



Trafalgar School **NEWS**



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- + Marlon Pack visits Trafalgar to inspire our students!



Trafalgar School NEWS

Welcome from the Executive Head



Welcome to our Spring newsletter! It has been an eventful and rewarding term at Trafalgar School. I had the privilege of cheering on our talented dancers at Dance Live at the Guildhall in February. Each year, their performances continue to grow in strength and skill, and I was immensely proud of the energy, passion, and dedication they displayed.

Our second Personal Development Day this year was dedicated to equipping our students with the knowledge and confidence they need to stay safe—physically, mentally, and online. A particularly poignant moment was the presentation by Charlie's father from 'Charlie's Promise', whose moving and powerful account of the devastating impact of knife crime on his family left a lasting impression on both students and staff alike. These days offer a valuable opportunity for students to engage with important, real-world issues beyond the classroom curriculum.

Additionally, we are thrilled to announce that Trafalgar School has been awarded Holocaust Education Beacon School status. To mark Holocaust Memorial Day, all of our students participated in a live webinar, a significant experience considering the dwindling number of Holocaust survivors able to share their stories. It is crucial that we continue to provide our students with these opportunities while we still can.

I wish you all a very happy and restful Easter break.

Mrs Copeland
Executive Headteacher

Historian Dan Snow visits Trafalgar for a second time!



In January, Trafalgar School was thrilled to welcome back renowned historian Dan Snow for an inspiring and educational lecture.

Year 10 and Year 11 history students from across the Trust gathered in the main hall to hear Mr Snow discuss a range of fascinating topics. He spoke about Elizabethan England, German history, and his recent work in helping to locate Shackleton's ship, the Endurance, in the Antarctic.

The lecture provided a unique opportunity for students to explore historical themes and gain insights directly from one of the most respected figures in the field. Students also had the chance to ask questions, making it an enriching experience for everyone involved.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Dan Snow for visiting and sharing his expertise with our school community.

PORTSMOUTH FC



A huge thank you to the University of Portsmouth and Portsmouth Football Club for taking the time to speak with a group of our Year 9 and Year 10 students about the diverse and exciting career opportunities within the sports industry. From coaching and sports science to marketing and management, students gained valuable insights into the many paths available in this dynamic field. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to learn from professionals who have first-hand experience and knowledge of the industry.

A special thanks to Portsmouth FC's Marlon Pack for sharing his journey in football, offering invaluable advice, and answering students' questions with honesty and enthusiasm. His discussion of the dedication, resilience, and hard work needed to succeed in the sports world was truly inspiring. The students left the session feeling motivated and encouraged about their future possibilities. Experiences like these are crucial in helping young people make informed choices about their careers.

Play up, Pompey!

VISIT TRAFALGAR



Celebrating Trafalgar School's Brilliant Club Scholars!



A huge congratulations to our Brilliant Club Scholars at Trafalgar School for their outstanding achievements in this year's Scholars Programme! These dedicated students took on an incredible academic challenge, working with a PhD tutor to experience university-style teaching and research.

Their studies focused on the fascinating *Xenopus* frog and its vital role in biological research. Through their 2,000-word essays, they explored how this species has contributed to breakthroughs in genetics, human disease research, and developmental biology. Tackling such a specialised topic required exceptional research, critical thinking, and academic writing skills—qualities our students demonstrated brilliantly.

This programme has been a fantastic opportunity for our scholars to push their intellectual boundaries and engage deeply with complex scientific ideas. We are immensely proud of their hard work, perseverance, and enthusiasm. Their success is a testament to their dedication, and we have no doubt they will continue to achieve great things in the future.

Well done to all our Brilliant Club Scholars—you are an inspiration!

Trafalgar Celebrates Global Week 2025



In March, Trafalgar came alive with the sights and sounds of Global Week, as students celebrated the joy of language learning and explored the many benefits of speaking another language. Through a series of engaging activities, they developed their curiosity for different cultures and deepened their appreciation for the diverse world around them.

A highlight of the week was 'Wuschel auf der Erde', the latest book by renowned illustrator Axel Scheffler. Students were captivated by its stunning illustrations and compelling story, immersing themselves in the beauty of global storytelling. Reading literature from different cultures is a fantastic way to enhance language learning and broaden perspectives.

Global Week has been an exciting and inspiring experience, reinforcing the importance of languages in connecting people and enriching our understanding of the world.

BLUE SKIES PROJECT



SmartStage®



Students involved in the Blue Skies Project have taken part in two exciting trips this term, gaining hands-on experience in cutting-edge technology and engineering.

Portsmouth University Visit

During their visit to Portsmouth University, students collaborated with the Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation to design and build their own water rockets. After constructing their creations, they tested their engineering skills by launching the rockets from Ravelin Park. A special congratulations to Team 2, whose rocket stayed airborne for an impressive six seconds!

Students also had the unique opportunity to visit the Centre for Creative and Immersive Technology, the UK's first integrated facility for virtual, augmented, and extended realities. This gave them fascinating insights into the latest advancements in digital technology and its real-world applications.



Trip to Alstom

The Blue Skies Project students also had the chance to visit Alstom, a global leader in railway technology and innovation. They explored how artificial intelligence and digital advancements are transforming train systems and communications to enhance efficiency and reliability.

In addition to learning about these technological developments, students discovered the range of careers and apprenticeships available at Alstom. They engaged in interactive activities and spoke with current apprentices, gaining valuable insights into career pathways within the rail industry.

Both trips provided an incredible opportunity for students to explore the future of engineering, transport, and digital innovation. Well done to everyone involved for their enthusiasm and creativity!

PD DAY - RESILIENCE

This February, our school held its latest Personal Development Day, dedicated to the vital theme of personal safety—both online and in everyday life. The event provided students with an opportunity to engage in tailored workshops designed to raise awareness and build essential skills for staying safe and supporting others.

Each year group participated in sessions covering key topics such as being an active bystander, challenging negative behaviours, crime prevention, and relationship safety. These discussions equipped students with practical strategies to navigate real-life situations confidently and responsibly.

We were privileged to welcome expert organisations, including Charlie's Promise, Stop Domestic Abuse, Prison Me, No Way, St Giles Trust, Elevate Education, and BearFace Theatre Group. Their powerful and informative sessions gave students invaluable insights into personal safety, empowering them to make informed choices and contribute to a safer community.

We understand that these topics can be challenging, and dedicated support was available throughout the day to help students process and reflect on the discussions. The success of this event was made possible by the dedication of our guest speakers, staff, and students, all of whom contributed to a meaningful and impactful experience.

A huge thank you to everyone involved for making this year's Personal Development Day both inspiring and educational!



Trafalgar Hosts Council of Portsmouth Students Summit 2



This term we were delighted to welcome the Council of Portsmouth Students (CoPS) Summit 2 to Trafalgar. The event brought together student representatives from across the city for a day of meaningful discussions, collaboration, and idea-sharing about the future of education and student leadership.

It was truly inspiring to see so many young people actively engaging in shaping positive change. Their passion and commitment to making a difference were evident throughout the summit.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to such a productive and insightful event!

Trafalgar Students Unite for 1000 Miles for Kaitlyn

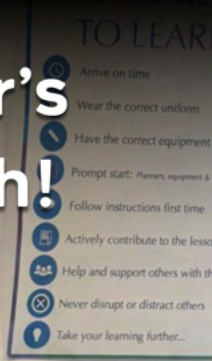


This January, our students took part in the 1000 Miles for Kaitlyn event—an inspiring display of resilience, determination, and community spirit.

With unwavering strength and solidarity, they showed their support for Kaitlyn, who bravely faces the challenges of living with epilepsy every day.

This event was a powerful opportunity for us to come together in support of a worthy cause. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all students, staff, and parents for their encouragement and generosity, making the event a truly meaningful and memorable experience for all involved.

Celebrating Spencer's Engineering Triumph!



Congratulations to Spencer for winning the FMES Young Engineer of the Year Award! His remarkable achievement in building a 5-inch gauge battery locomotive in his free time has earned him this prestigious honour from the Federation of Model Engineers Society.

We are immensely proud of his dedication and talent. Spencer's feature in the January edition of Model Engineer Magazine is a testament to his hard work and ingenuity.

Well done, Spencer!

EXPLORING FUTURE CAREERS



This term, Trafalgar School students have been busy exploring future career opportunities through a range of exciting events and visits, helping them broaden their horizons and consider their next steps beyond school.

Get Inspired Portsmouth

Students attended the Get Inspired Portsmouth event at the Portsmouth Guildhall, an interactive showcase of local businesses and enterprises aimed at students aged 11–16. The event provided valuable insights into professional, technical, and craft roles available in the area. Engaging with inspiring employers, students explored various career pathways, further education, and apprenticeship opportunities, including degree-level programmes. The experience was both informative and motivational, encouraging students to dream big and plan for their futures.

Fratton Park Visit

Another highlight for Year 8 was their visit to Fratton Park, where they delved into the history and development of football while discovering a variety of careers within the sport. Students had the unique opportunity to design their own footballs for Mitre, with the winning design being produced as a real football!

As a special treat, students also had their pictures taken with the 2008 FA Cup, won by Portsmouth FC. We are incredibly proud of how well our students represented the school and were delighted that each received a free football from Mitre as a reward. A huge thank you to Pompey in the Community for organising this fantastic experience.



Apprenticeship Bus Visits Trafalgar

As part of Apprenticeship Week, we were delighted to welcome the Apprenticeship Bus to Trafalgar, giving Year 10 students a valuable insight into apprenticeship opportunities and career pathways. With over 40 employers and training providers present, students engaged with professionals from industries such as engineering, business, law, the armed forces, digital marketing, nursing, and carpentry.

This event was an eye-opening experience, providing students with a well-rounded understanding of alternative routes to employment beyond traditional academic pathways. Many left feeling inspired about their future possibilities.



Pottery by Year 10 Students