



SLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Newsletter

Term 5, Issue 1

Friday 25 April 2025

Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the start of Term 5 everyone!

I trust that you all had an enjoyable, restful Easter break and were able to enjoy some downtime (and chocolate!) with friends and family.

It has been lovely to see the children enthusiastically return to school during these last four days and reconnect with their friends at the start of this short but busy term. All children have quickly settled back in to their routines with some fabulous learning taking place across the school. Do look out for this term's year group newsletters which will all be dropping into your inboxes on Monday; these are a great opportunity for you to find out more of what your child will be learning throughout Term 5 and offer ways in which you can support your child too.

As regular readers of the daily email will know, this first week of term has been 'Allergy Awareness' week here in school during which we have been helping the children to understand what an allergy is, whilst exploring the different types of allergies and learning what to do if someone is having an allergic reaction. Do ask your children if they can remember the difference between an allergy and an intolerance, as explained to them all during Miss Garrett's assembly. A special mention and thank you to Mr. Laws for his entertaining and informative allergy focused quiz this week; we hope you all enjoyed it and were successful with your answer too! Also, a polite reminder please that it is the responsibility of parents and carers to keep us updated with any allergies that your child may have; these can be added to your child's profile directly via your Arbor account; thank you.

We have been delighted this week to welcome back teachers Abby Taylor and Jessica Maple who have both now returned from their periods of maternity leave and are straight back into class, job sharing the teaching responsibility in Phoenix Class across the week! We are thrilled to welcome Abby and Jess back to school and look forward to catching up with them in the coming days as they settle back into life at Slade. It's great to have you back both!

Talking of maternity leave, earlier this week we said good bye and good luck to Helen Lipman, Griffin Class Teacher and Phase Leader, who is leaving us temporarily to now start her maternity leave! I'm sure that you all join with me in sending our good wishes to Helen and her family at this very exciting time as they await their new arrival early next month. Watch this space for pending baby news and updates! A special mention and huge thank you to Heather Bowker, Angela Joshi and Tina Hall for covering Griffin Class in Helen's absence.

In addition, we also said goodbye in assembly today to Rachel Brooker, Teaching Assistant, who is starting her new TA role at Hilden Park School, an independent specialist day school in Hildenborough, next week. All good wishes to you Rachel at the start of your next new and exciting chapter and thank you for all that you have done for the children here during your time at Slade.

Finally, a reminder please that if your child comes into school already wearing their kit on Forest School days then they must also bring their school uniform into school with them, ready to change into at the end of their forest session that day. This means all items of school uniform, not just a change of T-shirt or jumper, to ensure that every child can be clean, warm and dry following their time outside and that they are then appropriately dressed for the remainder of the day's learning back in class. Thank you for your help and support with this.

Have a lovely sunny weekend everyone.

Karen Slade

Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Monday 28 April 2025

- Year 5 Activity Day at Carroty Wood. Please see previous email and page 5
- Phoenix Class Forest School
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Tuesday 29 April 2025

- Sphinx Class Forest School
- Pegasus Class Swimming
- Year 5 and Year 6 Cricket Competition at Tonbridge Cricket Club. Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Wednesday 30 April 2025

- Elf Class Forest School, Sprite Class Forest School
- Deadline Day for parents accepting or declining offers for primary school places - see page 4
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Thursday 1 May 2025

- Sphinx Class Swimming
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)
- Please note that the Year 2,3 and 4 Sports Club has a planned cancellation today and will not run.

Friday 2 May 2025

- Year 3 Educational Visit to Warner Brothers Studios, Leavesden
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)



Looking further ahead?

Our yearly planner can be found on Page 12 of today's newsletter and online via [the school website](#).

Slade Journal: Around School



This week we have been delighted to welcome Exalt to Slade.

Exalt has joined Phoenix Class and started alongside Miss Taylor and Miss Maple in their own first week in our Year 4 class! We hope you have all had a lovely time settling in to your new surroundings.

Our welcome to Exalt is of course extended to her family, with who we look forward to a long, happy and successful relationship.

The second week of the Easter holiday traditionally brings the excitement of new beginnings in the shape of National Offer Day where councils offer places for children to start school in Early Years Reception Year in the Autumn.

We are thrilled to have been in a position to have another 60 places offered to start here at Slade and we are all looking forward to meeting all of our new families and lots of familiar faces as well very soon!



If you have been offered a place at Slade and are yet to confirm if you wish to accept or decline the place, please be mindful that the deadline for responses is Wednesday 30 April (next Wednesday). Offers may be rescinded by Kent County Council if we do not receive a reply before 23:59 on Wednesday 30 April.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has also completed their Admission Form, having these in early makes the job of preparing the class groups and planning for September so much easier!



The answer to Wednesday's Daily Email question about how parents and carers can update their child's medical records was that you can make these amendments directly using your Arbor account.

There are a number of fields that you can update yourself on Arbor including your home address, contact numbers and other demographic information. We are notified where a change has happened and where appropriate, this is simply accepted. Where there is a query, the change will be held and we will contact you for further information. If you need to amend a field that you cannot access on Arbor, please contact the school office via office@slade.kent.sch.uk and we will be happy to help.

Slade Journal: Around School

School Trips in Term 5



The children in Year 2, 3 and 5 have particular reason to be looking forward to this term as they have school trips or workshops that they will be attending.

In date order, Year 5 will be spending an activity day at Carroty Wood next Monday, 28 April, then at the end of next week on Friday 2 May, Year 3 are travelling a bit further around the M25 to the Harry Potter Studios in Leavesden.

In a couple of weeks on Friday 9 May, Year 5 are back on the road, this time to the Science Centre in Herstmonceux for their Educational Visit linked to their topics this term.

Finally, on Friday 23 May Year 2 will be welcoming Altru Drama who will be hosting a very special day of learning at an in school workshop on the building, sailing and subsequent sinking of Titanic. Further information about this visit was sent via email yesterday to parents in Year 2.

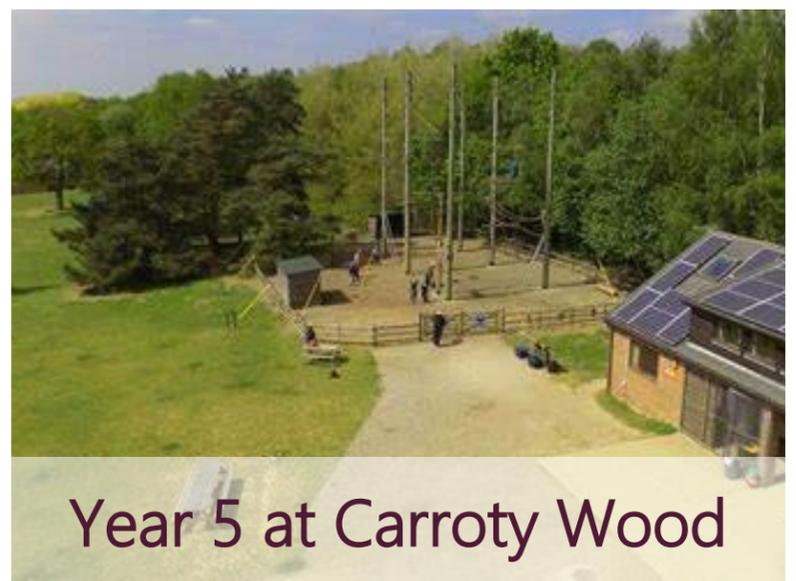
The payment windows have been extended for the fast approaching trips to assist families who have not yet consented and paid - these will close on Wednesday 30 April at 23:59; please make sure that you have completed the consent and payment where necessary over the weekend.

Parents in Year 5 who have children attending the Carroty Wood Activity Day on Monday will know from their previous emails that this is an extended day to fit everything in!

Children should be dropped off at the venue between 08:30 and 08:45.

Activities will take place throughout the day with lunch between 13:00 and 14:00.

The afternoon session will run until approximately 17:45 and children should be collected from the venue at 18:00.



Thankyou to all of the parents in Year 5 who have responded to our notice of interest for their child to take part in the Bikeability programme for next year. It has allowed us to apply for a booking as early as possible for 40 children to take part - We will contact those parents who said that they would want their child to take part as soon as we have more information from Kent County Council.

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 = 95.3%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.3%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 28

This week, Hippogriff Class are double champions, they actually had every child in on time every day (100% attendance, 0 late children).

Congratulations to Mr Louth and everyone in Hippogriff Class for a brilliant start to the summer terms at school.

Mrs Stephens presented Attendance Ted and Punctuality Pup to Hippogriff Class in Celebration Assembly this morning which took place in the main school hall.



Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing



It was a last minute dash to the oche for a group of Slade children who took part in the first (that we know of) Darts Competition for local primary schools.

The local school sports partnership were a little slow at inviting the participants to the competition, so without any practice or preparation, our team turned up to Leigh Academy Tonbridge not knowing what to expect - and left as Tonbridge Darts Champions!

We were joined in the sports hall, which was 'Ally Pally' for the evening by six other local schools with the children tasked with throwing a ball with Velcro strips attached onto a fabric board, each segment of the board carrying different number of points. The scoring of the tournament was opposite to the normal game - the children had to reach the target of 500 (rather than going from 501 or 301 to 0).



The competition was enhanced to feel like PDC Darts as the teams even chose their own 'walk-out themes' - music that the players walk into the hall with much fanfare! Our team chose [Rosé and Bruno Mars with APT.](#)

Following the pre match excitement, the team got immediately into action and today in Celebration Assembly, they were presented with their winners certificates.



You will remember from our last newsletter that we brought you the news that Sam Vincent, a parent at Slade will be running the London Marathon on Sunday in aid of Bipolar UK.

We would like to wish Sam and everyone who will be running through the streets of the capital on Sunday our very best wishes and good luck for meeting and beating your own individual goals.



You can find out more about Bipolar UK and the work they do as well as hearing more from Sam via the official London Marathon site where you can also donate to this important cause, whilst wishing a member of the Slade family much success in his quest.

[Bipolar UK: Sam is running the London Marathon!](#)

Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing



On Wednesday, we were very pleased to welcome back an old friend to Slade.

Sandra Hepple is Community Coach of Cricket representing Kent County Cricket Club and she will be visiting school each week through the summer to deliver the Chance To Shine programme to the children in Year 2 and Year 3.



Chance To Shine is a community charity that partners with trained, registered coaches of cricket to provide children from across the UK to try the sport in a fun way, starting for most as an introduction to cricket which leads to a series of competitive games in school to test the new skills learnt by the children in their sessions.

Perfectly illustrating the start of the cricket season, our first sessions with Sandra happened shortly after the rain stopped falling on Wednesday morning. Rain wasn't stopping play however and whilst we will be hoping to hold most of the programme on the field due to the wet conditions, Sandra was able to produce a training session on the playground that involved important skills of cricket - accurate and confident throwing and catching in different directions.

The children moved about the markers on the playground gently throwing to one another in groups of 2 or 3 catching and then moving to the next place. Everyone had a great time (even though it was a bit chilly for the most summer of summer sports!)

As we moved about the session involving the children from Pegasus Class in Year 3 they told us that they were already looking forward to next week.

Good luck to our Year 5 and 6 cricketers who will be taking part in the Tonbridge and West Kent Dynamo Cricket competition which will be taking part at Tonbridge Cricket Club for the whole day on Tuesday.

We will find out how the competition went in next week's newsletter.

Reading Corner



Hannah Mills, School Librarian, would like to invite any parent or carer who is able to would like to volunteer during the school lunchtimes to get in touch.

We are looking for someone to supervise the school library during this period (12:30 - 13:30) which will enable us to maintain our lunchtime opening for children to take some time browsing and reading at their leisure and for pleasure.

We are currently looking for someone to help with this on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact us via office@slade.kent.sch.uk



We are always trying to find ways of enhancing and improving the experience for the pupils visiting the school library - and that is all of them as each class continues to visit the facility at least once a week as part of their normal lesson time.

Hannah is incredibly grateful to PTA donations that have allowed her to buy new books over the Easter holiday and also to purchase some new storage and display boxes. These boxes store books to flick through whilst browsing rather than searching along the shelves - they will hopefully assist the younger children in EYFS and Year 1, who are just starting out on their reading journeys, to find a book that takes their fancy!

We are also on the hunt ourselves - for books that you may have cleared out in an early summer clean up at home - in particular, books for our youngest readers (targeted at age 5-7) which may include non fiction books or picture books that will interest children in Year R and Key Stage 1.

If you are happy to pass on any books not used at home, please feel free to pop them into the school office at anytime with our thanks.

In Our Community

Kent County Council have been in touch with their new community push to help those wishing to quit smoking for a healthier lifestyle for themselves and their family.

They say:



Quitting smoking is one of the best decisions you can make for your health. It can:

- improve your overall health by reducing your risk of heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, and other serious illnesses.
- save you money: smoking is expensive and quitting can save you hundreds or even thousands of pounds each year.
- improve your quality of life: you'll have more energy, breathe easier, and smell better.

Many people try to quit smoking with willpower alone, but it's much easier to go smoke-free with the right help. There are lots of support options available to help you on your quitting journey.

One You Kent Stop Smoking Service

Our stop smoking service offers a range of support and advice with face-to-face, telephone or video support, access to prescription products and your own personal quit plan.

Get started today and fill in a referral form. A friendly advisor will then call you to talk through the options in your area. You can also call us on [0300 123 1220](tel:03001231220) or text [QUIT to 60163](sms:QUITto60163).

[Fill in a referral form](#)

Getting professional help trebles your chances of quitting for good but we know not everyone has the time to commit to regularly seeing an adviser. We can offer a vape starter kit and 10 bottles of liquid following an initial appointment. We'll give you a call to check how you're getting on after 28 days. Just ask for the 'Light Touch' service (subject to availability and age restrictions apply).

[Learn more at One You Kent.](#)

Nourish News

Nourish Contract Catering have informed us of a menu alteration that will affect choices on Monday 28 April.

Due to an ordering error by Nourish, Kirsty and the team will be unable to offer the full menu on Monday, with the Vegetable Nugget option not available. The choices for school dinner on Monday will therefore be:

Menu Option 1 - Tomato Pasta

Menu Option 2 - Onion Bhajis with Katsu Sauce

Menu Option 3 - Baked Potato



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
	Monday 28 - Year 5 Trip to Carrot Wood	Friday 2 - Year 3 Trip: Leavesden Friday 9 - Year 5 Trip: Herstmonceux Monday 12 - Thursday 15 - KS2 (Year 6) Statutory Assessment Tests: <i>Monday - Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar</i> <i>Monday - Spelling</i> <i>Tuesday - Reading Comprehension</i> <i>Wednesday - Maths 1 (Arithmetic)</i> <i>Wednesday - Maths 2 (Reasoning)</i> <i>Thursday - Maths 3 (Reasoning)</i> Thursday 15 - Secondary School Information Evening for Year 5 parents <i>Friday 23 - Year 2 Titanic Workshop</i> Friday 23 - Last Day of Term 5
June	July	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 <u>2024/25 Term Dates</u>
Monday 2 - First Day of Term 6 Friday 13 - Year 2 Trip: Maidstone Tuesday 17 - Open Evening Thursday 19 - Sports Day Sunday 22 to Wednesday 25 - Year 6 Residential (Kingswood, Ashford)	Thursday 3 - Next Year Transition Day Tuesday 8 - Year 1 Trip: Hastings Tuesday 15 - Year 6 Production Thursday 17 - Year 6 Production Friday 18 - Last Day of Term 6	

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