



Trafalgar Schools' Federation



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher



Sophie Riley, Chair of Governors

Golden Newsletter

Autumn 1, 2023-24

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first newsletter this year. As you will see, it has been a very busy and eventful half term across all classes. We have had special theme days, assemblies, competitions, parent events, workshops and lots of exciting curriculum learning going on throughout the school.

Having attended the first PTA AGM, I was staggered to be reminded of the incredible successes from last year – not only with bringing in valuable resources for the children at school but also in developing our school community. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the PTA committee and all those who helped in any way at all. Please do continue to support and volunteer and we look forward to seeing you at the PTA meetings and events this year.

We warmly welcome our new staff this year – Mrs Munton in the office, Mrs Macreadie in Reception, Mrs Snowdon in Y2, and Mrs Smith in Y3.

We are delighted to welcome you to a new year at Trafalgar and to introduce ourselves as the Chair (Sophie Riley) and Vice Chair (Laura Jennings) of the Governing Board. The Board is made up of committed parents, staff and others in the community who help support the school, set the strategic direction and ensure money is well spent. We've had some changes since last term. We wished our Chair, Harry Owen, well as he moved on to new things. And we have said goodbye to one of our longest serving members. Many of you will have seen Simon Bradley over the last 15 years behind the mic at the summer fair or at the Fireworks and Christmas events. We thank Simon for his dedicated service and we wish him well for the future.

Reminder

INSET day on **Monday 30 Oct** after half-term (**school closed**) so the first day back for the children will be **Tuesday 31 October**

Black History Month 2023

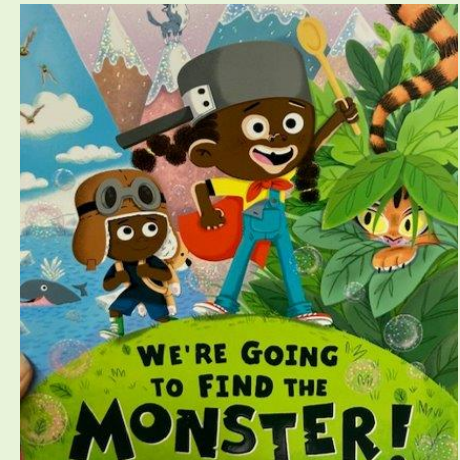


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsG8n80lBxk>

Reception read this Mallory Blackman story together in assembly.



Year 5 - This half term, we have been looking at the artwork of **Stephen Wiltshire** and the children have been drawing their own pen and ink cityscapes.



In Year 4 we researched different black scientists and looked at how they have made an impact on the world. This included the work of inventor Granville T. Woods and female scientist Chi Onwurah who created a mobile phone network in Nigeria.

Nina Simone - we focused more on her protest songs in particular. Sang 'I wish I knew how it would feel to be free'

Bob Marley - his musical legacy. We sang 'Three Little Birds' and discussed how he stood up for equal rights, love and peace.

**Author of the Month
Mallory Blackman**



Which Mallory Blackman Books have you read?



- She was told she couldn't be a teacher because she was black
- She has written over 70 books.

Pupil Leadership opportunities



There are many opportunities to develop pupil leadership at Trafalgar, helping children grow into responsible young citizens. Here are some of them...

In KS1 pupils can be: School Councillors, Digital Leaders, T.I.G.E.R's, Musical Maestros and Listening Friends for example.

In KS2 pupils can also be School Councillors, as well Reading Ambassadors, Members of Pupil Parliament, Head and Deputy Head Boy & Girl and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.



Reception



In maths, we have been learning about pattern. We have been creating repeating patterns.



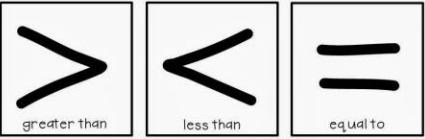
We have been thinking about Autumn. We explored the colours and textures of harvested vegetables, leaves, conkers and acorns.

We have been making new friends and enjoying our wonderful outdoor learning environment.



Well done to the new Reception classes who have settled in so well this term.

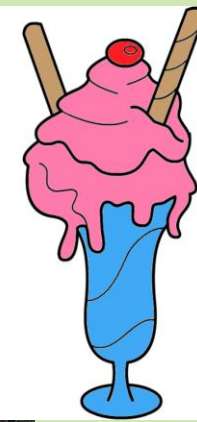
Year 1



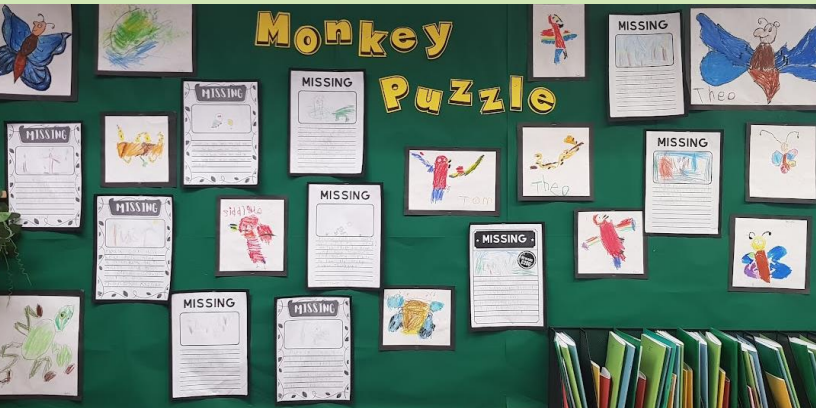
In math's we have been looking at numbers within 10. Concentrating on knowing which numbers are greater and smaller than each other.



Being in year 1 means we now have weekly computing sessions. We have been learning how to independently log into the e-school and computers. We have also made some digital art, you can see it on the e-school!



In science we have been learning about parts of our bodies, as well as exploring our senses! We had an amazing science afternoon where we tasted and smelt so many different things.



In English we have been reading some amazing books! Our favorites have been 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and Monkey puzzle. Look at our amazing work on display. We have also been doing daily handwriting, to help us form all our letters correctly.



In PE this year we have enjoyed making the most of the sunshine and have been walking down to our Meadway field to take part in Golden Games with year 2. We have been practicing our throwing and catching skills using a variety of different equipment, including balls, bean bags and hoops.

Music

Year 2 have also been learning about different instruments from around the world that also use the pentatonic scale. We have been able to play them on the iPads.



Year 1 have been developing their understanding of beat and rhythm and playing different percussion instruments.

Not to mention Y1's amazing class assemblies.

Year 2 have been developing their pitch and rhythm skills. Whilst composing music in the style of Indonesian Gamelan music. We have learnt about the pentatonic scale and also about using the model of 'step, hop, leap, repeat' when composing a melody.

Black History Month we have celebrated the Music of Aretha Franklin, Ella Fitzgerald and Errolynn Walland who was the 1st black composer to have her music performed at the Proms

Year 1 have also been learning about the different families of instruments and how they come together to make the orchestra.



Football and Netball



Year 2's have been given the opportunity to join football and netball during lunch on Mondays! We have had an amazing turn out and the children have really been enjoying themselves.



The children have started to learn all the different throws in netball. And after half term we are going to start learning all about positions and the rules around the game. We can't wait to start playing.



Sustainability & T.I.G.E.Rs

This half term The T.I.G.E.R's have been busy.



The junior gardeners have been busy selling the last produce of the seasons harvest



Our reception children are having fun pond dipping in our newly refurbished pond.

With thanks to the PTA funding, we are enjoying our new wheelbarrows



Learning how to recycle the snack time peelings

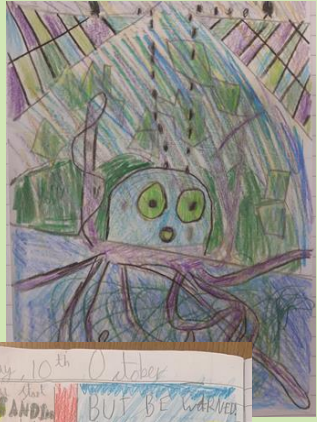


Year 3

The Year 3 staff are so proud of each and every child for how they have settled into life in Trafalgar Juniors. They have all worked so hard.

English – The Egyptian Cinderella and Pugs of the Frozen North

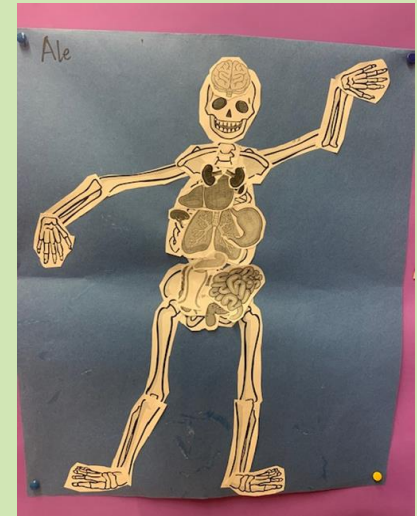
With a focus on correct punctuation, neat handwriting and description, we are incredibly proud of the outcomes children have produced this term.



The Kraken
 The people pointy-neck kraken, swishing and swirling through the crashing ice. Slippy, slippy kraken cracks through the ice in the howling sea. Down diamonds glowing in the kraken's deep eyes as he is drifting through the sea in the crashing ice. Loom and loom beware of emerald-green eyes, you are being haunted by a demon of the sea. Charred skin of sting suckers, swishing slowly in the air. The kraken is rattling at the bottom of the sea. Swishing, swirling at the bottom of the sea waiting for dinner. Twisting tentacles all over the sea, the pugs were sipping and screaming. Frozen, like meringue clothes of ice. That is the story of the slippy kraken. Who would not like to touch him the slippy.

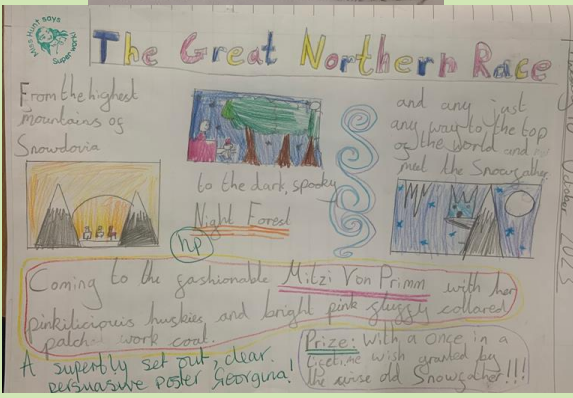
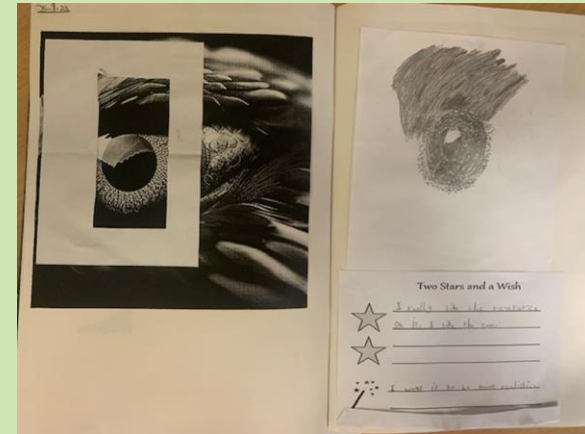
Science

Children have learnt about health and nutrition and also the purpose of bones and muscles.



Art – we have

been developing our sketching techniques and produced some fabulous drawings in our sketch books.



5a) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 436 \\ + 283 \\ \hline 719 \\ 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 265 \\ + 326 \\ \hline 591 \\ 1 \end{array}$	5) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 215 \\ + 687 \\ \hline 802 \\ 1 \end{array}$
3a) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 655 \\ + 152 \\ \hline 807 \\ 1 \end{array}$	3) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 734 \\ + 181 \\ \hline 915 \\ 1 \end{array}$	6) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 663 \\ + 238 \\ \hline 901 \\ 1 \end{array}$
5b) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 538 \\ 308 \\ 846 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$	4) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 328 \\ + 653 \\ \hline 981 \\ 1 \end{array}$	7) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 538 \\ + 231 \\ \hline 769 \\ 1 \end{array}$
5d) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 386 \\ + 144 \\ \hline 530 \end{array}$	6) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 1020 \\ + 584 \\ \hline 1604 \end{array}$	8) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 467 \\ + 325 \\ \hline 792 \\ 1 \end{array}$
9) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 436 \\ + 584 \\ \hline 1020 \end{array}$	7) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 296 \\ + 387 \\ \hline 683 \\ 1 \end{array}$	8) $\begin{array}{r} \text{HTO} \\ 296 \\ + 387 \\ \hline 683 \\ 1 \end{array}$

Supremely presented and accurately added across 100's (Georgina)

Maths – following on from our work on place value and mental strategies, children are now getting confident with more formal written methods for + and -.

Year 3 – Ancient Egypt Day!



Year 3 were transported back in time to Ancient Egypt! They solved Egyptian number puzzles, mummified tomatoes, tasted Egyptian fruit and painted collars fit for a Pharaoh! They also took part, and gave some great performances, in their theatre workshop about Moses and Egyptians. The workshop also links with our summer RW study on Judaism and Passover. We all had a fabulous day!



Y3 and Y6 Buddies!

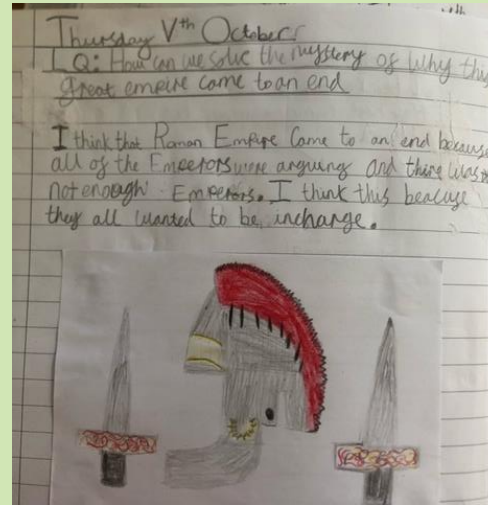
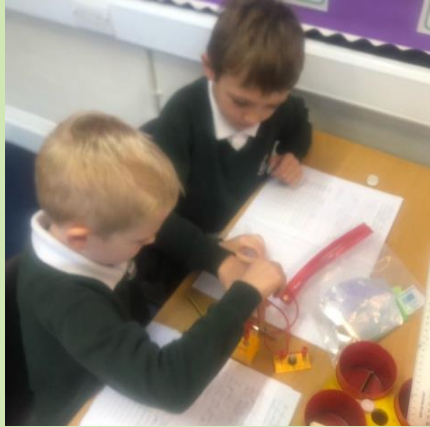
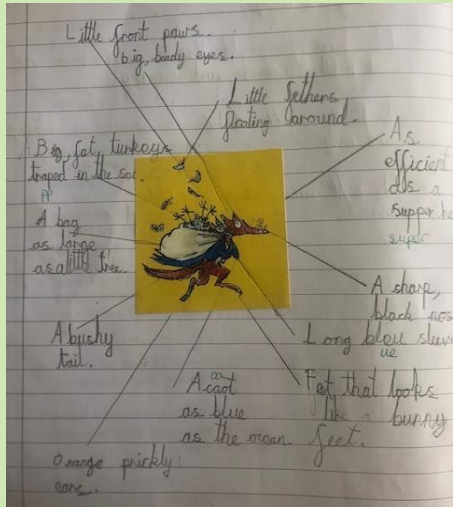
As part of the transition from KS1 to KS2, children in Y2 are given Y5 buddies in the summer term, so when they arrive in Y3 in September they have a friendly face at the top end of the school.

So many happy faces!



Year 4

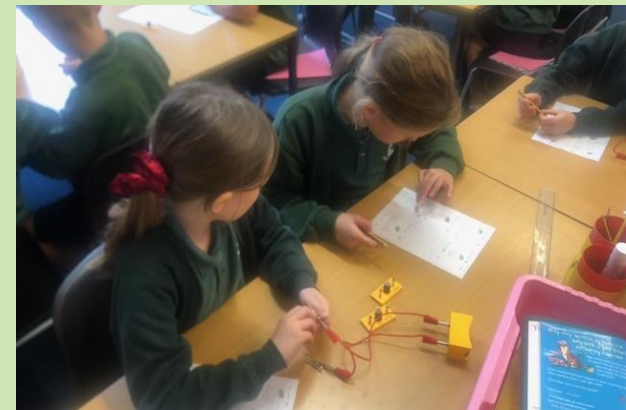
We've had a great start to Year 4 this first half term. We've been looking at Fantastic Mr Fox in English, working with numbers up to 10,000 in Maths as well as exploring the rise and fall of the Roman Empire in our History lessons and so much more!



In Science this half term we have been studying electricity. We have explored the differences between mains and battery powered devices and had a go at developing our prediction skills whilst making our own circuits using cells and lightbulbs.



In Art and Design this half term we have been looking at the different types of drawing techniques when drawing portraits. We studied the work of Frida Kahlo and her style of surrealist self-portraits. We used iPads to take a photo of ourselves and created our own in our sketchbooks!





Year 4 Roman Day!

During our Roman Day we were able to get involved in many creative History activities! This included: a Roman drama workshop, using Roman numerals in Maths, investigating the fall of the Roman Empire in our History lesson, making a Roman mosaic tile and having our very own Roman Day feast! We loved it!



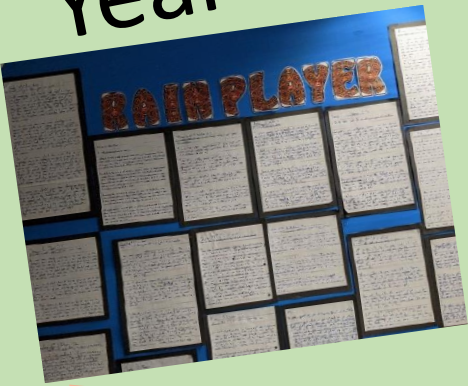


Y4&Y5 author visit from Nadia Shireen!

We were delighted to secure an author visit so early in the year; this time from the award-winning Nadia Shireen, author of the Grimwood series and several popular picture books. Nadia met with our Y4 and Y5 children, along with our Y6 Reading Ambassadors, and got everyone really excited about the life of an author and illustrator – anyone else want to spend the day in bed eating biscuits and drawing cute animals? (Me please!) Nadia also answered some very insightful questions from the children and gave our new look library her blessing. Naturally, we bought copies of her books for the library so anyone can read them.



Year 5

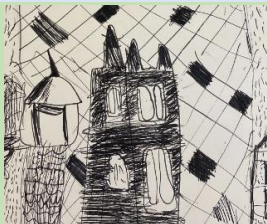


Year 5 have been doing some wonderful cross curricular learning this half term about the ancient Maya civilisation. In **History**, we have been using sources of evidence to find out what daily life was like for the Maya people. In **English**, we used our text, Rain Player, as a stimulus for some wonderful writing. The book tells the story of a young boy who challenges the Rain God, Chac, to a game of Pok-a-Tok in order to bring about much needed rain for his people. We wrote adverts to persuade people to join Pik's team; diary entries imagining it was the night before the big match and then ended the book with a thrilling match report. We then spent a week researching and answering the question: What have the Maya done for us? Quite a lot it turns out- we have the Maya to thank for chocolate, team sports, one of the first calendars and the introduction of farming techniques still used today. We researched an area in groups and presented it to the class. We then used this information to write an essay to explain what some of the greatest achievements of the Maya were, using cohesive devices to link together our paragraphs.

In **Art**, we have been developing our drawing and painting skills including using watercolours in our Cityscapes unit. We have explored perspective and studied the work of Stephen Wiltshire. This has inspired our own drawings of cityscapes using ink pens.



In **Religion and Worldviews**, we have been looking at Charities. We have looked at the parable of The Good Samaritan and discussed the message of 'Love thy neighbour'. We looked at the Black Lives Matter protest and the news story about Patrick Hutchinson. We have tried to empathise with those facing poverty on the streets of Kolkata by making paper bags. We have looked at a range of charities, including Oxfam and Islamic Relief.



Year 6

Story time for Y3 children.
Every Friday lunchtime, our storytellers read picture books to our Y3 children in the library.



English – Stormbreaker

The children have really enjoyed Anthony Horowitz's exciting story about the teenage spy, Alex Rider. Inspired by the book, they have designed and persuasively sold their gadgets and written about the Portuguese Man o' War in the style of David Attenborough.

...of facts. I know this because he knows what stormbreaker looks like. Alex is a risk-taker because he does lots of dangerous things while staying calm throughout the book. Two examples of this are on page 27 "Alex threw himself into the car seat" and page 42 "He took a deep breath. And jumped".

Determined:
Alex is determined because he keeps on going no matter what happens or people say that he can't do it.

Resourceful:
He is resourceful because he always has a skill or trick that will help him.



Physalia Physalis
With its long, lily-like tentacles trailing gently behind a soft, translucent body, the Portuguese Man o' War is one of the most mysterious and beautiful creatures in the sea. However, its appearance belies its true nature. It is a deadly, jelly-like creature that can sting and kill. It is a member of a group of organisms called Siphonophores. With its striking pink tipped tentacles and blue gelatinous bladder, the deadly Man o' War slowly drifts through the open ocean currents and catches its wind with its top tent.

Appearance:
Perhaps the most striking part of this alien-like Man o' War is the pink tipped tentacles, catching the wind above a blue, people-gone-pink bladder. Under the breeze tentacles, dozens of threads up to 15 ft in length. The blue tentacles are mainly used for catching prey. Although non-toxic, but can cause a rash, blisters or other types of reactions.

History

Our topic this half-term has been Ancient Greece, including the origins of democracy and the Olympics, as well as Greek gods and what we can learn about daily life from artefacts, such as Greek vases.



Art – we have been experimenting with different media as we explore tone and texture in landscapes. Here are some of the acrylic



Junior Citizen at Heatham House.
Learning how to be responsible young citizens and part of our transition to KS3 programme.

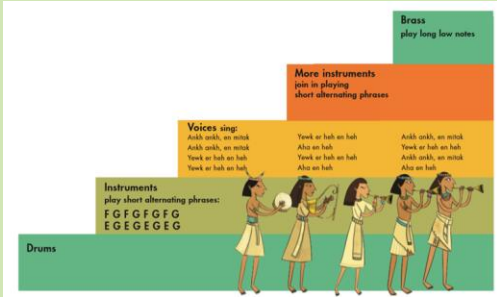


MUSIC

This term Year 3 have been:

Singing 'The Amazing Egyptians'
Listening to a piece of contemporary music
'The Funeral of Amenhotep'

Playing accompaniments to a song
Layering their instruments



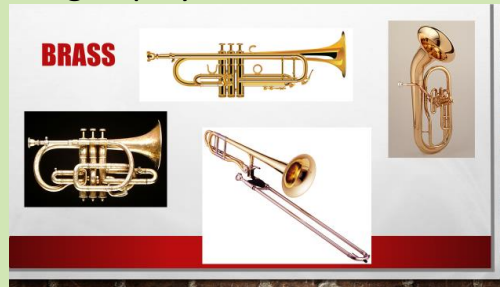
This term Year 4 have been:

Singing 'Just like a Roman'
Listening to 'O Fortuna' by Carl Orff

Learning simple melodic ostinato

Using dynamics

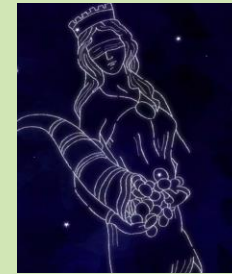
Learning to play Brass instruments



This term Year 5 have been:

Singing about 'The Maya – a stone cold classic'
Looking at evidence of music in Maya life

Composing 'starry' sky music using 4 beat ostinato



This term Year 6 have been:

Singing an 'Ode to the Ancient Greeks'
Looking at evidence of music in Greek life
Listening to 'L'Orfeo' by Monteverdi

Composing music to match the theme of a Greek myth



Welcome to our 'Making a Difference' Harvest Assembly

We are proudly supporting the



again this year and THANK YOU for your amazing donations

Stand by Me

When the night has come,
And the land is dark,
And the moon is the only light we'll see,
No, I won't be afraid,
Oh, I won't be afraid,
Just as long as you stand,
Stand by me.

So darlin', darlin', stand by me,
Oh, stand by me,
Oh, stand,
Stand by me, stand by me.

This term all children have been:

Learning about influential Black musicians during Black History Month
Performing in our Harvest Assembly



Maths



Whole School Maths Challenge

Terrific Time-tellers

This half term, we have been focusing on telling the time, reading timetables and converting units of time to solve problems.

Congratulations to 5AJ for having made the most progress in this core and real-life numeracy skill.

Trafalgar Junior School came 78th out of the 322 schools that participated in the London wide Times Tables challenge. We had 118,482 correct answers!

Well done to all who participated. 5JC, 5AJ and 3M were the top 3 scoring classes, and the most valuable players were Henry, Artam and, Artin from Year 5.



First Maths Challenge

Congratulation to the enthusiastic mathematicians in Year 3 and 4 who participated in the annual Maths challenge organised by the Mathematical Association. Everybody tackled the questions with enthusiasm, logical reasoning and resilience and should be very proud of themselves.

A special well done to our Gold Certificate winners from Year 4: Carl(our top scorer with 19 marks out of a possible 20), Alice, Felix and Luca Geary. Also, well done to James, Nelly and Mackenzie, our Gold certificate winners from Year 3, who all achieved more than 15 marks .



Autumn Sports Round-Up

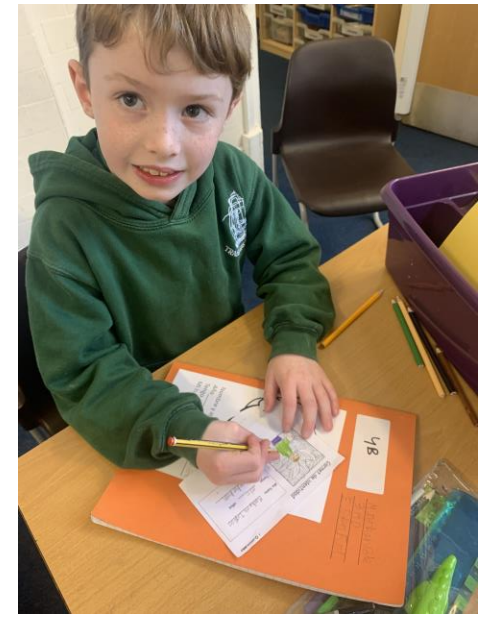
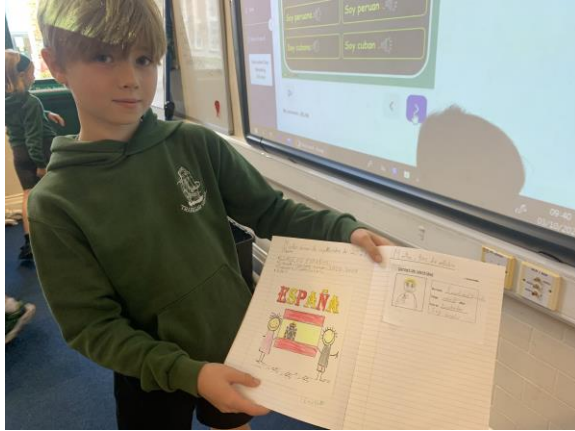
The sporting year at Trafalgar got off to a flying start this Autumn with the children taking part in a whopping 14 fixtures in Girls Football, Boys Football & Tag Rugby across the half-term. Our Girls & Boys Football teams started their league campaigns with fixtures against Twickenham Primary Academy, with a narrow 3-2 loss for our boys' team and an outstanding 9-0 win for the girls' team. The highlight of the half-term was the Richmond Borough Tag Rugby Championships (top left & right). An amazing day saw Trafalgar win 5 out of their 8 fixtures which lead them into the Plate Final. An amazing back and forth game against Radnor House saw Trafalgar take the lead only to concede an equalising try with seconds to spare. The teams could still not be separated after another 5 minutes of extra-time. Unfortunately, Radnor House went on to win the game in golden-try overtime. Despite the heartbreaking loss the team were proud of their performance. "We are gutted not to win in the final, but we got better with each game today and scored 19 tries throughout the competition so we are really proud of our progress" said Henry Jennings Trafalgar Rugby Captain.

ESPAÑOL

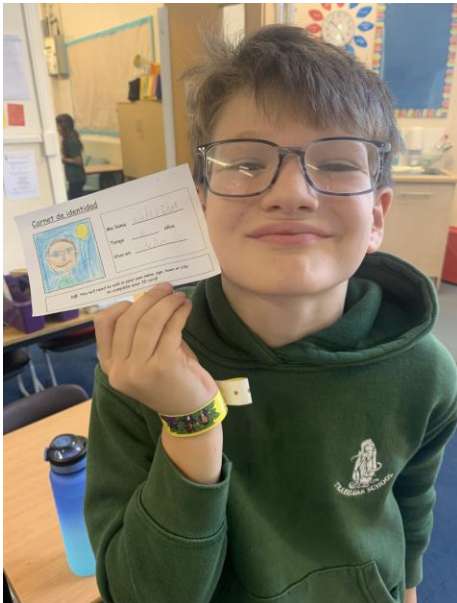
¿Por qué es importante aprender español?
(Why is it important to learn Spanish?)



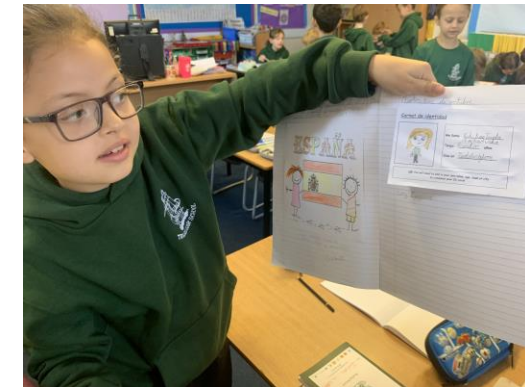
Nos presentamos
(Presenting myself)



Nuestro carnet de identidad
(Our Spanish ID)



We know how to
make friends in
Spanish and if we
forget, we made our
own Spanish ID



Me llamo... (My name is...)
Tengo... años (I'm... years)
Vivo en... (I live in...)
Soy... (I am...)
Nuestra foto (Our own photo)