



Slade

Primary School

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Slade Primary School Newsletter 2021/22 Term 4, Issue 4

Friday 18 March 2022

Slade Primary School

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 @sladeprimarysch



From the
Headteacher

Mrs Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have experienced the highest levels of staff absence since the start of the pandemic, higher than the last time they peaked at the start of February. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of the Slade staffing team who have all once again stepped in and stepped up to ensure that the absences have not impacted on any of the provision for our children across the school and in doing so have prevented any classes from having to revert to learning online from home; a huge thank you to each and every one of you for your support this week. A special mention and my personal thanks to Miss Garrett who has strongly led the team this week in my absence; thank you.

In addition, we have also seen an increase this week in the number of reported Covid cases amongst pupils, with only 2 year groups currently having no children absent with the virus. I once again urge all parents of any child who has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild, to follow the NHS guidance. That is, to arrange a PCR test to establish whether they have COVID-19 as soon as possible and for your child to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until you get the test result. Further guidance can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/> To all children, staff, parents and members of the wider school community who are currently unwell we hope that you are soon on the mend and look forward to welcoming you back into school soon.

These last two weeks we have been holding Pupil Progress meetings where members of the school leadership team meet with each class teacher online to discuss the progress of each child in school. It has been so pleasing to see the progress that your children have made since these meetings were last held in Term 2; well done all! A reminder that Parent Consultation meetings take place next week on **Tuesday 22** and **Thursday 24 March**. This is an opportunity for you to meet remotely with your child's class teacher to discuss the progress your child is making and to hear of their targets for the coming terms. Please be mindful that for some classes dates of these consultations will now need to be changed due to staff absence; further details will be sent to these classes in a separate communication.

Following on from parent consultation meetings, your child will next week be bringing home some of their work from the term to share with you over the weekend. Books will be sent home on **Friday 25 March** and are to be returned to school on **Monday 28 March**. This is an opportunity for you to talk to your child about their work and the learning that has taken place whilst also celebrating their achievements during the term. We ask that all books and folders be returned to school on the Monday in order for the children to be able to use them in class that week!

Earlier today I wrote to parents of Year 1 and 2 classes regarding changes that are being made to collection arrangements at the end of the day with effect from **Tuesday 22 March**. Please ensure you are aware of these changes prior to the end of the day on Tuesday. Plans for changes to arrangements in other year groups will be shared and rolled out over the next 2 weeks.

Thank you to those of you who have supported our Red Nose Day fundraising events today. From the photos that I've seen it would seem that the school has been transformed into every possible shade of red! I'm sorry to have missed out on the Red Nose Day Fun!

I hope you all have a lovely, safe weekend.

Karen Slade

Around School



Bikeability Completed for Year 6

Congratulations to the members of Griffin Class who have taken part and passed their Level 1 and Level 2 Bikeability course.

Level 1 involves learning about the maintenance and road worthiness of the children's bikes as well as learning the basics of riding with control, leading on to mastering manoeuvres such as turning and indication. The children will also learn about the rules of the road so that they are aware of how to safely travel on the roadway.

Level 2 is where the children get to practise these skills in 'real time' out on local roads. They will travel in a group with a trained Bikeability trainer at the front and rear of the travelling party as they conduct successful passing of parked vehicles and left and right turns into and out of junctions.

All of the children conducted themselves in an exemplary way, earning the praise of the instructors for their behaviour, listening and resulting success out on the road.

Certificates were handed out in Celebration Assembly this morning.



Kent Adult Cycle Training

The children have proved it can be done, and we are all acutely aware of the health, mental and environmental benefits of cycling. It may be that the only thing holding us back is the confidence to get out on the road.

Kent County Council are running courses for beginners, those looking to get out on the road for travel as well as an introduction and confident road riding of e-bikes (Electric Cycles).

The Bikeability Team are helping to put on these courses, which cost between £10 and £15, with discounts for NHS staff.

KENT ADULT CYCLE TRAINING 2021 - 22

Discount for NHS staff with code NHSTRAVEL

E-CYCLE COURSES NOW AVAILABLE, A GREAT WAY TO 'TRY BEFORE YOU BUY'

For more information and to book go to: kentcycletraining.co.uk

offer a range of cycle training courses for adults as follows:

- Learn to ride**
For beginners and riders wanting to improve their bike handling and confidence. Our aim is to get you riding confidently. Each course runs for approximately 1 hour 30 minutes
Booking fee £10 per course
- Confident road cycling**
To give you the skills and confidence to cycle safely on the road. Each course runs for approximately 2 hours
Booking fee £15 per course
- Introduction to electric cycles (e-bikes)**
To learn more about your electrically assisted cycle, or try one of ours before you buy. Each course runs for approximately 1 hour 30 minutes
Booking fee £10 per course
- Electric cycle (e-bike) confident road riding**
Having completed the introduction to electric cycles course, this course will enable you to ride your e-bike efficiently and safely on the road. Each course runs for approximately 2 hours
Booking fee £15 per course

NHS staff discount: quote NHSTRAVEL

For more information and to book go to: kentcycletraining.co.uk

Bicycle / Helmet hire is available for all courses at each of our training venues.

More > [Information and to book via kentcycletraining.co.uk](http://kentcycletraining.co.uk)

News from the PTA



Slade Easter Bunny Hunt

Tickets are selling fast for the PTA Easter Bunny Hunt, taking place on Friday 1 April, the last day of term.

Pre sale tickets are available until Tuesday 22 March, by sending in your entry fee (£2 per ticket or £4 per family) to the school office (in person or via your child's bookbag). The money should be in a sealed envelope with the child's name, class and amount enclosed written clearly on the outside.

Tickets will come in the form of a barcode which will be issued a week before the event, so please don't worry if you haven't received acknowledgement of your order yet!



Can You Help?

The PTA are in need for some volunteers for this event.

If you are able to help in any way, please let the PTA know via their Facebook Page or by email to sladeppta@yahoo.co.uk

There will also be a time when the PTA will be asking for donations of Hot Cross Buns in the week leading up to the event.

Please donate if you can.

Everyone looks forward to lots of fun on the field as the PTA events return to Slade.



Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the PTA meeting on 3 March were sent via email to all families today. They are also available on our website. Please take a read of them as they give a super run down of all of the events planned by the PTA and how proceeds help all of the children at Slade.

More > [The PTA Page on the school website](#)

Sign Language Week



British Deaf Association Sign Language Week 2022

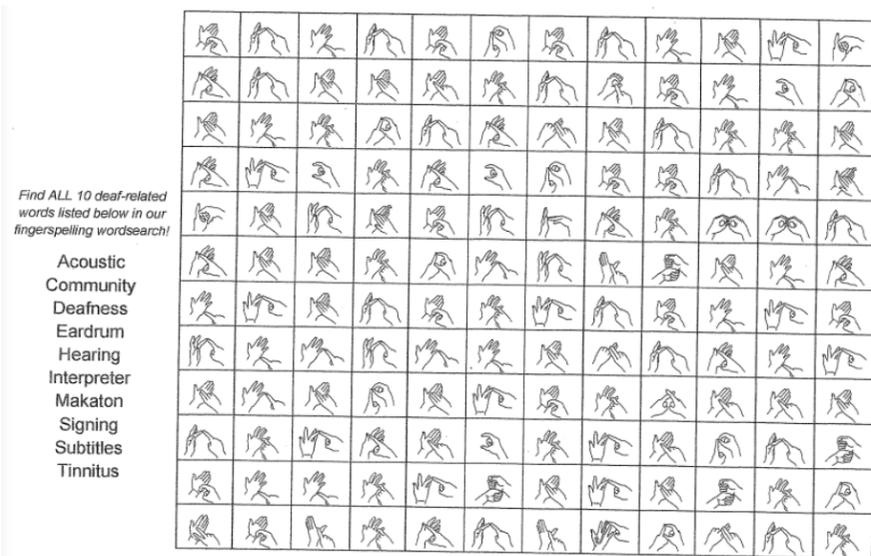
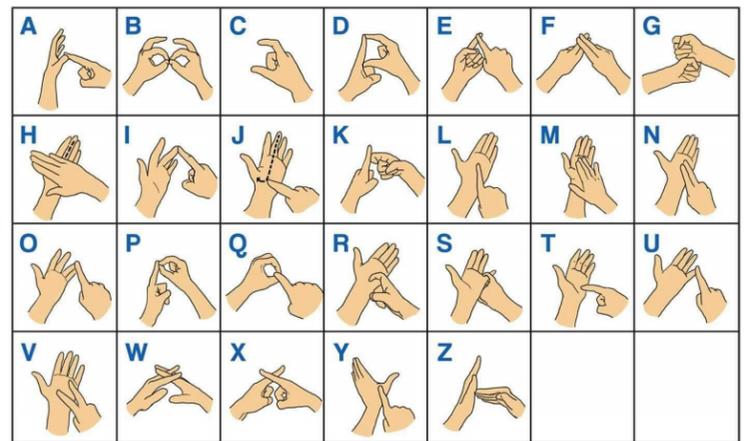
The week has seen the staff and children celebrate British Sign Language Week, with the theme this year 'To Bring Us Together.'

There are eleven million deaf people or those with hard of hearing in the United Kingdom presently, with 150,000 users of British Sign Language.

Of these, 70,000 use BSL as their first language, including children, parents and staff at Slade.

In school, the children have been treated to a visit from Mrs Taylor and Miss Havering of our Titans Class staff as they have toured the classrooms producing age related engaging workshops aimed at providing the school with up-to-date awareness and a chance to practice their signing together.

The classes set themselves a 'three minute signing challenge' after learning the BSL alphabet (right) to see how to sign their own name by spelling it out and then how many animals they could spell or sign with their partners guessing the identity of the animal. Certainly a game to try at home with the new knowledge gained by your child!



Also a part of the visits and getting to use their BSL alphabet saw children having a go at a deaf wordsearch - ask your child how you go about attempting to complete the wordsearch here yourself!

Mrs Luffingham meets Troy Kotsur

Last weekend, Mrs Luffingham was in attendance at the BAFTA ceremony in London, where she met deaf actor Troy Kotsur! Mrs Luffingham takes up the story:

'Last night I was fortunate enough not only to attend the BAFTAs in London, but to meet Troy Kotsur, the Deaf actor who won the Best Actor award for his role in the film CODA. To be specific, I just marched up to his table and started signing at him!

Although Troy uses American sign language he understood my BSL. I explained where I worked, and asked him if I could take a picture to show the hearing impaired children at Slade, as there were very few Deaf role models. He told me he was born deaf and had found it very hard to become successful. He was so gracious and kind and asked about the school and the children. I told him that it was also Sign Language Week and he was very interested.

He is the first Deaf actor to win a BAFTA and is also nominated for an Oscar. The ceremony was fully supported by ASL and BSL interpreters, including Marcel Hirshman who helped me with my BSL level 3.'



Sign Language Week

British Deaf Association
SIGN LANGUAGE WEEK

BSL Brings Us Together

14 - 20 March 2022

British Deaf Association Sign Language Week 2022



The Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes have also been watching episodes of Magic Hands, the BBC programme which uses BSL, whilst the older children have watched documentary 'Little and Loud' focusing on what it is like to be a deaf child in mainstream education.

[More > Watch episodes of Magic Hands via the BBC i-Player \(TV Licence required to view\)](#)

[More > Watch Deaf, Little and Loud via the BBC i-Player \(TV Licence required to view\)](#)

Miss Havering, who is herself profoundly deaf, has also been incredibly busy within the deaf community and was delighted to receive personalised messages for the children at Slade from deaf celebrities, which have been played to the children across the week in school. Our biggest thanks to Punk Chef, fashion designer Luke Christian, actress and Strictly Come Dancing superstar Rose Ayling-Ellis and YouTuber Jazzy.



We are all very grateful to Scott Garthwaite (Punk Chef), Luke, Rose and Jazzy for producing these messages and sending them in for the children at Slade. True role models, who all have a new following of fans in Tonbridge! Please do check out their programmes or socials at home.

Miss Havering is our own celebrity in her own right following her message on our Twitter feed yesterday which explained what has been going on across school this week. Make sure you see, retweet and like by following us <https://twitter.com/sladeprimarysch>.

Our Titans:

Titans Class and all Hearing Impaired Children at Slade with their Teachers and Teaching Assistants

We hope you have enjoyed BSL Week at Slade!



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

93.0%

Attendance This Year

94.0%

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

12

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>

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 14 March	This Week at Slade	
Tuesday 15 March	Slade PTA Easter Hunt	All School
Wednesday 16 March	Magazines for Collages	Year 2 Parents
Wednesday 16 March	Football Tournament Postponement	
Wednesday 16 March	Walk on Wednesday WOW - Sprite Class	
Thursday 17 March	Red Nose Reminder	All School
Thursday 17 March	Happy Sign Language Week	
Friday 18 March	Celebration Assembly	
Friday 18 March	Angel Centre Team Building	
Friday 18 March	Elf Class Teaching Arrangements	Elf Class Parents
Friday 18 March	Year 6 RSHE Learning	Year 6 Parents
Friday 18 March	Red Nose Day	
Friday 18 March	Free School Meal Vouchers -Easter Holiday	FSM Recipients
Friday 18 March	Team Building Action	
Friday 18 March	Year 1 and 2 Collection Arrangements	Year 1 and Year 2 Parents

Red Nose Fun at Slade

We have joined schools and communities across the UK today in raising money for Red Nose Day 2022, Comic Relief.

The children dressed in red, with thanks to the parents and carers for helping with today's clothing choices, to raise awareness of the charity and the work that it does to improve the life chances for children and others in need across the country and the world. We have already raised over £600 - many thanks to those who have donated.

More > [You can donate here via justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com)



For Your Diary



Next Week :

Day	Event
Monday 21 March	Swimming Lesson - Pegasus Class, Year 3, Miss Redden Year 3 and 4 Hockey - Those children involved in this event will have kit provided today
Tuesday 22 March	Boccia Tournament - Those children involved have consent replies already sent to Mrs Ball Parent - Teacher Consultation 16:00 - 19:00
Wednesday 23 March	
Thursday 24 March	Year 1 Dinosaur and Fossil Hunting Workshops Swimming Lesson - Hippogriff Class, Year 3, Mrs Berrill and Mrs Stephens Parent - Teacher Consultation 16:00 - 19:00
Friday 25 March	

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	Pixie Class (Year 1, Miss Elliott and Mrs McFerran)
TUESDAY	Elf Class (Year 1, Mrs Hill)
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Gnome Class (Year 2, Miss Taylor)
FRIDAY	Sprite Class (Year 2, Mr Louth)

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 Year 3 and 4 Hockey
THURSDAY	The Art Trolley, First Class Basketball and Netball
FRIDAY	Wendy Ball Year 5 and 6 Hockey, Next Thing STEM, SAMA Karate

Further Ahead :

Friday 1 April	Last Day of Term 4
Friday 1 April	PTA Easter Egg Hunt
Monday 4 April - Monday 18 April	Easter Break
Tuesday 19 April	First Day of Term 5 - Summertime at Slade!
Tuesday 19 April	EYFS22 Primary School Year R Intake National Offer Day If you have applied for this intake, please await further information on the next steps
Friday 22 April	Year 5 and 6 First Aid Training More information to follow nearer the time
Monday 2 May	National Holiday - School Closed to all pupils
Monday 9 May - Friday 13 May	KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) - Year 6
Monday 16 May - Friday 19 May	KS1 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) - Year 2
Tuesday 17 May	Matthew Walker Photography - Class Group Photographs
Friday 27 May	Last Day of Term 5
Monday 30 May - Monday 6 June	Summer Terms 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