



SLADE

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Newsletter

Term 4, Issue 3

Friday 14 March 2025

Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

The half way week of this term has been another eclectic mix of learning opportunities here in school as our children enjoy our very broad and balanced curriculum offer. Across the week Year 4 have been learning to swim, embroider and learn how to play the Ukulele too! All of this in addition to the daily English and Maths being taught every morning! Do ask your children about these wonderful learning experiences that they have been able to enjoy and, importantly, what learning they can remember from the subjects that have been taught too! Don't forget to refer back to the year group newsletters, sent earlier this term, as a prompt to this discussion with your child.

A huge thank you to the PTA volunteers for organising the fabulous Film Night for our Reception and Key Stage 1 children that was held on Wednesday after school for our youngest children to enjoy. The excitement in the school hall really was off the scale as the children all enjoyed their sausage rolls, flapjack and popcorn, whilst being treated to an entertaining medley of Wallace and Gromit! A fabulous time really was had by all who stayed on for the Slade cinema experience! Many thanks to the PTA team for providing this opportunity for the children to enjoy, to all of the staff team who stayed to help out and to our kitchen team for providing the tasty flapjack too.

Still with the PTA, on behalf of everyone here in school, I just wanted to say a huge thank you for the generous mid-year donations that were made to each of the classes last week. This extra money will enable staff to purchase additional resources and supplies for their rooms all for the children to enjoy at this midway point in the year. I know that Pixie Class are already loving using their new table organisers and putting them to good use! This is a great example of how the money raised at an event, like this week's Film Night, comes straight back into school for the benefit of all of the children. So, thank you to everyone in the Slade community who has ever donated at a PTA event; every penny really does count and really does make a huge difference for all of our children.

Thank you too to our Class Reps who came into school on Tuesday afternoon for the first meeting of 2025. It was great as always to catch up whilst hearing your thoughts and feedback, particularly your positive comments regarding the recent changes that we have made with reading here in school and the more consistent use of the reading diaries. Many thanks to those parents who had also taken the time to share additional feedback for discussion at the meeting too. It was great to hear your ideas and thoughts which will be used to further inform developments here in school.

We were disappointed to have to cancel the parent workshop that was planned for earlier this week, 'Exploring Behaviour Strategies', due to us not meeting the minimum number of attendees required for the course to run. Apologies to those parents who had planned to attend; please do get in contact if you would like to be signposted to other workshops being run in the local area or online instead. Fingers crossed that we have more of you signing up for our online 'Sepsis Savvy' awareness session in conjunction with Sepsis UK which is being held on Wednesday! A separate communication has been sent regarding this information sharing session so please do take a look and sign up if you are able to attend. I look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, a reminder that in the interests of everyone's safety would parents and carers of children, including pre-schoolers, who scoot to school please ensure that they dismount from their scooters when crossing the road and entering the school site and that they wheel them across the playground before leaving at the end of the day. Thank you everyone for your support with this.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Karen Slade

Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Monday 17 March - Friday 21 March: British Sign Language Week - See Page 7 for details

Monday 17 March 2025

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

Tuesday 18 March 2025

- Hydra Class Forest School
- Phoenix Class Swimming
- Sepsis Savvy online Community Awareness Session - See Page 6 for details and booking
- Kent Trampolining Championships - Details known to participants
- Year 5 and 6 Netball (Weald of Kent School) - Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Wednesday 19 March 2025

- Armed Forces Day (Tonbridge School) - Details known to participants
- 13:00 Brain Buddies: Details known to those signed up to attend
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Thursday 20 March 2025

- Pegasus Class Forest School
- Sphinx Class Swimming
- Emotional Resilience Parent Workshop - See Page 11 for details and booking
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Friday 21 March 2025

- **Non Uniform and Odd Socks Day (Red Nose and Down Syndrome Awareness Day) - See Page 7**
- Hippogriff Class Forest School
- Year 4 Educational Visit to Mountfitchet Castle
- Football Fixture (Year 6 Boys vs Sussex Road)
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)



Looking further ahead?

Our yearly planner can be found on Page 14 of today's newsletter and online via [the school website](#).

Slade Journal: Around School



Parents' Meetings & Clubs

In a couple of weeks, we are pleased to be hosting the Spring Term Parent - Teacher Consultation Meetings. We look forward to seeing you around school on either Tuesday or Thursday during the last week of March between 16:00 and 19:00 depending on your booked meeting time.

Parents should be aware that there will be no after school activity clubs running on either Tuesday 25 or Thursday 27 March - Yeti's Wraparound will be open as normal on both evenings until 17:30.

Staying with Activity Clubs; the timetable for the extra curricular activities taking place in Term 5 will be released by Mrs Ball on Monday.

A reminder that school run clubs should be booked via your Arbor account, with the Term 5 Clubs booking window opening from 20:00 on Tuesday 18 March and all externally run activities should be booked and paid for directly with the provider. The provider remains responsible for all aspects of their activity club including letting parents know of any dates that the club will not be



Term 5 Activity Clubs

The standard operating days will be all term unless otherwise specified. Term 5 marks the beginning of the summer at Slade and runs from Tuesday 22 April since Easter falls very late this year all the way through to Friday 23 May and includes a day where school is shut to all pupils for the May Day National Holiday which is on Monday 5 May.

The booking window to secure places at Yeti's Wraparound Breakfast and After School Clubs opens on Monday 24 March at midday.

UPDATE

Class Rep Get Together

Mrs Slade and Miss Garrett were delighted to meet again with our Class Parent Reps this week as they got together for their termly sharing of ideas and thoughts.

Thankyou to all of the reps who were able to attend and to the whole school community who produced questions or content for the meeting. We hope that those questions have been addressed.

The meeting was an opportunity for Mrs Slade to produce an update on the many events going on in and around school including the progress on the recruitment of a new headteacher for the school.

Slade Journal: Around School

Last term, Sprite Class enjoyed their visit to the local Mosque during their learning about the Muslim faith.

They are now looking at another of the three main Abrahamic Religions - Judaism.

Evelyne particularly liked finding out about the objects that are important to Jewish people such as the Torah scrolls, Menorah, Kippah and the seder plate amongst lots of other items that could be found in a Jewish person's home or in their holy building; the Synagogue.

Year 2 will continue to learn more about Judaism including Jewish festivals, food and traditions.



PC Jodie Hobbs of Kent Police has been in touch to share with parents, the latest newsletter from the county Child Centred Policing team.

The newsletter is available to read on our website, via the link to [For Families here](#) and we have a paper copy in the school reception.

In this issue, the team give an introduction to their Hate Crime team and the work they do as well as looking forward to some important dates in the diary including the online Parent Conference happening on Wednesday 26 March from 18:30.

[More details and booking for this event can be found here.](#)



Slade Journal: Around School



Sepsis Savvy: Book Today

The closing date to secure a login to be a part of our very special online event raising awareness of the condition Sepsis, is at 23:59 on Sunday 16 March. Sepsis can be fatal and we are hosting this talk with questions from **18:30 next Tuesday, 18 March**, the session will be presented by the CEO of the UK Sepsis Trust, Sarah Hamilton-Fairley.

‘Sepsis Savvy’ will help parents and carers to identify and act on the symptoms which will allow treatment to be given and lives saved.

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 before the deadline. Links will be sent to those who have booked on Monday 17 March:

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

Libby Wilmshurst, Family Liaison Officer recalls her conversation with the Sepsis Trust that we ran last week:

‘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

Slade Journal: Around School



It's All For Charity!

Next week we will be celebrating the work of three charities, all of which mean a lot to the children and adults at Slade.

Throughout the week, it is Sign Language Week and we have a lot of great news for people who use or are interested in viewing sign language in action.

At the end of the week, Friday 21 March is Red Nose Day, the annual national fundraiser from the BBC and also World Down Syndrome Awareness Day.

Looking forward, here are a few things to look out for and to put in the diary (especially for Friday!)

Each class will have an online awareness assembly to watch during the week as well as the chance to practise BSL with their friends. The Titans Hearing Impaired Provision team will also be updating their information board with lots of exciting facts to raise awareness.

Further afield, the theme of More than a language: Culture, community and belonging comes into its own as UK broadcasters make this year's celebrations even more exciting.



Milkshake, Channel 5's children's programming platform will be offering visually signed episodes of some of your little ones' favourite shows on Friday 21 March including from 06:20 in the morning Pip and Posy, Fireman Sam, Peppa Pig, PAW Patrol, The Adventures of Paddington Bear, Milo, Mixmups, Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. There are 35 minutes of signed episodes of both Paddington and Ben and Holly to enjoy! The signed programming starts at 06:20 on Friday 21 March on 5 and on 5's catch up streaming service afterwards.

Also on Friday, the BBC will for the first time ever feature live BSL coverage of their Red Nose Day programming. The signed coverage will begin at 19:00 on Friday and is accessible via BBC iPlayer or the BBC Red Button.



Non Uniform Day

Friday 21 March

We will also be marking Red Nose Day on Friday by holding a Non School Uniform Day and finding out about some of the work that the charity does with the donations it receives.

To go along with Non School Uniform, we are also encouraging every child to wear a pair of odd socks to support Down Syndrome Awareness Day, which also falls on Friday 21 March. We will have more about these fantastic and important charities next week.

The Pupil Council are organising next Friday's events at Slade and are looking forward to seeing everyone in school enjoying the day in their non uniform clothes and odd socks. They are also happy to say that Slade has own donation page for anyone who would like to contribute to the Red Nose Day fundraising: Just use the link here if you are able and would like to donate: [Just Giving is fundraising for Comic Relief](#)

Nourish News

Healthy Destroyers



Kirsty and the Kitchen team have been busy this week handing out stickers to all of the children who have been eating their vegetables each lunchtime.

The stickers can be used to complete the wallchart sent home last week as part of the Eat Them to Defeat Them campaign supported by Nourish Contract Catering.

The idea of the week has been to encourage the children to appreciate and enjoy their vegetables, and in fairness it is truthful to say that most of our school dinner eaters already eat the vegetables served by the Nourish team in the school kitchen - making this week fun, but an easy win for sticker collectors!

Thankyou to everyone who has taken part - especially to those of you who have enjoyed our running quiz over on the Daily Diary emails. Congratulations of you got all of the answers correct. As you know, the vegetable of the day has been:

Monday - Sweetcorn

Tuesday - Carrots

Wednesday - Broccoli

Thursday - Peppers (although I think we all agree Peppers are fruit!)

And today's, which we promised earlier this morning was Peas.



As you can tell, it has not just been the children in the lunch hall and parents at breakfast time having fun with the vegetables this week. Kirsty and Jemma in the kitchen produced their own team of vegetable characters that have kept everyone entertained at lunchtime!

Nourish Contract Catering have this week also released their new Summer Menu which takes effect for Term 5 and 6 of this year from Tuesday 22 April until the last day of the school year on Friday 18 July.

The menu can be found on the school website and via the link below for ease:

[Nourish Weekly Menu Term 5 and 6 2025](#)

Please visit the [school website](#) for the Dairy Free and Gluten Free versions of the menu.

Jason Gibbons is the Regional Account Manager for Nourish and he speaks of the new menu,

‘These menus have been designed to keep students happy, healthy, and energised throughout the day! With student feedback at the heart of our planning, we’ve created a dynamic menu full of delicious, nutritious meals that meet school food standards while keeping favourite dishes in rotation.’



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 = 95.7%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.4%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 19

Congratulations to our winners this week:

Attendance Ted: Pixie Class (99.0%)

Punctuality Pup: Griffin Class (No pupils late)

Well done to Mr Clark, Mrs Lipman and everyone in Pixie and Griffin Class.

Punctuality this week showed a fantastic improvement with a 61% decrease in late arriving pupils this week from last.



In Our Community



Tonbridge and Malling Council have been working on a new management plan for Haysden Country Park and have already sought input from a variety of sources and carried out a survey of users, conducted an access audit and presented proposals to councillors.

Leisure Services Officer Chris Fox has this to say whilst encouraging everyone to take part in the public consultation:

‘This management plan is now reached the public consultation stage and is available on the council’s website - [Haysden Country Park – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council](#). There is a comment form also available there.

The Council is keen to hear from as many users as possible and we would welcome any comments.

Posters are on display around the site. Deposit copies of the plan (with comment forms) are also available for the public to view at Kings Hill Council offices and Tonbridge Castle.

Thank you in advance to all of the parents, carers and friends at Slade Primary School for taking the time to consider our plan.

Comments must be made either on the comment form found on the above website or on the forms available with the deposit copies.

This consultation ends on 11 April 2025.’



Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing



Congratulations to our Year 3 and 4 Hockey stars for winning the Sports Partnership Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells Schools competition on Thursday evening at Hawkesbury Hockey Club.

They reached the final after topping the round robin table competing against sides representing St Matthew's, Claremont, Speldhurst, St Peter's and Brenchley. It was an odd end to the tournament as the hail storms moved in - the Slade team was determined that was not going to put them off and they were the last team standing! Well done everyone!



Next Thursday, 20 March, immediately after drop-off in the morning Wendy Ball will be hosting an informal parent workshop on Resilience.

The workshop will be presented by Debs Holliday of the NHS Wellbeing Team who already works with a few of our families at Slade through her Brain Buddies course.

The workshop will include tea, coffee and biscuits so please do come along and meet with other parents to reflect and generate ideas of how you can be a positive role model of resilience for your child.

The aim of the workshop will see you further understand the importance of resilience in your child's development and will help us all consider factors which can help build resilience in us all within the context of a caring relationship.



Book Now via this link: [Me and My Child - Understanding Resilience Thursday 20 March 09:00 - 10:45](#)

Booked visitors should enter the school via the Office entrance.

News and Events from the PTA

Fundraising Update



The EYFS and Key Stage 1 children were having a fantastic time on Wednesday evening as they settled down together, food and drink served to them whilst watching a film with friends!

The film night was the latest in the PTA fundraising events and they have put together a summary of the money raised since September and how that income has been spent in way of donations straight back into enhancing the children's experiences at school.

Thankyou so much to everyone involved in producing and supporting these events.

PTA FUNDRAISING

Following our last PTA meeting, below is a summary of our finances for the current academic year.

KEY FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

UNIFORM SALES: £536
FIREWORK NIGHT: £4,300
CHRISTMAS @ SLADE: £2,550
KS2 DISCO: £950
VALENTINES SMARTIES: £1,200
KS1 FILM NIGHT: TBA

STILL TO COME.....

Easter Eggstravaganza; Summer Fete;
Pimms & Party; Year 5&6 Camp Out

TOTAL RAISED TO DATE: OVER £9,500

AVAILABLE STILL TO SPEND:
£10,000 IN CURRENT ACCOUNT
£10,000 IN SAVINGS ACCOUNT

DONATIONS TO SCHOOL:

CLASSROOM DONATIONS: £3,500
(All classes, SENCO, Titans, Forest School & Library)
CARE OF SLADE BUNNIES: £160
FOREST SCHOOL: £1,000
SCHOOL TRIP SUBSIDIES: £3,500
FOAM FOOTBALLS: £15
SPORTS CREW T-SHIRTS: £290
CHRISTMAS BOOKS: £470
CHRISTMAS CLASS PARTIES: £188
LIBRARY BOOKS: £493

FUTURE PROJECTS BEING CONSIDERED:

New noticeboards
Replacement of ipads
Outdoor classroom
Replacement of gym mats
New playground equipment



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
		
March	April	May
<p>Tuesday 18 - From 18:30 Sepsis Savvy Presentation for parents</p> <p>Friday 21 - Non Uniform Day and Odd Socks (Red Nose Day and Down Syndrome Awareness)</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>Tuesday 8 - Year 1 Trip: Hastings</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