



AMHERST NEWS



News No 21 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk

01732 452577

1st March 2019

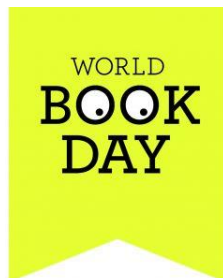
Star of the Week

3A	Emily G	5B	Charlie H
3W	Connor L	5H	Rudy W
3S	Riley P	5J	Josie H
4W	Georgina G	6H	Max B
4F	Emilia K	6P	Summer S
4C	Mia E	6B	Harry L

Forthcoming Events

06.03.19	Zoolab Year 5 visit
07.03.19	World Book Day
15.03.19	Open Afternoon, 2.45pm
22.03.19	Clubs end
23.03.19	PTA Spring Ball
27.03.19	Parents Evening
28.03.19	Parents Evening
02.04.19	Yr3 Easter Performance 2.00pm
02.04.19	Music Concert <i>Change of Date</i>
05.04.19	Term Ends

World Book Day 2019 at Amherst – Thursday 7th March



Once again, the children are able to come into school on World Book Day dressed up as a book character for the day. There will be prizes for the best costumes – one boy and one girl from each class. However, please do not feel pressured for costumes to be too elaborate. We would like everyone to enjoy taking part in celebrating books and have fun!

There will be a book quiz held in each class and a further quiz on the Friday for the winners.

Book tokens will also be handed out at the end of the school day. Further details are online at

<http://www.worldbookday.com/>

Thank you for your continued support. Happy Reading!
Miss Apps and Mrs Wheeler

Lunch Money

We expect all lunch money to be paid a term in advance. The cost of term 4's lunches are £70.50. Please make your payment as soon as possible via Schoolgateway - www.schoolgateway.com.

Music

Looking to learn an instrument?

Our new clarinet teacher Mr Harper led an assembly earlier this week, demonstrating the instrument and entertaining all with his excellent sense of humour! Mr Harper is one of the country's top clarinetists, having played in many prestigious London orchestras. Over 60 children stayed behind afterwards to try out the clarinet. If your child would like to sign up to lessons, Mr Harper may be contacted at andrewharper44@hotmail.com.



Amherst Music Concert

Due to a clash with a local dance festival, we have had to change the date of our annual music concert to **Tuesday 2nd April at 6.00pm**. This will include all children in the Amherst Orchestra, Training Choir, Amherst Choir, Drumming Club, and individual instrumentalists who will be informed by their music teachers.

Secondary School Open Days

If you intend to take your child to Secondary School open days during school time, **please ensure that a note is sent to the class teacher prior to the visit**. Please see websites for more information and bookings.

Radnor House Sevenoaks – Open Day Saturday 2nd March. Head's speech at 10am and 12pm.

Walthamstow Hall – Open Morning Thursday 7th March 9.50am-12pm (new 6th Form centre now open)

PTA News

PTA DATES for your diary:

SCHOOL DISCO: Friday 8 March 2019

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION: DUE TO LAUNCH SHORTLY

RIVERHEAD & AMHERST SPRING BALL: Saturday 23 March 2019

*** SCHOOL DISCO – FRIDAY 8 MARCH ***

Tickets are on sale **NOW** for the **School Disco** taking place next Friday. Tickets are **£3.50** each, and can be purchased at www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta – there is **no need to print out ticket/s**. Ticket sales close on **Wednesday 6 March** – any attempt to book after this date will not be accepted on the system. Please ensure **contact details** and **allergy information** are provided when booking – this is vital for our volunteers on the night. **Any parents/carers willing to help out on the night can volunteer at the time of booking**, unfortunately without enough adult helpers we are unable to run these events for the children.

AMHERST WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY CALENDAR 2018/19

There are still some calendars remaining with images taken by entrants to last year's wildlife photography competition. If you would like to purchase one as a memento, they are available at the reduced price of **£1.00** from the school office.

EASYFUNDRAISING

easyfundraising turns your **online shopping into free donations**. How? Just start your online shopping first at easyfundraising, then shop as normal – our easy fundraising link is <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> code **(Amherst School PTA – Sevenoaks)**

COMMUNICATING WITH THE PTA

Chair: Debbie Trigg (amherst-chair@outlook.com)

Vice Chair (Events & PTA website): Sandy Shirras (amherst-events@outlook.com)

Vice Chair (Marketing): Michelle Sadler (amherst-marketing@outlook.com) **Treasurer: Bradley Shirras** (amherst-treasurer@outlook.com)

Mobile Phones

If your child walks to school (mainly Year 6) and has a mobile phone, please remember it is school policy that the phone must be handed into the school office each day. We also need a written letter from home explaining that you child will be bringing a phone to school. Mobile phones or any electronic device must not be kept in a child's bag or locker. Thank you for your support.

Staff Car Park

A reminder to parents that the school car park is **for staff use only and disabled bay access**. Please do not use the car park without prior permission from the office first. Thank you

Sport

Kent Junior Chess Grand Prix

The following Amherst players spent last Sunday at Sevenoaks School playing in the 5th GP of the season: Violet Davies, Lucas Tenzer, James Day, Noah Terry, Dylan Paterson and Karl Peters. They each played 6 matches, scoring individual points and points for the school. So far Amherst is 5th in the Primary School league out of 46 schools. Congratulations to all our players. The next Grand Prix is at Hayesbrook School in Tonbridge on Sunday 3rd March- see www.kjca.org to enter.

Amazon Gifting

To help generate much needed income for the school we have set up an Amazon Gifting link. If you are purchasing on Amazon please follow the link below or the link on the homepage of the school website. The school receives a small percentage for each transaction, so the more people that use it the greater the monthly donation! Please share with friends and family. <http://bit.ly/amherstschool> School website link:

<http://www.amherst.kent.sch.uk/page/?pid=178>

Events in the local community

Happy 7th Birthday to Raspberry Pi!

Join the Raspberry Jam 2019 Big Birthday weekend event. Saturday 2nd March – 10am-1pm, held at Sevenoaks Library, Buckhurst Lane, TN131LQ. This is a free event and is aimed at children 8 years and older. Spaces are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

For further information please contact us at sevenoakslibrary@kent.gov.uk or via 03000 41 31 31.

New Circuit Class on the Common

For all Amherst and Riverhead mums. 9am Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suitable for all. First session free. Contact 07730 252228 for more info.

www.obstacleudrunner.co.uk

John Heurman Tennis Academy

The John Heurman Tennis Academy have released their dates for their Easter, Half Term and Summer holiday camps at Hollybush in Sevenoaks. The Tennis Academy have camps available for all ages and abilities with coach:pupil ratios of 1:8. To view the dates please see their website <https://tennisacademy.org.uk/holiday-courses/>

Colorines and La Jolie Ronde Spanish lessons

At Otford Village Memorial Hall.

Last five lessons of the spring term for only £30 and £5 discount on book and audio material link. PLUS 10% off your next term! Please email belen@colorines.co.uk, tel. no. 07815 063582 and secure a place for your child at Otford Village Memorial Hall on Tuesdays. Years 3 & 4 at 4.35 pm, Years 5 & 6 at 5.10 pm. Limited spaces! Gracias!

Regular items and reminders

No nuts in School!

We have children in school who have severe allergies to nuts. Please do not send any form of nuts in for children's snacks or packed lunches. Please also note that nuts should not be brought along to any event held in the school.

Thank you.

School Hall Hire

The school hall is available to hire for long term lets, dance groups, sports clubs etc. If you are interested or know anyone looking to hire a hall, please contact Jo Sims, School Business Manager.

Stationery

Stationery packs are available from the school office for £8.00. We also have ink pens for £4.00.

Weekends

Please note that school is not open at weekends. Whilst there may be music tutors, builders etc. in the building they are not authorised to allow admittance to the school.

Letterbox

We have a silver letterbox in the school lobby. If you do not need to speak to somebody in school, please pop any correspondence into the letterbox. It will be emptied regularly during the school day. We, of course, prefer letters to be sent in via your child's book bag.

Music Lessons

Music lessons are available for many instruments at Amherst.

The tutors currently teaching at Amherst are –

Clarinet	Andrew Harper	07912 304 256	andrewharper44@hotmail.com
Cello	Catherine Brooker		catherinebrooker@ymail.com
Violin	Jo Kiely	01732 465743	joanna.kiely@btinternet.com
Violin/Viola/Flute	Penny da Silva	07763 204109	pennydasilva@hotmail.co.uk
Flute/Fife/Recorder/Piano	Mark Underwood	07985 563063	munderwood@me.com
Drums	Billy Cunningham	07751 881706	billyisondrums@gmail.com
Guitar	Tom Murray		tomrmurray@hotmail.co.uk
Singing	Wendy Chown	07785 968647	wendychown@outlook.com
Piano	Connie Brooks	01622691212	customerservices@kent-music.com
Piano	Simon Proctor	01622691212	customerservices@kent-music.com
Brass	Becky Craig		etkecraig@googlemail.com
Piano/Oboe	Sarah Harper	07501 332102	sarahlucyharper@yahoo.com

Please contact these tutors directly if you are interested in lessons. Please note that any child can only sign up for one instrument lesson during school time. Instrument hire is available from Guy Saunders on 01732-740755 and further details can be obtained from his website at: www.saundersmusic.co.uk.

Inclusion News

INCLUSION NEWS February 2019

BOOKS PLEASE

If your child borrows Barrington Stoke books or Rapid Readers (graphic books) from Mrs Holmes's office please have a look at home and bring them back, and swap for a new one. The bookshelf has a few gaps at the moment.

CLICKER 7 – for free

If you would like to access Clicker 7 for use at home, just drop me an email with your child's name and class to helen.holmes@amherst.kent.sch.uk and I will send you a unique log-in and password.

TTRS typists

If you access the programme at home, have a look at the new tabs for spellings and key words in maths, science and spellings. You can use the programme to practise them.

PARENT DROP-INS

I am available most Wednesday afternoons (sometimes Tuesdays) from 2.30 to 3.30 for a chat about any concerns you might want to share in an informal way. Just phone the school office for an appointment.

Thank you. Helen Holmes, Inclusion Manager
(helen.holmes@amherst.kent.sch.uk).

Term Dates for the academic year 2019/2020

	TERM 4
FINISH:	Friday 5th April 2019
	TERM 5
START:	Tuesday 23rd April 2019
Staff Inset	Friday 24 th May 2019
FINISH:	Thursday 23rd May 2019
	TERM 6
START:	Monday 3rd June 2019
FINISH:	Tuesday 23rd July 2019
	TERM 1
Staff Inset	Monday 2 nd September 2019
START:	Tuesday 3rd September 2019
Staff Inset	Friday 18 th October 2019
FINISH:	Thursday 17th October 2019
	TERM 2
START:	Monday 28th October 2019
FINISH:	Wednesday 18th December 2019
	TERM 3
START:	Tuesday 7th January 2020
Staff Inset	Monday 6 th January 2020
FINISH:	Friday 14th February 2020