



SLADE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Newsletter

Term 5, Issue 4

Friday 16 May 2025

Karen Slade : From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done and huge congratulations to all of our Year 6 pupils who this week have completed their end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests. All of the children who sat the tests demonstrated a positive 'can do' attitude throughout the week and should be very proud of themselves and their achievements; we are all immensely proud of each and every one of you! A special mention too that this is the first year, in a very long time, that we have had 100% attendance in Year 6 during the week meaning that all tests could be completed in the allotted 4-day time frame! Amazing! Thank you to everyone involved in the planning and running of this week which enabled it to go as smoothly as possible for the children involved and to the remainder of the school for your patience and understanding during the week too. A real team effort; thank you everyone.

As many of you will be aware, this week is Mental Health Awareness Week, an annual event run by the Mental Health Foundation that focuses on improving good mental health across the nation. The theme for this year is 'Community', celebrating the power and importance of community and how being part of a safe, positive community is vital for our mental health and wellbeing. Further information on this, including support and resources for both adults and children, can be found at: <https://www.mind.org.uk/get-involved/mental-health-awareness-week>. Should you have any concerns regarding your child's mental health or well being then please don't hesitate to get in touch in order that we can signpost you to professional services that will be able to help.

A huge thank you on behalf of all in our school community to all of the parents and families who spent a very sunny Sunday morning in school last week as part of a PTA working party. Their hard work has seen many of the wooden structures on our school field transformed, with one of the outdoor classrooms now demolished with a second one now having a shiny new roof. The Slade task force also found time for some running repairs in our Reception outdoor area, with the mud kitchen receiving a much-needed makeover! Thank you so much to all involved; we are so very grateful. Do read on into the newsletter to find out more and see some photos from the morning.

At this time of year, we start planning ahead for September, thinking about classroom organisation and staffing for the start of Term 1. We recognise that this time of change can sometimes be an anxious time for some children and parents. Due to the lateness of the resignation date for class teachers (31st May) and the implications of this I am not at present able to share any information with you. We will however endeavour to inform you of any changes as early as possible in Term 6, thus allowing time for a smooth transition for all involved. Please be assured as soon as that information is available you will all be the first to know!

Talking of which, a quick update for you on the new Headteacher recruitment process! The Governing Body appointment panel has now shortlisted from the recent applications received, with interviews planned to take place in school on Monday following which updates regarding the appointment will be provided to the school community at the start of next term. Fingers crossed!

Still with next year, a reminder for Year 5 parents that the secondary transfer information meeting was pre-recorded earlier this week and sent out to you all along with a copy of the Power Point slides that were shared. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, with your child's class teacher in the first instance, should you have any queries once you have watched the presentation.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Karen Slade

Diary Dates: Next Week at Slade

Monday 19 May 2025

- Phoenix Class Forest School
- Trinity Dance Show, from 15:00 - Assembly Halls Tunbridge Wells. Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Tuesday 20 May 2025

- Sphinx Class Forest School
- Pegasus Class Swimming
- Tonbridge and West Kent Schools Annual Swimming Gala. Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Wednesday 21 May 2025

- Elf Class Forest School
- Sprite Class Forest School
- Key Stage 1 Rapid Fire Cricket Competition - Skinners Academy. Details known to participants
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Thursday 22 May 2025

- Class group photographs by Matthew Walker (all day)
- Griffin Class Forest School
- Dragon Class Cooking at Tonbridge School
- Hippogriff Class Swimming. This is the first session. **Thankyou to all of Hippogriff Class parents and carers for quick, efficient payment and consent giving. Swimming class of the year award incoming!**
- [Extra Curricular Activity Clubs](#)

Friday 23 May 2025

- Last Day of Term 5
- Year 2 Titanic Workshop Day. **We are awaiting a large number of payments for this special learning day. Please ensure payment and consent is given via your Arbor account this weekend.**
- Griffin Class Cooking at Tonbridge School
- Dragon Class Forest School
- [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

15

$$60 \div (30 - 24) =$$

Key Stage 2 SATs

Congratulations to everyone in Year 6 who have spent this week ploughing through the Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessment Tests in English Reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Maths Arithmetic and Reasoning each morning.

The teaching and wider teams across the school have been so impressed with the attitude, determination and resilience shown by all of the children in Dragon and Griffin Class as they sat the various papers based upon their learning from their time in primary school.

They celebrated with a special breakfast this morning and now is the time to look forward to the fun and activities planned for the rest of the summer terms including the residential days in Ashford next month amongst lots of other events. Well done and best wishes for a relaxing sun filled weekend to you all.

The booking window for Yeti's Wraparound Breakfast and After School provision in Term 6 opens on Monday at midday.

Thankyou to everyone who pays for wraparound sessions using childcare vouchers for topping up this week, Business Manager Jill Westwood has been making sure that these top-ups are now reflected in your Arbor account, ready to book from Monday.

For full information on Yeti's wraparound, including pricing, booking and cancellation details can be found on the school website, here: [Yeti's Wraparound Care](#).



End of Year at Yeti's

ough

'Ough' That's Good!

Mr Duffin is incredibly proud and pleased for his Hydra Class this week, who have achieved a feat unknown to any teacher we have spoken to, regardless of their length of time in the job - every single member of the class got all of their class spellings correct this week (10/10 for all 30!)

Well done to every single member of Hydra Class and thankyou to the parents and carers at home who will have helped and revised the spellings with the children.

If you fancy a weekend challenge, why not try to think of a short piece, 100 words or less featuring all of the spellings that Hydra Class have mastered? The words they had to learn last week all featured the 'ough' spelling pattern: **thought, bought, brought, ought, although, dough, doughnut, though, cough, trough.**

Slade Journal: Around School



In the next few weeks, we will begin to see secondary schools popping in to visit their new pupils, currently in our Year 6 due to start Key Stage 3, Year 7 from September.

This is part of the transition process between us and the local secondary schools that will last through the summer until the children leave us in July.

One very important aspect of this is to make sure that all electronic and paper based registrations are sent on to the receiving school. This allows them to make sure that their class and group registers are ready for 1 September and that they can easily send information to you when necessary through Term 6 and over the summer holiday.

It is important therefore to ensure a smooth process and to maintain the integrity of your family and child's personal data, that we send the files to the correct school.

Please let us know via admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk if your child has been accepted via waiting list or appeal to any school that is not the one offered by Kent County Council on National Offer Day back on 3 March. If your child is currently still going to the school offered initially, you do not need to do anything. Please keep us updated if this changes, particularly if you have a successful appeal that is yet to be heard.

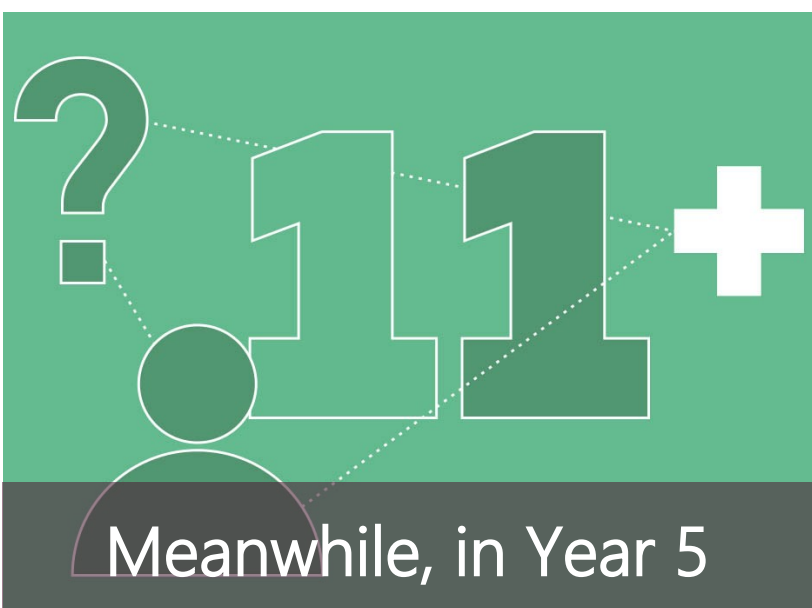
Thankyou for your help with this - we hope that you and your families are looking forward to the next exciting adventure at the chosen secondary school.

The children in Year 5 are just beginning to consider their own choices of potential secondary school, starting in September 2026.

The application window opens in the autumn, but if you are thinking about taking the Kent Test (11+) an application for this needs to be made soon.

Details about this can be found on the video presentation sent to all Year 5 families this week.

If you have any questions about the Kent Test or the application process, please contact the Kent County Council Education helpline on 03000 41 21 21.



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 = 95.6%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.4%

Punctuality: Number of Late Pupils This Week: 38

They Loved their SATs So Much...

Well done to all of the children in Year 6 for all the reasons highlighted on Page 4, and also for being here all week. Also to Hydra Class who were relocated to the hall for being here on time, all ensuring that there were no delays to the SATs.

Our winners:

Attendance Ted: Griffin and Dragon Class (both with 99.7% attendance)

Punctuality Pup: Hydra Class (No Late Children)



Sport, Fitness and Wellbeing



The girls football squad kept up their fantastic results last Friday with a 5:0 win over Platt Primary School at Longmead Stadium.

The girls played with confidence in the sunshine with special mentions for the performances of Anaïs and Bryher who turned out at the last minute having not been expected to play and also to Peony who is turning into a very fine goalkeeper, with another clean sheet to her name.

Mrs Ball was a proud and delighted teacher last weekend as she attended the Kent Super League Cup final held at Maidstone United's Gallagher Stadium in the heart of the County Town.

She was there to see Year 6 footballer Harriet play for Tonbridge and Malling District Team against Orpington and Bromley.

Harriet plays in the front line of the team and came incredibly close to scoring in the match.



As the headline suggests, the cup was won by Tonbridge and Malling - and in thrilling style!

The local girls actually fell behind in the game before equalising, then came Harriet's super effort that just missed the post and it was in the dying moments of the game when Tonbridge took what was to turn out to be the a winning lead. The match finished moments later, and the 2:1 victory was confirmed.

They have two other cup finals on the horizon where they will play against two other south London boroughs in starting tomorrow (Saturday 17 May 11:30) when they return to the Gallagher versus Bexley and then on Saturday 24 May (15:00) at Herne Bay Football Club where they play against Lewisham.



Our News: Blake, Anya and Arya



We were delighted to hear about Slade success at the Weald Gymnastics Club annual competition which took place last weekend.

Thankyou to the competitors who came to speak to us and to their parents for supplying pictures of the event, well done to you all and to everyone who took part.

For more about Weald Gymnastics, visit their website:

[Weald Gymnastics - Gymnastics classes for all ages](#)

Blake from Wyvern Class spoke to us yesterday, incredibly proud of his efforts which saw him awarded the Gold medal for finishing in first place.

Blake had to demonstrate his abilities in two separate areas, in his case it was the vault and a floor routine. Blake was competing with boys and girls on his age group. The top six gymnasts are awarded commendations, with the top 3 getting podium positions, at this competition Blake was awarded a Gold medal for his performance overall.

'Firstly, I performed on the vault; the Judge raises his hand to signal that I should start. I had to run to the springboard and go straight into a handstand which I would have to stay in for 2 or 3 seconds, you then have to finish gracefully - as a boy I had to finish with one arm in the air and the girls put two arms in the air. There were 20 to 30 competitors who did both the vault and floor. My floor routine included balancing, a cat leap and cartwheels across the floor mat. It was incredible to finish first with the gold medal, I am proud of that, but also of the fact that I have improved since my last competition where I finished fourth.'



Following Blake's champions form, were sisters Anya and Arya who are also members of Weald Gymnastics Club.

They took part in the competition which was the very first that Anya had competed in. She was in the Novice group and put in such a fantastic performance that she also walked home with Gold for coming first. Arya competed in Intermediate group and came 6th.

We popped down to Elf Class where we spoke to Anya:

'This was my first ever competition so I was a little bit excited and also a bit nervous when I first walked into the hall, especially after seeing how many people there were there, competing and watching. I was lucky because I had mum and dad there cheering for both me and my sister. I was very happy at the end when I found out I had won - I had my fingers crossed, and was happy when they told me! I had to remember a routine which involved a forward roll and a straddle - I have to thank Arya a lot because she has taught me how to do the moves and helped me to remember what to do on the day. She did brilliantly as well and won a Golden Ribbon for her routine which was very difficult to do and included a one handed cartwheel and handstands that launched into cartwheels, I was very proud of her as well!'



Our News: Bryher, Hallie & Saffy



Last weekend in Crawley, Slade had a large representation of Cheerleaders competing in a regional competition. They were performing for their club, ICE Athletics Cheer and had a very successful and most importantly fun event.

Bryer and Hallie in Year 6 danced with their squads Ice Creams and Ice Crystals at the competition; Bryher spoke with us in the office yesterday to explain what they got up to:

‘We take part in competitions to show what we have been working on during our training, we are in different categories depending on the skills and stunts that we are best at, so there are lots and lots of dances to watch and enjoy. I was in a competition with eleven other groups and Bryher was competing against nine other squads. We both came third, which was a brilliant result!

Our performance is based on a lot of different skills such as dance, stunts, forming a pyramid and face paced, synchronised dance moves on the floor. The competitions are so friendly that we swap pegs with messages that we can keep - we were challenged to ‘Hit Zero’ which is a challenge where you start with a number of points, twenty I think, and for every good thing you do in the performance you have a point knocked off, and points added on if something goes wrong - the idea is to get a low score - we were so so pleased that we managed to complete the challenge by getting Zero points!’

Both Bryher and Hallie were inspired to begin cheerleading through the classes and clubs that they began here at Slade and we are all thrilled that they have gone on to enjoy and be so successful in this area of dance; they have now performed in their last competition which falls during their time at Slade, but we will look forward to hearing more about how they continue to progress next year once they are in Year 7.



Also performing at the Cheerleading competition were friends Alice, Daisy and Savannah, all in Year 3.

Savannah told us how much she enjoys cheerleading and how happy she is that she knows that she is improving the more she practices. ‘I love cheerleading because I go there with my friends and we have a good time together. We go to the club at Hillview School and we learn the different routines including dance - I have had a go at the pyramid before where I was at the top; it was very wobbly!’ Luckily, we didn’t need to do a pyramid at the competition, but we did all get a medal for taking part, which was great!’

Thankyou to Bryher and Savannah for talking to us and to their parents for sending in their lovely photographs.

Our News: Lilly



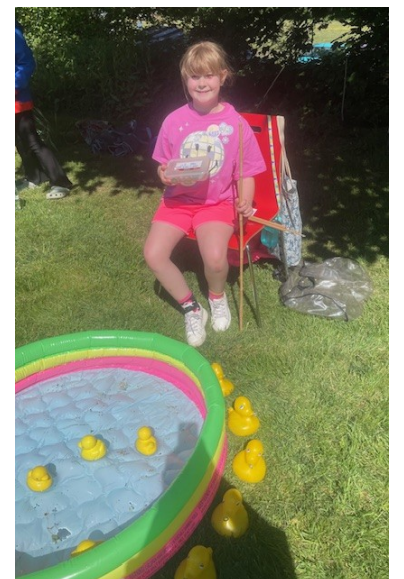
It was lovely seeing some familiar, friendly Slade faces when we visited the Dandelion Times Summer Fayre last Saturday in West Farleigh - everyone looked they were having a great time in the sunshine as there were stalls selling different items, stalls to play games on as well as musical performances, the resident animals and plenty of scrumptious food and drink available.

Lilly was also at the charity fundraising event helping out, something she very much enjoys...

Lilly was volunteering her time at the [Dandelion Times](#) Summer Fayre by running her own stall.

She was in charge of the Hook a Duck activity which she looked after throughout the event. Lilly took the money from the many different customers, gave them a hook and explained what they had to do before handing out prizes to those who were skilful enough to win!

Whilst at the fayre, Lilly had the chance to have a go at some of the other activities - she walked away having won for herself a coconut and two melons! Her Mum was also convinced that she completely deserved a hotdog and a large piece of cake as well!



It was a wonderful event, enjoyed by many adults and children - all made possible by volunteers such as Lilly.



Back at home, Lilly has also taken on her own responsibilities of looking after the environment by litter picking around the local area. She says that most of the rubbish discarded on the street and in parks seems to be plastic bottles and paper which not only looks horrible, but also can be incredibly dangerous to wildlife - thankyou to Lilly and everyone who does not ruin the place they love to live by keeping it nice and clean and taking their rubbish home with them or by using the bins.

Finally, one group of people who are important to us all are our friends, and Lilly was very happy to tell us that she loves her friends because they are always there to help her, and she wants to always be there for them as well.

A good example of this came recently when at a local Go Ape tree walking activity birthday party. 'My friend Grace was a bit worried about being up so high and walking across the planks while also having to clip and unclip on the safety wire. I wanted to make sure she enjoyed the party, so I gave her encouragement and helped her to clip and unclip. We all had a fantastic time!'



We really enjoyed our chat with Lilly as it shows that helping other people and our local area can be a lot of fun and can be a way of meeting and enjoying time with lots of new friends.

PTA News



Thank you so much for all the offers of help to grow, take cuttings or donate to our plant stall for this year's fete. It's been so exciting seeing the enthusiasm for this new stall.

Julia is very kindly taking the green fingered lead on this for us, and would love to know if you're hoping to donate some plants so she knows what to expect on the day. If she hasn't been in touch with you yet, and you've been busy in the garden, please drop her a message via the PTA Helpers group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KLGBIGa2BLrIuqMydPUDeh>



Can you help us advertise this year's Summer Fete?

Jack Nutley Estate Agents have kindly agreed to make up some boards with our Fete details. Would you be happy to have a board outside your house? Each board will contain the Estate Agent's details and information about our Summer Fete (the boards will not say For Sale anywhere!!)

For each board we can accommodate Jack will pay us a small amount which all adds to our fundraising total and helps spread the word around town about our event; we can have up to 20 boards!

If you would be happy to host a board for a couple of weeks before the Fete please email us your full address to PTA@slade.kent.sch.uk.

Thank you so much to all those who have already emailed and offered to help.

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

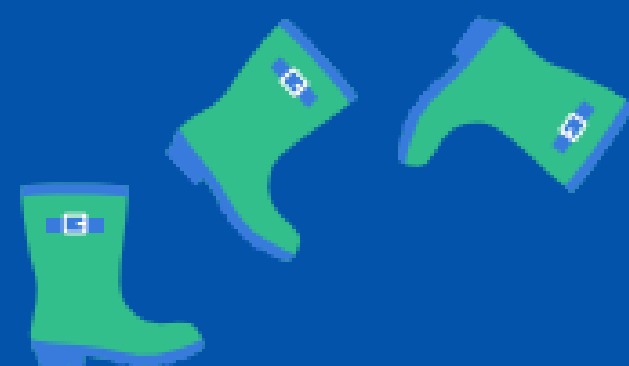
Year Group Stalls with NEW games, crafts, glitter and sweet treats

Designated Quiet Zone featuring the Slade Bunnies

BBQ and Beer Tent

Silent Auction

NEW Plant Stall



CASH ON THE DAY
£5 FUN CARDS for card purchase

ASSISTANCE DOGS ONLY



PTA News



Weekend Working Party

We are all so very grateful to members of the PTA and wider parent and friends community for their efforts last weekend.

They took time out of their weekend to come to school and do a makeover on the field as the children are now spending a wonderful amount of time out there at both break and learning times.

The working party got through a whole list of improvements and everyone associated with Slade would like to send a huge and deserved thankyou to everyone who came along during the Bank Holiday Weekend.



Broken shelter has been taken down, removed and the area has been prepared for grass seeding



Another of the shelters went from this...

...to this



The picnic seating and benches were given a thorough clean and varnish to protect against seagulls and the weather!

The working party also retrieved enough tennis balls to serve the upcoming Wimbledon Championships as well as being able to give the EYFS Outside Playground Mud Kitchen a sand, varnish and some screws replaced. The same area will soon see the chalkboard have a new, fresh coat of paint to give the back a refresh.



In Our Community

Charity no: 1171446
Website: aspens.org.uk



Join us at The Bluebell Café & Animal Farm!

Take part in our 'Fun at the Farm' activity trail - free no need to book!

Visit our friendly animals, beautiful grounds, woodland & play area.

Enjoy some delicious food & drink at The Bluebell Café

The Bluebell Café,
Aspens, Cornford
Lane, Pembury
TN2 4QU

May Half-Term
Tuesday 27th May to
Friday 30th May 2025

Scan the QR code
to find out more!



This way to
the farm



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
		Friday 23 - Year 2 Titanic Workshop Friday 23 - Last Day of Term 5
June	July	
<p>Monday 2 - First Day of Term 6</p> <p>Monday 2 - Friday 6 - Year 4 Multiplication Tables Screening (Previous email refers.)</p> <p>Monday 9 - Friday 13 - Year 1 Phonics Screening (More details to follow)</p> <p>Thursday 12 - NHS Visit for EYFS Hearing tests (Retests)</p> <p>Monday 16 - Wyvern Class Heroes Hike</p> <p>Tuesday 17 - Wyvern Class Heroes Hike</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>Monday 30 - Sphinx Class Haydsen Hike</p> <p>Monday 30 - Year 6 Parent Workshop (Secondary Transition) See Posters</p>	<p>Tuesday 1 - Phoenix Class Haysden Hike</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

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

2024/25 Term Dates

change