

YOUR MONTHLY **AMHERST** PTA

# UPDATE

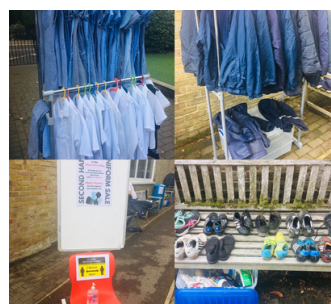
*September 2020*

## LAST MONTH COOKIE BAG SALE

We kicked this school year off with a real bang!  
The 2020/21 inaugural PTA event saw us spin a new take on the good old cake sale - a Cookie Bag Sale.

A socially distanced stroke of genius was thought up! Organised and carried out by class 3A. We were absolutely overwhelmed by the number of cookies ordered - and if you have ever wondered what 485 cookies look like, see below.

This event raised £866 including additional donations - thank you so very much!



## UNIFORM SALE

Class 5J took the mantle on our uniform sale this time around (thank you!)

Items were laid out and parents were able to come and choose what they wanted and pay via an honesty box - this combined with the timing of the sale meant that it was kept socially distant!

A great range of stock was on offer so please do keep your donations coming - sporting goods and dress up are incredibly popular so please don't forget these when you are having a clear out!

This event raised £160.

## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear All,

Busy, busy, busy - that summarises the PTA work at the moment. Trying out new events, re-inventing old ones and working hard behind the scene on an alternative for our Xmas bazaar which is our biggest fundraiser during the school year.

Thank you for all your feedback in the last few weeks. One suggestion was to have the opportunity to add additional donations to our events. You will have noticed that we have added this at the last couple of events and will do so again in the future.

Our Jeni has done an AMAZING job in single handedly creating our next big event, the Amherst Scavenger Hunt. We are very excited for you and your families to spend a couple of hours walking through our home town Sevenoaks and learning more about its history. It's the perfect half term family fun!

We thank you for your patience with us while we find our way during these unusual times, stay safe and a big thank you for all your continued support,

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## NEXT MONTH

### GREAT AMHERST BALLOON RACE

October sees the first of our new events and we kick this off with the 'Great Amherst Balloon Race' - a whole school virtual race with prizes being awarded to both an overall winner and also to year group winners and runners up. We hear that there are also some inter-family races going on so we wish you all the bests of luck! Winners will be announced during assembly on 12/13th October.



### ART4SCHOOLS PROJECT

A quick reminder that the deadline for submitting and paying for your children's Christmas Cards and gifts is the **21st October**. As this is run by an external company, we are afraid that we are unable to accept any late orders. Thank you!

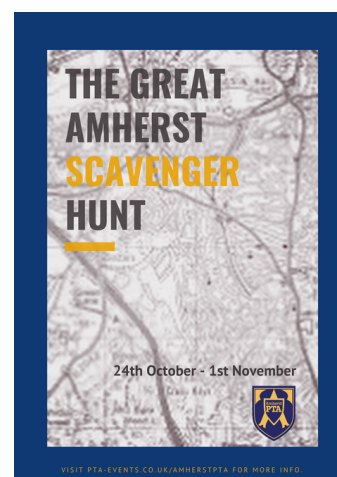
### AMHERST SCAVENGER HUNT

Another new event for us this year! Taking place over half term, our Scavenger Hunt will see our families go on a very important mission, walking around central Sevenoaks, seeking out some hidden corners, learning about the history of our town and using clues to find the answers to the mission questions.

Don't worry parents, we are throwing in a free cookie for the children at Life on High coffee shop so a perfect excuse to stop for a coffee or lunch!

Don't forget to send us your answers (amherst-marketing@outlook.com) so we can mark them (kindly assisted by some of our Match Funding parents) and issue your children with a certificate!

There is no set cost to taking part in this event but we are suggesting a donation of £10 (or more if you like!)



## FUND RAISING UPDATE

So far this school year, the PTA has raised **£2,835.77**. This includes funds from the Cookie in a Bag Sale, the Uniform Sale, funds already paid for the Art4Schools Project and the Amherst Great Balloon Race. It also includes all of your additional donations. Thank you so much for your support.

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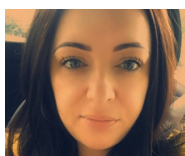
## KEEP IN TOUCH



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## GET INVOLVED

### HELPING OUT

We are a team of 5 and we all have day jobs, some of us full time. We get a tremendous amount of support from you, the parents, and particularly from our class reps so we are incredibly well supported. BUT, many hands make light work, so if you would like to help out in any capacity we would love to hear from you! Don't worry, the scale of your involvement will be driven by you.

### SHARE YOUR IDEAS

Social distancing has meant that the majority of our traditional events either need to be tempered or simply cannot happen. We are therefore working hard to find new events so that our children and families can continue to enjoy the extra-curricular fun that we are lucky enough to organise. So if you have any ideas we would love to hear them so please do get in touch.

### MATCH FUNDING

We simply cannot emphasise enough, the importance of Match Funding and the huge impact it has on our fund raising. Last year, Match Funding generated an additional £26,000 for the school, essentially doubling the amount we raised. Please do speak to your employer and see if they are offering Matching Funding, and if they are, get in touch so we can involve you in events. Thank you!