



Slade

Primary School

School Newsletter / Term 6 Issue 7

Friday 17 July 2020

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For all of the latest news from Slade follow us on Twitter
@sladeprimarysch

For all of our correspondence to you, check in to ParentMail



Slade Primary School, The Slade, Tonbridge, TN9 1HR
office@slade.kent.sch.uk
01732 350 354



Mrs Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of this academic year and what a year it's been!

Yesterday saw us say goodbye to our fabulous year 6 pupils as they head off onto the next phase of their learning journey. As I shared during the Leavers' Assembly, all of us here are incredibly proud of each and every one of the year group not just on the progress that they have made and all that they have achieved during their years at Slade Primary School but also on the resilience, maturity and understanding that they have demonstrated during these last months. We couldn't be more proud of how each individual has handled the Covid lockdown, whether that be working from home or returning to school. Definitely a unique and lasting memory for each and every one of them! We wish them all the very best of luck and look forward to hearing of all their fabulous achievements in years to come.

Today we said our goodbyes to all those pupils who are leaving us at the end of this academic year, some who are relocating to destinations far and wide others who are staying a little closer to home. To all who are leaving, we wish you every success and the best of everything as you move on to pastures new and hope that you will be taking away happy memories from your time here at Slade.

In addition to saying goodbye to some of our children we also bid farewell today to Maz Bates after 11 years of teaching here at Slade. Maz is leaving us today to take up her new position of Phase Leader and Year 2 teacher at Sevenoaks Primary School; I'm sure that you all agree that they are very lucky to be having her! May I take this opportunity on behalf of all in the Slade community to publicly thank Maz for all that she has done and the huge difference that she has made to the lives of the many who have been privileged enough to know her or be taught by her over the years. With all good wishes to you Maz as you begin your new adventure!

Pupils in Years R, 1, 2, 5 and 6 have now all finished the term and broken up for the start of the summer break. We hope that you all enjoy a restful holiday and have opportunity to recharge during the coming weeks. We also say goodbye to all the children of our critical workers who start their summer break today. A special mention to those pupils who have been attending school since the start of lockdown who will now be experiencing their first break from school since February half term. I hope that you all enjoy a hugely well-deserved rest during these coming weeks.

On Monday we look forward to welcoming some of our new Reception children into school for a storytime session in their new classrooms. Then on Tuesday and Wednesday we open our doors to our children in Years 3 and 4 who return to school for the final 2 days of term to reconnect with their classmates and begin to think about the new year ahead; we look forward to welcoming you all next week. Further information regarding our September opening will be sent out in the coming days.

May I take this opportunity to thank all children, staff, parents and governors for the part that you have all played in this most unprecedented of years here at Slade Primary School. Thank you for all your words of support, encouragement, patience and understanding in addition to the many acts of kindness that I have received. You have no idea how much these things have all meant to me during the recent months and these final weeks of term; thank you.

I hope that you all have a thoroughly restful summer break and look forward to seeing you all back in school in September.

Take care, stay alert and be kind x

Karen Slade.

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Around School

Reading Challenge 2020

We were very pleased to be part of the launch of the Annual Summer Reading Challenge, which due to Lockdown, started much earlier than usual, at the beginning of June.

As we embark on the school holidays, we are grateful to Mallika Bhaduri of Tonbridge Library for getting in touch with further details:



The Silly Squad themed challenge is aimed at children aged 4 – 11 and is completely free! With COVID-19 disruption meaning that public libraries are currently closed and many children still being home schooled, for the first time in Kent, the Summer Reading Challenge is going to be a digital only activity to keep children reading and support parents / carers with children already at home.



This year's theme is "Silly Squad" – focussing on funny books, happiness and things that make us laugh. Children taking part in the challenge join the Silly Squad, an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck into many different kinds of funny books. It features bespoke artwork from award-winning children's author and illustrator Laura Ellen Anderson (Amelia Fang; Evil Emperor Penguin; I Don't Want Curly Hair).

Usually children visit their local library to register and collect a wallet, stickers and other rewards as they progress through the challenge, reading a total of six books. This year's Challenge is different – it's a digital Challenge! It's free to access, featuring games, quizzes and downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in reading related activities at home. Children can choose their own reading goals, create book reviews, play games and collect virtual rewards. Parents and guardians can register their children online at www.sillysquad.org.uk via the safe, sign-up process.

Although library buildings are closed, Kent Libraries will continue to deliver the Challenge by promoting it to families, and eBooks and eAudio books are free to borrow from www.kent.gov.uk/libraries with titles for children as well as adults – there is a special children's catalogue on our Overdrive platform (click on the 'explore' option to find it). EBooks and eAudio books are automatically returned so you don't need to keep an eye on the due date! If you need help with online catalogue, contact our Ask A Kent Librarian Team <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/free-computers-and-wifi/ask-a-kent-librarian>

The Summer Reading Challenge has been a great success in previous years and an effective way to encourage children to continue regular reading while schools are closed for the holidays.

With school life disrupted and many children missing the company of their friends, this year's Summer Reading Challenge will be even more vital as a way of helping parents and carers find fun, family-friendly activities, maintain literacy levels and create a safe space for children to connect with their peers.

Children's author Jacqueline Wilson (Summer Reading Challenge Ambassador), said: "I feel the challenge is extra important this year! How sensible to have a Silly theme. We've all had to deal with serious and scary issues, so it's time for a bit of fun. There are so many comical and crazy children's books to cheer us all up. Let's get reading and get happy!"



Each year the Library host an assembly at school, this year they have produced an online version with details of the challenge for the children at Slade. We shared the link to the assembly via Twitter yesterday. Don't miss it. Everyone at school, including Librarian Caroline Mawson, hope that you enjoy your summer time reading this year, wherever you are!

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Around School

Sports Week 2020

If you tuned in to this afternoon's Celebration Assembly, you will already know the identity of the winners of this years very special Sports Day that took place throughout the whole of last week at school, at home and in a socially distanced way across the parks of Tonbridge. Not just individual sports related activities, but also designing and making sports stadiums and sports equipment as well as the drawing of sports heroes from across the globe.

Congratulations to everyone who took part - the winners were Water House.

There's still time to watch this week's celebration assemblies via the Slade Home Working Portal +video

Nourish News

We continue to be proud to work with our catering partners at Nourish.

For the small number of children in next week, Clare will be preparing Week 2 of the Lockdown Menu. There is a change to the advertised dishes available on Wednesday. The menu now reads as a choice from Roast Chicken or Cheese and Spinach Pinwheels and for desert Cinnamon Whirl or Mr Nourish Biscuit.



In particular, everyone at Slade would like to thank Clare and her team for continuing to provide a choice of hot dinners throughout the lockdown period, including the days when we have had variable numbers of children since classes have returned for their days in school.

It is easy to forget that there was a time before COVID. A time when Clare continued her special mealdays each term and ran the associated competitions. Congratulations to everyone who won prizes and to all of you who enjoyed entering the competitions - they will be back, one day!

Thankyou to everyone who has had a Nourish cooked dinner this year, including in record numbers for the last special mealday we were able to put on at the beginning of 2020.

We are pleased to be able to confirm that hot dinners will be on the menu every day for the 2020/21 school year, as we welcome back of all of our pupils to school.

FEAST FRESH
£2 Voluntary Donation Welcome

COMMUNITY LARDER

If you are on a low income or benefits would a top up shop help?

We are opening a new community larder with fresh produce available, to visit please book and don't forget to bring a bag.

For more info and booking visit
www.feast.org.uk

St Eanswythe's Mission
Priory Road, TN9 2BL
Saturdays 10:30 to 12:30

Opening Saturday 18th July

Feast this Summer

If you are on a low income or currently receive benefits, Feast Fresh are back to help out this summer. Please get in touch with them via their website www.feast.org.uk to make a booking.

You are able to self refer for an emergency food parcel as well by contacting the website.

Our thanks to Sarah Hardcastle at Woodlands Primary School for everything she does for this community project.



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Our Goodbyes

Moving On

The last newsletter of the year is always our chance to say fond farewell to those children and staff leaving us at the end of the school year.

Everyone across the school would like to say a very sad goodbye to our 46 year 6 children as they embark on their journey to Secondary Schools across Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.



Good luck to each and every one of you, we wish you much fun, happiness and success at your new schools. Thankyou for the wonderful memories you leave behind and well done for suffering the disappointment of how your time at Slade has finished with such great maturity. You are credit to your school, your families and most of all, to yourselves.

This message is also for the children and families who are moving on to different schools in the summer in the younger years, we have departures to all over Britain, Europe and further afield! Good luck to you all. Equally we look forward to meeting all of the children who are joining us in September, those that we've only 'met' virtually so far. We hope to enjoy a lasting and successful relationship with you all.

Miss Bates

We are also incredibly sad to be saying goodbye to Maz Bates, who joined Slade in 2009. She is leaving to join Sevenoaks Primary School as part of their Senior Leadership Team. Maz has taught in Years 1, 2 and 5 in her time with us. We are however, incredibly pleased for her on a very well deserved promotion. Mrs Hill caught up with an emotional Miss Bates after school this week:



What do love about teaching?

I really love being with my class and the fact that every day is different. I love seeing the children progress with their learning and get such enjoyment from it. I also enjoy the range of subjects that we get to teach at primary. Also there is a real comradery amongst staff which makes school such a fun environment to work in.

What is your favourite memory of being at Slade?

I have so many lovely memories of my time at Slade. Working with a great team of staff and children who make me laugh every day. One of this year's favourite memories has to be the fake snowball fight that Pixie Class surprised Elf Class with at Christmas time. Also working with Nicky Hill to create our on-line stories for year 1 – which sometimes took many takes, and seeing the children's faces on Zoom each week during lockdown. Working with the older years, I remember playing in a huge class football match with my year 5/6 class and I have fond memories of school journey. Also, being part of the Slade's staff Dodgeball team was lots of fun and we even came second in an interschool tournament - after many hours of practising after school.

What will you miss from Slade Primary School?

I will miss the whole Slade family: staff, children, the wider family and governors. I will be staying in touch!

One of the final group activities Miss Bates has been able to do with the children in Year 1 has been to take part in the decoration of fabric squares for our newest room. They look fantastic, thankyou Year 1 and Miss Bates!





Slade Stats

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Over a school year, we are open for 190 days which equates to 380 sessions as the children are registered in the morning at 08:50 and in the afternoon at 13:15 for KS1 and 13:30 for children in KS2.

The class with the best attendance each week will win Attendance Ted. Find out the winners by following our Twitter feed on a Friday afternoon.

ATTENDANCE TARGET

We would like to see overall school attendance be at or above

97%

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

This week we recorded an overall attendance of

-

ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR*

This year we have recorded an overall attendance of

96.9% *from 1 September 2019 to 1 March 2020

Registers are taken at 08:50 each morning, with the gates open 10 minutes earlier. It is important that the children are at school on time every day to prevent disruption and upset to their day and for the rest of their class.

Punctuality Pup is awarded to the class with the best punctuality each week - Find out the winners by

PUNCTUALITY THIS WEEK

0 Children late this week

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Dear Parents and Carers

We communicate to parents and carers all week long through our Twitter feed, keep up to date with what is happening and what is about to happen by following us: log on at www.twitter.com/sladeprimarysch or via the app @sladeprimarysch.

Letters and general information are sent via ParentMail. Every parent should have a ParentMail account linked to their personal email address, please download the ParentMail app from your chosen app provider and always read and act on the communication we send to you. School letters are only sent to you if the content applies to your child.

Urgent messages can also be sent via SMS. Please make sure we have an up-to-date mobile telephone number. We use Teachers to Parents SMS.

Below is a list of communications sent this week:

Date of Communication	Subject	Sent To
Saturday 11 July	School Reading and Library Books	All School ParentMail
Monday 13 July	Welcome to Arbor - An Introduction	Year R - 5 +EYFS 2020 
Tuesday 14 July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Year 6 ParentMail
Tuesday 14 July	Invite to Celebration Assembly, Live & on Portal Playback	Year R,1,2 ParentMail
Tuesday 14 July	Invite to Celebration Assembly, Live & on Portal Playback	Year 3,4 ParentMail
Tuesday 14 July	Invite to Celebration Assembly, Live & on Portal Playback	Year 5,6 ParentMail
Tuesday 14 July	Welcome to the Slade Arbor App and Portal - Login Details	Year R - 5 +EYFS 2020 
Tuesday 14 July	Families West Kent Summer Magazine	
Thursday 16 July	Menu Amendment	`Year 3 and Year 4 ParentMail
Thursday 16 July	Menu Amendment	`Year 3 and Year 4 
Thursday 16 July	School Books	Year R - 5 
Thursday 16 July	School Books	Year R - 5 ParentMail
Thursday 16 July	Tonbridge Library Assembly	
Friday 17 July	Next Week in Year 3	Year 3 
Friday 17 July	Thank You!	Year 6 ParentMail

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Super Slipper

We are very grateful to Daniel in Griffin Class who has produced his Slipper comic strip for the newsletter this year. We are also pleased to have been able to give a platform for a talented artist and storyteller. Daniel is moving on to secondary school next year, but we hope we haven't seen the last Slipper cartoon just yet!

Daniel also hosts his own YouTube channel, DDF Studios, which can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSchxONXDe-nhLYTuRmhKLQ>.

Do give it a watch, Daniel uses stop motion technique - and if you like trains, you'll love these videos!

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Congratulations

Happy Birthday!

We started our birthday slot at the beginning of lockdown in March to make up for the fact that the children were unable to celebrate together, either as a class or individually with their own parties.



Thankyou for the lovely comments about this section. We would like to finish the year by saying a happy birthday to all of our children who will be celebrating over the summer holiday, between now and 1 September.

July

17 Lewis (currently in Sprite Class), Mrs Jinks



18 Riley (Phoenix), Wyatt (Phoenix)

19 Lily (Pixie), William (Pegasus)

21 Yasmin (Sphinx), Eleanor (Phoenix)

22 Tapasya (Pegasus)

23 Shane (Pixie), Theo (Dragon)

24 Yannis (Hydra)

25 Finn (Sprite)



27 Miss Hall

29 Louis (Gnome), Emily (Pixie)

30 Archie (Wyvern), Ayishaon (Griffin)

31 Leon (Sprite)

6 Tabitha (Phoenix)

7 Nylah (Pegasus)

8 Enzo (Wyvern), Victoria (Sprite)

9 Noah (Sprite)

10 Archie (Sphinx)

12 Mr Laws



13 Isaac (Elmer)

17 Faith (Griffin)

18 Mia (Phoenix)

19 Edward (Pegasus), Henry (Sprite), David (Gruffalo)

20 Lily (Dragon), Mrs Young



22 Teddy (Elmer)

24 Beatrice (Sprite)

25 Mrs Pearson



28 Phoenix (Phoenix), Jack (Phoenix)

29 Lea (Sphinx)

31 George (Sphinx), Tyler (Sphinx)

August

1 Olivier (Elf), Ava (Elmer)

2 Grace (Wyvern)

3 Finlay (Griffin), Lenny (Elf)

4 Mrs Knee



A Thousand Thank Yous!

Do you remember Sports Relief?

Seems like a lifetime ago, but was actually at the beginning of March and was one of the final events held at school before lockdown!

We are delighted to let you know that as a school, your collective efforts raised an amazing £1113.15 for the very good causes that the charity collects funding for.

Thankyou for this wonderful generosity and also to everyone at Tonbridge School for again hosting our Sports Relief Mile around their athletics track. We look forward to the time we can work together again.



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Lockdown Learning

Congratulations Everyone!

As Lockdown Learning draws this remarkable school year to a close, everyone at school would like to say a massive thankyou to everyone at home involved in the continuation of education in its many forms - not just the school work, Maths and English, but the doing, creating, cooking and everything else that has been celebrated on these pages and on the school portal since March. Thankyou for sharing your successes with us.

Today is our last delve in to the home learning pages of the portal.



The Shafers in Space!

Charlotte and Scyld have been working hard over four weeks, learning all about the solar system.

They have been studying the planets together and have helped each other to build up layers on their papier-mâché, choosing and mixing the colours and waiting patiently for it all to dry.



Mum Amy is rightly proud of their efforts shown in the pictures here. She said, 'We've used the Hopscotch team's songs to learn about planets and dwarf planets so we treated ourselves to some Hopscotch t-shirts to complete the project.

I'm so proud of these kids and so happy that we had the chance to pursue an interest they chose themselves.'



We've seen some rain this week, perfectly painted by Harvey in Pixie Class (left)

Look at this magnificent ice sculpture on the right, by Charlotte in Year 4.



At Home with Claude and Mr Penguin - Answers

Last weeks Reading Corner Author of the Week was Alex T. Smith, author of the two popular series 'Claude' and 'The Adventures of Mr Penguin' - the mini quiz challenged you with these questions:

Which of these languages have Alex T. Smith's books been translated in to:

Welsh French German Swedish Italian Chinese Hungarian

The answer is, of course, all of them!

Who is this? He is one of Alex's characters and he has 'Delivered Christmas'?

This is Winston, the mouse.



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Lockdown Learning

Meanwhile in Year 5

Over on the Year 5 Portal Page, during the course of the suspension of normal schooling, Mr Watts has been running art competitions for the children in Wyvern and Dragon Classes to put their talents to.

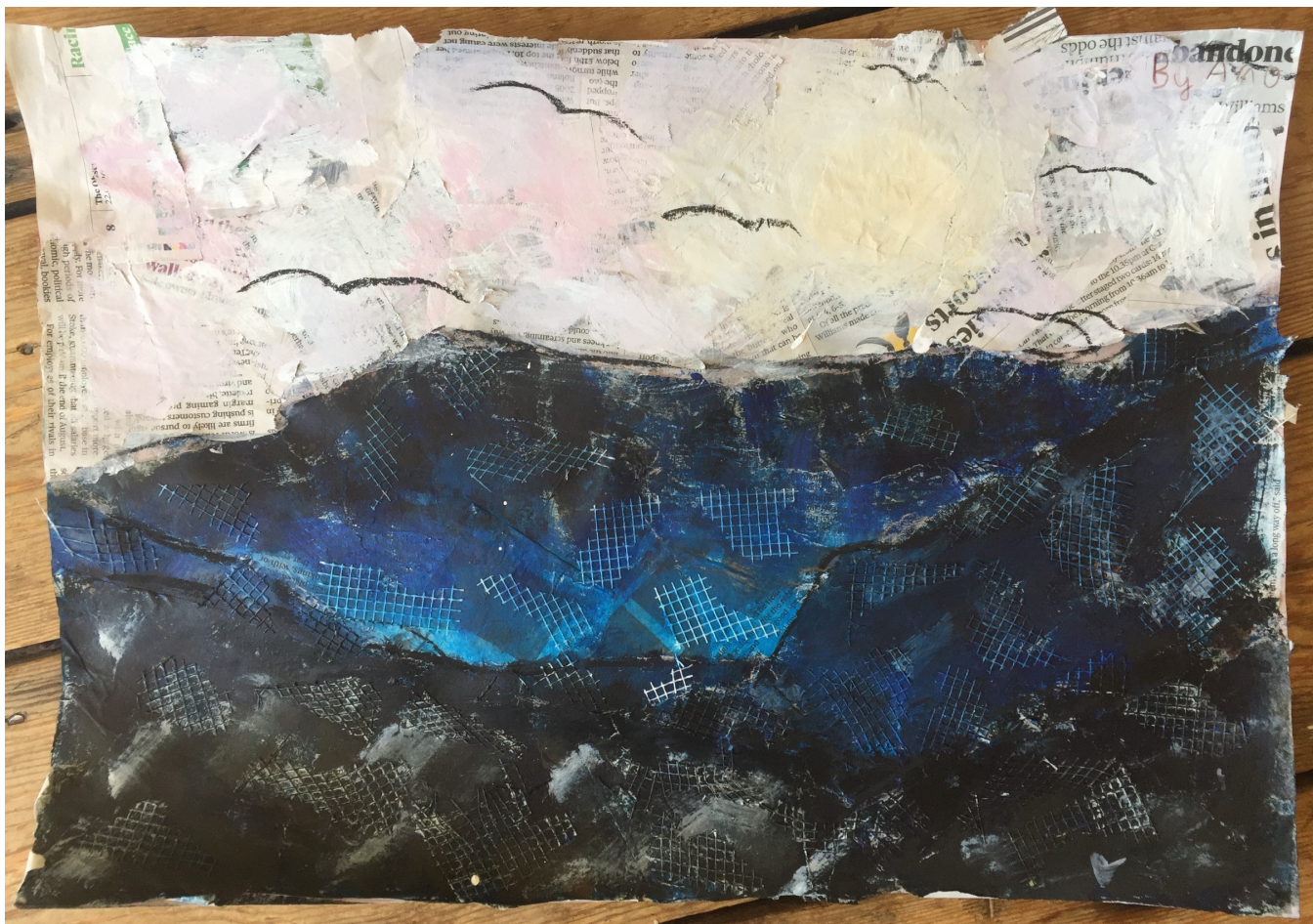
Mr Watts told us,

'The first competition was linked to our topic work on Mountains. Arno won with his stylish, mixed-media entry!

The theme for the second was 'Summer' and Maisie won with her dyed rice paradise landscape.

There were so many fantastic entries to both competitions and the standard was so high that I could have easily had ten or 20 winners!'

Well done to each and every Year 5 pupil for taking part, whatever your ability in art, it is a wonderful way to relax and let the sometimes unknown creative minds escape whatever is going on around them. We agree with Mr Watts, Arno and Maisie are truly deserving winners amongst a very strong field.





Coming up...

NEXT WEEK

Day	Event
Monday 20 July	School Open for Selected Groups Only School Closed for majority of pupils
Tuesday 21 July	School Open for Selected Groups Only School Closed for majority of pupils
Wednesday 22 July	School Open for Selected Groups Only School Closed for majority of pupils
Wednesday 22 July	Last Day of Term 6
Thursday 23 July	Summer Holidays School Closed to all pupils
Friday 24 July	Summer Holidays School Closed to all pupils

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS NEXT WEEK

MONDAY	Lunchtime Chess, Silhouette Dance, First Class Football, KS2 Gardening, Year 5 & 6 Netball
TUESDAY	Craft'd Sewing Club
WEDNESDAY	Gary Marshall Cricket, Silhouette Dance, The Art Trolley
THURSDAY	Active Sports Group Gymnastics
FRIDAY	Lunchtime French, The Art Trolley, Sama Karate

All clubs are suspended until further notice including throughout Term 1 2020/21.

FURTHER AHEAD

Week Beginning 1 September	School Closed to all Pupils
Week Beginning 7 September	<i>Staggered Start for all Yeargroups. Days listed below. Please refer to subsequent letters from Mrs Slade sent via your Slade Arbor Account for which entrance to use and the times of school for each group</i>
Monday 7 September	School Open for Year 2 and Year 6 Only
Tuesday 8 September	School Open for Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 Only
Wednesday 9 September Onwards	School Open for all Yeargroups except EYFS Year R

Please refer to ongoing communication through your Slade Arbor Account, via our Twitter feed and in the School Newsletter from September for details of events in and around school

twitter.com/sladeprimarysch

