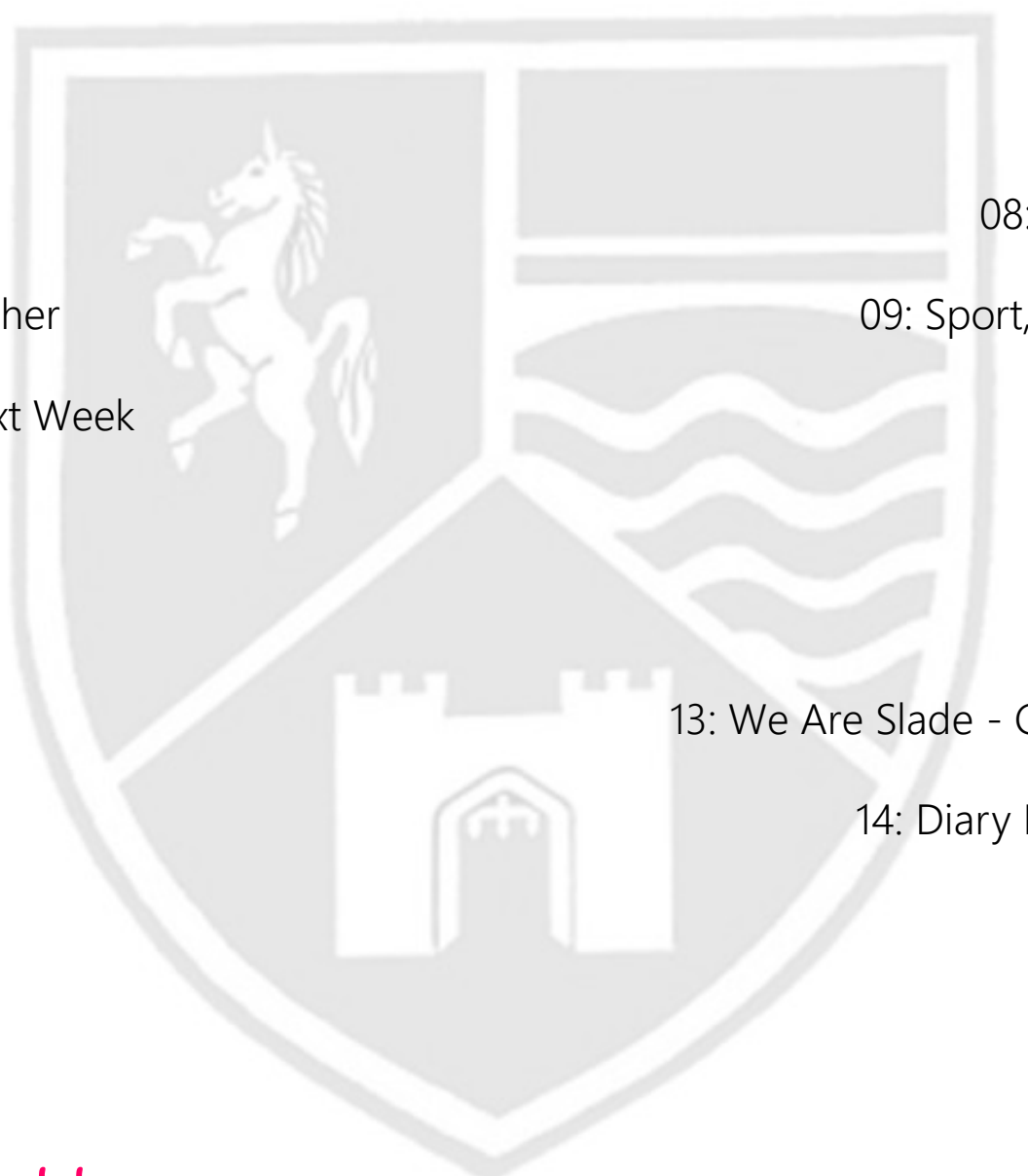




SLADE

PRIMARY SCHOOL



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School Newsletter

Term 5, Issue 2

Friday 2 May 2025

Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a scorcher of a week it's been! I hope that you are all enjoying the unseasonal sunshine that we're having and are coping with this unexpected heat.

There was much excitement amongst the children at the start of the week as they returned to the school field at lunchtime to enjoy our vast outdoor space and all that it offers, including some much-needed shade. It was heartening to see all year groups enjoying their time outdoors in the sunshine; this was the first time that the children were able to take their lunchtime break down on the field since October! The field has also been getting busier both before and after school too with some of the outdoor clubs and activities that happen across the week starting to once again take place out there. Even our lunchtime clubs have been making the most of our great outdoors; our signing choir relocated their regular Thursday practice down onto the field, choosing to rehearse under the shade of the trees instead of in their usual hall space! Magical!

On Monday, our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a fabulous day in the gorgeous woodland on their school trip to Carroty Wood. All the children had a taste of what the site can offer, making the most of the facilities and enjoying some of the more challenging activities, including climbing and swimming. All had a fabulous time and were a credit to themselves and the school during the whole of the day. A huge thank you to all of the staff team who organised and led this wonderful experience for our pupils, thank you. Do read on into the newsletter to see some fabulous photos that capture the fun that was had by all that were there, children and adults alike!

Looking ahead to next week, we will be joining in with the rest of the nation as we come together as a school community to learn about the historical importance of VE Day whilst also enjoying some 80th anniversary celebrations of our own! These will include a VE Day celebratory lunch during which the whole school will come together to eat street-party style out on the playground; do check out the separate communication that was sent earlier this week. A reminder that this is a non-uniform day and children and adults are asked to come to school dressed in red, white and blue clothing if they are willing and able to do so. Looking forward to us all celebrating together!

Some staffing news now, as today in assembly we said goodbye and good luck to Mrs. Heather Bowker who is stepping away from her teaching position here at Slade, due to changes in her own family circumstances. As disappointed as we are to be losing Mrs. Bowker and all that she brings to our school I'm sure that you all join with me in wishing her well with these personal changes in the coming months. Keep us posted with news of your next adventure Heather!

Finally, I have been asked to share the following update from governors in relation to the headteacher recruitment process:

"The recruitment process for a new Headteacher continues, with some interviews likely to take place in this term. An update will be provided as soon as possible after the next stage of the process has concluded, although this might happen after the half term break due to the timescales involved. The Governors do appreciate that this is an unsettling time for the Slade school community and want to assure firstly that there will be school leadership in place from September and that in carrying out a very thorough process we will ensure that the next Headteacher of the school continues to provide excellent leadership."

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend everyone; see you on Tuesday 6 May!

Karen Slade

Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Monday 5 May 2025

- National Holiday, school closed to all pupils. See Page 4

Tuesday 6 May 2025

- Wyvern Class Forest School
- Hydra Class Forest School
- Pegasus Class Swimming
- Year 3 and Year 4 Cricket Competition at Tonbridge Cricket Club. Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Wednesday 7 May 2025

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

Thursday 8 May 2025

- VE History Learning Day. This is a non usual uniform day, please see page 4 and previous email for information
- Sphinx Class Swimming
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Friday 9 May 2025

- Year 5 Educational Visit to Herstmonceux Science Park
- [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

3 Day Weekender



A reminder that school is closed to all pupils on Monday due to the annual national May Day holiday.

We all hope you have a fantastic and fun long weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back here at Slade on Tuesday 6 May.

Summer has burst open gloriously over Tonbridge this week and the children have enjoyed being out on the field for their lunchtimes.








On the hot and sunny days, they should bring a refillable water bottle, sun hat and have had sun protection cream applied before leaving home in the morning.

If children need hayfever medicine, they should have this before coming in, although if this forgotten please call the office if you require some given once school has started.

Having said all of that, next week's forecast from the Met Office looks like the hotter days may have been put on hold!



Summer Weather

Sat 3 May	Sun 4 May	Mon 5 May	Tue 6 May	Wed 7 May	Thu 8 May	Fri 9 May
 21° 6°	 15° 4°	 15° 5°	 15° 6°	 15° 6°	 16° 6°	 16°

Mrs Mulhern has been busy organising a day of history and celebrations as Slade joins the rest of Europe in remembering the time 80 years ago when fighting against Nazi Germany in Europe came to an end.

On Tuesday 8 May 1945, the then Prime Minister Winston Churchill made an announcement on the radio at 3pm that the war in Europe had come to an end, following Germany's surrender the day before.

On Thursday 8 May 2025, the children at Slade will be learning about the relevance of Victory in Europe (VE) Day as well as taking part in different activities. They will also be invited to wear clothing of Red, White and/or Blue next Thursday where they will also be celebrating with lunch outside in a street party style, together on the school playground.

[More information about VE Day can be found here \(via](#)



VE Day

Slade Journal: Around School



Everyone at Slade would like to send huge congratulations to two of our parents at school who successfully ran the London Marathon last Sunday.

Both Sam Vincent and Charlie Richardson completed the 26 and a bit mile route around the capital from Blackheath to the finish line along The Mall.

Both Sam and Charlie were running with their families watching on from different points along the route; families that include Pegasus duo Otilie and Jack who came to speak to us yesterday about how proud they were of their dads.



Jack said, 'I was so very happy and glad that dad finished the London Marathon because I know how much training and preparation he put into being ready for it. He was very tired when we saw him after he had finished the marathon, but he is okay now a few days later!'

Otilie completely understood, saying that her dad, Sam, 'couldn't even walk up and down the stairs properly on Sunday night, but he can do it properly again now!' She spoke movingly about the cause that Sam was raising money for by doing the run, [Bipolar UK](#), and described the day, which they both agreed was very hot for running so far!

'My Nanna came with me and Mum and my brother, Dexter we were lucky because we were watching from under a tree in the shade' Jack added that he had a great day with his family, 'My Auntie and brothers (Alfie in Wyvern Class and Tom in Elf). As well as looking out for Dad, I had fun looking at some of the costumes some people were running in!' Between them, Jack and Otilie recalled seeing a chicken, Super Mario, a Post Box, someone carrying a fridge and a Rhino!'



A special note of congratulations to Sam who has now raised over £3000 in honour of his friend Theo. The pain of walking up the stairs was definitely worth it!

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 = 97.2%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.3%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 30

Hippogriff again Olé, Olé.

Another double success for Mr Louth's Year 3 class. No late arrivals and an attendance over the week of 99.2%.

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



Focus on Year 5



Wyvern and Hydra Classes spent Monday enjoying a fun packed activity day at local centre Carrotty Wood, run by Rock UK.

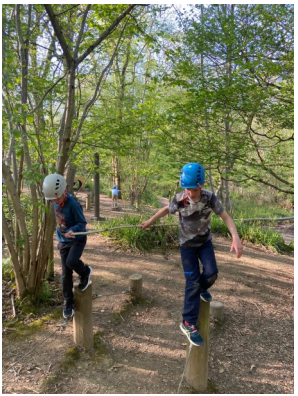
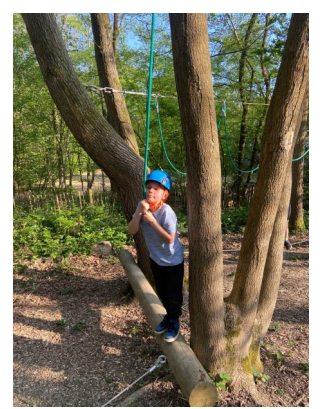
Spending the day out together helps bond existing and new friendship groups, enhances teamwork and leadership through the encouragement for all and also helps to prepare the children for their Year 6 residential activity days that they will be looking forward to in a year's time.

There was a packed agenda awaiting them as they took part in climbing, archery, multi sports skills and a challenging obstacle course amongst other activities.

Thankyou very much to all of the parents of children in Year 5 who helped make this day a success by taking their children to the venue and collecting later on in the evening at the end - your help is much appreciated by all of the teaching team from Wyvern and Hydra Classes.



Focus on Year 5



You can find them at Pinetree UK and the wood the design all the print rooms from Games in the

Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing



On Monday, we had a team of young golfers travel to High Brooms for the local schools Tri-Golf tournament.

The team all learnt new skills and performed brilliantly, ending up with another championship win! Everyone played their part in the success with excellent chipping from Archie, Ellis and Lukas and putting from Esmée and Harriet.

Congratulations to all of the team for winning the round robin tournament and for great listening and learning of the new skills they were shown on the day.



We had three teams representing Slade at the Year 5 and 6 Cricket tournament at Tonbridge Cricket Club on Tuesday. Slade came third in a closely fought competition which included group phase games followed by the knockout, eventually won by Ide Hill School.

The team used overarm bowling all day and players had great innings - special mention for a great all round performance from Sai and to Ruby and Maddie for their fielding and understanding of the game.



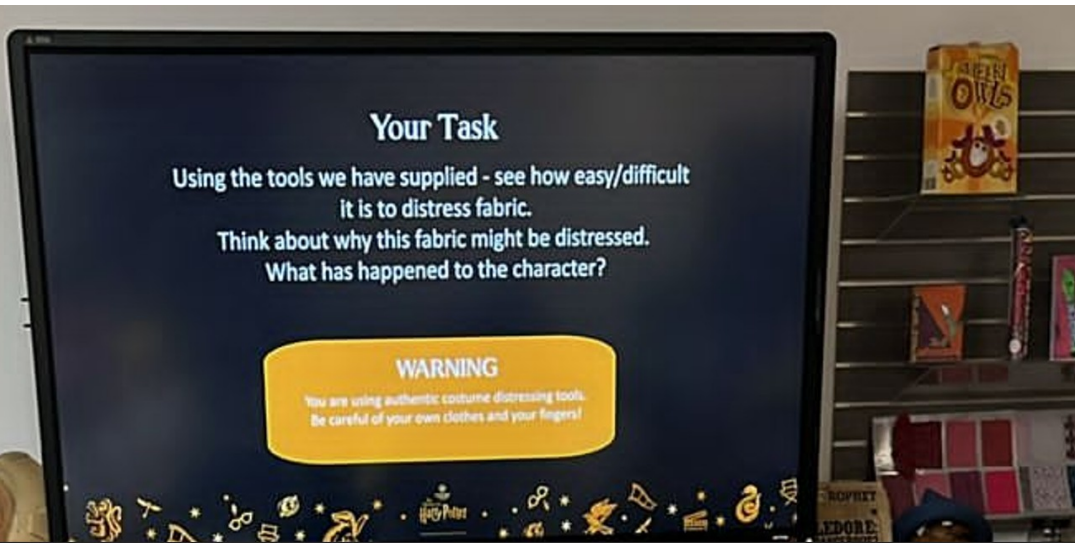
Well done to everyone who took part in the Year 1-3 Team Building event last night at Skinners School; we will have reports from that competition next week, alongside details of how our Year 3 and 4 Cricket team do in their age group competition at Tonbridge Cricket Club.

Focus on Year 3



Today, Year 3 Classes Pegasus and Hippogriff travelled to Hertfordshire for their Educational visit to the Warner Brothers Studios The Making of Harry Potter.

The children have been using the Harry Potter stories to inspire their learning this year and have today had the chance to see some of the sets and costumes used in the films as well as taking part in an Art and Design workshop looking at costume design.



Maths at Slade



Mr Duffin was pleased to be announcing the Times Tables Rockstars Champions of the week in this morning's Celebration Assembly to Harry (Year 2), Jaxon (Year 3), Mia (Year 4), Jiwon (Year 5) and Myles (Year 6). Well done to you all.

He also launched this term's Rockstars Year Group Competition - you can win for your class by logging in to Times Tables Rockstars for a few minutes each day between now and over the May half term holiday; the prize is a summer trip to the park for the winning class!



Year Group Competition

This term each year group will battle against each other! The year group with the most points at the end will win a trip to Tonbridge Park! The competition will run until the first Friday back after half-term!



May the best Year win!

PTA News



The theme of this year's fete is **Grow Your Own!**

Our competition this year will be **Through Your Lens:** a chance for the children to grab a camera (with permission!) and head out into their garden, to the park, onto their balcony, or just get up close to their favourite plants or flowers, and show us what they love most about being outdoors. They can print and bring their best photo to the school Fete and be in with a chance of winning fun cards worth £5 to spend on the day.

New for this year...

In keeping with the theme, this year at the Summer Fete we would love to have a plant stall, but we are going to need some help with some pre-growing!

If any of you are green fingered or maybe have family or neighbours who could help out with donations it would be hugely appreciated!

It could be starting some seeds from scratch (things that will grow quickly), or taking cuttings from large herb/ flowering plants and getting them rooted.

We'll arrange a way to get them all together the week before the event but if you could help get some things started at home, we'd love your help! Thank you!



SLADE SUMMER FETE
Saturday 21 June
Slade School Field 12-3pm

What's On?

- Inflatable Obstacle Course and Bouncy Castle for under 5s
- Barrow of Booze Raffle
- Entertainment from our Dynamic Duo, Djs Matt & Mark
- Second Hand Stall & Pre-Loved Uniform
- Event Arena featuring Children's Performances
- Year Group Stalls with NEW games, crafts, glitter and sweet treats
- Designated Quiet Zone featuring the Slade Bunnies
- BBQ and Beer Tent
- Silent Auction
- NEW Plant Stall

CASH ON THE DRY
£5 FUN CARDS for card purchase
ASSISTANCE DOGS ONLY



As we start gearing up for the Summer Fete, Emily and I wanted to share a message about the year ahead.

We have both been involved with the PTA committee for 5 years now, running events and helping to raise money with you all for our fantastic school.

We have loved every minute, but it's important that we make way for new people to step in with new ideas and fresh energy!

So we're reaching out to you now to ask you to get in touch and learn more about how the PTA runs and what joining the committee as Chair, Co-Chair or Vice-Chair might entail.

The PTA are responsible for running so many fun events - fireworks, the Christmas Sale and raffle, the discos and film nights, Easter eggstravaganza, the summer fete...

We would love to see these events continue and go from strength to strength and hear from the next team of parents committed to taking the PTA forward when we step down.

Please reach out to us on the playground or via PTA@slade.kent.sch.uk if you'd like to know more.

Caroline & Emily

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
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

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>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><i>Monday - Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar</i></p> <p><i>Monday - Spelling</i></p> <p><i>Tuesday - Reading Comprehension</i></p> <p><i>Wednesday - Maths 1 (Arithmetic)</i></p> <p><i>Wednesday - Maths 2 (Reasoning)</i></p> <p><i>Thursday - Maths 3 (Reasoning)</i></p> <p>Thursday 15 - Secondary School Information Evening for Year 5 parents</p> <p>Friday 23 - Year 2 Titanic Workshop</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