



Parent and carer newsletter

July 2026

Welcome from the Head of College

Dear Families,

We've come to the end of the summer term and as you know this is my last newsletter to you before I move on to pastures new.

I've loved my time at Treloar's and it's not often you get to say you've enjoyed every day at work! Treloar's truly is a remarkable place and it has been a privilege to lead the college. I've learnt a huge amount from the staff and from you all.



But the best part obviously is our students. Their progress and tenacity has been the greatest joy to be a small part of.

The activities in these pages are a testament to the wonderful things that happen here every day and the progress all our students make.

A huge thank you to you all for your support for the work we do and being a part of the Treloar's community.

I wish you all an enjoyable summer and the best of luck for the future. I will miss Treloar's but I know it will continue to do wonderful things because of the amazing students.

All the best,

Ben Bastin
Head of College



<u>Dates for your diary</u>	Autumn Term 2026
Tuesday 1 – Monday 7 September	Professional Development and Preparation Days for all staff (5 days)
Tuesday 8 September	Start of half term 1 Residential and Day students return directly to college at 9.00 am. Staggered start dates for NEW students
Friday 23 October	End of half term 1 College closes 3.30 pm Houses close at 3.30 pm
Monday 26 – Friday 30 October	Half term holiday for staff and students
Sunday 1 November	Weekend residential students return to houses 2.00 pm onwards
Monday 2 November	Start of half term 2 Residential and day students return directly to college at 9.00 am.



Updates from Sally Nissen, Head of Nursing and Healthcare

Immunisations: In light of this year's flu and chickenpox outbreaks, please take the opportunity to review your young person's immunisation record and ensure that all recommended vaccinations are up to date: please speak with your GP if not. Please tell the Health Centre about any new immunisations so our records are up to date:
HCAdmin@treloar.org.uk #01420 547450

Emails to Health Centre Team: Our nurses and dietitians can receive 100s of emails each day. It helps us prioritise if your email subject heading shows the student's full name, and the main reason for emailing such as 'Paddington Bear weight gain.'



Heated and cold (ice) packs – updated policy: Hot Water Bottles are no longer permitted at Treloar's due to the unmanageable risks of burns. While Treloar's does not provide microwavable heat packs, students may provide their own for pain management. Even for these items, caution is required due to the risk of burns and injury, particularly for individuals with reduced mental capacity, reduced mobility, sensory impairment and reduced ability to respond quickly. Staff can apply heat packs as long as nurses have agreed and documented a care plan – and this may not be possible at short notice. Cold packs are available and may be initiated by nurses for acute injury only.

Changes to some prescribing arrangements for Farnham Dene patients: Farnham Dene has informed us that, following changes at Integrated Care Board (ICB) level, GPs will no longer prescribe bowel and continence products (excluding continence pads and medicines). Responsibility for prescribing has now transferred to the Surrey Appliance Prescription Management Service, provided by Bullen Healthcare, so our medicine team will no longer order or check stock levels.

To ensure your young person has the supplies they need while at school or college, we ask that deliveries are arranged to your home address and that sufficient supplies are sent in with them. As we do not yet have a clear system for monitoring individual stock levels, this will require your oversight – please liaise with your young person's team leader. Where possible, we would also appreciate families arranging a small amount of additional stock for the Health Centre so that we can maintain an emergency supply for your young person if needed.

Updates from Sally Nissen, Head of Nursing and Healthcare

We understand that Bullen will contact families regarding these changes. If you have any questions or concerns about prescriptions, deliveries, or supplies, please contact Bullen <https://www.bullens.com/>

Thank you for your support this term. We hope you all have a lovely summer.



Students gain experience at charity football tournament

The Exclusive Networks Football Tournament at Anstey Park on 21 May gave Treloar's students the chance to take part in meaningful work experience while supporting a successful fundraising event. With over 300 attendees, the day brought together businesses, teams and the local community

Students were involved throughout the event in a range of roles, including photography, content creation, guest registration and supporting engagement with businesses. Their contributions helped the day run smoothly while also highlighting the importance of accessibility in sport, including plans for a new accessible stand at Alton's football ground.

For many students, this was a valuable opportunity to develop skills, build confidence and experience a live event environment. One student described the day as "a lively scene", reflecting the busy and positive atmosphere.

Opportunities like this play an important role in preparing young people for the future while connecting them with employers and the wider community.



T Live Concert

College students enjoyed a wonderful end of term concert, T Live, put together by our Music Team.

Treloar's peripatetic teachers Oliver and Hayley worked with the students in lessons to produce amazing solo performances singing, playing the Arcana Strum and Clarion covering a whole range of styles. Confidence shone through and we want to congratulate all those that took part.



Treloar Fest 2026

On 25 June, College students celebrated their second Treloar Fest! Despite the hot weather outside, students and staff stayed cool indoors while enjoying a fantastic day of music, fun and summer festival spirit.

From musical performances by students, staff and a DJ to vibrant stalls featuring clothing, party accessories and candles—there was something for everyone!





Thank you to all the performers, and backstage crew for helping create this wonderful event. Overcoming nerves to perform for your peer group helps students build their confidence and find their voice, creating memories that last a lifetime.

Students shine for Treloar's Got Talent Final

In July, we saw the culmination of weeks of rehearsals, auditions and preparation for the Treloar's Got Talent final.

A firm favourite and stand-out event in the College calendar, Treloar's Got Talent is a highlight every summer. The panel of student judges, Ben, Elodie and Ella embraced their role, sharing praise and positivity with every performer. The event was hosted by a college student Ian.

The atmosphere in the hall was electric with anticipation, and it was wonderful to see all the support for the performers.

What performers said about Treloar's Got Talent:

"I love being on stage, I feel alive."

"I've gone from not being able to play a single song to being very confident in my abilities. I was extremely nervous, but I managed to hide it to the best of my ability. My hands were shaking like crazy. I'm really glad I did it, I really love performing. It's definitely something I want to do for the rest of my life."





A workshop with GB Para Fencing champion

As part of Health and Well-Being Week, students welcomed Vivien Mills, former Team GB Para Fencing champion for a workshop.

Para Fencing has been a Paralympic sport since Rome in 1960. Athletes compete while sitting in a wheelchair which is clamped to the piste using a metal frame. Beyond this, the sport is largely similar to its standing counterpart.

Viv brought in her fencing wheelchair and a range of fencing equipment for the students to try out. She demonstrated the three weapons, the Foil the Épée, and the Sabre, and described their histories and how they're used in competition. Each sword has its own weight, blade shape, target area and rules of engagement.

Viv supplied foam versions and lighter plastic versions to enable all the students to take part and have a go. The students wore face masks and chest protectors, to give them the full sensation of taking part in a dual. One student used his toes to grip the weapon.

The Sabre Trust aims to remove financial barriers to create more opportunities for disabled people to participate in fencing.

New partnership with Costa UK and the Costa Foundation

Treloar's students are taking the lead in developing our new partnership with the Costa Foundation.

Through a new project, Planting Possibilities, our college internship students are exploring ways in which we can increase participation in outdoor learning at Treloar's and are working together to develop future plans for our brilliant outdoor learning centre.

The Planting Possibilities project, funded by the Costa Foundation, aims to support all our students to develop practical skills, confidence and independence through gardening.

To find out more, visit our website: www.treloar.org.uk/news/2026/06/17/new-partnership-costa-uk-and-costa-foundation





Pawsome experience for college students

College students from the Skills for Life pathway have enjoyed special sessions with River the dog from Pets as Therapy charity.

The sessions with River have provided a calm, engaging and highly motivating experience for all of the students. Interaction with a well-trained dog can help reduce anxiety, promote relaxation and create a positive emotional atmosphere, which in turn supports readiness to learn.

For some students, it has encouraged communication skills whilst for others it has developed their independent physical skills as they were very motivated to stroke and feel River.





Prom time!

On Thursday 25 June, Treloar College students celebrated their prom night in style! We visited the residential houses to join in the fun and excitement as students prepared for the big event. There was glitter, makeup, shiny accessories and plenty of laughter in the air.

Thanks to our wonderful house staff, every student arrived at prom looking absolutely glamorous. It was a truly special evening to remember!

A big thank you to Flossie Bennett for years of organising proms—this year's prom was the last prom put together by Flossie, who after over 20 years of working at Treloar's is retiring.





College Sports Day

On this bright and sunny morning, Treloar College came alive with energy and excitement as we hosted our annual Sports Day on the 6-lane track!

Our incredible students gave it their all, supported every step of the way by our amazing team of student support assistants, tutors, therapists and nurses.

Thanks to their enthusiasm and teamwork, the event was a huge success—showcasing the vibrant spirit of sport and active lifestyle that runs throughout our campus.





Former student inspires College students with his transition success story

Former student, Dan, returned to Treloar's to join a transition session with the current college cohort, sharing his experiences of transition since leaving in July 2025.

Dan answered a wide range of questions from students, who found the session both engaging and inspiring. He spoke openly about the complexities of his own post Treloar's journey, explaining that it took time and perseverance to achieve the outcomes he wanted. He also highlighted the realities of transition and the importance of planning early, including developing a weekly plan and identifying the support required to make this successful.

Since leaving Treloar's, Dan has achieved a great deal:

- He has moved into his own property after successfully obtaining a mortgage and talked students through this process.
- He now has a full care package in

place and is an ambassador for a charity.

- In addition, he is heavily involved with his local council and undertakes both paid and voluntary work, particularly around accessibility and inclusion.

Dan is a passionate advocate for disability rights and also runs his own YouTube channel, using his platform to raise awareness and share his experiences. In June, he spoke at the NATSPEC annual conference, and shared his experiences of moving on from college to independent living.

For college students, it was an inspiring talk, and it was wonderful to see how well Dan is doing. His honesty, determination and achievements provided valuable insight and encouragement for our current students as they begin to plan for their own futures.

A huge thank you to Dan for giving his time to support the transition session, and to the transition team for helping to make it possible.

At Treloar's, transition starts from the moment a student arrives, it's recognised as a long-term process, rather than a single event. The Transition Team works alongside students, families and professionals from the point of entry into college through to life beyond Treloar's, ensuring that preparation for adulthood is purposeful, coordinated and centred on each young person's aspirations, strengths and needs. Dan's story is testament to the strength of this process.



Determination in every mile

When college student Ron received a new trike, it brought him so much joy. He loved getting out on it and quickly noticed he was becoming fitter and stronger with every ride.

After building his confidence and practising his triking skills, Ron decided to set himself an exciting challenge. Together with his physiotherapist, Melissa and tutor Hazel, he signed up to complete a half marathon cycling challenge, which he began in February 2026.

Over the past few months, Ron has been completing the challenge through his physiotherapy sessions and weekly class activities, while balancing college work, GCSE revision and exams, and work experience. His commitment and determination have been outstanding, triking through cold, wet weather and, more recently, some very hot days to reach his goal.

A special thank you also goes to his classmate, Ian, who has supported him throughout by keeping track of his accumulated distance and cheering him on every step of the way.

College interns thank their employers

On 15 July, our incredible Supported Interns welcomed professionals from local businesses who have been their mentors and employers over the past year.

These businesses—spanning aviation, automotive services, retail and more—opened their doors and gave our students real-world experience through meaningful internships.

Treloar's Supported Internship programme is a one-year programme designed for our young people who are preparing to take their next step into employment, self-employment, or voluntary work—part-time or full-time. These experiences are often transformative, helping our students to see what is possible and empowering them to pursue their ambitions.





Making travel more accessible

On a bright morning on 16 July, Let Me In Team visited the Watercress Line at Ropley. College students are working closely with the Hampshire heritage railway, sharing their ideas and expertise to help make the travel experience more inclusive and accessible for everyone.

The visit on Wednesday was focused on plans for a new accessible carriage, which is expected to be completed over the next 18 months.

A huge well done to the team for their contributions and excellent advice.



Farewell to college leavers

On 16 July, Treloar College students came together for our annual Leavers' Farewell, a special opportunity to celebrate memories and future aspirations.

Maria Mason Residential Manager of Brewer House, opened the event and then each student received a certificate from Ben Bastin, Head of College, in recognition of their time and achievements at Treloar's. They also met Fiona Sutherland, Former Students Coordinator, who will continue to keep in touch and support them as part of the Treloar's alumni community.

Students and their families will be invited back in December for our Leavers' Certificate Presentation event, where they will receive their accreditation certificates and have the opportunity to reconnect, celebrate their successes and catch up with friends and staff.

A huge thank you to the Class of 2026. We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved and wish you every success and happiness for the future.





Treloar's celebrates The National Year of Reading

Literacy is at the core of Treloar's curriculum: it enables students to communicate effectively, understand new ideas and succeed across all areas of learning. Reading skills help young people build confidence, think critically and participate fully in society.

Celebrating the National Year of Reading 2026 links closely to what we strive to instil at Treloar School and College: the joy of reading, the celebration of creativity and the power of imagination.

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a UK wide initiative that encourages children and adults to rediscover the fun of reading. It highlights how reading can connect people to their interests and improve educational outcomes, making literacy a key focus for schools as they inspire a love of reading in every child.



Treloar's library, located in the Bradbury Learning Centre, offers all students far more than access to books: it provides a welcoming space that supports learning, curiosity and personal growth. It gives our young people the opportunity to explore a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts of various reading levels to suit the ranging needs of Treloar's cohort.

The library in our new learning centre has been designed with inclusion in mind: dedicated reading zones form a key part of the learning environment, playing a vital role in meeting the diverse and changing needs of our students.



At Treloar's, we believe literacy is the key to unlocking every student's potential. That's why we promote regular whole-class and group reading sessions, helping students build strong reading and comprehension skills while applying new knowledge in engaging ways. We ensure that every student has access to text which allows them to follow words and images and develop visual tracking skills.

With the help of technology, we keep pushing the boundaries: classes at Treloar School use a class iPad stand, a Teams meeting and students' iPads. This approach ensures full access for all students, enhancing participation and inclusion.

School students who reside in our residential houses have the opportunity to join a book club. This club provides valuable opportunities to strengthen communication and literacy skills through discussion, collaboration, listening and the sharing of ideas.



Southampton Airport Immersive experience

Making the most of her internship with Southampton Airport, college student Hope, together with Gemma, the Operations Manager at Southampton Airport, have developed an exciting new immersive experience that will give Treloar's students a virtual tour through the airport environment.

Hope and Gemma have used a range of camera technologies: Hope has captured different perspectives and areas of the airport to help students understand what happens during a real airport visit and build confidence around travel and independence.

This kind of exercise will allow our young people to familiarise themselves with the airport environment and what that process entails, which can significantly improve the future travel experience.

Ariza, Treloar's Educational Technologist, was part of the project and was responsible for the digital side. She said: "To overcome areas that could not be filmed due to security restrictions, I used AI technology to create realistic scenes that seamlessly complemented the real footage. The result is an engaging and enriching learning experience that combines innovation, accessibility and

real-world preparation, while also providing Hope with valuable hands-on experience in digital media production and emerging technologies."

By utilising our Immersive Zone, we can create various immersive experiences that can reduce anxiety, increase confidence and give our students a greater sense of understanding of different life situations, such as travelling or shopping for groceries in a supermarket.



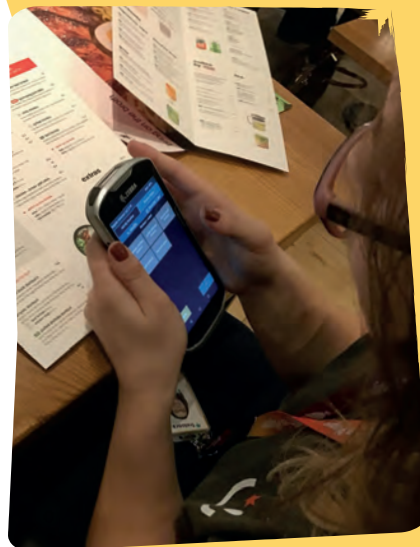


Last year, the Creative Team at wagamamas asked Treloar's students to have a go at creating their own foodie character inspired by gaia gyoza, the star of their kids' menu. Many of them created their own characters, full of personality, imagination and detail, and now you can see them across wagamamas kids' menu and activity sheets in UK restaurants.

Partnership with wagamamas creates new opportunities for students

Treloar College student Jennifer recently completed work experience at wagamamas restaurant in Camberley, and received glowing feedback from their team. We're so proud to see our partnership with wagamamas growing, delivering meaningful work experience opportunities that build confidence, skills and a sense of belonging.

"From day one, Jennifer brought such a warm, positive energy, building confidence week by week and becoming a natural in how she welcomed and connected with our guests, a brilliant example of what happens when we create the right environment for people to thrive. This is what true inclusion looks like in action." John Conyers – Culture Lead at wagamamas



Celebrating volunteers

Volunteers' Week is an annual campaign held from the first Monday in June to recognise the contributions of volunteers.

At Treloar's, volunteers play an important role in empowering young people with physical disabilities to lead independent and fulfilling lives. Whether engaging directly with students or supporting behind the scenes in areas like fundraising, their involvement creates lasting change.

Volunteer with us!

If you are looking for a volunteering opportunity or you know someone who is, visit our website to find out how you can get involved: <https://www.treloar.org.uk/volunteer-us>



Treloar's toasts staff success with Celebration Evening

Treloar's Vocational Training Team hosted their second Staff Celebration Evening just before half term, a fitting opportunity to celebrate the success of staff members who have completed professional qualifications whilst working at Treloar's.

Principal Martin Ingram and Independent Governor Professor Rob Darracott handed out certificates, recognising the commitment of all staff (and their families) involved.

During the evening staff collected certificates for a whole range of qualifications and subjects.

Individuals also collected awards for apprenticeships and higher-level qualifications.



Deafblind Awareness Week

Deafblind Awareness Week 2026 runs from June 25 to July 1. At Treloar's, we use a range of creative strategies to support students who have physical disabilities and experience Multi-Sensory Impairment (Deafblind).

At Treloar's:

- 37% of students have a visual impairment
- 60% of students are non-verbal or require support from communication aids

Students who are deafblind experience the world in a different way. They benefit from a multi-sensory approach with a focus on touch, movement and the use of other senses to understand the world around them and make sense of what is happening around them in their immediate environment.

Find out how we reduce barriers faced by deafblind students at Treloar School and College:

<https://www.treloar.org.uk/news/2026/06/26/deaf-blind-awareness-week>



Treloar's attends European Academy of Childhood-onset Disability Congress

Sally Nissen, Head of Healthcare and Nursing, was pleased to present at the European Academy of Childhood Disability Conference 2026 in Ireland in June.

The EACD is an international forum bringing together over 1200 clinicians, researchers, and families as service users, dedicated to improving outcomes for children and young people with disabilities.

Sally's presentation of work, co-authored with Claire McManus (pharmacy technician), showcased a quality improvement initiative on the development and implementation of a structured seven-step framework for transcribing medicines for administration. Transcribing is 'the copying of prescribed medicine details to enable administration'.

Visit our website to find out more:

<https://www.treloar.org.uk/news/2026/06/08/treloars-at-tends-european-academy-childhood-onset-disability-congress>

Mac joins National Youth Orchestra

Treloar School student Mac has successfully auditioned for the National Open Youth Orchestra (NOYO) and has been awarded a place in the inclusive orchestra. This fantastic achievement is a testament to Mac's hard work, dedication and passion for music.

Ahead of the audition, Mac spent time practicing in his 1:1 Clarion sessions working hard to prepare for the performance. Although he admitted to feeling nervous beforehand, he came away from the audition feeling positive about how it had gone. His grandmother and the family dog, Merlin, joined him on the day to offer their support, making the experience a special one for the whole family.

Mac plays the Clarion and is excited about the opportunity to make music alongside other young people in a large ensemble.

Joining NOYO will allow him to develop his skills further, perform with fellow musicians and be part of a nationally recognised inclusive orchestra.

Everyone at Treloar is incredibly proud of Mac and this well-deserved success. We look forward to following his musical journey and hearing about his experiences with the National Open Youth Orchestra in the years ahead.

Congratulations, Mac!



ABRSM Assessments

At the beginning of July, we were delighted to welcome ABRSM examiner David Gostick for our Open Music Assessments on the Clarion and voice.

Fourteen students took part, including six college students as part of the DFE pilot we have been running this year.

The students performed brilliantly and were so pleased to receive their certificates, a wonderful culmination of their hard work throughout the year in orchestras and 1:1 lessons.

A big thank you to peripatetic teachers Oliver Squibb and Hayley Clover for preparing the students for their assessments, well done to everyone for your wonderful achievements!



News from the Fundraising Team

Charity Padel Tournament

We're excited to announce our Charity Padel Tournament, taking place on Wednesday 30 September at Advantage Padel, Kingsley.

We're currently putting the finishing touches to the event to make it a fantastic day of competitive padel, fundraising and community spirit. Full details, including the tournament format, entry fees, prizes, and fundraising activities, will be announced very soon.

In the meantime, you can register your interest today. By signing up, you'll be the first to receive all the event information as soon as entries officially open.

Whether you're an experienced player or just looking to support a great cause, we'd love for you to be part of the day.

www.treloar.org.uk/events/charity-padel-tournament

The Dummer Fair 2026

Held at the Dummer Cricket Centre in Basingstoke, the fair features more than 90 stalls and attracts over 1000 visitors and is not to be missed!

The stalls range from crafts and food to clothing and gifts. Event information:

Wednesday 7 October 5:00pm – 9:00pm
Thursday 8 October 9:30am – 3:30pm
Tickets Coming Soon!

Visit our website to find out more about the event: www.treloar.org.uk/events/dummer-fair-2026

