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Slade Primary School Newsletter 2020/21 Term 3 Issue 5 / Friday 5 February 2021



Live Updates and the
Latest News
[@sladeprimarysch](https://twitter.com/sladeprimarysch)



The Slade App from Arbor
Everything you need from
us for you.



Keep in contact:
office@slade.kent.sch.uk
01732 350354

From the Headteacher

Karen Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that this newsletter finds you safe and well at the end of a very busy week 5!

Many thanks to all of you, at home and in school, for participating so enthusiastically in all of the activities that were planned as part of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. Special thanks to Mrs Knee, one of our Mental Health First Aiders, who led us all in raising awareness of the importance of looking after our mental health whatever our age. It was great to see so many children and staff 'Dressing to Express' themselves today, both here in school and virtually. Check out some of the photos below and on our Twitter feed too!

This week has seen all of the staff team currently working in school take part in the government home testing programme. School has been supplied with lateral flow device (LFD) test kits, allowing us all to self-test at home with us each carrying out the test twice a week. All results are reported to NHS Test and Trace with the result then shared with school too in order to help us with contact tracing. All staff have now completed the testing twice this week with 100% negative results to date! Thank you and well done to all of the staff team for participating in this programme as we all endeavour to keep our school community safe.

Thank you to those who have already replied to our survey regarding the wider opening of school in March. Your feedback is really important to us as we begin the planning process for this. A link to the survey is here for those who still want to respond: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KYD-O4rtz0m47TuDL8aBohLUOtojvWxIj8LwmD_bv7FURUo0Tk5aNUgzWkZXMFhZVFVZOEpQODVMOC4u

Finally, some photos of Miss Meers and the Year 4 bubble dressing to express in school today...

Have a restful weekend all.

Take care, stay safe and be kind x

Karen Slade



Celebration Assembly

Click on the Slade Stream link below to enjoy today's Celebration Assembly.

We hope your children enjoy watching the weekly look back at successes across the school.





This Week at Slade

Children's Mental Health Week

Thankyou for taking part in the activities that have been designed to support Children's Mental Health Week this week.



The annual focus on children's mental health has been organised nationally by Place2Be, the UK's leading school-based children's mental health charity: 'Our mission is to improve children's mental health, and we believe that no child should have to face mental health problems alone.' Within school we are grateful to Mrs Knee for putting together the activities for all of our children.

To conclude the school week activities, today was 'Dress to Express' day, with the idea being to use colour to express yourself by wearing a colourful outfit. The Dress to Express day has been a great opportunity to positively encourage self-expression and celebrate a diverse range of emotions. The notion behind using colours to define emotion has been a theme of the week and was discussed in the special assembly on Tuesday.

If you wish to donate to Place2Be's campaign to raise awareness and support for mental health across our communities, visit <https://justgiving.com/campaign/CMHW2021>.

More on Place2Be > <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/children-s-mental-health-week/>



Chair of Governors

Simon Griffiths

I hope you and your families are all keeping safe and well.

As we approach half-term I just wanted you briefly update you about the role of the governors during the last few months.

We have continued to meet virtually and have received regular updates from the headteacher and senior staff about the school's response to the pandemic. We closely monitored the return of face-to-face teaching at the start of the school year and the reintroduction of remote learning with the latest national lockdown. We have focussed on ensuring both the physical and online school environments are safe places for the children to learn and that the remote learning is in line with the schools normal curriculum and continues to meet the high standards we set for teaching at Slade.

We have paid particular attention to the impact on those children and families who may be struggling throughout lockdown to ensure that as much support as possible is in place to prevent children falling behind.

You should have received an email earlier this week regarding a vacancy on the governing body for a parent governor. Parental representation is vital if we are to adequately represent all stakeholders in the school, so I would like to encourage you to read the details of the role and consider standing for election. Follow this link for all of the documents and for the online and paper version of the nomination form: [Parent Governor Nominations](#)

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the role in more detail, please feel free to contact me by completing the enquiry form on the governors page of the school website.

Finally, may I thank all the staff and parents / carers for the incredible effort you have put into to ensuring the school continues to offer high-quality learning in these difficult times. We do not underestimate the challenge that home schooling represents for parents, or the additional workload for staff. I should also say how impressed we've been with the resilience show by your children who throughout have continued to do their best whatever the circumstances.

I hope you all stay well and enjoy some screen-free time over half-term.



Around School

Happy Birthday

Everyone at Slade would like to say happy birthday to the children and adults celebrating this week.

Friday 5 February: Mrs Berrill, Mrs O'Connor

Saturday 6 February: Ellen (Gruffalo)

Sunday 7 February: Zara (Wyvern)

Monday 8 February: Oliver (Gruffalo), Xzander (Pegasus)

Wednesday 10 February: Alisha (Pixie), Mrs Buckland

Thursday 11 February: Alesia (Dragon), Jake (Sphinx)



Exercise and Relaxing Indoors

We are pleased to Continue the series of indoor exercise ideas from First Class Football, our after school football club provider, who along with everyone at Slade are mindful how vital exercise is to all of our mental and general wellbeing, so this week, give this a go:

Fun Fitness Dance-a-Long Video from Saskia's Dansschool: [Saskia's Dansschool](https://www.saskiasdansschool.nl/)



And if you are in need of some chilling out after exercise, or just because you feel like escaping into relaxation - try this playlist whilst sitting or laying comfortably: [Relaxing Playlist](#)

Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 9 February

Next Tuesday is international Safer Internet Day, this year the theme is:

'An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world'



Safer Internet Day explores reliability online. The internet has an amazing range of information and opportunities online, however we will be thinking closely about the key question, **How do we separate fact from fiction?** Safer Internet Day will be celebrated globally with the slogan: **Together for a better internet.**

It is even more important than ever this year to celebrate e-safety day due to the amount of time that children are spending online whether that is remote learning, playing video games or using chat functions etc. It is so important that our children know how to stay safe and positive online and we all have our part to play in making the internet a better place.

Mrs McFerran has co-ordinated this years activities at Slade and will be presenting a special assembly on Tuesday for the Key Stage 1 children. In Key Stage 2, Miss Lipman will be your presenter as we look at how to make life safer online.

Find out more about Safer Internet Day, by visiting the website > <https://www.saferinternetday.org/>

Starting as an initiative of the EU SafeBorders project in 2004 and taken up by the Insafe network as one of its earliest actions in 2005, Safer Internet Day has grown beyond its traditional geographic zone and is now celebrated in approximately 170 countries worldwide.

Find out more about the partners behind Safer Internet Day and the safer internet for children project:

The European Commission > <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/better-internet-kids>

Better Internet for Kids > <https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/>

In Safe and In Hope > <https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/policy/insafe-inhope>

In Hope.org > <https://www.inhope.org/EN>

Reading Corner



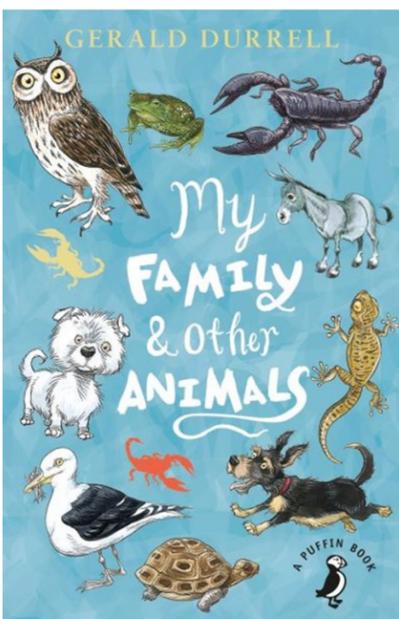
Miss Redden's Remote Reading Ideas

Along with the Reading Bingo cards, we are currently enjoying seeing your Be a... and Reading Treasure Hunt stories come in to us - keep them coming.

These fun resources are available on most yeargroup pages on Microsoft Teams and have been featured in recent newsletters, Arbor Emails and Twitter.

Mrs Mawson's Books of the Week

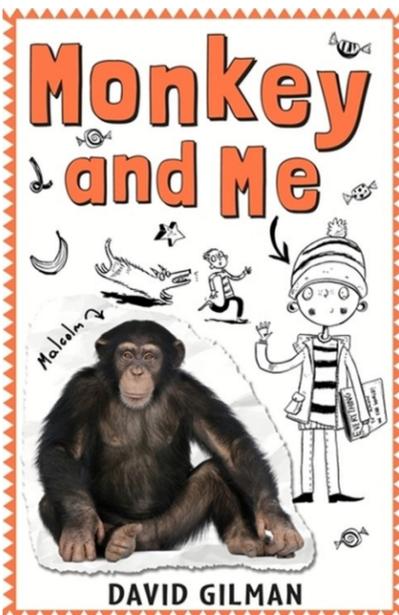
My Family and Other Animals, by Gerald Durrell



Ten-year-old Gerald doesn't know why his older brothers and sisters complain so much.

With snakes in the bath and scorpions on the lunch table, the family home on the Greek island of Corfu is a bit like a zoo so they should feel right at home...

Gerald joyfully pursues his interest in natural history in the midst of an unconventional and chaotic family life - all brilliantly retold in this very funny book.

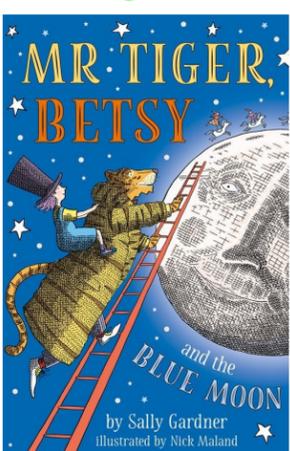


Nine-year-old Beanie is coping with more than most kids his age, including treatment for leukaemia. But where did Malcolm the chimp come from, how does he know sign language, and who are the sinister men pursuing him?

MONKEY & ME is a heart-warming story packed with courage and humour.

Oak Academy Literacy Trust Author of the Week

Sally Gardner



This week's free to read or listen to book is Mr Tiger, Betsy and the Blue Moon, by this week's Author of the Week, Sally Gardner.

There is also an exclusive interview with Sally, author of countless other children's books including The Tindims of Rubbish Island series.

Watch, Read, Listen and Do with the Oak Academy Literacy Trust Author of the Week:

[>Sally Gardner](#)

[>The Virtual School Library](#)



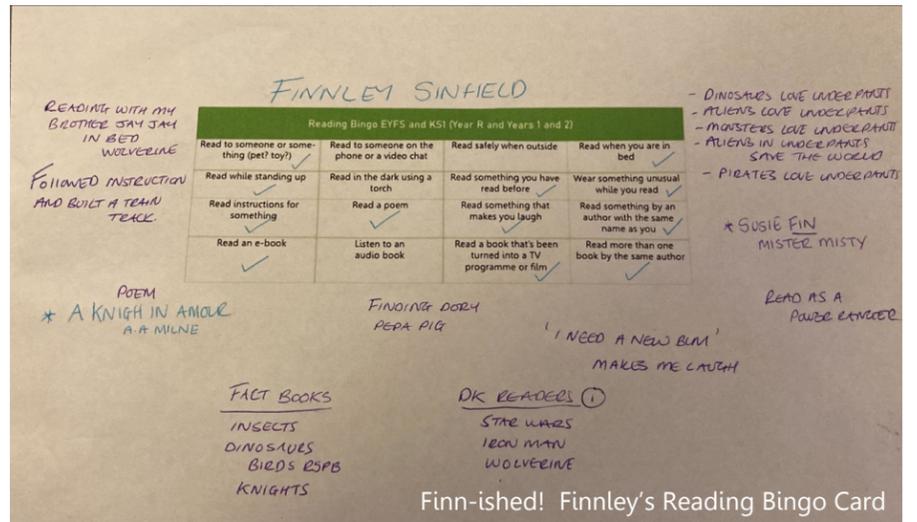
Reading Bingo

Full House for Finnley!

We are very grateful to Finnley's mummy for sharing with us, his completed Reading Bingo card.

Finnley is one of our youngest learners, currently in Gruffalo Class; his story shows the power of reading, and how it can improve not just academic levels, but your wellbeing and happiness.

What better time therefore, to share Finn's success with the school:



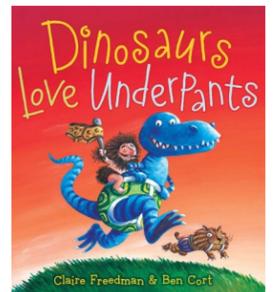
We spoke to mum and asked firstly, what type of books does Finnley like to take a look at?

'His favourite books are the 'underpants books', he loves Julia Donaldson books especially stickman but also factual books on knights, dinosaurs, insects and birds.'

And, what does he particularly like about picking up a book?

'Finn loves being read to and talking about the pictures, he asks loads of questions. We always read before bed and often he will ask him brother to read to him in bed when he walks past. It's the only time we get proper hugs from Finn and his full attention/interaction!'

Finn lives with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Mum explained that reading is a great help to Finn as he explores his learning and how to interact with the environment around him, 'We use reading as a distraction and then to help calm and relax Finn. Looking at a book takes his mind off what make him so frustrated in the first place. We always choose the same few books when this happens so he knows he needs to calm down, normally dinosaurs love underpants.'



We enjoy Dinosaurs Love Underpants as well Finn! We also love the idea of 'chilled time', the time at home when Finn and his family spend relaxing at the end of the day, a chance to unwind and prepare for a full and comfortable night. We asked mum for any advice she has, knowing this time of day, coupled with trying to introduce a love of reading can sometimes be tricky:

'We have our "Chilled time" around 6:30, after Finn has had a bath, normally snuggled up on the sofa with a favourite toy, it helps him relax more and he knows that it will soon be time to go to his room for sleep time. It's normally best to keep the reading time short, choose a favourite book, one that they love, let them ask questions and interact. But most of all make it fun as well... ask what they think will happen/ use funny voices. Books that rhyme are always a win with us!'



Finn and his 12 year old brother also enjoy finding ways to use the new words they pick up when they are reading and use it as a way of connecting and developing their language skills.

Many congratulations to Finnley on his reading success - you are in safe hands when you use the hobby that relaxes you to also advance yourself and make yourself a more confident and happy young learner.

Thankyou so much to Finn and mum, Gemma, for sharing their story and to all of their family for the details you've read here and the pictures of Finnley's reading at home (left).

To find out more information about ASD, visit the Kent Autistic Trust website: <https://www.kentautistictrust.org/>

Around School at Home



Zac Rescues Us From Lockdown Boredom

If you were worried about what to do once you've finished your learning for the week or over the February Break whilst stuck indoors through a wet (even possibly snowy) national lockdown, then be concerned no more, thanks to Zac in Hippogriff Class.

A few weeks ago, he decided to make a list of creative activities for him and sister Mia (in Gruffalo Class) to do at home during lockdown. He then thought it would be nice to share with everyone for the newsletter, so he made the slide below with his ideas.

Zac and Mia have done a few of the activities so far. They have created their dream pets - A 'Gogahog' (which is a 3-headed dog!) and a 5-legged pink unicorn called Lily! Their pictures are pictured, right.

Zac is keen to point out that the Gogahog is a friendly creature and can be found worldwide. 'Unicorns,' Mia tells us are also friendly, however, 'Prefer to live in hot countries.'



Of all of the ideas on Zac's Creative Ideas board, he is most looking forward to creating his shop, he said, 'The shop will be Harry Potter themed and sell all of the Harry Potter things that can't be found in the official Studio shop.' Mia on the other hand, is going to start a Dream Diary, and will be drawing images of her dreams. We know that their parents are intrigued as to what may appear in the diary - one to keep for many years we are sure!

Please, do have a look at Zac's creative activities and have a go at your favourites. There really is something there for everyone - a perfect breakout activity for these long days indoors.

A real huge thankyou to Zac, his mum for sharing the story and pictures with us, and to Mia for showing us how easy it is to get involved with her older brother's super ideas. You may have spotted Mia on today's front cover after she had transformed herself in to what?

Creative activities

1. Make a picture or model off your school	6. Design a new invention
2. Draw what you think the future will look like	7. Make your own comic
3. Draw or make a model of your dream pet	8. Make up a game and play it with your family
4. Make or draw your dream shop and some things to sell	9. Make collage of things that make you happy
5. Keep a dream diary to write or draw your dreams	10. Do a self portrait



attendance

Slade Stats.

Over a school year, we are due to be open for 190 days which equates to 380 sessions (morning and afternoon.)

Attendance is affected if a pupil is not present at school for any whole session including registration.

The class with the best attendance each week will win Attendance Ted.

Attendance
Target.

97%

Attendance
This Week.

-
%

Attendance
This Year.

97.3
%

Registers are taken 10 minutes after the school gates close for your child's yeargroup.

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 and to prevent unnecessary crossing in to bubble groups by adults escorting late children.

Punctuality Pup is awarded to the class with the best punctuality each week.

Pupils late
this week.

-

Find out the winners of Attendance Ted and Punctuality Pup every Friday afternoon on [Twitter](#)



Dear Parents & Carers

Every parent and carer is entitled to access our Slade App and desktop dashboard from Arbor. By signing up you will be able to access personal information relating to your child as well as a one station stop for finding all of our communications to you personally, your child's class or yeargroup as well as all school letters, payment for special lessons and school trips and booking for parents evenings and all ticket events at school.

All we ask is one thing: please take the time to read emails sent to you, we try to make sure that everything you are sent relates to your child, so nothing is irrelevant. If you would like further information on any email we send, please contact the class teacher or the school office for assistance.

We also encourage you to follow us on Twitter, we post reminders, useful information, live updates from school and other community events of interest.

Don't miss out, or let your child miss out, please keep up to date with everything Slade via Arbor and Twitter.

Date of Communication	Subject	Sent To
Saturday 30 January	Children's Mental Health Week	
Monday 1 February	Monday Assembly	All School
Monday 1 February	Parent Governor Vacancy	All School
Tuesday 2 February	Reading Treasure Hunt	All School
Thursday 4 February	Time to Talk	
Thursday 4 February	School Re-Opening Survey	All School
Friday 5 February	Term 4 Critical Worker Update	Critical Worker Parents
Friday 5 February	Dress to Express	

More > Follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/SladePrimarySch>

COVID-19



If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19 you should:

- Stay at home, do not attend any other place out of the household. This applies to everyone in the household. Telephone 111 if you require advice
- Get a COVID-19 test for the symptomatic person, via the [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website
- If the test comes back with a positive result, inform school immediately so we can invoke suitable measures. This can be via email if out of office hours, during the weekend or in the holidays: C19@slade.kent.sch.uk

Any group who is sent a 10 day self isolation notification should continue their home learning via the Microsoft Teams page, accessible through the school website and Teams App.

Please contact the class teacher via the class email address if you have any questions about this home learning.

Tonbridge, the rest of Kent and the whole of England is now operating under Lockdown conditions

Please follow the law and stay home unless totally necessary. Click here for the guidance



For your Diary

Next Week :

Day	Event
Monday 8 February	National Lockdown - Remote Registration and Learning via Microsoft Teams The school building is closed to all pupils except to valid Critical Worker's children*
Tuesday 9 February	National Lockdown - Remote Registration and Learning via Microsoft Teams The school building is closed to all pupils except to valid Critical Worker's children* E-Safety Day - See Page 4
Wednesday 10 February	National Lockdown - Remote Registration and Learning via Microsoft Teams The school building is closed to all pupils except to valid Critical Worker's children*
Thursday 11 February	National Lockdown - Remote Registration and Learning via Microsoft Teams The school building is closed to all pupils except to valid Critical Worker's children*
Friday 12 February	National Lockdown - Remote Registration and Learning via Microsoft Teams The school building is closed to all pupils except to valid Critical Worker's children* 14:00 - Coffee and Catch Up via Zoom https://zoom.us/j/94617817063?pwd=WDZCR0JSYmZXSUhxTkZVbmxOUl4UT09 Last Day of Term 3

* Including vulnerable children and families. Places must be booked and approved in advance via office@slade.kent.sch.uk.

In accordance with Government Lockdown guidance, please stay at home where at all possible.

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week :

MONDAY	All Clubs, Extra Curricular Activities and Narnians Wraparound suspended in Term 3
TUESDAY	All Clubs, Extra Curricular Activities and Narnians Wraparound suspended in Term 3
WEDNESDAY	All Clubs, Extra Curricular Activities and Narnians Wraparound suspended in Term 3
THURSDAY	All Clubs, Extra Curricular Activities and Narnians Wraparound suspended in Term 3
FRIDAY	All Clubs, Extra Curricular Activities and Narnians Wraparound suspended in Term 3

Further Ahead :

Until Notified Otherwise	National Lockdown - Remote Registration and Learning via Microsoft Teams The school building is closed to all pupils except to valid Critical Worker's children* <i>* Places must be booked and approved in advance via office@slade.kent.sch.uk.</i> In accordance with Government Lockdown guidance, please stay at home where at all possible.
Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February	February Break - School Closed to all pupils
Monday 22 February	First Day of Term 4
Monday 1 March - Friday 5 March	Book Week
Thursday 1 April	Last Day of Term 4
Monday 4 April - Friday 16 April	Easter Holidays - School Closed to all pupils
Monday 19 April	First Day of Term 5 - Summertime at Slade! 
Wednesday 21 April & Thursday 22 April	National Child Measurement Programme and Vision Screening - EYFS Classes*** *** More information will be provided by the NHS team involved nearer the time
Monday 3 May	National Holiday - School Closed to all pupils