



Slade

Primary School

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An amazing Christmas Tree made of books!

Thankyou to Sophia in Gruffalo Class for sharing this wonderful picture.

Slade Primary School Newsletter 2021/22 Term 2 Issue 6

Friday 17 December 2021

Slade Primary School

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From the Headteacher

Mrs Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter not only of this term but for 2021 too!

May I start by taking this opportunity to thank all children, staff, parents and governors for the part that you have all played in ensuring that school has remained fully operational since September and for helping to keep our school community safe this term. Well done and thank you everyone. Thank you too for your ongoing support and understanding as we have continued to make small changes more recently in response to the rising COVID-19 rates locally and subsequent changes in government guidance; thank you everyone.

A reminder that as of **Tuesday 14 December**, the government has introduced a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19. This states that in order to help slow the spread of COVID-19, all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. If your child tests positive, they should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

Should your child test **positive** for coronavirus (Covid-19) on a PCR during the Christmas holidays then please notify the school via the designated email account: C19@slade.kent.sch.uk **There is no requirement to notify us of a negative LFD result.** Please refer to the latest government guidance which can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> for further advice. Please note that the school office will be closed during the Christmas holidays until Wednesday 5 January, with the office email account only checked intermittently during this period.

Thank you so very much for all of your thanks and positive feedback following your viewing of the Christmas performances that were shared with you earlier this week. Your kind words have been very much appreciated by all involved. I know that many of you will enjoy viewing them again during this festive period!

A reminder that on Tuesday 18 January 2022 we will be holding a virtual Open Morning on Zoom for parents where the Senior Leadership Team and Chair of Governors will share the main priorities for the school, including our long-term strategic plan, and discuss the main features of our School Development Plan. Thank you to those who have already registered an interest in attending; there is still time to register if you haven't already done so by accessing the following link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=KYD-O4rtzom47TuDL8aBohlUOtoJvWxIj8LwmD_bv7FUNIE5RzFYszMxQ1dYRzRRSTZLNkpBNzJSNC4u

Finally, a huge thank you to all of our PTA who have been working across the term with their fundraising efforts which culminated last week in the Christmas raffle prize draw; huge thanks to all involved in making this happen. Many thanks too for the beautifully wrapped Christmas gifts that you provided for each child in school which Santa's Elves enjoyed delivering to the classes this afternoon!

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

Take care, stay safe and be kind.

Karen Slade

Around School



Let There Be Music...

Our thanks this week to parent Mrs Sevitt, who kindly donated to the school a selection of musical instruments suitable for use across the school.

Mrs Stephens, Music Lead, has taken the instruments and has already put them to good use as the children have performed their own Christmas songs!



..Number 1 Music!

Five Acre Wood School in Maidstone is an outstanding all age (2-19) day District Special School for children and young people with Profound, Severe and Complex Learning Difficulties, including Autistic Spectrum Disorder. This week, Vanessa Geylani wrote to us to tell us about their aim to become Christmas Number 1, Vanessa said:



‘Five Acre Wood Special School in Maidstone would like to share their wonderful news! A few weeks ago 25 of our fabulous students went off to Deevu recording studio, and along with our lovely friend Jack Rose, they recorded “Hall of Fame” originally released by The Script. A few days later, Deevu came to our school and made a video to go with the song involving a lot more of our students.

Our single is due to be released on Friday 17 December and we would really appreciate your help to get our students to that coveted Christmas Number One spot! I have included the links below – if you like what you hear, we would be very grateful of your support. Please feel free to share the link with family and friends.’



[More > Free Preview via Apple Music](#)

[More > Order Your Copy via your favourite download provider](#)

Congratulations Hydra Class

Miss Lidlow’s Year 6 Hydra Class are the latest in a line of Slade classes to have won a prize courtesy of Buster’s Book Club. They were presented with a selection of age related reading books this week by organisers The KM Charity Team. The award comes after Hydra Class recorded the greatest increase of reading minutes across the county, an amazing 287% increase since the beginning of the year!



#Ditto, Online Safety Magazine



We are pleased to share with you, the latest issue of the online safety magazine, #Ditto. In this edition, amongst lots more, is a reminder of online safety basics, news from Instagram and TikTok and guidance with new devices.

The magazine is also available to read directly from the Online Safety page on the school website.

[More > Read the latest issue of Ditto Magazine](#)

Forest School



Term 3 Timetable

Forest School continues in Term 3, with the following timetable.

On the day that your child is due to have a Forest School session, please make sure the suitable clothing for the day is brought into school in a bag to change into at the appropriate time. Term 3 is the Winter Term, so please be mindful that it will be cold most days so a warm jacket and other under clothes as well as hats and gloves are advised.

Thursday 6 January - Pegasus (Year 3, Miss Redden)

Friday 7 January - Hippogriff (Year 3, Mrs Stephens and Mrs Berrill)

Monday 10 January - Phoenix (Year 4, Mr Duffin)

Tuesday 11 January - Sphinx (Year 4, Miss Lipman)

Thursday 13 January - Wyvern (Year 5, Mr Osborne)

Friday 14 January - Dragon (Year 5, Miss Meers)

Monday 17 January - Griffin (Year 6, Mrs Burnside)

Tuesday 18 January - Hydra (Year 6, Miss Lidlow)

Thursday 20 January - Elmer (EYFS, Mrs Pearson)

Friday 21 January - Gruffalo (EYFS, Mrs Hitchcock)

Monday 24 January - Pixie (Year 1, Miss Elliott and Mrs McFerran)

Tuesday 25 January - Elf (Year 2, Mrs Hill)

Thursday 27 January - Gnome (Year 2, Miss Taylor)

Friday 28 January - Sprite (Year 2, Mr Louth)

Monday 31 January - Pegasus (Year 3, Miss Redden)

Tuesday 1 February - Hippogriff (Year 3, Mrs Stephens and Mrs Berrill)

Thursday 3 February - Phoenix (Year 4, Mr Duffin)

Friday 4 February - Sphinx (Year 4, Miss Lipman)

Monday 7 February - Wyvern (Year 5, Mr Osborne)

Tuesday 8 February - Dragon (Year 5, Miss Meers)

Thursday 10 February - Griffin (Year 6, Mrs Burnside)

Friday 11 February - Hydra (Year 6, Miss Lidlow)



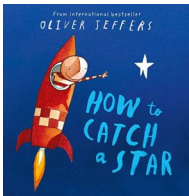
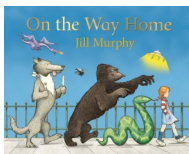
Term 3 Topics



The teaching teams across the school are looking forward to continuing our learning this year in January with lots of exciting and interesting topics, which include these. We wonder how much the children already know about these topics, and what they would really like to find out...

Year R: Journeys

We will be exploring different kinds of journey through our stories. We will start by running after a Gingerbread Man and then seeing what adventures Jill has ‘On the Way Home’ and finally, shooting into space to find out ‘How to Catch a Star’. We hope you are ready for an exciting ride!



Year 1: Terrific Toys



We will be comparing toys from the 1960s to modern day toys, thinking about the passing of time and how toys have changed over the years. In DT, the children will be designing and making their own toys and learning about mechanisms such as axels and wheels.



Year 2: Brunei



We will be comparing the UK with a country on a different continent, in this case, Brunei. We will look at the differences and similarities between the countries. Later on in the term we will be studying The Titanic and seeing what a feat of engineering the ship was, and what went wrong!

Year 3: Romans We will be looking at the Roman Empire and the way of life in Britain during Roman rule. This topic ends with our fantastic Roman Day in February, more details will be sent out next month.



Year 4: The Sunshine State: We will be learning all about a different continent as we focus on America, specifically Florida! We will also be writing our own fantasy stories and adverts in English as well as States of Matter in Science.

Year 5: National Parks of Britain: Our National Parks are an extremely significant element of both the physical and human geography of the UK. Did you know, they cover over 7% of the land area of the country? We will investigate their special qualities, how they are managed and the interrelationship of people with their environment. There are 15 National Parks in Britain, do you know how many you have visited?



Year 6: Climate Change: We will be investigating the impact of Climate Change both locally and globally, including the changing weather patterns. We will also be understanding why some coastal communities are having to make flood resilience plans, as well as identifying how each of the main renewable sources of energy work.



Focus: Year 6



Year 6 classes Hydra and Griffin held a special 'Battle of Britain' learning day as they tried to imagine what it would be like to live locally during World War 2.



Jasmine from Griffin Class told us about the activities they did:

“On Monday we had a WW2 day to tie in with our Battle of Britain topic this term. This is where we got to do all the things that you would usually do in the world war. These were: making an evacuee identity card, making cheese scones from our rations, making rug rugs from scraps of curtains and bedsheets and digging for victory in our school allotment by planting onions and cabbages.

Everyone who was here enjoyed it, especially eating the cheese scones, and I hope we do it again someday.”



Chair of Governors



Dear Parents and Carers,

The Full Governing Body met recently for its second meeting of the academic year. The Governors reviewed the School Development Plan and discussed the targets set for the school. We discussed the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and the schools pragmatic approach to seasonal events. We also discussed the school’s updated strategy which has been shared with the school staff and look forward to sharing this with the wider parent and carer community in January.

We were pleased to appoint Lucy Jeffreys as a new Co-Opted governor. Lucy brings a wide range of skills in school leadership and governance to the governing body and we very much look forward to working with her.

We also received an update on the annual governor skills audit which helps to ensure the governing body has the correct skills to meet its statutory obligations, monitor progress and hold the school to account. Where necessary governors will undertake training to gain or update the necessary skills.

The minutes of our meeting held on 29 September were agreed and can now be found on the governor page of the school website. The next Full Governing Body meeting is scheduled for early March.

Finally I hope you manage to enjoy some precious family time over the holiday and may I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas.

Simon Griffiths Chair of Governors.

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

92.7%

Attendance This Year

94.3%

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

Attendance Matters

Procedure if your child is unwell

If your child is not well and not able to come to school then we ask that parents telephone the school office on 01732 350354 **everyday** of their child's absence. With the current COVID pandemic, please follow government guidelines, but please still let us know if your child will be absent from school. If they are having to self-isolate but are well, then they will need to be taking part in home learning.

Please see below some guidance from the government regarding illness and your child's education.

<https://www.gov.uk/illness-child-education>

Procedure for appointments during school hours

If you have to take your child out of school for **any** reason, including a medical, dental, school visit appointment. Please could you inform the school office **prior** to the appointment along with any supporting evidence of the appointment. This is so that we can authorise the absence where we can and your child is not marked as unauthorised in our register. Please see below guidance from the government regarding school attendance.

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Please refer to our attendance policy for further details: [Attendance Policy 2021/22](#)

Reading Corner



Home Reading Books

☺ Remember to have a look at your Home Reading and Library books over the break ☺

Make a Reading Tree



Can you make a Christmas tree out of books or other reading material?

Make sure you ask permission before gathering what you need.

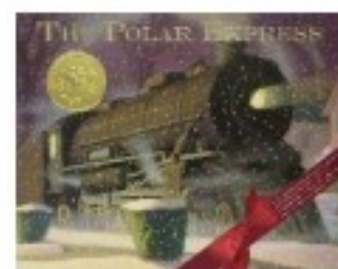
Send pictures of your creations to office@slade.kent.sch.uk

CHRISTMAS Reading Bingo

Read beside the Christmas tree.	Read aloud to someone in your family. <small>Maybe on a video call!</small>	Read tucked up in bed.
Read by torchlight.	JUST READ! 	Read somewhere unusual.
Read in the comfiest chair you can find.	Read in your pyjamas.	Read in a cosy den you've made.

Book Ideas and Competitions

Take a look at <http://www.lovemymybooks.co.uk>
You could search for 'Winter' or 'Christmas' books.



The Book Trust regularly run many competitions related to reading. Safely, check out the website below to take a look! Good Luck!

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/competitions/>



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:

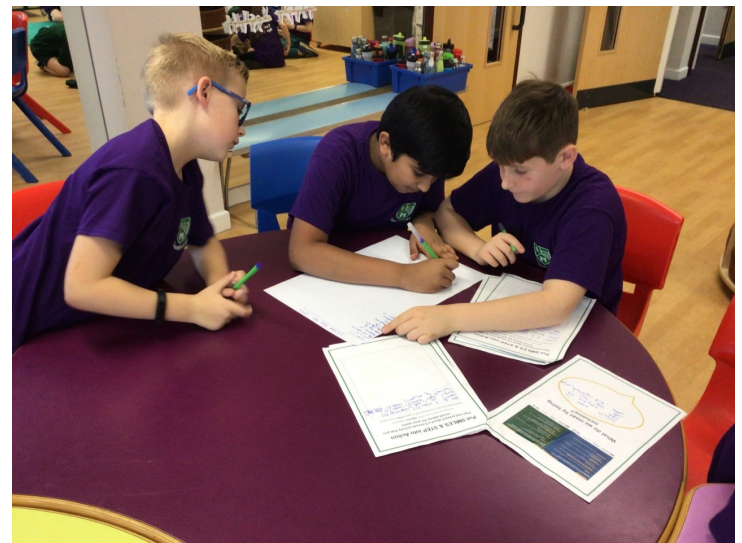
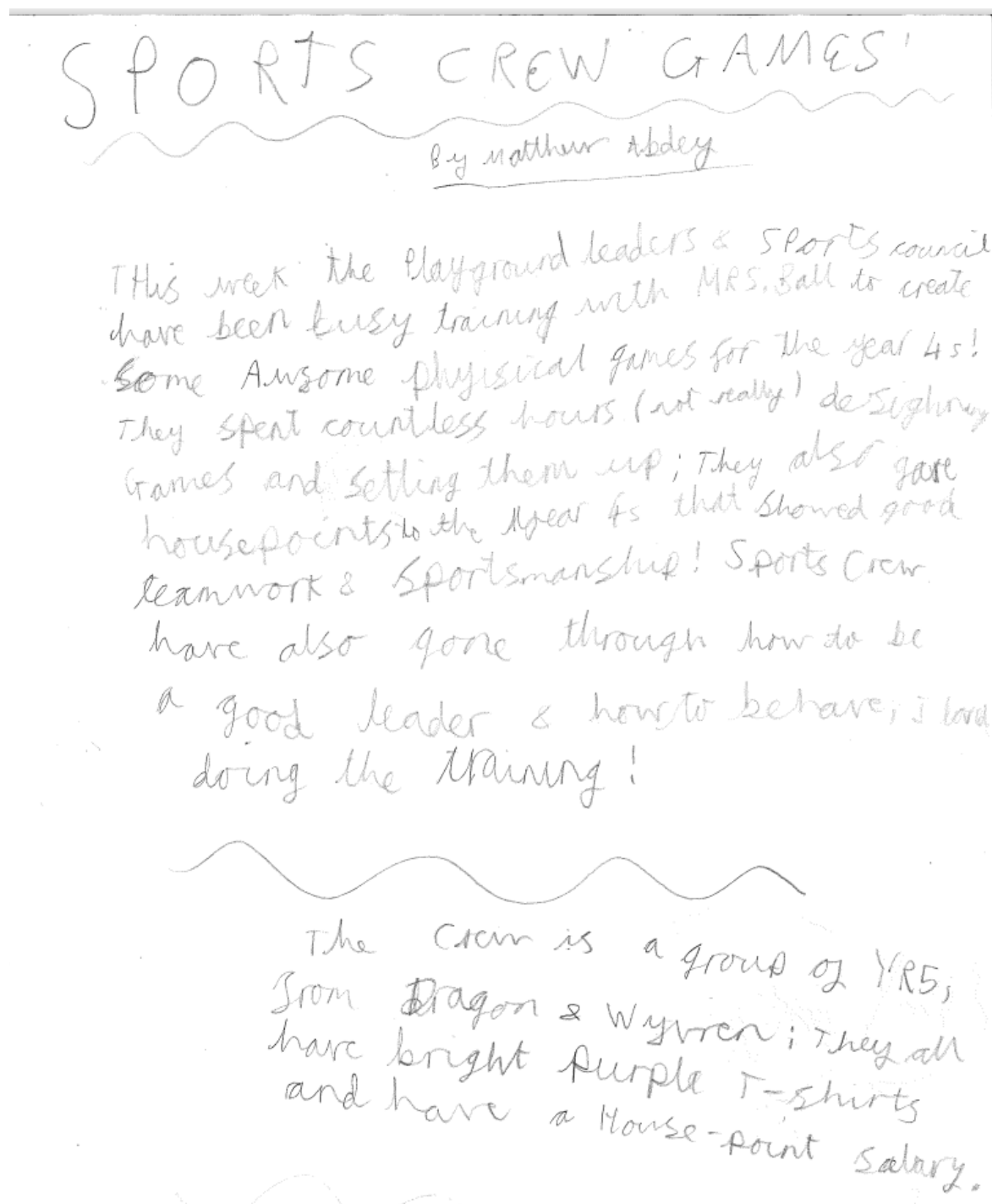
Date of Communication	Subject	Sent To
Monday 13 December	This Week at Slade	
Monday 13 December	First Class Football	All School 
Monday 13 December	Yeti's Wraparound Booking for Term 3	
Tuesday 14 December	An Update from Mrs Slade	All School 
Wednesday 15 December	An Update from Mrs Slade	Sphinx Class 
Wednesday 15 December	An Update from Mrs Slade	Elf Class 
Wednesday 15 December	An Update from Mrs Slade	Hippogriff Class 
Wednesday 15 December	An Update from Mrs Slade	Elmer Class 
Wednesday 15 December	EYFS Nativity 	EYFS Classes 
Wednesday 15 December	Year 1 The Night Before Christmas 	Year 1 Classes 
Wednesday 15 December	Year 2 Camel, Lights, Action 	Year 2 Classes 
Wednesday 15 December	KS2 Celebration at Christmas 	KS2 Classes 
Friday 17 December	Christmas Reading	All School 
Friday 17 December	An Update from Mrs Slade	Sprite Class 
Friday 17 December	Celebration Assembly	
Friday 17 December	Daily Mile Challenge	

Slade Sport



Sports Crew in Training

This week, Mrs Ball has been working with the Year 4 and 5 Sports Crew, One of the crew, Matthew has written this piece for the newsletter to describe what they have been up to.



Free Club Spaces (Years 3-6)

There are still a limited number of places available for Wendy Ball's sporting clubs in Term 3

Wendy will be running two new free to join clubs run by Wendy for different yeargroups. If your child is eligible and wishes to take part, please reserve a spot by emailing office@slade.kent.sch.uk with the name of the activity in the subject box:

Year 3 and 4 Sportshall Athletics: Wednesdays in Term 3 15:20 - 16:20

This club is for children in Year 3 or 4 who love running, jumping or bouncing, are good at or enjoy athletics. Covid restrictions pending, this club ends up with the children competing in the local Sportshall Athletics competition.

Year 5 and 6 Hockey and Netball: Friday mornings in Term 3 08:00 - 08:40

This club is for children in Year 5 or 6 to practise leading up to the Tonbridge Schools Hockey and Netball tournaments.



Next Week :

Day	Event
Monday 3 January	New Year Holiday School Closed for all pupils
Tuesday 4 January	New Year Holiday School Closed for all pupils
Wednesday 5 January	First Day of Term 3
Thursday 6 January	
Friday 7 January	

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Pegasus (Year 3, Miss Redden)
FRIDAY	Hippogriff (Year 3, Mrs Stephens and Mrs Berrill)

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week :

MONDAY	First Class Football, Active Sports Gymnastics, Learn Chess, mSPORTi Multi Sports
TUESDAY	Gary Marshall Cricket, Dancemode
WEDNESDAY	West Kent Athletics, Wendy Ball Sportshall Athletics
THURSDAY	Next Thing STEM, The Art Trolley, First Class Basketball and Netball
FRIDAY	Wendy Ball Hockey and Netball, SAMA Karate, mSPORTi Football

Further Ahead :

Wednesday 2 February	Year 3 Roman Day - More details will be sent nearer the time
Wednesday 2 February	Year 4 Sportshall Athletics
Monday 7 February - Friday 11 February	Children’s Mental Health Week
Thursday 7 February	Hippogriff Class First Swimming Lesson - More details will be sent nearer the time
Tuesday 8 February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 11 February	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 21 February	First Day of Term 4
Monday 21 February	Pegasus Class First Swimming Lesson - More details will be sent nearer the time
Monday 21 February - Monday 28 February	Bikeability - Griffin Class - More details will be sent nearer the time