



Trafalgar Schools' Federation



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher



Sophie Riley, Chair of Governors

Golden Newsletter

Autumn 2, 2024-25

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we wrap up another wonderful year at Trafalgar Schools, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the joyous holiday events and express our gratitude to those who made them possible.

A huge thank you to our incredible PTA for their tireless efforts in organising the Christmas Fair, Christmas tree sale, the Christmas Bazaar for EYFS and KS1, and the Fun Festivities for KS2. Your hard work and dedication brought so much joy and holiday spirit to our community, creating cherished memories for all involved.

We would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to our dedicated teachers. Your relentless support and commitment to our children's education and well-being are truly inspiring. Thank you for going above and beyond to ensure that each child feels valued and supported.

We are grateful for the warmth and enthusiasm from our entire school community. Together, we have made this year a truly special one.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday period and we look forward to seeing you back in the New Year!

Governors Message

It is always so nice to see all the wonderful things the children (and staff!) have been up to this term. We recently recruited 2 new governors to the Governing Board and are delighted to introduce Terry Plews and Vicky Greenaway to the Governing Board. We hope you all have a fantastic break and look forward to seeing you next term.

Wraparound childcare Survey. Richmond are asking parents to complete this survey about wraparound care. They know it is a busy time of year but if you could spare time to feedback then please click the link below.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKIFKzL6vBJzS1T_IAb9FUfc4RagzEmZUKVoHaNB_dj9kMig/viewform?usp=sf_link

Reminder

School starts back on **TUESDAY 7th January**

PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR



Thank you to all the Christmas Fair organisers and helpers. It was such a successful event which was thoroughly enjoyed by all our school community from children, parents and grandparents to local businesses and many ex-pupils too!



KS1 CHRISTMAS EVENTS



This is such a special event for the children in Reception, Y1 and Y2.

As well as learning about the importance of thinking of others at Christmas and how special it is to send gifts as well as receive them, this event also touches on many, many areas of the curriculum.



A fantastic time was had at the Christmas Bazaar this year.



Look who popped in to surprise the children!!!!



Reception, Y1 and Y2 children had a fantastic experience watching the pantomime. Can you tell from the photo what they watched?

Reception



We have enjoyed learning about nocturnal animals and even made clay owls during an art lesson!



We have been continuing to practise our handwriting daily and have worked hard on writing our names.



In maths we have been counting up to 5 objects and representing numbers to 5 in different ways. We have also been learning about 2D shapes and using them to create pictures.



We have enjoyed learning about Christmas and took part in the Christmas bazaar where we thought carefully about which gifts to buy for our loved ones.

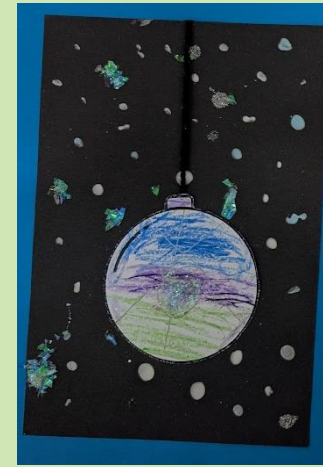
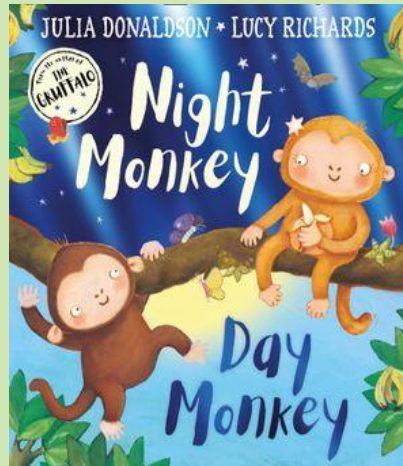
Year 1

In science we have been learning all about reflective materials and deciding which one would be best to make a reflector out of.

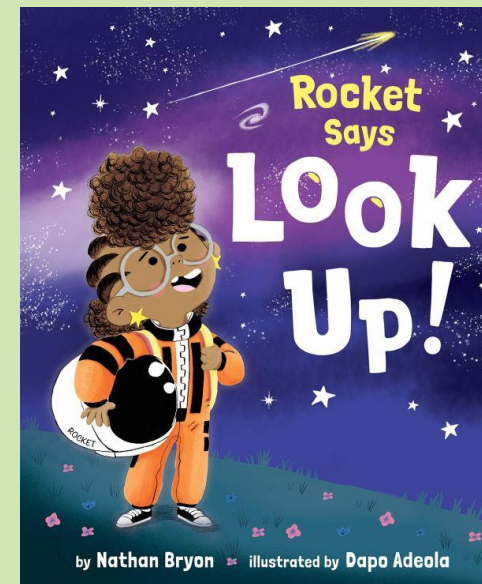
In maths we have been starting to learn how to add and subtract. We have been working especially hard on our number bonds to 10. It would be great to practise these at home. We have also learnt about 2-D and 3-D shapes by naming and sorting them.

We have been working hard on our Christmas crafts. We made seasons calendars, cards and even our very own clay tea light holders! We hope you love them as much as we do.

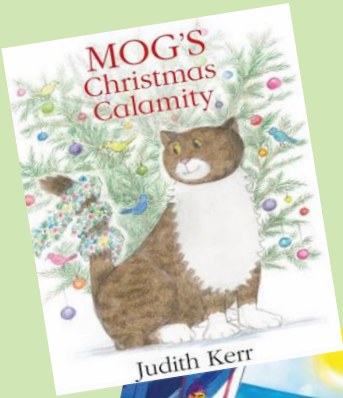
We have been learning about how light is important to different cultures and religions.



In English, we have been reading some amazing books! Our favourite book this half term has been 'Look Up'. We did lots of writing and wrote a diary entry all about Rockets day.

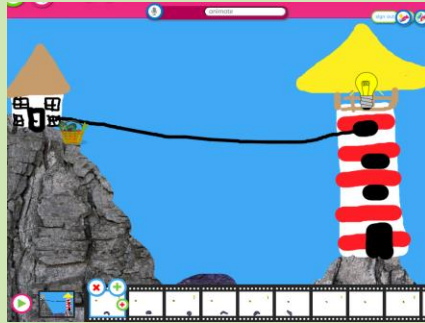
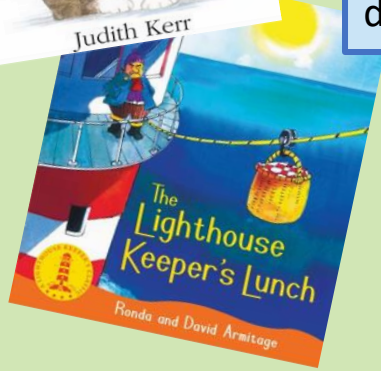


Year 2

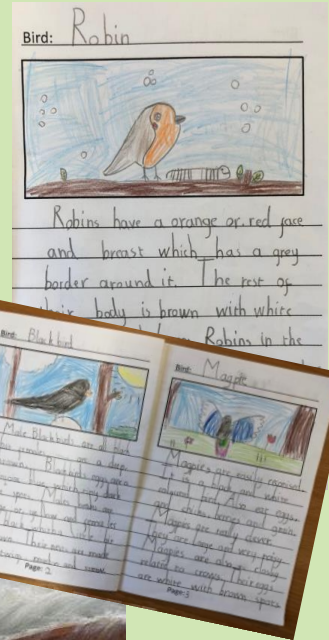


In English we have written our own stories based on 'The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch'. We also created online animations based on the text during our Computing sessions.

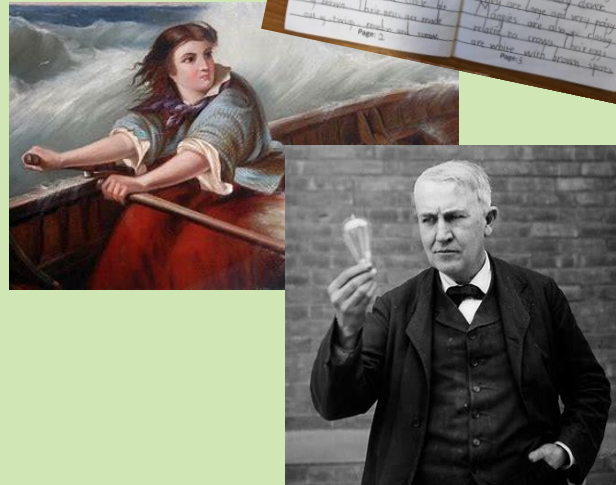
We have also read the story, 'Mog's Christmas Calamity' and written newspaper articles based on the series of disasters surrounding Mog!



In Science we have been researching British Garden Birds as part of our unit on Living things and their habitats. We looked at many different birds such as Robins, Magpies and Starlings and created booklets to showcase what we've learned.



In History we have been learning about significant people from the past as part of our 'Light' topic. For example, we have learned about Thomas Edison and the invention of the lightbulb and Grace Darling who lived in a lighthouse and saved many people from a shipwreck. She was a brave Victorian heroine and we really enjoyed learning about her.



In Art we created vibrant 3D firework sculptures. We manipulated coloured paper and experimented with creating interesting folds and shapes. We have proudly displayed these in our classrooms. Have a look at what we created!

Music

A small group of Y2 choir members visited local nurseries to sing with the children.



Year 1 and 2 performed together retelling the Nativity through the story of Strictly Come Dancing. Well done to everyone – what amazing sing, dancing and acting.



Reception were amazing!! They learnt 6 different songs and sang their hearts out. As well as performing to their families they invited the children from Bright Horizons Nursery to watch the dress rehearsal. Reception also came to watch the Y1 and 2 dress rehearsal



Thank you to everyone who came along to our whole school sing a long to mark the end of term.





RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

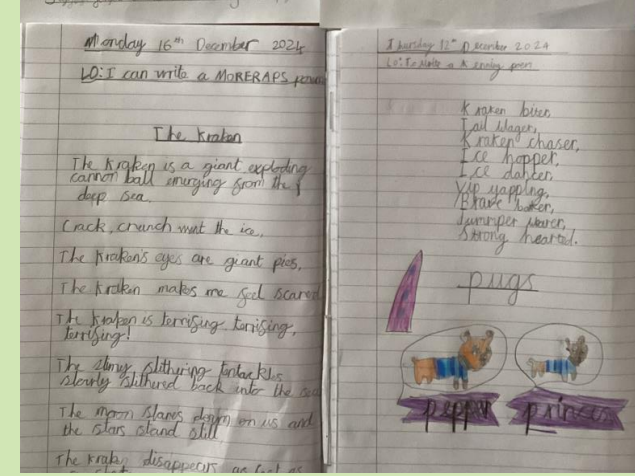
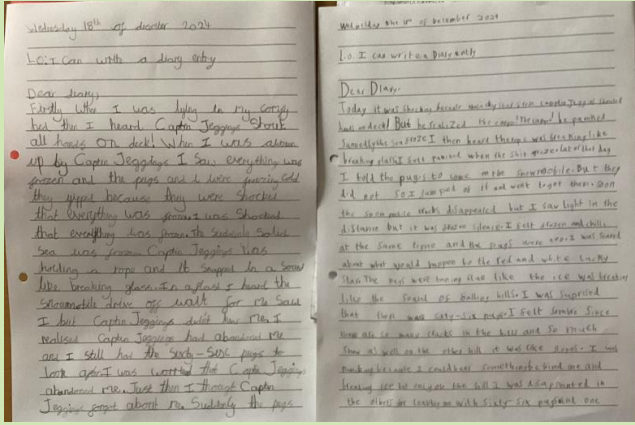
We are proud to already have Bronze status as a UNICEF Rights Respecting School and this year are aiming for the Silver award. To do this, we have been highlighting some of the rights (also known as 'articles') in dedicated assemblies and using a new *Picture News* resource to highlight the rights in a current, global context. We have also made our School Councilors *Rights Respecting Ambassadors* to help spread the word.



Year 3

The Year 3 staff are so proud of each and every child for how hard they have worked this half-term. We have been very busy!

English
We have been learning about features of diary and a MOREAPS poem.



Design and Technology
We have been developing our cooking skills of cutting, chopping, grating and mixing. Look at the delicious stuffed vegetables the children produced!



R.W.
We have been learning about Christianity, which culminated in a visit to the Church.



Performance poetry
Have a listen to our Christmas poetry!

3I Performance poetry.MOV



3J Performance poetry.MOV



Year 4

In Year 4 we've had a half term full of great learning and fun experiences! We looked at the text 'Cloud Busting' by Malorie Blackman, applied map reading skills in Geography, we explored column method and built on our timetables in Maths and we presented our amazing creative projects!



We also had our brass instrument performance to family and friends where we showed off our musical skills with trumpets, trombones, cornets & baritone horns!



In Science this half term we have been studying states of matter. We took part in a fun experiment which involved using scales to weigh a carbonated drink before shaking it, opening it (ahh!) and then weighing it again afterwards! This helped us discover whether gas has mass.



In D&T this half term we have been designing and creating wire loop games! We used what we learnt in Science last half term about electrical circuits and worked in small groups to create our own!

Year 5

SOUPER SOUP!

This half term, Year 5 has been immersed in soup! We started off by researching a range of different soups from around the world; their origins, ingredients and whether they should be served hot or cold. We worked in groups to record our findings before reporting back to the class.

Our next lesson saw us taste-testing a mixture of soups, describing them in terms of taste, texture and aroma. We then went on to rank them. Across the year group, the Broccoli and Stilton soup was universally disliked, and the Thai Green Chicken Soup was a firm favourite. This would inform our decisions on which soups to make later in the term. Other lessons included learning about seasonality and the impact of importing food, from across the world, on the environment.

After working in our design teams to choose our recipes, it was time to create our masterpieces. With the help of parents and other adults in school, each group brought their recipes to life. From Thai Green Chicken Noodle Soup to Hearty Pasta Soup, the individual design teams created some delicious outcomes. Finally, we evaluated our products, and the process, and created adverts to celebrate our soups and our achievements.



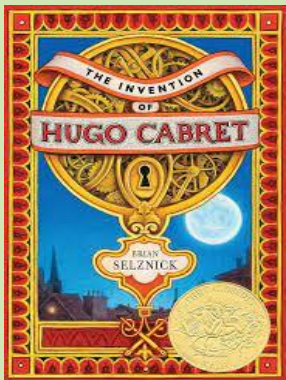
ENGLISH

Alongside our soup making, we have been learning about the adventures of Earnest Shackleton in our English lessons. We have written job applications, hoping to become a member of crew on Endurance, and diary entries about our experiences. We have also written letters and a description of Antarctica. The children have read real diary entries and seen original photos and film footage, taken by Frank Hurley-the expedition photographer.

OTHER CURRICULUM AREAS

It has been an exciting and busy term, across the curriculum in Year 5. In our religion lessons, we have been learning about the work of different charities including Christian Aid, Islamic Relief, Children in Need and Fairtrade. Whilst in geography, we have learnt about volcanoes and earthquakes. During our science lessons, we have been investigating which materials make the best thermal insulators and in PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Education), we have been learning about identity and discrimination. During our PE (Physical Education) lessons we have enjoyed learning new football, hockey and rugby skills, and practising these. In our maths lessons, fractions have been our focus throughout this half term.

Year 6



English – The Invention of Hugo Cabret

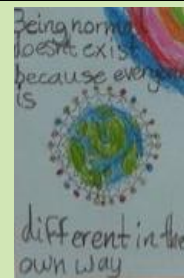
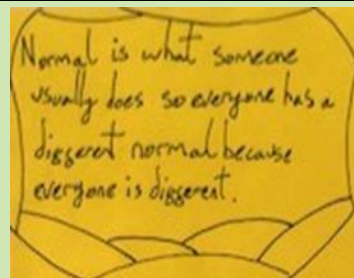
We have really enjoyed unlocking the secrets inside this wonderful story, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, and learning about the history of cinema and the creation of special effects along the way. Inspired by the book, we have written some fabulous narratives, film reviews and, finally, a detailed biography about Georges Melies, cinematic pioneer!

D&T – Drawstring Bags

Having researched different types of drawstring bags, the children designed and made their own before evaluating the end product. We think you'll agree, there are some pretty cool designs...



Our **PSHE** learning is perhaps the most important of all: this half-term has concerned 'Being Me' and 'Celebrating Difference', and we have, as always, been very impressed with the mature and reflective comments and observations from our class discussions. You make us very proud!



Gingerbread biscuits

Assuming they were shared with you at home(!), we hope that you enjoyed the very professional gingerbread biscuits baked and decorated in the last days of term. Our **maths** learning (measuring, converting, ratio and proportion) came in very handy!

Science: We have been learning about how light travels and making our own periscopes to prove it. We have also used our science knowledge and skills to plan and carry out our own investigations, shown our results on a line graph and written conclusions to show our findings. Phew!





Y3 and Y4 Nativity



Y5 and Y6 Panto Pandemonium



KS2 Festive Fun Day and Christmas Lunch



Thank you to all the amazing volunteers for giving the children such a lovely time at the KS2 Festive Fun Day. The whole school also had a lot of fun at the Christmas jumper and Christmas lunch day, singing along to some classic festive songs.

Autumn 2 Sports Round-Up!

It has been a busy half-term of sporting fixtures and events for the Junior School this Autumn. We start with our Boys & Girls football teams who both attended the Richmond Borough Football Championships. The Girls team (Top Left) went on an incredible run that took them all the way to the Plate Final, which they sadly lost to TPA.

We also had success in Tag Rugby this half-term as we made it all the way to the final of the Richmond Rugby Club tournament. The event was played under floodlights before a first team game and after a narrow loss in the final to Heathfield the team got to be in the guard of honour for the RRC game.

Continuing our half-term of near misses was the Year 5&6 Basketball team who dominated on their way to the West Richmond final, the team went unbeaten on their way to the final with Jack scoring an amazing 56 points over 3 games! In heartbreaking fashion, the team fell just short in the final losing to TPA in a narrow 15-6 loss.

This half-term also saw Trafalgar enter the West London Table Tennis Team Championships for the first time ever with the winning school going on to attend the London Finals. The team (Middle Right) put in some amazing performances against some experienced schools from Richmond, Surrey & Merton.

Finally, we attended two athletics events this half-term the Richmond Borough Cross Country Championships (Bottom Left) and the Waldegrave Area Indoor Athletics Finals. The latter of those events saw Trafalgar retain their title from the previous 2 years and become the local area Indoor Athletics Champions again! Which means we are off to the Borough Finals in the new year.



Maths

Hampton School welcomed young mathematicians from several local primary schools to battle it out for the title of Maths Wizard Champion 2024. Teams of Year Five pupils put their mathematical knowledge to the test, tackling a range of tricky numerical puzzles in a bid to win the coveted trophy. The mathematicians took part in five rounds of problems ranging from the *Am I Odd?* round to *Consecutive Numbers*. A very well done to James, Nelly, Ryan and Freya who participated. They demonstrated great resilience, teamwork and number crunching skills!



Well done to all who participated in the England wide Times Tables challenge.



4M, 4HB and 6D were the top 3 scoring classes, and the most valuable players were Milan from 4M and Linus and Zachary from Year 6.

Primary Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the enthusiastic mathematicians in Year 5 and 6 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.

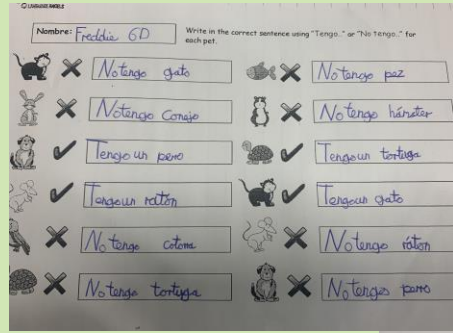
A special well done to our Gold Certificate winners: James Eades and Carl Allen (our top scorers with 22 marks out of a possible 25), Harper and Nanase. Also, well done to Felix Jones and Luca Geary who were our Silver certificate winners.



Y3: Feliz Navidad Christmas cards in Spanish



Y5: Las mascotas/ The pets: We have learnt the name of some pets and how to say: I have a... **TENGO UN/ UNA...** I don't have a... **NO TENGO...**



Y4: Partes del cuerpo/ parts of the body



Y4: Students from St Mary's University came to explain the differences between Christmas in Spain and the UK



Soy achary y tengo dos oñas vivas Lightwaks
Soy bajo pero inteligente, Tengo el pelo rojo, corto y liso
Tengo un perro que se llama Alize. Mi perro es blanco, Negro y marrón.
Mis asignaturas favoritas son: Inglés, ciencia y música ¿y tu?
Mi deporte favorito es fútbol y el Net ball. Mi equipo favorito es el FC Healesia.
Mi favorito Me gustan los dragones
Hasta pronto Feliz Navidad.
Z.A.C.H.A.R.G.Y

Y6: Escribir una carta/ Y6 wrote a letter in Spanish to children in Barcelona



20.11.2024
¡Hola Alan!
¿Cómo estás? Me llamo Ezeran y tengo once años. Vivo en Twickenham y soy inglés.
Soy bajo y rápido y feliz. Tengo el pelo rubio, muy largo y rizado. Tengo los ojos azules ¿y tu?
Mi padre se llama Jon y mi madre se llama Helen.
Tengo mascotas ¿y tu? Tengo un perro que se llama Honey y gato que se llama Buttons. Soy bajo oñca.
Hasta pronto Ezeran.

Y6 received Christmas cards from Spain

