

# Parent Bulletin

2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

Welcome to our latest Parent Bulletin!

This week you can discover what our MFL department has been up to, learn how to thank your school superheroes with Teach Portsmouth and read about how best to keep your child safe on their smartphones. There is also an update ahead of National Apprenticeship Week and an exciting work experience success story, with Year 11 student Imogen having been chosen to speak at an event at Portsmouth Guildhall last Friday.

Year 10 students are busy finding themselves placements for work experience which takes place in May. Support will be on offer over the upcoming half term to help students secure placements. Please encourage them to contact potential employers and if you need any additional advice or support, please send them to see Miss Passmore in the library at the earliest opportunity or email [WEX@trafalgarschool.org.uk](mailto:WEX@trafalgarschool.org.uk).

Stay safe and take care,

**Team Trafalgar**

## Community Circles

This week in our community circles we answered the question:

### 'What is your dream job?'

There were a range of answers given, including pilot, early years teacher, paramedic, lawyer, and many more. Staff were involved too, with one member of staff saying 'anything to do with shoes!'

It was lovely to see students encouraging each other in their choices, but also an acknowledgement that people can change their mind as time moves on. Ms Argyle is a clear example of this - she started off wanting to be a vet!

This ties in nicely with National Apprentice Week next week. There will be an apprenticeship bus onsite for our Year 10 students to explore the possibilities and opportunities of apprenticeships.

Get involved and ask your child/children what answer they gave. How would you answer? Did your choice change since you were a child?

**#getinvolved #teamtrafalgar #dreamjob**



## Key Dates

2024

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February** - PD Day 3

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February** - Half Term

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** - Year 8 Parents' Evening

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 9 Options Evening

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** - RAP Meetings - all years (students not in school)

### 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. You can find details of what they need [here](#).



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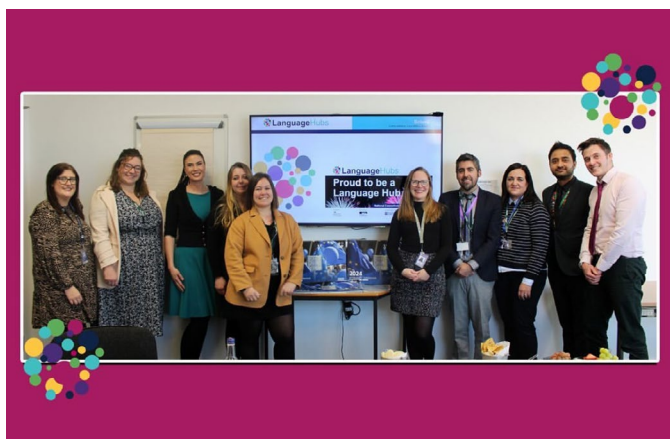
[trafalgarschool.org.uk](http://trafalgarschool.org.uk)

# MFL Department Update

## University Trip

Year 10 students took part in a number of workshops designed to show them what studying languages might be like if they choose to continue their studies at a higher level. This included an opportunity to take part in an interactive session in their specialist Interpretation Training Suite.

Students also explored the transferable skills that studying a language can offer. They also heard more about the kinds of exciting opportunities, experiences and careers that studying a language can lead to.



## Solent Languages Hub Update

You will have heard about Trafalgar School and Salterns Trust leading the Solent Language Hub.

We had an incredible turnout at the launch a few weeks ago and are really looking forward to exciting times with our amazing new hub partners, bringing a wealth of knowledge in collaboration with us to enhance languages across the city.

Keep up to date with the latest on our dedicated [instagram page](#).

## German Club

Mr Ball is starting a German club on Friday lunchtimes in Languages 4.

Initially it's going to be for Year 7 and 8 students. No prior knowledge required - just an interest in German and Germany!



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# Help us thank our school's superheroes!



We need your help to recognise staff in our school who have gone above and beyond for you. Teach Portsmouth are asking primary and secondary schools in the city to thank their school superheroes.

To do this, all you need to do is visit the Teach Portsmouth website and share your thank you message using their online form. It's as simple as that!

Thank you messages will be shared with us in June 2024 on a special printed document to display.

Visit [www.teachportsmouth.co.uk/thankyou](http://www.teachportsmouth.co.uk/thankyou) and share your message today!

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## Job opportunities at Trafalgar School

We are currently recruiting for the following roles to join our fantastic team here at Trafalgar:

- SEMH Lead
- Learning Support Assistant
- Trust IT Operations Manager

If you think you, or someone you know, would be great for any of these roles, then visit our website to find out more and apply!



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# Careers Update

## Work Experience - Well done Imogen!

We would like to say a huge well done to Imogen who was invited as a guest speaker to the Shaping Portsmouth event at the Guildhall. Imogen completed her work experience with Shaping Portsmouth last year and was successful in securing employment. She has achieved incredible things since starting with them and was even featured as a 'future business woman' to look out for in their newsletter!

<https://shapingportsmouth.co.uk/meet-one-of-our-future-business-leaders/>

We are incredibly proud of Imogen who really embraced the opportunity to get the most out of her work experience.

Don't forget, Miss Passmore is offering drop in sessions every Monday in the Library from 3:00-4:00pm.

#bemoreimogen #wex #teamtrafalgar



## National Apprenticeship Week 2024

**5-11 FEBRUARY 2024**

**#NAW2024**

# NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

Next week is National Apprenticeship Week and in preparation our students have been watching videos and learning about apprenticeships during tutor time. Next week we have the Apprenticeship Bus coming to Trafalgar. This will involve a range of businesses coming and addressing our Year 10 students about the benefits of apprenticeships and the range of opportunities they have on offer.

Here are a selection of videos and website links to support parents/carers with school aged children exploring or considering apprenticeships.

Videos:

- [ASK Webinar: Understanding Apprenticeships https://vimeo.com/876023105](https://vimeo.com/876023105)
- [Apprenticeships vs university: which is best? | FT Schools \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)
- [Top Tips on Applying for an Apprenticeship \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)
- [How to Find an Apprenticeship: A Step-By-Step Guide \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Websites

- [Find an apprenticeship \(findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk\)](https://findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)
- [NAW Home \(appawards.co.uk\)](https://appawards.co.uk)
- [Amazing Apprenticeships](https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)



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# SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

## for young people

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

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### NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

### RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

### TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

### STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

### DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

### IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

### ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

### REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

### THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

### SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

### 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.



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# JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES **FAIR 2024**

**Monday 26 February**

**Portsmouth Guildhall (First floor)**

**10am - 2pm**

Discover your future working at a school or college

- Speak to exhibitors about jobs in education
- Sign up to taster sessions with participating schools
- Learn about apprenticeships and training options

**GET YOUR FREE TICKET NOW!**

Visit [teachportsmouth.co.uk/jobsfair](https://teachportsmouth.co.uk/jobsfair)

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