



Trafalgar Schools' Federation



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher

## Golden Newsletter

Spring 1 2026



Sophie Riley, Chair of Governors

### HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

#### A Brilliant Start to 2026 at Trafalgar!

We've had a wonderfully positive start to the new year here at Trafalgar. Our assemblies this term have explored a rich range of themes including Holocaust Memorial Day, Safeguarding, and Mental Health. We were also delighted to welcome the Young Carers team to speak with our KS2 pupils — a truly inspiring visit.

Many of you have already had the chance to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress so far. If you're in Year 6, or still waiting for your meeting date, these will take place just after half term.

#### Finding Our Voice: The Oracy Journey

Our Voice 21 Oracy project is now well underway, with weekly 'talk questions' helping children develop thoughtful, confident speaking skills. We hope you've enjoyed joining in with these conversations at home.

This half term's big question is: ✨ **What makes a good game?** ✨

#### Playtime Plans for After Half Term

We're currently reviewing our playground zones and will be introducing new games and activities after half term. As we make improvements, we'd love to hear *your* thoughts on what makes a game great—whether it's fun, fairness, teamwork, challenge, or something completely different!

### Smartphones statement

Smartphones are mobile phones that provide fast and easy access to the Internet. They are a large part of people's lives today. Most adults have a smartphone. They are great for finding information and staying connected with family and friends. As schools, we have an important role, alongside parents, in educating children about the safe use of technology, including smartphones. However, we are also aware that there is growing evidence of the negative effects of smartphones on children, largely due to the direct and constant access they provide to the internet and social media. This can result in:

- Poor mental health, such as depression and anxiety
- Disrupted sleep and a shorter attention spans
- An increased risk of cyberbullying
- Potential exposure to harmful content and inappropriate material

[Continue reading the smartphones statement here.](#)

### Reminders

School starts back on **Monday 23 February.**

# HEALTHY SCHOOLS

## It's fibre February

Get involved and help your pupils, staff, and the whole school community increase their dietary fibre intake this February and beyond!

Use free resources on the Food A Fact of Life to teach pupils about the importance of fibre or use the [Fibre February activity pack](#) to set them activities such as adapting recipes to increase the fibre and playing the [Fibre race board game](#) or [Find your fibre fortune game!](#)

- [Fibre February activity pack 5-7 years](#)
- [Fibre February activity pack 7-11 years](#)
- [Fibre February activity 11-14 years](#)

Fibre comes from three main food groups on the UK Eatwell Guide: wholegrain starchy carbohydrates, fruit and vegetables and bean and pulses from protein food group. Fibre is an important part of our diet and is beneficial to our gut bacteria (gut microbiome). Yet, no age group is getting enough.

[Find out more about fibre February here.](#)



**SUNDAY 8 MARCH 10.45AM** **FREE**

# FUN KINGSTON BIKE RIDE

GIVE YOUR CYCLING CONFIDENCE A BOOST

free sign up: [tiny.cc/FunRideMarch26](https://tiny.cc/FunRideMarch26)

**MORE INFO & FREE SIGN UP**

**10.45AM - 12.30PM**  
**MANOR PARK**  
MALDEN ROAD,  
NEW MALDEN, KT3 6AU  
**ALL AGES WELCOME**

**KINGSTON CYCLING CAMPAIGN** **FULL CYCLE** **friends of MANOR PARK**

**JOIN OUR FAMILY-FRIENDLY GROUP CYCLE**

## Give your cycling confidence a spring boost on a free family-friendly ride from Manor Park (8 March)

Join Kingston Cycling Campaign and local friends on Sunday 8 March 2026 for a fun-filled ride through the borough – and beyond!

This family-friendly ride will start in Manor Park Recreation Ground and head out on a deliciously-flat 6.5 mile route through 4 different boroughs, designed with all ages and cycling abilities in mind.

Bikes have long been a symbol of freedom, so what better way to put an extra spring in your pedals and remember how fun riding a bike can be than helping challenge the stereotype of who cycles on International Women's Day!

[To join in the fun or to find out more click here.](#)

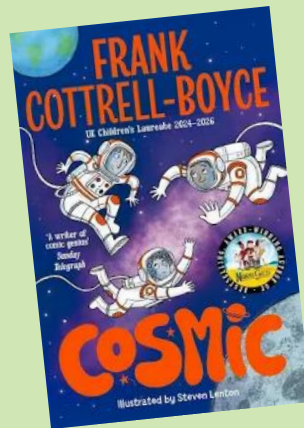
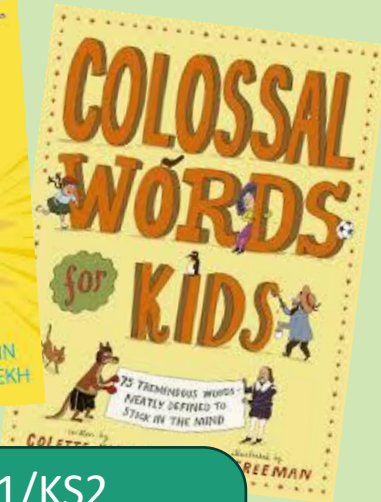
# Reading Round up

- Here are some recommendations from different year groups and from our book clubs:



EYFS/KS1/KS2

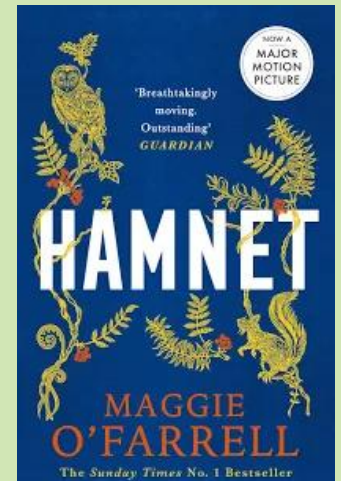
Both these authors are visiting on or near to WBD in March



Recommended by our Y4 book club



Recommended by Y6s in one of our assemblies



Recommended to parents/carers by staff in our book club

# Reception

We have had another busy half term in Reception!



We thought about what kindness means and created a kindness tree full of acts of kindness.



In Maths we have continued exploring mass and capacity and have been building on our understanding of the numbers 6,7 and 8, including doubling.

We have learned about Lunar New Year, the story of the Great Race and created Chinese Lanterns.



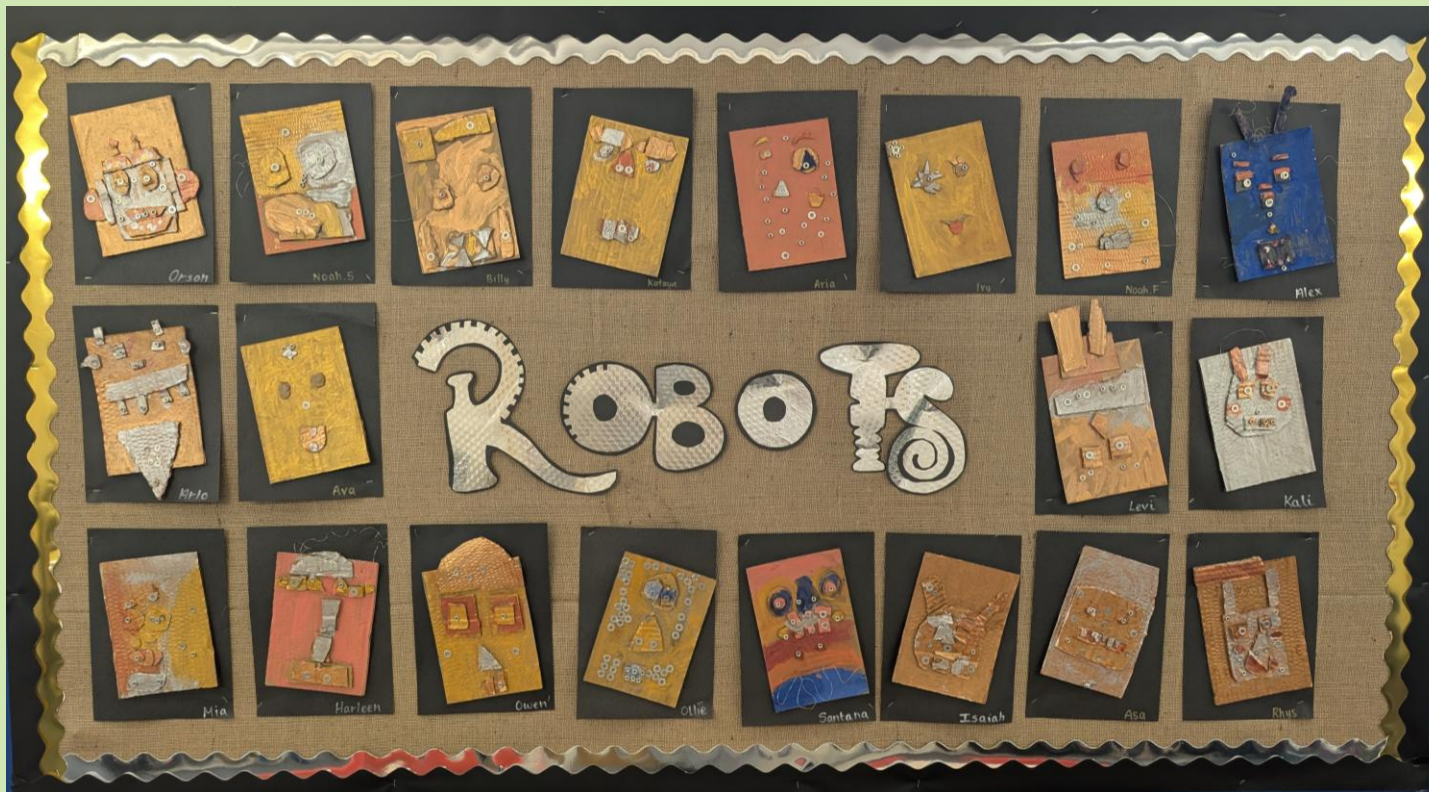
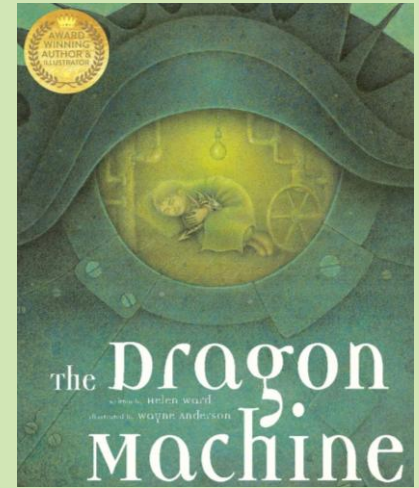
We enjoyed the cold weather and playing with ice.

# Year 1

This half term has been packed full of machines! We even made our own moving vehicles based around emergency service vehicles.

We have loved writing and creating our very own dragons, we even made a whole class dragon encyclopedia it looks amazing!

In Maths we have been focusing on adding and subtracting within 20. We have been using number lines a lot to help us with this.



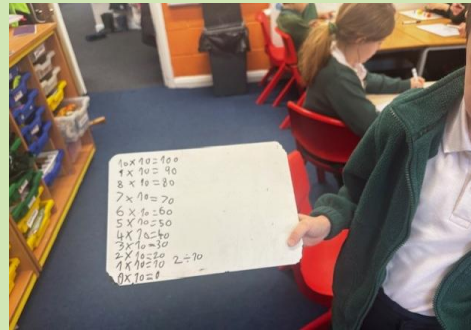
We made our very own relief sculptures of robots. We used cardboard to layer them and then we painted and decorated them to look even more interesting and metallic.

## Year 2

In History, we have been learning about our local history. We have learnt about two historically significant people who lived at Strawberry Hill House - Horace Walpole and Lady Waldegrave.



In Maths, we have been practising our multiplication and division facts for 2s, 5s and 10 times tables.



In English, we have been writing instructions on how to operate robots that we designed ourselves. This was a cross-curricular activity as it linked to our topic of Inventions and in computing sessions, we created ebooks and typed our instructions into neat to create a robot manual.



In Design and Technology, we continued with our inventions and robot theme. We carefully designed and created our own moving pictures which included different mechanisms such as levers, sliders, pivots and flaps.



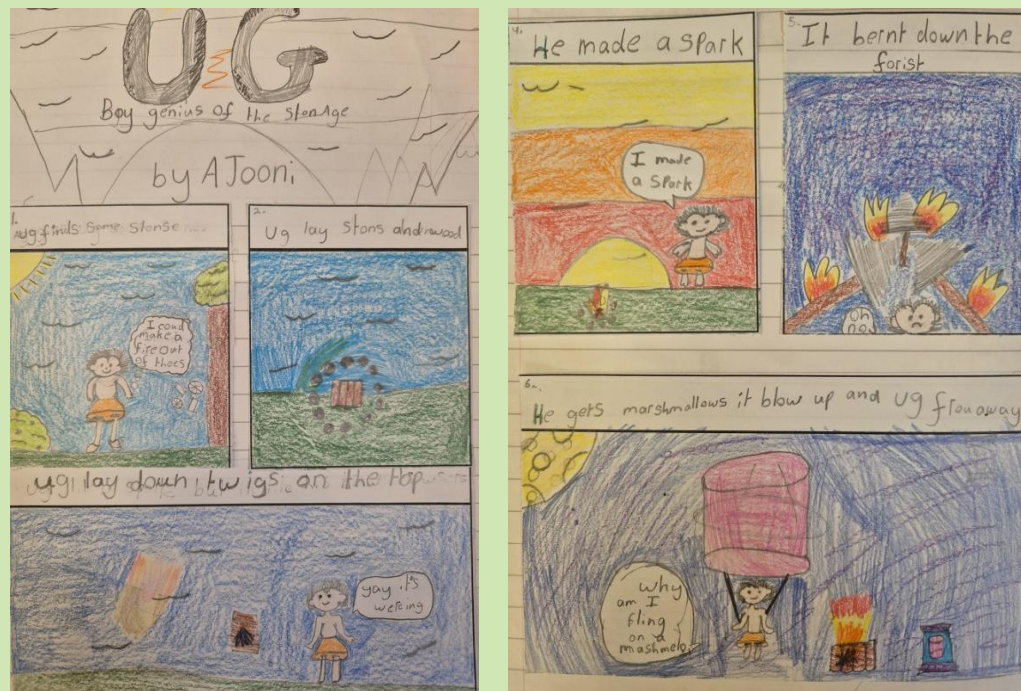
In Science we have been studying materials and their properties and carried out an investigation to test which materials are waterproof and therefore best suited to make raincoats for our class pets!

We have had a fabulous start to 2026! Here's a small sample of our Spring 1 half term learning:

Year 3

## English

The children have created some fabulous comic strips based on our text UG (The Stone Age genius). They impressed us with their skills and imagination for this activity. Plenty of humour and a few intended anachronisms!



## Art

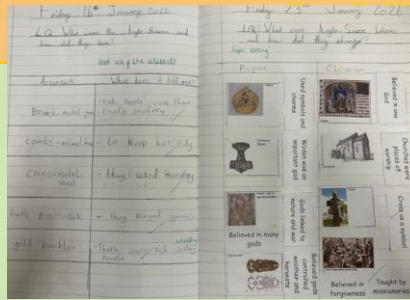
We have been exploring watercolour painting and weaving designs this half term. We combined the two mediums to create some lovely results.



# Year 4

Year 4 have had a brilliant start to 2026 and have been fully immersed in a range of different topics across our curriculum! Here's a snippet of our Spring 1 half term learning:

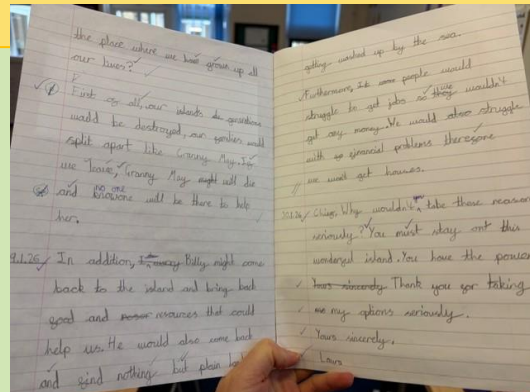
In History this half term we have been learning all about the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings! We have looked at artefacts and read first-hand accounts from the time.



In Science, we have been investigating how sound travels and how we hear it. The children enjoyed making string telephones to communicate sounds over longer distances. We also investigated pitch using instruments and making pipes from straws!



In Writing, we have been inspired by our text, "The Wreck of the Zanzibar" by Michael Morpurgo, to write a persuasive letter asking the chief of the island to stay, rather than leave after a devastating storm. The children used rhetorical questions, emotive language and a little bit of flattery to see if they could change his mind!



In RW we have been studying Sikhism. We have learnt all about Sikh ceremonies, Gurus and we even got to take a trip to a local Gurdwara!



Year 5

# Tudor Day



The children took part in an engaging History workshop, Horrible Hampton. They also enjoyed a Tudor banquet and made their own Tudor Rose. A great day was had by all!



# Year 6

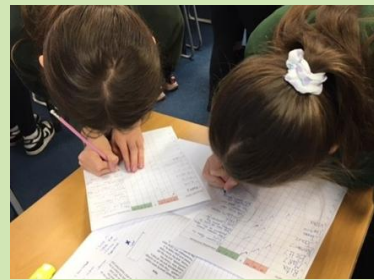
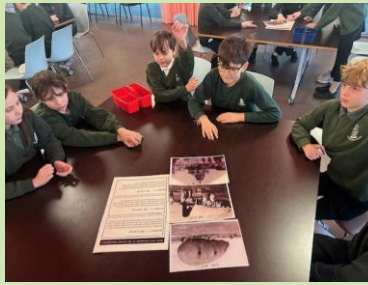
Happy 2026 everyone! Here is a snippet of what Year 6 have been up to this Spring 1 half term!

## History

We have been learning about life on the home front during WWII; we have explored evacuee recounts, created our own representative mini-museums full of artefacts and researched The Blitz.

## Science

In our Science lessons we have been studying evolution and inheritance; we took part in an experiment using different materials and seeds to see how, and why, birds' beaks have adapted and changed over time.



## Our trip to the National Archives at Kew



As part of our History learning, we also had the opportunity to visit the National Archives at Kew.

We took part in an insightful and informative propaganda workshop, where we looked at different artefacts from WWII, questioned the validity of sources and learnt the importance of record keeping.



# Music Opportunities

For Parents

## Spring Sounds

Is a free day of music fun on **Sunday, March 22, 2026 (10am–5:30pm)** at **Kingston University's Town House!** Try instruments, join workshops like gamelan or video game composing, enjoy talks and performances – all ages welcome, no experience needed. It's relaxed, drop-in style with family zones. Register free for entry and updates (workshops limited). Supported by Arts Council England and Kingston Music Service. Children must be accompanied.

More details and booking:  
[springsounds.co.uk](https://springsounds.co.uk)

# SPRING SOUNDS

Free Entry

Town House, Kingston University  
**22 March, 10am-5pm**

Workshops - Talks - Performances - Tasters  
Try an instrument - Stalls - Presentations  
**Music activities for ALL ages & abilities**



For more  
information  
scan this



Kingston  
  
MUSIC  
Service

Kingston  
University  
London

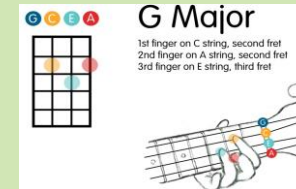
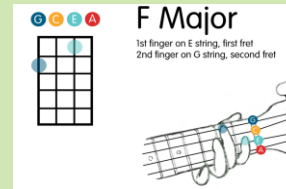
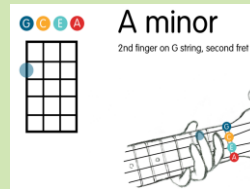
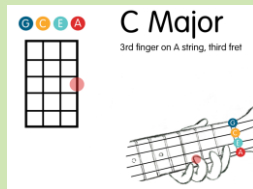
  
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KINGSTON  
UPON THAMES

  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

# Music KS2

All the children across KS2 have had lots of fun playing Ukulele this term. They learned the different parts of the instrument and how to hold it properly. They enjoyed learning strumming patterns and how to carefully pluck the strings. It was tricky playing chords but we tried hard with these:



It was great fun learning 'Latin Dance' and playing along to some famous pop hits!



We enjoyed investigating Garage Band on the ipads, focusing on the variety of instrument sounds, playing drum kits and using bows on instruments from the string family.

KS2 sang some uplifting songs to start the new year and during Children's Mental Health week listened to some meditative music. We are looking forward to preparing the choir for the Singing Festival, which we will be taking a small group to in May.



### Sports Round-Up

We've had a very busy and exciting time in school sports!

Our Year 3 and 4 girls took part in their football tournaments and played brilliantly. They showed great effort, teamwork and a positive attitude in every game.

We also had 8 pupils take part in the South London Table Tennis Championships. With our girls' team doing so well that they made it through to the Team London Championships! With a special congratulations to Kiki, who has earned a place in the Individual London Championships. We are very proud of her achievement.

Year 5 enjoyed a fun and energetic Dodgeball Championship. Everyone played with enthusiasm and supported each other throughout the day.

We've also had lots of netball, boys' football, and girls' football matches recently. The children have worked hard, improved their skills and represented the school wonderfully.

A big well done to all our pupils—you've made us very proud!



# Community

## Ukrainian Social Club

We are writing to warmly invite you to attend our annual event, Evening of Invincibility, marking the Forth Anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

This year's [programme](#) has been prepared by Ukrainian and British artists, actors, musicians, and poets. It will include the play I Want to Go Home by Ukrainian playwright Oksana Savchenko, performed in English by the renowned British actress Kristin Milward, as well as a short performance based on contemporary Ukrainian poetry, translated into English and presented by a group of London-based Ukrainian actors and musicians.

The event will take place on **Tuesday, 24 February, at 6:30 pm at Duke Street Church, Richmond.**

It would be a great honor if you could join us for this important evening of remembrance, resilience, and hope, and your presence will make a great deal to our community.

With best wishes,  
Maria Kurianova and Alina Luts  
Founders&Directors  
Ukrainian Social Club CIO

## EVENING OF INVINCIBILITY

TUESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY  
6.30 PM



FREE TICKETS:



Ukrainian and British artists – actors, musicians,  
and poets – in a powerful evening of art,  
reflection, and solidarity

DUKE STREET CHURCH, RICHMOND, TW9 1DH

# Y3: Los animales/ The animals

Adivina qué soy/ Guess what I am

Soy un mono/ I am a monkey



1- soy un mono

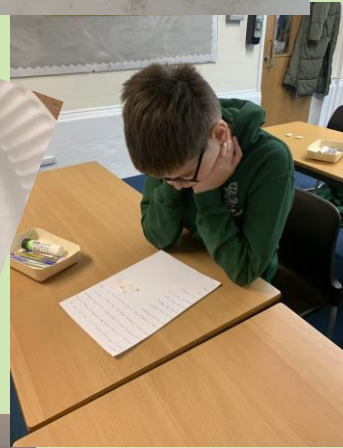
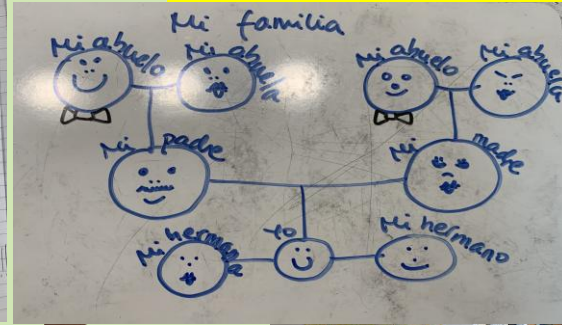
2- Copia en español/ Copy in Spanish

Soy una vaca: soy una vaca  
Soy un caballo: soy un caballo  
Soy un conejo: soy un conejo

# Y4: La cara/ The face



# Y5: La familia/ The family



# Y6: Hemos recibido y escrito las cartas para nuestros amigos españoles/ We received and wrote the letters for our Spanish penpals!

