



AMHERST NEWS



News No 24 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk

01732 452577

22nd March 2019

Star of the Week

3A	Aimee H	5B	Olivia R
3W	Olivia W	5H	Lois M
3S	Carla F	5J	Oliver L
4W	Lewis O	6H	Ted O
4F	Mya B	6P	Fatima F
4C	Tom Walter	6B	Lauren B

Club End Today!

Please note that unless otherwise advised, all school-run clubs will finish today.

Forthcoming Events

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

Sport

Tennis

I thought the school might like to know that Anna C & Isabel M played in the LTA Winter Team Tennis League Finals yesterday at Frindsbury representing Chipstead Place LTC- the girls beat David Lloyd, Kings Hill 3-0 to become U10 Winter League champions!

The girls play in squads at Chipstead Place LTC & attend school team training on a Thursday lunch time for years 5&6.

Adam Reavely



Absence from School

Just a reminder that need to take your child out of school for any holidays please remember to complete the online absence form.

Mobile Phones

If you 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.

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>

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.

Skinners Kent Academy – Tuesday 26/3 (tour at 10am)

Skinners Kent Academy – Monday 29/3, (tour at 10am)

Skinners Kent Academy – Thursday 23/5, (tour at 10am)

Hugh Christie – Friday 7/6, Year 5 experience afternoon 2-5pm

Cranbrooke School – Wednesday 12/6, Yr7,9,12 open am 8.45-11am

Skinners Kent Academy – Wednesday 12/6, (tour at 10am)

Hugh Christie – Friday 14/6, Year 5 experience 2-5pm

Weald of Kent – Tuesday 18/6, Yr 5 Taster Day

PTA News

PTA DATES for your diary:

RIVERHEAD & AMHERST SPRING BALL: Saturday 23 March 2019

CAKE & UNIFORM SALE: Friday 5 April 2019 (TBC)

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION: Closing Date – Tuesday 30 April 2019

*** AMHERST WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2019 ***

The Amherst Wildlife Photography Competition was launched on Monday. Your child will have come home with details of how to enter and top tips to help your budding photographers capture a winning shot. There were some amazing entries last year, and this is a great way to get creative, get outdoors and explore ... while raising necessary funds for the school. Entries should be submitted to amherst.wildlifephotography@gmail.com and payment made online at www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta. The closing date for entries is **Tuesday 30 April 2019**.

*** RIVERHEAD & AMHERST SPRING BALL – SILENT AUCTION ***

The Silent Auction is now LIVE, with an amazing range of gifts, experiences, holidays and events! **Anyone can bid, even if you are not attending the Ball.** The auction is live until the night before the Ball, when it will briefly close until the event itself, with bids continuing until 10.30pm on the night. Please go to www.amherstriverheadspringball.com to see all the lots available.

The previous Ball raised around **£7000 for EACH school**, with all monies raised from the sale of prizes going towards enhancing the schools' facilities and equipment, **so please get bidding!**

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)

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.

Stationery

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

Communication

If you wish to speak to your class teacher urgently at drop-off or collection time, please enquire at Reception or the School Office. Please do not go directly to the classroom. Teachers are often available at the gate at the end of the day, when often a quick word is all that is needed.

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
	billysondrums@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.

Events in the local community

All Stars Cricket

All Star Cricket gives children the chance to play, learn great skills and meet new friends.

An 8 week, fun active programme for girls and boys aged 5-6. Play at your local All Stars Cricket Centre (centres at Holmesdale, Sevenoaks Vine and Kemsing Cricket Ground). Starting May 2019 – register at allstarscricket.co.uk

Ultimate Activity at The New Beacon School

Outstanding activity day camps for 4 to 14 year olds this Summer! Over 40 activities, something new every day! With over 25 years' experience, we know how to make holiday camps fun, exciting and safe for children of all ages. Mon-Fri, drop off 8.30-9.30, collection 16.30-17.15, extended pass available. Contact www.ultimateactivity.co.uk for further information.

Family Dog Workshops in Canterbury

25th, 26th and 27th June 2019. Held at Dogs Trust Canterbury, Radfall Road, CT5 3ER.

Workshops for parents/carers of a child between 3-16 years old with a clinical diagnosis of autism.

Family Dog Workshops are ideal if you:

- Are at the early stages of considering getting a dog to help your autistic child;
- Know that you want to get a dog and are looking for help choosing and handling a dog;
- Already have a pet dog but would like training ideas and support

The series of 3 day workshops use a combination of practical demonstrations, discussions, hands on learning and course handouts. Ongoing support is available to families. For more info contact

www.dogsforgood.org/family-dog

Inclusion News

INCLUSION NEWS MARCH 2019

Stressed or anxious children?

Worried about your child's or teenager's behaviour or mental health? You're not alone. Call the YoungMinds Parents' Helpline free on 0808 802 5544 (Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4pm) or email parents@youngminds.org.uk. The website has some great advice, too. Visit <https://youngminds.org.uk/> and go to 'for parents' under the 'find help' tab.

Rapid Readers Books 1 and 3 are missing...

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.

Inclusion News – contd

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