



AMHERST NEWS



News No. 10 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk 01732 452577 15th November 2019

Star of the Week



3A	Charlie S	5B	Eva P
3W	Emma H	5H	Annie T/Teddy L
3S	Issy Leighton	5J	Rose P
4W	Battle Abbey trip	6A	Luke M
4SF	" "	6P	Callum D
4C	" "	6B	Albie D

Congratulations to the following children who won prizes:

Art Competition

Overall winner - Zach R
 Year 3 – Ewan S
 Year 4 – Alice M
 Year 5 – Imogen D
 Year 6 – Arthur P

Bake Off

Year 3 – Elsie P
 Year 4 – Eliza A
 Year 5 – Alice B
 Year 6 – Kaydie R

Beat-The-Goalie

Year 3 – Ethan W
 Year 4 – Dylan R
 Year 5 – Kai K
 Year 6 – Blake R

Children in Need Thanks!



A HUGE thank you so much to everyone for their generosity supporting Children in Need yesterday. The day started with so many children and parents joining in a cross-country run around the school field. As the sun shone, the children eagerly began their laps. It was lovely to see some new faces join in with the usual cross-country running group to help raise money.

Then the cakes began to arrive for the Bake Off and it was evident there had been some master bakers at work! There were large and small Pudsey Bears and creations that must have taken ages to bake! We had so many cakes that the judges found it difficult to make a decision. The cakes were all sold after school in the busiest sale we have ever seen!

At lunchtime, there was a penalty shootout against Mr Barratt in goal. So many children lined up to try to 'beat the goalie'! Mr Barratt took nearly an hour of penalties and was seen diving in the mud trying to save balls from all directions!

Lastly, so many children entered the art completion displaying their artistic talents. There were drawings of many shapes and sizes, collages and paintings all based on the Pudsey theme. There is a display in the hall with the some of the artwork on it.

Huge thanks go to EVERYONE as it has been a whole school effort and the different events we organised helped us to raise almost £900 which is a staggering amount! Thank you to all the staff who helped judge and run the activities and all the parents who helped with the cake sale. Lastly, the School Council who helped organise all the activities. You were all incredibly generous and helped a very worthy cause!



Choir Performance on BBC1 TONIGHT!

Don't forget to watch BBC1 this evening, for a chance to see the Amherst Choir take part in the BBC's Children in Need.

The choir have travelled to Maidstone today and will be singing from Allington Castle in Maidstone, performing *True Colours* alongside 2000 other children from around the country.

The choir will be live on BBC1 during this evening's coverage, firstly on BBC1's South East News, at **6.30pm**, and then during Children in Need itself between **8.10-8.30pm**.

School Vacancies

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

Midday Supervisor <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=76256>

Breakfast Club Assistant <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=76353>

Late Arrivals to School

If you are bringing your child to school late, please can you ensure that you accompany your child into the school building and sign them in at reception. Thank you.

Star of the Week Badges

Please could badges be returned to school 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

Forthcoming Events

29.11.19	Clubs End
3.12.19	Year 4 Christmas Performance 2.00pm
4.12.19	Year 4 Christmas Performance 6.30pm
07.12.19	PTA Christmas Bazaar
09.12.19	PTA Mini Bazaar
11.12.19	Christmas Lunch
12.12.19	PTA Secrets Room
16.12.19	Carol Service St. Mary's Church 6.00pm
17.12.19	Whole School to Pantomime
18.12.19	End of Term
07.01.20	Start of Term (Tuesday)
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
25.02.20	Year 3 Roman Day
27.02.20	Year 3 Roman Day
28.02.20	Year 3 Roman Day
04.03.20	Jeremy Strong visiting school
06.03.20	PTA School Disco

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>

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!



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!

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. Yr5 taster 25/3. For more info please see website www.sackvilleschool

PTA News

Its official! Amherst's Grand Design Project is now officially launched! Thank you to all who joined us for the evening and to those who helped us to arrange it – we hope everyone had a fantastic time!



Friday last was **Bangers & Bingo**, and we declare it a total success! The children had a great time – by all accounts, the noise levels were something else – next year we will supply ear defenders and neurofen to the organisers!!! Thank you so much to 5H for organising such a brilliant event for our children, and a special mention to Mr Pound for being such an incredible host!!!

This year we will be holding an **Advent calendar raffle** – date to be confirmed but this will be later in November. Tickets will be £1 and children can buy 1 ticket – the draw will take place in school assembly. There will be a chocolate calendar per class, plus star prizes of a Harry Potter Lego calendar, and a large Cadbury's Heroes calendar.

We were asked several times at the launch party, about **Match funding**. Because this is so important to the school's fund raising efforts we have prepared some information on this which will be sent to you via email. We cannot stress how much of an impact Match Funding can have – often doubling funds raised, so please, please do take a moment to read this when it comes and see if this is something which you could do. Thank you.

Our next big event is our **Christmas Bazaar**. We know that this time of year can feel like we are asking a huge amount of you, but we promise that you and your family will have such a good time at the Bazaar, it will be worth it. But thank you, nonetheless for your support, we honestly appreciate every single contribution from our families.

Monday sees the opening of our **toys (including plushies), children's books and childrens DVD collection** – this runs until 30th November. As always, donations of clean, working items with batteries removed would be much appreciated – donations can be left in the appropriate boxes in reception.



Amherst's Christmas Bazaar

Date 8th November: 15th November:	Donation Chocolate Spa & Beauty, Festive Food & Gifts	Children wear N/A
18th – 29th November: 22nd November: 29th November: 6th December:	Children's Books & Toys Chocolate & Sweets Filled Punnets/Bags Bottles, Cakes & Biscuits	Jeans N/A Own Clothes Silly Socks/Tights Festive Headwear

Dates for your diary:

7th December: Christmas Bazaar

9th December: Mini Bazaar

11th December: Christmas Lunch

18th December: End of Term PTA Christmassy Cake Sale

Follow us on social media:

@EventsPTA

@amherstptaevents

Music

Clarinet for sale – please ask at the school office for more details.

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.

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.



Stationery

Please could you ensure that your child brings to school the relevant stationery items they may need for lessons including Glue Sticks!



***INCLUSION NEWS ***

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 midday supervisors 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

The Rock Project
School of Rock & Pop

OPEN IN SEVENOAKS
sevenoaks@therockproject.com
Tel: 07739 379 838.

- * Guitar Lessons
- * Singing Lessons
- * Bass Lessons
- * Drum Lessons

Ages 7-11 & 11-18
Play in a band every week
Perform in our Annual Gig
Beginners Welcome!

www.therockproject.com

Events In The Local Community - contd

Free Art Workshop

You are warmly invited to attend a creative workshop in our Art Department at Caterham School. The focus will be transfer printing onto a tote bag.

Sat 30 November
Suitable for KS2 children aged 7-10. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Session One: 9.30-10.30
Session Two: 10.30-11.30

To book your place at one of the sessions email
rachel.veldtman@caterhamschool.co.uk



Foundation Development Centre Trials



@ Hayesbrook School
Brook Street, Tonbridge, TN9 2PH
17:15 – 18:30

Male and female players aged 6-11 years are invited to attend one of our **FREE** trial evenings:

Year 1 & 2 Trial (6-7yrs)

Date: **Wednesday 20 November 2019.**
Course Code: FDCTR-HWB-K-2

Year 3 & 4 Trial (8-9yrs)

Date: **Wednesday 27 November 2019.**
Course Code: FDCTR-HWB-K-3

Year 5 & 6 (10-11yrs)

Date: **Wednesday 4 December 2019.**
Course Code: FDCTR-HWB-K-4

BOOK ONLINE NOW www.chelseasoccerschools.co.uk
For further details please contact **John Rourke**
e: john.rourke@chelseafc.com m: 07720 975 201

KIDENZA
classical concerts for kids
PRESENTS

SANTA IN SPACE

Oh no! Santa has suffered a 'santanav' malfunction and has ended up in space! We need help to bring him back to earth.

A FUN CLASSICAL CONCERT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES!

INCLUDES MUSIC FROM **STAR WARS**

Adults **£15**
Children **£8**
Workshop **£12** (includes 2 tickets)

THE PAMOJA HALL, SEVENOAKS SCHOOL
Saturday 14th December
Concerts 2pm & 4pm

Fun percussion workshops for children*

*Pre-bookable at an extra charge

www.tickettailor.com/events/kidenzacic www.kidENZA.co.uk

Follow us on social media

Term Dates 2019/2020

TERM 2		
FINISH:	Wednesday	18 th December 2019
TERM 3		
Staff Inset	Monday	6th January 2020
START:	Tuesday	7 th January 2020
FINISH:	Friday	14 th February 2020
TERM 4		
START:	Monday	24 th February 2020
FINISH:	Wednesday	1 st April 2020
TERM 5		
START:	Thursday	16 th April 2020
FINISH:	Friday	22 nd May 2020
TERM 6		
Staff Inset:	Monday	1 st June 2020
START:	Tuesday	2 nd June 2020
FINISH:	Tuesday	21 st July 2020
Staff Inset:	Wednesday	22 nd July 2020
TERM 1:		
START:	Wednesday	2 nd September 2020