



AMHERST NEWS



News No. 5 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk 01732 452577 4th October 2019

STAR OF THE WEEK

| | | | |
|-----|-----------|----|---------------------|
| 3A | Amy C | 5B | Emilia B |
| 3W | Daisy W-E | 5H | Joshie G |
| 3S | Ben L | 5J | Jake A |
| 4W | Alice M | 6A | Megan T |
| 4SF | Megan R | 6P | Oscar S & Tabitha S |
| 4C | Peter W | 6B | Oliver A |



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be visiting on Thursday 10th October. Siblings will be photographed together unless the school office is notified by email that they should be photographed individually.

office@amherst.kent.sch.uk

The photographer will be available from 8.20am until 8.50am to take photos with other siblings who are not at Amherst. Please could you ensure that your child comes to school in correct school attire (winter uniform), with their hair brushed! Thank you.

HARVEST FESTIVAL THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER



Once again, for our Harvest Festival we are going to support the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank, which is run from St John's Church Hall in Sevenoaks. This charity supports local families by providing them with non-perishable food items each week. It is currently supporting 40 families across the district with the help of local churches of all denominations and Sainsbury's supermarket. The families receive a bag of food every week of the year.

We would greatly appreciate donations of the following food items listed below. Those in bold are urgently required. Please note they do not require pasta as they currently have large supplies of this. **Tinned vegetables (preferably peas/carrots/green beans/sweetcorn).** **Tinned meat for hot meals (eg. minced beef & onion, stew/casserole, chicken in white sauce).** **Tinned fruit.** UHT milk, Fruit juice (long-life)/fruit squash, Rice, Sauces for rice dishes: curry/Sweet & Sour, Tomato ketchup/brown sauce/mayonnaise, Fray Bentos pies, Tinned ravioli, Tinned macaroni cheese, Tinned hot dogs, Spaghetti/baked beans with sausages, Tinned meat for cold meals (eg ham, luncheon meat, corned beef), Custard (tins or cartons, but not custard powder), Rice pudding (tinned), Coffee/hot chocolate, Sugar, Honey/jam/marmalade.

Please send in any donations you have with your child on Thursday 17th October. If there are any parents who are able to help take the food to the food bank on Thursday 17th October from 1pm please let the school office know. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Miss Jones

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 10.10.19 | School Photographs |
| 11.10.19 | Year 5 Museum of Kent Life Trip |
| 29.10.19 | Whole School Flu Vaccination |
| 05.11.19 | Parents' Evening Years 3-6 |
| 06.11.19 | Parents' Evening Years 3-6 |
| 07.11.19 | WW2 Relatives Day |
| 08.11.19 | PTA Bangers & Bingo |
| 13.11.19 | Year 5 Victorian Workshop |
| 15.11.19 | Year 4 Trip to Battle Abbey |
| 29.11.19 | Clubs End |
| 07.12.19 | PTA Christmas Bazaar |
| 09.12.19 | PTA Mini Bazaar |
| 11.12.19 | Christmas Lunch |
| 12.12.19 | PTA Secrets Room |
| 17.12.19 | Whole School to Pantomime |
| 18.12.19 | End of Term |

PARKING

The school car park is for staff use **ONLY** unless you have permission to use one of the disabled bays. Please do not park your car on the premises. Also, please consider our neighbours when dropping off and picking up your child from school and please park responsibly on neighbouring roads, and adhere to all parking restrictions.



ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please could any requests for absence from school for **Medical** or **Secondary School** visits be emailed through to the office address. We will then forward these to the teachers. Please do not send notes to school in your child's bag. **Holiday Absence** requests should be submitted via the 'absence request form' on the school website (under parents section).

SCHOOL CALENDAR

You are now able to subscribe to the Amherst School Calendar online.

The link is under the PARENTS section, SCHOOL CALENDAR, as shown below:

 > PARENTS > SCHOOL CALENDAR

School Calendar

October 2019

< > Calendar Month Subscribe

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Please would parents ensure that they inform Riverhead After-School Club and Moniques directly, if their child takes part in a school club and needs to miss part of their after-school sessions.

Please would parents' drop-off and collect their children using the **side** pedestrian gate and crossing provided. **Do not** use the main car park entrance and walk across the car park. Thank you.

School Clubs Important Information

Drop off/collection information:

Morning Clubs

Outside clubs – children should enter the school via the side entrance.

Indoor clubs -children should enter the school through the main reception area.

End of Day Clubs

Outside clubs – parents should collect their child via the side entrance.

Indoor clubs – parents should collect their child from the main reception area.

Please could parents ensure they check clubs starting and finishing times and arrive promptly when collecting their child.

Cancelled Clubs

If a club needs to be cancelled, a 'SchoolComms' message or text will be sent to parents (*externally run clubs will inform you directly*).

Cross Country Club

If it is raining in the morning at 7.45am, the club will be cancelled.

ALDI OLYMPIC STICKERS



Aldi's 'Kit for Schools' promotion is giving 20 primary schools the chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school. What's more, every school who enters by completing their Aldi's 'Kit for Schools' poster will also receive an exclusive school sports kit! Collect a sticker with every £30 spent in store and fill up your school's poster with the stickers for a chance to win. The school needs to collect 300 stickers by the end of November!

We would be very grateful if you could collect the stickers and bring them into Mrs Wheeler or Mr Barratt.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following children on their recent achievements:

Lucas Tenzer – Grade 2 Piano pass with Merit



SCHOOL VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancy at Amherst School. Please follow the link to the Kent Teach website:

Crossing Patrol: <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=74755>

Teaching Assistant: <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=75262>

PTA NEWS

Today sees our first Uniform & Cake Sale of the school year – thank you so much to 3A and 6A for organising, and to our parents for your support – we hope you are all feeling incredibly full from all the gorgeous cake!

Yes, it is only just October, but project Amherst Christmas is underway!

Xmas for Schools

Hopefully you are now in possession of the project pack! Please do just remember to have returned this to the office and to have paid via the PTA Events site by **17th October**.



Silent Auction

Part of our Christmas Bazaar is our Silent Auction. We would be incredibly grateful of any donations you could offer – there is no restrictions on these, so, as an example, in the past we have had holiday accommodation, a boot camp session, a pamper party, a garden tidy.... If you would like to donate, please email Amherst-bazaar@outlook.com. As always, thank you.

Match funding

Tuesday saw much excitement on the PTA Lead Team as our first Match Funding sign up of the year came through! Thank you to that parent (you know who you are!) Last year, **Match Funding** raised **£24,000** for the school, from just **8** parents. Imagine how much we could raise if 80 parents signed up! We know there is some confusion around Match Funding, how it works and how to go about organising it, so please do drop us a line if you want to find out more.

External Examiner Needed

The PTA are looking for an external examiner to look at their financials for the year 2018/2019. If you are able to help please contact the treasurer at amherst-treasurer@outlook.com

Dates for your diary

Xmas for schools submission deadline – 17th October
Bangers and Bingo night – 8th November
Drinks and Canapes for Parents – 13th November (evening) – details to follow
Christmas Bazaar – 7th December
Mini Bazaar – 9th December
Christmas Lunch – 11th December
Secrets Room – 12th December

Follow us on social media:

 @EventsPTA

 @amherstptaevents

SECONDARY SCHOOL - Open Days

If you intend to take your child to Secondary School open days during school time, **please ensure that you email the school office, giving plenty of notice. The office will then inform the relevant teacher.** Please see websites for more information and bookings.

Hayesbrook School, Tonbridge – open evening, 10/10 6-7.30pm, open mornings 9am, 15/10, 16/10, 17/10 and 18/10. For more info www.hayesbrook.jent.sch.uk

Millfield Prep School – open days 5/10, 29/02. Please see website for further details www.millfieldprep.com

Weald of Kent – sixth form open evening, Wed 16/10 5.30-7.30pm. Please check the website for further information and location of events www.wealdgs.org

Radnor House – Open Day Sat 12/10, 10-12pm check website for more details www.radnor-sevenoaks.org

SECONDARY SCHOOL - Open Days contd

Sackville School – open mornings, 8/10, 8/2, 5/3. Yr 6 taster day 30/10, sixth form evening 31/10. Yr 7 entry assessment 2/11, yr9 pre CE assessment 2/11. Yr5 taster 25/3. For more info please see website www.sackvilleschoolhillview.org.uk Girls School – open evening 17/10, 5.30-8.30pm, open mornings 28/9 10-12pm, 1/10 & 2/10 9.15-11.15am. Please check website for further details www.hillview.kent.sch.uk

SPORT

Thomas Trophy Cross Country Competition

On Friday 27th September, a team of children from Year 4 and Year 6 competed in the Thomas Trophy Cross Country competition at Sevenoaks Prep School. This course is the toughest of all the cross country events that we take part in, so all the children had to dig deep and really use their strength and stamina to complete the course.

All the children were amazing and many of the children, who have competed before, gained personal bests in relation to their position. Each race had about 100 competitors in it and many of our children came within the top thirty.

Congratulations to all the team. Thank you to all the parents for supporting the children.

Mrs Wheeler



Somerhill Cross Country Competition

On Wednesday 1st October, 34 children, from all year groups, took part in a cross country competition in the beautiful grounds of Somerhill School. The Year 3 and 4's ran 1200m and the Year 5 and 6's ran 1700m. The course was very muddy and undulating and it was wonderful to see the determination on the children's faces as they ran. There were about 200 children in each race and many of our children were placed in the top twenty.

Congratulations to Caoihme M, Dejan B and Olivia W who came in the top ten in their races.

It was the first race experience for some of the children. The children stated that the run was 'long but fun' and 'exhilarating and rewarding.'

Congratulations to all the children and thank you for all the support from parents.

Mrs Wheeler.



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@gmail.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 | |
| Flute/Recorder | Philippa Henderson | 07525 836419 |
| | philippahenderson@gmail.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 | Ian Fasham | |
| | ian@littleturret.co.uk | |
| 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.

REGULAR ITEMS AND REMINDERS

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.

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.



INCLUSION NEWS October 2019

TTRS Typing October 14th

Please note that typing for invited children is cancelled for **1 session on Monday 14th October.**

CLICKER 7 – for free

Don't forget, if you would like to access Clicker 7 (a child-friendly and dyslexia-friendly word processing programme) 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.

Playtime club

If your child finds our long lunch break challenging, please tell them to ask the dinner ladies or their teacher to show them to playtime club, run by Mrs Rees, and open 12.30-1.10. There are games, puzzles, paper and crayons, Lego and a warm welcome.

Young Minds Helpline

Are you 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. Go to www.youngminds.org.uk and go to the 'for parents' tab.

Parent Drop-ins

I am available most Wednesday afternoons 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).

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

SEVENOAKS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Family Concert

Toy Stories

Stag Theatre

Sunday 13th October 2019 - 4pm

Come and join us for a 75 minute programme including Leopold Mozart's Toy Symphony and excerpts from Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker. Celebrated West End actor David Leonard will narrate the story of The Magic Box with orchestral accompaniment.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

*£8.50 Standard Ticket
*£7.75 Group Ticket (4+)
*£1 from the sale of each ticket goes to the Stag Development Fund

Stag Box Office - 01732 450175
www.stagsevenoaks.co.uk
www.sevenoakssymphonyorchestra.org.uk

STAG SEVENOAKS

Find us on:

  

Registered Charity No 1057071

EVENTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

-contd



St Gregory's Multi-Sports

If your child is aged between 6 and 11 years of age and enjoys a range of sports such as **Football, Tennis, Netball, Rounders, Cricket, Basketball, Badminton, Dodgeball** and more, perhaps he/she would like to attend **St. Gregory's Multi-Sports course**.

WHERE: St Gregory's School, Reynolds Lane, TN4 9XL

WHEN:

Monday 21st Oct Tuesday 22nd Oct Wednesday 23rd Oct

TIME: 10 am – 3 pm

COST: £15 per day. If two or more siblings then £12.50 each per day.

WHAT TO BRING: A packed lunch, plenty of fluids and snacks.

WHAT NEXT:

If you are interested in enrolling your child, please complete and sign the reverse.

You will receive booking confirmation of your child's place via the text or email. Please book early to avoid disappointment - places are limited.

CONTACTS: Noel Bradbury nbradbury@sgschool.org.uk (If you have any queries or further questions)

TERM DATES 2019/2020

TERM 1

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| FINISH: | Thursday | 17th October 2019 |
| Staff Inset | Friday | 18 th October 2019 |

TERM 2

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| START: | Monday | 28th October 2019 |
| FINISH: | Wednesday | 18th December 2019 |

TERM 3

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Staff Inset | Monday | 6 th January 2020 |
| START: | Tuesday | 7th January 2020 |
| FINISH: | Friday | 14th February 2020 |

TERM 4

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| START: | Monday | 24th February 2020 |
| FINISH: | Wednesday | 1st April 2020 |

TERM 5

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| START: | Thursday | 16th April 2020 |
| FINISH: | Friday | 22nd May 2020 |

TERM 6

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Staff Inset: | Monday | 1 st June 2020 |
| START: | Tuesday | 2nd June 2020 |
| FINISH: | Tuesday | 21st July 2020 |
| Staff Inset: | Wednesday | 22 nd July 2020 |