



SLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL

In this issue:

02: From the Headteacher

03: Diary Dates for Next Week

04: Around School

05: Around School

06: Musical Tour

07: Around School

08: Forest School

09: Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing

10: Slade Stats

11: PTA News

12: In Our Community

13: We Are Slade - Contacts and Payments

14: Looking Ahead

School Newsletter

Term 2, Issue 7

Thursday 19 December 2024

Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of this term and what another festive week it's been!

On the theme of festive fun, Monday evening saw many of our older pupils and their families congregate at St. Peter and St. Pauls' church for our traditional 'Carols by Candlelight' service. The carol service was a lovely celebration of singing, music and readings all of which retold the story of the Nativity. Thank you to all of the children who took part and performed, either individually or collectively, and for leading us through the packed programme. Thank you too to all of the staff involved in teaching and preparing the children for this event and to the PTA team for providing and serving the refreshments too. Finally, many thanks to all of the friends and families who came to join us and for sharing your positive feedback following the service; we're glad that you all enjoyed it!

During the carol service we took the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to Simon Griffiths who, as many of you will be aware, has played a huge part in the life of the school for the last 16 years, most recently as chair of the Governing Body. It was the perfect setting in which to publicly thank Simon for all that has done as a volunteer for the Slade community and to present him with some mementoes from us all. I'm sure that you all join with me in sending Simon all good wishes for whatever life away from Slade has in store for him. Thank you, Simon; you will be missed!

The festivities continued yesterday as our Key Stage 2 Choir took the train into London to spread their Christmas cheer further afield, singing in front of the Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square! It really was a magical, memorable moment seeing and hearing our fabulous children entertaining all passers-by during their 45-minute singing window, sharing a medley of Christmas songs old and new. A huge thank you to the marvelous crowd of parents and loved ones who came to enjoy this special moment too. Special thanks to our fundraisers who were relentless with the shaking of those collection buckets, collecting donations from the very generous public. A very special moment for all involved; thank you to Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Ball for organizing and for making the magic happen!

A special mention and a huge thank you to all of our PTA who have been working tirelessly across this term with their fundraising efforts which culminated today in the last of the '12 Days of Christmas' raffle prize draw; huge thanks to all involved in making this happen and congratulations to the 12 lucky winners! Many thanks too for the beautifully wrapped Christmas gifts that the PTA has provided for each child in school which Santa's Elves enjoyed delivering to the classes this afternoon! A special mention and thank you to Mr. Laws for keeping us updated and entertained with his early morning emails announcing the names of the raffle winners each day; thank you Stephen!

Don't forget to check out the Christmas edition of the Maths newsletter that landed in your inbox yesterday! It's full of seasonal Maths ideas to keep you busy during the festive period so do check it out. I'm particularly looking forward to tackling the GCHQ Christmas challenge!

I hope that you all have a thoroughly restful Christmas break and look forward to seeing you all back in school for the start of Term 3 on Monday January 6th 2025.

Take care, stay safe and be kind.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Karen Slade

Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Friday 20 December - Friday 3 January (Inclusive)

Christmas and New Year Holiday. SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS

Monday 6 January 2025

- First Day of Term 3
- Gnome Class Forest School
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Tuesday 7 January 2025

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

Wednesday 8 January 2025

- EYFS Application Open Event - Book places via admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Thursday 9 January 2025

- Pixie Class Forest School
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Friday 10 January 2025

- Elf Class Forest School
- [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



Everyone at Slade would like to wish all of our families a very merry Christmas with much happiness, fun and success to follow in 2025.

The Christmas Holidays start now, with school closed tomorrow through to the beginning of Term 3.

The first day of the new calendar year at school will be Monday 6 January.

There is lots to look forward to in Term 3 including the Year 1 children visiting Tunbridge Wells, The Romans marching in on Slade again and talks planned from Kent Police.

The choir are back on the road for the Young Voices event at the o2 and the whole school will join together for special lessons around Online Safety Day at the beginning of February.

The first day of term is Monday 6 January and the last day is the rather lovely Friday 14 February.



Nourish Contract Catering have noticed that there is a error on their menu for the beginning of January.

They would like to clarify that they will be serving the Week One Menu for the first week of term (week beginning 6 January).

Nourish apologise for any confusion caused by the fact that 6 January is listed on both Week One and Week Four of the seasonal Menu.

Kirsty, Jemma and all of the team from Nourish Contract Catering would like to extend their wishes for a lovely Christmas and New Year period to all of their customers.

Our many thanks to the team at the EM Forster Theatre, who were kind enough to host our end of term Whole School Assembly on Monday afternoon.

The assembly incorporated the Pupil of the Week Diamond, Golden and Platinum Book winners, Attendance and Punctuality prizes with whole school songs and performances from our choirs and a show from the Musical Theatre group as well as presentations from the Sports Captains and House Captains.



Slade Journal: Around School



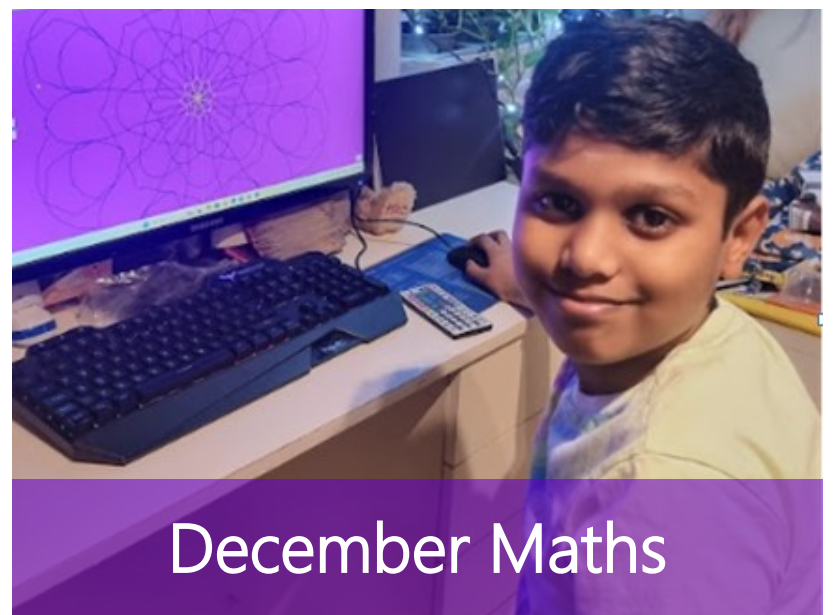
On Tuesday afternoon, the children with the most number of points gained on Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS) during Term 2 gathered together to receive the termly prize, which this time around was a film afternoon with Mr Duffin.

The film of choice was 1994 movie, 'The Santa Clause' starring Tim Allen.

There is a chance to win group prizes every term by logging on at home to gain points as well as becoming super quick at remembering your Times Tables.

Staying on the Maths theme, we hope you have had chance to browse through Mr Duffin's latest [Maths Newsletter](#).

This month, we reflect back on a year's worth of learning, celebrate our TTRS weekly champions, the Invicta Challenge team and your Maths at home. Christmas is the theme for your At Home ideas and Website of the Month, and there are four pages of puzzles to keep your child ticking over with their maths practise over the holiday, including a special UK Landmarks investigation meaning they can kick start the new year on fire!



Our consultation with parents about the future of Yeti's , in particular the opening hours, continues throughout the holiday. We are interested in your view of the hours that the wraparound provision is open. To inform this consultation, we have a quick survey for any parent to complete. We are interested in hearing the thoughts of our school community to help with our planning so please complete the questions in the link below. The deadline for making your views known is 18:00 on Monday 6 January.

[Yetis Opening Hours Consultation Form](#)

If you are looking to get out whilst not spending any money in the holiday, then remember to pop into our local libraries and take part in the Winter Mini Reading Challenge. Simply encourage your child to read at least three books from the library between now and the closing date, which is way off on the 20 February 2025. Before they start, all you need to do is add them to the challenge at wintermini.org.uk.

Reaching their reading goal will unlock a limited-edition digital badge and a new Winter Mini Challenge certificate to print off and keep.

If you take part, do take a picture and send it in to us via office@slade.kent.sch.uk and we will feature your child in the newsletter in January!



Slade Journal: Music at Slade



We enjoyed a beautiful curtain raiser to Christmas on Monday evening at St Peter and St Paul Church as we enjoyed the annual Carols by Candlelight service.

There were performances from Mrs Ball's younger choir and also Mrs Stephens' Key Stage 2 Choir, Mrs Martin's Signing Choir and Nancy Bishop's Musical Theatre Group.

Year 6 children read out passages from the Bible, following the Christmas Story at the event hosted by Izzy, Jennifer and Benjamin alongside Mrs Slade.



On Wednesday evening, our Key Stage Two Choir run by Mrs Stephens travelled to central London to take part in the Mayor of London's Trafalgar Square Carol Concert.

The choir sang proudly alongside groups from across the region to tourists to the world famous landmark, commuters on their way through the busy square and to early evening revellers out for Christmas fun in London.

They had a fantastic time, signing for over 45 minutes, thirteen songs taking in classic carols and Christmas hits.



Slade Journal: Around School



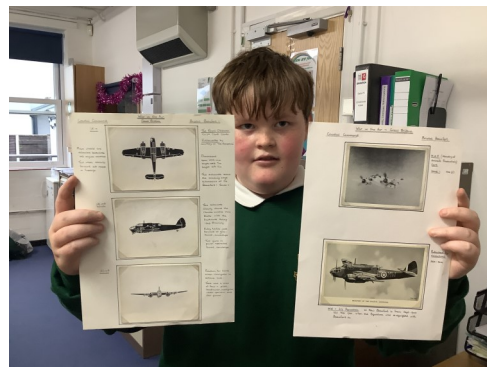
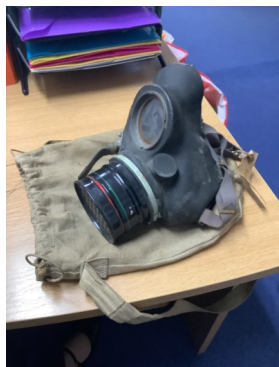
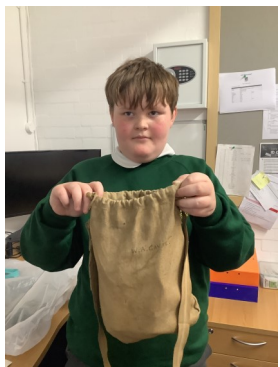
Griffin Class had a rare and special chance to get close to World War 2 history on Tuesday, which will have assisted their understanding of the subject that they have been studying this term.

They were very grateful to Blake for bringing in some items that are incredibly precious to them; items that are not just from the wartime period, but were actually used by generations of his family.

As part of the collection, Blake brought in the following:

- A Gas Mask from 1941 that was used by Blake's Great, Great Granddad - Blake told us how the Gas Mask would have to be taken every time the owner left the house
- An Anti-Gas Ointment for use in the event of being exposed to mustard gas
- Pictures of planes that had been flown by Jimmy, a real hero in Blake's family (an Uncle from several generations ago)
- A re-enactment of a battle scene from WWII that was put together by Blake's Granddad and his older brother

Blake was articulate in describing the meaning of these items and explaining their role to his class very clearly - we were also lucky enough in the office to be able to talk to Blake about the objects and their relevance. Many thanks to Blake and his family for bringing in these living parts of history to be able to help with the learning of this important subject.



We are pleased to be able to share the latest Child Centred Policing Newsletter from Kent Police.

In this issue, which is available on our website and via the link below, the team look forward to Safer Internet Day, including a useful safety information guide for parents, publicity for Operation Chalkboard relating to serious incidents involving schools and children that require immediate attention.

Kent Police would also like to invite parents to their first online workshop happening on Wednesday 22 January from 16:00. You can sign up using the link in the newsletter:

[Kent Police Child Centred Policing Newsletter: 12/24](#)

[Kent Police Online Safety Information for Parents](#)



Forest School



Monday 6 January - Gnome (Mrs Manktelow and Mrs Stephens)

Tuesday 7 January - Sprite (Miss Ellis)

Thursday 9 January - Pixie (Mr Clark)

Friday 10 January - Elf (Mrs Mulhern)

Monday 13 January - Griffin (Mrs Lipman)

Tuesday 14 January - Dragon (Mrs Worley)

Thursday 16 January - Gruffalo (Mrs Pearson)

Friday 17 January - Elmer (Mrs Hitchcock)

Monday 20 January - Wyvern (Mrs Fordyce)

Tuesday 21 January - Hydra (Mr Duffin)

Thursday 23 January - Phoenix (Mrs Bowker)

Friday 24 January - Sphinx (Mrs Burnside)

Monday 27 January - Pegasus (Miss Meers and Miss Elliott)

Tuesday 28 January - Hippogriff (Mr Louth)

Thursday 30 January - Gnome (Mrs Manktelow and Mrs Stephens)

Friday 31 January - Sprite (Miss Ellis)



Monday 3 February - Pixie (Mr Clark)

Tuesday 4 February - Elf (Mrs Mulhern)

Thursday 6 February - Elmer (Mrs Hitchcock)

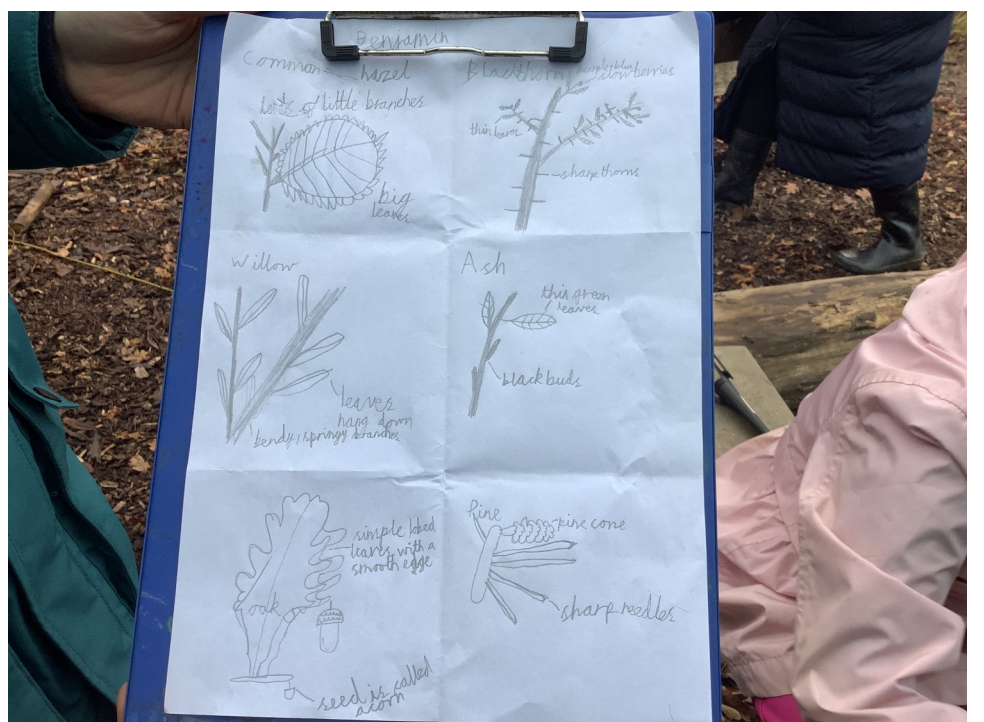
Friday 7 February - Gruffalo (Mrs Pearson)

Monday 10 February - Dragon (Mrs Worley)

Tuesday 11 February - Griffin (Mrs Lipman)

Thursday 13 February - Wyvern (Mrs Fordyce)

Friday 14 February - Hydra (Mr Duffin)



Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing

On Wednesday, Mrs Ball took all of our Year 6 children to the 3G pitches at Tonbridge School for an intra-school football tournament. The children had a fun time competing with and against their classmates, with everyone having lots of game time and a chance to shine.

The eventual winners of the tournament were the Green Team in the 'Premier League' and the Reds in the 'Championship'.



We have been grateful this year for the continued and valuable support of our two local sports teams, both Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Football Club just next door and also Tonbridge Angels Football Club from up the road at Longmead.

We would like to thank Darren Reeves from the Juddians who came in to coach our older KS2 children through Term 1 and hosts tournaments at the Club for local primary schools throughout the year, which we have been delighted to take part in as we introduce the children to the sport of Rugby.

For details of everything going on at Juddians, visit their website: [Tonbridge Juddians RFC](#)

Further, our immense gratitude to Dom Welsh at Tonbridge Angels FC. Dom holds weekly training sessions for children at school, has supported our teams every time there is a tournament hosted at Longmead Stadium and is always happy to help and invite Slade to the community events held by our local professional football club.



Christmas and the New Year is always a busy time in the football calendar - Tonbridge Angels would really appreciate your support at any of their matches during this period - even if you don't think you'll enjoy the match, the social side of attending a fixture at Longmead is always worth the visit!

For full details of the match ticket information and other social events, visit [Tonbridge Angels FC](#).

All fixtures are National League South matches (home fixtures in bold):



Saturday 21 December (15:00 Kick Off) Boreham Wood vs Tonbridge Angels



Thursday 26 December (13:00 Kick-Off) Tonbridge Angels vs Maidstone United

This is an All Ticket Match. Tickets for Tonbridge fans can be purchased [here](#)



Wednesday 1 January (15:00 Kick-Off) Hornchurch vs Tonbridge Angels



Saturday 4 January (15:00 Kick-Off) Tonbridge Angels vs Weston Super Mare



Saturday 11 January (15:00 Kick-Off) Tonbridge Angels vs Chippenham Town



Tuesday 14 January (19:45 Kick-Off) Tonbridge Angels vs Eastbourne Borough



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 = 91.9%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.2%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 49

Congratulations to our winners this week, this term and this year so far!

Attendance Ted: Gnome Class (95.2%) Punctuality Pup: Hydra Class (0 late)

The best attendance this term goes to Pixie Class with an attendance of 96.9% since 4 November.

The best attendance this year so far goes to Hydra Class with an attendance of 96.6% since 1 September.



MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.

News and Events from the PTA

Twelve Days: Twelve Winners: Festive Cheer with the PTA

As our last winner was announced this morning, we came to the end of our first ever Slade 12 Days of Christmas Raffle... and what an incredible 12 days it has been!! Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and assisted with the wonderful prizes. Thank you also to everyone who supported us on Monday, joining us for mulled wine and mince pies at the Carol Service. It was such a lovely evening and we hope you all left feeling fabulously festive!

Thankyou as well to all of the individuals and companies who donated prizes to the 12 Days Draw, we are very grateful for your contributions to an extremely successful event.

Our final thank you of the year must go to the wonderful Office staff, and to Mr Laws in particular, for the amazing and ongoing support you give the PTA and the spectacular raffle winner announcements each morning.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

Day 1: Bianca Vasile (Gin Hamper)

Day 2: Kitty Lucey (Voucher for Four to Bogey's Golf, Tunbridge Wells)

Day 3: Richard Powell (Case of Mulled Wine)

Day 4: Nancy Bishop (Homemade Christmas Cake)

Day 5: Tracy Acord (Homemade Christmas Wreath)

Day 6: Chris Lethbridge (Tickets for Four for Tonbridge Angels v Maidstone United on 26 December)

Day 7: Hollie Donovan (Family Membership for One Month to Tonbridge Sports Centre)

Day 8: Ross Fairclough (Case of Wines; Red and Mulled)

Day 9: Kate Whitehurst (Four Tickets for Jack and the Beanstalk at the EM Forster Theatre)

Day 10: Aidan Bayley (M&S Chocolate Hamper)

Day 11: Hannah Lawrence (Activ8 and Puddle Ducks Swimming Vouchers)

Day 12: Gemma Bruno (Music Station Gift Certificate)

PTA EVENT CALENDAR

OCTOBER

17TH - AGM & COMEDY BINGO

NOVEMBER

8TH - FIREWORK NIGHT
REFRESHMENTS @ SCHOOL
EVENTS

DECEMBER

13TH - CHRISTMAS SALE
16TH - MINCE PIES &
MULLED WINE @ CAROL
SERVICE

JANUARY

BAGS 2 SCHOOL
COLLECTION

FEBRUARY

7TH - KS2 DISCO
14TH - VALENTINE'S
SMARTIES FUNDRAISER

MARCH

12TH - KS1 FILM NIGHT

APRIL

4TH - BREAK THE RULES
DAY & EASTER BAKE SALE

MAY



JUNE

19 - SPORTS DAY
21 - SUMMER FETE
REFRESHMENTS @ SCHOOL
EVENTS

JULY

11 - PIMMS PARTY &
SILENT DISCO

AUGUST



SEPTEMBER

NEW INTAKE PICNIC

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM
SALES THROUGHOUT THE
YEAR



In Our Community

The local Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul is a valuable place in the heart of the community in Tonbridge.

The Church are great friends of Slade as is shown by their help in hosting many of our annual celebrations including the Harvest Festival and the recent Carols by Candlelight service.

Christmas is obviously a busy time for everyone there and we thank them for their support and friendship to the school. Senior Minister for Families, Alyson Bleakley has kindly provided some information about events at local churches for our Community Pages.



Tonbridge Parish Churches

Christingle Service

Sat 21st Dec, 4pm
St Philip, TN10 4PA

For all ages but particularly suitable for primary school and younger children



Nativity

Tues 24th Dec
St Peter & St Paul

1.30-4.30pm

Drop in anytime for:

live animals donkey rides
crafts refreshments



INDOOR NATIVITY at 2.30pm and 4pm



tonbridge parish church .org.uk
sign up online

Feed · talks · games

Connect

Years 6-9
Thursdays 5-6.30pm

Starts 23rd Jan '25

Connect is a new After School Club run on Thursday evenings for children in School Years 6 -9.

Alyson says, ' Do your children like food? Like fun? Come along to our mid week Connect group! You'll find an array of games on offer, or just chill out with friends. Have some great food and listen to some great talks that help us think about what God means for our lives.

Why not bring a friend, or seven! We'd love to see you all!'

More: https://www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk/Groups/262811/Tonbridge_Parish_Church.aspx

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 and all General Enquiries
yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk

Session Cancellations: [Cancellation Form](#)
Late Collections: **01732 37 77 60**

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.




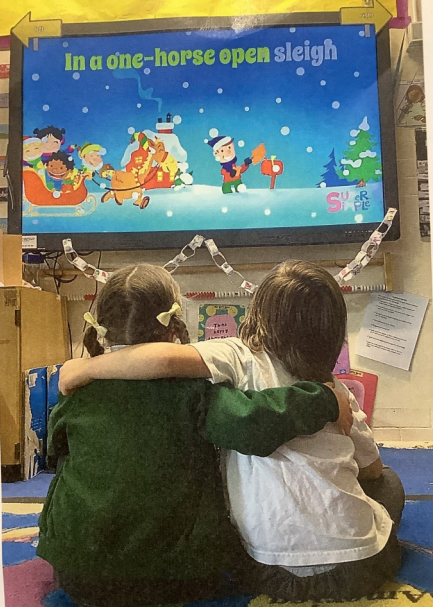
For full information please see our website: [Breakfast and After School Clubs](#)

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
		
December	January	February
	<p>Monday 6 - First Day of Term 3</p> <p>Wednesday 8 - EYFS Application Open Event. Book Via admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk</p> <p>Wednesday 15 - Deadline for Applications to be made for starting Primary School in September 2025</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>More information about these events will appear nearer the time.</p> <p>Events and dates are subject to change</p> <p>Additional events will be posted here throughout the year</p> <p><u>2024/25 Term Dates</u></p>
<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