



AMHERST NEWS



News No. 12 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk 01732 452577 29th November 2019

Star of the Week



3A	Caitlin J	5B	Hannah T
3W	Jeanne R	5H	Nye B
3S	Joe H	5J	Mia E
4W	Rosie F	6A	Ethan T
4SF	Ben G	6P	Sofia T
4C	Louis R	6B	Isabella B

School Club's Finish Today!

Please remember that school clubs finish today.

Amherst Choir Performance In Town!

Don't forget Amherst Choir will be singing at the Christmas Lights Switch-On in Sevenoaks town tonight! Please come and support us, we will be singing at 18.10 prompt!



Scholastic Book Fair



Last week, we held our Scholastic Book fair at Amherst. We wanted to thank all the parents and children who supported the book fair and purchased books. We sold an incredible £1,674 worth of books! Scholastic give the school 60% of the takings to spend on books for the classroom. Also, we wanted to express a huge thank you to the parents and volunteers who helped to run the book fair each afternoon after school.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Miss Apps and Miss Holland

Meal Bands

Please could we have ALL meal bands returned to school on Monday, thank you.

Musical Theatre Exam Results

Congratulations to Daniel A who achieved a distinction in his grade 1 musical theatre exam with a mark of 98%. A fantastic result!

Forthcoming Events

29.11.19	Clubs End Today!
3.12.19	Year 4 Christmas Performance 2.00pm
4.12.19	Year 4 Christmas Performance 6.30pm
07.12.19	PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00 – 3.30pm
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

Decorate a Biscuit at the Bazaar!

As usual, Mrs Rawlins will be running her 'Decorate a Christmas Biscuit (or Cake) Stall' at the Bazaar. She would welcome donations of plain biscuits (preferably Christmas shaped), and small plain fairy cakes. These can be brought in to school any time next week or on the day itself. Please could they be marked for the attention of Mrs Rawlins. Many thanks.



The Advent Puppet Calendar App



The History Troupe visited the school last week and gave a fun assembly to the school. They have released an Advent Calendar 'App' which goes live on 1st! To download the **free** App, you should visit the Apple App Store or Google Play and search for 'That Advent Puppet Calendar' App. Children (and Teachers!) can click on each door of the advent app's calendar. This will reveal more of the countdown to Christmas in their Puppet Primary School, as the Drama teacher discovers more about the Christmas Story. Most days feature just a short part of the serial story, but on some days, there are bonus features, taken from the original DVD advent calendar that they distributed to the schools a few years ago. We hope you enjoy looking at it yourselves and can make use of it.

School Vacancies

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

Teaching Assistant <https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=76583>

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.

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>



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.

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

Sport

Girls Football Match 7th November 2019



"I'm standing on the touchline watching the girls play their hearts out and yes I'm super proud that they won the tournament that they were the best team, that all of them gave 100% and worked as a team. However, I'm even prouder about how they conducted themselves, the brilliant way they represented the school, they acted humbly and were gracious in their victories. It was a real display of how football is a team sport not just about individuals, they supported each other, encouraged each other when someone made a mistake. Overall, it was a fantastic afternoon of sport and we look forward to hopefully being able to play some more matches this year
Thanks,
Mr Amott"

Sevenoaks School Indoor Football Tournament



On Friday 22nd November, seven children participated in the Sevenoaks School indoor football tournament. We played six matches against Weald, St Johns', Crockenhill, St. Lawrences', Lady Boswells and Dunton Green. After playing brilliantly as a team and scoring some fantastic goals, Amherst won all six matches, finishing the tournament as the undisputed winners! It was a credit to the boys to finish the tournament with a 100% record – the first team to ever do so in the history of the tournament! Player of the day was Lucas S. Congratulations to James P, Lucas S, Rocco Y, Theo L, Luke M, Ethan T and Isaac M. Thank you to all the parents for assisting with transport and for their support. Please look out for the team in this week's Sevenoaks Chronicle!
Mr Barratt

Music Lessons

Music lessons are available for many instruments at Amherst.

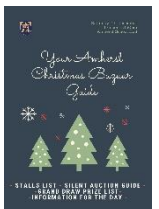
The tutors currently teaching at Amherst are –

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.

PTA News

*Bazaar preparation is reaching fever pitch with just one more week to go! On Monday we will be sending out our **Bazaar Guide** which will let you know about our stalls, plus list the prizes up for grabs in our Grand Draw and Silent Auction. We have (with your amazing help) been able to pull together over 70 fantastic prizes and we are really excited to share details on these with you early next week!*



Our final 'donation Friday' will be on the 6th and we are asking you for **Bottles, Cakes and Biscuits**, with a plea for some of your **legendary homemade cakes!!!!** In return, children can sport festive headwear. As always, we cannot express how utterly grateful we are for all of your donations in the run up to the Bazaar – thank you.

PTA News - contd

Our **Advent Calendar Raffle** will be taking place today so we wish all of the children the best of luck in the draw!

Lastly, don't forget, the **Christmas lights** are being switched on this evening – the event starts at 6pm and the lights come on at 7.30pm.

Who is putting their tree up on Sunday?!?! Christmas, here we come!!!!

Dates for your diary:

7th December: Christmas Bazaar

9th December: Mini Bazaar


11th December: Christmas Lunch (adjusted date)

12th December: Secrets Room

18th December: End of Term PTA Christmassy Cake Sale

Follow us on social media:

 @EventsPTA

 @amherstptaevents



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).

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!

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



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