



SLADE

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 31 October 2025

Term 2, Issue 1

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half-term break. The holidays already feel like a distant memory as it's been a jam-packed first week back with so much happening across the school!

On Wednesday, we hosted the first of our Open Mornings for prospective families joining us in September 2026. We were absolutely thrilled that the event sold out, with 90 families attending to hear about our wonderful school and take a look around. Our next Open Morning is scheduled for next Wednesday and we've also needed to add an extra date later in November due to the high demand. If you know anyone who would like to visit, please do share the school's contact details so that Mr Laws can help them book a place.

Also on Wednesday, we held our first Class Rep Meeting of the year. We're so grateful to the parents who have stepped forward to take on this role as it plays such an important part in strengthening communication between home and school. These meetings also give us a valuable opportunity to hear your views and share upcoming plans. Among the topics discussed were about some of our upcoming changes to lunchtimes and Wraparound Care.

One of the biggest changes this week and certainly the one the children were most excited about is how we finish lunchtime! We've moved away from lining up at the end of their lunchtime and instead allow a calm, five-minute transition period where children move gradually back into their classrooms. The aim is to create a smoother, calmer start to the afternoon, mirroring the 'soft start' we use in the mornings. It's still early days, but we're already feeling positive about the impact this will have.

Thank you also to those of you who completed our survey last term. We are just in the process of collating the final paper surveys and then once all the information has been reviewed, I will be sharing the findings with you all. We're continually reflecting on our provision to ensure it meets the needs of our current children so your feedback is extremely valuable, so please do watch this space as we start to implement some of these changes.

Today, you should also receive your Term 2 Class Newsletters in your inbox (if they haven't arrived already!). Following feedback from the Class Rep meeting, from next term onwards we'll be sending these newsletters out during the final week of each term, ready for the term ahead.

Finally, a quick reminder about the Parent Governor Election. Please make sure your votes are submitted by Wednesday 5th November at 12pm. There's a ballot box in the school office, but if you've sent your envelope in your child's bag, please do double check it hasn't been forgotten! It's also really important to follow the instructions carefully so that every vote can be counted. The votes will be counted on Thursday 6th November and the results will be shared in next week's newsletter.

That's Week 1 done! I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Viki

Monday 3 November - Tuesday 11 November

- Poppy Collection in aid of the Royal British Legion (See Page 9)

Monday 3 November

- Gnome Class Forest School

Tuesday 4 November

- Sprite Class Forest School
- Griffin Class Swimming Lesson (from 14:30)

Wednesday 5 November

- Elmer Class Forest School
- Pre Application Open Morning for prospective EYFS 2026 intake (This event is fully booked)

Thursday 6 November

- Hydra Class Forest School
- Dragon Class Swimming Lesson (from 14:00)

Friday 7 November

- Wyvern Class Forest School

Looking Further Ahead?

Our yearly planner can be found on Page 13 of today's newsletter and online via [the school website](#).

SECONDARY APPLICATION DEADLINE JUST HOURS AWAY

All parents and carers of children in Year 6 are reminded that the deadline for submitting your application for secondary school is tonight at 23:59.

You must make an application, even if you have a sibling already at your chosen school; information about the process and about the secondary schools in Kent can be found here:

[Kent County Council, Applying for Secondary School.](#)



To make the application, you must login to the Kent County Council portal via their website and the link below and then list in order, your choices of secondary school for your child. You can list four schools. [Make Your Application \(Via kent.gov.uk\).](#)

If you miss the deadline, or if your circumstances change (such as a change of address during the application process) you should contact the Admissions Authority (KCC) via email as soon as possible via kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk and they will be able to advise further.

Notable dates to follow include:

Monday 2 March 2026: National Secondary Offer Day (parents will be informed of the allocation via the email address used to make the application).

Monday 16 March 2026: Deadline for accepting or refusing offers. These decisions should be communicated to the allocated school directly. Full details will appear in your offer pack.

SEEING SLADE



Admission to

infant, primary & junior school

in Kent 2026

For children born between
1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022,
 starting reception year in September 2026
 and;
1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019,
 transferring to junior school in September 2026



Staying with school applications where on Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome over 90 visitors from 40 local families who are beginning their search for the perfect primary school for their children.

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 will start primary school in September 2026 and the opening of the application window is just around the corner.

We are grateful to all of our visitors for attending the first of three open events and for considering Slade as part of the application process.

We still have spaces to join us for our final pre application open event on Wednesday 19 November; bookings can be made here:

[Slade Primary School Open Event: Wednesday 19 November 2025 09:15 - 11:00 – Fill out form](#)

Full details about 2026 primary school applications will follow in our newsletters in November and December.

CHILD MEASUREMENT PROGRAMME

It was fantastic to see Melody Jenkins from the Kent Community Health team on Tuesday as she popped in to see our youngest and oldest learners to measure their height and weight as part of the vital statistical research which helps to form the planning for our healthcare services for the years ahead.

Parents will receive the results of the survey within the next three weeks directly and confidentially from the NHS, with contact details attached if you need to consult the nurses for questions.

For full details of what happens at the Child Measurement Programme and how the statistics are used, visit the NHS website:

[The National Child Measurement Programme - NHS](#)

BBC 500 WORDS



With a fantastic prizes such as winning the height of Sir Lenny Henry or Queen Camilla in books, the BBC 500 Word story challenge is back on.

The national broadcaster has this introduction to tempt primary school aged children into letting their creative thoughts flow:

*'There are two age categories: **5-7 and 8-11 year-olds** and spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - as has always been the case for 500 Words, it's all about our writers' brilliant creativity! There are prizes to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners will also win 500 books for their school library.*

*50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final at **Windsor Castle** in February 2026, which will once again be hosted by **Her Majesty Queen Camilla**. If that's not enough, each winner will also see their story be read aloud by a superstar celebrity on TV, which will be shown as part of a special 500 Words programme with **The One Show** in early March.'*



Children are encouraged to write a story they would love to read themselves. There are very few rules for 500 Words but a few points to remember when writing a story.

In every 500 Words competition, all stories are judged on the following criteria:

- Characterisation
- Plot
- Originality
- Language
- Enjoyment

For all of the details on creating the perfect entry, visit the BBC website:

[The ultimate guide to 500 Words 2025/26 - BBC Teach](#)

The closing date for entries is 21:00 on Friday 7 November 2025.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

The deadline for submitting your voting papers for our vacant parent governor positions closes next week, at midday on Wednesday 5 November.

It is incredibly important that the votes are submitted in the fashion described in the election pack. Unfortunately, if they are not they could be discarded and the vote not count. Please check this before submitting your vote.

Each parent and carer at Slade is entitled to two votes to fill the two positions, which must be placed in the ballot box in the school office and must be presented as follows:

- Ballot (Voting) Papers need to be returned in a sealed, inner, unmarked envelope
- The sealed, unmarked envelope should be placed in a second, outer envelope
- The second, outer envelope should be marked with:
 - ◊ Parent Governor Election
 - ◊ Your Name and Address
 - ◊ The names of your children
 - ◊ You should then also sign across the seal of the envelope

We look forward to receiving lots of voting slips back in this way.

The candidates in the upcoming Parent Governor election (in alphabetical order) are:

Charles ADAIR

Lisa ANGEL

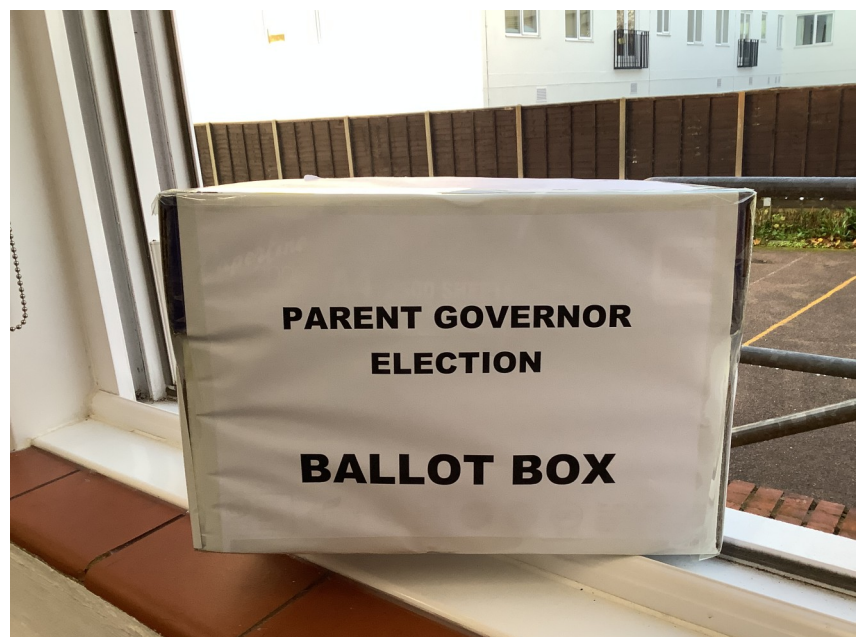
James GRITTEN

Jack IVENS-GARDINER

Richard POWELL

Helen VINCENT

Faye WILLIS



We wish all of the candidates well and thank them for putting their names forward for these vital positions.

CANCELLING WRAPAROUND SESSIONS

Business Manager Jill Westwood would like to remind all parents of the importance of using the online cancellation form when submitting a request to cancel sessions at Yeti's Breakfast and After School Clubs. The form is available on the school website and via this link:

[Cancellation of Yeti's Wraparound Sessions – Fill out form](#)

Cancellations can only be made more than 24 hours from the start time of the session and there is a limit of 7 days cancellations per term - this is to discourage unwanted block booking when we are mindful that capacity is often reached and some families are left without spaces that they would otherwise have booked. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS 2025/26

At Slade, we really value the importance of educational visits to enhance our curriculum and provide our children with memorable experiences.

Most of the trips have now been planned and booked and we look forward to going out and about throughout the school year.

We know that you share our appreciation for the value and enjoyment which the children get from these trips and to make them possible this year and for future years, we ask for a voluntary contribution from parents. The payments should be made via Arbor, by logging into your account and following the link to Trips.

To assist with the cost of living, we have broken the payments down into separate windows which were detailed in your yeargroup email sent on Thursday night/Friday morning. Please take a note of these dates and make the payments within them. Please contact our Family Liaison Officer, Libby Wilmshurst, if you think you will have problems paying any of the payments.

Confirmed Trips now on Arbor:

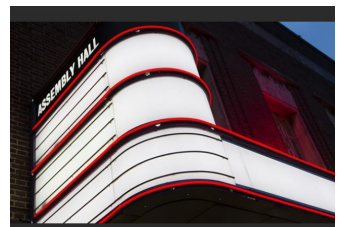
EYFS: Godstone Farm, Tuesday 24 February



Year 1:



Amelia Centre Outreach (workshop in school), Wednesday 12 November
 Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, Wednesday 18 March



Year 2: Kent Life, Maidstone, Friday 12 June



Year 3:



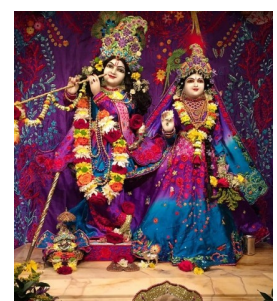
Living History (workshop in school), Monday 2 February
 Warner Bros Studios, Leavesden, Thursday 7 May



Year 4:



Maidstone Museum, Wednesday 11 March
 Radha Krishna Hindu Temple, Soho London,
 Tuesday 5 May (Sphinx), Wednesday 6 May (Phoenix)



BE BRIGHT WITH SLADE AND SPECSAVERS

We would like to thank the team at Specsavers opticians in Tunbridge Wells for their support of Slade Primary School with a very kind donation of 15 Hi-Viz Jackets in children's sizes for use wherever required including when we are out on school visits around town.

The Tunbridge Wells branch can be found at 119 Mount Pleasant Road in the centre of town for all optical and audiology needs.



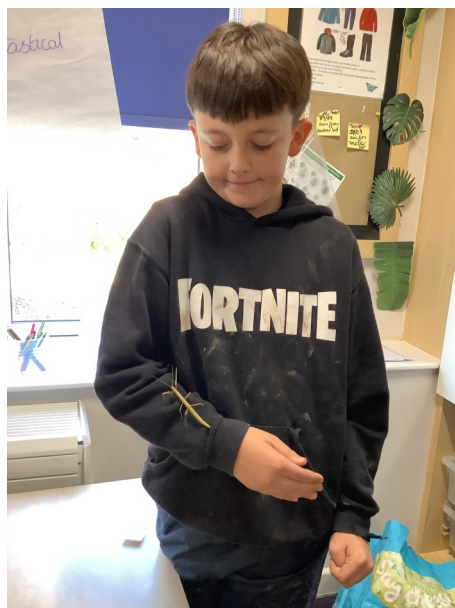
MEET YOUR MONITORS

Regular readers will know that Mrs Pearson has been recruiting Pet Monitors who will be tasked with showing responsibility for the safe upkeep and welfare for our school rabbits, as well as learning more about caring properly for animals more widely.

They will also be able to pass this knowledge on to the younger children who may be spending time with Ziggy and Dibbles during the school day.

Congratulations for being accepted to this new and important role to the following Pet Monitors from Year 6:

Lily, Amber, Reece, Praise, Sid, Barnaby, George, Abel, Riti, Charlotte, Scarlett and Aazeen.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Families who ordered copies of the recent individual and sibling group photographs in time for free delivery to school will have received their order earlier this week via your child's bookbag.



If you have any questions about your order or wish to order more photographs, please contact photographer Matthew Walker directly via matt@portraitdays.net.

POPPY COLLECTION STARTS MONDAY

On 11 November, the country will fall silent to remember those who have fallen in conflicts across the world as part of the Armistice Day commemorations

The Royal British Legion have again provided plenty of gifts to exchange for donations to the charity who fundraise to provide the Armed Forces community support for life, whatever the need, whenever it is needed.



We will cover more about the work of the RBL next week; but from Monday, the collection tins will be brought around each class daily by our volunteers from Year 6 along with the gifts which include traditional poppies, pin badges, reflectors, wristbands and festival bands. Collections will take place all week and through to Armistice Day a week on Tuesday. .

NEW MENU FROM EMMA'S KITCHEN

Kirsty and her team in the Slade kitchen have been busy learning and preparing new recipes as the new Term 2 menu is served at lunchtimes courtesy of our catering partners, Emma's Kitchen.

The menu will be served through to the end of December and includes quickly established favourites from Emma's first selection of meals at Slade alongside some winter warmers for the colder days ahead.

The menu can be found on the school website, and via this link:

[Lunchtimes with Emma's Kitchen: Cooking with Love](#)



Emma's Kitchen
Cooking With Love

TONBRIDGE FIREWORKS

TONBRIDGE 631 ROUNDTABLE

THIS DISPLAY WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OUR SPONSORS:

Perrys
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Exceptional as Standard

Specsavers
Tonbridge

T O F S
TONBRIDGE OLD FIRE STATION

SUNDAY 2ND NOV 2025
TONBRIDGE PARK
www.tonbridgefireworks.co.uk

EVENT INFORMATION





• Food and drink concessions
• Licensed bars at pub prices
• LED toy concessions
• Music
• First Aid
• Lost persons tent
• Accessible viewing area
• Toilets



Have your tickets ready on arrival, they will be checked / scanned at the following 3 entry gates:
1. New Wharf Road (next to the Canoe Club)
2. Avebury Avenue bridge (near Hendy's Ford)
3. Lower Castle Field carpark bridge
All other entrances to the Racecourse will be closed off.

Carers can gain free entrance (with a carers ticket) when showing their DLA, PIP or ESA to our gate marshals.



All surrounding public car parks are available to use for the event. Please observe the charges in operation at the time you will be parking. Please do not park on the surrounding roads as this may obstruct access for emergency vehicles and local residents.

OTHER INFORMATION
Sparklers and Drones are NOT ALLOWED on site. Alcohol MUST NOT be brought in to the event.

SPECIAL REQUEST
Please be courteous and kind to your fellow spectators, the event staff and volunteers.

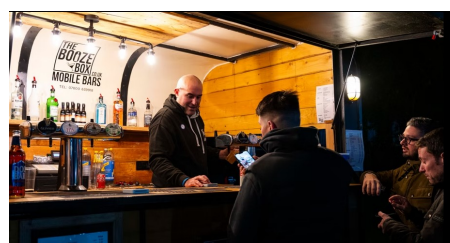
TONBRIDGE FIREWORKS

SUN 2ND NOV 25

TONBRIDGE PARK
GATES OPEN 5PM

FOR MORE INFO & ADVANCE TICKETS:
www.tonbridgefireworks.co.uk

[Book Tickets Here](#)



CHARITIES WE SUPPORT

The Annual Tonbridge Fireworks Display is organised by Tonbridge Round Table with help from local volunteer organisations. All proceeds from the event are distributed to local charities, with a fantastic £20,000 donated from the 2024 display!

This years charities include:



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.

Please try not to book routine medical appointments or holidays (even travel) in school time. You should notify us of any planned absence immediately via attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk

The class with the best attendance each week will win Attendance Ted.

Congratulations to Gnome Class in Year 2 for being the class with the best attendance this week (99.2%).

Well done to Mrs Manktelow and all of Gnome for regaining the prize and for being in school, ready to learn so well this week.



Late Children This Week = 24



Punctuality Pup This Week

Well done to all of the classes with no late pupils this week: Phoenix and Dragon

Congratulations again to regular winners Miss Taylor, Miss Maple and all of the children in Phoenix Class. Punctuality Pup will be on his way back to Year 4 as they were the class with highest attendance with no late marks. Well done also to other on timers in Dragon Class.

Our Attendance Target = 97.0%

Our Attendance This Year = 96.1%

Our Attendance This Week = 96.1%

Attendance Ted This Week

Position	Class	Year Group	Attendance this Week
1	Gnome	Year 2, Mrs Manktelow	99.2%
2	Phoenix	Year 4, Miss Taylor and Miss Maple	99.1%
3	Elmer	EYFS, Mrs Mulhern	98.3%
4	Pixie	Year 1, Mr Clark	97.9%
4	Sphinx	Year 4, Mrs Burnside	97.9%
6	Sphinx	Year 4, Mrs Burnside	96.7%
7	Hippogriff	Year 3, Mr Louth	97.4%
8	Sprite	Year 2, Mrs Curtis	96.7%
9	Elf	Year 1, Mrs Hitchcock	95.8%
10	Gruffalo	EYFS, Mrs Pearson	95.7%
11	Wyvern	Year 5, Miss Hall and Mrs Potter	95.0%
12	Griffin	Year 6, Mrs Fordyce	92.9%
13	Pegasus	Year 3, Miss Meers and Miss Elliott	92.5%
14	Dragon	Year 6, Mrs Worley	91.3%

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.

WINNERS OF THE WEEK

TED AND PUP

Attendance: Gnome Class in Year 2

Punctuality: Phoenix Class in Year 4

TIDY CLASSROOMS

As judged by our House Captains

Key Stage 1: Pixie

Key Stage 2: Hydra

SUPERSTARS OF THE WEEK



EYFS:: Jude and Wilf

Year 1: Hope and Frankie



Year 2: Arthur and Alisha

Year 3: Theo and Rory



Year 4: Uma and Mehmet

Year 5: Mia and Anna

Year 6: Riti

CELEBRATING OUR SCHOOL VALUES

Special congratulations to the following children for earning a certificate from Miss Garrett for demonstrating that they understand and constantly show our school values:

Riti (Year 6) for kindness and inclusion

Hope (Year 1) and Mia (Year 5) for kindness

HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK

1. Air - 591 Points
2. Earth - 524 Points
3. Fire - 484 Points
4. Water - 441 Points

WALK ON WEDNESDAY

The number of pupils walking, riding or scooting to or part of the way to school through Park and Stride.

Key Stage 1 - Pixie Class (24 out of 30)

Key Stage 2 - Dragon Class (27 out of 30)

TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS WEEKLY CHAMPIONS

Year 2: Erin (Sprite)

Year 5: Dexter (Hydra)

Year 3: Jacob (Pegasus)

Year 6: Riti (Griffin)

Year 4: Lucas (Sphinx)



September	October	November
	 <p>Halloween by Wilfred, Year 4</p>	<p>Wednesday 5 - EYFS26 Open Morning</p> <p>Wednesday 12 - Year 1 Amelia Centre Outreach</p> <p>Wednesday 19 - EYFS Open Morning</p>
December	January	February
<p>Tuesday 9 - EYFS Putting on a Show (09:30)</p> <p>Tuesday 9 - Year 1 Putting on a Show (14:00)</p> <p>Wednesday 10 - Year 2 Putting on a Show (09:30)</p> <p>Wednesday 10 - EYFS Putting on a Show (14:00)</p> <p>Thursday 11 - Year 1 Putting on a Show (09:30)</p> <p>Thursday 11 - Year 2 Putting on a Show (14:00)</p> <p>Friday 12 - Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Sale and Christmas Lunch</p> <p>Monday 15 - Carols by Candlelight (18:30)</p> <p>Friday 19 - Last Day of Term 2</p> <p>Monday 20 - Monday 5 January - Christmas and New Year Holiday</p>	<p>Tuesday 6 - First Day of Term 3</p> <p>Wednesday 14 - EYFS26 Open Morning</p>	<p>Year 3 Living History Workshop</p> <p>Tuesday 10 - Online Safety Day</p> <p>Friday 13 - Last Day of Term 3</p> <p>Monday 16 - Friday 20 - February Break</p> <p>Monday 23 - First Day of Term 4</p> <p>Tuesday 24 - EYFS Godstone Farm Visit</p>
March	April	May
<p>Thursday 5 - World Book Day</p> <p>Wednesday 11 - Year 4 Maidstone Visit</p> <p>Wednesday 18 - Year 1 Tunbridge Wells Visit</p> <p>Tuesday 24 - Parent - Teacher Consultations (16:00 - 19:00)</p> <p>Thursday 26 - Parent - Teacher Consultations (16:00 - 19:00)</p> <p>Tuesday 31 - Spring Concert (18:30)</p>	<p>Thursday 2 - Last Day of Term 4</p> <p>Friday 3 - Friday 17 - Easter and Early Summer Holiday</p> <p>Monday 20 - First Day of Term 5</p>	<p>Monday 4 - National Holiday</p> <p>Tuesday 5 - Sphinx Hindu Temple Visit</p> <p>Wednesday 6 - Phoenix Hindu Temple Visit</p> <p>Thursday 7 - Year 3 Leavesden Visit</p> <p>Thursday 7 - Year 6 Activity Week Video Meeting Release</p> <p>Monday 11 - Thursday 14 - KS2 SATs Week</p> <p>Friday 22 - Last Day of Term 5</p>
June	July	
<p>Monday 1 - First Day of Term 6</p> <p>Monday 1 - Friday 5 - Multiplication Screening for Year 4 pupils</p> <p>Monday 8 - Friday 12 - Phonics Screening for Year 1 pupils</p> <p>Wednesday 10 - Year 4 Hands on History Workshop</p> <p>Friday 12 - Year 2 Kent Life Visit</p> <p>Thursday 18 - Sports Day</p> <p>Thursday 25 - Reserve Sports Day</p> <p>Tuesday 30 - EYFS26 New Parents Information Meeting</p>	<p>Wednesday 1 - EYFS26 New Parents Information Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 2 - Transition Day</p> <p>Tuesday 7 - Open Evening (17:00 - 19:00)</p> <p>Monday 13 - School Reports Sent to Parents</p> <p>Monday 13 - Year 6 Production (18:30)</p> <p>Wednesday 15 - Year 6 Production (18:30)</p> <p>Friday 17 July - Last Day of Term 6</p>	<p>More information about these events will appear nearer the time.</p> <p>Events and dates are subject to change</p> <p>Full Online Calendar</p> <p>2025/26 Term Dates</p>

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

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.u

School Office

General Enquiries and School Events

office@slade.kent.sch.uk

Slade PTA

Slade PTA

pta@slade.kent.sch.uk

Wraparound

Yeti's Wraparound: Childcare Voucher questions and all General Enquiries

yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk

Sport and Activity

Extra Curricular Activity Clubs (booking and queries) Sports Events and Representative Sports Tournaments

sportsandactivities@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 Emma's Kitchen

emma@emmaskitchen.co

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

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

Payments

School Dinners

School Dinners provided by Emma's Kitchen 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 £2.60 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 £5.25 per session After School Club is charged at £5.25 per session:
 Session 1 (15:30 - 16:30), Session 2 (16:30 - 17:30), Session 3 (17:30 - 18:00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Only)
 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.