



# Slade Primary School

School Newsletter: Friday 16 June 2023 / Term 6, Issue 2



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# Karen Slade



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome to the end of a very warm week during which all classes have taken advantage wherever possible of our fabulous outdoor learning spaces and the shade that they provide!

The heat didn't stop our Year 4 children who still managed to get out and about across the week to learn more of our local history here in Tonbridge, exploring what life would have been like for an Edwardian or Victorian living in our town. Their historical tour included a trip to our local church, St. Peter and St. Paul, and then on to Tonbridge School too; do check out some photos from these visits further on in the newsletter! Huge thanks to local historian and friend of the school Pam Mills who gave of her time to lead these walking tours with the children, sharing her wealth of local historical knowledge with the classes. Thank you, Pam; it really wouldn't have been the same experience without you! Thank you too to all the parent helpers who gave of their time across a very warm week to enable each of these visits to happen; we really do appreciate it.

We were very excited to learn midweek that we have now been awarded our School Games Gold Mark! This is in recognition of all that we have achieved as a school in Sport, Games and PE! The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition both in school and into the community too, something which has very much been a focus for us here at Slade in recent years. Huge thanks to all the children and staff for the part that you have played in enabling us to achieve this high standard of sporting achievement and to receive the external recognition for it too. A special mention to Mrs. Ball, Mr. Duffin and their team of staff team who passionately lead this curriculum area across the school; thank you. Read on into the newsletter to find out more of this week's other sporting achievements!

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, we have been busy working on the class and staffing arrangements for September. Therefore, a letter will be sent out on Monday outlining any changes, notifying you who your child's class teacher will be and informing you of some of the planned transition arrangements for the term. Information regarding classes for next year will also be shared with your children on Monday afternoon. If you have any queries regarding arrangements for September then please talk to your child's current class teacher in the first instance.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school next week for two of our main annual events. Firstly, on Tuesday we are holding our Open Evening between 5 and 7pm. This is a time for you to come into school to look with your child at their books, work and classroom displays. It is also an opportunity for your child to show you their new classroom, introduce you to their new class teacher and see the range of learning across the school. We look forward to seeing you there!

Then on Thursday we welcome you back into school and down onto the field for our Sports Day events, with our younger children competing in the morning followed by the older ones in the afternoon. Further details of Sports Day arrangements were sent out in a separate letter earlier this week and are summarised further on in this newsletter. Don't forget to look out for live Twitter updates during the day!

Finally, well done to all those children in Years 1 and 2 this week who, unbeknown to them, have taken their statutory Phonics Screening Check. All children involved have been amazing and should be very proud of themselves and their achievements!

**Have a lovely weekend,**

**Karen Slade.**

# For Your Diary



## Next Week:

Day	Event
Monday 19 June	Dodgeball Competition: Participants aware of details
Tuesday 20 June	Kent Police Visit to Year 6: Secondary School Transition 17:00 - 19:00 - Open Evening: Event for current parents and carers (see page 2)
Wednesday 21 June	
Thursday 22 June	Sports Day EYFS, KS1 and Year 3 - 09:00 entry via Hawden Road Gate Year 4,5,6 - 13:15 entry via Hawden Road Gate
Friday 23 June	
Saturday 24 June	PTA Summer Fete Midday - 15:00 entry via Hawden Road Gate This is a PTA managed event - questions and comments should be addressed via any member of the PTA, rather than via school staff

## Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	Phoenix Class (Year 4, Mr Duffin)
TUESDAY	Sphinx Class (Year 4, Miss Lipman)
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	Elmer Class (EYFS, Mrs Pearson)

## Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week:

MONDAY	Y1-4 French, KS2 Football, <b>KS2 BSL</b> , KS2 Drama and Musical Theatre, EYFS and KS1 Multi Skills
TUESDAY	<b>Y1 Books</b> , KS2 Street Dance, KS2 Cricket, <b>Year 2 Pets</b>
WEDNESDAY	<b>KS1 Sports Club</b> , <b>KS2 Choir</b> , KS1,2 Athletics, KS1,2 Art
THURSDAY	<b>Y3,4 Sports Club</b> , <b>Y3,4 Signing Choir</b> , <b>Y3,4 Cricket</b> , KS1,2 Basketball, KS1 Street Dance, <b>Elf Class Pets</b>
FRIDAY	<b>Y5,6 Sports</b> , 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:

Tuesday 27 June	Reserve Sports Day
Tuesday 27 June	18:00 - EYFS September 23 Intake Parents Information Evening Meeting
Wednesday 28 June	09:30 - EYFS September 23 Intake Parents Information Morning Meeting
Wednesday 28 June	Year 5 Community Day: Tonbridge School
Wednesday 28 June	Tower of London Visit for Coronation Competition Winners

# Around School



## Fantastic Phonics!

Everyone at Slade would like to say a big well done to every child in Year 1 who have this week, completed their first statutory assessment: the KS1 Phonics Screen.



The check is made up of 40 words, and usually lasts 5 to 10 minutes. Some words are real words and others are nonsense, or 'alien', words that help to show if the children can work out how to decode words they haven't seen before.

The aim of the check is to help us to see how pupils are progressing in phonics and to identify where additional teaching and support may be required.

The Year 1 teaching team who have been administering the screening have been so impressed with the children's positive attitude all week - they all thoroughly deserve their praise in today's celebration assembly and also their school trip to Hastings which is fast approaching on Tuesday 29 June.

## Cuddles with Smiggle and Spotty

Maxine Button, Family Liaison Officer \ Louise Pearson, Pet Club Champion

If you're someone who enjoys seeing your dog's face light up at the mention of "walkies!" or finds stroking your cat incredibly calming, you're not alone. From children with every day struggles to elderly people suffering from loneliness, pets can help all kinds of people through life's challenges.

Growing up with pets as a child can boost mental well-being, support cognitive development, and improve many important life skills - including emotional intelligence, mobility, and vocabulary.

Here at Slade we have our lovely rabbits named Smiggle and Spotty, who have joined our school family. We would love all our children to have the opportunity to say hello and the opportunity to benefit from stroking, holding or just talking to our rabbits.



Studies have shown that children smile more when they are around their pet or any animals, however we are very aware that some children may have allergies linked to handling animals. If this is the case and you DO NOT want your child to have the opportunity to handle our rabbits please can you inform the school office.

## Busy Noticeboard



We are looking forward to three of our biggest events of the year, advertised around school and on our perimeter fences.

First up is our Open Evening from 17:00 - 19:00 on Tuesday 20 June for parents and carers currently at school where you have the opportunity to visit the classroom, see the children's learning in their books and on display as well as catching up with the classroom team.

On Thursday 22 June it is our Sports Day, full details can be found in your email sent earlier this week.

Finally, the PTA are proud to present their Summer Fête happening next Saturday starting at midday on the field. Everyone is welcome - come and say hi and have fun in the sun at the heart of our community. This is a PTA event - any questions or comments should be directed via any member of the PTA and not the school.



# Our News



## Bubble Rush

Harriet in Phoenix Class had a great afternoon last Sunday as she took part in a charity Bubble Rush in aid of Demelza, who deliver extraordinary care to extraordinary children who are facing serious or life-limiting conditions, throughout Kent, South East London and East Sussex.



Harriet, her Stepmother Caroline and cousin Theo all had a fantastic time at Mote Park in Maidstone, raising £200 for Demelza in the process. Harriet told us:

' Basically you run and dive through bubbles, which was great fun. We were all given a white t-shirt to wear, but it did not end up white - it was a mix of pink, yellow, blue and green by the end - the different colours of the bubbles along the course.

We ended up very foamy, but very happy!'

Well done to Harriet, Theo and Caroline for your efforts for a very worthwhile cause.



**Demelza**  
Hospice Care for Children

[More > Find out about Bubble Rush events across the UK and the charities they support](#)

## Planting for the Future



Isla and Owen have been very busy planting and tending to their Coronation wild flower seed in their garden. They planted the seeds about a month ago and are waiting for them to flower.

When the seeds do mature, they will be helping the biodiversity of the area and attracting insects such as bees, which are finding their natural and desired habitats shrinking all of the time.

Well done to Isla and Owen for doing their best to help; we look forward to seeing the flowers once they bloom.

# Slade Sport



## Woodlands Cricket Evening

We had a super summer evening up the road at Woodlands Primary School on Monday as they hosted the local schools partnership Cricket Tournament.

It was a well organised event, run by one of the teachers at Woodlands, Stefan. It was held within their brand new and very impressive Multi Use Games Area and other sports facilities, attended by the hosts, ourselves, The Wells Free School and Hildenborough Primary School.

The evening was based around activities linked to The Hundred cricket competition with particular focus on the core skills in batting, bowling and fielding.

The children had sessions with the Woodlands Sports Leaders and 1:1 coaching with Stefan, before taking part in a friendly Diamond Cricket competition.



Well done to our team for great listening, learning and playing all evening: Ali-Baari, Scyld, Blake, Rohan, Alfie, Ruby and Oliver.



Don't forget to join us for our Sports Day next Thursday, entry via the Hawden Road Gate only:

EYFS, KS1 and Year 3 at 09:00

Years 4,5,6 at 13:15

**Sports Day!**

**SLADE SCHOOL**

**EYFS, Year 1, 2 and 3:**  
Arrive at 9am for a 9.15am start!

**Year 4 - 6:**  
Arrive at 1.15pm for a 1.30pm start!

PTA will be selling refreshments!

Programmes for sale!

Entrance via Hawden Road gate!

**Thursday 22nd June**

# Slade Sport



Great News to announce, with our second consecutive School Games Gold Award.

Congratulations to Mrs Ball, the Year 5 and 6 Sports Crew and to all 420 children at Slade who have taken part in a sports or cultural session or event in and out of school this year.

## SLADE HITS GOLD... AGAIN!



We are delighted to announce that Slade Primary School has achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2022/23 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting achievements this year include:

Training 49% of our Year 5 children in Leadership Skills, all of who achieved their Sports Leader National Award

91% all KS2 and 35% of all KS1 children have represented the school in a sporting or cultural event

We have held our own intra-school competitions

We have organised and run the local schools swimming gala and KS1 football tournaments

With a total of 91% of our young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to:

Tunbridge Wells and West Kent Sports Partnership

Active Kent and Medway and Kent School Games

Our local club providers and parents for their support, and most of all our super Year 5 and 6 Sports Crew!

We look forward to applying once again in 2024!



# Year 4 History Week



## Historic Tonbridge

All week, the children in Phoenix and Sphinx Classes have been out and about across Tonbridge, learning about the history on their doorstep under the superb guidance of local historian and friend of Slade, Pam Mills.

On Monday, the children came to school dressed in Victorian and Edwardian outfits as part of their task was to imagine what it would be like to be a child in these eras living in Tonbridge.



Pam took the children on a tour of the town, in an area centred by the beautiful parish church. Firstly, they visited the 13th century castle which overlooks our school and found out about its rich historical importance to the local people, from the time of William the Conqueror, to its modern day use - owned by the local council for some of their administrative purposes as well as being a well known attraction to the town.



Following this, they walked to Jeffreys Passage - the which we now know used to be known as 'The Shambles' and was the place where the slaughter houses were based, between the butcher shops and cattle market.

Other points of interest included finding out about a Victorian workhouse situated here, seeing the oldest house in Tonbridge along East Street as well as learning about the earliest fire officers in the heart of town. They were volunteers with their horses stabled nearby Church Street which also has houses with a black metal stamp visible on the outside. This stamp indicated to the fire officers that the property had paid for Fire Insurance. This meant that if a fire were to break out in that house, then it could be put out!

Monday's walk concluded with a visit to another building with fire at the centre of its history. Known to the children only as a café or bar, the Fire Station just around the corner from school where there was a chance to try on some fire hats and helmets from the past and finding out how long the hose used to put out fires before the modern day appliances came into use.



# Year 4 History Week

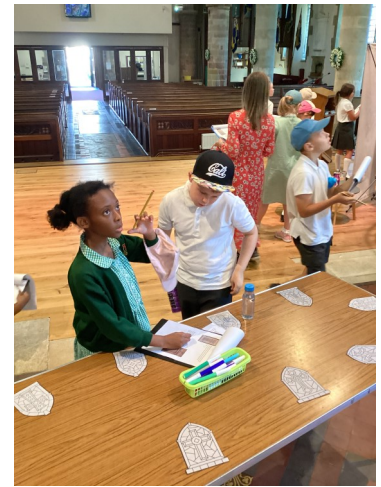


## Historic Tonbridge

On Wednesday, the History tour took in both the inside of the parish church of St Peter and St Paul and the historic grounds in which the church stands.

The children learnt about the age of the graveyard and were able to see for themselves the years which people who lay there died which often were in the 17th and 18th hundreds.

They also found out about a number of locally famous characters that have memorials in the church, who also give their names to more newly built local roads such as Woodgate and Estridge.



The children became detectives and went on a detailed search of the church and grounds looking for items of interest that they had learnt about.

The week of exploring ended (for now!) on Thursday, with a visit to neighbouring Tonbridge School, where the classes enjoyed looking at paintings that hang in the halls of the school and finding out about the school, which is a historic independent place of learning for boys since 1553, founded by Andrew Judde - he who also gives his name to the Judd School which used to be situated in the town centre as well.

A story of particular interest was the fire of 1988, which destroyed the Chapel within Tonbridge School. They saw how the old blends in to the new with the renovations only now being completed in an impressive new place of worship. We also found out about the rich sporting history of the Tonbridge School alumni.



Pam Mills will be joining us again on Monday, when she will be treated to the children's presentations of their week of history learning.

# 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**

**96.0%**

**Attendance This Year**

**94.5%**

## 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**

**28**

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
Sunday 11 June	Tonbridge Railway Station Access	
Monday 12 June	Today at Slade	
Monday 12 June	Year 1 Yeargroup Newsletter	Year 1 Parents
Monday 12 June	Year 2 Yeargroup Newsletter	Year 2 Parents
Monday 12 June	Year 3 Yeargroup Newsletter	Year 3 Parents
Monday 12 June	Year 4 Yeargroup Newsletter	Year 4 Parents
Monday 12 June	Year 5 Yeargroup Newsletter	Year 5 Parents
Monday 12 June	Year 6 Yeargroup Newsletter	Year 6 Parents
Monday 12 June	Year 4 History Week	
Monday 12 June	Year 4 History Learning: Milo and Archie	
Monday 12 June	Woodlands Cricket: Our Team	
Tuesday 13 June	Today at Slade	
Tuesday 13 June	Year 6 Transition Days	Year 6 Parents
Tuesday 13 June	Year 6 Leavers Performance	Year 6 Parents
Tuesday 13 June	History Week Highlights	
Wednesday 14 June	Today at Slade	
Wednesday 14 June	Harry Potter Film in Class	Year 3 Parents
Thursday 15 June	Today at Slade	
Thursday 15 June	New Arbor Login Details	EYFS23 Intake Parents
Friday 16 June	Today at Slade	
Friday 16 June	Gold!	
Friday 16 June	Celebration Assembly	

## Welcome to our New Readers

Today, we welcome our newest readers to the newsletter - the parents and carers of the new Reception classes who start in September.

We hope you enjoy our journal of the week and we look forward to seeing you at the Parent Information Meetings coming up at the end of the month and at the PTA Summer Fete, happening in school next Saturday to which you are more than welcome.

Thankyou for your speedy submissions of your admission forms, all of which have been processed successfully. You will receive notification of the class and group setting before the end of next week.

# Dear Slade



## Contacting Us

We are always keen to hear from you if you have a positive, negative comment to make about anything going on at school, or if you have a question or need clarification on anything we have sent or said.

We have a number of ways for you to reach out to us; please see the guide below to see where you should direct your question or comments in the first instance in order to make sure we are able to answer you as quickly as possible.

I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT...	WHO YOU NEED TO TALK TO
My child's learning/class activities/lessons/homework	Your child's class email address e.g. <a href="mailto:elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk">elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk</a> .
My child's wellbeing/pastoral support	Your child's class email address e.g. <a href="mailto:elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk">elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Someone different to collect my child from school	In advance: Your child's class email address e.g. <a href="mailto:elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk">elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>  On the day: Call: 01732 350354
Payments	<a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
School trips	<a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Uniform/lost and found	<a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Attendance and absence requests	If you need to report your child's absence, call: 01732 350 354 in line with our attendance policy.  If you want to request approval for term-time absence, please refer to the attendance policy in the first instance ( <a href="http://www.slade.kent.sch.uk">www.slade.kent.sch.uk</a> ) and then email your request to <a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Bullying and Behaviour	Your child's class email address e.g. <a href="mailto:elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk">elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
School events/the school calendar	Please ensure you have read the newsletter first or visited <a href="http://www.slade.kent.sch.uk">www.slade.kent.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Special educational needs and/or disability (SEND)	<a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Before and After-school clubs (Yetis)	<a href="mailto:yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk">yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>

I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT...	WHO YOU NEED TO TALK TO
Hiring the school premises	<a href="mailto:sbm@slade.kent.sch.uk">sbm@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
PTA	<a href="mailto:sladeppta@yahoo.co.uk">sladeppta@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Governing Body	<a href="mailto:governors@slade.kent.sch.uk">governors@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Catering/meals	<a href="mailto:teresa@nourishcontractcatering.co.uk">teresa@nourishcontractcatering.co.uk</a>
Admissions	<a href="mailto:admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk">admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
General Enquires	<a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a>
Concern	Please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. If your concern is not resolved then please contact your child's phase leader via the school office ( <a href="mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk">office@slade.kent.sch.uk</a> ) EYFS/Year 1: Natalie Pearson Year 2/Year 3: Steph Stephens Year 4/Year 5/Year 6: Sarah Meers



## Excelling in Exeter

Continuing our look at the use of British Sign Language out and about and we stretch our legs to the South West and to Exeter Museum, which has an extensive video catalogue detailing different periods of the region's history.

Included in the displays are first hand accounts of Exeter during World War 2, which have all been translated into BSL on screen, so the deaf community are able to learn and appreciate the stories as quickly and in as much detail as hearing visitors.

If you are on holiday in Devon, Exeter Museum is well worth a visit.

