



# SLADE

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 6 March 2026

Term 4, Issue 2

Dear Parents and Families,

Hasn't it been wonderful to enjoy some sunshine this week? It really does make such a difference! Yesterday was especially joyful as we celebrated World Book Day, with children and staff dressed as their favourite book characters. There were so many fantastic costumes and a real buzz around school as the children took part in the range of activities planned for them. My thanks go to our wonderful English Team for organising such an enjoyable and memorable day for everyone!

Lunchtimes have been particularly lovely this week, with the children fully embracing our zone approach to play. It has been a pleasure to see their problem-solving and teamwork skills developing so naturally. Earlier in the week, a group of children from across different year groups worked collaboratively to build their very own pirate ship using pallets, tyres and planks; it was incredibly impressive! I also had the pleasure of watching a group of our Year 6 girls teaching a dance they had learned to some younger pupils and the amount of imaginative play all the way from our youngest pupils and oldest pupils was an absolute delight. We are certainly seeing a real improvement in the quality of play and I look forward to watching this continue to grow and have impact in other areas of the curriculum!

Last week, we were delighted to welcome Jackie Shrimpton to the team as the new Sprite Class Teacher. She has made a fantastic start and it already feels as though she has always been part of our school team. Staying with Sprite Class, I am also very pleased to share the wonderful news that Mrs Curtis has safely welcomed baby Leo into the world! Many congratulations to Mrs Curtis and her family on their happy arrival who are all doing well!

Continuing with staff news, we were pleased to welcome Miss Lipman back into school last week as part of her 'Keeping in Touch' or 'KIT' days, as she approaches the end of her maternity leave. I am not sure where that time has gone! Over the coming weeks, you may see Miss Lipman in school as she begins to reacquaint herself with school life and familiarise herself with the developments that have taken place over the past year, ahead of her full return after the Easter holidays.

This week, we have also begun our second round of Pupil Progress Meetings for the academic year. As previously mentioned, these meetings provide an opportunity for members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to meet with each class teacher to review how every child is progressing across the curriculum. During these discussions, we identify any additional support or adjustments that may be needed to ensure that every child receives the very best provision. Later this term, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress in more detail, with booking information for these meetings on page 4 of today's newsletter.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and I hope you all have a lovely weekend! Fingers crossed for some more lovely weather!

Viki

## Saturday 7 March

Tonbridge Angels v Worthing (15:00 kick-off)

[Tickets & Admission 2025/26 – TAFC](#)

## Monday 9 March

## Tuesday 10 March

- Phoenix Class Swimming

## Wednesday 11 March

- Year 4 Educational Visit to Maidstone Museum (right)
- Green Rangers Forest School working party
- 18:30 - Tonbridge Schools Choir Event (Tonbridge Methodist Church) - Details known to participants



## Thursday 12 March

- Pegasus Class Forest School
- Sphinx Class Swimming
- Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling Primary Schools Debate - Details known to participants

## Friday 13 March

- Hippogriff Class Forest School
- \* *Planned cancellation of the 08:00 Year 4,5 and 6 Sports Club due to staff unavailability*

## Looking Further Ahead?

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

## PARENT - TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

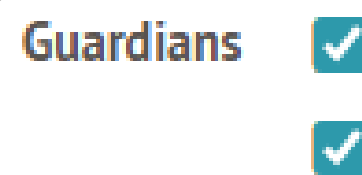
The Spring Parent - Teacher Consultation meetings will take place between 16:00 and 19:00 on Tuesday 24 March and Thursday 26 March.

These meetings are a perfect opportunity to find out how your child has been getting on academically and socially during this school year, see their school books and have a general discussion with the class teacher about the remainder of the year and beyond.

Bookings for the 10 minute meetings must be made online via your Arbor account. The window for booking your appointment opens at 19:00 on Sunday 8 March. It will remain open until 23:59 on Sunday 22 March.

You are only able to make one appointment per child. If parents need to arrange an extra meeting, this should be done after the scheduled consultations. The parent who needs the added appointment should email their request via the class email address (*classname@slade.kent.sch.uk*) from Friday 27 March.

In order to receive an acknowledgement of your meeting booking you must make sure that the correct parent(s) has/have been checked with a blue tick when making the booking. The part of the booking screen looks like the picture (right) with the parents names following the tick.



We look forward to seeing you all in school over the two consultation evenings.

## SECONDARY SCHOOL OFFERS

**Kent  
County  
Council**



Kent County Council sent their offer notifications of secondary school placements to all parents and carers of children in Year 6 on Monday afternoon.

Parents should make sure that they have read the offer letter thoroughly and that they follow the instructions on what to do next. The deadline for letting your allocated school know whether you are accepting or declining the offer is Monday 16 March.

Attention moves quickly onto making sure that the transfer to secondary school is a smooth one for both the children and their families and secondary schools will let you know of any scheduled taster days and other events that your children will be invited to take part in. Please remember to let us know via [attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk) if your child will be at such an event for a whole or any part of a day.

It is important to let us know if your child moves to a school that is different to that offered by Kent County Council. Keeping our records accurate will ensure that the registration and associated paperwork and safeguarding and other notes are received by the correct school which will protect your data and personal information. Please let us know as soon as you are notified that your child has a place at a school different to the offer (this may be due to an appeal, a successful waiting list application, electing for home or transfer to the private education sector or house move etc.) You should email us providing the child's name and new school to [admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk).

We will arrange for the registrations to be transferred in preparation within Term 5 with the paperwork and other files travelling to the new school in late July or early September.

## OUR GROWING GALLERY

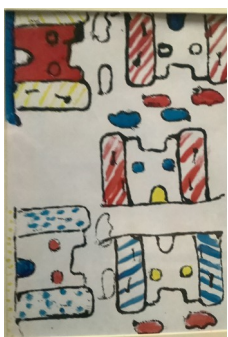
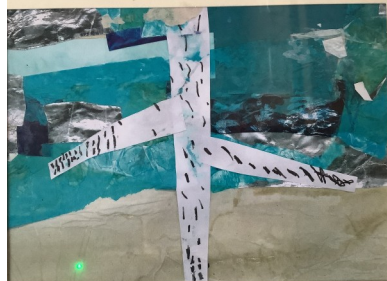
Thankyou and well done to everyone who submitted an entry to the Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists' Summer Show. The closing date was earlier this week and we know of children from across school who submitted a piece of their artwork to the show.



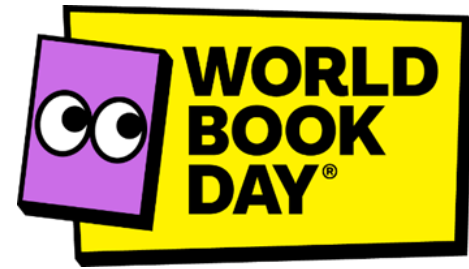
Thankyou to parents who helped by submitting entries, to Mrs Worley for making sure that Slade were registered and to Imogen Partridge for providing the information about the show, enabling children who love their art from Slade to take part in this fantastic opportunity. Judging takes place in May with the exhibition going online from 14 July and the display at the Royal Academy open between 14 July and 30 August.

Closer to home, art is an important part of the curriculum at Slade with opportunities across the yeargroups to learn about the subject, artists and to put pencil and paint to paper as well as to put together a creation.

Mrs Worley has recently updated the display in the old reception area with some brand new artwork which is on display from across 11 of the yeargroups. The teachers were tasked with providing different examples of art that has gone on in their classroom since September. Mrs Worley will regularly change the pictures on show in the gallery so the children have a chance to take a look at and appreciate the creative learning of their peers from all over the school.

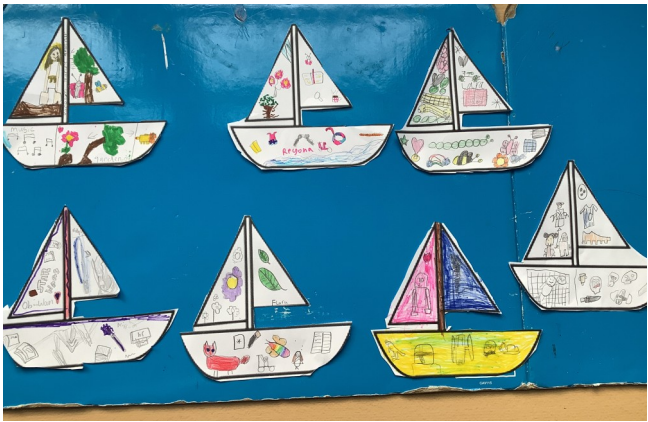
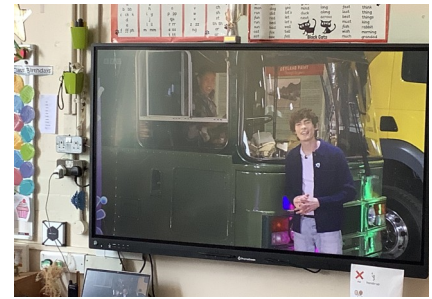


# WORLD BOOK DAY 2026



Yesterday was World Book Day, the annual celebration of reading for pleasure, with the theme this year **'If you're into it, read into it!'**

Activities during the day included live lessons (right) streamed in by the World Book Day team, a book swap and the children created a 'reading river' complete with decorated boats (below) which have designed on them the favourite reading style or genre of book - this in turn will help the class teachers to properly curate the reading corners in each of their rooms.



The day was extra special for our EYFS and Year 6 classes as they had the opportunity to meet each other for a buddy event. The Year 6 children read a story of choice to their buddies in Elmer and Gruffalo!



World Book Day is all about helping children enjoy reading in their own way – whether that's sharing stories together, listening to audiobooks, reading comics, or dipping into non-fiction. The World Book Day official website brings together ideas, resources and practical information to help you make the most of World Book Day with your family.

See it all here: [World Book Day for Families: Celebrate Reading Together](#)

# SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

Just before the February break, we took part in the Tonbridge and West Kent Partnership Sportshall Athletics event at Leigh Academy Tonbridge.

There were 16 schools taking part in total from across the West Kent area and thanks to some amazing throwing and jumping and a lot of fantastic teamwork between our squad, Slade came out as overall winners of the tournament!

Mrs Ball has special mention for Beatrice who received the highest event score in the long jump, the high jump and the speed bounce! Congratulations to Beatrice and all of the team for bringing home more silverware for the trophy cabinet! Thankyou to everyone at Leigh Academy Tonbridge for hosting the games and to the parents for your support of the team in getting the children to and from the venue.



# YEAR 5 AND 6 BOYS FOOTBALL

Last Thursday, our three Boys' Football teams travelled to St Gregory's School in Tunbridge Wells to take part in the Tonbridge Schools' Football Tournament.

Every player equipped themselves very well and Slade came second in the competition won by Hildenborough Primary School. The league table based competition went to the wire and Slade lost out only on goal difference by one contentious free kick goal!

Congratulations to Hildenborough School, to all of our players for showing their skills, teamwork and sporting behaviour throughout the evening. Thankyou to St Gregory's for hosting and to the parents and carers who supported the team and by taking them down to Tunbridge Wells for the event.



## MEET THE TEAM: DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Mrs Stephens has had many responsibilities at Slade in her nearly 17 years at the school, arguably the most important is one of her current roles; that of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

We will be bringing you updates and information on safeguarding at Slade in our weekly newsletter, and there is no better way to introduce the vital subject to you than by speaking with Stephanie, as we did this week:

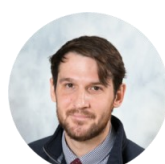


### What is a Lead DSL?

My role is to make sure all pupils are safe and well supported while they are in school. I lead the safeguarding team, work closely with staff, and coordinate support if a child or family needs extra help.

### Who is in the DSL team?

Safeguarding is a team effort and we are very lucky at Slade to have a large DSL team in a range of roles. Alongside me, our DSL team includes Viki Garrett, James Duffin, Catherine Barber, Jayne Laker, Libby Wilmshurst, Maria Jago, Clare Greehy and Amy Shafer. All staff in school receive safeguarding training, so there are always trusted adults available for pupils to speak to.



### Why is safeguarding so important in school?

Safeguarding helps ensure every child feels safe, respected, and able to learn. When children feel secure and supported, they are more confident and ready to engage in school life. Our role is to notice concerns early and provide help when it's needed.

### What kinds of things does the DSL team help with?

We support pupils and families with a range of things, including:

- Wellbeing and emotional support
- Attendance concerns
- Online safety
- Friendship or bullying concerns
- Signposting families to additional support services

Our aim is always to work with families in a supportive and positive way.

### How can parents contact the safeguarding team?

Parents and carers can contact me or a member of the safeguarding team through by email at [safeguarding@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@slade.kent.sch.uk), or by speaking to us at drop-off or pick-up times.

### What should parents do if they have a concern?

If you ever have a concern about your child or another pupil, please let us know. No concern is too small. Early conversations can help us provide the right support at the right time.

### What's one thing you'd like families to know?

We are here to help. Safeguarding works best when school and families work together, and we want parents to feel comfortable reaching out whenever they need to.

## PTA VALENTINES TREAT: CHORES OR CHALLENGES



The PTA would like to thank everyone who took part in the Valentines fundraiser: **Smarties Chores and Challenge**. Our thanks to Bev who organised the event and who tells us more after the money raised was counted earlier this week:

' Firstly, the total amount raised was over **£1300!**

Well done to all those children who got involved over the February holiday and a huge thanks to all the parents, carers, family members and friends who contributed. The money raised all goes to support the great learning opportunities both at school and on school trips.

The class that raised the most with a superb amount of **£208.60** is

.....**ELF!** Congratulations again to Mrs Hitchcock's class (I think that's 3 years on the bounce for Mrs Hitchcock.) The Year 1 class can look forward to a special reward from Miss Garrett.

The photographs below show Katie cleaning the car, Rose and Albert preparing for their swimming challenge and Jacob and Henry helping their grannie cook for dinner. Well done all of you!



## BRILLIANT LEARNERS: TRICKY LEARNING

Congratulations to Mr Duffin's Hydra Class in Year 5 for having a shout out in this week's Headteacher's Assembly as Miss Garrett praised those children across the school for 'Being Ready' after her first Brilliant Learners assembly which we featured last week in the newsletter.

There is work to do with being ready, with another 30 late marks this week, but the children are raising their game in school during the day as they show that they are ready to learn after each transition time such as breaktime, lunchtime and between activities.

This week's Brilliant Learners assembly asked the children to think about the times they have found learning to be tricky and how to tackle this.

Examples of when learning can be tricky include when a subject or topic is new, when the subject is something that a child needs more practice in or just finds hard generally, or if they have missed a lesson which included vital instruction or information.

The challenge this week relates to our school value of Resilience and asks each class to use some of the ideas discussed in the assembly to try to make the learning a little bit easier when a child finds something tricky.

The class that shows that they have been thinking and acting on the strategies to combat tricky learning will get their own shout out in next week's Headteacher's Assembly.



brilliant



learners

## AIR HOUSE GYM AFTERNOON

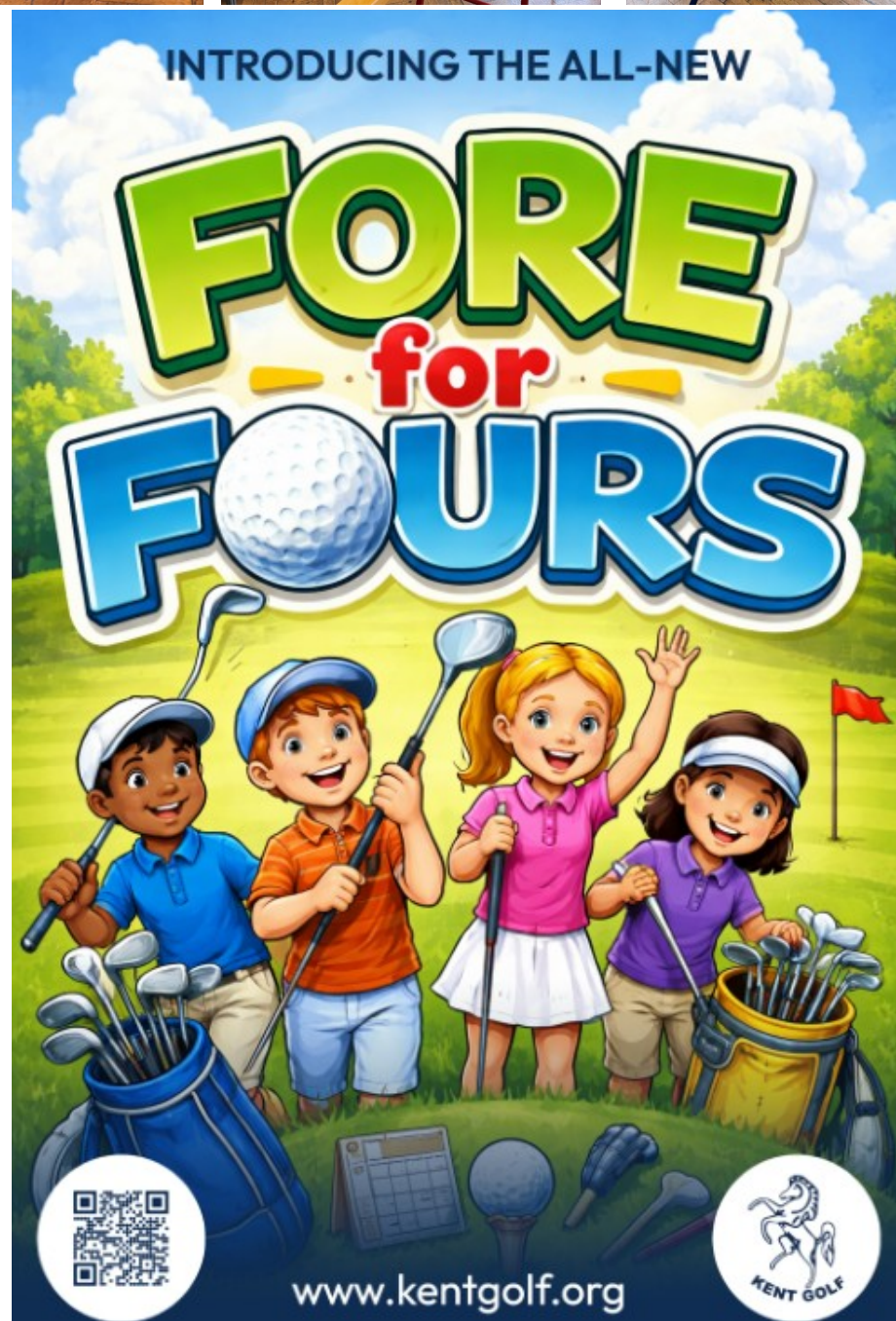
Last week, the children in Year 1 to 6 who are members of Air House enjoyed an afternoon using the gym equipment as a reward for winning the Housepoint League in Term 3.

Housepoints are awarded across the week for super learning, kindness or doing something well that is spotted by a member of staff. The house with the most points each week are announced in Friday's Celebration Assembly with the house who aggregate the most points over the term winning the trophy and a fun prize afternoon.

The current Term 4 table looks a bit like this:

1. **Air - 588 Points**
2. **Fire - 557 Points**
3. **Water - 525 Points**
4. **Earth - 505 Points**

Hopefully your house captains will have a decision to make about a good prize afternoon after the Easter holiday!



## WINNERS OF THE WEEK

### TED AND PUP

Attendance: Gnome Class in Year 2

Punctuality: Gnome Class in Year 2

## SUPERSTARS OF THE WEEK



EYFS: Riley and Dexter

Year 1: Otis and Rory



Year 2: Aras and Erin

Year 3: Bea and Abraham



Year 4: Eden and Shaheer

Year 5: Ellie and Roman

Year 6: Oskar and Charlotte

## HOUSE POINTS THIS WEEK

1. Air - 000 Points
2. Fire - 000 Points
3. Water - 000 Points
4. Earth - 000 Points

## TIDY CLASSROOMS

As judged by our House Captains

Key Stage 1: Not judged due to WBD

Key Stage 2: Not judged due to WBD

## 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 - Gnome Class (24 out of 30)

Key Stage 2 - Dragon Class (26 out of 30)

## 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: Ellie (Year 5), Dexter (EYFS) for kindness. We have run out of Kindness certificates. As soon as we receive a new batch, Ellie and Dexter will receive theirs!

Oskar (Year 6), Bea (Year 3) for resilience

## TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS CHAMPIONS



Individual Champions This Week

Year 2: Max (Sprite)

Year 5: Michael (Wyvern)

Term 4 Class Competition (Current Table)

Year 3: Juniper (Hippogriff)

Year 6: Drew (Griffin)

1:

Year 4: San Riya (Phoenix)

2:

3:

## DAILY MILE TERMLY COMPETITION



Class Champions This Week

Spring Competition (Weeks Won)

Key Stage 1: Elf (469 Laps)

Key Stage 1: Sprite (3), Pixie (2), Elf (2)

Key Stage 2: Phoenix (1652 Laps)

Key Stage 2: Griffin (3), Hydra (2), 2 Others (1)

## 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](mailto:attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk)

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

**Gnome Class** are back on top of the table, with the best attendance of all of our classes this week. Congratulations to Mrs Manktelow and the children in Gnome Class in Year 2 who did not stop there; see below for more news!



Late Children This Week = 30



## Punctuality Pup This Week

**Well done to all of the classes with no late pupils this week: Gnome, Pixie, Sphinx, Dragon**

Four classes with no late children this week, which is in itself brilliant, well done to you all if you are in Gnome, Pixie, Sphinx or Dragon Class. It is Gnome Class who win Punctuality Pup by reason of having the best attendance alongside and therefore win this week's double!

Our Attendance Target = 97.0%

Our Attendance This Year = 95.5%

Our Attendance This Week = 97.0%

## Attendance Ted This Week







Position	Class	Year Group	Attendance this Week
1	Gnome	Year 2, Mrs Manktelow	99.3%
2	Elmer	EYFS, Mrs Mulhern	98.9%
3	Pegasus	Year 3, Miss Meers and Miss Elliott	98.5%
4	Gruffalo	EYFS, Mrs Pearson	98.1%
5	Sprite	Year 2, Mrs Shrimpton	97.8%
6	Hydra	Year 5, Mr Duffin	97.8%
7	Pixie	Year 1, Mr Clark	97.7%
8	Elf	Year 1, Mrs Hitchcock	97.0%
8	Hippogriff	Year 3, Mr Louth	97.0%
8	Sphinx	Year 4, Mrs Burnside	97.0%
11	Wyvern	Year 5, Miss Hall and Mrs Potter	96.3%
12	Dragon	Year 6, Mrs Worley	95.9%
13	Phoenix	Year 4, Miss Taylor and Miss Maple	93.0%
13	Griffin	Year 6, Mrs Fordyce	93.0%

## 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.

<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
		
<b>December</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>
		

<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>
<p>Wednesday 11 - Year 4 Maidstone Visit</p> <p>Wednesday 11 - KS2 Choir Event (18:30)</p> <p>Thursday 5 - T&amp;MBC Mayor's Debate</p> <p>Monday 16 - Bikeability Group 2</p> <p>Tuesday 17 - Bikeability Group 2D</p> <p>Wednesday 18 - Bikeability Group 2E</p> <p style="color: red;">Wednesday 18 - Year 5 Armed Forces Day</p> <p>Thursday 19 - Bikeability Group 2F</p> <p style="color: red;">Thursday 19 - Year 5 Parent Assembly</p> <p>Wednesday 18 - Year 1 Tunbridge Wells Visit</p> <p>Friday 20 - Year 5 Herstmonceux 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>

<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>
<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>

More information about these events will appear nearer the time.

Events and dates are subject to change

[Full Online Calendar](#)

[2025/26 Term Dates](#)

**In class**

My child's class learning, class activities, lessons, homework or pastoral support; concerns about bullying and behaviour

[classname@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:classname@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**Absence**

Sickness Reporting, Absence Requests and all Medical Appointments

[attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**School Office**

General Enquiries and School Events

[office@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**Slade PTA**

Slade PTA

[pta@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto:pta@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**Wraparound**

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

[yetis@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:sportsandactivities@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**Admissions**

In Year and September EYFS Admissions

[admissions@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:finance@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**School Lunches**

Comments and questions about school meal provision from Emma's Kitchen

[emma@emmaskitchen.co.uk](mailto:emma@emmaskitchen.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](mailto:flo@slade.kent.sch.uk)

**Complaints**

For all complaints, please refer to the [Complaints Policy](#) then contact us:

[slaws@slade.kent.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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:  
 After School Club 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.