



Slade Primary School

School Newsletter: Friday 3 March 2023 / Term 4, Issue 2



Karen Slade



Dear Parents and Carers,

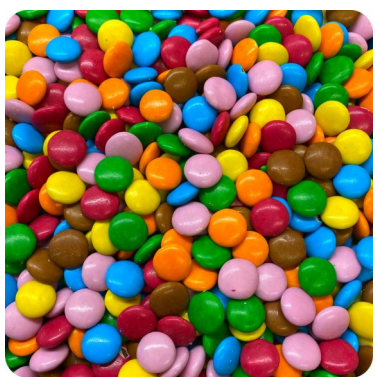
School was transformed today into a colourful world of book characters and bed time stories as we celebrated World Book Day today, albeit a day later than originally planned! Across the school children and adults with their classes had fun exploring the characters and books that they were representing. Thank you for the part that you played with resourcing costumes and helping your child to bring their book character to life.



Thank you too to our English Team who planned and prepared so many literary treats for us all to enjoy throughout the day. Do ask your child who their class's mystery reader was during the day! Your child should have brought a book token home with them at some point during this week which can be exchanged in any local book store. We look forward to hearing about the books that you buy!

Still on the theme of books, a separate letter has been shared with you today outlining the planned return of reading journals throughout the school this term. Those of you that were part of our Slade community prior to lockdown will remember how we previously used a reading journal as a form of communication between home and school; however, we had to pause its use due to Covid-19 restrictions. Having listened to feedback from our parent community via our group of Class Reps we are now reintroducing the journal as a way for you or your child to make a record of their reading sessions at home and for us to record when your child has been heard read in school too. More detail of their intended use is outlined in the separate communication so please do check it out and remember to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance should you have any queries. Happy reading everyone!

We are very much looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school later this month for the long awaited return of our face-to-face Parent Consultation meetings which will be take place on Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 March in your child's classroom. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss the progress they are making, to hear of their targets for the coming terms and to take a look at some of their work too. The booking system for these meetings opens on Monday, so do look out for details of how to secure your slot!



Well done and huge thanks to all of the children who participated in the half term Smartie Challenge that was organised by our fabulous PTA. We were overwhelmed by the number of families that got involved and even more so by the tremendous total of £1002.95 that was raised! A huge well done everyone! Thank you too to all the parents and carers for providing all the loose change that filled up those Smartie tubes! I'm very much looking forward to announcing the class that collectively raised the most money in Celebration Assemblies which will be held on Monday and Tuesday next week. Look out on our Twitter Feed for when the winning class is announced!

This week we welcomed two new members to our Slade community who I know that some of you have already spotted and taken a peek at! Our two new pet rabbits have been settling well into their new home, getting to know the children in Reception and eagerly anticipating what names Elmer and Gruffalo children are planning to give them. All will be revealed next week!



Finally, thank you everyone for your positive response to my reminder last week regarding the need for your children to be wearing the correct footwear to school; your support with this matter is very much appreciated.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Karen Slade.

For Your Diary



Next Week:

Day	Event
Monday 6 March	Pegasus Class Swimming 20:00 Parent - Teacher Consultation Booking Window Opens
Tuesday 7 March	Year 3/4 Boys Football: Leigh Academy - details known to participants
Wednesday 8 March	Girls Football Tournaments: Mascalls Academy - details known to participants
Thursday 9 March	SEND PE Festival: Weald of Kent School - details known to participants Hippogriff Class Swimming
Friday 10 March	

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	Hydra Class (Year 6, Miss Buswell)
TUESDAY	Elmer Class (EYFS, Mrs Pearson)
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Gruffalo Class (EYFS, Mrs Hitchcock)
FRIDAY	

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week:

MONDAY	Y1-4 French, KS1/2 Football, Y2-6 Gymnastics and Cheerleading, KS2 BSL , EYFS/KS1 Muti Skills
TUESDAY	Y1 Books , KS2 Play Leaders , KS2 Street Dance, KS2 Cricket,
WEDNESDAY	Y3/4 Sports , Y4-6 Yoga , EYFS/Y1-3 Play Leaders , KS2 Choir , KS1/2 Athletics, KS1/2 Art
THURSDAY	EYFS/Y1-3 Play Leaders , Y3 Signing Choir , All School Homework , KS1/2 Basketball, KS1 Street Dance
FRIDAY	Y5/6 Sports , EYFS/Y1-3 Play Leaders , All School 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

For full details see: <https://www.slade.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Extra%2DCurricular+Clubs&pid=25>

Further Ahead:

Wednesday 15 March	Pegasus Class Visit to The Judd School
Thursday 16 March	National League Cup Regional Quarter Finals: Bromley FC
Tuesday 21 March	18:00: Tonbridge Choir Event: - Details known to participants
Tuesday 21 March	Parent - Teacher Consultations (See Page 4)
Wednesday 22 March	Pegasus Class visit to Pizza Express
Thursday 23 March	NHS Visit for screenings in EYFS and Year 6
Thursday 23 March	Parent - Teacher Consultations (See Page 4)
Wednesday 29 March	Hippogriff Class visit to Pizza Express

Around School



Welcome to Yeti's: Miss Munday and Mrs Pearson

This week has been a special week in our Yeti's Breakfast Club with the arrival of two new Playworkers to the team.

We would like to welcome Miss Munday to Slade and we are thrilled to say that she has been joined by Teaching Assistant Mrs Pearson as part of the new look morning team that also includes experienced Breakfast and After School Club playleader and Lunchtime Supervisor, Sharon Butrymowicz.

Remember, Yeti's is open from 07:30 for working parents and is bookable online via your SCOPAY account.



Parent - Teacher Consultations



The Spring Term Parent - Teacher Consultation meetings will be taking place at the end of the month on Tuesday 21 March* and Thursday 23 March.

These meetings will happen in school for the first time since the first COVID-19 lockdown in 2020 and are booked via your Arbor App. Full details on how to do this will appear in a personal email to be sent on Monday 6 March, with the booking window opening at 20:00 that evening. The meetings are 10 minutes long and are available between 16:00 and 19:00 on both evenings*.

We look forward to welcoming you to school for this vital chance to see how your child is progressing this year in all aspects of school life and to discuss their targets as we approach the Summer.

**Different details will apply to Pixie and Pegasus Classes due to teacher participation in the Tonbridge Choir Event on Tuesday 21 March.*

Clubs Update

Thankyou to everyone who has booked onto a before, during or after school activity club either run by Slade or by a external provider. We hope the children enjoy the rich and varied menu of clubs open to them.

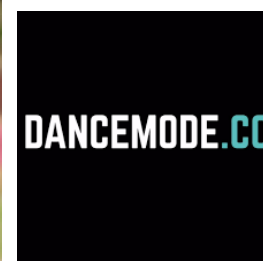
Clubs do not normally run on the last week of the main terms (Before the Christmas, Easter and July holidays) which has been the policy at school for many years. Privately run activity providers will be aware of this in their contract with us and shouldn't advertise differently.

However, we are mindful of the disruption caused by the recent industrial action which has led to the closure of some classes and to compensate parents, children and the companies affected, we would like to confirm that the following clubs will be running on the last week of term:

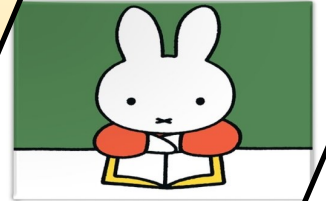
West Kent Athletics with Lewis (KS1/2) - Wednesday 29 March

Dancemode Street Dance for KS1 with Katie - Thursday 30 March

Basketball (KS1/2) with First Class Football - Thursday 30 March



Reading Corner



World Book Day

World Book Day (officially yesterday, but celebrated with all of the children at Slade today) is an event that promotes itself via their website as:

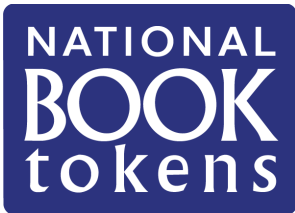
'World Book Day changes lives through a love of books and shared reading. Our mission is to promote reading for pleasure, offering every child and young person the opportunity to have a book of their own.'

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income. We want to see more children, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, with a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and the improved life chances this brings them.

World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. It is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. '

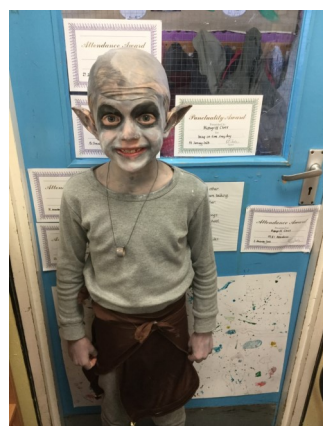
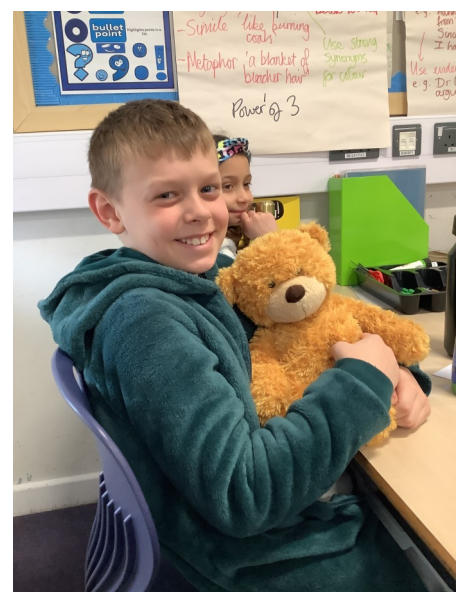
We share that passion for reading at Slade and remain encouraged by the number of children we see excited by their reading books and how many of them enjoy visiting the library during core learning time and at lunchtimes

Of course, World Book Day isn't the same without dressing up, and this year we had a choice of outfits, whether that be in the traditional book character, with pyjamas and cuddle bear for a cosy bedtime read or in a book inspired hat!



We are delighted to say that World Book Day (a charity sponsored by National Book Tokens) are again providing book tokens worth £1 / €1.50 for every child. For more information visit their website.

More > Via [2023s-1-books \(worldbookday.com\)](https://www.worldbookday.com)



Sights from Slade today

Meet The Team



Caroline Mawson: School Librarian

Since we have been celebrating World Book Day today, we thought it appropriate and fitting to speak with our very own librarian, Caroline Mawson, about her role at Slade and her love of reading that inspires her work here and fosters the same in the children across the school.

Firstly Caroline, why is a school library so important?

It is a hub of a school, somewhere for children to visit with friends and somewhere that opens the door to reading, where you can stumble across an author or a genre and want to read more and more. It is so vital because fewer children now have the opportunity to visit a bookshop or the declining number of libraries in the community.

What do you most enjoy about your role?

I have a sense of responsibility, that for the children the school library is their primary, or only source of finding new books to read - to be able to search and rummage through the varied titles we have on offer in the Slade Library. I take so much happiness out of the children coming in and talking enthusiastically about something they've just read, or looking desperately for a book that their friend has already read; their reading for pleasure is so important for them, and to me!

Is this your first stint as Librarian?

No, I joined Slade from Pembury School where they had a small library. To be able to have set the library up in its present fashion here at Slade has been an honour as all of the team from Mrs Slade through all of her teachers and TAs really respect and support the importance of a school library and have backed that up with time and resources. This is also the case with our parents who have been so generous in thinking of the library with donations of much loved books. This is a real community.

Your Dream Job?



Easy one - to own a bookshop! The atmosphere of those places is amazing. I used to volunteer in the bookshop in the Hospice in the Weald bookshop which was wonderful.

Your Favourite Book as a child?

Paddington Bear



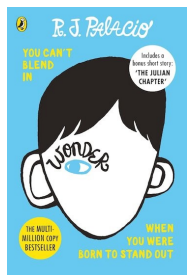
And for the older children today?

Anything by

Michael Murpurgo



Could we have the Librarian's Book Recommendations?!



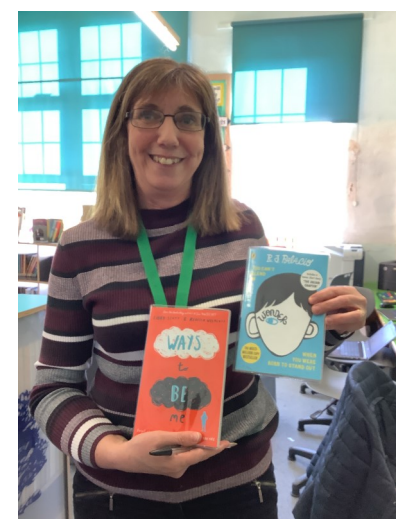
Oh yes, I love thrillers that keep you in suspense. As for individual books, and it is hard to beat *Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio which is an inspiring tale and also please do take a look at books written by young autistic author Libby Scott. Libby's books and the talks she gives are something for everyone to read and listen to and prove that there is no barrier in life, especially when you express yourself through a book!



Did your love of reading start when you were young?

Definitely, both and especially at home and school. I attended Nottage Primary School in Porthcawl and the teachers there gave me a solid bedrock to my current love of reading.

Caroline continues to welcome children into the library throughout the week both as part of their scheduled visits in core learning time and at lunchtime. She is also very pleased to be able to provide each class with their own set of curriculum and topic books each term as well as changing the displays in the library to keep the choice relevant and interesting for all of the children.



Slade Sport



Sports Leaders Recognised

Our Year 5 Sports Crew Leaders have been undertaking a series of challenges associated with their role over the last couple of months which has included playing an active part in the lunchtime activities of children across the school.

The children have been rewarded with a certificate which shows how many challenges they have managed to complete ranging from Bronze to Outstanding.

Olivia and Sophie are keen sports players themselves and both received the Outstanding award; they came to talk to us in the school office yesterday ahead of their presentation.

‘The Sports Leaders duty is to show leadership, produce creativity, encourage teamwork and to be a positive role model for the younger children in school. It is a real honour being a Sports Crew Leader as we can see the confidence being given to others and to us as well as we play with them.’

We asked what was the main motivation for performing the role of Sports Leader:

‘ Our love of sport. It is a huge pleasure to see other children come out of their shells, for us to spread our love of sport and to see if any of the children can find a different sport or activity that they may go on to love forever. It doesn’t even need to be a competitive sport - we created an obstacle course and hurdles for the Year R and 1 children to complete.’

What were the highlights of these challenges?

‘The opportunity to learn from the younger children as well - we saw what they were good at and what they found tricky and how to help them improve. We were able to measure how they improved after playing with us and it was great that we were challenged as well. The best bit - we were working by just doing something we really love!’

Thankyou to Sophie, Olivia and all of the Sports Crew Leaders in Year 5 for their dedication this term - keep an eye out for them on the playground and join in!

A full list of certificate winners appeared on our Twitter feed this lunchtime.



Year 5/6 Boys Football

Slade were represented by two teams of Year 5 and 6 boys at their football tournament at Leigh Academy (formerly Hayesbrook School) on Tuesday evening.

The boys took part in a round robin group based competition led by Mrs Ball and Mr Duffin.



Mr Duffin’s team drew with Yalding School in their opening fixture before falling short in games against Woodlands and Sussex Road School, before meeting Brenchley and Matfield School in their 4th place play-off.

Mrs Ball’s team won their first game against Hadlow Primary School 1:0, but lost against their other rivals Hildenborough and Paddock Wood Primary. They won their play-off game, against the first team of Brenchley and Matfield.

The tournament was played in very low temperatures, warmed up by lots of super personal performances such as Lewis, who played particularly well throughout, goalscoring from Lucien, MJ and Max, resolute defending from Charlie and warrior like performances from Enzo who ended up battered and bruised, but very proud!



Congratulations to eventual winners, Sussex Road School from Tonbridge who won in their first tournament played.

Our squad lists were highlighted via our Twitter feed on Tuesday.

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

94.3%

Attendance This Year

94.3%

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

17

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).



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 27 February	Today at Slade + Pegasus Class Swimming	
Monday 27 February	Important Update from Mrs Slade	All School
Tuesday 28 February	Today at Slade	
Tuesday 28 February	Pegasus Class Visit to Judd School	Pegasus Class Parents
Tuesday 28 February	Wyvern Class Forest School Highlights	Wyvern Class Parents
Tuesday 28 February	Update from Mrs Slade: Hippogriff Class	Hippogriff Class Parents
Tuesday 28 February	Hippogriff Swimming Lessons	Hippogriff Class Parents
Tuesday 28 February	At Hayesbrook: Football Squads	
Wednesday 1 March	Today at Slade: National Offer Day for Year 6	
Wednesday 1 March	Update from Mrs Slade to 'closed' classes	Various Classes Parents
Wednesday 1 March	West Kent Athletics for KS1	KS1 Parents
Wednesday 1 March	EYFS Hearing Screening Date	EYFS Parents
Wednesday 1 March	Update re Industrial Action	All School
Wednesday 1 March	Congratulations to Sussex Road School	
Wednesday 1 March	EYFS Book Return	EYFS Parents
Wednesday 1 March	Headteacher's Update	
Thursday 2 March	Today at Slade + Hippogriff Class Swimming	
Thursday 2 March	Yeargroup Newsletters	Year 1 - 5 Classes
Friday 3 March	Today at Slade	
Friday 3 March	Sports Crew Leaders	
Friday 3 March	Reading Journals	All School

Book Day Hat Competition

A very well done to all of the children who have taken part in today's Book Hat Competition. Miss Meers is delighted with all of the entries, pictured here, which will be judged over the weekend with winners being announced in Mrs Slade's Celebration Assembly at the beginning of next week. Thankyou again to all of the parents, carers and friends who will have helped with the design and making of these special hats.

