

# Trafalgar Newsletter

20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of our parent bulletin, with only one week left until half term, there is still plenty going on here at Trafalgar.

That is the first week of exams over for Year 11, having made a fantastic start to these, they have been a credit to themselves and Trafalgar. Remember to make sure your Prom ticket is all paid up by the 30<sup>th</sup> May so we can all celebrate your efforts together at the Queens Hotel at the end of June! Don't forget, we will be holding our "Pop Up Prom Shop" between the 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May to all students in Year 11 who may need a suit or prom dress. Any questions, please email Miss Burrows: [hburrows@trafalgarschool.org.uk](mailto:hburrows@trafalgarschool.org.uk).

Next week we have our Year 10 students going out on Work Experience for the first time since the pandemic. We are sure they will make the most of their placements and gain lots of vital experiences from this week and we can't wait to hear how they all get on when we return after half term!

Our Year 7 Parents Evening is drawing closer. This is taking place virtually on the 26<sup>th</sup> May, so make sure to get your appointments booked in to avoid disappointment. These meetings are important for strengthening the link between school and home, and appointments are available for booking through our website.

Take care and stay safe,

**Team Trafalgar**

## Teach Portsmouth Awards 2022

Portsmouth teachers, learning support assistants, teams and head teachers have been shortlisted for the annual Teach Portsmouth Awards, which take place at Portsmouth Guildhall on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

A large number of #teamtrafalgar have been shortlisted! Congratulations to the following staff:

Mrs Nutland - Long Service Award  
Mrs Morrison - Long Service Award  
Mrs Crouch - Long Service Award  
Mr Cathie - Long Service Award  
Mr Gronow - Long Service Award

Mr Dudley - Inclusion and Diversity Award  
Miss Robinson - Teaching Assistant of the Year Award  
Miss Henshaw - New Teacher of the Year Award



### Key Dates

2022

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 7 Parents' Evening  
**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** - Half Term  
**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June** - Year 8 Parents' Evening

**Reminder about essential equipment:**  
Please ask students to check their bags before they come to school and make sure they have all essential equipment with them.



@TrafalgarSch

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

## History Department Update

Students this half term have been studying a varied range of History, with Year 7 looking at the British empire and its influence across the world, whilst Year 8 have been looking at a study of LGBTQ+ History, how they have been oppressed and how they have fought for their equal rights. Year 9 have been studying the Korean War, developing on from their study of the cold War, and Year 10 have been working incredibly hard on Germany in transition 1919-1939, as their second module from their GCSE unit.



We have been working very hard and are very excited about our upcoming Jubilee party on the 27th May! As a school we will be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee, where we recognise the Queen's 70 years on the throne!

She is our longest serving monarch and the third longest serving monarch in the world. We look forward to partying and honouring this once in a lifetime opportunity as a school next Friday.

Mrs Hudson-Roberts will be sending out further details soon!

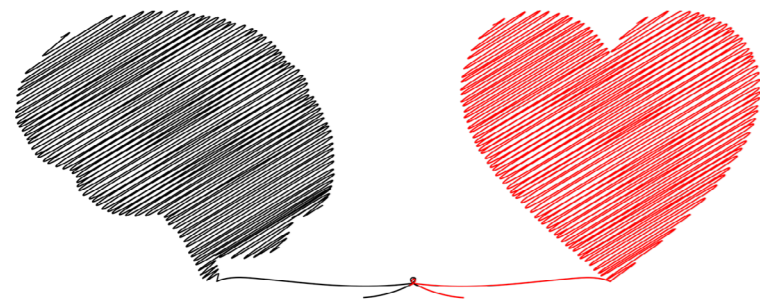
## Community Circles Update

Last week our tutor community circles were answering the following Friday check out question:

**“What’s more important; a healthy body or a healthy mind? Why?”**

Surprisingly, quite a few students answered healthy mind; reasons ranged from thinking positive thoughts helping to improve your reality, to showing kindness to yourself and others.

Some said they opted for healthy mind due to the fact we had assemblies based on the theme of mental health that week. Tutors fed back that students benefitted from the discussion around keeping your body healthy, as this can help keep your mind healthy, too.



Extra-curricular clubs were highlighted as an excellent way to keep fit, also. Either way, the crucial link between body and mind was consistently made.

How do you think your child answered?

Let's keep the conversation going! #joinin



## Safeguarding Update - 'Guess Who' TikTok Trend

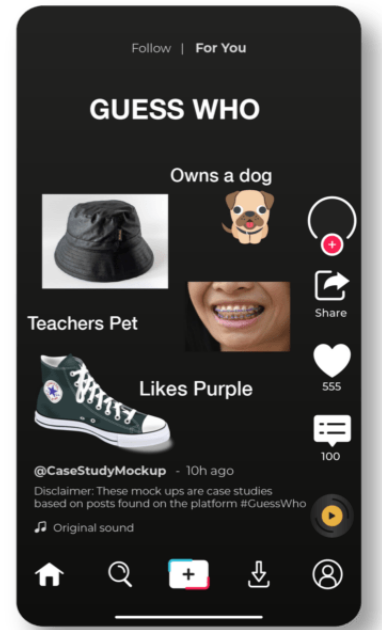
(original article from Ineqe.com)

### What is the Trend?

The 'Guess Who' trend involves young people creating anonymous profiles on TikTok, often including the name of their school and/ or their year group. It is loosely based on the well-known game 'Guess Who' and features young people posting images as 'clues' to someone's identity, typically through interests or personality traits, such as:

- A picture of braces to indicate the person wears them.
- The logo of their favourite band.
- Phrases used to describe known facts, like "owns a dog", "teacher's pet", or "likes purple".
- Initials, year group, or names of close friends.
- Partial or blurred pictures of the person.

Once a 'Guess Who' post has been uploaded, users are invited to participate by guessing who the clues are referring to. They are then encouraged to provide suggestions for future videos.



### Why is this trend an issue?

We live in the digital world. Young people use technology and digital platforms to participate in all aspects of their life from education to social interaction. While there can be an innocent and fun side to 'Guess Who', it can be (and has been) used to hurt, humiliate, and bully others.

### Bullying and Harassment

- While some videos range from seemingly harmless and fun with descriptions like "loves yellow", "reads books", and "goes to choir" - others are hurtful and can be serious, like "nobody likes her", "he has no friends", or "tramp".
- As the popularity of the trend increases, information used may escalate into more worrying and damaging content. In some cases, our experts found that clues can include accusations of sexual assault or racist comments.
- This trend can quickly evolve into peer abuse, facilitate the spreading of rumours, or target an individual's insecurities (such as appearance).
- The long-term impact of cyberbullying on a young person's physical and mental wellbeing can be profound.

### Persuasive Nature

- The trend is persuasive by nature. It actively encourages participation through guessing, making suggestions for future content, and through tagging friends in videos to spread the joke to others.
- It has the potential to escalate within schools and target many young people in a malicious manner.

### Heightened Levels of Anxiety and Stress

- If a young person is aware their school has a 'Guess Who' TikTok, they may begin to feel anxious and stressed if they fear they might be next to be targeted.
- With people suggesting who should be posted next, it creates an atmosphere of living on the edge for young people, especially if they are worried they will be the next target by doing anything wrong or looking different.

## Malicious Rumours

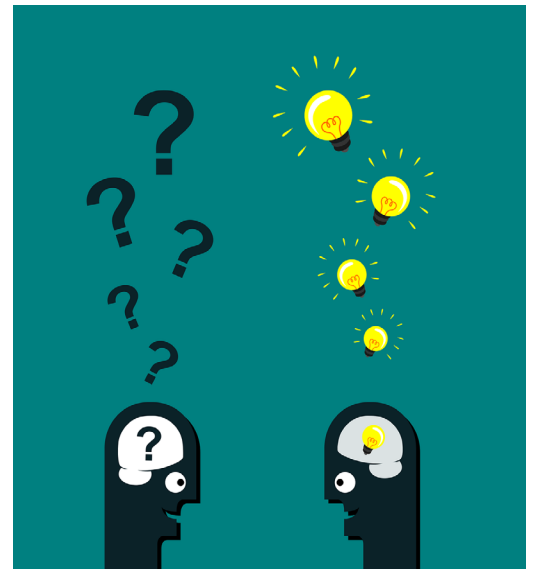
- This trend can facilitate the spreading of malicious and false rumours within school communities that can be very harmful to the victim, in some cases even resulting in serious outside action being taken.
- Young people may use the seemingly anonymous nature of these accounts and videos to make up rumours about each other. If a young person doesn't like or has an issue with a peer, they may suggest or make up and spread rumours about that person so they will be victimised by the trend.
- Regardless of whether they are true or not, rumours will always have negative consequences for the victim.

## LGBTQ+ Abuse

- Several existing TikToks in this trend target LGBTQ+ youth, using bullying tactics and derogatory phrases (e.g. calling a young person 'gay' as a form of homophobic bullying).
- This can have long-term damaging effects to young people.
- This also applies when clues like "is gay" or "has a secret boyfriend" are used to 'out' the young person without their consent.
- The act of 'outing' someone who does not wish their sexuality or gender identity to be known can be extremely upsetting to the victim and could have harmful consequences.

## Advice/Tips for Parents and Carers

- It's important to talk with your child about being responsible for their online actions and how they might impact other people. Make sure you teach them about responsible internet and device usage.
- Discussing harmful content with young people can help them to recognise the different types they may come across
- online (e.g. name calling, posting someone's secrets or personal information, spreading rumours).
- Try to have this conversation in a comfortable, relaxed environment (e.g. on the drive home from school, at the dinner table, etc) that will allow space for questions.
- Children of all ages should be aware of the hurtful, damaging impact this trend can have on children being targeted.
- Laughing at, talking about, sharing, or even tagging friends in the trend posts online can be very hurtful to victims and could come across as a form of bullying.
- Advise those in your care to contact a trusted adult if they come across this trend (or others like it). Even if they are not the target, it's important to share this is happening in their community with someone they trust who can offer help.
- Signposting children to the different places they can go for help if this trend (or any cyberbullying) happens to them or their friends.
- Children and young people in your care may not use the word bullying to describe what is happening to them, so it's important to listen if they mention things which are upsetting them or worrying them online.



## Blocking and Reporting

- Children and young people should be encouraged to block and report all users who share harmful content, whether or not it's directed at them.
- Remind the young person that even if nothing happens immediately, reporting harmful content on TikTok will help its developers find and identify harmful trends faster.

For further information, visit [lneqe.com](https://lneqe.com)