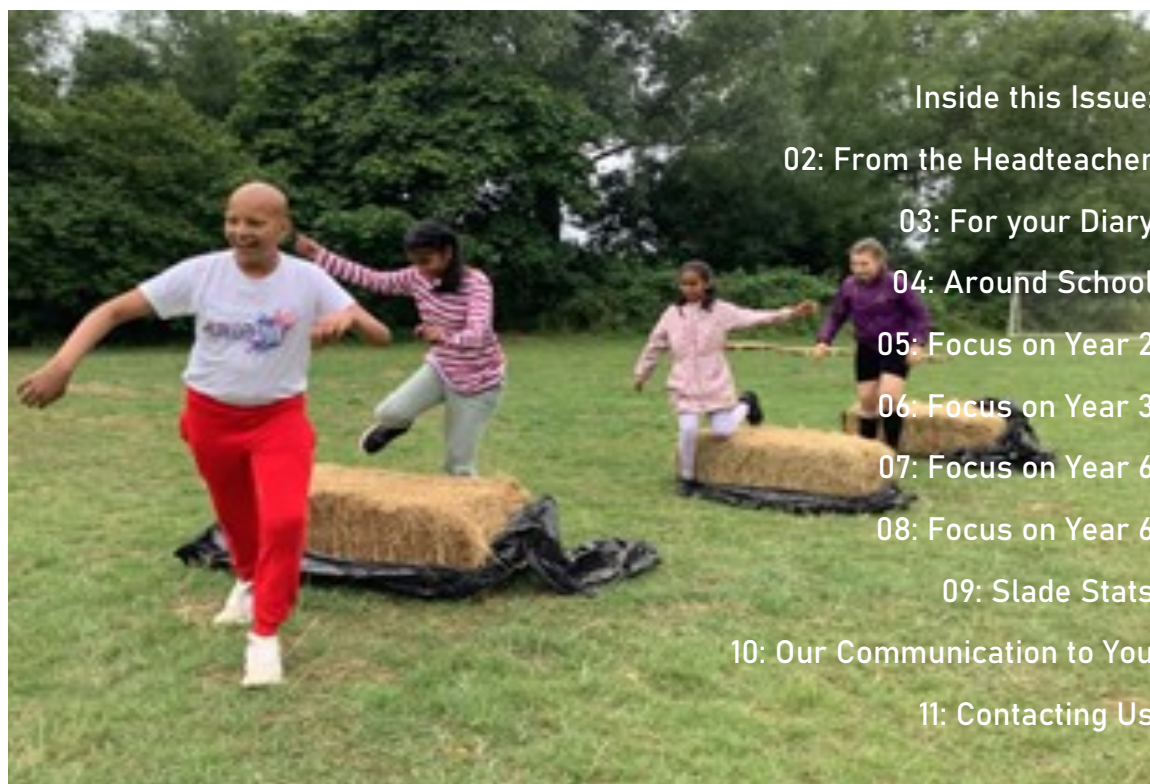




Slade Primary School

School Newsletter: Friday 7 July 2023 / Term 6, Issue 4



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Karen Slade



Dear Parents and Carers,

Tuesday saw our Year 6 pupils enjoy the inaugural Health and Well-Being Day, a special day of activities aimed at supporting the children with their physical and mental health in preparation for their transition into secondary school. From outdoor yoga, to healthy snacking and muddy assault courses there was something for everyone to enjoy and skills to learn throughout the day. Do check out some of the photos on our Twitter Feed or read on into the newsletter to find out more! Looking ahead, it will be a little bit quieter around school next week when our Year 6 pupils embark on their end of year residential trip. Good luck with packing those bags this weekend children!

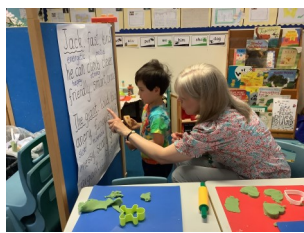
Talking of trips, the excitement in the building was palpable on Wednesday morning as Year 2 and Year 3 pupils arrived with rucksacks packed and sun hats on ready for their days out and about; Year 2 at Kent Life and Year 3 heading to Warner Bros Studios, Leavesden. All children had an amazing time, enjoying the workshops and experiences that were planned for them at the different venues. It was so very lovely to hear the children still chatting all about their experiences when back in school on Thursday! Many thanks to all of the school staff who have organised trips for each of the year groups across the course of the year and to the PTA too for generously subsidising the cost of these events for our children to enjoy. A special mention too to our band of parent volunteers who are always willing and able to give of their time to provide extra support on these days out; we couldn't do it without you. Well done and thank you everyone!

Still with being out and about, today saw many of our children take a much shorter trip to the Castle Lawn to attend and perform at the Hillfest Music festival, which is an annual celebration of the performing arts. Well done to our Choirs and Dance Crews who were once again excellent ambassadors for the school not only when taking to the stage but also when watching the other schools too. You were all fabulous! Well done and thank you to all involved, children and staff, and for your dedication to the choirs and dance clubs during this academic year too.



Special congratulations to our cheerleading squad who came first in their category.

Yesterday was transition day across the school with all of the children enjoying spending time in their new classes, meeting their new teachers and adults. There was a lovely hum of activity across the school as everyone settled into their new surroundings with pupils and staff enjoying getting to know each other and their new routines in preparation for September. Well done to everyone involved! Well done and thank you too to all of the parent and carers who navigated their new pick up arrangements so seamlessly well at the end of the day; thank you. Please don't hesitate to talk to your child's current class teacher if you have any concerns around transition for your child.



Transition Day also saw lots of younger visitors in school as we said hello and welcomed our new Reception intake children into their new classes. During the morning they got to spend time in their new classrooms and meet the adults that they will be working with in September.



It was lovely to see them looking so at home in Gruffalo and Elmer Classes with some of them even looking the part in their school uniform too! We look forward to welcoming all of the children and their families into school after the summer break.

Thank you to Beth in Elmer Class for taking this picture of her new friends playing on their transition visit.



Finally, dates for the 'Meet the Team' information meetings, to be held at the start of next term, and all other diary dates for the next academic year will be sent home next week.

Have a lovely weekend,

Karen Slade.

For Your Diary



Next Week:

Day	Event
Monday 1 July - Friday 14 July	Year 6 Residential Activity Week Carrot Wood: See previous correspondence and on Page 4 in this newsletter
Monday 10 July	Sphinx Class Swimming - See Page 4
Tuesday 11 July	Rapid Fire Cricket County Finals: Sittingbourne - Participants aware of details
Wednesday 12 July	
Thursday 13 July	Hippogriff Class Swimming - See Page 4
Friday 14 July	

Forest School Next Week:

MONDAY	Pegasus Class (Year 3: Mrs Stephens and Mrs Berrill)
TUESDAY	Wyvern Class (Year 5: Mr Osborne)
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	

Extra Curricular Clubs Next Week:

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

Next week (Week beginning 10 July) is the last week of Extra Curricular Clubs. There will be no clubs, including paid clubs, on the last week of term (week beginning 17 July)

Exceptions to this is DanceMode (Tuesday and Thursday) being held due to significant disruption caused by NEU Industrial Action earlier in the year

Further Ahead:

Monday 17 July	Reports Home to Parents
Tuesday 18 July	18:30 - Year 6 Production: Ticket details sent to Year 6 Parents and Carers
Thursday 20 July	18:30 - Year 6 Production: Ticket details sent to Year 6 Parents and Carers
Friday 21 July	Last Day of Term 6

Around School



Year 6 Activity Week

Next week sees the Year 6 children head off to Carrot Wood for a week long outbound activity week as their time with us at Slade comes to a close at the end of the term.



We will keep you abreast of everything that they are up to as the week progresses via our Twitter feed - Miss Laker on the photos from across the site, and admin back here at base ready to share their stories - do join us over there to see the week develop with the children away from home, some for the first time!

Please remember to bring any medicines that need to be taken during the week with you on Monday if this applies - with all of the details we will need to administer the correct dose at the appropriate time.

The children should meet at Carrot Wood not before 12:45 and no later than 13:00 on Monday for registration with all of the clothes and equipment required on the kit list.

Swimming Catch Up: Sphinx and Hippogriff

A quick reminder that both Sphinx Class and Hippogriff Class have catch-up swimming lessons at Tonbridge Pool next week.

Both classes suffered cancellations earlier in the year due to flooding and the Queen's Funeral and we are pleased to make good our promise of fulfilling the lessons.

Sphinx Class will be at the pool on Monday and Hippogriff Class on Thursday: please remember to bring your kit and towel in on those days.

Walk Tonbridge with Pam Mills

Regular readers will know that local historian Pam Mills recently helped to produce our Local History Week in Year 4, Pam visited last week to hear the children's presentations that they prepared following their learning.

We are pleased to say that Pam is running a Step back in time family friendly guided group walk aimed at children and their grown ups. This fun and informative walk and talk will touch on the best bits of Tonbridge history, as Pam shares interesting stories and facts about Tonbridge past.

The walk, to be held on Saturday 23 September 2023 at 10:00 to 11:00 follows a short, accessible route which is approximately 1 mile in length. The route is buggy friendly. Pam will begin proceedings at the Meeting Point of Cannon Lawn, Tonbridge Castle.

The cost of the walk is £10 per adult and up to two children / £8.50 per additional adult with all proceeds are donated to Sustain.



[More > Information and to Book Tickets via Walktonbridge.co.uk](#)

Sustain is a local food bank run from Tonbridge Baptist Church. For information and referrals, please email jemma.graffin@tonbridgebaptist.church

Focus on Year 2



Educational Visit to Kent Life, Maidstone

Gnome and Sprite Classes took the trip along the A26 on Wednesday for a day out at one of Maidstone's favourite visitor attractions, Kent Life.

Mrs Potter and Mr Louth took the children to the heritage farm park to complement their learning about the food that we eat and where it comes from.

They also had the opportunity to boost the learning they have had in History this year by experiencing a Victorian schoolroom.



The first workshop that they took part in was called Farm to Fork - with the group leader from Kent Life taking them through the process of growing and preparing food from crop to factory and eventually to our plate with fork! The group leader was very informative and was able to also make sure that the children understood where their meat comes from as Kent Life has pigs and chickens on site - albeit the animals there won't end up as anyone's dinner!

The children had a chance to visit the herb garden and allotment at Kent Life and Mrs Potter and Mr Louth were delighted about how many of the children enjoyed the taste of fresh rocket from the garden.



In the afternoon, everyone visited the Victorian classroom. The particularly stern teacher even startled Mrs Potter and Mr Louth, it certainly made the Year 2 children appreciate their teachers and life at Slade in 2023 rather than being in a quiet rural school in 1883!



It was a fantastic day for everybody, which was finished off with a chance to play in the play park.



Many thanks to the parents and carers who accompanied Gnome and Sprite on the visit on Tuesday, without your help, the trip would not be possible. Also, thank you to the team at Kent Life for their hospitality and learning all day and to Neil and Lee from Bayliss who were our drivers for the day. As an extra special treat, they brought along their executive coach, which Mr Louth's class travelled in, which is normally used as the team bus for Premier League Sheffield United - we trust you found it comfortable!

More > [Plan your visit via kentlife.org.uk](http://kentlife.org.uk)

Focus on Year 3



Educational Visit to Warner Bros. Studios, Leavesden



Mrs Stephens and Miss Taylor had the pleasure of taking the Year 3 children around to the top of the M25 on Wednesday for their yeargroup educational visit, which this year was to the Warner Bros. Studios in Leavesden.

Pegasus and Hippogriff Classes enjoyed the trip, which was the result of the learning on the Harry Potter series of books that they have been doing throughout the year, linked to different subjects and skills.

The children and adults were able to take part in a class learning experience after donning protective gloves they had the chance to create their own stories using the actual props used in the Harry Potter films. As you can see from these pictures, the session provoked a brilliant set of conversations and ideas as the children spoke, listened and worked superbly as a team in each of their groups.



The rest of the day was spent touring the studios and the various exhibitions on show. Pegasus and Hippogriff were fortunate to visit the enchanted forest, Professor Albus Dumbledore's study, platform 9 ¾ as well as boarding the Hogwarts Express and bowing to Buckbeak.

It is well worth remembering (especially if your child is currently in Gnome Class and with today's transition into a Hippogriff nearly complete) that you should always bow to a Hippogriff – **it shows that you are well-intentioned** – and wait for them to reciprocate. If they don't return your greeting, make a quick retreat. At least according to the website Wizarding World! The day was complete with lunch on Pivot Drive under the shadow of the Knight Bus.



Thankyou in particular to all of the parents who came with us on this visit for your time and help all day, to the whole team at the Warner Bros. London Tour and to Peter and Asif at Kings Ferry for getting us there and back safely and in style.

Focus on Year 6

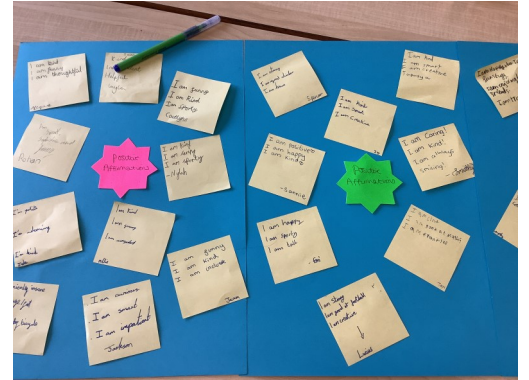


Wellbeing and Mindfulness Day

The sound of joy is one we will remember well in to the future at the conclusion of the Year 6 Wellbeing and Mindfulness Day on Tuesday.

The day was delivered by the Year6 team alongside Mrs Ball and was designed for the children to reflect on their own selves, their emotions and to take a look forward about the next big steps in their young lives.

Hydra and Griffin Classes started the day by thinking about their positive traits. They used sticky notes to share three positive affirmations to describe themselves. They then had discussions about what they believed has gone well this year and to write their goal for next year as they begin their secondary school journey.



For the rest of the morning, they took part in a small group carousel of activities:

Sun Salutation and Breathing and Yoga

The perfect way to wake up with stretching and breathing exercises - The lungs, nervous system, heart, as well as joints and muscles will benefit from sun salutation routines.

Time to Talk

Mrs Miles held a open forum for groups visiting her in the school hall to discuss their worries about transferring to secondary school and also to share and talk about the things they are excited about.



Chatterbox Chat

The children joined Miss Buswell on the field to make a paper game which was designed to provoke conversation to boost the children's mood and to think of ways to make themselves and others around them happy.

Mrs Ball's Mood Battery

Under the shade of the outside classrooms, Mrs Ball took each group on a journey of the last two days. The children thought about events that happened to them and then ranked them as either positive or negative. They were then encouraged to talk about why they had made the decision with the group as a general discussion.



Healthy Snacktime



It is easy to slack into eating junk - especially when snacking at home or on holiday, so part of our wellbeing day was to appreciate that healthy snacking can be easy to prepare, tasty to eat and most importantly, as cheap to buy as chocolate bars or crisps.

Both classes enjoyed their snacks of cucumber, cheese, carrot sticks, houmous, pitta bread, bread sticks and popcorn before they divided into groups to have their growing up and relationship education sessions led by the class teachers and Teaching Assistants. Details of the subjects being covered in these sessions were shared with parents in advance, but if you have any questions please contact us via the class email addresses.

Focus on Year 6



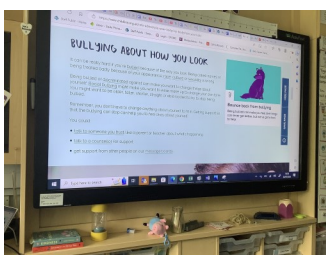
Wellbeing and Mindfulness Day

The special day for the Year 6 children ended with a fantastic assault course prepared by Mrs Ball.

If fun was measured on smiles, laughter and the desire to have 'one more go' at least three times then the assault course ranks as 11/10!

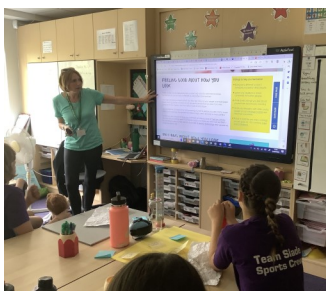
Despite running hard, getting wet (courtesy of Mrs Ball, Mrs Burnside and Miss Buswell), becoming muddy (thanks to Mrs Vaux) as well as jumping and crawling around the field, everyone wanted to keep going - and they did!

These are just some of the highlights from the course which first featured on our Twitter feed through the day on Tuesday.



One of the most serious subjects covered in the morning sessions was presented by Mrs Burnside and dealt with the sensitive issue of feeling good about ourselves and the way we look.

The Childline produced show dealt with body image, bullying about how you look and feeling good about your appearance - regardless of what that means for each individual.



The children interacted with this presentation very maturely and offered up good suggestions in a positive fashion.

If you or your child wishes to discuss further any of these subjects, please feel confident to contact us via the class email addresses or through the Family Liaison team via flo@slade.kent.sch.uk.

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

96.1%

Attendance This Year

94.6%

Punctuality

Registers are taken at 08:50 with our entry gates open from 08:40.

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

25

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.

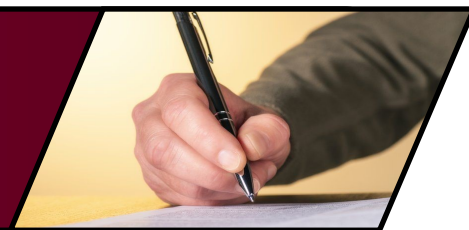
We also encourage you to follow us on Twitter, we post reminders, useful information, live updates from school and other community events of interest.

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 3 July	Today at Slade	
Monday 3 July	Elmer Class WhatsApp Group	EYFS23 Elmer Class Parents
Monday 3 July	Kent Life Educational Visit, More Information	Year 2 Parents
Monday 3 July	Year 5 Science: Sensitive Subjects	Year 5 Parents
Monday 3 July	Health and Wellbeing Day in Year 6	Year 6 Parents
Tuesday 4 July	Today at Slade	
Tuesday 4 July	Transition Day Information	All School
Tuesday 4 July	Positive Vibes in Year 6	
Tuesday 4 July	Healthy Snacking	
Tuesday 4 July	The Chatterbox Chat	
Tuesday 4 July	Mrs Ball's Mind Battery	
Tuesday 4 July	Year 6 Activities	
Tuesday 4 July	Year 6 Obstacle Course	
Tuesday 4 July	Sprite Class Forest School Highlights	Sprite Class Parents
Wednesday 5 July	Today at Slade	
Wednesday 5 July	Year 3 On Their Way	
Wednesday 5 July	Year 2 On Their Way	
Wednesday 5 July	Year 3 Story Workshop	
Wednesday 5 July	The Iron Belly Dragon	
Wednesday 5 July	Year 2 Field to Fork	
Wednesday 5 July	All Aboard the Hogwarts Express	
Wednesday 5 July	Hippogriffs meet the Hippogriff	
Thursday 6 July	Today at Slade	
Thursday 6 July	Our New Elmer and Gruffalo Classes	
Friday 7 July	Today at Slade	
Friday 7 July	Celebration Assembly	
Friday 7 July	Mobile Phone Usage and WhatsApp Groups	Year 5 Parents
Friday 7 July	KCC Inclusive Education Survey	

Dear Slade



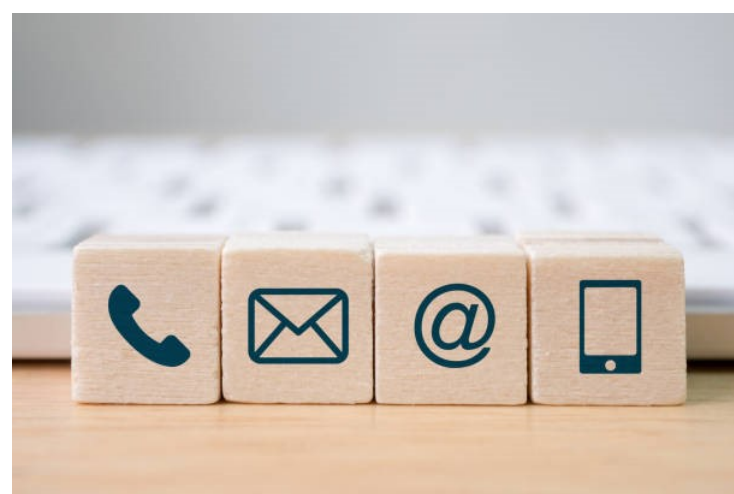
Contacting Us

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. elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk
My child's wellbeing/pastoral support	Your child's class email address e.g. elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk
Someone different to collect my child from school	In advance: Your child's class email address e.g. elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk On the day: Call: 01732 350354
Payments	office@slade.kent.sch.uk
School trips	office@slade.kent.sch.uk
Uniform/lost and found	office@slade.kent.sch.uk
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 (www.slade.kent.sch.uk) and then email your request to office@slade.kent.sch.uk
Bullying and Behaviour	Your child's class email address e.g. elmer@slade.kent.sch.uk
School events/the school calendar	Please ensure you have read the newsletter first or visited www.slade.kent.sch.uk office@slade.kent.sch.uk
Special educational needs and/or disability (SEND)	office@slade.kent.sch.uk
Before and After-school clubs (Yetis)	yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk

I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT...	WHO YOU NEED TO TALK TO
Hiring the school premises	sbm@slade.kent.sch.uk
PTA	sladeppta@yahoo.co.uk
Governing Body	governors@slade.kent.sch.uk
Catering/meals	teresa@nourishcontractcatering.co.uk
Admissions	admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk
General Enquires	office@slade.kent.sch.uk
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 (office@slade.kent.sch.uk) EYFS/Year 1: Natalie Pearson Year 2/Year 3: Steph Stephens Year 4/Year 5/Year 6: Sarah Meers



Slade Sports Teams

We have received questions and feedback recently about the selection process of teams that represent Slade at local competitions and events.

We are incredibly proud of our recent Gold achievement, presented to Slade by Kent School Games for the second consecutive year, which was primarily awarded for inclusive participation with over 91% of Key Stage Two children representing the school at events. This equates to 220 different children.



The opportunity for children in Key Stage One to represent any school is less as there are far fewer competitions and events held. There have only been four local Sports Partnership run competitions for Year 1 and 2, yet we are pleased to say that we have still seen 35% (42 children) having been involved. A lot of time in Key Stage One is taken with learning the skills of different sports and activities, preparing the children for the wider range of opportunities once they are in the older years. It also gives them an opportunity to find out which sports and activities they prefer to take part in. In addition to providing and planning a rich and varied menu of sports and activities during regular PE lessons, Mrs Ball has run a growing number of Sports Clubs for KS1 children and held our own Multi-Sports Competitions in school so that everyone has had a chance to experience a competition environment.

The recent Colour Dash involved children from across the school. It required children to be able to run 1.5 miles (2.4km) in addition to the paint throwing - due to the limited numbers, children would have been chosen on a wide criteria including the way they approach the Daily Mile in school to see if they would be able to enjoy the event to its maximum.

In addition to this, some of the publicity you will have seen here in the school newsletter for example, featuring the events we have attended will also include those multi round competitions where we have been lucky enough to win in the qualifying rounds to progress through to the next stages - which will of course feature the same children. An example of this is next week when we will be representing Tonbridge at the next stage of the Rapid Fire Cricket and earlier in the year with the girls football.

Mrs Ball has also taken on the responsibility of organising the KS1 Football Competition and KS2 Swimming Gala, the football being held here at Slade for the first time this year. Without our intervention and with support of our KS2 Sports Leaders, these competitions would not have taken place.

We look forward to many, many more children taking part in the rich and varied selection of activities for the school in the future run by both the local schools partnership and Mrs Ball internally at Slade. In addition to having a keen interest in a particular sport by joining one of the free clubs, Mrs Ball and the class teachers will also look for always being ready with the correct kit, classroom behaviour and effort as well as having a super attitude when deciding teams.

We are always available to discuss concerns or compliments about any aspect of life at Slade and welcome feedback from all of our parents, carers and wider stakeholders.