



# SLADE

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*School Newsletter*

*Term 1, Issue 5*

*Friday 11 October 2024*

# Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Well, what a busy week it's been!

Thank you to all the parents in Elmer and Gruffalo classes who attended the 'Meet the Team' meetings this week which were held in the small hall and included an overview of phonics teaching in the Early Years. We hope that you found the session to be informative and that you enjoyed the opportunity to visit your children in their Reception classrooms too! The slides from these sessions will be shared with all parents as they contain key information for the year ahead. Please do take a look and remember to get in touch with your child's class teacher, via the class email address, with any follow up queries.

This week, we started holding our 'Pupil Progress Meetings' where members of the school leadership team meet with each class teacher to discuss the progress of every child in school. It has been so good to see the progress that the children across the school have made already this academic year and how quickly they have settled into their new year groups. A reminder that Parent Consultation meetings are being held the last week of term on Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 4pm and 7pm. These 10-minute meetings are an opportunity for you to meet with teachers in the classroom environment to hear for yourselves of how your child has settled into their new class. You will also be informed of the progress that your child has made to date with their learning and be made aware of areas for development, including, where applicable, with your child's behaviour and attendance too. There is still time to ensure that your slot is booked, via your Arbor account, and to fix the date in your diary.

A reminder please that when dropping off or collecting pupils, including at Breakfast and After School Club, all parents and carers are asked to drive and park with due care and consideration for other road users and pedestrians. We would ask that all drivers are mindful of the 20 mile an hour speed limit outside of school and refrain from driving down Stafford Road or Lodge Road wherever possible too. In addition, parking is not permitted opposite the school car park entrance, outside the former Power Station or outside the main entrance in Stafford Road. Furthermore, in order to safeguard all children and staff, the Deacon House driveway and car park is not for parental parking at any time either, even when collecting from Yetis at the end of the day. Remember that 30-minute free parking is available in Upper Castle car parks at all times. Thank you for your co-operation with these matters as we aim to keep all of our community safe during these busy times in the school day.

Planning ahead to next week, I am looking forward to welcoming parents, carers and staff to the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) welcome meeting next Thursday which includes the Annual General Meeting in addition to our inaugural Bingo experience too! This is a super opportunity to spend time with each other in a social setting whilst finding out more about the work of the PTA here in school. Thank you to all involved in planning this event for us all to enjoy! The PTA makes such a positive contribution to so many aspects of school life whilst raising amazing amounts of money to provide those additional extras for all of the children across the school to enjoy. Thank you too to those of you who have stepped into the role of Class Reps this year; we very much look forward to working with you in the coming year and catching up with you all during our first meeting next Tuesday afternoon.

**Have a lovely weekend,**

**Karen Slade**

# Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Monday 14 September 2024

- Pegasus Class Forest School
- **Extra Curricular Activity Clubs**

Tuesday 15 October 2024

- Hippogriff Class Forest School
- Hydra Class Swimming
- Parent Representative Meeting (14h)
- **Extra Curricular Activity Clubs**

Wednesday 16 October 2024

- Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby - Participants aware of detail
- NHS Visit for National Child Measurement Programme (EYFS and Year 6)
- **Extra Curricular Activity Clubs**

Thursday 17 October 2024

- Gnome Class Forest School
- Wyvern Class Swimming
- **Extra Curricular Activity Clubs**

Friday 18 October 2024

- Sprite Class Forest School
- PC Hills (Kent Police) Assembly for Year 5 and 6
- **Extra Curricular Activity Clubs**



Looking further ahead?

Our yearly planner can be found on Page 9 of today's newsletter and online via [the school website](#).

# Slade Journal: Around School



We are very pleased to say that 85% of children have had a Parent - Teacher Consultation booked for their parent to meet with the class teacher to discuss their social and learning progress this year so far.

This means that available appointment times are beginning to run out for the meetings held between 16h and 19h on Tuesday and Thursday 22 and 24 October. If you are one of the 15% who are yet to book, please do so as soon as possible this weekend. Just log on to Arbor, choose Guardian Consultations and choose from the available times.

Thankyou to the parents and children who have consented to taking part in this year's Level 1 and 2 Bikeability course this year.

There will be 38 participants learning safe road sense and bicycle maintenance and handling over two days of instruction. Level 1 takes place on the school playground, with Level 2 out on the local streets.

We will be informing parents of the exact dates that their children will be taking part on Monday.



We continue to be grateful to all of our class parent representatives for being the conduit between school and home by providing an extra layer of communication about events happening in their class, such as Forest School and acting as the spokesperson at our termly meetings after canvassing the rest of the class on the hot topic being discussed. We are very pleased to have filled all of the vacancies, including both Early Year classes (Elmer and Gruffalo) meaning all families are now represented.

The first of this year's meetings will be taking place on Tuesday 15 October at 14:00.

On the lines of communication, many thanks for the many of you who have provided positive feedback on our new daily agenda emails. We are glad you are finding them useful. We have previously used Twitter (now X) for these communications, but are mindful that lots of our parents, as well as communities beyond have decided to move away from the social media site after recent controversies.

# Slade Journal: Around School



Following on from last week's news which showcased the efforts made by members of the school community to raise funds for Victim Support in memory of former pupil Tom Waugh whose family benefited from the advice, help and kindness of the charity following Tom's tragic death in 2022, we were very pleased to receive an email from Jade Wolley at Victim Support.

Jade had read about the Run Kent event from our newsletter and wrote to Mrs Slade to congratulate everyone involved as well and has featured the run in their own fundraising newsletter.

We were also thrilled to hear from Just Giving, who informed us that our fundraising page on their website was in the top 1% of thousands of other Just Giving pages in September.

They describe the amount raised as an epic achievement and congratulated the school on the amazing amount raised for Victim Support.

The amount continues to rise, and currently stands at £7420.

Victim Support - [Home - Victim Support](#)

Our Story - [Via Just Giving](#)



Year 5 had a special assembly this afternoon as Mike Wakefield from the [Canal River Trust](#) joined them online to discuss safety around water.

The children will now have a firmer idea of the hazards when around our canals, rivers and coasts and what to do if something does go wrong. Water safety is always important, but we are lucky here to not be far from the coast and of course, the River Medway runs right through our area, encouraging riverside walks and on river pursuits such as rowing and paddle boarding. Having an idea of how to avoid problems will stand the Year 5 children in good stead whilst having fun on the water.

A massive thankyou to Rebecca Barlow, who has been volunteering in both Elmer and Gruffalo Classes for the last two weeks.

The children in Early Years said goodbye to Becca today after she had been carrying out a period of work experience with them, enjoying their learning together.

Good luck with your future plans, Becca!



# Slade Journal: Around School



Mrs Mulhern is organising a special month of learning across school as October marks Black History Month, a time to celebrate the rich heritage, culture, and contributions of Black individuals throughout history. She tells the newsletter:

‘This month provides an important opportunity for our school community to learn about the achievements and struggles of Black leaders, artists, scientists, and everyday heroes who have shaped our society. By engaging in discussions, activities, and reflections, around this year’s theme ‘Reclaiming Narratives’; we honour their legacies and recognise the ongoing journey towards equality and justice. Let us come together to appreciate and uplift Black voices, fostering a greater understanding and respect for the diversity that enriches our lives.’

We thank Mrs Mulhern for putting together the different age related activities for learning this month and to Mrs Mills in the school library for making prominent in display, the books featuring inspirational people and stories which we hope the children across Slade take a look at to compliment their learning on this important subject.



Local Member of Parliament, Tom Tugendhat MP (Con, Tonbridge) has had another tough week and with a bit more spare time on his hands would like to invite children at Slade to take part in his annual Christmas Card competition.

He asks for designs to go on to the cards that he sends to constituents, colleagues and friends.

To enter the competition, you should draw a Christmas themed picture on A4 paper (remember to fill the page) which can either be portrait or landscape. You should also make sure that you have signed your name on the front of the card. Entries are welcomed from any child at a primary school in the Tonbridge constituency.

The deadline to submit your entry is Friday 25 October, the last day of Term 1 at school. Your designs should also include your name, age and school on the reverse, or on an attached piece of paper. They should not be handed in to school, but submitted directly to the local office:

Tom Tugendhat MP, 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, TN9 1SP.

If you have any questions about this competition, please call Mr Tugendhat’s team on 01732 441563 or via [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk).



# Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing

## Tonbridge Footgolf



Last Friday, we took a team of footgolfers to the [Tonbridge Golf Centre](#) where they took part in a special event of the new popular sport that is a hybrid of football and golf. Players kick a football from tee to hole (which is a cup or bucket) in as few kicks as possible. The scoring is then the same as golf.

Everyone had a great time and used their skills really well to have a successful afternoon and early evening at the Cannon Lane venue.



On Wednesday, Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club held the second in a series of rugby festivals.

This week, we had a team from Year 3 and 4 take part in the skills, technique and matchplay rugby afternoon.

Darren from TJRFC has been coming into Slade for the last few Thursday mornings to introduce the children to the sport. The sessions have been a great success and we thank Juddians for their support.



Next week, a group of Year 5 and 6 players will walk the short distance to the Juddians for their session.

[Find out more about Tonbridge Juddians RFC and their upcoming fixtures, here, via their website.](#)

# Slade Stats

## Attendance

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.

## Punctuality

Registers are taken at 08:50. If children arrive after this time, they are registered late.

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.

Our Attendance Target = 97.0%

Our Attendance This Week = 95.5%

Our Attendance This Year = 96.0%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 24

Well done to this weeks winners:

**Attendance Ted: Wyvern Class**

99.3% Attendance

**Punctuality Pup: Sphinx Class**

0 Late

Congratulations to Mrs Fordyce and Mrs Burnside and your classes.



# From the Chair of Governors

## School Governors



## Change at the Top

Earlier this week, we shared with you a letter from the outgoing and incoming Chair of Governors here at Slade. The newsletter would like to thank Simon Griffiths for his support to the whole school during his time as Chair, including his valuable help and positive feedback of this weekly journal and for his regular contributions both here and on the school website. We wish Simon well for the future and look forward to working with Eleanor in her new role.

## ***SLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY***



*Chair: Mr S Griffiths*

*Slade Primary School  
The Slade  
Tonbridge  
Kent TN9 1HR*

*Tel: 01732 350354  
Fax: 01732 357521*

4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Slade Primary School community,

We are writing jointly to inform you that at the first Full Governing Body meeting of the new school year, held on 25<sup>th</sup> September, Simon Griffiths stepped down as Chair of Governors at Slade Primary School after 9 years in the post. Simon thanked the governors, staff and members of the wider community for the support he had received and reflected on what a privilege it had been to work with the school to make it the best place possible for young people to start to their education.

The governors unanimously elected Eleanor Hoyle to the position of Chair of Governors and welcomed her to the role. Eleanor is an experienced governor having previously served as vice-Chair of Governors and co-Chair of the Curriculum Committee. She very much looks forward to working with the school's leadership to continue to move the school forward. The Governors took the opportunity following Eleanor's election to record their thanks to Simon for his significant contribution to the Slade community.

If you wish to learn more about the role of the school governors, please visit the governor page of the school website.

Yours faithfully,

Eleanor Hoyle and Simon Griffiths.

# News and Events from the PTA

## PTA AGM - Thursday 17th October

A number of Committee Members will be stepping down at the AGM. Without a full Committee we cannot meet our ambitious fundraising targets!

We are looking for a new Co-Secretary and Co-Treasurer, but would also be keen to find someone able to help us with artistic design work, someone to focus on Events and anyone keen to join as a general Committee Member to help guide the allocation of PTA funds.

If you would be interested in being nominated or would like any further information please email: [PTA@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@slade.kent.sch.uk)

We're a super friendly Committee and would love to welcome new members ??

The AGM will also see the visit to Slade of Kitty Cassis with a Comedy Bingo show. Full details below and tickets are still available - just £5, or whatever you can pay via our SumUp Store:

<https://sladeppta.sumupstore.com/>



**AGM &  
COMEDY BINGO  
NIGHT**

**WITH KITTY CASSIS**

OUTRAGEOUS COMEDY, CLASSIC BINGO AND  
CHANCE TO VOTE IN THE PTA COMMITTEE FOR  
THE YEAR AHEAD

7PM FOR A WELCOME PIMMS  
BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE...AND SOME FRIENDS  
£5 A TICKET, OR PAY WHAT YOU CAN VIA SUM UP:  
SLADEPTA.SUMUPSTORE.COM

**THURSDAY - 17 OCTOBER**  
**SCHOOL HALL**

 **HIYAITSMEKITTY** 

# In Our Community



The Kent NHS Community Health Team were able to vaccinate 74.2% of eligible children at their recent visit to school to administer the annual Winter Childhood Flu Immunisation spray. They report that this is below our uptake of 76% from last year's programme.

To ensure no child misses this seasonal vaccination, they would like to advertise their community clinics for any child that was not vaccinated on our visit. Tracey Hinds from KCHT says,

**“The Immunisation Service would like to invite parents to book an appointment at one of their Community Clinics if your child recently missed their Childhood Flu Immunisation on their visit to school.**

Parents can book an appointment via their website on the link below, and clicking ‘Book a Clinic Appointment’: <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/immunisation-team/> Local clinics to Slade include those in Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone, Tonbridge, Ashford and Tenterden.

This link also provides other useful information regarding vaccinations and the Immunisation Service.

If your child was vaccinated on their recent visit, you are invited to complete the following surveys [Parent / Carer Survey](#) or [Young Persons Survey 11-19 year olds](#)”

TONBRIDGE ANGELS FC  
SUPPORTED BY THE  
MEARS FOUNDATION  
**FOOT-TEA**  
FREE 1 hour football session  
and a FREE hot meal.  
For children aged 4-12 yrs  
who receive free school  
meals or pupil premium  
<https://tonbridge-angels.classforkids.io/>

ANGELS MARQUEE  
**HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
£8 PER CHILD + BOOKING FEE  
SUITABLE FOR AGES 5 - 12  
Thursday  
October 31st  
12pm - 3pm  
BOOK HERE  
KIDS HALLOWEEN DANCE PARTY  
EERIE ENTERTAINMENT  
TRICK OR TREAT GAMES  
SPOOKY SNACK BOX  
TONBRIDGE ANGELS FC | ANGELS MARQUEE | T110 3JF

Trinity Dance  
**DANCE WORKSHOPS**  
SUITABLE FOR 7-12 + YEARS  
£40 PER DAY  
£70 BOTH DAYS  
MUSICAL THEATRE  
STREET DANCE  
JAZZ  
CHEERLEADING  
CRAFTS AND MUCH MORE!  
29TH & 30TH  
OCTOBER  
9 AM - 4 PM  
Skinner's Kent Academy,  
Tunbridge Wells  
FANCY DRESS WELCOME!  
AVAILABLE TO BOOK NOW!  
lauren@trinitydance.co.uk  
www.trinitydance.co.uk



**SATURDAY TENNIS 2024**  
AT RACECOURSE SPORTSGROUND, TONBRIDGE  
Come and join us for loads of tennis fun this winter!  
Fortnightly Sessions Starting Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
9:00 - 10:00am Adult Cardio Tennis  
10:00 - 10:45am - Junior Tennis age 3-4  
10:45 - 11:30am - Junior Tennis age 5-7  
11:30 - 12:30 pm - Junior Tennis age 8-12  
**BOOK YOUR TASTER SESSION NOW!**

# Meet the Team: Classroom Teacher

This afternoon, Sprite Class in Year 2 threw open their doors to the parents and carers of children in the class as they had their first chance to properly welcome and meet the new class teacher, Miss Ellis.

Miss Ellis joined the school staff team in September and has enjoyed her first few weeks with Sprite Class. We caught up with her just before she had the chance to have a chat with the parents today and found out a little more about her journey to Slade.



Taylor Ellis

*When did you know that you wanted to be a Primary School Teacher?*

**I knew I wanted to become a teacher when I became a trampolining coach whilst in Secondary School. I loved working with children and helping them to achieve their goals.**



*What is the best thing about being a teacher?*

**The best thing about being a teacher is meeting such a range of wonderful children.**

*Which school did you go to when you were younger?*

**I went to Gateway Primary School in Dartford and then to Dartford Grammar School for Girls.**



*What was your favourite lesson?*

**My favourite lesson was PE.**



*If you were not a teacher, what would you like to be?*

**If I was not a teacher, I would like to be a Business Owner (of what...who knows!)**



*What is your ideal weekend?*

**I love cooking and reading, but my ideal weekend would be spent with my family and my cat watching Moto GP!**

# We Are Slade: Contacts & Payments

In class

My child's class learning, class activities, lessons, homework or pastoral support; concerns about bullying and behaviour

[classname@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:classname@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Absence

Sickness Reporting, Absence Requests and all Medical Appointments

[attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk)

School Office

General Enquiries and School Events

[office@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Wraparound

Yeti's Wraparound: Childcare Voucher questions, session cancellations and all General Enquiries

[yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Sport and Activity

Extra Curricular Activity Clubs (booking and queries) Sports Events and Representative Sports Tournaments

[sportsandactivities@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:sportsandactivities@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Slade PTA

Slade PTA

[pta@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:pta@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Admissions

In Year and September EYFS Admissions

[admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Finance

Childcare Vouchers, Payments for Yeti's and School Meals and School Trips and Special Lessons

[finance@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:finance@slade.kent.sch.uk)

School Lunches

Comments and questions about school meal provision from Nourish Contract Catering

[jasongibbons@nourishcc.co.uk](mailto:jasongibbons@nourishcc.co.uk)

Family Liaison

If you would like the services of our Family Liaison Officer, Libby, or just wish to talk over a family issue in confidence

[flo@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:flo@slade.kent.sch.uk)

01732 350354 / option 4

Complaints

For all complaints, please refer to the [Complaints Policy](#) then contact us:

[slaws@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:slaws@slade.kent.sch.uk)

GDPR

Reporting of GDPR Breaches, details of our privacy policy and for Subject Access Requests

[slaws@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:slaws@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 £2.55 per meal.

Credit should be loaded onto the Meals section of your Arbor account in advance of a meal being taken.

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

Breakfast Club is charged at £5.00 per session After School Club is charged at £5.00 per session:

Session 1 (15:30 - 16:30), Session 2 (16:30 - 17:30)

Payment and Booking should be made via your online Arbor account.

For full information please see our website: [Breakfast and After School Clubs](#)

## School Visits, Other Special Events and Swimming Lessons

These payments are all made via your Arbor account. You will receive details of the amount owed and the due date as well as information on the event via email in advance.

Payments

# Diary Dates: Looking Ahead



September	October	November
	<p>Monday 21 to Thursday 24 - Group A,B,C Year 6 Bikeability</p> <p>Tuesday 22 - Parent Teacher Consultations</p> <p>Thursday 24 - Parent Teacher Consultations</p> <p>Friday 25 - Last Day of Term 1</p>	<p>Monday 4 to Thursday 7 - Group D,E,F Year 6 Bikeability</p> <p>Monday 4 - First Day of Term 2</p> <p>Wednesday 13 - EYFS25 Open Event</p> <p>Wednesday 20 - EYFS25 Open Event</p>
December	January	February
<p>Tuesday 10 - EYFS Performance</p> <p>Tuesday 10 - Year 1 Performance</p> <p>Wednesday 11 - Year 2 Performance</p> <p>Wednesday 11 - EYFS Performance</p> <p>Thursday 12 - Year 1 Performance</p> <p>Thursday 12 - Year 2 Performance</p> <p>Friday 13 - Christmas Sale, Jumper and Meal</p> <p>Monday 16 - Carols by Candlelight</p> <p>Wednesday 18 - Y5/6 Choir at GLA Trafalgar Square Christmas Event</p>	<p>Monday 6 - First Day of Term 3</p> <p>Thursday 16 - Year 1 Trip: Tunbridge Wells</p>	<p>Monday 3 - Young Voices 2025 (participants aware of detail)</p> <p>Tuesday 11 - Online Safety Day</p> <p>Friday 14 - Last Day of Term 3</p> <p>Monday 24 - First Day of Term 4</p>
March	April	May
<p>Tuesday 4 - EYFS Trip: Godstone Farm</p> <p>Thursday 6 - World Book Day</p> <p>Friday 21 - Year 4 Trip: Mountfitchet</p> <p>Tuesday 25 - Parent Teacher Consultations</p> <p>Thursday 27 - Parent Teacher Consultations</p>	<p>Tuesday 1 - Summer Concert</p> <p>Friday 4 - Last Day of Term 4</p> <p>Tuesday 22 - First Day of Term 5</p>	<p>Friday 2 - Year 3 Trip: Leavesden</p> <p>Friday 9 - Year 5 Trip: Herstmonceux</p> <p>Monday 12 - Thursday 15 - KS2 (Year 6) Statutory Assessment Tests</p> <p>Thursday 15 - Secondary School Information Evening for Year 5 parents</p> <p>Friday 23 - Last Day of Term 5</p>
June	July	
<p>Monday 2 - First Day of Term 6</p> <p>Year 2 Trip: Maidstone</p> <p>Tuesday 17 - Open Evening</p> <p>Thursday 19 - Sports Day</p> <p>Sunday 22 to Wednesday 25 - Year 6 Residential (Kingswood, Ashford)</p>	<p>Thursday 3 - Next Year Transition Day</p> <p>Tuesday 15 - Year 6 Production</p> <p>Thursday 17 - Year 6 Production</p> <p>Friday 18 - Last Day of Term 6</p>	

Changes and additions to the diary from last week's calendar are written in red for ease of reference

More information about these events will appear nearer the time.

Events and dates are subject to change

Additional events will be posted here throughout the year

2024/25 Term Dates