school.

As we begin the year, we look forward to working in partnership with families to ensure every student is supported to achieve their very best. One important date for the diary is our Preparing for Year 11 Evening on Thursday 17th September. This event will provide parents and carers with valuable information about the year ahead and how, together, we can help students navigate this important stage of their education successfully.

We would also like to remind families that the school photographer will be visiting on Tuesday 8th September to take individual photographs of our Year 7, Year 9 and Year 11 students. As always, students are expected to wear full school uniform, and we encourage them to bring along their biggest grin, too!

We are excited for the year ahead and all the opportunities it will bring. Here's to a successful year filled with learning, personal growth, achievement and memorable experiences for all.

Until next week!

Team Trafalgar

Mobile Phone Reminder

With changes to government guidance on mobile phones now in effect, this is a reminder that Trafalgar operates a "never used, seen or heard" mobile phone policy throughout the school day.

Students should switch their phones off before entering the school site and keep them securely in their bags until they leave at the end of the day.

This approach helps to minimise distractions, promote positive social interactions, support student wellbeing and create a calm, focused learning environment for all.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high standards and ensuring every child can thrive at school.



Key Dates

Tuesday 8th September - School Photographer (Y7,9,11)

Thursday 17th September - Preparing for Year 11 Evening

Thursday 1st October - Year 7 Meet the Tutor 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://trafalgarschool.org.uk).



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Extracurricular Clubs for 2026/27

At Trafalgar, we're excited to begin a new year of extracurricular opportunities designed to inspire, challenge, and engage students beyond the classroom. With a variety of clubs on offer, every student has the chance to explore their passions, develop new skills, and connect with friends.

In previous years, we've run a fantastic mix of clubs, from the creative spark of Art Club and the strategic challenge of Chess Club, to the team spirit of Basketball and Football. Language lovers have enjoyed Spanish Card and Board Games, KS3 German Club, and even a Duolingo Championship. History enthusiasts have taken part in Historical Murder Mysteries and joined the History Book Club and Film Club, while STEM fans have explored Robotics, Chemistry, and our collaborative STEM Club. Alongside music, drama, sports, and academic support clubs like Home Learning and Sparx Support, there's truly been something for everyone.

This year's full timetable of clubs will be shared soon on our social channels, website and in the parent bulletin, so stay tuned!

New School WhatsApp Channel

We are pleased to announce the launch of our official Trafalgar School WhatsApp Channel.

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving communication with parents and carers, this new channel will provide a quick, convenient and accessible way to stay up to date with school life through a platform many families already use every day.

Importantly, the WhatsApp Channel is being introduced as an additional communication tool to strengthen and enhance our existing communications offer. It will complement, rather than replace, the methods we already use to share information with families, ensuring parents and carers have even more ways to stay connected and informed.

By following the channel, you will receive:

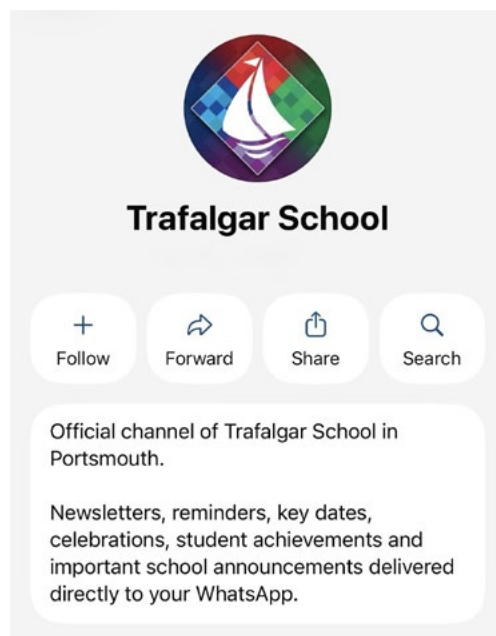
- Important school announcements
- Newsletter updates
- Event reminders and key dates
- School closure notifications and urgent messages
- Student achievements and celebrations
- Information about upcoming opportunities and activities

WhatsApp Channels are a one-way communication tool, meaning your phone number and personal details remain private and are not visible to other followers.

We hope this new channel will make it even easier for families to stay informed, celebrate successes and remain connected with our school community.

To follow the channel, simply scan the QR code opposite or [visit this link](#).

Thank you for your continued support.



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Top Tips for SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S RETURN TO ROUTINE

Returning to school after the holidays can be challenging for some children and young people, and both families and education settings can play an important role in helping them readjust. Consistent routines, clear expectations, and supportive communication can support children and young people's wellbeing, self-regulation, and academic success. These practical tips can help make the transition back to school feel more manageable.

1 START EARLY

Gradually reintroduce school-day sleep, meal, and wake-up routines around a week before term begins. In education settings, familiar routines and expectations can also be introduced from the start of term to help pupils settle back in. A gradual and predictable approach can make the transition feel less abrupt and give children and young people the time they need to readjust to the structure of school life.

2 REBUILD ROUTINES TOGETHER

Involve the children and young people in your care in the rebuilding of familiar routines at home and in education settings. Having a say in their daily schedule can increase predictability for them and give them a greater sense of control. This might include discussing morning routines at home or reviewing classroom timetables, expectations, and activities together at the beginning of the school day.

3 ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBILITY

Giving children and young people age-appropriate responsibilities can help foster their autonomy and engagement. For younger children at home, this might include getting dressed independently or checking their school bag. In education settings, children and young people could organise their learning materials, complete simple classroom tasks, or follow a familiar morning routine. These manageable responsibilities can help them feel more involved in the school day while developing useful skills.

4 RECONNECT WITH PEERS

Re-establishing friendships can help children and young people feel more confident and connected when they return to school. Families might arrange opportunities for their children to speak to or spend time with school friends, while educators can use group activities, 'buddy' systems, or collaborative tasks to help rebuild classroom connections.

5 SUPPORT HEALTHY NUTRITION

Regular, balanced meals, particularly at breakfast, are linked to improved concentration, behaviour, and academic outcomes. Families can gradually return to familiar school-day mealtimes, while education settings can reinforce healthy eating routines at the start of term and signpost breakfast provision where available. Consistent access to food can help support children and young people's energy levels and concentration throughout the day.

6 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk to the children and young people in your care about how they feel about the return to school and give them the opportunity to share any worries or questions. Anxiety around going back to school, particularly when starting a new year group, can be common, and children and young people may benefit from your reassurance and support. Parents and educators can all help with this by listening calmly to concerns and questions, and sharing relevant information with one another where appropriate.

7 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING AND PEERS

Light educational activities before term begins can help children become familiar with learning routines again without creating any unnecessary pressure on them. In school, low-pressure recap activities and familiar tasks from the previous year group can serve a similar purpose during the first few days back. Keeping learning positive and achievable can help rebuild children's concentration, confidence, and academic motivation as they settle back into their usual routine.

8 PRIORITISE SLEEP

Ensure the children and young people in your care get age-appropriate sleep and begin returning to their usual bedtime habits before term starts. Reducing screen use before bedtime may also support better sleep quality. Educators can also be mindful that tiredness may temporarily affect children's concentration, behaviour, and emotional regulation as they readjust to school routines.

9 PREPARE AHEAD

Organising uniforms, bags, lunches, and other school essentials in advance can reduce unnecessary stress when school mornings begin again. Educators can also help by preparing pupils for any changes to classrooms, timetables, staff, or behaviour expectations. Giving children clear information about what to expect ahead of time can make the return feel more familiar and help build up their confidence and independence.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Children adjust to changes in their routines at different rates, so your patience and flexibility can be important during the first days and weeks back. Some may settle quickly, while others need longer to adapt to earlier mornings, classroom expectations, or busy schedules. Parents and educators can support children and young people's readjustment by maintaining consistent routines, all the while recognising that concentration, behaviour, or confidence may temporarily look different for them.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School, and a business development specialist for Minds Ahead, which works with schools to improve their mental health provision.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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Jingle All the Way to Lille's Enchanting Christmas Market!

What is included?

- ✓ 1 day trip - £165 per student
- ✓ The Festive Christmas Market Visit
- ✓ Visit the French bakery
- ✓ Sightseeing in Lille
- ✓ Breakfast provided in a French café

Payment details:

- A deposit of **£55** is due by **30th September 2026**.
- A second payment of **£55** is due by **30th October 2026**.
- A final payment of **£55** is due by **13th November 2026**.

Departure



Day and Date of Departure:
Friday, 27 November 2026 (01:15)



Shuttle outwards (subject to availability)

Return



Day and Date of Return:
Saturday, 28 November 2026 (00:30)



Ferry inwards with DFDS Dunkirk-Dover
with **meal vouchers**

Trip Details



50 students



Cost of the trip: £165

Pick-up Point



TRAFALGAR SCHOOL

50 SPACES AVAILABLE ONLY AND PASSPORT REQUIRED
FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT MR KOHLI



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