



Trafalgar Schools' Federation



Sarah Keefe, Headteacher

## Golden Newsletter

Spring 2 2026



Sophie Riley, Chair of Governors

### HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

As we reach the end of another wonderful half term at Trafalgar, we want to wish you a **Happy Easter to all our families celebrating, and a belated Happy Eid to those who marked this special occasion recently.** We are so fortunate to be part of such a diverse and vibrant school community.

Although this has been a shorter half term, you'll see from the pages of this newsletter just how much exciting learning has taken place across the school. Our inspiring curriculum has been buzzing with activity, and the children have been enthusiastic and active in their learning.

As we head into the Easter break, we'd love you to encourage your children to:

 **Read lots!** Whether it's bedtime stories, comics, or chapter books, every bit of reading helps develop their love of literature and supports their learning.

 **Keep practising their handwriting** – following on from our fantastic Golden Handwriting Week, please encourage your child to continue forming their letters carefully. Even a few minutes each day makes a real difference!

Finally, thank you to our dedicated PTA helpers, our class reps and to you all for your continued support. We hope you all enjoy a restful and happy holiday with your families.

### Safeguarding Audit Survey

We had our postponed Safeguarding Audit on Monday. Our staff and children shared their views and we would love to hear your views.

Attached is a short survey that will be shared directly with our auditor, Emma Clarke. Your honest responses will help us identify what we're doing well and where we can improve our safeguarding practices.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsOezvZv4RYZyOZoPkc5EzK\\_fdW3IBVT8q\\_tiu5cd18xPTRg/viewform?usp=publish-editor](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsOezvZv4RYZyOZoPkc5EzK_fdW3IBVT8q_tiu5cd18xPTRg/viewform?usp=publish-editor)

Your voice matters in helping us create the safest possible environment for all our children. We really value your input and thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the survey.

**EARTH DAY** – Friday 24th April 3-6pm.  
Whole School Event at Meadway  
Gardening, Recycling, Cakes and Competitions

### Reminders

School starts back on **Monday 13 April**

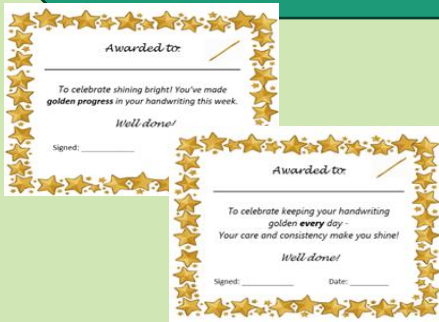
# Golden Handwriting Week 2026

In our Golden Handwriting week, every class explored why handwriting still matters, how we can present our ideas clearly, and how small improvements in writing can make such a difference!

In Y1 and Y2, we practiced our fine motor skills including cutting and threading every day.



Children in each class were awarded special certificates to celebrate progress and consistency.



Careful, clear handwriting was seen in all our KS2 classes, from Y3 to Y6. Well done!

In Reception we tried out some new writing warm-up activities.

In Y6, we also enjoyed experimenting with different fonts and styles.



# Voice 21 – Oracy Project

Mrs Hunt and Miss Pembrey



Physical – Using My Voice & Body  
Linguistic – Using the right words  
Cognitive – Thinking while I talk  
Social and Emotional – Working with others



***Voice 21** is built on the belief that **oracy**—the ability to speak and listen well—is just as important as reading, writing, and maths. Strong oracy skills help children learn more effectively, build positive relationships, and develop confidence that will support them throughout their lives.*

- To guide this work, Voice 21 uses four key strands of oracy: Physical, Linguistic, Cognitive and Social and Emotional.
- To help embed these skills across the school, after Easter we will be sharing the **Question of the Week (seen in the weekly newsletter)** with the children in class. Each class will spend time discussing the question together, practicing the oracy skills linked to the four strands.
- These questions will be open-ended and thought-provoking—for example: “*Is it more important to be kind or to be honest?*” “*What makes someone a good friend?*”
- We would love it if you could continue these conversations at home. Even a short chat at the dinner table or before bedtime can make a real difference. When children talk about ideas in different settings, they deepen their thinking and grow in confidence.
- Thank you for your support as we help our pupils become thoughtful speakers, active listeners, and confident communicators. We look forward to sharing their progress with you.

# Reception

Here are just some of the exciting things we have done during Spring 2:

In PE, we have been practising our balancing skills.

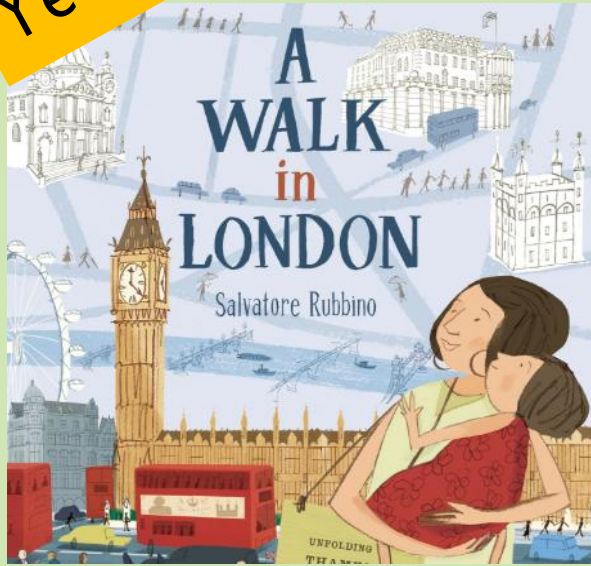


We went on a walk to look for signs of Spring!



We have been loving our new mud kitchen and digging area!

Year 1



We read 'A Walk in London' and learnt all about some of the landmarks in the city centre. We then used this as inspiration to write our own postcards. It's not too late to send a postcard into school if you haven't already. Thank you so much to those who have!



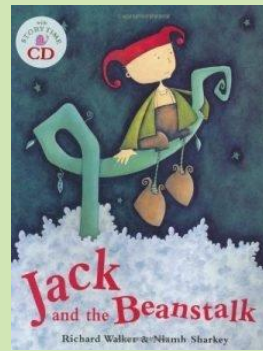
In Maths we have been learning how to measure with objects as well as using rulers and centimeters.

We worked hard on our Georgia O'Keeffe art! Thank you to everyone who came to the art gallery to see them on display.

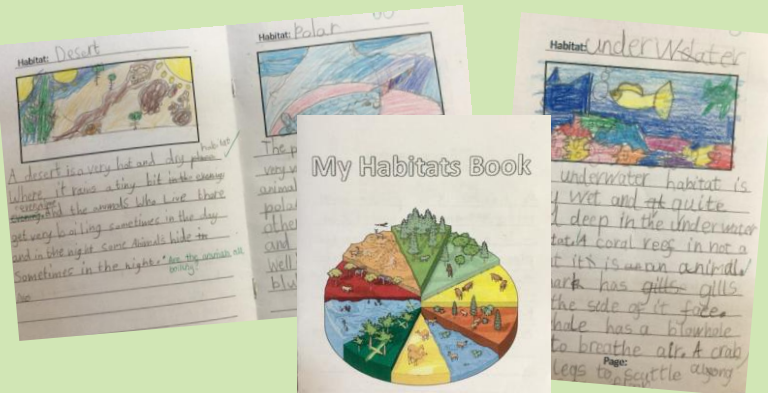
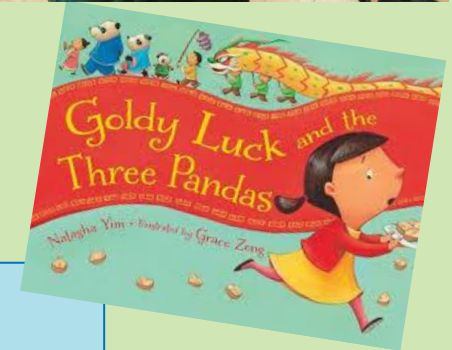


Year 2

As part of learning about our local history, we visited Strawberry Hill House and had lots of fun. We learned about the history of the house, dressed up in period costumes and designed our own coat of arms on treasure chests!

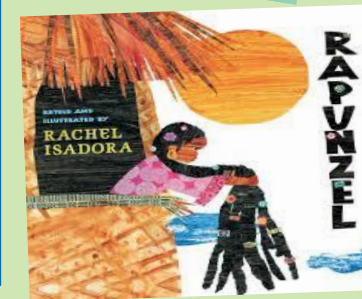


In English we have been studying Jack and the Beanstalk. We have retold the stories but changed the settings. The children have been very busy using ambitious vocabulary and expanded noun phrases to make it an interesting read. To celebrate our final piece, we had story time as a year group and shared our work.



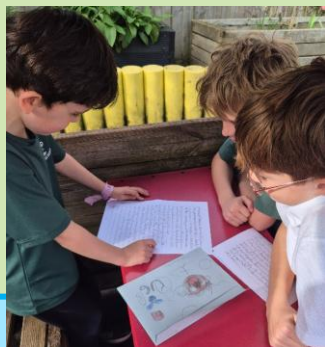
In Science, we have been looking at different habitats. We have researched which animals live in different habitats, what the weather is like and where these habitats are located.

In D&T, we thoroughly enjoyed our project on sewing puppets. We chose fairytale characters from different cultures to base our puppets on. We practiced sewing with running stitch and blanket stitch.



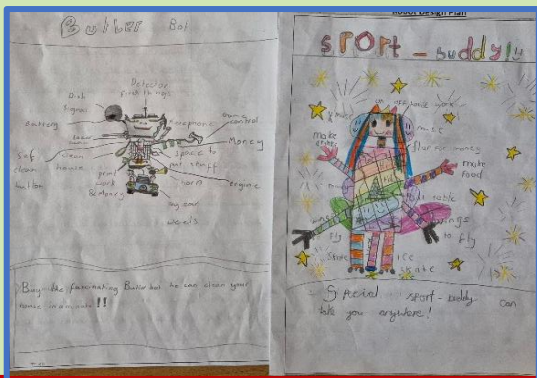
Year 3

Spring 2 has been very exciting! Here's a small sample of our Spring 2 half term learning:



## English

The children finally shared their persuasive letters with Y6 buddies, which they all enjoyed immensely!



## Galleries and exhibitions!

We visited Orleans House Gallery with a quick stop to admire the work in the Stables Gallery. In the workshop we looked at line and texture and created a print by rolling inked work through a printing press. Year 3 also contributed work to the exhibition in Kingston (see later slide!).



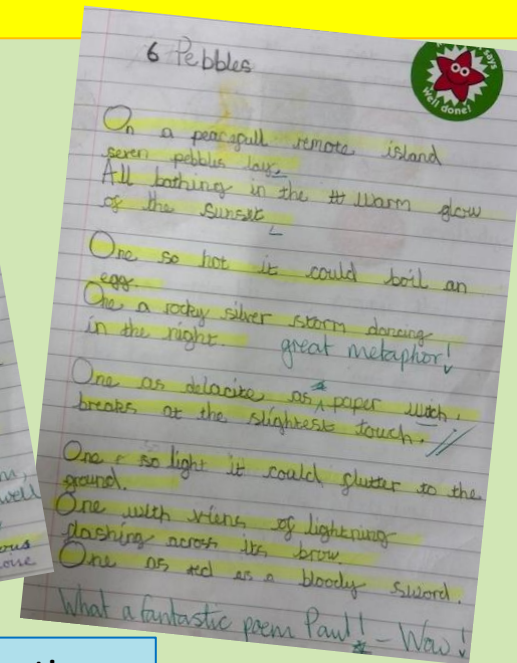
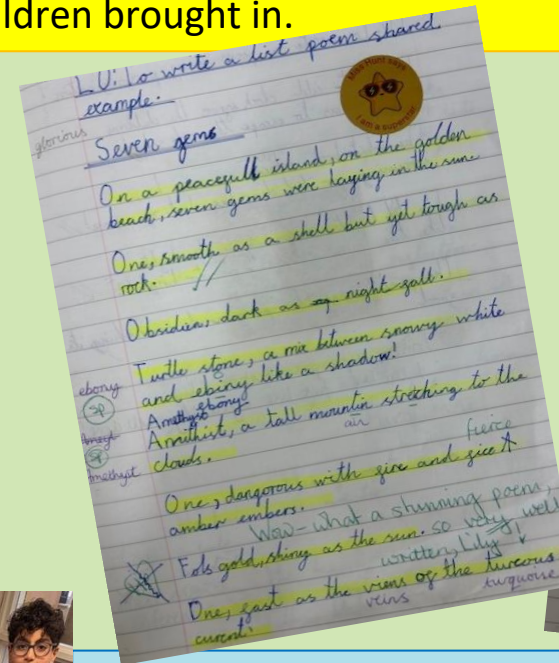
# Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic half term! We have learnt about different topics across all our curriculum. Here's a snippet of our Spring 2 half term's learning:

In Science we have been learning all about teeth and digestion. We had a nurse visit to discuss oral hygiene, compared the teeth of different animals and discussed why they might be different dependent on whether they were a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore. We even got hands-on, recreating the journey of food through the human digestive system!



In English, we wrote some fantastic poems in different styles using figurative language. We were inspired by a nature trip to Meadway and some rather beautiful pebbles that the children brought in.



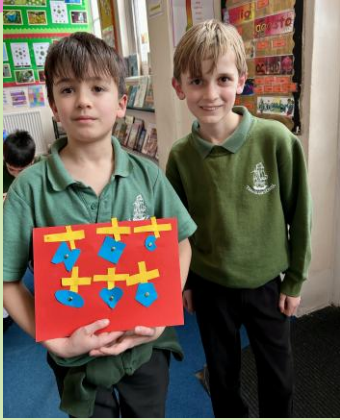
In D&T we have been adapting our own biscuit recipes. We experimented with flavours and textures by adding & substituting ingredients. All to impress the taste testers (different Trafalgar Staff!) who judged our final products!



# Year 5

It's been a super exciting half term in Year 5, that has seen ducklings hatch, a class assembly from 5AJ, a trip to St Michael's Church to learn about the Easter story and learning about cams in DT! We'll all need our Easter break to catch our breath!

In Design and technology, Year 5 have been researching cam mechanisms, ready to make their moving toys in the summer term. They created cardboard models to show a variety of different cams.



In Science, we have learning all about life cycles. It was a real hands-on learning experience with the ducklings.



In English, it's been all about description; we've written descriptive poems about the moon and a fairytale based on The Firebird.



In Religion and Worldviews, we've been learning about Creation stories from different faiths. Year 5 also made a trip to St Michael's Church, where they watched a dramatic retelling of the Easter story.

In geography, we have been learning about Europe, including mapping skills, tourism and migration.



# Year 6

What a busy half-term of learning it has been!

The culmination of our **Second World War** topic in **History**, gave the children a chance to review all that they had learnt. Year 6 took part in a fantastic, immersive production by **The Rainbow Theatre**, ending with a rousing performance of 'We'll Meet Again' and 'The Lambeth Walk'!

In **English**, we have been exploring ambition, murder and madness in *William Shakespeare's Macbeth*. The children have used drama to help explore and understand the language involved and the characters' motivations. They have written internal monologues, letters in role and a character analysis of Lady Macbeth, before writing speeches to defend Macbeth, using highly formal language.



In **Design and Technology**, the children have worked in small groups to create and code their own **virtual pets**, using **micro:bits** to allow their pets to react and express emotions – we have been so impressed by the creative designs, clever ideas and coding skills.



During our **Science** lessons, Y6 have further developed their knowledge of working scientifically by carrying out experiments with **electrical circuits** using data loggers. They have been applying their knowledge of circuits practically by **designing and building** electrical quiz games.



# The Big Art and D&T Exhibition

curated by St. Mary's University for the Festival of Creativity.



Trafalgar School was delighted to take part in *St Mary's Festival of Creativity*, showcasing their work in the Big Art & D&T Exhibition in a gallery in Kingston. Across year groups, children explored a wide range of artistic and design techniques, from drawing, painting and printmaking to mixed media. They were encouraged to experiment with materials, develop their skills and express their ideas with increasing confidence.

The exhibition was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the creativity, effort and progress of all pupils. It highlighted not only the high quality of their finished pieces, but also their enthusiasm and willingness to take creative risks. We are incredibly proud of the children's achievements and the way they represented Trafalgar School so positively.



### Spring 2 Sports Events @ Trafalgar Junior School

This term has been an exciting one for sport at Trafalgar Junior School, with children taking part in a fantastic range of borough events. Our swimmers represented the school brilliantly at the Richmond Borough Swimming Gala, showing great effort, teamwork and confidence in every race.

We were also very proud of our NFL Flag team, who performed superbly at the Richmond Borough Championships and secured an impressive **2nd place**. The team played with real determination and supported each other throughout the tournament.

Our netball squad had a great experience too, with lots of enthusiastic Year 5 players joining the team for the Richmond Borough Netball Championships. They played with energy, skill and wonderful sportsmanship, helping to make it a positive and memorable event for everyone involved.

It's been a fantastic term of sport—well done to all our pupils who took part and represented Trafalgar so brilliantly!



# KS2 Music



This term **Year 3** and **4** have been enjoying playing pentatonic music using xylophones and metallophones. They were inspired by the Chinese New Year celebrations and 'White Snow in Sunny Spring'; a beautiful piece of music played on a pipa.



*p*  $\leq$  *f*

**Year 5** have studied 'The Planets' by Gustav Holst this term. This has linked beautifully with their Space topic. They have focused on the use of dynamics and tempo in each of the different movements in 'The Planets'. We focused on 'Mars' and how the relentless ostinato continues throughout the piece. It has 5 beats, which is unusual. We even discussed Star Wars and how John Williams must have been inspired by 'Mars' as 'The Imperial War March' sounds very similar.



**Year 6** have been playing keyboards, ukeleles and boomwhackers this term! They had a go at playing simple 12 bar blues chords. We discussed morale boosting music of the war years performed by Vera Lynn and, the Big Band/ Swing music that was popular too.



Also this half term **Year 3** and **Year 4** have been musically travelling to **Africa** and **Brazil**. Year 3 have had lots of fun learning Djembe Drumming patterns and singing traditional African songs. Year 4 have been in the carnival spirit playing Samba rhythms.



# MUSIC – INSTRUMENTAL ASSEMBLIES

We have been so proud of all the instrumentalists and vocalists that have performed for us this term in our special year group assemblies. It's been wonderful to see a wide range of instruments being played and to share in the children's musical journey. To see such confidence and courage from the children during their performances was inspiring. The children across the school was so enthusiastic about the music they heard. Thank you so much to all those children who volunteered to take part!



# Community

EASTER BUNNY and raffle

PTA - Family Circus Show

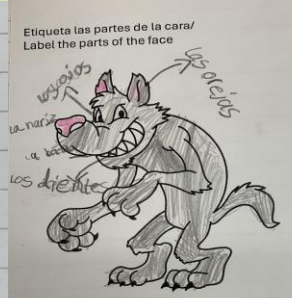
Thank you to the PTA who have raised £1,200 this week!



Y3: Caperucita Roja/ Little Red Riding Hood



Etiqueta las partes de la cara/  
Label the parts of the face



La cara      The face

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Los ojos    |  |
| Los dientes |  |
| Las orejas  |  |
| La boca     |  |
| La nariz    |  |

Caperucita Roja

Copia en español/ Copy in Spanish

La abuela  
*la abuela*



El lobo  
*el lobo*



La caperucita roja  
*la caperucita roja*

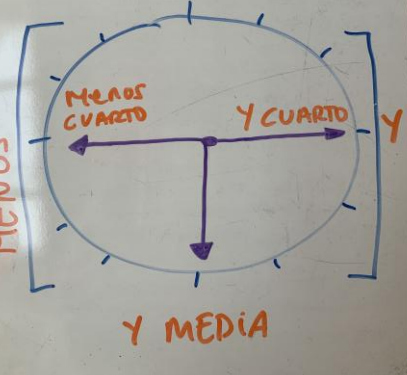


1- Rojo  
2- Marrón  
3- Azul  
4- Gris  
5- Rosa

¡Excelente, Nueva!

Y6: La hora/ The time: Es la una. Son las tres

EL RELOJ  
¿Qué hora es?



Es la una.  
Son las dos.  
Son las tres y cuarto.  
Son las ocho menos cuarto.  
Son las seis y media.  
Son las nueve y diez.

Escribir el cuento/ To write the tale

Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Fill in the gaps to complete each stage of the story. Use each word bank to help you.



1. Había una vez una niña que se llamaba *Caperucita Roja*.

WORD BANK: *Caperucita Roja*



2. Vivía con sus *padres* en *una casa* un *bosque*.

WORD BANK: *padres, una casa, un bosque*



3. Un día Caperucita Roja preparó *unos pasteles* para su *abuela* que estaba enferma.

WORD BANK: *unos pasteles, abuela*



4. *Caperucita Roja* decidió visitar a su *abuela* y de camino a casa de ella, se encontró con un *lobo*.

WORD BANK: *Caperucita Roja, abuela, casa, lobo*



5. El *lobo* fue a ver a la *abuela* vestida de *Caperucita Roja*.

WORD BANK: *El lobo, la abuela, Caperucita Roja*



6. El *lobo* al llegar a la *casa*, se comió a la *abuela*.

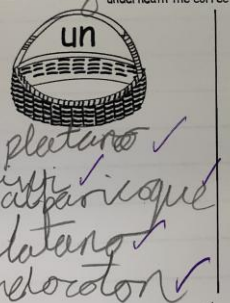
WORD BANK: *El lobo, la casa, la abuela*

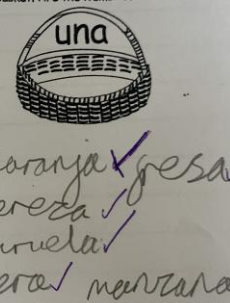
Partes de la cara/ Parts of the face

Y4: La fruta/ The fruits: Me gustan las/ los... (I like...)

Nombre: *Burnby*

INSTRUCTIONS: Draw and label in Spanish the words for the fruits underneath the correct shopping basket. Are the items "UN" or "UNA"?

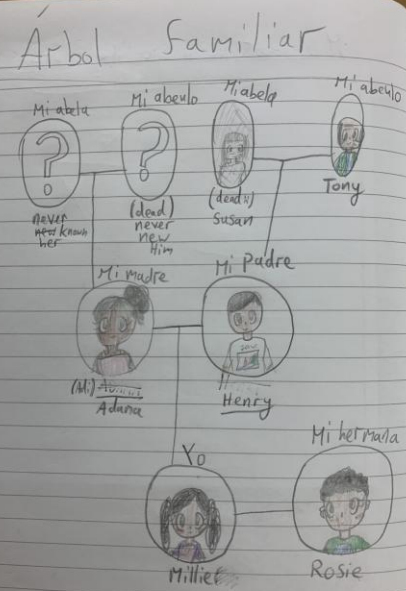




WORD BANK: *naranja, kiwi, platano, albaricoque, pera, ciruela, melocoton, fresa, manzana*

Y5: La familia/ The family: Mi madre se llama Marta y tiene cuarenta y dos años/ My mum is called Martha and she is forty years old

Árbol Familiar



Miércoles Veinticinco de Marzo

Nombre: *Millie*

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the Spanish numbers using the Word Bank to help you.

|     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 10  | <i>diez</i>      |
| 20  | <i>veinte</i>    |
| 30  | <i>treinta</i>   |
| 40  | <i>cuarenta</i>  |
| 50  | <i>cincuenta</i> |
| 60  | <i>sesenta</i>   |
| 70  | <i>setenta</i>   |
| 80  | <i>ochenta</i>   |
| 90  | <i>noventa</i>   |
| 100 | <i>cien</i>      |

WORD BANK: *diez, sesenta, treinta, ochenta, veinte, cincuenta, setenta, cuarenta, cien, noventa*