



# Slade

## Primary School

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Slade Primary School Newsletter 2021/22 Term 1 Issue 5

Friday 8 October 2021

**Slade Primary School**

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# From the Headteacher

## Mrs Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been so heartwarming to hear the sound of singing return this week as a chorus of harvest song rehearsals have echoed across the school buildings. A welcome return to times pre-covid!

It has also been lovely to have all 60 of our Reception children in full time this week, experiencing a whole week of full days in school for the first time! It has been great to see them exploring the learning opportunities available to them both inside and out including venturing further than their classrooms at times! Some of the children have made it into the hall for PE and even down to the woods for their first ever Forest School too! Well done Elmer and Gruffalo!

Well done too to Pixie and Elf Classes who this week experienced their first ever assembly in the main school hall! The children joined the Year 6 classes for Monday's whole school hybrid assembly which sees two year groups come together in the hall whilst the rest of the school Zoom in from their classes. Each week a different year group gets to join Year 6, who set the example of assembly behaviours and expectations, as we re-introduce all the children to those routines that used to be so familiar! We are looking forward to welcoming Year 2 into the hall on Monday!

A reminder to all parents that attendance for pupils is mandatory with the expectation that all pupils attend school daily. We recognize the times in which we currently live and the impact that Covid is having within families; however, there has been a marked increase in recent weeks of children being absent from school for non-medical reasons. There has also been an increase in the number of requests for absence, primarily for holidays; absence in term time can only be authorized in exceptional circumstances and any request for a term time holiday will not be authorised. Following the school closures over the last 12 months and the impact that this has had on learning it is more important than ever that your child is attending school. We would therefore urge all parents and carers to think carefully before submitting any absence requests and consider the implications that this might have on your child's progress, both socially and academically. Further information and guidance regarding attendance can be found on the school website at: <https://www.slade.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Attendance&pid=24> Thank you in anticipation of your support with this matter.

Increasingly in school we are having to spend time dealing with the repercussions from the online activity of children outside of the school day, particularly in Key Stage 2. We would urge all parents to revisit internet safety messages with your children and to discuss their online behaviours with them too, ensuring that every child is kept safe online whilst using the internet responsibly. We will be offering further support and guidance for parents with this matter in the coming weeks; in the meantime we hope that you find the resources at this link useful when supporting your child: <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/parent-online-support-pack-teachers/>

Take care and stay safe.

Karen Slade.

# Around School



## Welcome to Slade

Everyone at Slade would like to say a big hello and welcome to Erin, who this week joined us in Elmer Class with Mrs Pearson and Mrs Meades.

We are really pleased to hear that Erin has enjoyed her first few days at Slade and has settled very quickly alongside her new friends.

Our welcome is extended to Erin's family, with who we look forward to sharing a long and happy relationship.

We are also delighted to welcome Wendy Ball to the Slade team. Wendy is our new Fitness and Well Being Champion and has already been very busy across the school. Find out about Mrs Ball's début competition with Slade on page 9 of today's newsletter.



## Parent - Teacher Consultations

Don't forget  
parents'  
evening!

**The Autumn Term Parent - Teacher Consultations will be happening via Microsoft TEAMS on Tuesday 19 October and Thursday 21 October, between 16:00 and 18:30 on both evenings.**

You are encouraged to make early bookings to avoid disappointment for these important meetings where you can discuss how your child has settled into their new yeargroup and class and to find out more about their personal targets this year.

Bookings should be made via your Arbor account by clicking onto the chosen date and selecting the best available time. It is important that you leave the tick beside the parent or carer who will be attending the meeting. The meetings are accessed via your child's TEAMS account. If you cannot remember the login details, please email the class teacher directly using the class email address.

Detailed instructions on how to view and take part in the meeting were attached in the email sent on Wednesday.

## Polite Request from our Neighbours

We have been contacted by residents in Hildenbrook House, the adjacent building to the school, to request that children are asked not to climb the trees outside of the office area of the building on their ground floor.

They, like us love to see the children having fun, however it is important to remember that this area is private property and no one would like to see any child get hurt.

We politely request that parents ask their children to save tree climbing for Forest School and not for waiting around before and after school. Thankyou for your cooperation with this.

## Monday Menu Change

Due to the food availability challenges highlighted in last week's newsletter, Nourish Contract Catering have had to make a change to the menu on Monday.

**There will be no Quorn Mince Bolognese. The meat-free option on Monday will now be Pesto Pasta.**

Nourish and Slade apologise for this alteration, but trust that you understand that this is due to circumstances beyond the control of our catering partners or the school.

# Around School

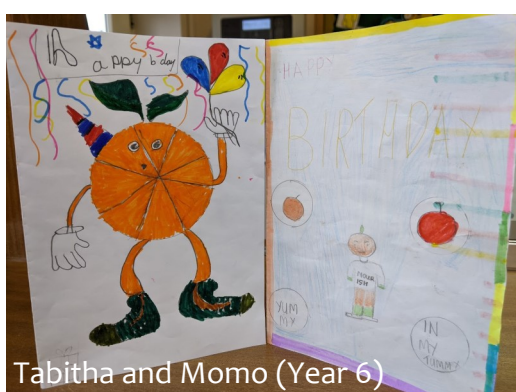


## Happy Birthday, Mr Nourish!

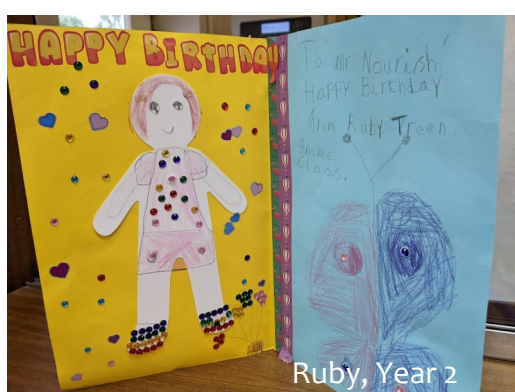
Every year we are blown away at the number of really excellent and creative ways children across Slade like to wish Mr Nourish a very happy birthday.

Head Cook Clare has had the job of looking through all of the birthday card entries and was delighted to be making up her mind about who to declare her winners over the weekend.

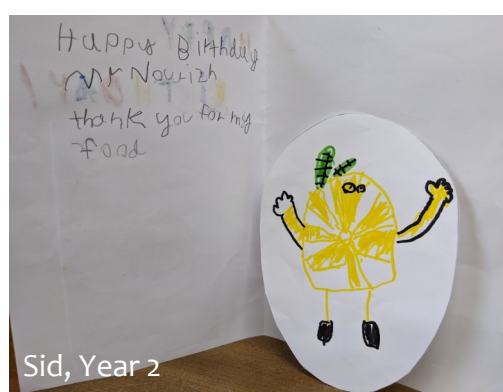
In total, we had 148 (82%) of 180 children in EYFS and KS1 enjoy the meal courtesy of the Universal Free School Meals for these ages.



Tabitha and Momo (Year 6)



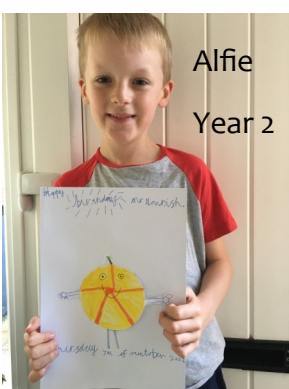
Ruby, Year 2



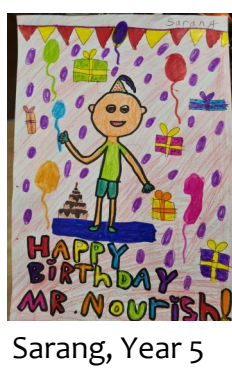
Sid, Year 2



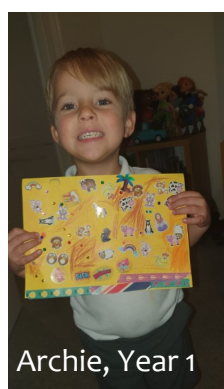
Emilia, Year R



Alfie  
Year 2



Sarang, Year 5



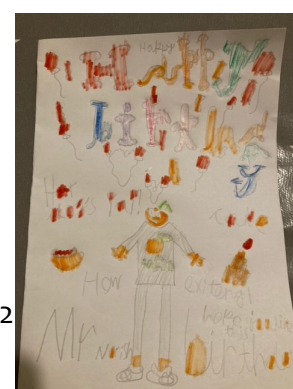
Archie, Year 1



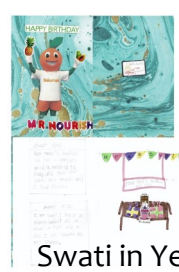
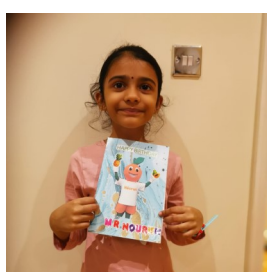
Ruby, Year 2



April, Year 6



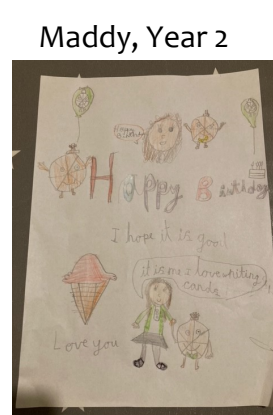
Jack, Year 2



Swati in Year 3



Saivarun  
Year 3



Maddy, Year 2



Stefan, Year 4



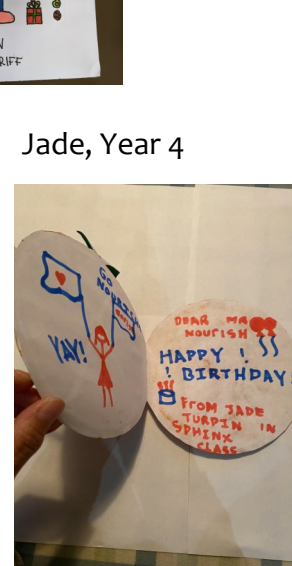
Yasmin (Year 6) and  
sister Esmee, Year 1,



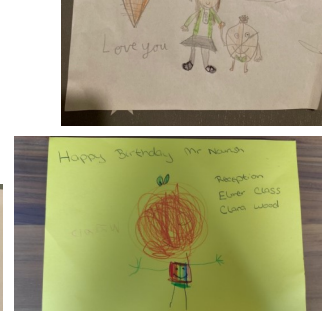
Francesca, Year 3



Zahra, Year 6



Jade, Year 4



Clara, Year R



Millie, Year 1

**Nourish**  
contract catering

Thankyou to all of the children who have taken part, and to the parents, carers and friends who have helped put together all of the designs and provided materials.

Our front cover picture today is from Akshara in Year 4.

# Slade Stats



Over a school year, we are due to be open for 190 days which equates to 380 sessions with registration in the morning at 08:50 and after lunch in the afternoon.

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

Attendance Target

97.0%

Attendance This Week

93.9%

Attendance This Year

95.1%

Registers are taken 10 minutes after the school gates close at 08:50.

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.

Pupils Late This Week

15

For more information on attendance and punctuality, please refer to the policies section on our website and to that of Kent County Council by following these links:

[More > via www.slade.kent.sch.uk](http://www.slade.kent.sch.uk)

[More > via www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk)

## Walk on Wednesday is Back

As a Buster's Outstanding Partner, Slade takes part in Buster's Book Club for encouraging the children's reading, and also Walk on Wednesday, the healthy lifestyle initiative which is designed to limit the number of car journeys made to and from school.

After a pandemic enforced break, we are really pleased to be relaunching Walk on Wednesday in partnership with organisers, the KM Charity Team and Inspire Schools.

All you need to do is walk, scoot or bike to school on a Wednesday to be counted in Slade's figures. The statistics are collected as part of Wednesday morning registration. You don't have to completely leave the car at home if this is not possible, just park a little further away (even at the far end of the swimming pool car park) to stretch the legs a little further once a week.

The class winners of Walk on Wednesday will be tweeted each Wednesday morning with our thanks to Mrs Buckland for picking up her organisation of the scheme.



# Chair of Governors



The governors recently held their first Full Governing Body meeting of the new school year. Much of this meeting is procedural which involves the appointment of governors to various roles and the adoption of a number of policies.

The following appointments were made at this meeting:

**Chair of Governors - Simon Griffiths**

**Chair of Finance and Property Committee and Vice-Chair of Governors – David Evans**

**Chair of Curriculum Committee – Scott Miller**

**Chair of Personnel and Professional Development Committee – Stuart Concannon**

In line with best practice, all these appointments are for one year. In addition, David Evans and Claire Pearson were elected to new four-year terms as governors. Both Claire and David are experienced governors having already served two 4-year terms and the governors thanked them for their continued commitment to the school.

The governors also reviewed the schools Self Evaluation and School Development Plan. These are important documents which assess the performance of the school and areas for further development. The governors endorsed both documents which, as you would expect, have a strong emphasis on ensuring all children make-up for their time out of the classroom during the pandemic, with particular focus on our disadvantaged children and those with additional needs.

The governors are looking forward to the year ahead as we continue to work with the school's stakeholders to ensure your children receive the best education possible. If you want to find out more about what we do and how we are organised, please visit the governor page of the school website where you will also find a link to the agreed minutes of our meetings.

Finally, we look forward to sharing the results of the Parent and Carer Survey in next week's newsletter.

With best wishes to all of our families,

Simon Griffiths  
Chair of Governors.

## New Event

### PTA Haunted Hunt:

### Saturday 23 October

Join the PTA on a Haunted Hunt on 23 October, just in time for Halloween.

There will be a Bake Sale, Competitions, Glow Sticks for the children and the all important winter warming Hot Chocolate Station in addition to the main attraction; the Creepy Cauldron Scavenger Hunt.

For more details visit the Slade PTA on Facebook.



# Dear Parents and Carers












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.

For your convenience, in each newsletter we include this reminder of everything sent out in the current week:

| Date of Communication | Subject                          | Sent To   |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday 4 October      | This Week at Slade               |                    |
| Monday 4 October      | Tonbridge Schools Cross Country  | Involved Children  |
| Wednesday 6 October   | Bikeability Course               | Hydra Class        |
| Wednesday 6 October   | ACTIVE 30                        |                    |
| Wednesday 6 October   | Mr Nourish's Birthday            |                    |
| Wednesday 6 October   | Parent - Teacher Consultations   | All School         |
| Wednesday 6 October   | Harvest Festival                 | All School         |
| Thursday 7 October    | Mr Nourish Birthday Celebrations |                    |
| Thursday 7 October    | Children's Flu Vaccinations      | All School         |

## Not Feeling Well?

Please remember to contact the school office via email to [office@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk) or on the telephone to 01732 350354, choosing Option 1 on each day of absence, unless on the second of the days off following sickness or diarrhoea or you are on a period of self isolation following a positive COVID-19 test where we know the expected end date of absence.

We should be notified of a days illness by 08:30 each morning to satisfy our statutory safeguarding expectations.

## COVID-19

If your child is exhibiting any of the presently recognised COVID-19 symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

The advice from Public Health England and the NHS is that even if the symptoms are mild, you should:

- Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
- Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the test result

Please continue to let us know if you have ordered a PCR test and the subsequent result when available.

# Slade Sport



## Mrs Ball's Début Event for Slade

We are thrilled to have Wendy Ball join our team at Slade, officially for the first time this week. Wendy joins us as Fitness and Well Being Champion and is already known to many of the children as she has introduced herself to them when talking to classes about sporting clubs and events that she will be involved with over the coming months.

We will be talking to Wendy next week and she will feature in our second 'Meet the Team' interview as we aim to give all of the parents, carers and children a feel of what her role will bring to the school. Spoiler: it will be great fun!

Wendy took her first group of children out this week to the ACTIVE30 competition at the Angel Centre in town. Afterwards, she provided us with this report, and a look forward to the next event:



Well done to Maisie, Amelia, Zach, Lucy, Lucy, Eloise, Finnegan, Lucy and Zachary who attended the Kent School Games Active 30 Sports Festival at the Angel Centre this week.

The children had a great time taking part in a variety of different activities including Rapid Fire Cricket, Indoor Orienteering, Archery, Sitting Volleyball and Boxing.



Next week we have 16 children from Years 3-6 taking part in the Tonbridge Schools Cross Country Competition; good luck to them and we will let you know how they get on next week.

The children will also be taking part in the Schools Mini London Marathon next week. Over the course of the week they will be completing 2.6 miles to earn themselves a London Marathon pin badge.





Next Week :

| Day                  | Event   |
|----------------------|---|
| Monday 11 October    | EYFS22 Intake Prospective Parent Tours 10:00 and 14:00 (Now fully booked)<br>Swimming - Year 5 Wyvern Class<br>Tonbridge Schools Cross Country Competition (Children involved will be aware of details) |
| Tuesday 12 October   | EYFS22 Intake Prospective Parent Tours 10:00 and 14:00 (Now fully booked)   |
| Wednesday 13 October | EYFS22 Intake Prospective Parent Tours 10:00 and 14:00 (Now fully booked)   |
| Thursday 14 October  | Harvest Festival<br>EYFS22 Intake Prospective Parent Tour 14:00 (Now fully booked)<br>Swimming - Year 5 Dragon Class - This is the last session for Dragon Class  |
| Friday 15 October    | EYFS22 Intake Prospective Parent Tours 10:00 and 14:00 (Now fully booked)   |

Forest School Next Week:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| MONDAY    | Gruffalo Class (EYFS Year R, Mrs Hitchcock)         |
| TUESDAY   | Pixie Class (Year 1, Miss Elliott and Mrs McFerran) |
| WEDNESDAY |   |
| THURSDAY  | Elf Class (Year 1, Mrs Hill)                        |
| FRIDAY    | Gnome Class (Year 2, Miss Taylor)                   |

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week :

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| MONDAY    | First Class Football, Active Sports Gymnastics, Learn Chess                   |
| TUESDAY   | Gary Marshall Cricket   |
| WEDNESDAY | West Kent Athletics   |
| THURSDAY  | First Class Basketball, First Class Netball, The Art Trolley, Next Thing STEM |
| FRIDAY    | Sama Karate   |

Further Ahead :

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 19 October                    | Parent - Techer Consultations<br>Information on how to book sent in our email on Wednesday 6 October |
| Thursday 21 October                   | First Swimming Lesson - Sphinx Class<br>Please make sure you have consented via your Arbor Account   |
| Thursday 21 October                   | Parent - Techer Consultations<br>Information on how to book sent in our email on Wednesday 6 October |
| Friday 22 October                     | Last Day of Term 1   |
| Saturday 23 October                   | PTA Haunted Hunt - See Page 6  |
| Monday 25 October - Friday 29 October | October Break School closed to all pupils  |

All timetabled events and scheduled clubs and activities are subject to short notice alteration, postponement or cancellation and are correct as of the date of this newsletter