



Golden Newsletter

Spring 2, 2022



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

We have come to the end of another great term with so many activities as you will see from the news in this letter.

I would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Opholt who, having agreed to stay on for two additional terms, will be leaving at Easter. The children, staff and Governors wish her all the very best. Mrs Opholt has been part of the school for many years and we are all so very grateful for her contributions and for her part in developing the ethos of our school.

I would also like to say a special thank you to our AMAZING PTA who have already put together several successful events and are planning many more for the Summer term. We are working together on our **CURRICULUM EVENT with cheese and wine on the 28th April**. Please come and find out what your child is learning and see all the amazing things the children are doing at school. Our lovely choir will also be performing at this event.

Wishing you and your family a very restful and happy Easter from all of us at Trafalgar.

Sarah Keefe – Federation Headteacher

Equalities Policy

We have updated our equalities policy and wanted to share some things that we do at Trafalgar to live out our values around equality across the Federation.

Through our PSHE curriculum, discrimination and prejudice are both explicitly taught in upper school but relationships and respect for others is a strong theme throughout our PSHE teaching. Children learn about all forms of discrimination but there is a specific focus on racism within both the Year 5 and Year 6 lesson plans. This is built on as they progress through Key stage 2. In Year 3, children learn what respect is, how to be courteous and polite and the importance of self-respect. In Year 4, this extends to respecting difference and similarities between people and to discuss differences sensitively. In Year 5, children are taught to recognise prejudice and discrimination and how to respond respectfully to a wide range of people. They also have specific lessons on racism within this topic and talk about reasons why it is not acceptable and to talk to a trusted adult if they encounter (or see) any kind of discrimination. In Year 6, this is built on further and children learn how to value and celebrate diversity and how to safely challenge discrimination and stereotypes.

Children also have assemblies which address racism and prejudice throughout the school year and promote the key British Values of respect and tolerance.

It is very important at Trafalgar School to promote diversity in all areas of the curriculum and as a result, issues of discrimination/prejudice may be taught and discussed through other subjects. In Year 5 for example, children study the book "Hidden Figures" which details the work of African American women in NASA during the Space Race. This is set in a background of segregated America during the 1940s and '50s and the children discuss and learn what it would have been like at this time. In celebration of Black History Month, children learn about key figures and the discrimination that they would have faced. We also often adapt to and discuss current events in the news and this can lead to follow up work in class where we discuss discrimination that people face e.g. the racism that English footballers faced after the penalties in the Euro 2020 defeat.

Trafalgar Key priorities for 2021- 22

- 1: To support our lower readers in each year group to catch up with their peers
- 2: To ensure all children make good progress in writing.
- 3: To ensure all (especially those with SEND) are supported to access and enjoy a wide curriculum and achieve their individual targets.
- 4: To establish a leadership team that empowers all staff and pupils to excel.

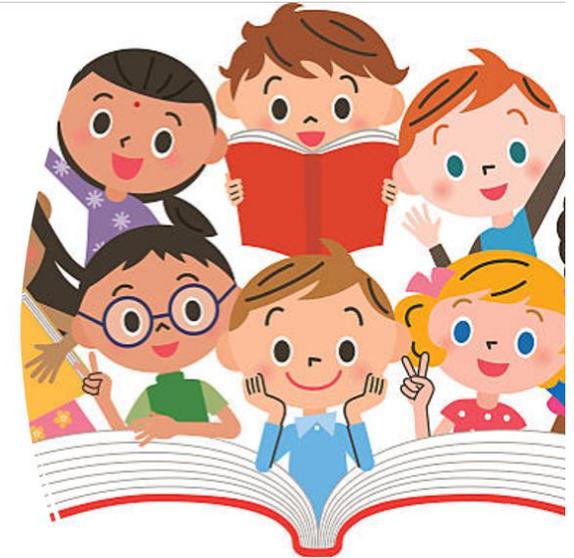
Trafalgar priorities 2021-2022

• **READING**

- To ensure **all** children are able to read.

Some children will need support to catch up with their reading.

Reading will support with vocabulary and skills for writing.



Trafalgar priorities 2021-2022

• **Curriculum**

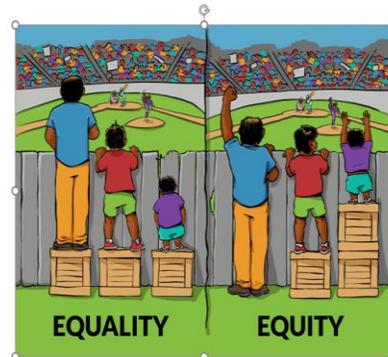
- Leaders and teachers provide a quality curriculum and support and inspire all children to achieve their best.



Trafalgar priorities 2021-2022

Equality and Equity

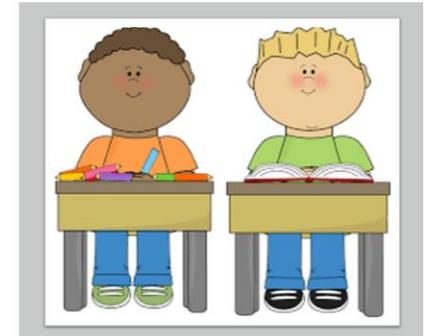
- To ensure that ALL children are supported to access and enjoy a wide curriculum and to achieve their individual targets.



Trafalgar priorities 2021-2022

Writing

- To ensure that ALL children are supported to make good progress in writing.
- Children will learn to develop their skills as a writer.





Trafalgar Schools' Federation
Believe, Inspire, Achieve

Join us for our

Curriculum Evening

**Thursday 28th April
6-8pm at Gothic Road**

Come along for an evening with wine and cheese to find out more about our school, our teachers and our PTA.

We will show you examples of work from children from reception to year 6, so you can see the progression of knowledge and skills across the schools and how we are dedicated to ensuring quality, performance and wellbeing for our children.

Meet the teachers, governors and PTA volunteers who organise fundraisers, events and much more for the whole school community to raise funds that go directly to the school.

Don't miss our Junior school choir performance at 6pm!



Believe



Inspire



Achieve



**Happy Easter from all of us at
Trafalgar.**



Visit from Twickenham MP – Munira Wilson
'Let Girls Play Football' Initiative (Wednesday 9th March Infants)



MP Munira Wilson visit - 'Let Girls Play Football' Initiative
(Wednesday 9th March - Juniors)

Clubs and Sports



Congratulations to our **Basketball Team**. They will be attending the Richmond Borough finals in the Summer term!

Our **BOYS' FOOTBALL** team are on track for winning the league. Good luck boys!

Juniors Clubs Information

There has been an increase in clubs and uptake of clubs since the start of the school year.

Our clubs' data also shows that in each year group we have significantly improved the number of children in every category from Summer 20-21 to this point in Spring 21-22. The number of boys in clubs has increased from 38% to 67%, Girls in clubs has increased from 36% to 63%, PPG in clubs increased from 20% to 43% and SEND in clubs increased from 15% to 69%. This shows an extensive new extra-curricular offer this academic year has had the desired effect of increasing numbers in clubs across the Juniors.

Netball Club has had a huge intake this term. There have been lots of opportunities for training sessions, matches and of course we had the Netball Festival, which was a great tournament to be a part of and we played extremely well.



Infants Clubs

We provide football, netball, dance and chess. In our infant school we offer our KS1 children more opportunities than many primary schools where children don't start netball until KS2. In addition, we hope to see an increase in girl's participation in football in the summer term as a result of our 'Let girls play football' campaign in the spring term. Following on from our MP Munira's visit, more girls have attended Football club. We will be closely tracking the children's attainment in writing as their physical development in sports clubs may have a direct effect on their dexterity in writing.

Reception



In Maths we have talked about and explored the properties of 3D shapes. We went on a 3D shape hunt in the classroom and explored our amazing outside spaces to identify the 3D shapes that are all around us. We have also used Numicon to find out what different numbers we can combine to make 5 and 10 to support and develop our understanding of number bonds.



This half-term Reception children have been investigating the world all around us. We have focused on our local environment and observed the changing seasons and spotted signs of spring. Before our walk to Kneller Gardens, children had a visit from Debra the Zebra to explain and model the important road safety rules.

Children learnt we must always 'stop, look and listen' before we cross the road. The children were very good at following these rules when we went on our environmental walk to Kneller Gardens. With the help of our lovely parents, we walked safely to the park and then searched for landmarks such as wooden sculptures and the maze, before we played Pooh sticks on the bridge and noticed all the spring flowers and blossom on the trees.



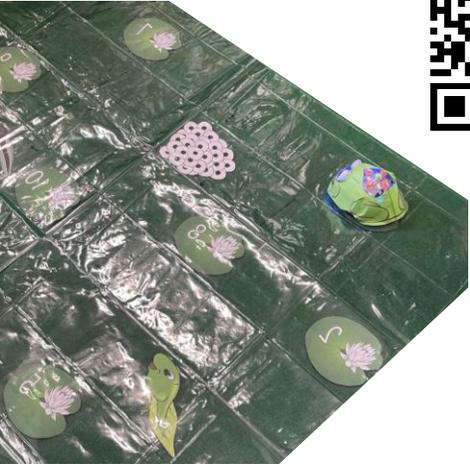
We all had lots of fun dressing up in red clothing for Comic Relief and helped raise money for less fortunate children in the borough.



Both Silver and Gold class took part in their very first special spring assembly! They showed fabulous work, sang songs, delivered their own line and even recited a poem and story. All the grown ups were so proud of them.



Year 1



Blue Bot

This half term Year 1 have been studying the topic of Growth and Change. In science we have been investigating what plants need to grow. We have set up an experiment with one variable and observed a pea plant over time. This has supported our prediction skills.



We are so lucky to have our very own frogspawn in our classrooms which had been donated by a Year 1 parent. We are observing them grow and change - this is supporting our learning of amphibians.



Tadpoles



In PE we have been creating our own sequences including balancing, types of travelling and rolls to perform in front of the class. Now the sun is shining, we have been fortunate enough to commute to Meadway for Golden Games where we have been practising our striking and fielding skills with Coach Justin.



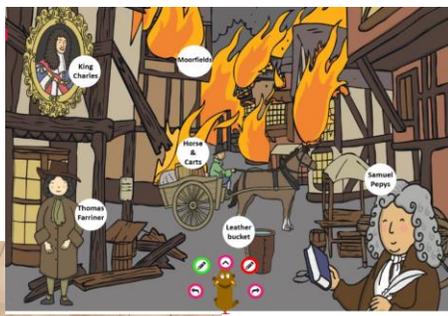
In Music we have been learning how to use the app Garage Band and have been selecting instruments that match the elements of music that we have been learning about which are tempo, dynamics, pitch and rhythm.

In English we have been exploring the use of time connectives in our sentences. We used them to record how to plant a nasturtium seed. We have been looking at a variety of topics in Maths this half term, but we have most enjoyed learning to tell the time.



We have looked at pictures by the famous artist Georgia O'Keeffe and have used her techniques of wax resist to create our own flower pictures.

Year 2



It has been such an exciting half term for Year 2! We have loved learning all about the Great Fire of London during our topic of Time. We especially enjoyed our visit from Freshwater

Theatre where we acted out scenes as if we were living in 1666. In PE we created fire dances using fabric and in Computing we explored algorithms to move a rat around a Fire of London scene. As well as using Turtle we have learnt how to programme a Rugged Robot using a block coding app on the iPad.



We have also been exploring how plants grow over time and loved investigating which medium is best for a bean plant to grow in. Some of our plants grew to over 40cm high!



There were lots of fun events this half term including Comic Relief and World Book Day. We loved dressing up as some of our favourite characters from the books we have read, and Munira Wilson even came to see what we had dressed up as!

We took a trip to All Saints church to learn more about the Easter story and the Stations of the Cross.



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created by: Mrs Burton



file name: Scarlet Jack compositions.mp4
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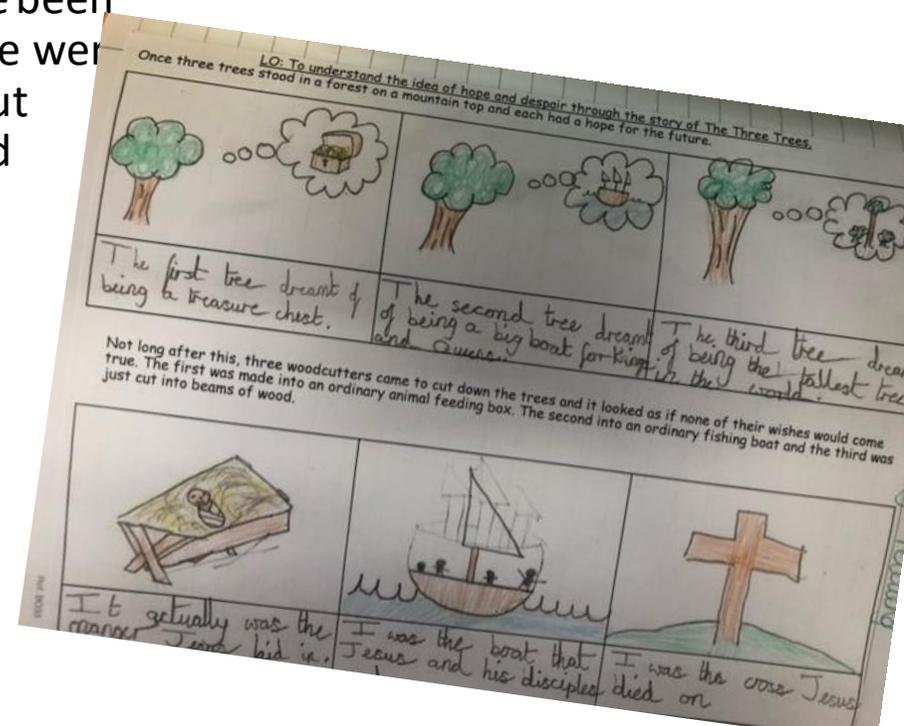


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In Music we have finished our Programme Music composition describing the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. Use the QR codes to watch our performances.

Year 3

Year 3 have been busy and worked hard this Spring term! In Religion and Worldviews; we have been looking at the meaning of 'Sacrifice' and have read stories such as Dogger, The Legend of the Blue Bonnet and The Three Trees to see what sacrifice really is and the different types of sacrifices people can make for one another. In DT we have had a great time designing and creating our very own pneumatic system of Moving Monsters! Once we finished making them and made sure that the pneumatic system worked, we were able to show them to our Year 6 buddies! Finally, in Geography we have been learning and studying the different countries of the UK. We were able to conduct our own research as a group and found out about the different flags, human and physical features and famous landmarks!



Year 4



We have had an amazing half-term from our 'Biscuit Bake Off' in each class where each team adapted a basic recipe, adding ingredients to make mouth-wateringly delicious creations. Thank you to Mrs Keefe for judging our efforts. We hope you all enjoyed them at home too. We visited Butser Farm where we made jewellery using copper wire, did chalk carving and more. In Science, the favourite activity was making 'poo' as part of our work on digestion. In Geography we have been learning about South America and had a multi-coloured fiesta on Friday- filled with zumba, rain-stick making, drinks mixing and more...



Year 5

It's been a very exciting half term in Year 5. It began with the arrival of 5 duck eggs in an incubator. After a dramatic couple of days, when the incubator stopped working, four of the eggs hatched successfully. The ducklings had lots of attention, and handling, in all 3 classes and became very used to the noise and excitement in the classroom-we also became used to their high-pitched quacking! We recorded the children's observations in a duckling diary, which was printed out and stuck in their science books. Having the ducklings really brought the children's science lessons, on life cycles, to life. We were all very sad to see them go!

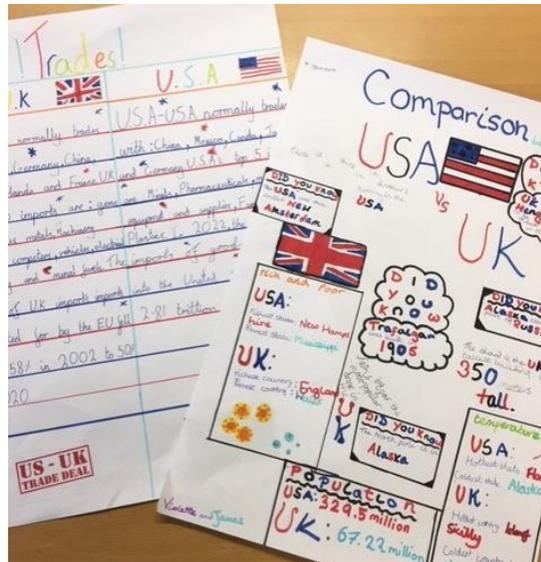


More recently, Year 5 have been designing and making birdhouses. We started off by researching garden birds, to establish their birdhouse requirements, and went on to have a go at drawing exploded diagrams. Working in groups, the children have constructed a wooden frame and had the opportunity to use handsaws, hammers and nails. They have then decorated their birdhouses based on their own designs. They had great fun designing and making these and learning to work cooperatively on a construction project.



Year 6

All hail Year 6! As always, they have worked so hard this term across the curriculum: developing their reading, writing and oracy skills in English, inspired by Macbeth; researching and learning about North America in geography; measuring and calculating angles in maths; becoming more confident digital citizens in computing; investigating the physics of electrical circuits in science; become net-game wonders in PE and exploring how faith can be expressed through art in religion and world views. We couldn't be prouder. Roll on SATs!



Special Visitors



Look who joined us today!
We were busy singing our Easter songs when the Easter Bunny appeared.



The children practised their counting with our *Six Little Easter Eggs* song



We also sang to the Easter Bunny.
We sang a song all about the Bunny's hopping feet and big pink ears.

At the end of our assembly we sang about *Peter Rabbit*.





SPECIAL DAYS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Above: Bailey leading Red Nose Day assembly and a poster from our NSPCC 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' assembly

Right: Today's recipients in the end of term Achievement Assembly, including the Excellence Awards, Merit Winners & Peace Prize Winners.

Below: Thank you to the PTA for their on-going work (such as the magic show) and to everyone who helped support Ukraine via Café Prosperity.



World Maths Day

We celebrated World Maths Day on the 23rd of March by having Maths relay activities and a Times Tables Rock star competition between Trafalgar Junior School and Stanley Primary School. The children truly impressed us with their collaborative teamwork and creative problem-solving skills to solve a set of problems from across the Maths curriculum in the Maths relay activities. They also participated enthusiastically in the Times tables competition and the school, class and individual results made us all proud.

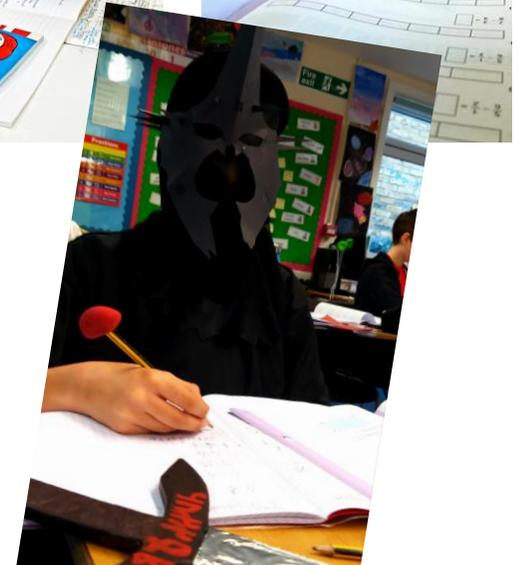


Measuring Marvels results

The winning class in the lower school is 3M having made a fantastic 46% progress! Not far behind, is 5AB - the winning class in the upper school, having made 36% progress. Well done to all the classes for having made progress and improving this key life skill. The winning classes get a golden certificate and a well-deserved 10 minutes of extra play.



WORLD BOOK DAY





TJS Extreme Reading Challenge 2022



The Trafalgar Storytelling Festival

Each year we organise and host a Storytelling Festival where other schools join us for a special evening of storytelling. The stories are judged by a professional storyteller (this year, Daniel Morden), a children's bookseller (Tony from The Alligator's Mouth in Richmond) and an English lecturer from St Mary's.

We are so proud of everyone who put themselves forward for auditions; in the Juniors alone we saw over 50 stories which really highlighted the love of reading and storytelling. This year we came first in both the Y1&2 and the Y5&6 categories! All children in Y3,4,5&6 had a session with Daniel Morden during the day which was very popular – and now his signed books are in the library. We look forward to doing it all again next Spring!

