



AMHERST NEWS



News No. 17 www.amherst.kent.sch.uk 01732 452577 24th January 2020



Star of the Week

3A	Laura P	5B	Issac M
3W	Ben I	5H	Hattie R
3S	Lucy E	5J	Jaden W
4W	Xander W	6A	Rocco Y
4SF	Kieran B	6P	Lizzie M
4C	Isabella V	6B	Noah T

Forthcoming Events

05.02.20	Year 6 Young Voices Trip O2
07.02.20	PTA Quiz Night 7.30pm
10.02.20	PTA Launch Wildlife Competition
14.02.20	PTA Valentine Raffle
14.02.20	End of Term
25.02.20	PTA Pancake Breakfast
25.02.20	Year 3 Roman Day
27.02.20	Year 3 Roman Day
28.02.20	Year 3 Roman Day
04.03.20	Y6 Parliament Trip
04.03.20	Jeremy Strong visiting school
06.03.20	PTA School Disco
24.03.20	Amherst Music Festival
24.04.20	PTA Cake and 2 nd Hand Uniform Sale

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=77527>

Breakfast Club Assistant

<https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=77368>

Teaching Assistant

<https://www.kent-teach.com/Recruitment/Vacancy/VacancyDetails.aspx?VacancyId=77797>

Sport

English National Schools Girls Chess Championships

On Sunday 12th January, Violet D, Aoife G and Tessa H represented Amherst in the ECF English National Schools Girls Chess Championships at Bramley School. There was 50 teams of 3 in the U11 section. Lots of the top teams were County and International junior players. The girls finished 2nd place, all winning 4/5 games. They now qualify to the National final in April.

This really was an amazing result, well done to them all!



Girls Table Tennis

Congratulations as the team has qualified for the Southern Region finals in Bristol next month. Well done!



English Schools Table Tennis Association Under 11 Team Events – Joy for Amherst Girls

Two teams from Amherst School, one boys' and one girls', had earned the right to compete at the English Schools Table Tennis Association Zone 7 Finals at Morpeth School, London, on 18th January.

Sport - contd

Zone 7 covers Essex, Kent, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, East and West Sussex. There were eight teams in the Boys' event arranged in two groups of four. Amherst went into Group B with last year's winners, Earls Hall (Essex), St Luke's (West Sussex), and Round Diamond (Hertfordshire), a really tough group. Predictably, Amherst lost 1-7 to Earls Hall but drew 4-4 with St Luke's, which they won on games countback 16-12. They lost 3-5 to the newcomers Round Diamond. This could, however, have been a win with two sets narrowly lost in the fifth. The girls' event had seven entrants from East Sussex, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire and West Sussex. Amherst were in Group B. They drew their first match but won on countback 15 games to 12. They managed to win an exciting second match with Greenway. The result depended upon the last set which Amherst won thereby taking it 5-3.

The semi final against St John's was yet another tight match going to the wire. Amherst won had to win the last set to go through which they did. Had it been a draw, they would have lost on countback 16-17.

In the final, they ran into Earls Hall (Essex), a very strong outfit and were not able to make much impression. Earls Hall get a great deal more table time than Amherst and that is a tremendous benefit to anyone. However, the girls will compete in the Southern Region Finals in Bristol next month. The Southern Region really is just that, from Kent to Cornwall.

Congratulations to the following children who took part, Charlie H, Jake A, Luke M, James H, Lois M, Connie C, Alice M, and Olivia W.

They were all well behaved and conducted themselves in the proper manner, as befits the navy and gold shirts all the rest are so envious of!

A special mention to Olivia – she was the one tasked at No. 4 who plays the last set when the team is “away” from home. She really did do well and twice won the final, crucial set. She wasn't at all fazed by anything!

Janet Field
Head TT Coach
Amherst School

Sevenoaks School Swimming gala

On Wednesday 22nd January, eight children from Year 3 and 4 participated in this new event at Sevenoaks School.

Each child competed in a 25m individual race and in two relays.

All of the children were phenomenal! It was a delight to watch their competitiveness and determination.

Our girls and boys team won the front crawl relay and came equal first in the medley relays. Most of the swimmers came first or second in their individual races and the Year 3 children were astonishing because they had to race against Year 4 children.

Huge congratulations to Daniel B, Lucas T, Dane R, Zac S, Rina N, Bronagh M, Alice M and Elizabeth O-G. Thank you to all the parents for their wonderful support and loud cheering!
Mrs Wheeler



Sport Achievements

Congratulations to Edward R-H (6A) who was awarded his black belt in Ju-jitsu over Christmas.

Raising Money for Australia's Koalas

Lucy E (3A) was so upset by the news of the koalas in the bush fires in Australia that she decided she wanted to try to help. She designed and made bookmarks and sold them to her friends in school and also baked cookies and sold them to neighbours. So far, she has raised nearly £35. She would like to get to £50 so will be baking more cookies soon!



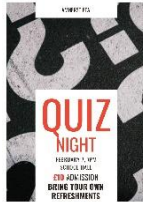
Late Arrivals to School

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.

PTA News

CALLING ALL QUIZ FANS!!!!

Tickets for our quiz night are selling fast and numbers are limited. For those who are hearing about this for the first time, our quiz (7th February) is going to be a really relaxed evening for our parents. It's a bring your own food and drink affair and promises to be a really fun and sociable evening with an opportunity to catch up with friends, make new ones and take on the 'Teachers Team' which is being headed up by Mr Reid!



<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta>

Our monthly PTA Update will be with you in the next few days, so please do have a read – we will be updating you more comprehensively on upcoming and events and also letting you know how the fund raising is coming along.

Dates for your diary:

7th February: Quiz Night

10th February: Photography Competition Launch -this year's theme is Happiness

14th February: Valentine Raffle

25th February: Pancake Breakfast

Follow us on social media:

@EventsPTA

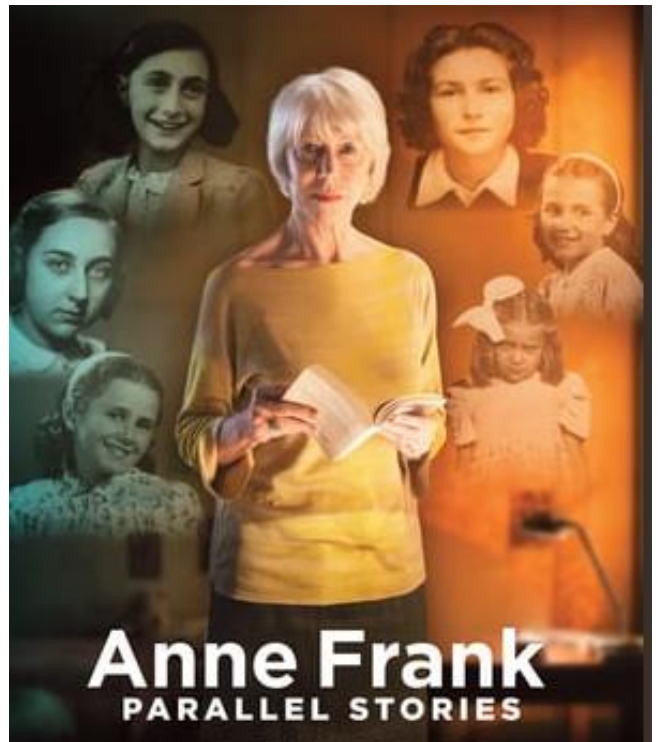
@amherstptaevents

A New Beacon Conference – Helping Young People Navigate the 21st Century

“Child and adolescent mental health is very much in the parenting and educational spotlight. We believe it is something about which we are very aware with strong pastoral care and attention to our pupils’ wellbeing – whatever their age. We are excited to announce that we will be holding a conference here at The New Beacon on 23 – 24 April with a target audience of parents and education professionals. Our aim is to delve deeper into this very important topic.”

Please find below a link giving more information about the conference and details on how to book places:

<https://www.newbeacon.org.uk/news-events/helping-young-people-navigate-the-21st-century/>



In recognition of Holocaust Memorial Day ... ‘Oscar-Winning Helen Mirren tells the story of Anne Frank's life through the pages of her world famous diary, a story that has made the tragedy of the Holocaust known to readers all over the world.’

There is a special showing of this film on Monday 27th January, 19.45pm at The Stag Cinema, this may be of interest to Year 6 children and parents.

For more information and to book online go to:

<https://stagevenoaks.co.uk/film/anne-frank-parallel-stories/>

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/amherstschoo>

School website link:

<http://www.amherst.kent.sch.uk/page/?pid=178>

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.

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

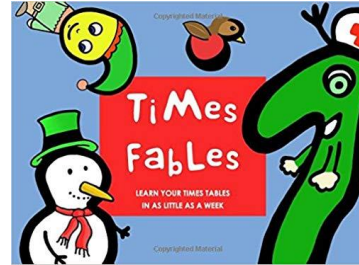
Sackville School – open mornings, 8/2, 5/3. Yr5 taster 25/3. For more info please see website www.sackvilleschool.com



INCLUSION NEWS January 2020

TIMES TABLES HELP

It's always hard embedding times tables. This little book, by J.Wilson is getting rave reviews from parents and teachers. Worth a try.



There's also the Squeebles app for tables on the go/in the car



BOOKS PLEASE

If your child borrows Barrington Stoke books or Rapid Readers (graphic books) from Mrs Holmes's office please have a look at home and bring them back, and swap for a new one. The bookshelf has a few gaps at the moment.

CLICKER 7 – for free

If you would like to access Clicker 7 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.

TTRS Typing

Typists, please try and practise at home once or twice a week. It makes such a difference. Parents, if you don't have your child's login details please email me and I'll send them to you.

PARENT DROP-INS

I am available most Wednesday afternoons (sometimes Tuesdays) 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).*

Regular Items & 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

The New Beacon School

Brittains Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 2PB
The New Beacon School is a thriving independent prep school in Sevenoaks where spacious grounds accompany their excellent facilities - perfect for Camps!

Facilities include:

- Indoor heated swimming pool
- Large sports hall
- Tennis/netball courts
- Astro turf pitch
- Wooded area
- Classrooms for arts and crafts

CAMP DATES

Easter: Mon 6th - Thurs 9th April
Summer: Mon 20th July - Fri 21st Aug



- Over 40 activities
- Amazing facilities
- Move dates for free up to 14 days in advance
- Book by day or week

- Monday to Friday
- Drop off 8:30 to 9:30
- Collect 16:30 to 17:15
- **EXTENDED DAY PASS**
- 8:00 until 18:00 £5 per day

Introductory Offer

Book by Tuesday 24th March 2020 and SAVE!

Standard £214/£188*

NOW £164/£138*

per week

*Lower price for 4 day Easter weeks

Standard £47

NOW £39

per day

BOOK NOW

ONLINE: www.ultimateactivity.co.uk PHONE: 0330 111 7077

PAYMENT: Credit/Debit Card and Childcare Vouchers

If you have received this flyer from your child's school, this does not mean the school endorses Ultimate Activity Camps.

Sevenoaks Junior Hockey Half Term Camps

Please see below dates and links for information regarding their half term clubs:

Thursday 20th February - Junior Skills Masterclass 09:30 - 12:30 (Years 4 - 7) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sevenoaks-hockey-club-half-term-junior-skills-masterclass-february-tickets-89482545703>

Thursday 20th February - Senior Skills Masterclass 13:30 - 16:30 (Years 8 - 11) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sevenoaks-hockey-club-half-term-senior-skills-masterclass-february-tickets-89483193641>

Friday 21st February - General Camp Years 4 - 11 all day 10:00 - 15:00 <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sevenoaks-hockey-club-half-term-hockey-camp-february-tickets-89483719>



DEVELOPMENT THROUGH DRAMA

One of the greatest life skills we can give our children is the ability to communicate confidently.

ROLEPLAY is vital to a child's development and increases social interaction, problem solving and communication skills. Through imaginative plays, we explore emotions and feelings which helps to boost **WELL-BEING** and **SELF-AWARENESS**.

WE GUARANTEE YOUR CHILD WILL DEVELOP EXCELLENT SOCIAL SKILLS THEY WILL NEED IN EVERYDAY LIFE

- SPEAK & MOVE CONFIDENTLY
- ANSWER IN FULL SENTENCES
- FEEL GOOD IN THEMSELVES
- IMPROVE CONFIDENCE & ENTHUSIASM
- INCREASE SELF-ESTEEM

- ACT IN PLAYS
- WORK IN GROUP SITUATIONS
- MEET NEW FRIENDS
- DISCUSS SOCIAL ISSUES
- IMPROVE LISTENING SKILLS
- ENCOURAGE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Our internationally acclaimed Drama Academy benefits tens of thousands of children around the world each week. Each class follows a curriculum designed by worldwide experts and focuses on speech, movement and improvisation skills.

Classes in: Biggin Hill, Bromley Common*, Chislehurst, Dunton Green, Gravesend*, Orpington*, Otford*, Petts Wood & Shortlands.

40 YEARS
1979 - 2019
OF THE HELEN GRADY DRAMA ACADEMY

PRIMARY classes 5-8yrs and/or 8-11yrs
*YOUTH THEATRE for 11-18yrs. FREE trial.

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