



Trafalgar Schools' Federation



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher



Sophie Riley, Chair of Governors

Golden Newsletter

Autumn 2, 2025-26

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

We are sending out a huge Trafalgar MERRY CHRISTMAS to all our school community.

Our Christmas Elves (PTA) have done an incredible job this year on seamlessly arranging the Christmas Fair, the Christmas tree sale, the Christmas Bazaar for EYFS and KS1, and the Fun Festivities for KS2. Everyone's hard work and dedication has brought so much excitement and joy to our community, spreading the Christmas spirit to us all.

I would also like to extend my huge appreciation to our dedicated teachers who have shown exceptional commitment to the children's education this term as well as providing enriching activities such as music, sports, trips and visits. There has been something special for every child this term.

And finally, thank you to all our families and wider community for working with us. Together, we provide such a rich learning experience for our amazing children.

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

A Wonderful Christmas Celebration at Trafalgar! What a magical end to the Christmas term we've had at Trafalgar this year! Our school has been buzzing with festive performances and celebrations. We've been absolutely delighted to present no fewer than **6 nativity performances** and **4 pantos** – showcasing the incredible talents of our children and giving so many families the opportunity to share in these special moments. The festivities didn't stop there! Our PTA organised wonderful Christmas events and activities, our choirs performed beautifully, and we rounded everything off with our fabulous whole-school sing-along on the last day – a truly joyful way to celebrate together as a community. Behind the scenes, there has been an enormous amount of work creating costumes, building stage sets, and preparing props to bring all these performances to life. The dedication of our staff and volunteers has been remarkable, and the results have been truly spectacular.

Supporting Our Arts and Performances To help us replenish our supplies and continue supporting the arts and performances at Trafalgar, we would be incredibly grateful for any donations. Your contributions will help us maintain the high quality of productions that bring so much joy to our children and community. **Donations can be made using your ParentMail account** – simply look for '**Donation for Christmas Productions' in Payments – Shop**. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a real difference and helps ensure we can continue to provide these wonderful opportunities for our children. Thank you for your continued support, and wishing you all a wonderful Christmas break!

Reminder School starts back on **TUESDAY 6th January**

Pupil Parliament

Pupil Parliament is an event for Y6 children which was originally set up by Trafalgar back in the 1990s. Last year, we resumed the organisation of the event and offered schools across the borough a chance to come together to debate a topical issue in the council chambers of York House, Twickenham.



This year the debate was on whether children under the age of 14 should have access to smart phones.

A selection of Y6 children gave one-minute speeches in assembly to the rest of KS2 who then voted for their favourite speaker. It was a close-knit contest, but Kiki and Tom were elected to attend York House. During the first week of Autumn 2, they met with 30 other schools and the Mayor of Richmond, Councillor Clare Vollum.

An excellent lesson in democracy and debate!



Christmas Events- PTA
<https://trafalgarppta.org.uk/>

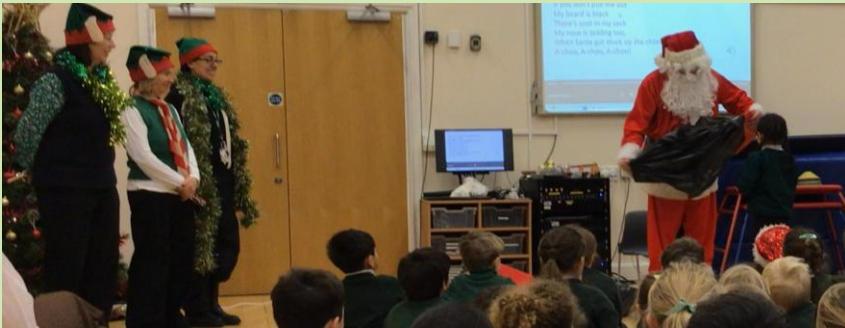


Thank you to all the Christmas Fair organisers and helpers. It was a successful event and we thoroughly enjoyed it. Thank you to all the school community, children, parents, grandparents, businesses and pupils too!

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.



CHRISTMAS EVENTS



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



What an amazing turn out for our annual Christmas sing-a-long!



The children all had a fantastic time, buying their gifts and wrapping them ready for a lovely family Christmas surprise!



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



Reception Nativity

Thank you Mrs Boswell, Ms O'Connell and all the Early Years team and children!



Y1 and Y2 Nativity



Thank you Mrs Burton and all the Y1 and Y2 team and children!

Y3 and Y4 Nativity



Thank you Mrs Davis and all the Y3/4 team and children!



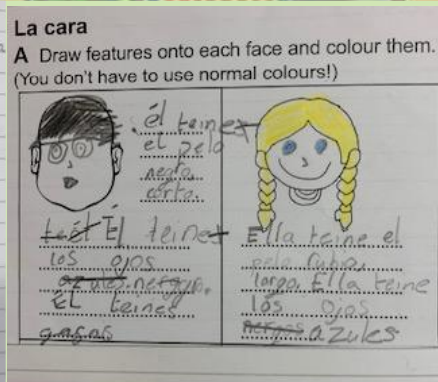
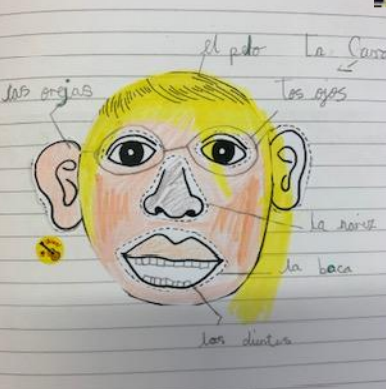
Y3: The colours and numbers



Y6: Felicitacion de Navidad/ They made a Christmas card for their penpals in Spain



Y4: Partes del cuerpo
parts of the body



Y5: La Navidad/
Spanish Christmas

Y5 and Y6 Panto – Aladdin
Thank you Mrs Davies and all
the Y5 and Y6 team and
Children



Reception



Enjoying making 'hot chocolate' and toasting 'marshmallows' on the campfire.



We have begun 'flood reading' and are enjoying applying our phonics to reading our books.



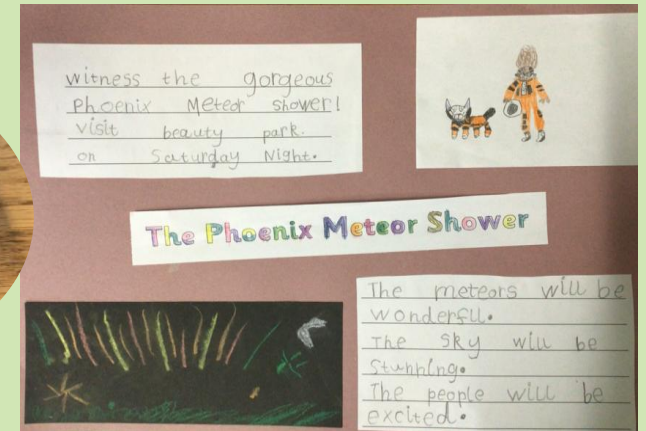
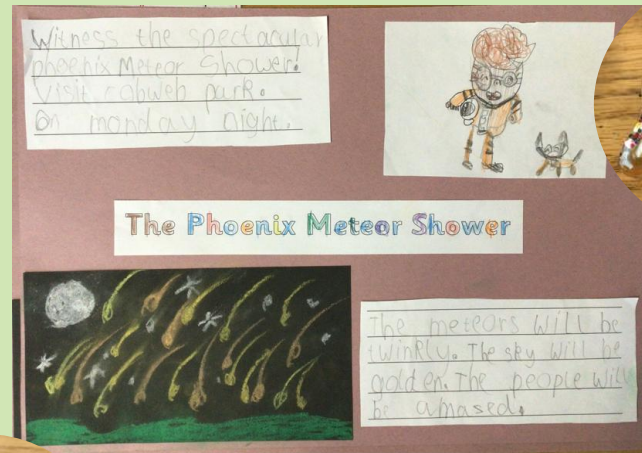
We have enjoyed rehearsing our Nativity performance and working together to decorate our learning environment!

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.

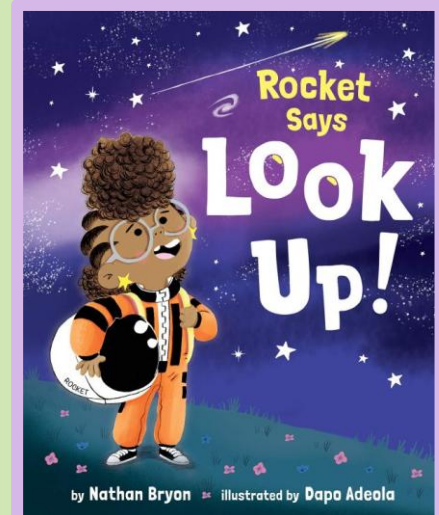
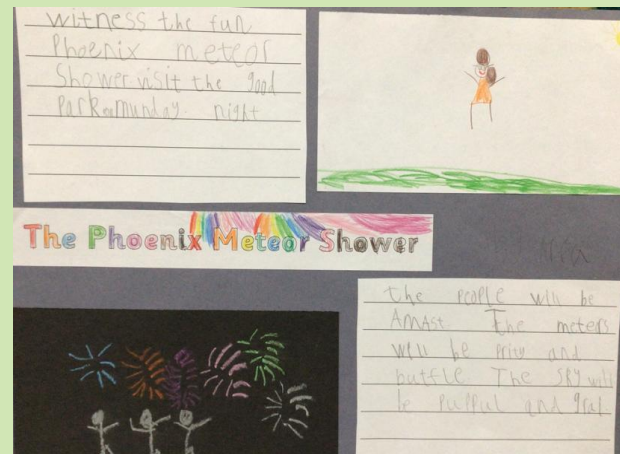
In Maths we have been starting to learn how to add and subtract. We have been working especially hard on our number bonds to 10. It would be great to practise these at home.

We have 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.

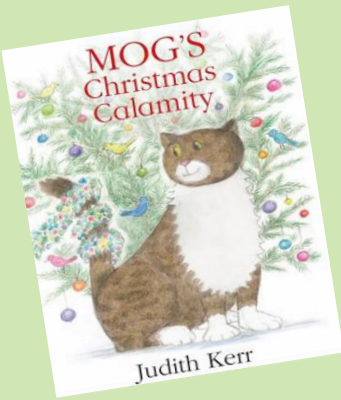


In RE we have been learning about how light is important to different cultures and religions. We even made our own Diva Lamps with candles in them in our DT lessons!

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 created our own poster all about the meteor shower!

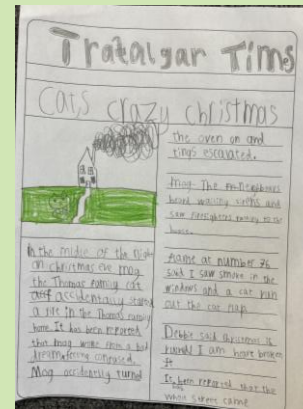
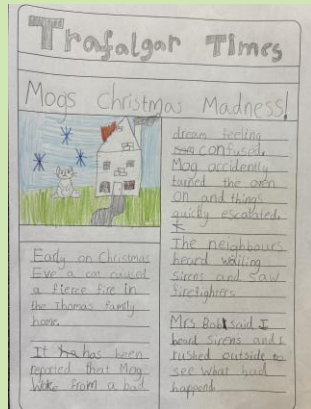
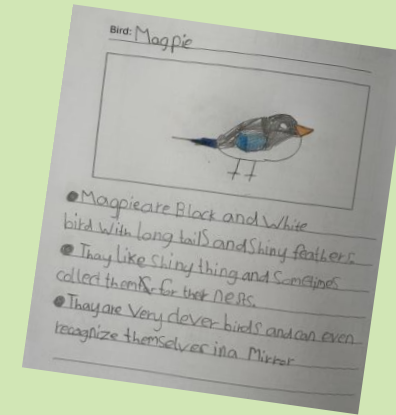
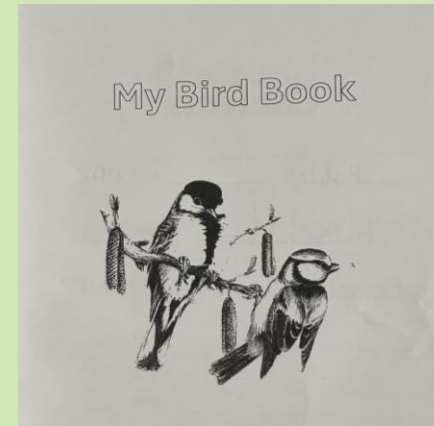


Year 2

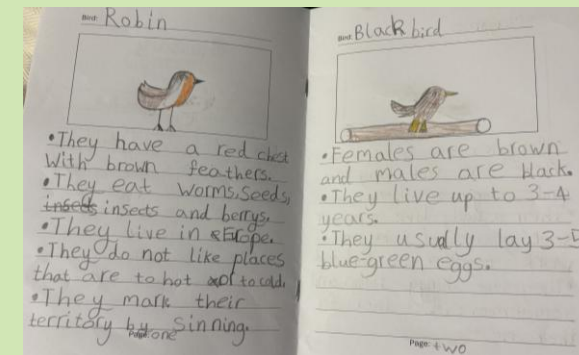


In English we have been reading the story, 'Mog's Christmas Calamity' and written newspaper articles based on the series of disasters surrounding Mog!

We were shocked to see Mog the cat had sent our classrooms into chaos (see below!)



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 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!



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!

R.W.

The children had a wonderful time exploring the church, where they discovered and learned about its different features such as the altar, pulpit, stained glass windows, and font. They enjoyed asking questions, observing the details, and understanding the significance of these elements. It was an enriching visit that deepened their knowledge and appreciation of the church's role in the community.



Design and Technology

Year 3 had a fantastic time learning essential food preparation skills such as chopping, peeling, grating, and mixing. These hands-on activities not only developed their confidence and coordination but also helped them create delicious stuffed vegetables.



Performance poetry

Have a listen to our Christmas poetry!

3I 2025 Poetry



3J 2025 Poetry



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 times tables 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 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!

We are very proud to say that 30 children in Year 4 have now "GONE GREEN" on TTRS. Let's see if we can get even more next term!

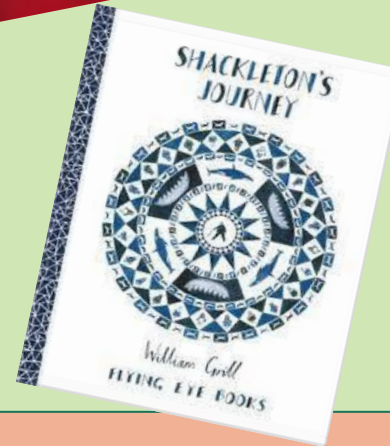
Year 5

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, which has included a trip to The Natural History Museum. 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.

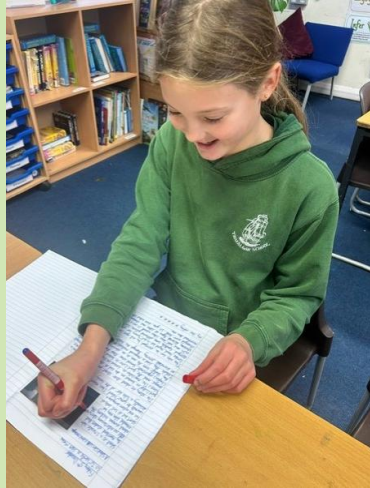
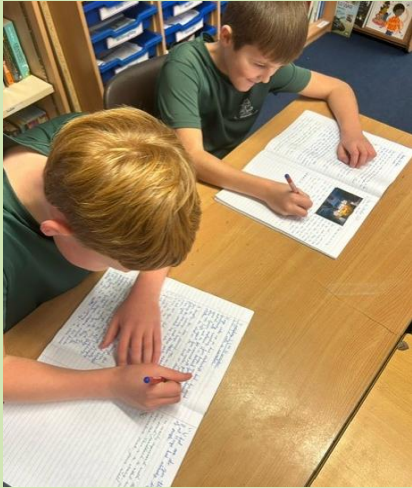


Year 6

Take a look at a snippet of all our learning this Autumn 2!

English – Hugo Cabret

We have really enjoyed Brian Selznick's story about the adventures and discoveries of orphan Hugo. Inspired by the book, we have written a narrative, a film review and a biography.



DT – Drawstring bags

We have been experimenting with different sewing techniques whilst making own drawstring bags! Here are some of our end-of-unit outcomes!



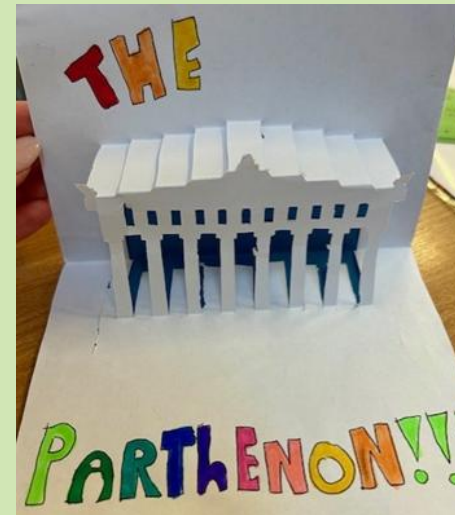
Science

We have really enjoyed our unit on Light this Autumn 2. We have had the opportunity to investigate how light travels, measuring shadows and even had a go at making our own periscopes to explain how light can be reflected.



Creative projects

This half term we also had the opportunity to present and share our creative projects!



Autumn 2 Sports Round-Up!



This term has been packed with sporting excitement, and our pupils have truly risen to the challenge across a range of events!

Richmond Borough Cross-Country Championships

Bushy Park set the stage for an incredible day of running, with over 400 entrants competing. Our runners showed grit and determination, powering through the course and making us proud with their effort and enthusiasm.

Boys' Football

What a semi-final! Our boys battled hard in the Borough Championships, taking the game all the way to penalties. Despite a heartbreaking exit, their teamwork and resilience were outstanding.!

Girls' Football

The girls faced Archdeacon in a thrilling league match, demonstrating skill, energy, and fantastic team spirit. While the result didn't go our way every single player gave their all, and it was a joy to watch.

Basketball

Our basketball team represented the school at the Richmond Knights Basketball event, gaining valuable experience and showing off some impressive moves. A great step forward for our budding athletes!

Table Tennis

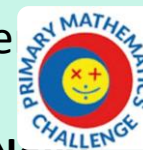
The table tennis teams competed fiercely in the South London Championships, and we're thrilled to announce that the **Girls' team is heading to the London Regionals!** This is a huge achievement and a testament to their dedication and hard work.





Primary Maths Challenge

A huge **congratulations** to our incredibly enthusiastic mathematicians in Years 5 and 6 who took part in the annual Maths Challenge organised by the Mathematical Association! Every participant approached the challenging problems with **enthusiasm, determination, and impressive logical thinking**, and they should all feel extremely proud of their achievement.



A special round of applause goes to our **Gold Certificate winners: Arthur (Year 5) and Nery, Woody, Mackenzie and James (Year 6)**, who achieved the highest scores in the competition. Their outstanding performance has truly shone, and we are delighted that some of these pupils will be invited to take part in the **Bonus Round** in the Spring term—an exciting opportunity to extend their mathematical talents even further.

Times Tables Challenge – Congratulations!

A huge well done to all the children who took part in the England-wide Times Tables Challenge! Your determination, quick thinking and fantastic number skills shone through—what an achievement!



We are delighted to announce our top three scoring classes: **5B, 4P** and **3I**. A special round of applause goes to our **Most Valuable Players** for their outstanding individual performances: **Milan (5B), Zac (4P)** and **Mohamed (5B)**.

Well done to everyone who participated—your hard work and enthusiasm make us incredibly proud! Keep practising those times tables!