



# SLADE

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**School Newsletter**

**Term 4, Issue 2**

**Friday 7 March 2025**

# Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

## Dear Parents and Carers,

My last World Book Day at Slade was a truly memorable one which saw the school once again transformed into a colourful world of book characters and favourite stories as we all celebrated our love of reading! Across the school children and adults had great fun exploring the characters and books that they were representing. Particular highlights included the Book Café in the school library and the creation of reading Mood Boards; also, do ask your child who their class's mystery reader was during the day! Photographs capturing the fun that was had feature further on in this newsletter for you to enjoy! Huge thanks to you all for the part that you played in resourcing costumes and helping your child to bring their book character to life. Thank you to all the staff who planned and prepared so many literary treats for us all to enjoy throughout the day too. 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!

Well done and huge thanks again to all of the children who participated in the half term Smartie Challenge that was organised by our fabulous PTA. We were overwhelmed by the number of families that got involved and even more so by the tremendous total of £1200 that was raised! A huge well done everyone! Thank you too to all the parents and carers for providing all the loose change that filled up those Smartie tubes! I'm delighted therefore to share with you that Elmer Class were announced in Celebration Assembly this morning as this year's winners having raised the grand total of £135.23! Wow; congratulations Elmer Class! I'm looking forward to finding out what you will choose as your well-deserved reward for being the winning class. Watch this space!

There are number of events planned for parents in the coming weeks where we are looking forward to meeting with you either in person or, in some cases, online. Firstly, our Class Reps will be in school on Tuesday afternoon for the first meeting of 2025. This is a great opportunity to catch up whilst hearing your thoughts and feedback on life at Slade so do get in touch with your rep if there is something that you wish for them to share. Then on Wednesday morning we are offering a parent course, 'Exploring Behaviour Strategies', which is being led by Kent Adult Education and held here in school; do contact Libby Wilmshurst for registration details of this supportive training. Looking into the following week, on the evening of March 18th, we will be holding an online 'Sepsis Savvy' awareness session in conjunction with Sepsis UK. This will be a 45-minute session during which we will learn about Sepsis and the signs to look out, hear from people affected by Sepsis and have any questions answered; further details of the session and how to register feature further on into the newsletter. Lastly, a reminder that Parent Consultation meetings will be taking place on Tuesday 25 and Thursday 27 March in your child's classroom. Do log on to your Arbor account to secure one of the last remaining places if you haven't already done so. See you at these events!

Finally, every class has had at least one pupil late to school this week meaning that Punctuality Pup was unable to be awarded in Celebration Assembly this morning! A reminder therefore that the school gates are closed promptly at 8.50 each morning by which time all children need to be on school site, heading to class in time for their morning registration and getting ready to learn. If your child arrives at school after 8.50 then access to the school site is from the main car park entrance where your child's attendance will be registered at the side gate by either myself, Miss Garrett or Mrs. Wilmshurst. It is really important that all children are at school on time every day in order that they don't miss out on those vital first minutes of lessons at the start of each morning. Many thanks for your help and support in getting your children here and ready to learn on time.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

**Karen Slade**

# Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

## Monday 10 March 2025

- Elmer Class Forest School
- Netball Competition, Skinners Kent Academy. Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

## Tuesday 11 March 2025

- Gruffalo Class Forest School
- Phoenix Class Swimming
- 14:00 - Class Parent Rep Meeting
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

## Wednesday 12 March 2025

- Parent Course - Exploring Behavioural Strategies. Details known to parents who have signed up.
- 13:00 Brain Buddies: Details known to those signed up to attend
- PTA EYFS and KS1 Film Night. See Page 13 and 14
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

## Thursday 13 March 2025

- Griffin Class Forest School
- Sphinx Class Swimming. This is the first session. Please make sure you have provided consent and payment via your Arbor account in advance of this lesson
- Year 3 and Year 4 Hockey Tournament - Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)
- **Please note Mrs Ball's Year 2, 3 and 4 Sports Club will not run this afternoon as per programme**

## Friday 14 March 2025

- Dragon Class Forest School
- Football Fixtures (Year 5 Boys vs Sussex Road and Year 6 Boys vs St Margaret Clitherow)
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)



Looking further ahead?

Our yearly planner can be found on Page 16 of today's newsletter and online via [the school website](#).

# Slade Journal: Around School



Mrs Slade and Miss Garrett are looking forward to catching up with the Class Reps on Tuesday at their termly get together.

There is no 'hot topic' this term, but Mrs Slade will be feeding back some updates to be passed on to the parent community in each class.

Parent Reps are encouraged to email in to the school office for the attention of Amanda Parsons if they have any messages for this meeting to hear where they are not able to attend in person.



On Monday, National Secondary School Offer Day, our families in Year 6 found out which school they have been allocated as they look towards September and the beginning of their journey into Key Stage 3.

We hope that you are happy and excited by your offer, however, if families have any queries, they should contact their allocated school. If families are not happy with their offer, they should take the advice given in the offer email and in the link below.

If we are asked to produce a proof of address letter for your offer acceptance, please note this can take some time due to other commitments - you should attempt to find other evidence of your address such as a medical appointment letter, child's bank account or Child Benefit statement in the first instance.

Full details can be found here: [Kent County Council](#)

Next Week, Nourish Contract Catering are supporting the Eat Them to Defeat Them Mission which will see their school lunches feature different vegetables each day with extra effort from every child to finish their plate of food, earning themselves a sticker to put on their wallchart which came home last Friday.

We will attempt to put together another pretty poor quiz each morning in the Daily Diary email to let you which vegetables are being served each day.

If that doesn't excite you for Monday morning, whatever will?!



# Slade Journal: Around School



World Book Day 2025

Yesterday marked the annual World Book Day, which we hope all of the children enjoyed.

The range of costumes and choice of pyjamas worn across the day was quite the sight and it was fantastic to meet so many of the children's favourite cuddle bears as well!

Thankyou to Miss Meers for her organisation of the day here at Slade and to all of the parents and carers who helped make, purchase or create costumes!

During the day, we concentrated on the theme of this year's event: Read Your Way with different activities for KS1 and KS2. The younger yeargroups, including EYFS, saw groups of children think of ideas together before drawing an aspect of Reading for Pleasure; they thought of where they like to read, who do we like to read with and the emotions that reading, including being read to by an older person as well, made us feel.

In Key Stage 2, we created reading mood boards thinking of the same points considered by the Key Stage 1 children and expanding on that by looking at why we enjoy reading. The older groups have made a learning collage out of this session which will be on display in time for the Parent - Teacher Consultations at the end of the month.

In the afternoon, we had a lot of fun as each class was visited by a 'mystery reader' and there were stories read over the walkie talkies in school for everyone to hear and enjoy. We also had our own class storytime and in yeargroups we got together for a massive book swap - thankyou to everyone who brought in a book to swap - we hope that you enjoy the book that you have swapped that one with!



# Slade Journal: Around School



# Slade Journal: Around School

We are delighted to invite all of our parents and carers to a very special online event from **18:30 on Tuesday 18 March**, hosted by the CEO of the UK Sepsis Trust, Sarah Hamilton-Fairley.

The event is to raise awareness of this condition, what to look for, what to do if you suspect someone may have sepsis - ultimately playing your part in saving someone's life. "Sepsis Savvy" will also feature a personal account from Hannah Hewish (Slade parent).

The session will be up to an hour long and include Q&A at the end.

We encourage as many of you to sign up as possible, especially as the information could save the life of a loved one. Booking your place is easy, just complete this easy form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/KKWFWRFeKp>

Sarah spoke to Libby Wilmshurst, our Family Liaison Officer, this week to tell her more about the session.

**'When it comes to sepsis, awareness saves lives.** Sepsis is a medical emergency that kills 5 people every hour in the UK. Yet, despite being **more common than heart attacks** and claiming **more lives than bowel, breast and prostate cancer combined**, sepsis is **often treatable if caught quickly**.

Anybody can develop sepsis (it can arise from any infection) and while some people are more at risk than others, knowing what to look out for could help you save someone's life. At the UK Sepsis Trust, we offer **Sepsis Savvy** awareness sessions to educate people on the signs to look out for and the importance of acting quickly. **Life-saving knowledge:** Learn about sepsis and the signs to look out for

- **Real-life experiences:** Hear from people affected by sepsis
- **Interactive Q&A:** Get your questions answered
- **Practical actions:** Learn what you can do to help save thousands of lives every year.

*"Days after attending a UKST session, our baby became very poorly. We knew to ask, 'Could this be sepsis?' It was – and thanks to quick treatment, he's now back to full health!"* – Chris, father of a 10-month-old survivor.

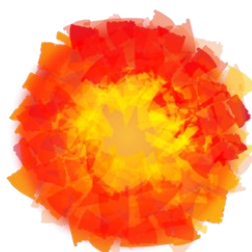
## Learn more about sepsis and UKST

About Sepsis – <https://sepsistrust.org/about-sepsis/>

What we do/ our impact – <https://sepsistrust.org/about-ukst/>

Easy ways to support our work – <https://sepsistrust.org/support-us/>

***A quick reminder about why we're so passionate about educating people about sepsis... 5 people die from sepsis every hour in the UK, but thousands of deaths each year are avoidable as sepsis is often treatable if caught quickly. A 2024 YouGov poll commissioned by UKST found that while 91% of people recognise sepsis as a medical emergency, 1 in 3 couldn't recognise at least one of the signs. **This must change in order to prevent needless lives being lost to this condition!*****



THE UK  
SEPSIS  
TRUST

# Focus on EYFS



On Tuesday, the children in Elmer and Gruffalo Classes went on their first ever school educational visit as they travelled together to Godstone Farm in Surrey.

They had a great time and thank you to everyone at the farm for their time with us during the day, to all of the parents and carers who gave up their time to help out by leading our small groups around the different activities and to Andy our bus driver from Hams Travel - without all of these people it is impossible to run such a successful day.

During the morning session our youngest learners were treated to four different workshops after hearing from our tour leader about how to stay safe on a working farm such as that at Godstone.

## **Being the Farmer**

Firstly, the groups were able to pretend that they were the farmer. They learnt how to shovel up the old hay and mess from the farmyard and ended up making it super clean for the animals that day. The children then made sure that the haybags were full for the ponies and donkeys to eat later on when they came out into their yard.

## **In the Lamb Barn**

One of the highlights was being able to visit the barn where the lambs live. They were, as you can imagine, extraordinarily cute and there was more than one adult who would have happily have adopted them all!

The lambs all had different coloured numbers painted onto their wool. The children learnt that this was the way that the farm manage to identify them from each other. The numbers corresponded with their mummy. Each mummy sheep had the same number as her lamb and the colour indicated how many lambs she had.

## **Feeding the Pigs**

Feeding the animals is always so much fun. On our visit, we were asked to feed the pigs! Mrs Pearson remembered the pigs from her last visit and commented on how big they had gotten over the year!

## **Seeing the Ducks**

The final workshop meant visiting the duck pond. Here, the children were able to see lots of ducks swimming and communicating with each other on the water and waterside. Our children had the chance to feed the ducks with grain.

In the afternoon, Elmer and Gruffalo Classes were able to travel around the farm seeing the other animals including Highland Cows, Goats, Meerkats, and a Giant Tortoise. They also visited the 'Dinosaur Roar' Trail around the park. Based on the children's story of the same name, the characters are brought to life for the little ones to see and feel in a woodland setting!

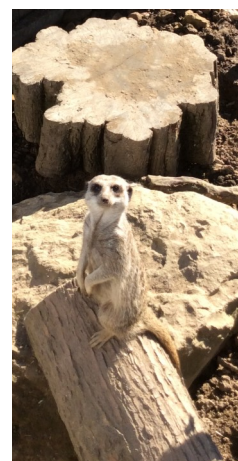
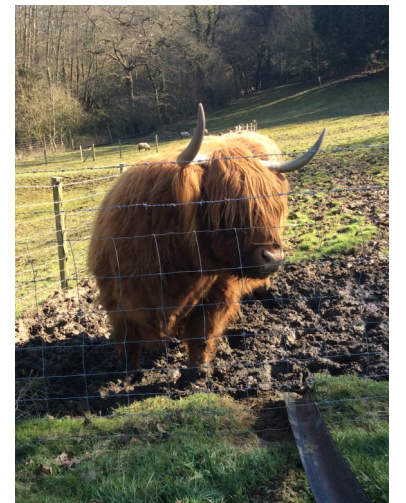
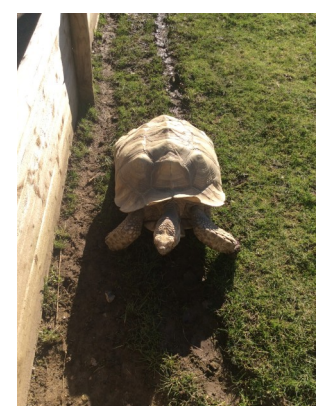
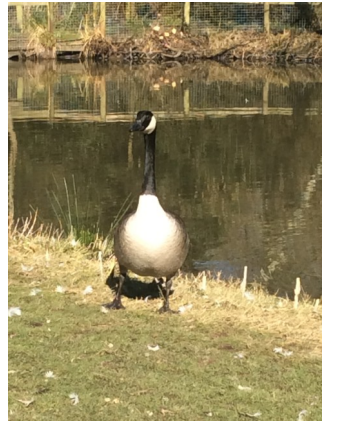
Plan your own visit to Godstone Farm and see more of the places our Early Years classes saw here:

[Family Farm | Surrey | Godstone Farm](#)

# Focus on EYFS



## Godstone Farm Gallery



# 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 = 97.0%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.3%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 49

**Congratulations to our winner this week, Hydra Class.**

**Attendance Ted: Hydra Class (98.9%)**

**Punctuality Pup: No Class went this week without pupils being late. Please remember that the school gates close at 08:50, after which the children are marked late.**

Well done to Mr Duffin and everyone in Hydra Class for your attendance this week.



# In Our Community

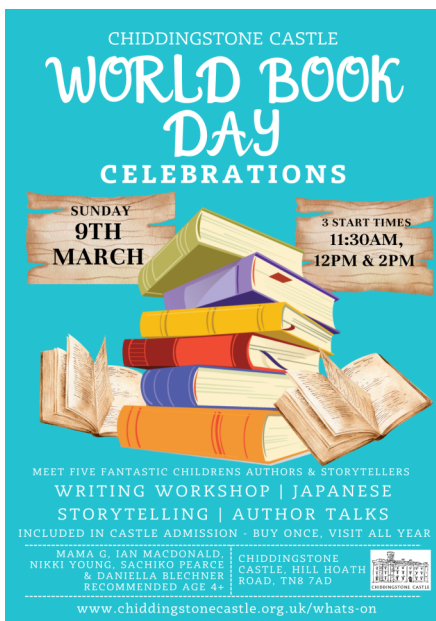


Chiddingstone Castle are running a literary event on Sunday 9 March to Celebrate World Book Day.

Children will be able to part in a variety of literary activities and it is all included in your castle admission ticket.

The Castle events team have been in touch to tell us more: 'We would like to invite you all to the castle on Sunday for our special World Book Day event and if you come along dressed as your favourite book character you stand the chance to win a prize!'

## WBD at Chiddingstone



'We will love to see your children inspired to discover Ancient Egypt with Ian MacDonald and his new book *The Mummy's Finger* and meet the fabulous Mama G from Britain's Got Talent. You will be able to hear a traditional Japanese tale and make an owl instrument with Sachiko Pearce. Plus, Daniella Blechner will be reading '9 Days of Piper Snow' as well as playing 'Pin the Wing on the Pigeon' and answering questions about Piper Snow the pigeon!

In addition to all of this, we are pleased to say that, for 2025 Chiddingstone Castle admission tickets have changed to 'Pay for a day and return free for a year' so as well as World Book Day you will be able to return for school holiday activities throughout the year!

We have been speaking this week with Slade parent and Governor, Berrie, who along with her family are taking part in a Citizen Science Programme and would like to share the information to all of our families who may also wish to get involved. Berrie told us:

'Citizen science programmes are a great way of discovering how science works. Children can learn how to follow a scientific protocol, record their findings etc. whilst contributing to the development of valuable data for the scientific community. It is hands-on, proactive and fun to do as a family.'



The deadline to confirm your entry is on Saturday 15 March with all of the information you need here:

[Citizen Science | INCREASE](#)

From their website, the organisers have this to say about the programme:

Science is not limited to scientists. Everyone can get involved.

Public participation in scientific research is becoming more and more crucial in increasing everyone's understanding of science and its benefit to society. Most importantly, it advances scientific research itself. ... and it equally plays a crucial part in INCREASE. Here, we are all about beans! The Citizen Science Experiment, conducted as part of the project, calls on all interested citizens to voluntarily contribute to and test an innovative decentralised approach to seed conservation, multiplication and sharing in order to conserve agro-biodiversity.

All you will need is access to a field, garden, terrace or balcony.

# Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing

## Get Well Soon, Blake



We would like to wish Blake in Wyvern Class a quick recovery after sustaining a fracture to a finger during last week's Year 5 Boys Football clash against Hildenbrough at Tonbridge Angels' Longmead Stadium.

The team lost on the evening, which is no disgrace since Blake is the goalkeeper and had been performing well until the injury.

We know that Blake will want to be back out on the pitch helping his team again very shortly.

Our thanks to Mrs Fordyce who was with the team on Friday evening and able to assist Blake through his pain, despite being asked to leave the pitch by an over eager member of Tonbridge Angels Staff!

If you are keen on catching some Friday Night Football, head straight on over to Longmead where our Girls team are playing Ryarsh after school today with the Year 5 Boys minus Blake who are taking on St Margaret Clitherow.

Our Year 5 and 6 Hockey Team went all the way to the final of the Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells Sports Partnership tournament on Thursday evening.

The competition, held at the local venue home of Hawkenbury Hockey Club, saw twelve schools from the area compete in a round robin series of matches before the final matches to determine the finishing positions.



Slade beat Woodlands, Speldhurst, Temple Grove and St Matthews Schools before losing out in the final match versus old rivals Claremont.

Congratulations to the Tunbridge Wells based school and also to our squad who represented Slade with pride and great sportsmanship all evening.

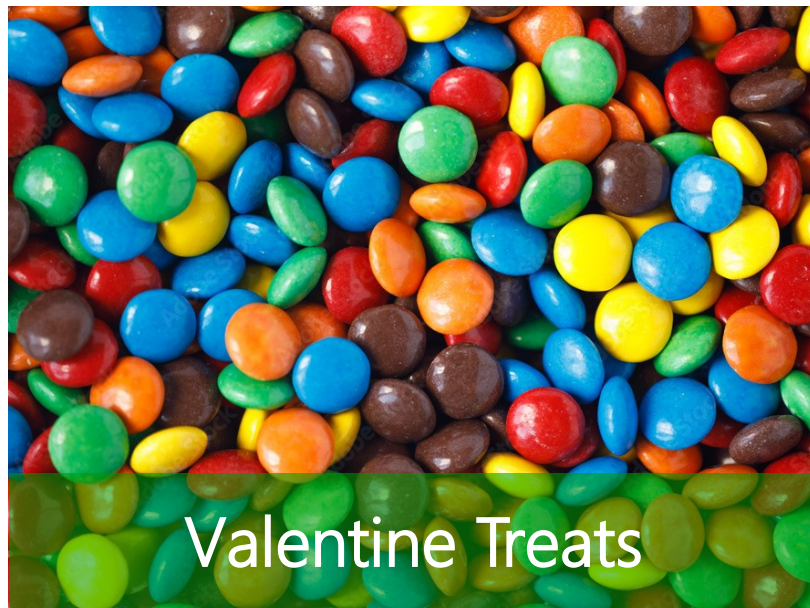
A special mention to Robert who scored a magnificent seven goals throughout the competition and to Hector who scored a hat-trick as well.

The team were especially grateful to all of the parents who came to Hawkenbury and gave such fantastic support to the players.

They also played in front of an England international! One of the referees officiating the matches plays for the national side, so an exciting thing to also do and no one better to learn from!

We look forward to their Year 3 and 4 counterparts taking on the same challenge next week.

## News and Events from the PTA



**The smarties have been eaten....money has been raised....and the results are in....**

We are delighted to announce that the class that raised the most money this year is ELMER!

Well done to all the children in Elmer class – we hope you enjoy your prize from Mrs Slade.

We have been blown away by everyone's enthusiasm for the Valentine's fundraiser. We are definitely feeling the love and hope everyone had fun with it over half term. Unbelievably, we have once again exceeded last year's total, and have raised a whopping £1200 profit!!

Mrs Hitchcock, Elmer Class Teacher said, 'I am so proud of all of our youngest children for collecting so much money by being really helpful for their families over the half-term holiday. They are very excited about being able to choose their own treat as a prize!'

We can't thank you enough for all your support for these fundraising activities. This money makes such a difference across the school. See next week's Newsletter for a summary of money raised and the donations that have been made to school so far this academic year....



On Wednesday 12th March we will be screening a Wallace & Gromit extravaganza in the hall after school for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Tickets are now on sale via Sum Up for £5.

As part of the ticket price, children will be served a snack of popcorn and apple, followed by a sausage roll and flapjack. Vegetarian and vegan dietary requirements will be catered for, but just let us know if your child has any other dietary needs - [PTA@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@slade.kent.sch.uk)

Children attending will be taken directly to the school hall at the end of the day by their teachers. Pick up will be at 5.30pm via the main school gates.

To buy tickets please visit: [sladeppta.sumupstore.com](http://sladeppta.sumupstore.com), choose your class and purchase!

News and Events from the PTA

SLADE PTA PRESENT

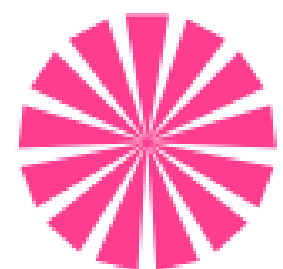
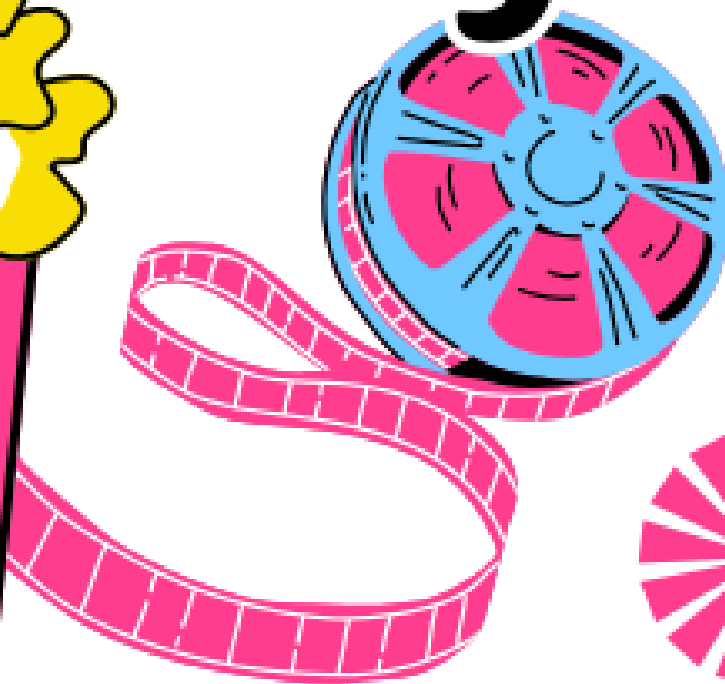
**FILM**

**KS1**

*Night*



**£5 PER  
TICKET VIA  
SUMUP**



**12 MARCH 2025**

**TICKET INCLUDES POPCORN, FRUIT,  
SAUSAGE ROLL & FLAPJACK**

**COLLECTION AT 5.30PM VIA MAIN  
SCHOOL GATES**

# 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 and all General Enquiries  
[yeti@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:yeti@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](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
		
December	January	February
		
March	April	May
<p><b>Wednesday 12 - PTA EYFS and KS1 Film Night</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 18 - From 18:30 Sepsis Savvy Presentation for parents</b></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>Monday 28 - Year 5 Trip to Carrot Wood</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>Friday 13 - 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><b>Tuesday 8 - Year 1 Trip: Hastings</b></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