



## Newsletter

### **Trafalgar Infant School**

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**13 October 2023**  
**Autumn 1, Week 6**

### **This week**

#### **Trafalgar Head Boys and Head Girls 2023-24**

I would like to thank all the Y6 children who applied for the role of Head Pupil at Trafalgar School this year. I was delighted and overwhelmed to have received so many well-written application letters for this role. The selection process involved a written letter of application, consultation with a wide range of staff and a short list of the candidates who attended a selection meeting with the Headteacher and School Governor, Kevin Chung.

It was difficult to choose from so many amazing candidates and the school is lucky to have such articulate and responsible role models for our younger children to look up to. I am now delighted to be able to present:

**Head Girl - Esha**

**Deputy Head Girl – Evie**

**Head Boy - Arthur**

**Deputy Head Boy - Rudy**

They started their new role with a fantastic presentation to parents at our recent Curriculum Evening on the 5 October. Thank you and well done!

#### **Reception**

In the EYFS last week, in our phonics sessions, we learnt the phonemes 'g', 'o', 'c' and 'k.' We gave goats horns, cats curly whiskers, created kites and octopi. The children are now learning to sound talk and blend the letters together to read words. In maths, we were learning about the language of measure. The children compared the size of classroom toys and completed a challenge to find toys around the setting that were 'bigger', 'smaller' and the same size as our class teddy bear. Next, they ordered the objects according to size. They also started to learn about weight, using some balance scales. We introduced the words heavier, lighter, bigger and smaller and consolidated their learning by reading some stories, such as 'Where's my teddy' by Jez Alborough and 'The Blue Balloon' by Mick Inkpen.

This week in the EYFS we have learnt the phonemes 'ck', 'e', 'u' and 'r.' As well as learning to say the phoneme, the children are daily practising writing the grapheme (the way the letter is written.) Please encourage your child to have a go at home, ensuring they hold their pencil in the correct tripod grip. At school we say "Hold your pencil with your snappy crocodile fingers!". In maths, we have been learning about pattern; recognising pattern in our environment, as well as copying and creating our own repeating patterns. We used the vocabulary spotty, stripey, wavy, stars and zig zags. Can you see any of these patterns in your homes or when you are out and about at the weekend?

### **Harvest Assemblies** - Juniors

We are excited to welcome you next Wednesday 18 October to our 'Making a Difference' Harvest assemblies. Year 3 and 5 will be presenting the assembly from 9.05 am and Year 4 and 6 from 10.00 am.

We are asking all our children to make a donation to the Richmond Foodbank - a charity we have proudly supported for many years. We welcome donations from Monday 16 October .

Here is a list of the current 'wish list' for the foodbank . Please note that household cleaning products and toiletry items are very much appreciated too!

Custard, rice pudding, long life juice, tinned meat, tinned veg, tinned fish, tinned soup, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, long life milk (semi skimmed and full fat), non dairy milk, tinned fruit, jams and marmalade including marmite and peanut butter, cereal, biscuits, tinned pulses, crisps, rice (500g and 1kg bags), squash (orange, blackcurrant, etc), coffee (small jars)

Thank you in advance for your kind support and we look forward to seeing you next week.

### **Harvest Assemblies** – Infants

We look forward to welcoming Green and Blue class parents to our assemblies next week. Green class on Thursday and Blue class on Friday.

### **Open Mornings**

Open Mornings for prospective parents have been arranged on

Friday 10 November at 9.15 am at Meadway

Tuesday 28 November at 9.15 at Meadway

Would you mind sharing these dates with your friends and family within the community. Thank you.

### **Clubs**

Art Club for years 2 and 3 has had to move to Tuesdays. **Please could any parents who signed up to the Thursday club confirm they are happy for their child to attend on Tuesdays instead.** If Tuesday is not possible for you please contact Artikids for a full refund.

See flyer attached.

## World Mental Health Day

We talked about World Mental Health Day, and it was great to see so many children wearing bright accessories.

## BBC 500 Words Competition

As you may have seen in the news this week, 500 Words, the UK's most successful children's writing competition has now opened for submissions and will run till **Friday 10 November**.

We will be talking about this in assembly next week and encouraging the children to enter. Stories must be typed and should be sent directly to the BBC - all details can found here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/about-500-words/zctk7v4>

The age categories that the BBC use are ages 5-7 and 8-11.

Here at Trafalgar, we would LOVE to read your child's entry as well so please also send us a copy so we can run our own competition too with year group prizes and the opportunity to share the winning stories with the rest of the school.

Please note - we will not be entering your child's story to the BBC; you will still need to do that yourself.

If your child is in Y1 or Y2 please send the entry to [infantinfo@trafalgarfederation.org.uk](mailto:infantinfo@trafalgarfederation.org.uk)

If they are in Y3, Y4, Y5 or Y6 please send the entry to [juniorinfo@trafalgarfederation.org.uk](mailto:juniorinfo@trafalgarfederation.org.uk)

Please include 500 words in the title of the email. Your email should clearly state your child's name and their class.



## Poppies

Poppies are for sale from the office at Gothic Road. We appreciate your generosity towards this worthy cause.

## Reading Volunteers in KS2 (Year 3-6)

Reading 1:1 with children can really help make a difference to a child's confidence, their enjoyment of reading and their access to the rest of the curriculum.

We regularly get such positive feedback from the children and adults involved, and so are looking for reading volunteers to help children who need additional support.

These tend to be one-hour slots at the beginning or end of the school day, that are divided into four 15-minute 1:1 sessions. Training and guidance will be given before starting.

If you are interested in helping, please email [juniorinfo@trafalgarfederation.org.uk](mailto:juniorinfo@trafalgarfederation.org.uk) with 'reading volunteer' as the subject heading, and give the following information:

- your name
- your child's name
- your child's year class (volunteers tend to read with children from other year groups)
- which days & slots you are available for (eg Tues AM, Thu PM). We will only allocate volunteer readers one slot, so do say if you are happy to do more.

Slots are 8.45 -9.45 am and 2.15 - 3.15 pm. If you can help but need to stop reading at 9.30 am or 3.00 pm that is also fine - we are grateful for the support and will work with you to find slots that are manageable.

Thank you in advance.

### **Creative Projects Y3-Y6**

Earlier this week, we sent families of KS2 children the Creative Project grids for the year ahead. Each child should complete one project per term and the dates are set to give you the choice between doing the projects in term time or in the half-term breaks.

We encourage children to play to their strengths and interests, and are also open to their ideas for presenting their learning in a way that may not be shown on the year group grids. The learning should, however, be linked to either of the foundation topics listed for that term. This means that they can choose between a topic they are already learning in school or they can look ahead and start researching the topic coming up in the second half of the term.

Every child will be given the opportunity to share their project with their class but please bear with us, as this can take a couple of weeks as teachers work through a handful of projects per day with their classes. If you have any questions, please see your class teacher.

### **Young Writers**

We have reached that time of year again, where pupils from year 4 to 10 are invited to participate in the Young Writers' Festival Competition- Arts Richmond 2023. that worked very well for pupils. The link below takes you to the website page advertising the competition and **Entry rules**.

**<https://artsrichmond.org.uk/arts-richmond-events>**

It is a great achievement for pupils to win a prize for writing, see their work published and interpreted via acting, reading or visual format. The video link below shows some of last year's winners at the held Gala.

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aeROC5nBXsg>**

The deadline for the competition is 1 December 2023 and each pupil can make only 1 **typed** entry of - stories, playlets, lyrics, poems or **ANY** form.

Please find attached Entry Form and send to [YWentries@artsrichmond.org.uk](mailto:YWentries@artsrichmond.org.uk)

## **Governing Body News**

We have 2 vacancies for co-opted Governors on our Governing Board. Please see either school website for the application form and further information.

## **Reminders**

### **Admissions September 2024**

If you have a child who was born between 1.9.19 and 31.8.20 you need to apply for a place in Reception 2024, even if you already have a child attending the school. Go to [www.richmond.gov.uk](http://www.richmond.gov.uk) and click on School Admissions to make your application. Closing date for applications is 15 January 2024.

Children who are in Y2 need to also apply for a place in the Junior School in September 2024.

Go to [www.richmond.gov.uk](http://www.richmond.gov.uk) and click on School Admissions to make your application.

Closing date for applications is 15 January 2024.

### **After School Clubs**

Reminder that all parents picking up from after school clubs should either wait outside for the clubs to be dismissed or go to the main office if they need to speak to a member of staff.

Please could we kindly remind all parents that they should not go into the school building. Thank you for your help in this matter.

### **School Uniform**

Please name all items of school uniform. We are receiving an increasing number of items which are not named in our lost property boxes, and are not able to return them to the children. Thank you.

### **Dogs in the playground**

As per the Parents Handbook, we ask that you do not bring dogs in to the playgrounds. This includes also if you are picking your child up after an after school club. Thank you.

## **PTA Items**

### **Halloween Trail**

See poster from PTA.

## **Community**

### **SMSA Vacancy**

We are looking to recruit a SMSA (School Meals Supervisory Assistant), term time only, Monday to Friday, from 12.15 pm until 1.30 pm. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact the office.

## **Covid**

Cases seem to be on the increase. If you, or someone in your family test positive, could you also test your children. There are several children who have coughs, colds and sore throats. If you think your child may have covid, could you also do a covid test for them. The **DfE guidance** states that children who test positive should stay at home for 3 days.

## **The Mayor & Leader of Richmond Upon Thames Christmas Card Competition**

The Mayor & Leader of the Council are searching for budding artists to design their annual Christmas cards. Winners will have their designs made into real cards and will also be invited to have tea with the Mayor & Leader.

Closing date Friday 10 November 2023. For more details on how to enter please visit the website [www.richmond.gov.uk/mayor](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/mayor)

## **St Mary's University**

Fun year-round children's sports programme – see attached flyer.

## **National Sleep Helpline**

Does your child suffer from sleep issues – see attached flyer.

## Diary Dates

<b>FORTHCOMING FEDERATION EVENTS</b>		
<i>Please note these dates may be subject to change.</i>		
DATE	YEAR GROUP	EVENT
Sun 15 Oct	All	Bags 2 School PTA event
w/c 16 Oct	All	Parents Evenings
23-27 Oct	All	Half term – school closed
Mon 30 Oct	All	Inset day – school closed
Sun 5 Nov	All	Fireworks Evening
Thurs 16 Nov	All	Individual school photographs
Fri 17 Nov	All	Children in Need
Fri 24 Nov	All	Christmas jumper sale
Sun 26 Nov	All	Christmas Fair and market
Tues 28 Nov	All	Flu immunisation (nasal)
Sat 2 Dec	All	Christmas tree collection (if ordered via PTA)
Thurs 21 Dec	All	Last day of term
<b>INFANT ONLY DATES</b>		
<i>Assemblies start at 9.15 am in the Hall at Gothic Road</i>		
Thurs 19 Oct	Y1	Green class assembly
Fri 20 Oct	Y1	Blue class assembly
Tues 7 Nov	Y2	Scarlet class assembly
Wed 8 Nov	Y2	Orange class assembly
Mon 18 Dec	All	Christmas Pantomime coming into school – more details to follow
<b>JUNIOR ONLY DATES</b>		
Wed 18 Oct	Y3-6	Harvest Assemblies (Y3 & Y5 at 9am, Y4 & Y6 at 9:45)
Fri 10 Nov	Y3-6	Creative Projects deadline
Thu 7 Dec	Y3-6	Festive Fun Day (PTA event)
13-17 May	Y6	SATS
17-19 May	Y5	Residential to Juniper Hall
21-24 June	Y6	Residential to Kingswood

