



AMHERST NEWS



News No 3 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk

01732 452577

21th September 2018

Star of the week

There is no star of the week this week.

Christmas Card Request

Michelle Parish who runs the Sewing, Embroidery and Craft club is kindly requesting the following:

1. The front of old Christmas cards (the picture bit)
 2. Any craft items not being used anymore (pipe cleaners, shiny paper, buttons, etc.). Any items can be dropped in to reception.
- Thank you

Riverhead Walking Bus

We hope to start our walking buses next week. However we still need some volunteers to run the buses. If you can help on -

Tuesday - Hole in the Wall Route
 Wednesday - Chipstead Route
 Wednesday - Tesco Route
 Friday - Hole in the Wall Route

Please contact the school office office@riverhead.kent.sch.uk. Unfortunately we will not be able to run the buses unless we have enough helpers, so your help would be really appreciated. If you would like your child to join any of the buses please also contact the school office.

EVENTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Sevenoaks Young Readers

Sevenoaks Book Shop introduces Sevenoaks Young Readers Festival Day on 28th September 2018

We are so excited to be bringing a host of much-loved children's authors to Sevenoaks for talks, storytelling, music, craft, and so much more! Booking opens 28 July

Tickets available via our website or www.sevlitfest.com

Sevenoaks Multi-Sports Half Term Club

Monday 22-26th October 10am-3pm at Sevenoaks Primary, School, Bradbourne Park Road, TN133LB.

£25 per day, £110 for the week. Fun filled activities to include Football, Tri Golf, Tennis, Gymnastics, Kwik Cricket, plus much more! Contact Amanda for more info

07584419283/www.7ms.co.uk

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra presents 'Around the World'

Family Concert, at the Stag Theatre, Sunday 14th October at 4pm. Come with SSO on an exciting musical tour, including the Toreador's March, an Argentinian Tango, Beethoven's Turkish March and an 'Amazing Margic Carpet' ride with orchestral accompaniment. £8.50 standard ticket, concessions available. Contact the Stag Box office for more info.

EVENTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY - contd

Fego at Bligh's - Anniversary Event

FEGO's anniversary event will take place next Thursday 27th September from 6pm – 8pm. There will be live music, free canapes and complimentary cocktails. Please register your interest for the event to marketing@fegouk.com or call 07788215275.

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.

St Gregory's Open mornings:

- 9.00am – 11.00am (last tour at 10.15am)
- Wednesday 26 September 2018, Thursday 27 September 2018,
- Wednesday 17 October 2018 Thursday 18 October 2018

St Gregory's Open evening:

- Thursday 27 September 2018 – 4.30pm to 7.30pm (last tour at 7pm)

Radnor House Open day:

- Saturday 13th October 2018

The Hayesbrook School:

- Open evening (6pm)
- Thursday 27th September 2018
- Open mornings (starting at 9.30am)
- 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th & 11th October 2018. To book a place please go to www.hayesbrook.kent.sch.uk/openbookings

The Judd School:

- Year 6 open morning tours (9.30-10.30am)
- 16th, 17th, 18th October 2018
- The morning tours are for Y6 students and parents only. Bookings are essential www.judd.online
- Year 5 & below open evening, Thursday 4 July 2019 4.30-8pm, no booking required.

Bennett Memorial Open Evenings:

- Tuesday 25th September 6pm
- Thursday 27th September 6pm
- Wednesday 3rd October 6pm

Weald of Kent Grammar School:

- Open Evening Thursday 4th October 5.30-8.30pm (Tonbridge site)
- Open Mornings (9.30-11.30am) Tuesday 9th October, (Tonbridge), Friday 12th October (Sevenoaks), Wednesday 17th October (Tonbridge). For further information visit: www.wealdgs.org

Caterham School

- Open morning 22nd September 9.30am. For more info contact enquiries@caterhamschool.co.uk

MUSIC

New Music Teachers at Amherst

Our new brass and clarinet teachers have plenty of space for new students. Both teachers are extremely experienced and happy to take on pupils for trial lessons. Please contact Mr Clarke if you would like any advice regarding learning an instrument.

Clarinet - Andrew Harper - andrewharper44@hotmail.com

Brass - Becky Craig - etkecraig@googlemail.com

School CDs

We still have some copies of the school CD available to buy for £10 from the office. The CD features all the children in school in addition to pieces sung by the Amherst Choir.

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
	mcunderwood@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	
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.

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 your 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>

SPORT

Amherst Sports T-Shirts

Please could all children return any Amherst T-Shirts they used last term.

Uniform, PE & Games Kit

Please ensure that your child has the correct *named* kit in school for Games and PE lessons, including trainers and football boots as we no longer have spares. Likewise, all school uniform *should be named*.

PTA NEWS

PTA DATES for your diary:

CAKE AND UNIFORM SALE: Friday 5 October

HARVEST FESTIVAL: Thursday 11 October

BANGERS AND BINGO: Friday 12 October

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Saturday 1 December

PTA EVENTS AND PARENT REGISTRATION

Please visit our website www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta and ensure you register as soon as possible to accept newsletters and stay informed of events for the children and all our fundraising efforts.

MATCH FUNDING

Company matched giving is a very simple way of raising money for the school. A large number of businesses and organisations offer their employees a chance to raise funds for the charity of their choice through matched donations or pledges, with the potential to give our fundraising a massive boost! We encourage you to check if there are any charitable schemes offered by your workplaces that may be beneficial to our fundraising, please contact amherst-treasurer@outlook.com for further information.

EASYFUNDRAISING

Easyfundraising turns your everyday 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)

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR COMMITTEE 2018

Thank you to the parents from **4W** who have volunteered to coordinate the event of us this year. The Committee will be in touch before the end of term to share responsibilities and stalls with class reps, any questions in the meantime please contact amherst-bazaar@outlook.com.

PTA NEWS - contd

RIVERHEAD CARNIVAL

Thank you to the parents of 4C for helping to run/organise the stall at the Riverhead Carnival, and selling keys in the run-up to Sunday's event.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE PTA

Debbie Trigg (amherst-chair@outlook.com) – general assistance/feedback/fundraising suggestions, etc.
Sandy Shirras (amherst-events@outlook.com) – assistance with any events and PTA website queries (registration/online payments)
Michelle Sadler (amherst-marketing@outlook.com) – assistance with any event marketing requirements
Bradley Shirras (Amherst-treasurer@outlook.com) – funding/monies raised from events/match funding queries

INCLUSION NEWS

INCLUSION NEWS SEPTEMBER 2018

Free Session on Homework September 25th at Trinity School

An interactive evening session for **parents of struggling learners**, aged from 6 to 16, on:

- Learning ideas and strategies to help your child complete their homework easily and with less stress
- Boosting your confidence working with your child
- Finding out how they think and learn best

Course date: Tuesday 25th September 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Refreshments will be available from 6.20pm

Venue: Trinity School, Seal Hollow Rd, Sevenoaks TN13 3SL

To book your place email: senco@trinitysevenoaks.com or phone 01732 469111 to book with Reception

Playtime club

Mrs Rees runs 'Playtime Club' every lunchtime. This is aimed towards those children finding our long lunch break challenging, for whatever reason. If your child is expressing worries about the playground at lunchtime, please tell them to ask the dinner ladies or their teacher to show them to playtime club, open 12.30-1.10. There are games, puzzles, paper and crayons, Lego and a warm welcome.

TTRS Typing

Typing for invited children will be starting along with all other clubs on **Monday 24th September**, at 8.10AM in the ICT suite.

Rapid Reader and Barrington Stoke books

If anyone has borrowed and finished with any of these books, (Graphic novels or paperbacks printed on yellow/cream paper, could they remember come to my room and swap for a new one.

Parent Drop-ins

I am available every Wednesday afternoon 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).

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

REGULAR ITEMS AND REMINDERS - contd

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.

Riverhead Parish Council – Parking - Riverhead Parish Council request that you *please* park responsibly when dropping off and collecting your children

ASK – AMHERST SCHOOL KITCHEN

Dinner Money – If your child would like to start having school lunch or you wish to make any changes to your child's lunch arrangements, please notify the school office on officer@amherst.kent.sch.uk Menus are on the school website – look for School Meals under the Parents tab.

(Daily charge £2.35)

Weekly	£11.75
Term 1	£77.55
Term 2	£89.30
Both Autumn terms	£166.85

Payment can be made via www.schoolgateway.com where you are also able to check your balance. If you have any problems paying electronically, please contact the school office.

Free School Meals - Please be advised that if you think your child may be entitled to free school meals, you can apply using the following link:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent/> All applications are dealt with in confidence.

Snacks at breaktime - Please could we remind all children that they should only be eating fruit or vegetables as their snack at playtime. The school provides fruit and milk to purchase or children may bring in fruit from home. Please be reminded that chocolate and sweets are not permitted as a break time snack.

Fruit at breaktime - Our school kitchen offers a variety of fruit at morning break including melon, raw carrot, apples, orange segments and bananas. Cost is 30p per portion. Please send in the correct change with your child.

Milk at breaktimes - Small cartons of milk in various flavours are available at morning break at a cost of 30p per carton. Please send in the correct change with your child on a daily basis.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

24.09.18	Clubs Start
28.09.18	British Heart Foundation Swim Fundraiser
10.10.18	Year 5 – Museum of Kent Life
18.10.18	End of Term

TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018/19

TERM 1

Staff Inset	Friday 19 th October 2018
FINISH:	Thursday 18th October 2018

TERM 2

START:	Monday 29th October 2018
FINISH:	Wednesday 19th December 2018

TERM 3

START:	Monday 7th January 2019
Staff Inset	Thursday 3 rd January 2019
Staff Inset	Friday 4 th January 2019
FINISH:	Friday 15th February 2019

TERM 4

START:	Monday 25th February 2019
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