



SLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Newsletter

Term 2, Issue 4

Friday 29 November 2024

Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today, your child will be bringing home some of their work to share with you over the weekend! Books will be brought home at the end of the day and are to be returned to school on **Monday 2 December**. This is an opportunity for you to talk to your child about their work and the learning that has taken place whilst also celebrating their achievements during the term. We ask that all books and folders be returned to school on Monday in order for the children to be able to use them in class during the week!

In addition to returning your child's exercise books on Monday, we also ask that every child has their reading book and folder in school too. It is really important that all of the children have their book in school every day in order that they can be heard read by an adult at any available opportunity across the week. It might be that your child is asked to read on any day, not just library day, so thank you for helping ensure that they are ready and prepared for this and have their book in school with them.

Rehearsals for all of our traditional events and performances are now well underway, with the sound of Christmas music and song echoing throughout the school. It is all feeling very festive! A reminder that a full breakdown of all our Christmas activities including dates, timings and booking details for performances was shared with you earlier this term so please do revisit it to make sure that you have those all-important dates in your diary. Regular updates will also be shared in our daily email too, for anyone worried that they may have missed something! We are all very excited to be sharing our Christmas celebrations with friends and families of Slade in the coming days!

Still on the theme of Christmas and as we approach the end of term and the holiday season, we're all very much aware of the continuing financial pressures that many continue to face at the moment. As such, we really once again want to emphasise that our staff never expect to receive any Christmas gifts from pupils and no parent should ever feel that they have to buy a present or contribute towards a collection for any member of staff. Any gifts are always very much appreciated and greatly received but nothing beats a heartfelt thank you, not just at Christmas but at other times during the year too!

Thank you to parents of children in Year 3 who came to our Maths Workshop this morning where everyone got to hear all about the Maths curriculum and expectations for children in lower Key Stage 2; hearing too of how we now teach Maths which for many is very different to when we were pupils! We hope that you found it both informative and helpful to you as you look to support your child with their mathematical development at home. Huge thanks to Mr. Duffin (Maths Leader) for organising and leading the session which was enjoyed by all who were there! Please don't hesitate to contact your class teachers via their email addresses should you have any queries following the session.

Finally, still with Maths, do look out for the December edition of our Maths newsletter which dropped into your inboxes earlier in the week and includes lots of fun, mathematical activities for you to try out at home whilst also signposting you to some fabulous online resources too! Do let me know if you manage to win in the Battle of Mathematica!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Karen Slade

Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Monday 2 December 2024

- Hydra Class Cooking Experience at Tonbridge School
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Tuesday 3 December 2024

- Sprite Class Forest School
- Griffin Class Swimming
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Wednesday 4 December 2024

- 12 days of Christmas Draw at 7:15. [Click here for a chance to win!](#)
- 14:00 - Parent Rep Meeting
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Thursday 5 December 2024

- 12 days of Christmas Draw at 7:15. [Click here for a chance to win!](#)
- Griffin Class Forest School
- Dragon Class Swimming
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Friday 6 December 2024

- 12 days of Christmas Draw at 7:15. [Click here for a chance to win!](#)
- Dragon Class Forest School
- PTA Donation Day - Gifts (See Page 11)
- [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



Thankyou from RBL

Terry Mason, from the Royal British Legion contacted us this week after his team had finished counting all of the money raised in Tonbridge and district in the recent Poppy Appeal. Terry spoke to Tracey Arnold, our own Poppy Co-Ordinator, 'An outstanding amount was raised by the guys at Slade Primary School. Together, you contributed a total of £617.92 which helped us make a Tonbridge tally of £38,447.03. This money will help the projects that the Royal British Legion have ongoing locally especially at the Aylesford RBL Village and nationally. Thankyou, Slade.'

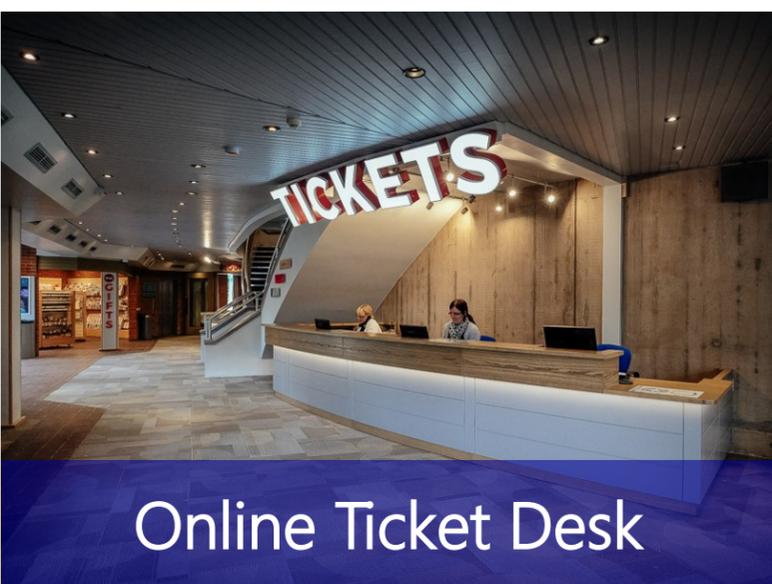
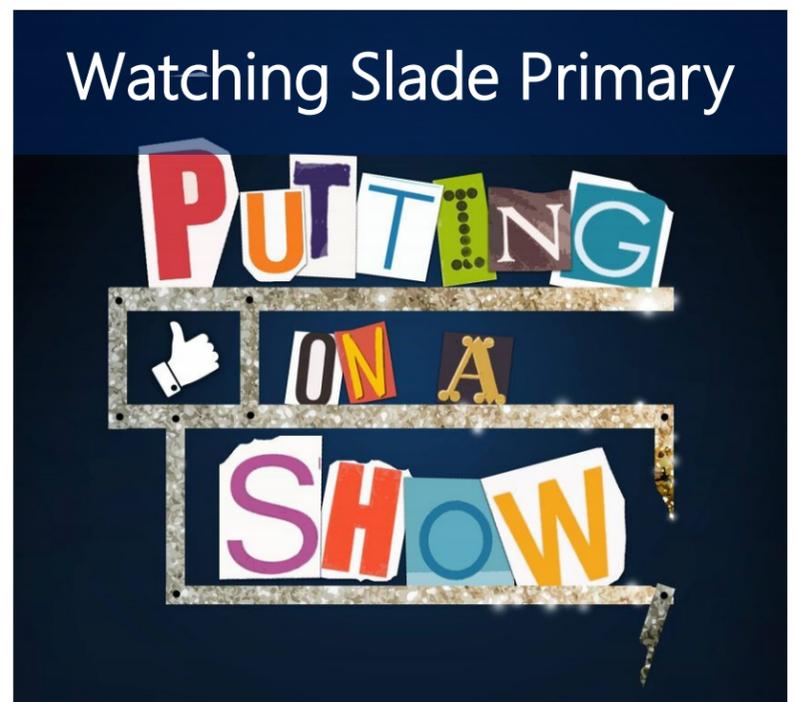
Christmas is coming and there are details of how we will be celebrating at school on page 10 and 11 of today's newsletter.

The first signs that the festive time is nearly here comes in the shape of song as the younger children busily rehearse for their upcoming performances to family.

The stage went up yesterday, so now they have the chance to practise using the actual space they will be using on the big days.

So far 52 families in Year R, 44 in Year 1 and 49 in Year 2 have already booked their seats to watch their child 'Putting on a Show'.

If you still want to secure a place, please click on the required yeargroup below and complete the simple form.



Online Ticket Desk

[EYFS Traditional Nativity](#)

[Year 1 Christmas Concert](#)

[Year 2 Lights, Camel Action](#)

Remember, you can order a total of four tickets across both shows however we are unable to invite preschool aged children and babies to the performances.

Yeti's customers who need to contact us by email for queries and session cancellations will see a new name on their replies: that of our Afternoon Admin and Finance Assistant, Yanina Dunton. Yanina is looking forward to getting to know you all and will feature in the newsletter soon as we continue to meet the wider team here at Slade. You should expect replies to your emails in our normal fashion and within 1 day, but these will be processed in the afternoon rather than first thing in the morning.

A reminder that requests for cancellations can only be processed successfully if they are made more than 24 hours in advance of the session start time and when you state the name of the session that should be cancelled.



Yanina for Yeti's

Slade Journal: Around School



Across school this week, we have been observing Road Safety Week led by Deputy Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead, Viki Garrett.

The week of age targeted learning has seen children examine why Road Safety is important and how they can remain safe near roads wherever they are.

The Road Safety awareness has taken in both walking as pedestrians and riding as cyclists.

The children were introduced to the topic at the beginning of the week with special assemblies written and presented by our Year 5 Safeguarding Champions.

The assemblies were tasked with thinking about the good choices that could be made when crossing a road, such as those scenes in these pictures below:



Look



Stop



Phones



Headphones



And they were asked questions, such as



The girls have bumped into their friend whilst crossing the road.
What should they do to keep safe?



Rohan has dropped his scarf in the road!
What should he do to keep himself safe?

How do your children answer these questions?



Mrs Dolley, our resident, experienced Road Crossing Officer, also toured the classrooms explaining her role and why you often find 'Lollypop Patrols' on busy roads near schools.



Each class was given a Hazard Awareness activity to complete, where small groups were spotting great road safety behaviour and the potential hazards from different locations such as this one.

We are grateful to Kent County Council who have been supporting their schools by producing roadside banners promoting safe driving and parking in and around educational settings.

Mrs Slade and Miss Garrett have proudly displayed ours (pictured above in the title picture to this page) at our crunch point just outside the main playground gates on the corner of The Slade and Stafford Road.

Please make sure we all set and meet the highest standards when driving to and parking nearby to school at regular and wraparound drop off and collection times and please do talk to your children about road safety when you are around town.

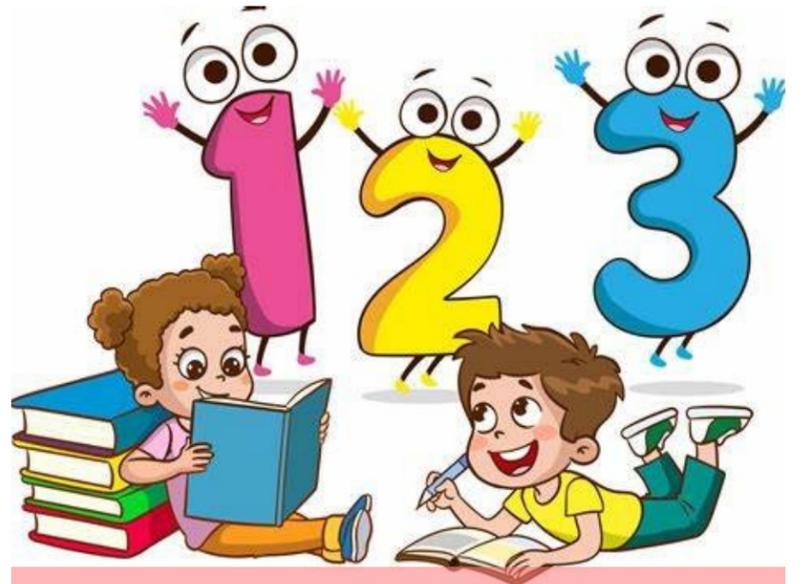
Slade Journal: Around School

It was fantastic to see so many Year 3 parents and carers with us this morning as James Duffin, our Maths Lead, held a Parental Workshop into the ways we teach maths here at Slade.

The workshop will hopefully be useful to those parents as they endeavour to help with maths at home.

The slide presentation from this morning's event has been shared, with further details to be sent to Year 3 parents soon regarding a possible video version of this workshop.

Across Key Stage Two though, the children are battling against each other to win big this term, with Times Tables Rockstars!



Maths is Fun, at Slade!



Individual Christmas Competition

Term 2 brings a brand new TTRS competition! For the first time ever, we are having an individual competition! This term the children who get the most TTRS points across the term will have a special movie afternoon! Only the top 25% of children will get the treat!

May the best Rock Stars, win!



Encourage your children to keep practising their times Tables through the Rockstars website for a chance to not only become better at fast recall of times tables, but for the chance to become one of the top 25% of participants who will be able to enjoy a special movie afternoon together with all of the other winners.

Mr Duffin will be celebrating those winners in his next Maths newsletter.

We all hope that you enjoyed reading the most [recent issue](#) that came out earlier this week, with plenty of fantastic ways to enjoy learning maths at home and out in the community. Remember to share your own learning by sending in your stories and pictures to maths@slade.kent.sch.uk.

Our News: Launching Christmas



Tonbridge Razzmataz!

Many of our families will have joined thousands of others who came to the centre of Tonbridge last Sunday to enjoy the very special day of events across town that officially launched Christmas in our corner of West Kent.

The big event was the lights switch-on and fireworks display, which all followed after a lovely day which saw the High Street turned into a pedestrian zone for a Christmas Market for the day, headed with a stage for local performers to entertain the crowds all day long!

And it is on that stage that we would find Alice and Katie of Pegasus Class here at Slade.

They were there with Razzmataz, who offer classes in performing arts for children aged 2-18.

The girls joined us in the office earlier this week to talk about the day, and their love for singing, dancing and acting - all of which can be enjoyed at Razzmataz!

'We performed for the Tonbridge Christmas Market and it was great fun; we felt really excited because there were loads, thousands of people there to see us.'

'We learn how to dance, sing and perform drama so it was brilliant to show everyone what we could do with 'Dreaming of a White Christmas', 'Defying Gravity' from Wicked and 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'.

'We hope everyone who saw us perform had a great time!' We are sure they did, including those members of staff who have commented on the performance since seeing Alice and Katie's picture!



**GIRLS CRICKET
SKILLS TRAINING
WITH TONBRIDGE CC**

**FRIDAYS | 17 JANUARY - 28 MARCH 2025
6.15PM - 7.30PM
SCHOOL YEARS 4, 5 & 6 | GIRLS ONLY
HILDEN GRANGE SCHOOL, TONBRIDGE
BEGINNERS WELCOME**

**EMAIL FOR INFORMATION
TONCCGIRLS@OUTLOOK.COM**

Mrs Ball is pleased to share details of a new local training facility for girls who would like to learn the skills of cricket.

Tonbridge Cricket Club are starting a new winter training session for girls on Friday evenings from 17 January to the end of March, before the summer sessions kick in.

The sessions will be held at nearby private school, Hilden Grange, with beginners more than welcome as Tonbridge Cricket Club aim to grow their junior and female sections.

For more information take a look at the website here: [Junior Cricket — Tonbridge Cricket Club](#)

Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing



On Monday, Mrs Ball took a group of twenty children over to the Tonbridge School Sports Centre for a special Multi Sports Festival.

The children, some representing Slade for the first time had a great morning trying different activities.

We were proud also to be able to make sure the event was extremely well run, as our Sports Crew were on hand to demonstrate, score and assist the children from over ten local primary schools taking part.



An injury and illness hit squad took part in the National League Cup for U11 girls on Thursday at the home of Tonbridge Angels FC.

Teams from across Kent competed to reach the Southern Finals day later on in the school year.

The team did amazingly well despite being players short for a complete squad and finished 4th having lost in the semi finals - which left Mrs Ball and Mrs Buckland very proud of their effort. 'Considering the task in front of them and the uncompromising play from some of the other schools and their coaches, the Slade girls can hold their heads high, and were so unlucky not to go further - they should be very proud of their day's work.'

The Kent finals day was won by four-form Amherst School in Sevenoaks.

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 = 94.1%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.5%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 62

This was just one short of last week's new record for the number of late children in one week.

No class has won Punctuality Pup, who remains patrolling the Late Gate, as every class had multiple children late this week

Well done however, to Attendance Ted winners, Pixie Class.

Congratulations to Mr Clark, his class and their penguins!



Christmas at Slade

Festive Fun Incoming



There is so much to look forward to this December at Slade.

Kicking off the festive fun is of course our EYFS and Key Stage 1 performances as they Put on a Show for their parents and other guests.

That's all in a week's time, with audience places now fast running out.

There is plenty more though for the whole school community to enjoy, as detailed in the PTA letter sent this week, summarised on this page.



Christmas Day at Slade is on Friday 13 December, which sees a whole day of activity for the children across all yeargroups:

Christmas Jumpers

Everyone is invited to come to school sporting a Christmas themed jumper. Don't worry if you don't have one, the PTA have you covered with a sale happening in the playground tonight straight after school. Any unsold jumpers will be available to purchase between Monday and the 13th, just enquire via the [PTA email](#).

Children's Christmas Sale

On the 13th, every child needs to come to school with a named carrier bag and some loose change to browse and buy a Christmas gift for the rest of the family. Each gift will cost 50p from each of the PTA manned stalls, which will be situated, Christmas Market style in the playground (weather permitting!)

Donations

If you have an old jumper or gift idea that you would like to donate to recycle and resell, please bring to the school office at anytime or to the PTA Donation Bin on Friday 6 December. For details of the items required, see the note from the PTA on page 11.

Christmas Dinner

Nourish Contract Catering are thankful for your quick response to their Christmas Meal survey. They look forward to serving everyone who has replied (and probably a few more besides!)

Please remember to top up your Meals account on Arbor if your child pays for school meals.

Christmas at Slade

PTA Twelve Days of Christmas Raffle

The PTA have launched their first ever 'Slade's Twelve Days of Christmas' raffle.

There are 12 fabulous prizes, ranging from Panto Tickets to memberships, vouchers, Christmas treats and Bottles of Booze.

For the last twelve days of term, Caroline and the team will be drawing a winning ticket number and a prize at random.

Every morning from Wednesday 4 December at 7:15 in our Today at Slade email, that day's winner will be announced (which will be far more entertaining than the weather reports you are currently getting!)

Be involved by buying your chance to win with tickets on sale now via the PTA Sum Up Store page, link below:

<https://sladeppta.sumupstore.com/product/12-days-of-christmas-raffle>

Tickets are super value at only £1!

Musical Christmas at Trafalgar Square

Mrs Stephens is very pleased to be singing a song for Christmas again this year as she takes the Key Stage 2 choir out and about to spread their festive cheer!

They will be performing at Trafalgar Square to entertain tourists and commuters alike under the famous tree in Central London as part of the Mayor of London's Christmas celebrations. Details are known to those taking part on the evening of Wednesday 18 December.

Carols by Candlelight

At the beginning of that same week, the choir, along with other musicians in school will take part in our annual curtain raiser to the Christmas Holidays at the Carols by Candlelight service and celebration held at the parish church of St Peter and St Paul from 18:30 on Monday 16 December.

Everyone is welcome to join us for a lovely evening of music and song, with more details to appear nearer the time.



Christmas at Slade

CHRISTMAS JUMPER SALE
Friday 29 November

SLADE'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS
Wednesday 4 December

CHRISTMAS SALE
Friday 13 December

Donation Days

Friday 22 November - Jumpers & Gifts
Friday 29 November - Jumpers & Gifts
Friday 6 December - Gifts

Christmas jumpers in good condition.
Wrapping paper, Small new or nearly new gifts for siblings and grown ups: toiletries, games, socks, sweet treats. Please no DVDs, CDs or Jewellery.
See email for further details.

Donations Still Required: A Message from the PTA

To make the Christmas sale on 13th December a success and enable every child to purchase gifts for their immediate family, **we currently need an additional 100+ Mum/female relative gifts and 200+ Dad/male relative gifts. We also need an additional 400 gifts for siblings, particularly older male siblings**, so sweet or chocolate treats, small games or appropriately sized socks would be great for them too!

If you have not yet donated the same number of gifts that you expect your child/children to purchase, please could you bring your donations in next week. We will be collecting at the main gates on Friday morning, but if not convenient please pass to the office at any time during the week. Thank you all so much for your support!

In Our Community

We are very grateful to Martin and Jackie Clews at Stonepitts Farm for again supporting the school this winter and are pleased to repeat their offer in the newsletter for parents, carers, friends (and indeed, anyone you know) who will be buying a real Christmas tree this year.

As in previous years, the local, friendly family run farm providing delicious PYO strawberries, raspberries and music event's during the summer and Christmas trees, wreaths & festive good cheer in the winter, would once again like to offer a £2.00 donation to Slade for every Christmas tree bought by anyone who can show the staff at the farm a copy of this article from the newsletter.

For full details of everything that goes on at Stonepitts and how to get there can be found on their website:

www.stonepitts.com.

Remember to send this newsletter to anyone who may be considering their purchase at Stonepitts!



Thankyou, Stonepitts

In addition, Stonepitts make a donation per tree sold to various charities.

This year they will again be supporting Demelza Hospice Care for Children.



Demelza
Hospice Care for Children

Stonepitts Farm know their trees!The shop at Stonepitts is open 7 days a week between 09:00 and 16:00.

Their farmyard will be stocked with Premium Grade Nordmann "low needle-drop" Christmas trees, holly wreaths, mistletoe, tree stands and general good Christmas cheer.

The helpful staff will assist in netting your chosen tree either for you to take home or for delivery at reasonable cost. The picturesque site has easy access and good car parking.

Delivery

If you can't make it to the yard there is an online order and delivery service. Please be sure to check carefully [where delivery can be made to](#) before ordering. If you are outside of this area but would like a delivery please call Stonepitts on **07977 487277** before ordering your tree online.

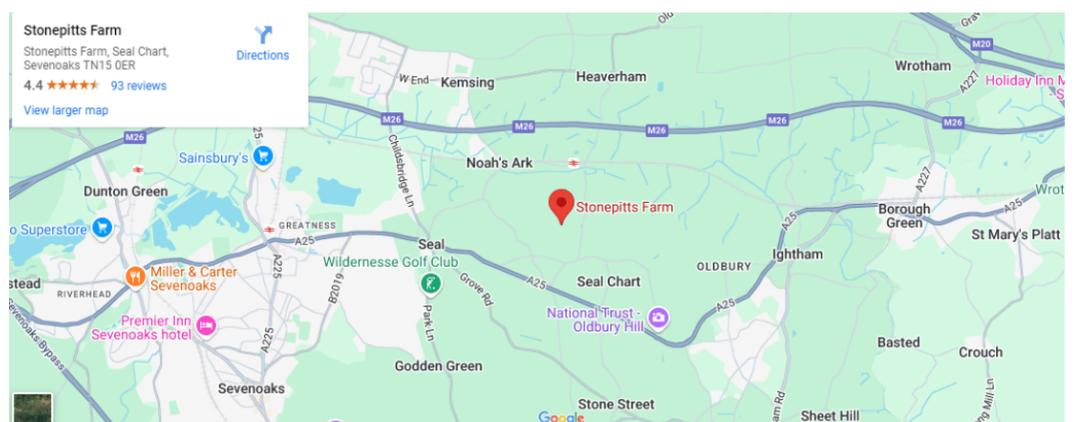
The team will make deliveries on the following dates: 22nd, 25th, 29th Nov, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 9th, 13th, 16th, 20th Dec and your Christmas tree will be added to the date following the day of your order

Tree Variety On Offer - Nordmann Fir (*Abies nordmanniana*)

The Nordmann Fir was first introduced to Britain in 1848 and is now the most popular Christmas Tree in the UK. It is a high quality non-drop fir tree ideal for decorating your home this Christmas, retaining its needles and with a lush glossy green leaf having a silver colour under branch.

The tree also gives off a fragrant forest aroma.

Source: www.stonepitts.com.



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

Absence

Sickness Reporting, Absence Requests and all Medical Appointments

attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk

School Office

General Enquiries and School Events

office@slade.kent.sch.uk

Wraparound

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

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

Slade PTA

Slade PTA

pta@slade.kent.sch.uk

Admissions

In Year and September EYFS Admissions

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

School Lunches

Comments and questions about school meal provision from Nourish Contract Catering

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

01732 350354 / option 4

Complaints

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

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

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>Wednesday 13 - EYFS25 Open Event</p> <p>Wednesday 20 - EYFS25 Open Event</p> <p>Friday 29 - Year 3 Parent Maths Workshop</p>
December	January	February
<p>Tuesday 10 - EYFS Performance (09:30)</p> <p>Tuesday 10 - Year 1 Performance (14:00)</p> <p>Wednesday 11 - Year 2 Performance (09:30)</p> <p>Wednesday 11 - EYFS Performance (14:00)</p> <p>Thursday 12 - Year 1 Performance (09:30)</p> <p>Thursday 12 - Year 2 Performance (14:00)</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>Thursday 19 - Last Day of Term 2</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>	

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

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

