Slade
Primary School

School Newsletter: Friday 9 December 2022 / Term 2, Issue 6

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Karen Slade

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas well and truly arrived today at Slade! Children and staff have all been looking very festive in their Christmas jumpers and outfits as we all enjoyed the Christmas Sale and Christmas Lunch. A huge thank you to all our parent helpers who have been busy in school these past weeks organising the fabulous sale which the children all thoroughly enjoyed this morning. Your help in making Christmas such a special time here at Slade is very much appreciated. Thank you too to our cook Helena and her catering team for producing such a fabulous feast for us all at lunchtime today. Delicious!

Massive congratulations and well done to all the children and staff involved in the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 productions that were performed throughout this week. The acting, singing, dancing, signing and narrating were all absolutely fabulous and I know that everyone who came to watch left feeling thoroughly Christmassy! And wasn't it fabulous to be watching a live performance this year too! Well done children, we are all very proud of each and every one of you!

Our Key Stage 2 choir has been out and about this week spreading the Christmas cheer into the community as they visited the 'University of the Third Age' at Fisher Hall, to sing Christmas carols to all that were there. There was so much positive feedback from all who listened! I was delighted to receive a lovely letter from a member of the audience praising not just the children's singing but also their behaviour too. Thank you and well done to all involved for being such positive ambassadors for the school.

Children in Year 5 were also singing out and about this week, when on Thursday they joined with children from Long Mead and Sussex Road schools at Judd Grammar in order to showcase the learning from their music lessons this term. This was the finale to a series of music lessons that both classes have received from Judd's music teacher, Megan Pitts, who with her colleague, has been coming into school across the term to teach our children and develop their love of music. Huge thanks to Megan and to all at Judd for organising the event. Every child involved gave a fabulous performance and should be very proud of their singing and signing. Well done to all of you!

We haven't just been singing in the community this week we've also been adding to our sporting achievements too. Well done and thank you too to the Year 3 and 4 pupils who represented the school so magnificently at Sports Hall Athletics Competition that was held at the Angel Centre earlier this week. Not only did the children do amazingly well in coming third but they also received much praise and many compliments on their positive behavior too during the event. Find out more about their successes further on in the newsletter!

Finally, huge congratulations and well done to Sarah Young, SEND Assistant, who has been successfully appointed to a new role in the care sector as Manager of Leslie Tue Court retirement home in Tonbridge and will be joining her new team from the start of January. We are delighted for Sarah on her promotion and wish her every success for the future. We are therefore currently recruiting to this role, with all job details available on the Kent Teach website should you or anyone you know be interested.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Karen Slade.

For Your Diary

Next Week:

Day	Event
Monday 12 December	Whole School Assembly including Celebration Assembly - Tonbridge School
Tuesday 13 December	Hillview Year 7 Transition Event - Participants aware of details 18:30 - Carols by Candlelight at St Saviours Church See Page 4 for details
Wednesday 14 December	14:00 - Class Parties Please bring party clothes to change into for this time only - see page 4
Thursday 15 December	Last Day of Term 2
Friday 16 December	Christmas and New Year Holiday School Closed to all Pupils

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	
TUESDAY	Wyvern Class, Year 5, Mr Osborne
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Dragon Class, Year 5, Miss Meers
FRIDAY	

All sessions are due to cancellation and rearrangement at short notice due to recent flooding

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week:

MONDAY	
TUESDAY	
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	

Clubs in Green are Free Clubs with spaces available, Clubs in Red are Free Clubs currently full, Clubs in Black are Paid For; check with organiser for availability

Further Ahead:

Wednesday 4 January	First Day of Term 3
Monday 9 January	Hydra Class Swimming - First Session Please make sure you have consented and paid via your Arbor Account
Thursday 12 January	Griffin Class Swimming - First Session Please make sure you have consented and paid via your Arbor Account
Monday 16 January	Closing date for applications to start in Early Years of Primary School in September 2023 This includes sibling applications. More information: https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places
Tuesday 17 January	Young Voices Concert - The o2 Arena, Greenwich

Around School

Christmas Day at Slade

What a day it has been here at school as we have held our annual 'Christmas Day' around Slade.

The day, celebrated with the wearing of Christmas jumpers by staff and pupils alike started off with the whole school Christmas Sale. The sale is organised and run by the PTA, who sell ideal gifts for all the family from donations from the wider school community.

Each class visited the stalls in the outside areas of the school as they experienced their very own Christmas Market atmosphere - don't check school bags tonight, they may be hiding a nice surprise!

We then enjoyed Christmas Dinner together, plenty of turkey with the trimmings with a backdrop of Christmas music - there were even a few surprise waiters.

Everyone at Slade hopes the children have had a fun day. Remember the fun doesn't stop here - the class parties are next Wednesday afternoon - all the children have to do is bring some party clothes to change into, the rest is taken care of!

Thankyou to all of the parents of performers who have reserved their places at Tuesday evening's Carols by Candlelight Christmas concert.

These tickets are now on general release at a first come first served basis. This is an all ticket event due to a safety capacity at the venue: St Saviour's Church.

The concert is the perfect beginning to the Christmas period with performances from the KS2 choir, the signing choir and pupils who are learning the violin under the stewardship of Madeleine Butcher here in school.

Tickets can be secured via the Eventbrite platform, under this link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ks2-music-carols-by-candlelight-tickets-481479356717

Out and About

It has been a busy week of groups leaving the site for destinations around town:

U3A Christmas Show

On Tuesday, our KS2 Choir and Mrs Martin's Year 3 and 4 Signing Choir were invited guests to perform for the members of U3A Tonbridge. U3A is a UK-wide collection of 1000+ charities that provide the opportunity for those no longer in work to come together and learn for fun.

The choirs entertained the community with a range of Christmas songs and carols as part of a day of variety performances, quizzes and comedy. The members were treated to whole group songs, duets and solos; they were particularly impressed with the children's singing , signing and the way they conducted themselves both when on stage and after their performance, when they sat respectfully whilst there was a quiz on the Far East in progress.

We have been touched by the emails, telephone calls and even personal visits that we have received from U3A members thanking the children and the teachers for a super time.

The Judd School Music Festival

On Thursday afternoon and evening, the whole of Year 5 walked to The Judd School for a special musical concert that involved ourselves alongside pupils from Sussex Road and Longmead Schools. We were very lucky to have spoken to Olivia in Dragon Class who took us through their day:

' We have been taught by a music teacher from The Judd School all term, she is called Miss Rachel Riley. Miss Riley works with another teacher, Miss Megan Pitts, who went to Sussex Road and Longmead to help their children learn the same songs. We walked over to Judd School and rehearsed in the afternoon all of the songs that we had learnt this year - it was really fun because we had been learning one verse, the other schools also had a verse and their were chorus parts that we all sang together. It was the first time we had heard the songs all the way through and they sounded fantastic!'

The children sung five songs: We Need a Little Christmas, Power in the Music, Believe, Sparkle and Shine and Nazareth. As afternoon turned to evening, the children had a playtime together as ticket holding parents, carers and friends filed into the main halls. The children then performed their perfected pieces to the guests - enjoyed by all!

Our thanks to the Music Department at The Judd School for coming in to teach both Wyvern and Dragon Classes this term and for holding the event that the children greatly enjoyed.

Invicta Maths

Maths Challenge: How did you do?

Last week in our report on the Invicta Maths Challenge, we asked you to have a go at home. Thankyou to everyone who had a go, including those who emailed their answers in.

So are you a budding maths superstar to rival Jing-Yi, Iris, Ethan and Tapasya? Find out below:

Warm Up (just to get your brains working - these are their words, not ours!)

- What is the value of the third cube added to the fifth square number?

  $3^3 + 5^2 = (3 \times 3 \times 3) + (5 \times 5) = 27 + 25 = 52$

- 2017 is a prime number, when is the next year that is prime?

  2027

Group Round

- The local hotel has 200 rooms. The rooms are numbered in ascending order starting with the number 1. However, the owners are a superstitious lot and none of the rooms have a number which is a multiple of 13 or has the sum of the digits of the room number equal to 13. These rooms are given names instead of numbers. How many rooms have names instead of numbers?

  Multiples of 13 – 13, 26, 39, 52, 65, 78, 91, 104, 117, 130, 143, 156, 169, 182, 195 à 15 rooms

  Sum of 13 – 49, 58, 67, 76, 85, 94, 139, 148, 157, 166, 175, 184, 193 à 13 rooms

  15 + 13 = 28 rooms

Speed Round

- The product of three consecutive whole numbers is 990. What is the sum of the three numbers?

  __ x __ x __ = 990 9 x 10 x 11 = 990

- It is 175 miles from Exeter to London by train. The train does the journey at an average speed of 60 miles per hour. How long does this journey take? Give the answer in hours and minutes.

  60 x 2 = 120 min 175 – 120 = 55 Answer 2h 55min

- In a single day, 5% of my time is spent reading, 30% is spent sleeping and 20% is spent at school. I divide the remainder of my time equally between spending time with the family, spending time with friends and playing sports. How many minutes do I spend playing sports?

  5% + 30% + 20% = 55%
  100% - 55% = 45%
  45% ÷ 3 = 15%

  24 x 60 = 1440
  15% of 1440 =
  10% of 1440 = 144
  5% = 72

  144 + 72 = 216 minutes

Our News

Malvina, Swimming Superstar

Everyone at Slade is very pleased and proud of Malvina, who recently added to her growing number of swimming medals after a successful club gala.

We spoke to Malvina just as she returned from the swimming pool with her Sphinx Class who had just finished their last school swimming lesson of the term.

She was very happy to share the story of her medal haul:

'I have been swimming for over two years and I started taking swimming lessons at Tonbridge Pool before joining their club. It is my favourite sport and love swimming a lot. Both my brothers also swim (Malvina said they were as good, but she was being very modest about her own success!) I took part in the 50 metres races in the recent Tonbridge Club gala in all of the main stokes (Front, back and breast stroke.) I was incredibly happy to win the bronze stroke for my breaststroke and silver medal for my front crawl.'

We also managed a quick word about what the children are asked to do when they go to the pool with school: ' Today, we practiced our front crawl technique which will make us stronger swimmers before playing a game of sinkers - where we have to try and pick up a number of bricks from the bottom of the pool, it was a lot of fun for me and all of the class.'

Many congratulations to Malvina and thankyou for speaking to us so soon to home time! Also, many thanks to Malvina's mum for contacting us and providing the photograph.

We are also very interested in knowing about any stories you have for the newsletter, just email us with details and we will take it from there!

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

If your child is in Year 6, don't forget that your last batch of KS2 swimming lessons at Slade will take place in Term 3.

Payment and consent for the 6 week course must be made for your children to join in and can be made now via your Arbor account - just login and choose 'Clubs' before following the prompts. Hydra Class will have their lessons on a Monday, starting on 9 January and Griffin Class on Thursday afternoon's with the first session on 12 January.

Next Week's Clubs

A reminder that all of the Term 2 Extra Curricular Clubs (run before and after school and at lunchtimes) have now finished and will not be on next week.

The paid for clubs organised by Dancemode, First Class Football, mSPORTi, SAMA Karate and Gary Marshall Cricket will return from Monday 9 January with a brand new set of free clubs available to book from next Tuesday - look out for the Term 3 timetable dropping into your inbox on Monday!

Slade Sport

Indoor Athletics Festival

Mrs Ball was pleased to be back at the Angel Centre earlier this week as she accompanied our teams who were representing the school at the Tonbridge and West Kent Indoor Athletics Competition. This event was held to take part in a number of track and field events to try and improve on their personal best.

The children had the chance to participate in running races, including a relay, throwing and jumping competitions. They all had a great time and managed to get better at each of the activities throughout the day.

A big congratulations to everyone, the full team line-ups were covered on our Twitter feed from the event on Wednesday. We would also like to say thankyou to Zoe and Alice who helped walk the children to the Angel Centre, without their time, we would not have been able to take part - we hope you enjoyed yourselves as well!

Daily Mile Bingo: Deadline Looms

Remember to submit your Daily Mile Bingo cards before the deadline on Wednesday 14 December. Sheets can be brought to the school office, given to the class teacher or directly to Mrs Ball.

It doesn't matter if not all of the squares are ticked off, and you have a chance to complete a few more over the weekend. Every entry counts towards the inter school competition for participation amongst all local schools.

There are also lots of individual prizes up for grabs, please just make sure that the child's name and class are written clearly on the reverse of the submitted form.

From The Governors

An Update from The Chair of Governors

Simon Griffiths

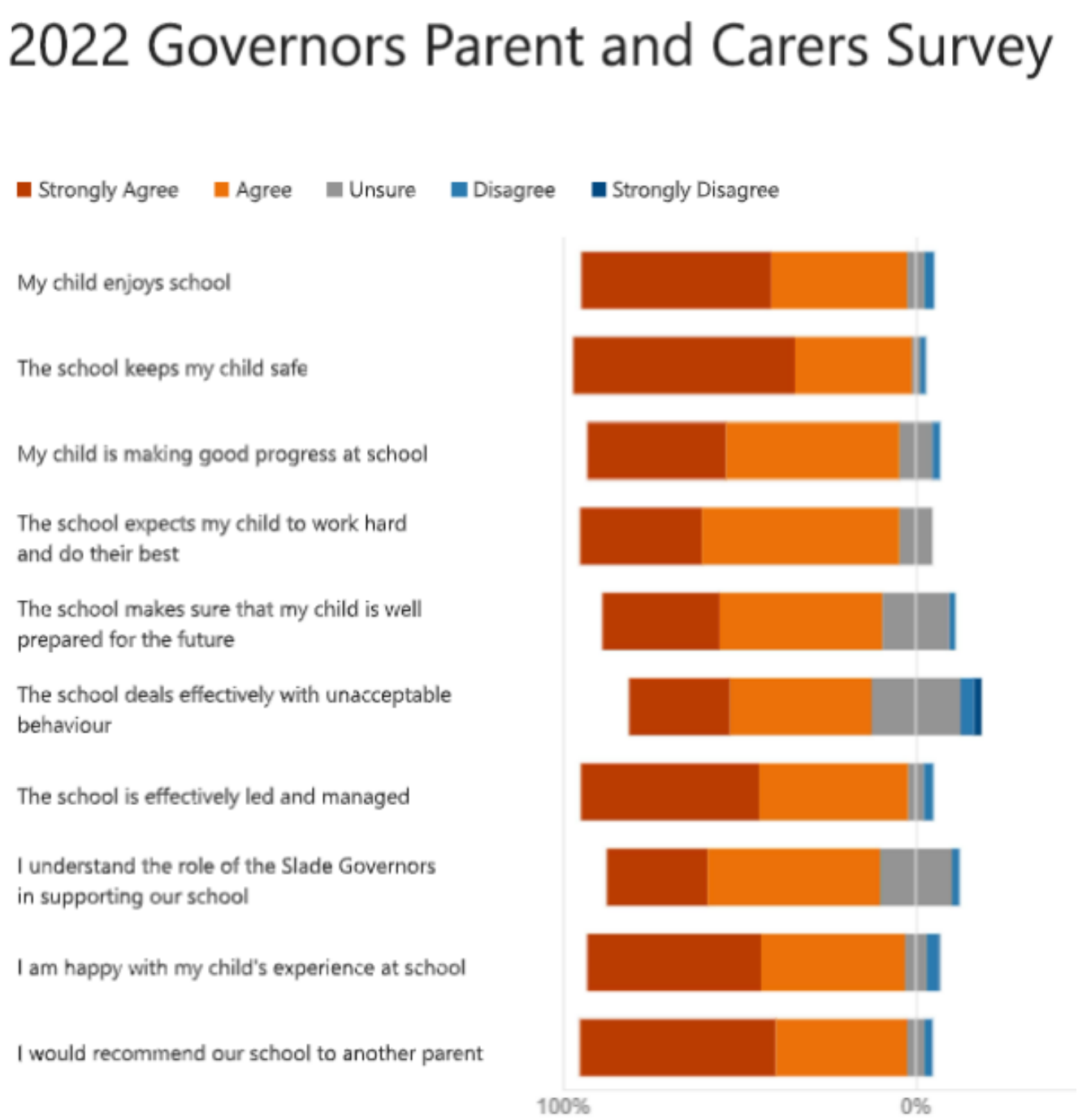
Chair of Governors, Slade Primary School

The governors met recently for their second Full Governing Body meeting of the school year. We reviewed and adopted the School Development Plan (SDP) for this year, which highlights focus areas for the school based on the annual self-assessment completed by the school's leadership. The SDP will be closely monitored over the year to track progress against the agreed targets. We also reviewed the school's finances at the half-way point in the school financial year and were pleased these remain on track despite many additional pressures on the budget this year.

Can I thank the over 180 of you who took the time to complete our annual parent and carer survey which we discussed at the meeting. It's a great help to governors and the school leadership as it provides a useful insight into developing trends or areas which may need more attention. Can I also thank all of you who provided additional comments. I can assure you these have all been read and where necessary we will work with the school to provide an answer to your comments or questions. If you do have any urgent issues however, please raise these using the normal channels via your class teacher or key stage leader.

Just a reminder you can find the minutes of all governor meetings and more about what we do on the governor page of the school website.

Simon Griffiths
Chair of Governors.



Slade Stats

Attendance

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.

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

Attendance Target	97%
Attendance This Week	91.6%
Attendance This Year	94.8%

Punctuality

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	16

Attendance Ted and Punctuality Pup winners are announced each Friday live from the normal celebration assembly via our Twitter feed which also includes the weekly winners of our Pupil of the Week prizes from the EYFS and KS1 Golden Book and KS2 Diamond Book as well as the champion house from the weekly totting up of Housepoints from across KS1 and KS2.

Follow us to find out more @sladeprimarysch.

Dear Parents & Carers

Our Communication to You

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 5 December	Today at Slade	
Monday 5 December	Carols by Candlelight - participants ticket details	Participant Parents
Monday 5 December	Menu Changes this week	All School
Monday 5 December	Yeti's Booking Window	
Tuesday 6 December	Today at Slade	
Tuesday 6 December	Pegasus Class Forest School Highlights	Pegasus Class Parents
Tuesday 6 December	Mayoral Visit to Slade	
Wednesday 7 December	Today at Slade	
Wednesday 7 December	Design and Technology Lessons in Year 6	Year 6 Parents
Wednesday 7 December	West Kent Decathlon Teams	
Wednesday 7 December	Important Update: Group A Streptococcus	All School
Wednesday 7 December	Daily Mile Bingo	
Wednesday 7 December	Year 3/4 Decathlon Action	
Thursday 8 December	Today at Slade	
Thursday 8 December	Important Update for Wyvern Class	Wyvern Class Parents
Friday 9 December	Today at Slade	
Friday 9 December	PTA Children's Christmas Market	
Friday 9 December	Nourish Christmas Meal	
Friday 9 December	General Payment Reminders	All School