

SLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL



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School Newsletter Term 4 Issue 3

Friday 8 March 2024

KAREN SLADE

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

So, this week, nearly 13 years after our last inspection and 2 Inspection Framework changes later, we finally had Ofsted pay us a visit to inspect the quality of provision here at Slade Primary School! We welcomed 3 inspectors into school on Tuesday and Wednesday to spend time in classes, scrutinise books, talk to children, staff and governors and carry out a range of other activities too in order to establish what it is like to be a pupil here at Slade. By spending time in school and carrying out these tasks, the inspectors were looking to identify our strengths in provision whilst also looking to signpost us to areas for development too. While I am unable at this stage to share the outcome of the inspection with you I am able to say that there were no surprises for the school leaders regarding the inspectors' findings. We look forward to sharing the final report with you in the coming weeks once the details have been finalised and quality-assured, which, in line with Ofsted timeframes, will be approximately during the start of Term 5.

Still with Ofsted, I would just like to say a huge thank you to our school community for your ongoing support and encouragement before, during and after our inspection earlier this week. Your kind words, supportive emails and your provision of staffroom treats too were all very much appreciated and a much-needed boost for the team; thank you for your kindness. In addition, many thanks too to those parents and carers who took the time to answer the Ofsted parental survey. The inspectors were not only hugely impressed by the volume of responses that they received but also with the level of positivity within the feedback that they read. Thank you everyone; your support means a lot and is never taken for granted.

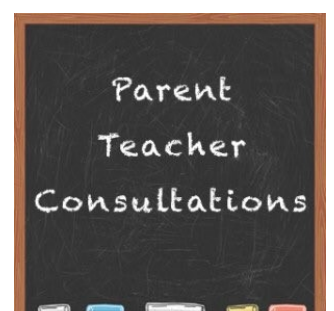
Finally, with Ofsted, I would just like to say a massive thank you to everyone in school who was involved in the inspection and for the part that each and every one of you played. To all staff, children and governors congratulations and well done for demonstrating Team Slade at its best! It will come as no surprise to anyone reading this that the inspectors were hugely complimentary about our pupils and the manner in which they conducted themselves across the two days. Well done and thank you children; I am immensely proud of each and every one of you.

From Ofsted to World Book Day, when on Thursday school was transformed into a colourful world of book characters and bed time stories as we celebrated this annual event together! Across the school children and adults with their classes had fun exploring the characters and books that they were representing. Do take a look at some of the photographs that were tweeted to our Twitter feed and feature further on in this newsletter too! 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! A special mention too for our team of parents who organised our Pop-Up Book Café in the school library which some of our youngest children thoroughly enjoyed across the morning. 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!

Finally, a reminder that Parent Consultation meetings will be taking place on Tuesday 19 and Thursday 21 March in your child's classroom. This is an opportunity for you to meet face to face 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. There are still spaces available for anyone who has not yet taken an opportunity to sign up; we look forward to seeing you all there!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Karen Slade



DIARY DATES

NEXT WEEK AT SLADE

Next Week:

Day	Event
Monday 11 March	
Tuesday 12 March	Year 2 Titanic Workshop Please make sure consent & payment have been made via your Arbor account
Wednesday 13 March	09:30 - Pegasus Class Visit to Pizza Express 14:00 - Parent Rep Meeting with focus on Lunchtimes
Thursday 14 March	15:30 - KS1 Football Festival - Participants Aware of Details
Friday 15 March	Red Nose Day Please see email sent earlier today for full and updated details

Forest School and Swimming Next Week:

MONDAY	Wyvern Class Forest School
TUESDAY	Hydra Class Forest School Pegasus Class Swimming
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	Dragon Class Forest School Hippogriff Class Swimming
FRIDAY	Griffin Class Forest School

Further Ahead:

Tuesday 19 March

NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH
FINALS DAY

Slough Town FC

Girls U11 Team representing
Tonbridge Angels

Tuesday 19 March

Thursday 21 March

PARENT - TEACHER
CONSULTATIONS

Please attend for your booked
appointment

Wednesday 20 March

VISIT TO PIZZA EXPRESS

Hippogriff Class

SLADE JOURNAL

AROUND SCHOOL

Parent View and Consultations

Thankyou to every parent and carer who was able to complete the Parent View survey questions and feedback during our visit from Ofsted this week.

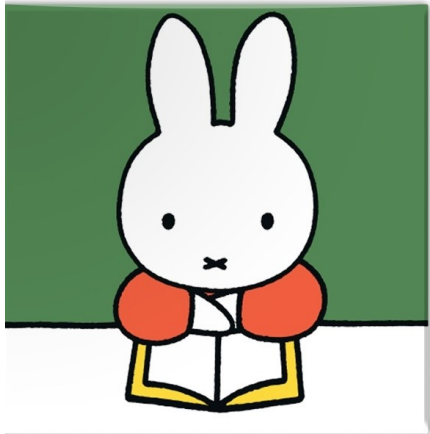
Feedback of this nature is of great interest to the Lead Inspector and their team at any inspection, ours included. They, and we, are very grateful for you giving up your time to let everyone know what you and your children think of life at Slade.

Furthermore, and more importantly from the individual child's view, thankyou to the 345 of you who have already booked (that is 83% of all of our children) an appointment to see the class teacher at our Parent - Teacher Consultation evenings happening in a couple of weeks time. Most of these appointments were booked within 12 hours of the booking window going live, so thank you very much for your continued support and engagement at these meetings, designed to provide an update on your child's progress and goals and to ask any questions you have from home about the school day.

If you are a parent of one of the remaining 74 children currently without an appointment, please log on to Arbor as soon as you can to secure your chosen meeting time.



Parent/Teacher Consultations



Welcome to our Reading Angels

In World Book Day week it is appropriate to celebrate how incredibly lucky we are to have a super group of twenty dads, mums, grandparents and carers who have recently volunteered their time to come in to school on a weekly basis to listen to our children read.

Reading is such a gateway to access enjoyment and information as well as the curriculum at school that it is a constant focus for the team and children at Slade. With the help of our volunteers we are able to hear so many more children from each class read to an adult each week than we would with just internal staff numbers.

The Reading Angels have been fully trained in how to listen, prompt and question throughout their sessions so that the children receive the highest support possible.

Thankyou to the following, who will be reading with your child in the next few months: Amanda, Daniela, Jessica, Joanna, Samantha, Jim, Beverley, Stephen, Michelle, Bianca, Kate, Paul, Tara, Rachel, Nikki, Norah, James, Michelle, Julia, Jane and Violette for your time, help and dedication to this vital project.



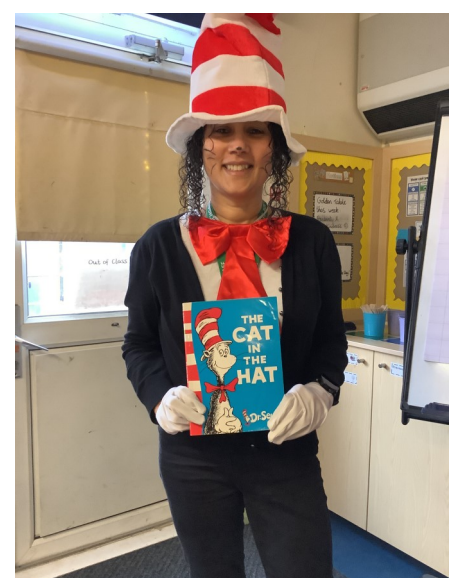
Marathon Effort pays off for Angela

We are very proud of our own Angela Joshi, who completed her first half-marathon in Kent's biggest event of its kind last weekend in Paddock Wood.

Our registered regular supply teacher, who teaches across the yeargroups at Slade uses running as a chance to improve her own wellbeing both physically, but importantly, mentally as well. She said of her achievement, 'I have been training for 6 months and was particularly excited and nervous when we arrived at the start line - I just wanted to finish!

That she did, 13.1 miles in just over 2 hours and twenty minutes, and Angela was rightly proud, 'It was a huge achievement and I am very proud. There were times in the half marathon when I had to dig deep and show belief and resilience when it got tough - especially when there were hills oncoming!' Angela is already looking forward to her next event, 'I run 5km and 10km and would really like to enter and complete more half-marathons, although it wasn't easy I had fun and am so happy that it went so well.'

Congratulations Angela and to everyone who competed in the Paddock Wood Half Marathon last Sunday.



SLADE JOURNAL

AROUND SCHOOL

World Book Day

It was a lovely day yesterday watching all of the different book characters come to life through the school gates as we took part in our best World Book Day yet.

The children took part in a whole day of activities including the chance of travelling around the school, in and out of different classrooms on a special reading trail carrying out different activities.

Yeargroups have also been swapping places, buddying up to read with children from a younger or older class.

Mystery Guest

Each class has had a series of special stories read to them - and in some cases we came across - acted out as well as Mrs Barber and Miss Laker traversed the school sharing their joy of reading.

The Slade Book Café

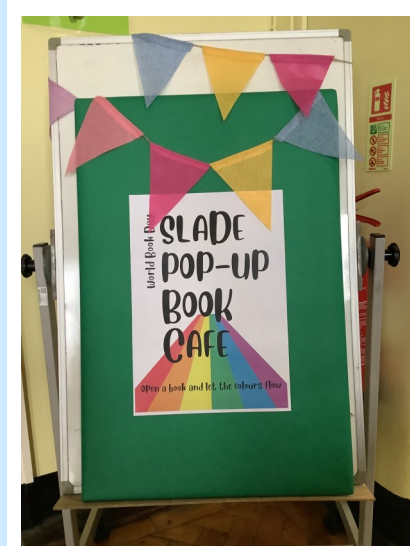
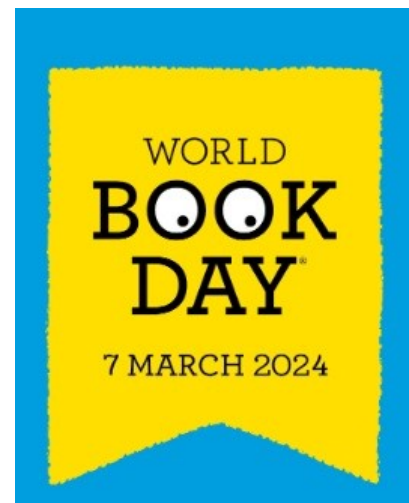
The PTA have had a very busy World Book Day, transforming the library into the centre of today's activities and creating the Slade Book Café.

Each class visited the café in groups of 15 to be introduced to the concept of 'Book Choice Strategies' understanding that for a child walking into a library with thousands of books to choose from can be daunting and a little bit puzzling when choosing which book to choose. The team have produced a helpful display to help remind the children of today's learning about how to start thinking about their choice of book.

Today, once they had thought about the type of book they would like to read, they were able to choose a book using those strategies - donated kindly by the PTA - to take home and keep; the perfect way to mark this year's World Book Day!

Thankyou also to all of the children who brought in a book for our whole school Book Swap. It was super to see so much interest in each others reading and to take advantage of picking up a new read to take home and enjoy.

With many thanks to all of our parents and carers and wider family and friends for the work put into the various outfits worn today and for helping out with the potato art. Also thankyou so much to TA Hannah Mills and to PTA Member Caroline Zuber for the magnificent decoration of the hub of World Book Day; the School Library. It is much appreciated by all of the children and staff at Slade.



SLADE JOURNAL

WORLD BOOK DAY GALLERY



SLADE JOURNAL

FOCUS ON EARLY YEARS

Our First School Trip: Godstone Farm

On Tuesday, our youngest learners took part in their first school trip as they travelled for a day on the farm at Godstone.

For many of the children it was the very first time that they had been to a farm, or indeed on a bus, while conversely for others it was a return to the popular attraction across the border in Surrey.

Whilst there, the children from Elmer and Gruffalo Classes managed to see a range of farm animals in a farm setting and got to hear about a farm works and how the animals are looked after.

We spoke to Evie and Tom from Gruffalo Class who were pleased to tell us all about the visit. Evie stated that it was lots and lots of fun on the farm and was extra special because of the experience the class have already had looking after animals, 'We have been looking after our two rabbits in school, so it was good to see the animals on the farm - I liked seeing the cows being outside looking happy.'

Tom remembered seeing pigs, lamas and alpacas which surprised him, 'It was lovely seeing the lamas; I didn't know they would be there, so it was exciting.'

Both Evie and Tom enjoyed the journey, they agreed that, 'We were very excited to be on the coach, it was a good time to sit with our friends.'

Thankyou to the crew from Starline Coaches for transporting us to and from the venue and for being such warm and friendly company all day, and of course to all of the parents who accompanied us to Godstone Farm for taking time out to assist with this trip - without your help, we wouldn't be able to run the event, so a big thanks from everyone in EYFS and across the school.



SLADE JOURNAL

SPORT, FITNESS AND WELLBEING

Preparing for Slough!

Our South East counties conquering Under 11 Girls Football Team are busy preparing for the National League South finals day in the National League Trust Cup.

The Southern region finals take place at Arbour Park, home of NLS side, Slough Town on Tuesday 19 March and the girls will be representing Tonbridge Angels throughout the day.

The squad were treated to a special event at Tonbridge Angels Longmead Stadium on Wednesday evening as the Operations Director of Angels' sponsors Fernham Homes presented the girls with their kit for the big day.

In addition to the pre match photoshoot and presentation, the girls enjoyed a kickabout with friends of Slade, the Mayor and Mayoress of Tonbridge and Malling, Cllr James Lark and wife Mrs Jill Lark.

Thankyou to everyone involved at TAFC, Fernham Homes and of course to James and Jill who are all joining us in getting very excited about the big day in Berkshire and the girls prepare to fly high in the shadows of the Heathrow flight path!



Our U11 Girls Champion Team along with coach Wendy Ball.

Joining them are the Operations Director of Fernham Homes Chris Loughhead in the green and cream, directors of Tonbridge Angels and their U18s Manager, Dom Welsh (far right)



William's Parkrun Story So Far

We are very pleased to share William's Parkrun story after he spotted our story last week about the fun and free way to keep fit at the weekend.

William in Year 3 is a keen sportsman already and uses his weekly 2km run in the Tonbridge Junior Parkrun to keep up his fitness while also having a friendly competition with the friends he runs with.

William spoke with us on Thursday, 'The Parkrun happens at Longmead where we run 2 laps around the course running 2 kilometres in total. I can get tired afterwards, but that is because I put in a lot of effort. I sprint at the very start than I jog for a bit before sprinting again at the end as I cross the finishing line. Most of the run is pavement, so I can keep steady when I run with my friends, Dexter who is in Year 4 at Slade and Jasper who is at another school. I try to take over as many people as I can to beat them!'

We asked William what he wore when he runs: 'I am a proud Aston Villa fan, so I run in my Villa keeper's kit as my favourite player is their Argentine goalkeeper Emi Martínez.'

Thankyou to William for talking to us yesterday and to mum Alice for sharing the pictures. William has completed 15 Parkruns with a best time of 9 minutes 41 seconds achieved recently. The Tonbridge Junior Parkrun takes place every Sunday at the Tonbridge Farm Sportsground in Darenth Avenue with a start time of 9.00. Parkrun and Junior Parkrun are free events, but please register before joining your first run. All the details can be found here: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/tonbridge-juniors/> and here: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/>

Hawks Hockey

Well done to everyone who took part in the Year 5 and 6 Hawkenbury Hockey Festival on Thursday evening.

The team (which also contained pupils from Year 4) finished a superb 3rd in the tournament played in wonderful spring sunshine, albeit with the chill of late winter!



DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

ARBOR EMAILS SENT THIS WEEK

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.

Date of Communication	Subject	Sent To
Monday 4 March	Year 3 DT: Visit to Pizza Express	Year 3 Parents
Monday 4 March	Slade Spring Concert	All School
Monday 4 March	Year 3 Visit to Warner Bros Studios	Year 3 Parents
Monday 4 March	Notification of Ofsted Inspection	All School
Monday 4 March	Pegasus Class Forest School Highlights	Pegasus Class Parents
Tuesday 5 March	Year 4 Visit to Tonbridge Castle	Year 4 Parents
Tuesday 5 March	Maths Newsletter	All School
Wednesday 6 March	Hippogriff Class Forest School Highlights	Hippogriff Parents
Friday 8 March	Red Nose Day Update	All School

HERE TO HELP

HOW TO CONTACT 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.

My child's class learning , class activities, lessons, homework Wellbeing or pastoral support, Concerns about bullying and behaviour	Your child's class email address: classname@slade.kent.sch.uk
School Trips, Payments, School Events Special Educational Needs (SEND) General Enquiries	office@slade.kent.sch.uk
Sickness reporting, Absence requests and medical appointments	attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk
Admissions	admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk
Yeti's Wraparound	General queries: and Childcare Voucher payments: yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk Late Collections: 01732 377760
Extra Curricular Activities and Representative Sports Events	sportsandactivities@slade.kent.sch.uk
School Lunches, Nourish Contract Catering	hildasmith@nourishcc.co.uk
Slade PTA	sladeppta@yahoo.co.uk
The Governing Body and Chair of Governors	governors@slade.kent.sch.uk
Complaints	slaws@slade.kent.sch.uk
GDPR Information and Reporting	eugdpr@slade.kent.sch.uk or slaws@slade.kent.sch.uk

SLADE STATS

ATTENDANCE

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Over a school year, we are due to be open for 190 days which equates to 380 sessions.

Registration takes place at 08:50 in the morning 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.

Winners are announced via our X (formerly Twitter) feed @sladeprimarysch

Our Attendance
Target

97.0%

Our Attendance
This Week

96.5%

Our Attendance
This Year

95.1%

National Average = 94.3%*

National percentile rating for Slade = 68

**data from schools and MATs who use Arbor MI*

SLADE STATS

PUNCTUALITY

Registers are taken 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.

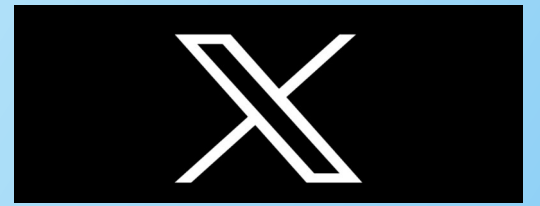
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Pupils Late
This Week

37

SLADE ON X

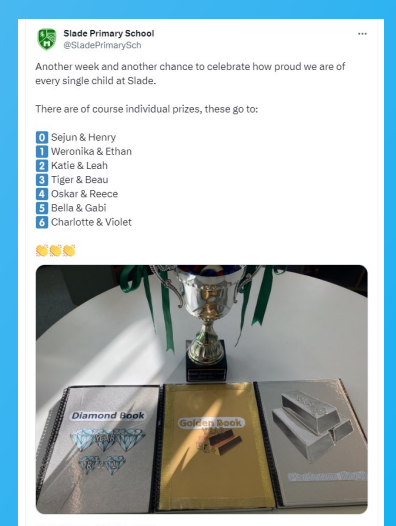
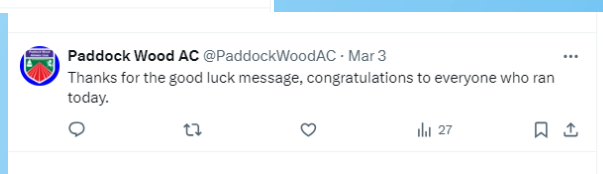
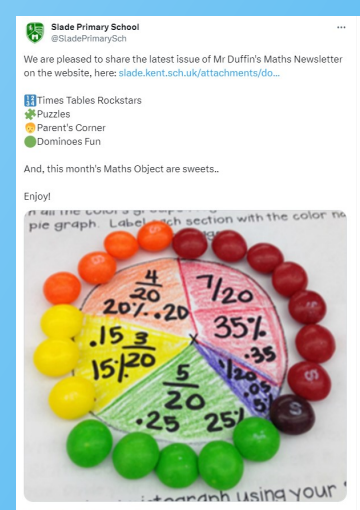
X-POSTS (Formerly Twitter)



We encourage you to follow us on the social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

We post a daily diary Today at Slade at 07:15 each morning as well as reminders, useful information, live updates from school and other community events of interest.

Date of Post	Subject
Sunday 3 March	Paddock Wood Half Marathon
Monday 4 March	Today at Slade
Monday 4 March	Reading Boats
Tuesday 5 March	Today at Slade, Ofsted Inspection
Tuesday 5 March	EYFS: On their way to the Farm
Tuesday 5 March	Maths Newsletter
Tuesday 5 March	Parent - Teacher Consultations
Wednesday 6 March	Today at Slade
Wednesday 6 March	Fernham Homes Kit Presentation
Thursday 7 March	Today at Slade
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day Reading Café
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day Gallery
Thursday 7 March	Hawkenbury Hockey Festival Team
Friday 8 March	Today at Slade
Friday 8 March	Celebration Assembly



SLADE+

YOUR WAYS TO PAY

We have tried to make paying for special lessons, wraparound provision, school trips and visits amongst other events that happen through the year as easy as possible. Please see our handy guide here on the current prices and 'Way to Pay' when required.

We always make sure that all trips and special events are priced as fairly as possible but are acutely aware that extra costs can be tricky for our families. If you would like to discuss payment options for any extra spend at Slade, please contact us at anytime and confidentially via office@slade.kent.sch.uk.

School Dinners

School Dinners provided by Nourish Contract Catering are free to the following groups: EYFS Classes, Year 1 Classes, Year 2 Classes, EYFS, KS1 AND KS2 pupils eligible for benefits related Free School Meals

School Dinners provided to KS2 (Year 3-6) children are charged at £2.40 per meal.

Credit should be loaded onto the Meals section of your Arbor account.

Yeti's Wraparound Provision (Breakfast and After School Clubs)

Breakfast Club is charged at £4.20 per session

After School Club is charged at different pricepoints:

Until 16:30: £4.20 // Until 17:30: £8.60

If your child participates in an after school activity, please let us know via yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk and we charge only for the 16:30 - 17:30 time at £ 4.40.

Payment should be made via your online SCOPAY account. Please email yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk if you require a login to SCOPAY.

School Trips and other Special Events

You will be notified of the dates and costs of school trips or special events by email.

Payment and consent will be made via the Trips section of your Arbor account.

Paid For, Independent Clubs and Activities

Slade does not take payment for independently run clubs. All payment and correspondence should be directed to the club organiser.

Swimming Lessons

6 Swimming lessons are taken by all KS2 classes at a cost of £17.00.

Payment and consent will be made via the Trips section of your Arbor account once you have been advised of the dates of the sessions.

SLADE+

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS NEXT WEEK

Monday

Term 4 Timetable not yet available

Tuesday

Term 4 Timetable not yet available

Wednesday

Term 4 Timetable not yet available

Thursday

Term 4 Timetable not yet available

Friday

Term 4 Timetable not yet available

[Full Details: Times, Prices, Ways to Book and more via the school website](#)

Clubs run by staff at Slade with spaces

Clubs run by staff at Slade Currently Full

Independent Clubs: Contact Organiser for full details