



Star of the Week



3A	Molly H	5B	Finn R
3W	Rufus D	5H	Emily R
3S	Joe C	5J	Ardie C
4W	Morgan P	6A	Isabella H
4SF	Aimee H	6P	Hannah B
4C	Sebastian M-S	6B	Charlie T



Children in Need

Amherst Choir performed in the BBC's 'Children in Need' last Friday, featuring on the South East News as well as the main BBC One coverage. Thank you to Miss Foinette, Miss Holland and the other adult helpers for accompanying the children. The choir will next be performing at the Sevenoaks Christmas Lights Switch-On next Friday (6.00pm), the school Carol Service on 16th December and by the tree in Trafalgar Square on Saturday 21st December (6.00pm).



Please take care...



With the frosty mornings now here, please take care walking around the site particularly when the temperature is below freezing. Mr Hucks does use grit around the site when appropriate, but care should be taken as pavements and pathways can still be slippery!

Year 4 Trip to Battle Abbey

Last week Year 4 took a coach to Battle Abbey, the likely location of the Battle of Hastings. Linking with our current Norman topic, the children were able to explore the site, visit the Discovery Centre and take part in an expert-led workshop. Thank you to English Heritage and to the parent helpers who were able to come along.



Tree Planting

Jack B's (5J) family were lucky enough to receive one of the 10,000 commemorative trees given by the Queen's Commonwealth. This is part of a 'Global Forest Conservation Project' to mark her Majesty's lifetime of service to the commonwealth.

Four generations of Jack's family have attended Riverhead and Amherst Schools, so they have a very long-standing connection with us and we are honoured that they chose our school as the place they wanted the tree planted.

We held a small planting ceremony on Wednesday, aided by Jack!



Signed England Rugby Shirt



Mrs Walker has kindly donated a signed Rugby World Cup 2019 shirt by Jonny Wilkinson for the Christmas Bazaar's Silent Auction. The shirt has been framed, and will be brought into school in the next couple of days and displayed in reception.



Amherst Choir Performance At Christmas

Don't forget 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

29.11.19	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



Thank you to those of you who have kindly donated to this cause.

We are now in the position to offer donation bags to those who may need one. These bags contain donated essential toiletry items. If you feel you could benefit from one of these bags, please feel free to contact the school office.

amazon **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>

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.

Sport

Handball



On Wednesday evening, ten children from Year 6 took part in the Sevenoaks District school's handball tournament at Knole Academy.

Our team was amazing and displayed incredible skill to win all of their group matches by a large margin. In fact, they only conceded one goal during the first round.

In the final, Amherst played Lady Boswell's. It was a very close and nail biting match with a score at full time of 5-5! In extra time, Amherst raised their game even further and scored 6 extra goals and defended superbly. Lady Boswell's did not score so Amherst won the whole tournament. We are now through to the Kent School Games finals representing the Sevenoaks and Malling District.

Massive congratulations to Charlie T, Theo L, Luke M, Ethan T, James P, George W, Maxwell T, Vivien R, Maya K and Izzy E.

Thank you to all the parents who supported the team in the freezing cold. *Mrs Wheeler and Mr Barrett.*

Kent Junior Chess Grand Prix



On Sunday, the following Amherst players took part in the 3rd tournament of the season: Harry W, Aoife G, Noah T, Violet D, Lucas T, Ben H, Shabd L and Toby W. It was a tough but successful day; each player played 6 games winning points for themselves and Amherst in the Primary School league. We are currently 3rd out of 35 schools in Kent (only Dulwich Prep and Pointers are ahead of us). Well done in particular to Toby and Shabd for entering the tournament for the first time, and to Ben for winning 5/6 games and coming joint 2nd in the Under 9s out of 50 children!

The next GP is on Saturday 11th January. To enter please go to www.kjca.org/Event.

Kent Schools TT Association – Under 11 Team Events

Amherst's table tennis squad attended the Kent Schools Games at Medway Park on 13th November. There were four teams – three boys and one girl.

As always it was run on a group basis for the boys with the A (Charlie H, Jake A, Luke M and James H) and C (Charlie T, Theo L, Maxwell T, Shabd L, Dominic W) in Group 1 with St John's Primary (Sevenoaks) B and Bridge A. The A qualified for the final, topping their Group without the loss of a single game. The B were in Group B with Bridge and St John's (Sevenoaks) B. They won this Group with the loss of just one game – a most creditable performance. The C finished second in Group A and played the runner up of Group B, St John's A, for third place which they took with the loss of just one set. The B put up a good fight in the final, given their lack of experience in competitions, but lost it 0-8.

The girls (Lois M, Connie C, Dominic W, Alice M) defeated bridge 8-0 in their only match to claim the title.

Amherst therefore claimed the Boys Under 11 title, second and third place and the girls made it a clean sweep. Both teams will therefore represent Kent at the English Schools TT Association Zone 7 finals in Morpeth, Tower Hamlets, on Saturday, 18th January. Well done to them all, but there is still much work to be done before those finals take place. There will be representation from Essex, Hertfordshire, Hampshire plus East and West Sussex.

Grateful thanks are due to the parents who transported the teams and to David who helped with the organisation.

Janet Field
Head TT Coach
Amherst School

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>

PTA News

We hope you enjoyed catching up on all the PTA news via our November update (sent earlier this week). Rather than go over the same information again, this week we will keep it brief!

Our toys (including plushies), children's books and childrens DVD collection is now open – 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. Thank you.



Date	Donation	Children wear
8th - November 15th November	Chocolate Sips & Beers Foods & Gifts	N/A
16th - 20th November	Children's Books & Toys Christmas & Snow Foods & Gifts	Joana
22nd November 29th November 6th December	N/A Own Clothes Silly Socks/Nights Favourite Headwear	

Advent Calendar Raffle

25 - 27th November

- £1 per ticket
- Tickets on sale after school from 25th-27th November at the school gates
- First prize - Harry Potter Lego Calendar
- 2nd prize - Giant Heroes Chocolate Calendar
- 1 further Chocolate Calendar per class

Raffle will be drawn in assembly on 29 November 2019

THANK YOU

Dates for your diary:

7th December: Christmas Bazaar

9th December: Mini Bazaar

11th December: Christmas Lunch (adjusted date)

18th December: End of Term PTA Christmassy Cake Sale

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 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.



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).

***INCLUSION NEWS *** contd

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).

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

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!

Events In The Local Community

Bessels Green Art Club Annual Exhibition

Friday 29th November, 7pm-9pm. Church Hall, Bessels Green Baptist Church, TN13 2PS. Light refreshments will be served. Exhibition Open Day, Saturday 30th November 10am-4pm. Admission free!



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



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 1st June 2020

START: Tuesday 2nd June 2020

FINISH: Tuesday 21st July 2020

Staff Inset: Wednesday 22nd July 2020

TERM 1:

START: Wednesday 2nd September 2020



**YPSA HOCKEY DEVELOPING
HOCKEY WITH SEVENOAKS HC
MEMBERS**

Christmas Hockey Camp

Wednesday 18th to Thursday 19th December

Sessions 10 am to 12pm, Lunch, 1pm to 3pm



Children will need to wear clothing appropriate for sport, shin pads and a gum shield and bring their own lunches if staying all day.

The lead coaches will be Mr J Thomas (EH level 2 and County Coach) and Mr R Young (EH Coach Tutor, Head of Kent County Hockey player pathway / coaching and Sevenoaks Hockey Club Captain and coach to a number of teams) with Holly Luke (Qualified Teacher and EH level 1 coach and Rob Taylor NQT course and Level 1 hockey).

£70 for 2 days **paid for in advance**

£40 daily rate paid on and for each day

£25 half day rate come and go.

Places are limited will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In order to secure a place for your son or daughter, please complete and return the attached slip together with a;

- Cheque (made payable to YPSA LTD), cash or
- BACS payment HSBC (Sort: 404201 AC: 21539086 Ref: YPSAHBL) 14 Bray Rd, Edenbridge, Kent TN86BW
- To send us a payment by mobile you can simply log on to your existing mobile banking app and enter Richard's mobile phone (07932199072) instead of entering your bank details.

• **Advanced dates – New Term after school club Wednesday 15th Jan**

• **February Half term 17th – 19th Feb (Mon – Wed)**