



Newsletter

Summer Term – 10 July 2026



Do you think a pet feels the same kind of happiness as a child does? Why or why not?

Holiday Home for Reception's Guinea Pig & Rabbit

We need a home for our guinea pig and the rabbit over the summer holidays. Either the full 6 weeks or the care could be taken in turns. All their food, cage, equipment and so on will be provided. Please email or call the office (info@trafalgarfederation.org.uk) if you can have them. Many thanks!

Bring a Bag for Books

Children's books will be given to take home on Thursday 16th and Fri 17th of July so please bring bags to carry them in as there will be a lot. Thank you!

Digital Wellbeing Workshop

It was great to 'see' so many of you at the Digital Wellbeing Workshop last night. We will be sharing more information in next week's Golden Newsletter.



Great British Summer Savings – Help Your Family Enjoy More for Less This Summer!

Save money on family fun this summer

From **25 June to 1 September 2026**, the government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on:

- **Children's meals** in restaurants
- **Children and family tickets** to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions

- **Admission** to a wide range of attractions

Combined with **free bus travel during August** for children aged 5 to 15 in England, your family can enjoy experiences that make summer special.

Find participating venues near you

Visit **summersavings.gov.uk** and type in your postcode to find participating venues in your area. Make the most of these savings and create special summer memories with your family!

Wellbeing Spaces – Donations needed!

We are setting up multiple cabins (we are a ship after all!) around school and we need your quality donations to make them feel homely. Over the summer, please keep us in mind and set aside any of the following ready for September:

- Armchairs
- Bean bags
- Table lamps
- Coffee tables
- Patchwork quilts, throws, blankets
- Scatter cushions
- Fairy lights
- Board games
- Artificial plants
- Indoor tents
- Rugs to zone areas

Please contact Melanie Brown, SENCO, directly at the beginning of September if you have any of the above items to donate: mbrown@trafalgarfederation.org.uk.

Many thanks for your help!



School Meals Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent Caterlink school meals survey and we appreciate you taking the time to share your views. (There was a total of 18 surveys completed across the school sites so this is only a small representation of our school community.) The positive uptake was also noted - 81.8% of the students have a hot meal each day. This is above the borough average of 78.5%.

What parents and pupils fed back:

The feedback highlighted a number of positive aspects:

- There is a positive indication of the food, that 81.8% of the students have a hot meal each day. This is above the borough average of 78.5%
- Many children reported that serving staff are friendly and welcoming.
- Most children felt the dining areas were clean and tidy.
- Most children said they had enough time to eat their lunch.
- Most respondents indicated that water was readily available.

However, a few concerns emerged:

Food quality and taste

Many respondents felt that:

- Food was sometimes overcooked, bland or not served at the correct temperature.
- Some menu combinations were unpopular with children.

Portion sizes

A few families reported that:

- Portion sizes were too small.
- Some children were still hungry at the end of the day.

Choice and availability

A recurring theme was:

- Children not always receiving their first-choice meal or dessert. (On occasions some options ran out and so an alternative was substituted.)
- Requests for a wider variety of meals.

A few responses noted:

- Bread was not always available despite being listed on the menu.
- Salad bar availability appeared inconsistent.

Suggestions from families

Parents and pupils suggested:

- More pasta dishes.
- Chicken pasta, chicken wraps, rice dishes and paninis are popular
- Greater variety on menus including vegetarian and vegan choices.
- Improved portion sizes.
- Hotter meals and fresher food.

What happens next?

We will continue to work closely with Caterlink and feedback children's preferences and any issues which arise following our regular monitoring.

We remain committed to working with Caterlink to ensure that children receive nutritious, enjoyable meals that they are happy to eat.

Clubs Provision and Pricing Update

We have received a few comments and questions regarding the changes to our clubs provision and the increase in prices for the next academic year. We would like to thank parents for taking the time to share their views and concerns with us. We recognise that many families rely on school clubs not only for enrichment opportunities but also to support childcare arrangements, and we understand that any increase in cost can have an impact.

As part of our review of clubs provision, we undertook careful due diligence to ensure that we continue to offer a high-quality, sustainable service for our children both in school and during clubs. This included benchmarking the new provider's charges against a range of local sports providers and comparable services. Our review found that the pricing is in line with, and in some cases compares favourably to, similar professionally delivered sports provision available locally.

When considering the overall cost of clubs, it is important to recognise that there are significant costs involved beyond the delivery of the session itself. We are committed to ensuring that staff who run clubs are fairly paid for the additional hours they work before and after the school day. We also invest in essential training and support, including safeguarding training, first aid certification, and ongoing professional development. In addition, there are administrative costs involved in organising and managing clubs, communicating with families, maintaining registers, and ensuring appropriate supervision arrangements are in place. All of these measures are vital to safeguarding the safety, wellbeing and overall experience of the children who attend.

We appreciate that the increase in fees is disappointing for some families, particularly during a time when many households are facing financial pressures. However, schools across the country continue to face significant budget challenges. Like many schools, we are experiencing a falling pupil roll, which has reduced the funding available to us. As a result, we are no longer able to subsidise clubs provision from the school's core budget at the level we have in previous years without impacting other areas of school provision. We do run free clubs such as Choir and drop-in lunchtime clubs like table tennis and chess club.

Our priority has been to ensure that we can continue to offer a wide range of high-quality clubs while maintaining the standards of care, safety and staffing that our children deserve. Although this has resulted in increased costs, we believe it is the most sustainable way of protecting and enhancing the opportunities available to children in the longer term.

We remain committed to listening to feedback from families and will continue to review our provision to ensure it meets the needs of our children and school community. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

DATES

FORTHCOMING FEDERATION EVENTS			
Please note these dates may be subject to change			
DATE	YEAR GROUP	EVENT	
Fri 10 July	All	End of Year Reports to parents	
Fri 17 July	All	Last Day of Term	

EYFS and KS1 DATES**KS2 DATES**

Thurs 16 July	Y5/6	Sports Day 9.30 - 12.30
Fri 17 th July	Year 6	Leavers assembly –

COMMUNITY

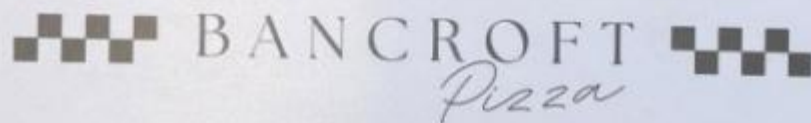


Earthquake Appeal

We were deeply saddened to read about the devastation caused by the earthquakes in Venezuela and the immense suffering being experienced by so many families and communities. One of our parents, who is from Venezuela, has organised a fundraising page.

Please see the link below:

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/qr/6ymdpr9n?utm_campaign=sharemodal&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=shortlink



SUNDAYS ARE FOR PIZZA

**FRESH STONE-BAKED PIZZAS
SERVED EVERY SUNDAY.
HANDMADE DOUGH • FINEST
INGREDIENTS • COOKED TO ORDER**

2:00PM - 5:30PM*

@ THE RIFLEMAN, TWICKENHAM

*** No service Sunday July 19th**

**GRAB A PINT, GATHER WITH
FRIENDS AND ENJOY
AUTHENTIC PIZZA**



Follow @bancroft.pizza
for updates



Bancroft Pizza will be serving delicious, freshly made pizzas in the sunny garden at the rear of The Rifleman, Twickenham, every Sunday throughout the summer from 2:00pm until approximately 5:00pm (excluding 19th July)

DREAMCATCHER
FILM CAMP

MAKE A FILM IN 5 DAYS

JULY/AUGUST 2026 | AGES 9-18 IN AGE APPROPRIATE GROUPS

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY, TWICKENHAM

Lights. Camera. Action!
Make your film + exclusive industry masterclasses.

CREATE YOUR FILM

- Write & Act
- Direct & Shoot
- Edit & Watch Film

WHAT YOU'LL GAIN

- Confidence Boost
- Hands-On Filmmaking
- Finished Short Film

EXTRA: INDUSTRY MASTERCLASS

- Explore Industry Pathways | Master Essential Soft Skills | Gain Insider Tips & Connections

MONDAY- FRIDAY | SUMMER 2026
BOOK YOUR PLACE

www.dreamcatcherfilmcamp.com
contact@dreamcatcherfilmcamp.com

Summer Filmmaking Camp at St Mary's University, Twickenham (Ages 9+)

Looking for an exciting creative activity for your child this summer? Dreamcatcher Film Camp is running its popular, hands-on filmmaking weeks throughout July and August on the **St Mary's University** campus. Perfect for ages 9 and up, children work in small groups to write, act, direct, and edit their own short films alongside friendly industry professionals. This summer includes a new masterclass on building confidence, presentation, and collaboration skills. Spaces are limited. For dates, details, and booking, visit Dreamcatcher Film Camp Twickenham.

BARRACUDAS

ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN **2025!**
EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT

USE CODE **SCHOOL20** FOR AN
EXTRA £20 OFF YOUR BOOKING!

*Minimum 2 days. *Not to be used in conjunction with other offer codes

- ⦿ 4 to 14 year olds!
- ⦿ 80+ Activities!
- ⦿ Choice each session!
- ⦿ Specialist Courses!
- ⦿ Flexible bookings!



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