



Slade Primary School

School Newsletter: Friday 27 January 2023 / Term 3, Issue 3



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Karen Slade



Dear Parents and Carers,

We're over half way through Term 3 already and it's been another busy week of learning; do ask your children what exciting things have been happening in their class this week!

As I shared in last week's newsletter, The National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its ballot of teacher members in England has met the thresholds required to commence industrial action. The first of the proposed dates for possible national and regional action is Wednesday 1 February. I therefore wrote to you earlier today with further updates on the planned action and the impact that it will have for classes here in school. Please do check the details of this letter if you have not already done so in order that you are aware of the implications for your children and can begin to plan alternative arrangements for childcare on this day. I will be providing further updates as I have them in the coming days so please do ensure you keep a check on your inbox; thank you.

I was extremely proud earlier this week of our Year 5 and 6 'Safeguarding Champions' who led our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 assemblies during which they explained their roles and responsibilities to the other children in the school. Well done to all involved for overcoming your nerves and presenting with such confidence to such a large audience! Our 'Safeguarding Champions' were appointed after applying for the role and being interviewed by the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss Garrett. Their important role involves ensuring that the adults in school are made aware of safeguarding and health and safety concerns from the child's perspective. We will keep you posted on some of the work that the team carry out in future newsletters.

On Wednesday this week four of our Year 6 pupils, accompanied by Miss Meers, visited Invicta Grammar School Maidstone. Well done and thank you too to Nylah, Max, Megan and Tobias who finished a fantastic third in the [@invictagrammar](#) Literacy Challenge! The challenge included taking part in a number of competitions including Creative Writing, Spelling, Anagrams and Descriptions. Not only did the children do amazingly well in coming third but they also received much praise and many compliments on their positive behaviour too during the event. Find out more about their successes further on in the newsletter! Well done Team Slade!

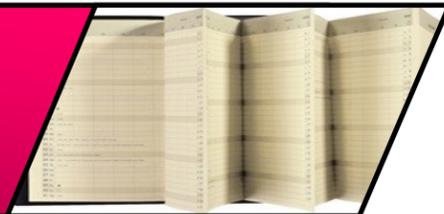
It was lovely to welcome our two new parent governors Daniel van Bregt and Bérengère Mauduit to their first Governing Body meetings this week. It was great to have them on board during both the Personnel and Finance Committee meetings; we hope that you soon feel at home in your new roles. Huge thanks to all of our governors for their ongoing support and commitment to the school; I am forever grateful to you all for your continuous dedication in giving your time and service as volunteers. Thank you everyone.

A final reminder that we are currently recruiting to our Breakfast Club Team and are looking to appoint to the role of Play Worker for our morning sessions, working across the week at the start of the day. Closing date for all applications is Monday! Full details about the role and application details are available on the Kent teach website at www.kent-teach.com or do come to speak to either myself or Miss Garrett if this is something that you would be interested in applying for and you would like to find out more about what the role entails.

Have a lovely weekend,

Karen Slade.

For Your Diary



Next Week:

Day	Event
Monday 30 January	Hydra Class Swimming
Tuesday 31 January	Stradbrook Dental Surgery Nurse Visit to school: EYFS, KS1 and Pegasus Class
Wednesday 1 February	Please see separate Letter from Mrs Slade regarding school on Wednesday
Thursday 2 February	Stradbrook Dental Surgery Nurse Visit to school: KS2 Classes Griffin Class Swimming
Friday 3 February	Year 3 Roman Day Please make sure you have paid via Arbor and submitted make up form to the school office Afternoon Session: Year 5 Orienteering See Letter from Miss Meers to follow
Saturday 4 February	National League Trust Cup Final: Longmead Stadium - See Page 10 for full details

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	Griffin Class (Year 6, Mrs Burnside)
TUESDAY	Hydra Class (Year 6, Miss Buswell)
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Gruffalo Class (EYFS, Mrs Hitchcock) This is a date alteration
FRIDAY	Elmer Class (EYFS, Mrs Pearson) This is a date alteration

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week:

MONDAY	Y1-4 French, Y1-6 First Class Football, Y2-6 Right Step Company, KS1 Multi Skills, KS1 BSL
TUESDAY	Y1 Book Club , KS2 DanceMode, KS2 Marshall's Cricket
WEDNESDAY	KS1 Sports, Y4-6 Yoga, Y4-6 Choir, KS2 West Kent Athletics, Y1-6 Art Trolley, Y5/6 Mindfulness
THURSDAY	Y3/4 Hockey , Y1/2 Signing , Y5/6 Homework , Y1-6 First Class Basketball, KS1 DanceMode
FRIDAY	Y5/6 Sports , YR - 6 SAMA Karate

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:

Monday 6 February	Year 6 Hillview School Art Workshop More details nearer the time
Tuesday 7 February	Safer Internet Day 

Focus on Year 2

2

Healthy Eating Roadshow



On Thursday, we were very pleased to welcome both Lauren and Max from the Tonbridge and West Kent Partnership who came to see us to present an interactive roadshow based around healthy eating for our children in Year 2.

The roadshow is put together with the help of Change4Life part funded by the NHS to help people make good lifestyle choices for healthier bodies and minds.

The roadshow started with a few reminders and conversation about what healthy eating means and how it doesn't prevent snacking or having treats, but knowing how and when and what helps us to look after our bodies best, such as sleep - the children had already learnt the amount of sleep needed by a Year 2 child - which is between 9 and 12 hours. More surprising for them was the number of glasses of water that they should try and drink each day which is between 6 and 8.

Lauren then started a runaround quiz for all of the children in Sprite and Gnome classes - the questions were all multiple choice, with 4 possible answers. The options were in the four corners of the hall and the children ran to the one they thought was correct. The questions ranged from what happens to your heart rate and breathing before and after exercise, good snacks bad snacks and the question which stumped them all: how many meals should you have each day? The answer of course, three: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.



Following the quiz, the classes split into smaller groups for focused sessions with their teacher, Lauren or Max as they looked in more detail at some of the learning. They had a chance to visit each of the learning points through the morning.



The groups that went with their teacher or Teaching Assistant looked at a balanced diet and the types of food that they should try to eat every day, we might know this as the 5-a-day and the children learnt this as the rainbow of food!

Lauren took another group to discover more about the food groups. They started by looking at what the food groups are, and which types of food can be categorised into each one.

The children then played an active relay game to complete a food group circle in teams.



Max's group concentrated on the importance of the three main meals of the day and how to healthily snack between meals. The children learnt how vital having a good breakfast was to the success of their day before playing a game of doubles - picking the snap cards and saying if the food on the card was healthy or not!

Invicta Literacy



Fantastic Third for Slade

Miss Meers was delighted to take a team to the Invicta Grammar School Literacy Challenge as we returned to the Maidstone school for another of their super competition days for local primary school children.

Along with schools from across Mid-Kent and Medway our team of Max, Megan, Nylah and Tobias enjoyed a series of different Literacy and English Language challenges aimed at combining school and social literacy, communication and teamwork skills, offering the participants another way to express and develop their enjoyment of English.

The rounds of the competition included Spelling, in which the Slade team came second and Anagrams where each team was faced with a mixed up set of letters and they had to decipher the correct word or words.

Nylah joined us in the office on Thursday to describe the most detailed and successful round for our team: The Creative Writing Round. Nylah was thrilled to say that Slade came in first place for the 100 word story that they produced. 'We were given a sentence to start our story and from that we had to plan and write our piece, but try and keep it to only one hundred words. Some of the schools wrote too much, but we were able to plan and edit ours so it was the correct length. We were really pleased with the story which saw a monster strangled and the demise of Superman! We planned the story first and then all came up with ideas on what to write next. We only had 25 minutes to do it all so we worked really well as a team. The teacher running the day was really pleased with the number of metaphors and similes we added into the story.'

Nylah also enjoyed the Articulate round, where the teams had to guess a given word or phrase described by one of the teammates 'It was difficult, but fun. Max had a tough one which was One Direction. Because he didn't know that they were a band (which makes your writer feel very old!) he was able to quickly think of another way to describe it like If I went in a single way! We all had such good fun and a great day.'

Many congratulations to Nylah, Max, Tobias and Megan for representing Slade in such a positive way and for challenging themselves and working so well as a team.



Many thanks also to the parents and Miss Meers who took the children to Maidstone and indeed to Miss Palmer and her team at Invicta for another fantastic day - we look forward to visiting again soon!



Our News



Happy Year of the Rabbit!



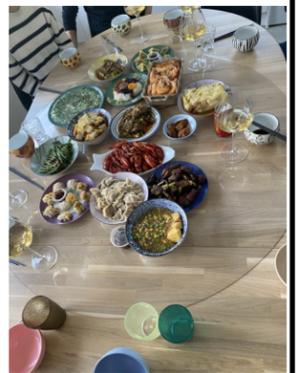
We are lucky to have many families of Chinese origin within our number at Slade and we are grateful to Erin and her mummy for sharing the story of their celebrations of the Spring Festival with us for this week's newsletter.

Erin tells us: 'Last weekend was a very special time for me and my family because it was Chinese New Year. Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival, is the most important festival for Chinese people. The festivities start on the first day of the lunar year, and end with the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of Chinese new year. This year, is the Year of the Rabbit.'

Family reunion is at the core of the Spring Festival and Erin's mummy told us that there was plenty to do! 'We had big meals with family and friends here and Erin also had a great time by greeting family members in China via video calls.'



We ate dumplings and sticky rice ball by tradition. Erin also got a red pocket with some pocket money from us (parents and grandparents) this red pocket is a sign of luck and fortune in the new year. I wish you all a great Year of the Rabbit!'



Many thanks to Erin and her family for sharing this story for the newsletter and very best wishes for a very happy Lunar New Year to everyone who celebrates.

[Find out more about the story of the Chinese New Year](#)

Brilliant BMXing!

Last weekend, Jacob in Griffin Class had a super exciting time and in turn managed to fulfil one of his long time ambitions: to take part in his first winter series BMX race.

He attends a weekly BMX Club held each Saturday at Cyclopark just off of the A2 in Gravesend and was the venue for his debut race last weekend.

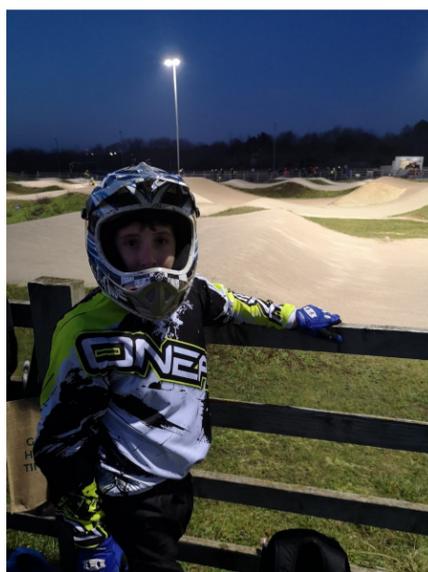
Jacob joined us this week to discuss the race and how much he enjoys BMXing: 'I love being out on the track at Cyclopark every Saturday when we practice - I am able to take on the bumps on the track and to be able to jump over them, as well as being able to successfully and safely Manual a BMX bike.'

'I was so excited to take part in my first race. There were eight riders in the starting gate, which is released when the race starts. We go once round the long, loopy track. I was so energetic when racing, but by the end it became very tiring. I was lucky enough to get through the rounds and to race 4 times in one night! My lap time was 50 seconds, which I was really pleased with.'

Congratulations Jacob, and best of luck as you take on more BMX challenges

Find out more via the Cyclopark website:

<https://www.cyclopark.com/>



Slade Sport



In School Sport and Fitness

Wendy Ball, Fitness and Wellbeing Champion

PE at Slade

It is great to see just how well PE, School Sport and Physical Activity is developing at Slade. The children are so enthusiastic and keen to try different sports, improve their fitness and represent Slade in sporting competition.

As a result of this, we are now proud to say that Slade have been awarded a School Games 'Gold' Mark for our commitment to PE and sport. As a result of this we are now being asked to share best practice with other schools in Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. We couldn't do this without the continued support of parents and I would like to thank you for this.



PE Kit

Children should have their PE kit in school at **ALL** times as we may be undertaking additional sport during the week. The school PE kit is as follows:

- School White PE T shirt or plain white T shirt
- Blue Shorts
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Slade Tracksuit
- Sports Crew members **ONLY** may wear their Sports Crew T shirts for PE



Earrings

Earrings should be removed prior to PE lessons. If this is not possible, children will be required to tape over their earrings themselves at the start of the lesson; this includes newly pierced ears. (Where possible we would request children have their ears pierced at the start of the summer holidays).

Teachers are not able to tape children's earrings for insurance purposes.

Clubs

We run a wide variety of **FREE** and paid extra-curricular clubs before and after school. Details can be obtained from the school website. It would be lovely to see every child participating in an extra activity at Slade during the school year. Please take the time to look at the offer and sign your children up.



Thank you once again for all your continued support. We always welcome any type of feedback to continue to improve our offer and support the children to continue to lead healthy, active lifestyles.

Wendy.

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

93.3%

Attendance This Year

94.4%

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.

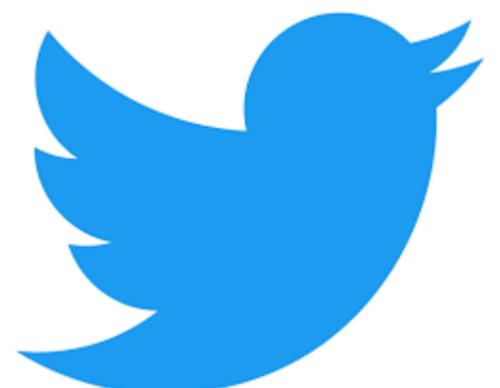
Punctuality Pup is awarded to the class with the best punctuality each week.

Pupils Late This Week

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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](https://twitter.com/sladeprimarysch).



Supporting Slade



As you will know, our girls football team reached the local final of the National League Trust U11 Cup after finishing top of the table in the main competition last week. The final will be played on Saturday 4 February at Longmead Stadium - and everyone is welcome to come on cheer the girls!

The girls will be facing up against St Augustine's Catholic Primary School of Tunbridge Wells in with the kick off at 13:00; you can arrive from 12:30 and we are keen for as many of the Slade family to be there to help the girls in their mission to add another title to their name.



National League Trust Cup

Slade

Vs

St Augustine's



Saturday 4 February 13:00



The National League Trust Cup final will be taking place on the main pitch at the home of Tonbridge Angels FC just before they take on promotion chasing Worthing in the National League South which kicks off at 15:00.

Have a great afternoon at the football and take advantage of the fantastic hospitality and friendliness of the non league game, which is perfect for all the family to enjoy!



National League South

Tonbridge Angels

Vs

Worthing



Saturday 4 February 15:00

More via tonbridgeangels.co.uk

