



AMHERST NEWS



News No. 7 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk 01732 452577 17th October 2019

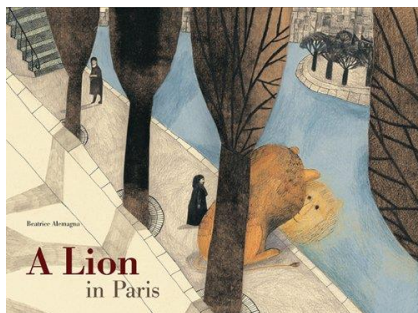
STAR OF THE WEEK



3A	5B	Ben H
3W	5H	Lucy S
3S	5J	Isabella A
4W	6A	
4SF	6P	
4C	6B	

Only Year 5 this week as they missed out last week due to school trip.

We hope you all have a restful half term and have some time to spend together as a family. The children and staff have worked so hard this term and made an excellent start to the academic year. I am pleased to be able to announce that our new whole school book project, which begins after half term, is going to be 'A Lion in Paris' by Beatrice Alemagna. This project will last for approx... three weeks with a focus on high quality creative writing and art. Please remember the children return to school on Monday 28th October.



HARVEST FESTIVAL THANK YOU

Thank you so much to Mrs Ahern and Miss Bulvatovic who gave up their time today to help transport all the donated food to the food bank for us. Your help is much appreciated! Miss Jones

AMHERST CHOIR PERFORMANCE AT CHRISTMAS

Amherst Choir will be singing at the Christmas Lights Switch-On in Sevenoaks town on Friday 29th November. Please come and support us, we will be singing at 18.10 prompt!



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 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
- 13.11.19 Amherst's 'Grand Design' Launch Party 8pm
- 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
- 07.01.20 Start of Term
- 13.01.20 Clubs Start
- 17.01.20 PTA Cake and 2nd Hand Uniform Sale
- 05.02.20 Year 6 Young Voices Trip O2
- 14.02.20 End of Term

WINTER MENU

Please note we will be returning to school on **Week 1** of the new **WINTER MENU** sent out yesterday. If you would like to make changes to your child's meal pattern, please send an email to office@amherst.kent.sch.uk

PARENT VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL

We are looking for parent volunteers to help at the school for the following:

Tuesday - After school Chess 3.35-4.15pm
Thursday - Before school Cross Country 8am

We also need volunteers to help listen to the children read (Years 3-6). If you are able to help, please could you let reception know or email the office office@amherst.kent.sch.uk
Thank you!

SPORT

Sevenoaks and District Aqua Splash Swimming Gala

On Tuesday 15th October, 12 children from Year 3 and 4 participated in the Sevenoaks and District swimming gala at Sevenoaks School. Each child swam in an individual race and in a team relay race. All of the swimmers were incredible and displayed amazing speed and determination. Many of the children achieved the position of first, second or third in their individual race and the Year 3 and Year 4 teams both came first in their relay races. As a result of our amazing swimmers, Amherst won the gala overall. Huge congratulations to Elizabeth O-G, Dane R, Sophie B, Max P, Phoebe M, Lucas T, Zac S, Poppy G, Bronagh M, Connor L, Daniel B and Rina N.

Thank you to all the parents for supporting the children.

Mrs Wheeler

PTA NEWS

What a busy start to the school year! We are sure that you are all more than ready for a week off!

There is so much going on at the moment, so thank you to each and every one of you for your support. Here are our upcoming events which you may still need to sign up to/book tickets (www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta):

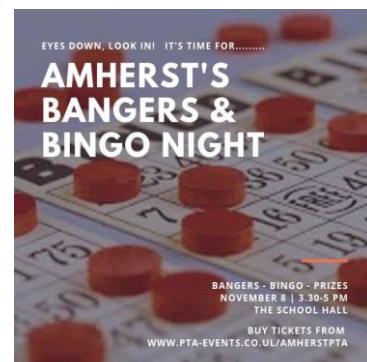
**Amherst's Grand Design Launch Event 13th November:
RSVP Deadline 29th October**



**Fireworks Night 2nd November
Ticket booking deadline 30th October**



**Bangers & Bingo 8th November
Ticket booking deadline 1st November (1/3 of tickets already sold)**



That's all from us this week – have a wonderful and restful half term and we will catch you in a couple of weeks when it will be time to get your festive pants on!!!!!! 😊

Dates for your diary:

29th October : Amherst's Grand Design Project launch party RSVP Deadline
30th October: [Fireworks tickets purchase deadline](#)
1st November: Bangers & Bingo tickets purchase deadline
8th November : Bangers and Bingo night
13th November: Amherst's Grand Design Project launch party
7th December: Christmas Bazaar
9th December: Mini Bazaar
11th December: Christmas Lunch (adjusted date)

Follow us on social media:

@EventsPTA
 @amherstptaevents

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 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>

Midday Supervisor: <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=75473>

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 morning 9am, 18/10. For more info www.hayesbrook.jent.sch.uk

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

Sackville School – open mornings, 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.com Girls School – open evening 17/10, 5.30-8.30pm. Please check website for further details www.hillview.kent.sch.uk

Tonbridge Wells Boys Grammar School - Open Morning – Tues 29/10, 10am – 12pm. Talk by the Headteacher at 10am. theграмmarschool@twgsboys.kent.sch.uk

Tonbridge Girls Grammar School – Year 6 open mornings, Mon 28/10 11:00 am to 12:30 pm (Mrs Linda Wybar, Headteacher

speaks at 12 noon). Please see website for more details admissions@twggs.kent.sch.uk

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
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.



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>

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 Half Term 2019

Children's Therapies Website launch

The Children's Therapies Service have just launched their new website <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/childrens-therapies-the-pod>. Here you will find information about Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy **including information leaflets, videos and links to national websites**. Within the speech and language therapy section information covers a range of clinical areas such as early-years language, school-age language, speech, hearing impairment, fluency, ASD, voice etc.

You also will find helpful video clips on

- speech and language areas including phonological awareness, minimal pairs, supporting fluency etc;
- Occupational Therapy e.g. (dressing, using a knife and fork);
- Physiotherapy (e.g. core stability / building strength).

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).

EVENTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Knole Book Festival

On the 15th November Knole will be holding a Book Festival. In addition to a workshop with one of our famous authors, you will also have entry to our The Tiger Who Came To Tea Exhibition along with some tiger related activities. To take part the cost is at £6 per child. The workshop with activities will last two hours and is at the following time:

10:00 Philip Ardagh –Secret Diary of Kitty Cask– For year 3 and 4 (*Salvaged shipwrecks, prison breaks, tyrannical excisemen: The Secret Diary of Kitty Cask, Smuggler's Daughter proves that history is anything but dull. In this tale of 18th century bootlegging and intrigue, author Philip Ardagh takes readers on plot-twisting adventures that leave Kitty in the thick of the action, with her shrewd mind getting her out of all kinds of scrapes and surprises. Join Ardagh for this exciting storytelling event, where he separates fact from fiction and gives kids the chance to dress up in smuggling costumes and act out scenes from the book).*

Please see website for more details:

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/knole>

Sevenoaks Dance October Half term Workshop

Halloween Half Term Dance Workshop

On Friday 25th October

At Riverhead Infants School

Times: 10am-3pm

Ages 4 to 11 years

Email: amy@sevenoaksdance.co.uk for details

EVENTS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

-contd

BOYS DANCE WORKSHOPS

Over the last decade of producing pantomimes in Sevenoaks, we've noticed a distinct lack of boys auditioning to dance in our shows. A few years ago we had to take the decision to run auditions for younger age groups as 'girls only' because so few young male dancers were trying out for a spot.

Coming now into our second decade at the Stag, we would like to try and change that.

In the Autumn of this year, we'll be inviting primary schools and dance schools to work with us to run a boys dance project, offering our choreographer, Daisy Dean, and dance captain, Patrick Roszka, to local primary schools for a week of free dance workshops aimed specifically at boys.

Following this, we will invite all those boys who enjoy the initial session, to come to a second free workshop at the Stag Theatre, to further explore their interest in dance.

Over the sessions, we hope to ignite an interest in dance training in a group of boys who we can then introduce to local dance schools, so they can try out more formal classes.

If you work in a primary school, or run a dance school, in the Sevenoaks area and would like to take part, please do get in touch.

18 - 22 NOVEMBER
The week of schools workshops will run from 18-22 November

SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER
The workshop at the Stag will be on Sunday 24 November from 10am-1pm, and will be open to any boys aged 9-13yrs, free of charge.

For more information visit www.sevenoakspanto.com

ALADDIN STAG THEATRE SEVENOAKS
6 DEC 2019 - 5 JAN 2020
WWW.SEVENOAKSPANTO.COM

TERM DATES 2019/2020

TERM 2		
START:	Monday	28th October 2019
FINISH:	Wednesday	18th December 2019
TERM 3		
Staff Inset	Monday	6th 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	1st June 2020
START:	Tuesday	2nd June 2020
FINISH:	Tuesday	21st July 2020
Staff Inset:	Wednesday	22nd July 2020
TERM 6:		
START:	Wednesday	2nd September 2020

FOOTLOOSE
THE MUSICAL

Stage Adaptation by DEAN PITCHFORD and WALTER BOBBIE
Based on the Original Screenplay by Dean Pitchford
Music by TOM SNOW Lyrics by DEAN PITCHFORD
Additional Music by ERIC CARMEN, SAMMY HAGAR,
KENNY LOGGINS and JIM STEINMAN

An amateur production by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of R&H Theatricals

18th - 19th October 2019
01732 450175 - stagesevenoaks.co.uk