



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher



Trafalgar Schools' Federation

Golden Newsletter

Autumn 1, 2026-27

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

What an eventful and successful first half term it has been at Trafalgar!

Our new Reception children have settled into school life brilliantly and have quickly become valued members of our school community. We are especially proud of our Year 1 children, who have been wonderful role models and have helped their younger neighbours feel safe, welcome and confident in their new environment.

Across the school, many of our older pupils have embraced new responsibilities and pupil leadership roles. Our School Councillors have already held their first meeting, sharing ideas and representing the views of their classmates. Meanwhile, our Head Pupils have been outstanding ambassadors, confidently welcoming prospective families and showcasing all that makes Trafalgar such a special place.

During Black History Month, children explored the lives and achievements of influential Black individuals throughout history and considered the thought-provoking question: *Can one person make a big difference?* We enjoyed listening to the music of Bob Marley and discussing how he used his songs and messages to inspire change, promote unity, and encourage others to make the world a better place.

Our Harvest Celebration Assemblies were a tremendous success and a real highlight of the term. It was wonderful to see so many families join us as the children shared important messages about kindness, gratitude and helping others. We were truly amazed by the generosity shown through the community spirit that make Trafalgar so special.

As we reach the end of this busy half term, we would like to thank all our families for their continued support. We wish you a restful, enjoyable and fun-filled half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term.

Sarah Keefe – Federation Headteacher

Laura Jennings - Interim Chair of Governors

We are in the process of appointing a new Chair and Vice Chair of Governors and will share more information about the governors soon.

Currently we have an exciting opportunity to join our Board as a Parent Governor. If you're interested, please do get in touch with the office or any of our existing governors who would be happy to talk to you about the role.

**Find out HOW To KEEEP
CHILDREN SAFE THIS
HALLOWEEN**

<https://capt.org.uk/halloween/>

Reminder

School starts on Monday
2nd November.

Trafalgar Laser & Firework Show 2026

November 15 at 5:30 pm | FREE – £7.50

Join us this year for a spectacular laser show finished with a *LOW NOISE FIREWORK FINALE!*

The show will be started by a **BIG RED BUTTON**. Buy your tickets before 31st October to be automatically entered for a chance to win the opportunity to

Please note the timings for this event:

- Gates open 4:00pm and close 5:30pm
- Licensed Bar and hot drinks from 4:00pm
- Food served from 4:00pm
- Laser show will start at 5:30 pm

This year our amazing pizza van returns, where you can order food on the night. We will also have hot dogs and crepes.

There will be a licensed bar, alcoholic and non alcoholic mulled wine and stalls serving hot and cold drinks, along with candy floss.

All payment must be made by card.

IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY FIREWORKS OR SPARKLERS WITH YOU



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Pupil Leadership



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, Listening Friends and Reading Ambassadors. There will be additional opportunities to join these roles later in the year.

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.



Head Pupils
Y6



The School Council have met this ½ term to discuss what '**Ready, Respectful, Safe**' looks like in the dining hall and playgrounds. They will take their ideas back to their classes ready to discuss. Our Head Boy and Girl along with their Deputies, Y2 School Councillors and some Welcomers have helped with our school tours

Reception

Well done to the new Reception classes who have settled in so well. Here are some of our highlights!



We went on a walk to Kneller Gardens to spot signs of Autumn.



We cut, sliced and chopped up fruit to make delicious fruit kebabs!

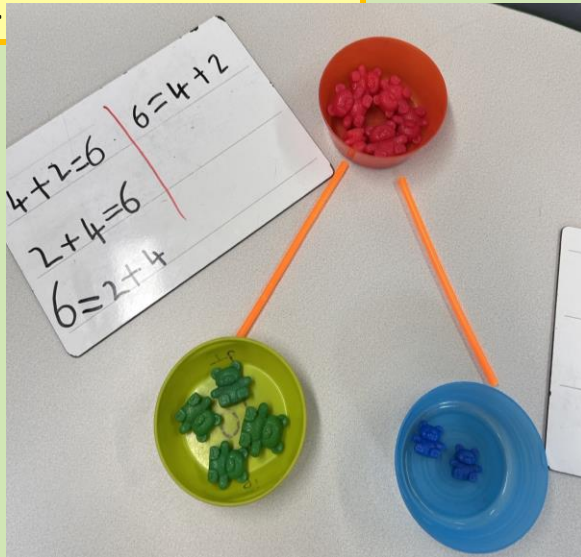


We have enjoyed working together to create a machine.

We created a large collage from the objects we collected.

Year 1

In maths we have been looking at numbers within 10. Concentrating on knowing which numbers are greater and smaller than each other. We are also practicing our number formation and making sure we write all our numbers the correct way around.

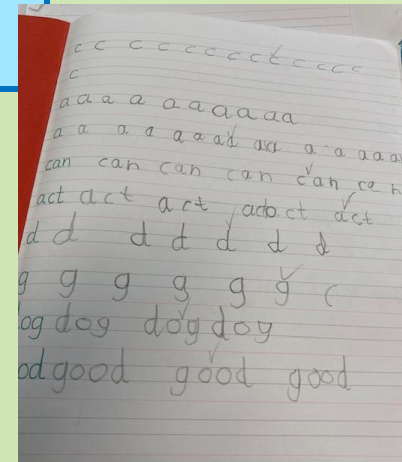
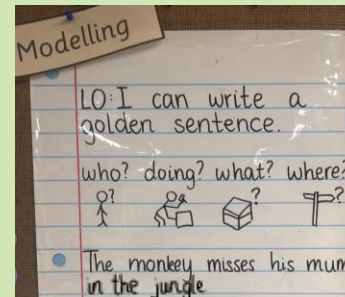


In PE we have enjoyed our Golden Games sessions with coaches Justin and Nathan. We have been learning all about Yoga and games.

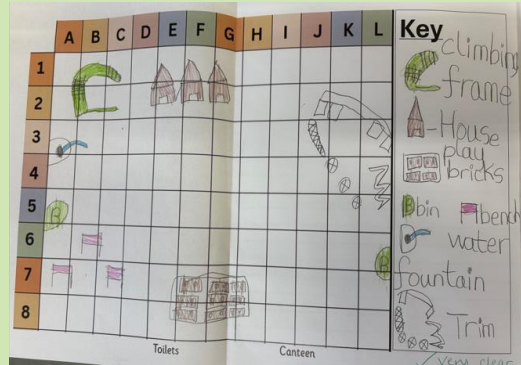
In science we have been learning about evergreen and deciduous trees. We went on a leaf hunt in the woods and then used the leaves to identify the trees.



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



Year 2



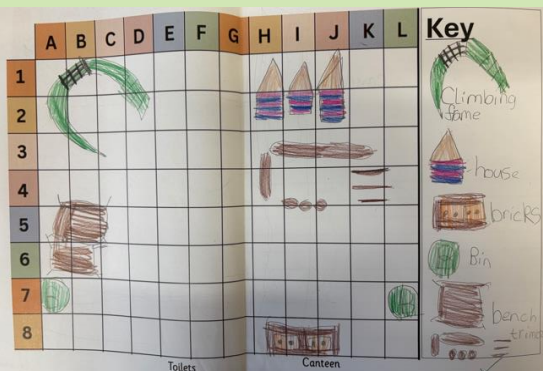
In Geography we have looked at maps, coordinates and the 4 main compass points. We studied our own playground and created maps of it using symbols and a key.



In English, we have been learning to write using expanded noun phrases. We enjoyed writing character descriptions based on the book 'Bog Baby' and created our own mysterious creatures. We are also reading 'Couch Potato' which links nicely with our unit in Science about how to have a healthy lifestyle.



In Art we have been learning to draw using shading and tone. We drew detailed, observational sketches of stuffed animals looking at their texture and light and dark parts.



In Maths we have been learning to partition a two-digit number and use the symbols for more than and less than. We have started to learn how to add and subtract.



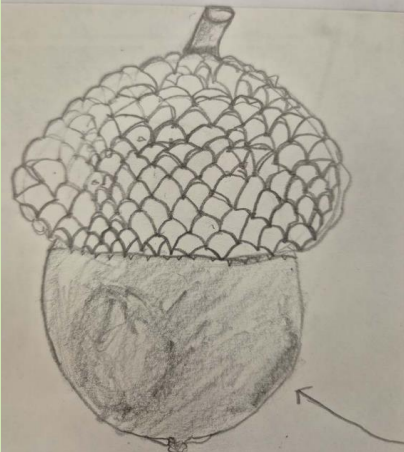
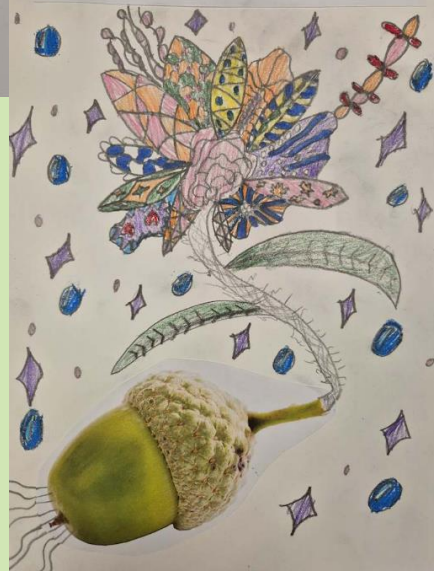
Year 3

Year 3 have been developing shading skills and drawing techniques to create botanical inspired drawings. We have used our observation skills to describe specific shapes, textures or patterns in objects. We have been learning to shade with some accuracy and follow the four shading rules. Our work has used mark making to show texture and detail.

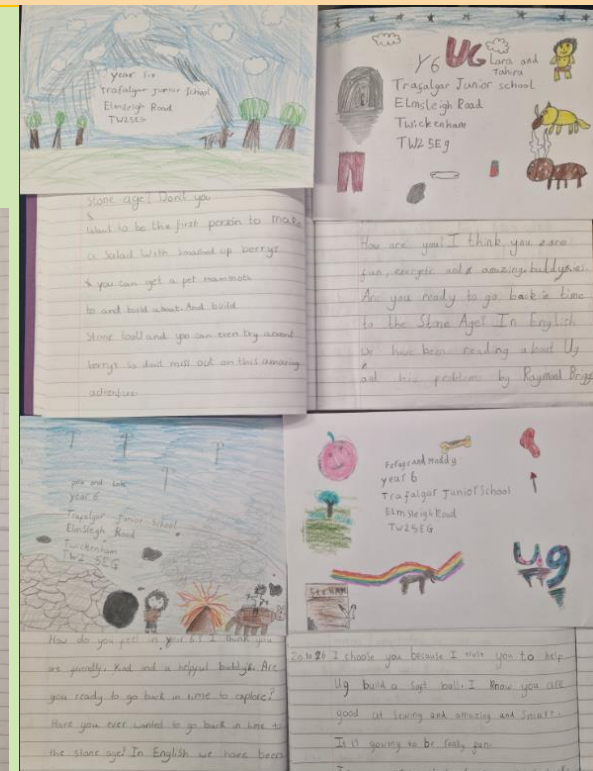
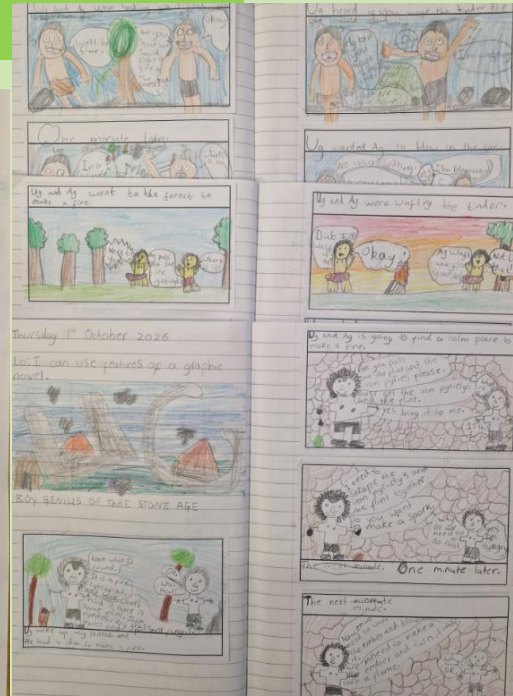
LO: To use line, shape and tone in an imaginative drawing.



LO: To use line, shape and tone in an imaginative drawing.



In English we have been studying Ug by Raymond Briggs. We loved the humour and spotting anachronisms as we read. Children wrote some clear instructions using imperative verbs to help Ug understand how to make fire. They even created a fabulous graphic novel about Ug trying the instructions out.



Year 4

We've had a great start to Year 4 this first half term. We've focused on the text *Fantastic Mr Fox* in English, worked with numbers up to 10,000 in Maths as well as studying the rise and fall of the Roman Empire in our History lessons and so much more!

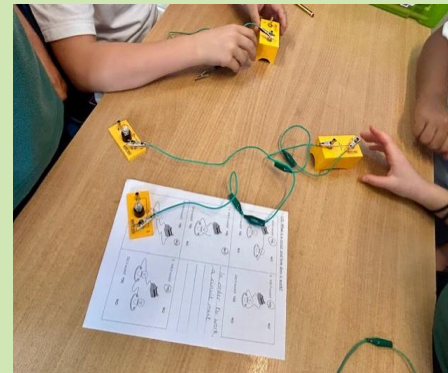
We were really lucky to go on a trip to Sky Studios this term where we created 90 second movie trailers. Each of us were given roles and we worked together using the three Cs: Collaboration, Communication and Creativity!



In Art this half term we have been exploring tone, texture, proportion and what makes an effective composition. Inspired by Beatriz Milhazes, we produced our own compositions, using food wrappers.



In Science we have been creating and experimenting with electrical circuits! We have been investigating conductors and insulators as well as making our own switches that could be used in a working circuit.



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.



In **Art**, we have been investigating how drawing can express emotion, movement and depth, inspired by the work of Charlie Mackesy and Elizabeth Catlett. Pupils use expressive lines, shading and printmaking techniques to develop compositions that convey feeling and energy before creating a final piece influenced by their own ideas and the artists studied.



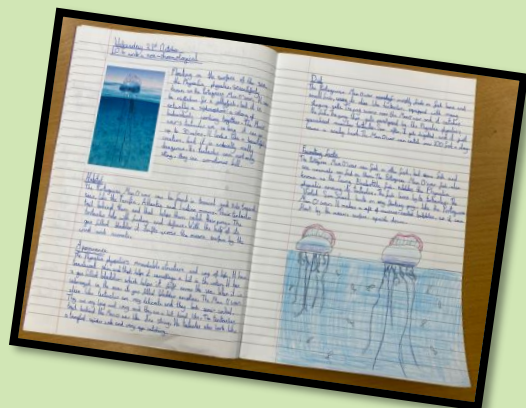
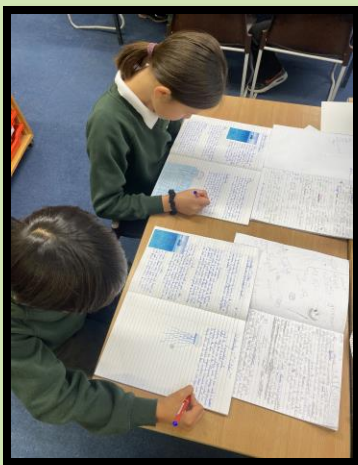
In **Science**, we have been investigating how to separate solids and exploring reversible and irreversible changes.

Year 6

We've had a wonderful start to Year 6 this half term!
Take a look at what we have been up to.

English – Stormbreaker

We have really enjoyed Anthony Horowitz's exciting story about the teenage spy, Alex Rider. Inspired by the book, we have written non-chronological reports about the Physalia-Physalis.



Science - Living Things and Their Habitats

We loved the opportunity to get outside to identify and classify mini-beasts and trees in the woodlands at Meadway and Kneller Gardens. We use this to support our learning about living organisms in all five 'kingdoms' including micro-organisms.



Junior Citizen at Heatham House

We went on a local trip to have workshops on how to be responsible young citizens – this is also part of our transition to KS3!
We worked with representatives from the police and ambulance services; the fire brigade; London Transport and the RNLI to learn how we can keep ourselves, and others, safe.



History – Ancient Greece

During our History lessons this term, we have been discovering just HOW so much is known about life there over 2000 years ago. Inspired by the insights that Greek pottery have given us, we have designed our own based upon myths and the Ancient Olympics.

Music YR & KS1

KS1 choir gave a lovely performance to parents today.
We sang: Hey Mr Miller, Baby Beluga and Harvest Bean!

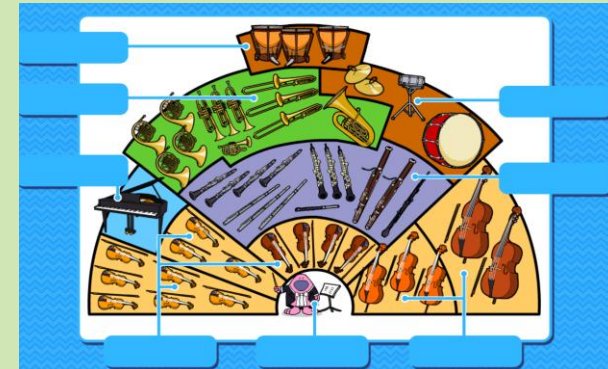


Y1 have really enjoyed their Music lessons this ½ term at Gothic Road. We have learnt songs about Autumn, our bodies and harvest vegetables. We have also been learning about the instruments of the orchestra and the conductor.

Y2 have been working on their Gamelan compositions. These will feature in the next Golden Newsletter.



Reception have started music and are looking forward to starting preparations for our Christmas Nativity.



MUSIC KS2

Year 3 and 4

Year 3 have enjoyed lots of singing and playing this term. 'The Amazing Egyptians' has been lots of fun to sing and 'Just like a Roman' had lots of historical facts. They performed beautifully in our Harvest assembly – for Year 3 it was their first one!



Year 4

One of the highlights of the term has been starting to learn to play Brass instruments.



Year 5

Singing about 'The Maya – a stone cold classic' has been great fun this term – it is a great cross



Year 6

Year 6 have enjoyed singing and performing the song 'Ode to the Ancient Greeks' They looked at evidence of music in Greek life



During October '**Black History Month**' Year 5 listened to and sang Nina Simone's classic protest song "I wish I knew how it would feel to be free" and Year 6 learned about the short but inspiring life of Bob Marley.

Year 3 and 4 listened top influential Black musicians in Singing Assembly

Free **CELLO TASTER SESSION**

Sat 7th Nov 10 – 11.30am

[file:///tjorg.local/school/Admin%20Staff/skeefe/Downloads/RMT%20Oboe%20Trial%20Session%20Invite%20-%202007.11.2026%20\(2\).pdf](file:///tjorg.local/school/Admin%20Staff/skeefe/Downloads/RMT%20Oboe%20Trial%20Session%20Invite%20-%202007.11.2026%20(2).pdf)

The whole of KS2 have enjoyed starting to learn to play the **recorder**! Everyone has played beautifully and there has been lots of beautiful sounds coming from the music room. Year 3 and 4 have played A and B and used their recorders to make owl sounds. Whilst Year 5 and 6 have played BAG and some more advanced accompaniments to our lovely song 'Enchanted Forest'. Thank you to all those children who brought in their own recorders. We will return to them in our build up to Christmas!



What a huge success our extra special **Harvest Assembly** was again this year! Thank you for all your amazing support and for sharing the assembly with us! The children as always demonstrated their thoughtful and sensitive understanding for others with their incredible singing and thoughtful readings. A great big thank you to all our families for the **generous donations to the Richmond Foodbank – a record breaking year!**



Autumn 1 Sports Round-Up!

What a brilliant half-term of sport we have had at Trafalgar! Our pupils have thrown themselves into an action-packed Autumn Term 1, showcasing fantastic energy, determination, and sportsmanship across a wide variety of competitive fixtures and weekly extra-curricular clubs.

Our school football squads have had a wonderfully busy start to the academic year. Both the boys' and girls' teams opened their season with energetic fixtures against St James's, where their sharp passing and positive team spirit were on full display. The girls' squad continued their impressive form in a hard-fought match against Archdeacon, working tirelessly off the ball and creating some brilliant attacking opportunities. Rounding off a great stretch on the pitch, both football teams went head-to-head with TPA, demonstrating clear progress in their positional play, tactical awareness, and overall match confidence.

Over on the rugby pitch, our tag rugby players enjoyed an equally exciting half-term. The team played out a fast-paced fixture against Stanley, impressing everyone with their quick defensive tagging, agility, and accurate passing. The absolute highlight of the term came when our squad traveled to compete in the Richmond Borough Tag Rugby Championships. Representing Trafalgar on the borough stage, our players stepped up to face top-quality opposition from across the region, earning high praise for their incredible work rate, disciplined tactical play, and exemplary sportsmanship.

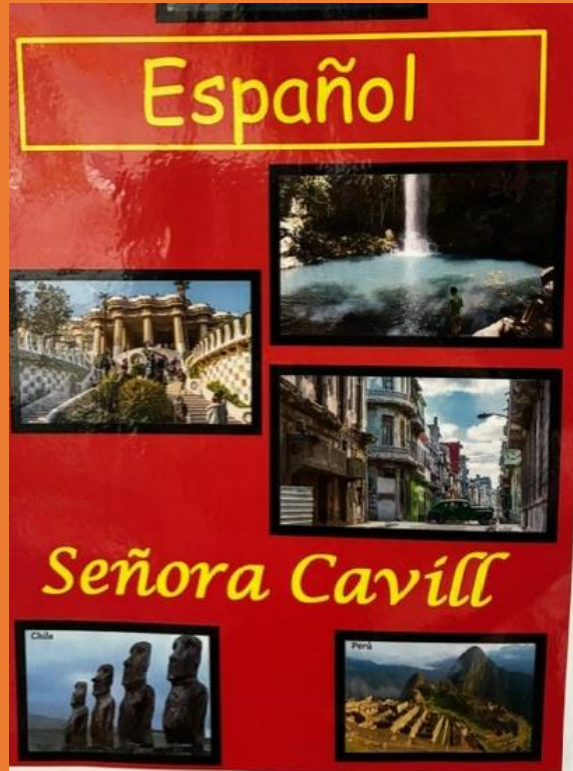
Our before- and after-school clubs have also been buzzing with energy every day. Pupils across all year groups have loved taking part in Gymnastics, Indoor Athletics, Multi-Sports, Netball, and Dodgeball, building great skills, agility, and teamwork each week.

A massive thank you goes to all the children for their enthusiasm and dedication, as well as to the parents and staff who came along to cheer our teams on from the sidelines. We are immensely proud of everything our young athletes have achieved so far and look forward to even more active fun in Autumn Term 2!





ESPAÑOL



A new Spanish Hub has been set up where the children (Y3-6) are learning Spanish during their enrichment lessons. Y6 have been finding out all about the Spanish speaking countries around the world .

'Bienvenidos' to Senora Cavill who joined the Trafalgar teaching team this year.

