



Parent and carer newsletter

March 2024

A letter from the Head of School

Wow, what a half term... it has been back-to-back with celebrations.

This half term began with a celebration of our literacy curriculum with a host of World Book Day events that were planned by the school student leaders.

Next, we celebrated Science, in particular women in Science. The school was overrun with scientists from a range of specialisms expanding students understanding of Science in the world around them and science driven careers.



Then, we celebrated the hard work and determination of the Secondary and Sixth Form students as they competed in the national Dance Live competition in Guildford, placing 3rd!

Most recently, students showcased their musical talents as part of our termly music assembly. It is fabulous to see the number of students wanting to perform is increasing.

Amongst all of this we also had Ofsted in to review our school, I feel the first line of the report sums the school up beautifully '...great purpose and endless compassion'. I am sure you will join me in wishing all of Treloar staff a well-rested break.

Thank you for all of your ongoing support and I hope you too find time for rest and celebration.

Kind regards,

Lisa Bond

Head of School

Dates to add to your diary:

- Key Stage 4 leavers activities week: 14, 15 and 16 May
- Sixth Form leavers activities week: 18, 19 and 20 June
- Prom: 10 July

<u>Dates for your diary</u>	Spring/Summer Term 2024
Thursday 28 March	End of half term 4 School closes 2.00 pm Houses close 3.30 pm
Monday 15 April	Professional development day for all staff (1 day)
Tuesday 16 April	Start of half term 5 Residential students return to houses/school 9.00 am onwards
Monday 6 May	May Bank Holiday (school and houses are closed)
Tuesday 7 May	Residential students return to houses/school 9.00 am onwards
Friday 24 May	End of half term 5 School closes 3.30 pm Houses close at 3.30 pm
Monday 27 – Friday 31 May	Half term holiday for staff and students
Sunday 2 June	Residential students return to houses 5.00 pm onwards
Monday 3 June	Start of half term 6
Tuesday 23 July	End of half term 6 School closes 2.00 pm Houses close 3.30 pm



Updates from Sally Nissen, Head of Nursing and Healthcare

Infectious diseases

We are aware that measles, chickenpox and flu are circulating in the local communities. Please continue to keep students at home if they are unwell. Contact your GP if you have questions about immunisations. Please alert us of any changes to your young person's immunisations status on Medicalsecretary@treloar.org.uk



Students arriving without medicines

Students must have access to their medicines when they need them. Recently we have seen an increase in the numbers of issues relating to students arriving without prescribed medicines, or the correct information to allow us to safely give the right medicines at the right time. For those registered with Farnham Dene practice, we are able to order the stock ourselves due to our links with the GP.

Where medicines are supplied by a different GP surgery or come from home, students will occasionally arrive without them, or without the correct information which means we are unable to administer the correct dose. These issues can put students at risk of either missing doses, or receiving the incorrect dosage of medicines. This can present risk of harm.

We will always seek to put student welfare first and try to resolve problems through communication and cooperation. However, where medicines, or information relating to medicines is not present, this can present risk to students, as well as significant work for nurses reducing the time they have to directly support students with health needs.

Where we have concerns that we do not have sufficient medicine or information to keep a student safe we may require the student to be collected. In such instances we would also likely need to raise this as a safeguarding concern.

We therefore ask you ensure the student has their medicines, or provide information in a timely manner when asked. Please call the Health Centre if you have questions about this, or if you are facing difficulties or barriers in obtaining medicines or information.

Updates from Sally Nissen, Head of Nursing and Healthcare

Blood results and medical records

You may already be aware that there are options for accessing medical records, ordering medicines, and checking test results. A number of mobile apps enable this, including the NHS account. We encourage students or parents to arrange access.

Some GP practices allow people aged 13, 14 or 15 to use the NHS account. It is also possible to access the app on behalf of another.

You can ask the student's GP surgery to register you for proxy access. They will guide you through registration. You'll need to provide identification to the GP surgery so they can confirm who you are and check you are the correct person to act on their patient's behalf. When the surgery has checked your identity and registered you for proxy access, you'll be able to use an option in the NHS App and NHS Website to manage services for another person. You can go to the homepage and select 'switch profiles'.



Updates from Ben Baxter, Head Safeguarding at Treloar's

Promoting the vote

At Treloar's, our value that "we are inclusive" means that we are committed to supporting students to be included as a part of society, not just as a student at Treloar's.

We believe that it is vital that people with disabilities are fully represented and able to have their voice heard as individuals.

A UK General Election to elect the next UK Government at Westminster is expected to take place sometime in 2024.

The right to vote is not just a privilege but a fundamental aspect of citizenship, allowing individuals to actively participate in decisions that impact their lives and communities. Yet, sadly, many young people with disabilities feel disenfranchised or disengaged from the political process. Whether due to physical barriers at polling stations or a lack of accessible information, people with disabilities often face additional hurdles when it comes to exercising their democratic rights.

The right to vote in the UK is open to all adults aged 18 or over, irrespective of disability. Importantly "mental capacity" is no longer considered a legal requirement for voting or voter registration, provided that they are making the decision themselves, and not those who care for or who otherwise make decisions for them.

Registering to vote: Students are able to register to vote from age 16, in advance of being able to vote if they are 18 at the time of an election.

Voter ID is also required now and in the absence of any other valid photo ID can be accessed using the following links:

- <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>
- <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter-id-forms-and-letters>
(easy read and large print versions available)

Ways to support students to exercise their right to vote:

Voting in person: A person with a disability who wishes to vote in person should be provided with reasonable adjustments to support them, where possible, to vote independently and in secret.



Updates from Ben Baxter, Head Safeguarding at Treloar's

This should include (among other measures) having large print versions of the ballot paper at the polling station, but also considering braille, audible and pictorial versions; polling booths at wheelchair accessible heights and pencil grips to support voters with reduced dexterity – contact your local electoral office if you need any specific adaptations or information.



Where a voter is not able to independently vote they are permitted a “companion” who can support them to vote – provided that the decision at voting is the person’s, not the decision of the companion. In this case provide the presiding officer with:

- A written or verbal declaration from the voter that they can’t vote without assistance
- A written declaration from the companion that they are aged 18+ and have not previously assisted more than one voter with a disability to vote at this election.

If there are any problems or issues you should ask to speak to the “Returning Officer” – the polling station will have their contact details.

Voting by post: A person can apply to vote by post – either for a single election, or for a period of up to 3 years. If you applied to vote by post at the last general election you would need to reapply again.

This can be done at: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote>

If you have applied to vote by post, but forget to post it, you are able to take the form to your local polling station on election day.

Voting by proxy: A person can apply for someone to vote for them. An “[easy read](#)” [guide to this is available here](#).

The application form requests a handwritten signature, however if you are unable to provide a signature (or one that is consistently the same) there is a section to note a waiver so this isn’t needed – contact your local electoral office.

TPA news

Our monthly parent and carer coffee mornings are gaining momentum and we would love to see numbers grow, so please do join us in The Hub on the first Monday of every month for a cuppa and a catch up with fellow parents! There is always a really useful exchange of knowledge and it's lovely to chat to others who truly 'get it'.

Our cake sale on Friday 22 March was a big success and we practically sold out of cakes within an hour! Huge thanks to everyone who contributed in some way, be it by baking a cake, buying a cake or making a donation. Over £200 was raised for the TPA funds which all goes towards gifts and experiences for the pupils.

After Easter, we are planning a Family Walk at Alice Holt Forest which everyone is welcome to join. This will be on Saturday, 4 May (Star Wars fancy dress is entirely optional ;-)). We'll share more information after the holidays. If this is of interest, we will aim to organise more over the Spring/ Summer months and would welcome suggestions for locations for the walks.

Dates for your diary next term are:

Monthly Coffee morning in the Jowett centre:

- Tuesday 7 May (as the Monday is a bank holiday)
- Monday 3 June
- Monday 1 July

Other activities:

- Saturday 4 May: Family Walk at Alice Holt
- Friday 21 June: Summer Cake Sale

Have a lovely Easter holiday all, we hope you enjoy lots of chocolate!

Best wishes from the TPA



Pedal Power Training

On-site therapists and medical staff are one of the many things that make Treloar's so special. It means that therapy can be integrated into our students' education and care programmes, as part of the working day curriculum.

Thanks to the collaboration between Treloar's PE Team and the Physiotherapy Department, we welcomed Julie and Nikki from Pedal Power Training who delivered a Bikeability Level 1 course to our school students.

The students learned how to control their trikes, including setting off, slowing down, braking and stopping. 25 students earned their Level 1 certificate and had lots of fun along the way. Rachael Hall, Highly Specialist Physiotherapist at Treloar's, said:



“Cycling is a great activity for our students; it gives them a chance to exercise out of their wheelchairs. Cycling is a form of low impact cardiovascular exercise and using adapted trikes allows our students to participate as fully as possible with the activity. For our students the benefits are not just fitness and general health but, more holistically, triking allows more independent movement, social opportunities and a great sense of personal challenge and achievement. The skills learnt during the sessions with Pedal Power Training increase the road safety and hazard awareness of our students and will help to keep them safer if they are triking both on site and if out in the community with their families.”



Many thanks to Julie and Nikki from Pedal Power Training for leading the course and a massive thank you to our team of physiotherapists and assistants here at Treloar's who helped over the 2 days of training.

World Book Day

Here at Treloar's, World Book Day is the highlight of the term when both staff and students dress up as their favourite book characters and participate in numerous activities across the campus.

The PE and Swim Team all dressed as characters from Peter Pan. The students were all invited to Neverland located in Pike Hall where they took part in Peter Pan-themed PE activities.

For the primary classes, all lessons were linked to World Book Day; students practiced their numeracy and literacy skills role playing a book shop.

Besides the bookshop role play, where the students worked around



their targets either comparing amounts of books, or counting them, or adding them; in the afternoon, all Primary classes went for a fairy tale themed scavenger hunt, enjoyed famous story sacks like 'The Tiger who came to Tea' and then joined the PE and Swim Team for their Peter Pan activities.

The Technology Team also dressed up as book characters and set up a reading hub for students in the reception area. Everyone was welcome to come and listen to the stories read by Helen Cronshaw, Head of Learning Technology.

[Find out more about the celebrations here.](#)



Students help pollinate London

John Burton, Chair of Pollinating London Together, and Heather Barrett-Mold, Deputy Chair of PLT, visited Treloar's in February. This is the next phase in our exciting new collaborative partnership.

Pollinating London Together will be working with Treloar's students to share their passion and knowledge on the importance of pollinators. Our students will be growing on white lavender, a wonderful pollinator-friendly plant in our greenhouse on site at Treloar's to support the initiative to help to pollinate the city.



A visit from our Patron and Team Fire Ambassador

Treloar's Patron and Team Fire Ambassador David Smith OBE visited us and gave a talk as part of our focus on STEM careers. David, a former Treloar's student, started the day by attending our Monday school assembly to talk about his university experience studying Aerospace Engineering at the University of Swansea and his career to date. He then joined one of the school classes during their Science lesson about acids and alkalis.





Science Week

Monday 11 March, was the start of Science Week for Treloar School and College students. For the whole week, everyone could enjoy Science-related activities: there was a science show delivered by Damon from Sublime Science who carried out various experiments and Mill Cottage Farm visited us with their farm animals. On Thursday, we saw First Class Falconry with his birds of prey, while on Friday we welcomed Alton College's Space Satellite Programme team.

STEM Fair

We kicked off Science Week with a STEM Fair on Monday morning. A range of visitors came to talk about their jobs in STEM: 2Excel Engineering talked about aircraft maintenance; healthcare specialists shared their expertise on subjects like podiatry, food science and general health. There were also Science lectures from HSDC Alton carrying out various experiments and talking to students about their specialisms and an archaeology display and a talk from archaeologist James.



Animals and experiments

The rest of the week was also full of exciting activities: the Sublime Science show took place on Tuesday and was filled with experiments that were thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and students. On Wednesday and Thursday students had an opportunity to spend time, learn about and even interact with farm animals and birds of prey. On Friday we welcomed guest lecturer, Fiona Pope, from HSDC Alton College. We closed Science Week with a whole school assembly about women scientists and shared highlights from the week.



Student Voice

Taking place every term, the theme for March Student Voice was **'The new library'**. Primary students were given time and tools to present their ideas for what they would like the new library to look like.

Dressed up as story characters in the first session, students designed a logo for the library and watched some puppet show and switch activated stories.

Then, in their second session, the students had access to bean bags with audio books and a sensory story.

The groups spent 30 minutes in each session and the last half hour was devoted to a discussion and further suggestions for the new library.



Periklis Karachalias, Treloar's SEN Teacher, said: "Student voice takes place once a term, preparing our students for the school students' council meetings with more students and longer conversations. We prepare the students by giving them different activities to experience in different contexts. For example, our last Students' voice meeting was about the new library. After a range of activities, the students have had a conversation with me and Louise Harding (Treloar's LRC Manager), seeing the plans for the new library, choosing the colours they like for the walls and

flooring, expressing their opinions and views about activities and resources they are expecting to have. Most students suggested the following colours for the new library: yellow, blue, purple."

Additional suggestions for the new library from individual students:

- Pony books
- 'Blaze the monster truck' book
- Dinosaur books and toys
- Dress up area
- Storyteller



Lord Mayor's visit to Treloar's

On Wednesday 13 March, students and staff at Treloar's were delighted to welcome the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman Michael Mainelli and The Lady Mayoress, Elisabeth Mainelli together with Masters and Prime Wardens from 35 Livery Companies.

We are honoured to have the Lord Mayor visit every year and the event reflects the enormous respect and affection in which our Founder, Sir William Treloar, and the school and college are held across the City of London.

The day was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all that our students achieve, thanks to the donations and support from the City Livery Companies. The "What Makes You Tick" performance about George Swindlehurst MBE, WWII survivor and Paralympian, was stunning and incredibly moving. Together with the insightful speeches and compelling presentation from Tom Clarke who introduced us to Calum, a former student with complex needs.

During the event the Livery Company Masters and Prime Wardens were introduced to 3 important fundraising priority appeals, including our Hoist Appeal and the amazing opportunity to double your donation with our Electric Bus Appeal.

We were delighted that visitors, students and staff all had an enjoyable day with one attendee



saying:

"Thank you for making us all so welcome today. It was a very moving day and I think we were all especially touched by the dance performance by the young people. I am full of admiration for the amazing work you are all doing."



Staff profile: Running for Treloar's

Being a student support assistant at Treloar's is a highly responsible but also rewarding role.

Once student support assistant, now passionate supporter of Treloar's, Tivon shared with us his experience of working at Treloar's and the reasons behind becoming a supporter and running the London Marathon for Treloar's.

"A huge factor that enables Treloar's to be the place that it is and deliver exceptional, specialised care is fundraising. A donation of any size is massively appreciated and really does go a long way in enabling the level of support provided. I am super excited to be running the London Marathon to raise money for this amazing organisation and would be immensely grateful for any donations."

You can support Tivon and help him raise money for Treloar's by [following the link](#) and donating – every penny counts!

[Read Tivon's profile on our website.](#)



Textile recycling bank at Treloar's

We encourage both staff and students' families to make use of 2 new textile recycling banks on site.

The Textile Banks accept:

- All clothes
- All footwear (paired)
- Curtains
- Towels
- Bed Linen

Locations: Front visitor car park and rear staff car park.



A visit from Lucy Webster

Treloar College students welcomed author, journalist and disability advocate, Lucy Webster for a lively Q&A about her career and her book, *The View From Down Here*. Lucy set out to demystify disability, sharing her experiences of ableism and sexism, sharing her life experiences with unflinching honesty and humour. Her memoir shares the struggles, the joys and the unseen realities of being a disabled woman.

College students were keen to learn more about what inspires Lucy to write, how she carved out a career in journalism, what it's been like to share her memoir, and what advice she would give to her younger self.



Arcana strum trial

Around 50 school and college students were very excited to try a new instrument on Tuesday 19 March, the Arcana Strum (Arcana Instruments).

The Arcana Strum is an accessible guitar 'and empowers anyone to play guitar. The instrument is extremely easy to just pick up and play, providing an uplifting experience suitable and accessible for practically everyone.' It was created for a young student who has a disability and wanted to learn how to play the guitar. It has many features which meant that all students could access it. The students all thought it was excellent and great fun to play!





Former students stories

Peter Little, a successful tailor who has sadly passed away recently was a former Treloar's student. As Treloar's made such a huge difference to his life, Peter's family very generously asked for donations to Treloar's at his funeral and raised over £500 for us.

Peter attended Treloar's from the ages of 15-18 from 1947 to 1950 and was even Head Boy! It was at Treloar's that he learned the skill of tailoring. He eventually became such a successful tailor that he designed the suit for Alf Ramsey who led England to victory in the 1966 World Cup! Attending Treloar's made such an impact on him, he even named his house Treloar's. We are so grateful that his family chose to remember Treloar's.

A visit from local Police

On Wednesday 20 March, a local police officer visited Primary School and gave a presentation linked to the current focus in PSHE lessons: jobs and people that help us in the community.

After the talk, students headed out to the Piazza to see the police car.



If you would like more information regarding ways to get involved with fundraising please contact the Fundraising team on 01420 547 477 or fundraising@treloar.org.uk



Meeting reptiles

For the finale of the Primary topic, Walking through the Jungle, students had an incredible opportunity to meet and greet reptiles on Friday 22 March. We welcomed Tom's Talking Reptiles, who introduced us to a stick insect, a giant millipede, a crested gecko lizard, a tortoise and a carpet python. All the children could touch the reptiles and learn more about them from Tom. The giant millipede had very tickly feet, and the gecko loved jumping onto shoulders, while the carpet python enjoyed wrapping himself around students' wheelchairs.



Plant Sale

Join us at our annual **Friends of Treloar's Plant Sale!**

This year, we are excited to host the event in the Horticultural Area and Greenhouse on **Saturday 11 May** from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm at Treloar's, offering ample parking right by the event.

Explore a beautiful variety of annuals and new selection of perennials grown by Treloar's students. Don't miss out on our bring and buy plant stall where you will receive expert advice. Indulge in delicious treats at the cakes and produce stall and try your luck at our raffle!

Admission is FREE and all proceeds will go towards supporting young people at Treloar's.



Third place in Dance Live competition!

14 students across our Secondary and Sixth Form departments took part in the Guildford heat of the national Dance Live competition.

We are delighted to share that the students placed third against 7 other secondary schools.

In preparation for the competition students collaborated with choreographers, Jinny and Amanda and music and visual artist Ricky to develop their ideas into a performance.

The students dance retold the true story of George Swindlehurst, a war veteran who at the end of WWII was shot in the back by a sniper and paralysed. During his rehabilitation he met Winnie the nurse who he fell in love with and later married. George demonstrated resilience and a never give up attitude gaining knowledge and skills in Paralympic table tennis and basketball. He went on to represent Great Britain in the Paralympic's winning medals in both sports.



The students represented the key moments in George's life through a sequence of dance scenes supported by costumes, props and a video and soundtrack.

Student feedback is that they not only loved the opportunity to perform but also the rehearsals of the other schools and the opportunity to get know other students during the afternoon disco.



What's on at Treloar's



The Treloar's Gala Dinner, Mansion House, London

Tuesday 30 April

Our black tie gala brings you a champagne reception on arrival, a delicious three-course meal and live music from stars of the West End.



Friends of Treloar's Plant Sale, Treloar's

Saturday 11 May

Do you want to spruce up your garden? Browse a wide range of quality plants grown by students at Treloar's.



Treloar's Charity Golf Day, Old Thorns

Wednesday 5 June

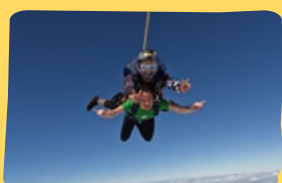
We're back at Old Thorns for another year of swinging success on the greens at our Golf Day!



The Lady Mayoress's Afternoon Tea, Mansion House

Wednesday 26 June

Join us for a special Afternoon Tea Party hosted by The Lady Mayoress of London with special guest Alan Titchmarsh.



Summer Sky Dive, Salisbury

Saturday 20 July

Don't miss the experience of a lifetime! Take to the skies for our students with a breathtaking skydive.



The Dummer Fair, Basingstoke

Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 October

Featuring over 80 stalls, The Dummer Fair is a fantastic opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping or treat yourself!



Spooktacular Halloween Laser Light Show, Treloar's

Thursday 31 October

Join us for a ghoully good time at our spooktacular Halloween Laser Light Show! We hope to see you there!

**Thank you again for your support.
Every gift helps our students
achieve their very best.**

**Scan here
for more
event info**



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