



AMHERST NEWS



News No. 8 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk 01732 452577 1st November 2019

Star of the Week



3A	Zach R	5B	Tom F
3W	Shalom O	5H	Amy A
3S	CeCe B	5J	Mia F
4W	Isabella R	6A	Charlie H
4SF	Tommy J	6P	Lois M
4C	Angie D T	6B	Tessa H

Clubs Cancelled Next Week

Due to Parents' Evening on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th, after school clubs have been cancelled, with the **exception** of the following:

Tuesday	French, Mandarin & Pottery
Wednesday	Sewing, Mandarin & Pottery

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



We now have poppies in school. If your child would like a poppy, please bring in a donation next week.

Star of the Week Badges

Please could badges be returned to school on the Thursday after the week your child has been awarded it. Unfortunately, the badges are not to keep! If your child has a badge at home from a previous week or year, please return it to reception. Thank you

Children in Need



We are organising some fun activities at school next Thursday (14th) for Children in Need!

Yellow / Spotty fun run with Running Club - £1
8:00am on the school field

Bake off – spotty cakes and cupcakes
Entrants to reception by 8:50am

Drawing/art competition - £1
Entrants to class teachers by 8:50am

Cake sale after school

All WINNERS will be announced in assembly on Friday.

Forthcoming Events

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 2 nd Hand Uniform Sale
05.02.20	Year 6 Young Voices Trip O2
14.02.20	End of Term

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!



Music

'Musical Showcase' Assembly

We would like to offer children the chance to perform a piece on their instrument in front of the school in assembly. This will be a relaxed way to perform in front of a large audience and may particularly suit those with upcoming graded exams, to whom preference will be given. Mrs Henderson, our new flute teacher, has offered to accompany the children, given that she has the piano music ahead of time. We have provisionally set aside a 20 minute slot on **Tuesday 12th November**, although if there is lots of demand we can provide other dates throughout the term. If interested, please email the office.

Hygiene Bank Charity

Times can be tough and sometimes the expense of hygiene and personal care products comes way down the list of priorities. If you and your family want to contribute to the Hygiene Bank Charity, we need everything from toothpaste to nappies. There is a crate in the school reception for you to leave your donations. Thank you in advance.



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

Netball



On Monday 28th October, seven children played in the first match of the Netball League at Knole Academy against Sevenoaks Primary School.

The team played fantastically throughout all four quarters resulting in a score of 5- 0 to Amherst. This score reflected their hard work, determination and excellent teamwork. The team were able to create many opportunities to score and managed to create space and evade the excellent Sevenoaks Primary School defence. All players contributed greatly to the team's success. Charlie Trigg was awarded player of the match by Sevenoaks Primary School. Overall, it was a great start to the netball season!

The following children were part of the Amherst team: Connie F, Caoimhe M, Charlie T, Anais K, Eva G, Lily S and Isabella H. Thank you also to the parents who supported us and transported the team to the match. Miss Parish and Miss Jones

Sport – contd

Recent Chess Success

Aoife (6P) and Tessa (6B) took part in the ECF U11 English Girls' Chess Championships held at Blenheim Palace on Sunday 20th October. They each won three out of their individual six games with Aoife finishing in 14th place and Tessa in 15th place, so a fantastic achievement for both girls!

Violet D played in the Sussex Junior Grand Prix at Worth School on Saturday 19th October. She won 4 out of 6 games, winning the trophy for U10 Top Girl and qualifying for the London Junior Chess Championships. Well done!



Amherst have had very strong representation in the first two Kent Junior Chess Grand Prix tournaments, at Tonbridge Grammar on 28th September and at Chislehurst School on 27th October. The following players played 6 games apiece, winning individual points and contributing to Amherst's magnificent 4th place out of 32 schools so far this season: Noah T, Tessa H, Aoife G, Lucas T, Mick H, Dylan R and Ben H. Particular congratulations to Ben who won 4 out of 6 games and qualified for the London Junior Chess Championships. The next Kent tournament is on 17th November. To enter please go to www.kjca.org.

Secondary School Visits

If you are planning to take your child to a secondary school visit, please email the office.

Also please note that lunch will be served from 12.00 - 12.30pm. If your child would like a school meal of their choice, they would have to be in for morning registration. If not in early morning, we will only be able to serve them a pasta lunch if they return before 12.30. Please see websites for more information and bookings.

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 7 entry assessment 2/11, yr9 pre CE assessment 2/11. Yr5 taster 25/3. For more info please see website www.sackvilleschoolhillviewgirls.school.uk
Hillview Girls School – open evening 17/10, 5.30-8.30pm. Please check website for further details www.hillview.kent.sch.uk

PTA News

We hope that you all got a fabulous rest over half term.... Because now its time to GET BUSY!!!!

Hopefully you will have seen our monthly newsletter which came out on Tuesday which gave you a full update on what we have been doing and what's coming up, so below is just a brief timetable for your calendars.

We hope you have a great weekend and a wonderful fireworks night! PS. We saw this and thought it was too clever not to share:

Stick sparklers into a carrot so the kids can hold them safely



It's great for little hands that need something chunky to hold & easier for them to grip.

Dates for your diary:

30th October: Fireworks tickets purchase deadline

3rd November: Bangers & Bingo booking closes

6th November: Amherst's Grand Design Project launch party booking closes

8th November: Chocolate donations (please!)

8th November: Bangers and Bingo night

13th November: Amherst's Grand Design Project launch party

15th November: Spa & Beauty, Festive food and gifts donations – children wear jeans to school

18th-29th November: Children's Books and Toys donations

22nd November: Chocolate & sweets donations – children wear home clothes

PTA News - contd

29th November: Filled punnets/bags – children wear silly socks/tights

6th December: Bottles, cakes and biscuits donations – children wear festive headwear

7th December: Christmas Bazaar


9th December: Mini Bazaar

11th December: Christmas Lunch (adjusted date)

..... We did say it was going to get busy!!!! Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all your amazing support. The PTA Committee are blown away by how supportive and generous our school community is.

Follow us on social media:

 @EventsPTA

 @amherstptaevents

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
	billyisondrums@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.

Education Consultation

Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys
Date of consultation 28 October 2019 to 6 December 2019



Please click to read the full document on our school website:

<https://www.amherst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=18>

Kent County Council are seeking views on a proposal to expand Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys by increasing the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 210 places to 300 places, facilitated by the establishment of a satellite of the school on the Wildernesse site in Sevenoaks from September 2021.

The public consultation will run for a period of 6 weeks from 28th October 2019 and will conclude at midday on 6th December 2019.

There are a number of ways to give us your views on this proposal:

- A 'drop-in' information session at the Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys on the 12th November at 6.30pm to 8.00pm. This will provide an opportunity to ask questions and complete a response form.
- A Public Meeting will be held in the Hall of the Grammar provision on the Wildernesse site on the 20th November at 6.30pm to 8.00pm. This will provide an opportunity to ask questions and complete a response form.
- By sending the response form by post to Ian Watts, West 11, Worrall House, 30 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, Kent ME19 4AE by midday on 6th December 2019
- Hand your response form into the school office at Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys, St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells TN4 9XB by midday on 6th December 2019
- By emailing your comments to: school.consultations@kent.gov.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 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

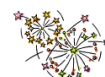


3rd Sevenoaks
(Riverhead and Dunton Green)
Scout Group

Firework Display



2nd Nov 2019



Gates open 6pm – First Rocket 7pm
Bradbourne Vale Road

Burgers, Sausages, Mulled Wine, Refreshments available

Tickets available at Batchelors' Butchers
And The Bullfinch

Advance price	Gate price
Single ticket - £5 each	Single ticket - £7 each
Family ticket (4) - £15 each	Family ticket (4) - £20 each
Children under 3 - Free	

Too noisy? Watch from inside the Scout Hut.
www.3rdsevenoaks.org.uk



Is your Year 4 child keen to play football for a friendly, successful local team?

Otford United U9s are welcoming new players this November!

Following last season's trophy-winning campaign, our Under 9 'Pumas' team are looking to add talented new players. If your child is looking for a new challenge, we'd love to hear from you.

We offer first-class pitches and high-quality training delivered by Level 1 and 2 FA-qualified coaches with full Safeguarding and First-aid certification. Our focus is on developing skills, confidence on the ball and good decision-making. The Pumas compete in the Crowborough league, with matches taking place every other Saturday.

We have open sessions and trial games scheduled through November on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. **To take part or to learn more, please send an email to Rob (Pumas Manager) ASAP at pumas@oujfc.com. Places are limited.**



Our club

Otford United is a well-established Football Club based at Otford Recreation Ground. We pride ourselves on being an FA Charter Standard Community Club and we aspire to high standards in the development of young players. We uphold the principles of the FA's Respect programme to ensure that football at our club is an enjoyable, inclusive and positive experience for all.

otfordunitedfc.com



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>

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 Davis, and dance captain, Patrick Rosinha, 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

Term Dates 2019/2020

TERM 2		
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	1 st June 2020
START:	Tuesday	2nd June 2020
FINISH:	Tuesday	21st July 2020
Staff Inset:	Wednesday	22 nd July 2020
TERM 1:		
START:	Wednesday	2nd September 2020