



Slade

Primary School

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Slade Primary School Newsletter 2021/22 Term 1 Issue 6

Friday 15 October 2021

Slade Primary School

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From the Headteacher

Mrs Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday was a special day in the Slade calendar when the whole school gathered together, albeit virtually, for our Harvest Festival. Children from each of the year groups led us through a feast of songs and poetry, helping us to reflect on the meaning of Harvest with each year performing to another in the school. A special mention to our Reception children who took to the floor in the school hall and performed in front of Year 6 children and staff after not even 1 term in school! Thank you to Andy Page, Youth and Children's Minister at the church, who came in to join the celebrations with us in school; it was lovely to have you there as part of the festival Andy! Streams of the presentations were sent out earlier today via Arbor email; enjoy!

Thank you too to all families who sent in produce for our harvest collection which was delivered by our Year 6 House Captains yesterday afternoon to some of our local elderly residents. The remainder of our food collection has been delivered to the Nourish Community Foodbank, a local charity providing practical support to families in Tonbridge during times of need. Thank you to our parent volunteers who helped with the sorting and distribution of food parcels.

A reminder of our expectations with regard to school uniform; all of our children are expected to wear regulation school uniform to school every day. This includes black school shoes; trainers are not permitted unless in exceptional circumstances following a discussion with either myself or Miss Garrett. Hair should be a natural colour and tied up if longer than collar length. Any hair accessories should be discreet, not brightly coloured and jewelry should not be worn with the exception of small studded earrings which should be removed for PE lessons. Thank you for your help and support in reinforcing these regulations with your children.

Ordinarily at this time of year we would be welcoming prospective parents into our school for our annual Open Morning events for parents looking to choose a school for children who are due to start in September 2022. Once again, due to current Covid-19 restrictions the information this year is being shared in a different format so now includes small group tours, virtual tours of the school and an online presentation outlining the provision on offer here at Slade. Please do share these details with friends and family who you know are looking to choose a school for their child next September or contact Mr. Laws in the school office for more information.

Thank you to those parents who completed the annual governor parent survey at the end of the summer term; results of this survey are shared by the Chair of Governors further on in this newsletter. Thank you too to those who have responded to the request to be involved with the Behaviour Policy working party. The closing date for anyone still interested in being involved is Friday 22nd October; we will then be in touch to arrange our first meeting at the start of Term 2.

Finally, I would urge you all to take a look at a new video from our Pupil Premium Champion which outlines how you may be available for this additional funding which can be used in school to support your child during their time at Slade; follow the link sent out earlier today to find out more and discover who our Pupil Premium Champion is!

The link was sent with application information earlier today by Arbor email, however for your convenience please find it here also: <https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/4bc1fa9e-abcd-45e7-9d5d-bee84d35f817>

Have a lovely weekend.

Karen Slade.

Around School



Swimming Lessons: Year 4

Thankyou to all of the Year 4 parents who have consented and paid for the upcoming swimming lessons. Those parents whose consent is outstanding have been contacted as without this the children will be unable to take part in these vital lessons.



Yesterday was the last session at the pool for Year 5 Dragon Class, whilst Wyvern have their last visit on Monday.

Sphinx Class will embark on the 6 week course from next Thursday, please remember your swimming kit and towel and Phoenix Class will be starting their sessions on the first day of Term 2, on Monday 1 November.

Hydra Class Bikeability

Each year we are pleased to be able to offer the Level 1 and 2 Bikeability course to all of our Year 6 children. Hydra Class will be taking part in the cycle safety lessons between Friday 5 November and Friday 12 November, with Griffin Class following later in the school year.



The course is free to all pupils at Slade as we continue to use existing budgets to pay the £12 cost normally paid for by families. We are still some places short of filling the spaces we have reserved, so if your child is in Hydra Class and hasn't been signed up by sending in the parental consent form provided in the Arbor Email sent on 6 October, please do so as soon as possible. It would be useful to know also if you do not want your child to participate, so we can start to allocate groups and dates before communicating these to the children and parents of those taking part.

Parent - Teacher Consultations

Last call for any parent or carer who is yet to book their parents evening meeting via Arbor. Most appointments have now been secured and the teachers are looking forward to sharing how the children have settled into their new class and their targets for this year, as well as taking any questions you may have for them.

Details on how to access the meeting via TEAMS have been sent via email. If you are unsure of your child's login information, please contact your class teacher via the class email address. Likewise, if two parents are planning on joining the meeting from different locations, please advise the class teacher who will be able to arrange for a link to be sent to you to enable you both to access and take part in the meeting.



Childhood Flu Vaccinations at Slade

The Kent Community Health Immunisation Team will be joining us on Thursday 25 November to administer the annual flu vaccination nasal spray, available to all children at Slade.

The team encourage every child to have the vaccine, saying, 'Flu can be an unpleasant and sometimes serious illness. Vaccinating your child against flu will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends.'

Consent, or a wish to decline, including if the vaccine has been given already via the GP service, should be made via the NHS website, fast links to which are included in their letter dated 7 October. If you are new to Slade, joining as an In Year Admission after 1 September, you may find that your child is still registered with your previous school. If this is the case, the consent form should offer the option of changing the school. If this does not work, please email the Immunisation Team for assistance via kchft.cyp-immunisationteam@nhs.net.

News from the PTA



PTA Haunted Hunt and Pumpkin Carving Competition: 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.

In addition to the Hunt, the PTA will also be hosting a Pumpkin Carving Competition.

Hopefully the supermarkets will be stocked with pumpkins to create your own carvings for the competition to be judged by the PTA and Mrs Slade.

Just bring your pumpkin with you to the Haunted Hunt on Saturday 23 October for a chance to win!

For more details visit the Slade PTA on Facebook.



Slade PTA Haunted Hunt Pumpkin Carving Competition

It's time to get your creative skills into action.

If your child would like to enter the competition. Please bring your carved pumpkins to the Haunted Hunt on Sat 23rd October from 2-4pm.

The PTA and Mrs Slade will judge the pumpkins, with prizes for their favourites.



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

95.0%

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

9

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

More > via www.kent.gov.uk

Chair of Governors



Thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the governors annual survey at the end of the last school year. The results have been shared with the governors and the school leadership and will be discussed in detail at the Full Governing Body meeting in December.

We have already noted several questions where a small, but significant, number of respondents have answered that they are ‘unsure’. These results will allow the school leadership to focus on these areas to see if there is a need to better explain or amend the school’s policies, make changes to communication with parents and carers or reconsider the way some subjects are being approached.

Thank you also to those of you who took time to provide comments along with your survey answers. These really do help us understand issues from the parent and carer perspective. These too have been shared with the school leadership who will review all the comments received to see if there are any consistent themes which need attention.

We will repeat this survey at the end of this school year, hopefully both as an online and paper-based survey and thank you once again for your support.

2021 Governors Parent and Carer Survey

Strongly Agree Agree Unsure Disagree Strongly Disagree

My child enjoys school



The school keeps my child safe



My child is making good progress at school



The school expects my child to work hard and do their best



The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future



The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour



The school is effectively led and managed



I understand the role of the Slade Governors in supporting our school



I am happy with my child's experience at school



I would recommend our school to another parent



Pandemic Related Questions

The school has provided effective remote learning during the periods of lockdown



The school has provided parents and carers with clear information about how to support their child(ren)...



The school has taken effective Covid precautions following the return to face-to-face learning



Total: 86 Responses

Meet the Team

Wendy Ball



In the second of our series, Meet the Team, we are very pleased to introduce you to Wendy Ball, our new Fitness and Well Being Champion.

Wendy has really hit the ground running after joining us in late September, already having organised our teams for the Active 30 competition featured in last week's newsletter, the Tonbridge Cross Country event on Monday and our participation in the Mini Marathon which each class has been doing this week.

These and other activities that Wendy is putting on in school will continue to be featured first on our Twitter feed [@sladeprimarysch](https://twitter.com/sladeprimarysch).

What is the main aim of a Fitness and Well-Being Champion and why is it important for Slade to have someone in this role.

Is this the first time you have performed this role?

The main aim of my role is to ensure that Slade becomes a school where everyone – children and adults, have the opportunity to enjoy the life changing benefits that come from sport and physical activity, alongside the core subjects. This role only becomes available when the head and senior leadership team really value the importance of physical activity and well-being in a school so this is great news for Slade!

I have worked in this role before at Greenfields Primary School in Maidstone. When I started there, sport and PE was low on the agenda and over a period of time we changed peoples attitudes towards physical activity so that it became part of the ethos of the school and helped to improve well-being..... Ofsted even consulted us on the impact school sport and physical activity had at our school!

Where did you go to primary school, and were you sporty as a young girl?



I went to Pickhurst Primary School in West Wickham (near Bromley) where I grew up. When I was young I used to swim for Beckenham Swimming Club and my favourite stroke was front crawl. When I was at primary school I used to play in the netball team, and climbed lots of mountain ranges in England and Wales on family holidays! I also used to ride horses however because I was so small I often ended up with a tiny horse called Smokey that just wanted to eat hay rather than gallop anywhere!

Do you have any plans for the children at Slade that you can share with us here?

I would love #Team Slade to be recognised as a school where sport is for everyone and everyone enjoys participating. I have lots of plans and ideas for the children and adults! Some of my ideas involve developing school sport so that all children can represent the school in sporting competition – we have already had 36 children participate in the last 2 weeks! I would like to hold more inter house competitions, a sports week next year culminating in our own

Commonwealth Games Event, as well as developing physical activity so that the children are participating daily in personal challenges or the daily mile to improve fitness. More after school sports clubs, a dance show, sports leaders, sports awards evening, parent/ teacher matches and the chance to try a wider range of sports are all part of the plans.....we will be busy!



Meet the Team



Can you describe the link between sport and general fitness and our personal wellbeing.

I think particularly in aftermath of COVID we have seen the importance of being fit, healthy and active and how that can help us to fight illnesses and live longer. Lockdown also highlighted that being physically active and going for daily exercise helped families well-being remain high, boosting energy, self esteem and everyone's mood – we all talked more! The link between these is nothing new; it is just that now more than ever we see the impact sport and fitness is having on improving our well-being.

How would you encourage someone who was reluctant to take part in sport, to do so?

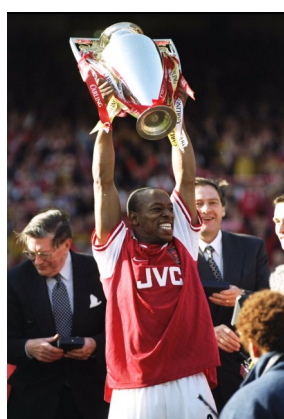
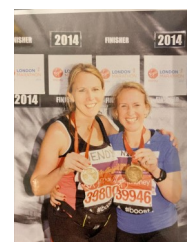
Participation in sport and physical activity is not about being the best, it is about having the confidence to try and have a go. This comes from 2 places – one the child themselves having the strength and resilience to try something new and secondly from the adult/ coach/ leader working with them. Too many children say they hated sport at school and this makes me really sad. For me, it is all about gaining the trust of the child and taking time to help them believe in their ability.

There is a sport for everyone – we just have to take the time to find what people enjoy.

Do you play any competitive sport yourself?

I have completed in quite a few half marathons including the GreatNorth Run, Royal Parks and Paddock Wood and also ran the London Marathon a few years ago. I am planning to run the London Landmarks half next April with my daughter.

My next aim is to take up golf, I have the clubs so I just need to get practicing!



Do you have a favourite sports team?

All of my family are massive Arsenal supporters and thankfully they are currently doing better than they were at the start of the season! My wedding present from my husband was an Arsenal top with my new surname on the back and signed by Ian Wright!

What gives you the biggest thrill in your role?

For me it has to be seeing children's faces full of pride when they achieve something in sport or from physical activity. Whether it is a talented athlete or a child with additional needs, the sense of achievement and self-belief they gain from participating in sport is amazing and makes me realise how lucky I am to work with these children.



How do you relax outside of school?

I have three children who are now at university so I have spent the last few years 'relaxing' watching football, cricket and dance most weekends!

I do however love gardening and can spend hours in my garden planting and weeding. My back garden has been shortlisted for the Kent in Bloom best back garden awards and the awards ceremony is this Friday so I'll let you know how I get on!!!



Admission to

Secondary school in Kent 2022

Apply online at
kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Opens Wednesday 1 September 2021 and
closes at midnight on Monday 1 November 2021

For children born between
1 September 2010
and **31 August 2011**,
Transferring to Secondary
school in **September 2022**

What to do

Choose a school	Apply	Processing	Offer day	Accept or decline
<p>It's important to find out more about the schools you are interested in before you decide to name then on the application form.</p> <p>You can name up to 4 schools.</p>	<p>A simple, fast, convenient process which opens Wednesday 1 September 2021 and closes at midnight on Monday 1 November 2021</p> <p>If you already have an account set up from a previous application, please use these log in details.</p>	<p>You will receive an email confirmation that your application has been submitted correctly and that the LA has received it.</p> <p>You can log back in at any time to view that information entered is correct.</p>	<p>On offer day (Tuesday 1 March 2022) an email will be sent after 4pm informing you of your offer.</p>	<p>You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by Tuesday 15 March 2022.</p> <p>If it has not been possible to offer your child a place in your preferred school, you have the right to add their name to the waiting list and lodge an appeal.</p>

Key dates

Wednesday 1 September 2021	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions to register and apply.
Monday 1 November 2021	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Tuesday 1 March 2022	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Tuesday 15 March 2022	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered. Parents should also fill out the waiting list from the link in the offer email to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
Monday 28 March 2022	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the SCAF.

Need help?

Email kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk or kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Full information booklet can also be viewed online at kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions
Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of application. Keep your log in details safe and use your registered email address for all communication with the team.
The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our team for confirmation.

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 11 October	This Week at Slade	
Tuesday 12 October	Tonbridge Schools Cross Country	
Tuesday 13 October	Harvest Festival Update	All School 
Wednesday 13 October	Walk on Wednesday	
Thursday 14 October	Hippogriff Reconnect Rainbow Challenge	
Thursday 14 October	Schools Mini Marathon: Elmer and Gruffalo	
Friday 15 October	Harvest Festival 	All School 
Friday 15 October	Pupil Premium Promise 	All School 

Not Feeling Well?

Please remember to contact the school office via email to 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



Tonbridge Schools Cross Country

On Monday 26 children from KS2 took part in the Tonbridge Schools Cross Country Race at Somerhill Schools.

There were over 80 children taking part in each race and the children ran between 1.5k and 2.5k.

There were some brilliant individual performances with 6 children coming in the top 10 in their race.

A special shout out to Momo in Year 6 who came 1st in the Year 6 girls race.

Well done to everyone who took part in the race we were really proud of you.



Our Year 3 Runners.

Thanks to parent Sam Kington for the picture

View from the track:

Just wanted to let you know that fun was had by all today! Team Slade had a fantastic time and it was brilliant to see we had 6 children that featured in the top ten in their race! – Parent

I had a great time running at Somerhill; I really enjoyed racing and I was really proud to come in 8th place – Iris

Mini Marathon

All the children took part in the Mini London Marathon this week running 2.6 miles over the course of the week.

A special shout out to the children in Gruffalo and Elmer who took part in the event. The children created their own running numbers, looked at a London Marathon medal and had great fun running around the track on the playground.



For Your Diary



Next Week :

Day	Event
Monday 18 October	Swimming - Year 5 Wyvern Class - This is the last session for Wyvern Class (see page 3)
Tuesday 19 October	Parent - Teacher Consultations See page 3 and email of Wednesday 6 October for details on how to access these meetings
Wednesday 20 October	
Thursday 21 October	Swimming - Year 4 Sphinx Class - This is the first session for Sphinx Class (see page 3) Parent - Teacher Consultations See page 3 and email of Wednesday 6 October for details on how to access these meetings
Friday 22 October	Last Day of Term 1
Saturday 23 October	PTA Haunted Hunt and Pumpkin Carving Competition - See page 4

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Sprite Class (Year 2, Mr Louth)
FRIDAY	Pegasus Class (Year 3, Miss Redden)

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 :

Monday 25 October - Friday 29 October	October Break School closed to all pupils
Monday 1 November	First Day of Term 2
Monday 1 November	Phoenix Class Swimming - First Session
Friday 5 November - Friday 12 November	Hydra Class Bikeability Further details to be sent to participants nearer the time
Tuesday 23 November	Matthew Walker Photography COVID Catch-Up Session
Thursday 25 November	NHS Flu Immunisation Service Session - See page 3