



AMHERST NEWS



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01732 452577

31st January 2020



Star of the Week

3A	Robin G	5B	Lily G
3W	Hannah T	5H	Alice B
3S	Paige W	5J	Edward C
4W	Annesha V	6A	Ollie W
4SF	George B	6P	Aoife G
4C	Amaia B	6B	Ella W

New Staff

We welcome Nicola Grobbelaar as a new member of our office team. She began on Monday 20th January and has already become a valued member of our team. We hope her time working at Amherst is a happy one.

We also welcome Alexis Formella who has joined us this week as a new midday supervisor.

Forthcoming Events

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
17.03.20	History Troupe Assembly
19.03.20	Year 5 'The Highwayman' visit
20.03.20	Clubs Finish
24.03.20	Amherst Music Festival
24.03.20	PTA Cake and 2 nd Hand Uniform Sale
25.03.20	Parents Evening
26.03.20	Parents Evening
31.03.20	Love 2 Dance at The Stag
31.03.20	Year 3 Easter Performance
02.04.20	Term Ends

FREE talk for parents - Play virtual, live real: keeping your children safe online

On **Wednesday 12 February (7:30pm)**, as part of our Focus on Online Safety Week, we are delighted to be hosting a talk **Play virtual, live real: keeping your children safe online** from The Breck Foundation which was set up in 2014 in response to the tragic murder of Breck Bednar, a 14-year-old Surrey schoolboy who loved science, computing and gaming

Admission to the event is **free** and will be hosted in our Pamoja Hall, The Space. Please do pass this onto your staff and parents who are welcome to attend.

'Breck was an 'A' grade student from a loving family and no one would have expected Breck to be a victim of grooming. His mother Lorin, who set up the foundation, believes that he would still be alive today if he had heard a talk like this. We are absolutely thrilled that Lorin herself is coming to speak and to give advice on staying safe online and we urge you not to miss this amazing opportunity to make a real difference to your knowledge and understanding of online risks and hence all our children's safety.'

The talk will start at 7.30pm in the Pamoja Hall, Sevenoaks School, with a Q&A at the end.

To book your free place today please email: boxoffice@sevenoaksschool.org

Please note that parking in Duke's Meadow, our main car park, will be limited but alternative parking can be found in town and is within easy walking distance.

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>

Teaching Assistant

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



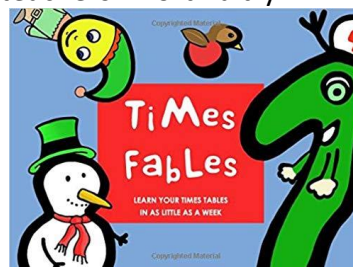
AMAZON GIFTING To help generate much needed income for the school we have set up an Amazon Gifting link. If you are purchasing on Amazon please follow the link below or the link on the homepage of the school website. The school receives a small percentage for each transaction, so the more people that 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>



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



Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme (AIPS)

The assisted instrument purchase scheme enables the purchase of musical instruments for children through their school **net of VAT** providing certain criteria are met. Children must be receiving tuition at school and the instrument must be used as part of the tuition. The instrument must be appropriate to the pupil's needs.

If you are considering purchasing an instrument for your child to use during their music tuition in school, please do discuss with your music teacher or Mrs Wicks in the School Office. If the conditions are met, we will happily arrange for the purchase to be made through the AIPS.

Parents must pay the cost price net of VAT in full prior to taking delivery of the instrument.

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.

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

Walthamstow Hall – open morning, 12/3. Please see website for more details www.walthamstow-hall.co.uk

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.

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

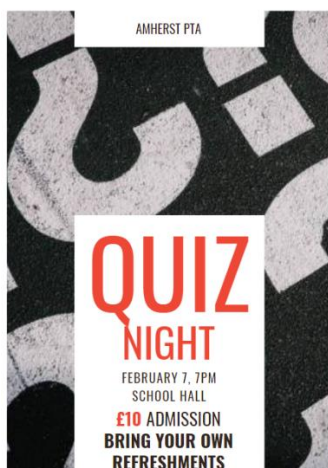
Please contact these tutors directly if you are interested in lessons. Please note that any child can only sign up for one instrument lesson during school time. Instrument hire is available from Guy Saunders on 01732-740755 and further details can be obtained from his website at: www.saundersmusic.co.uk.

PTA News

Bye Bye January.....

Goodbye diets, long nights and cold wet weather. Well, perhaps not the last bit but details..... we are super happy to welcome February as we have so much to look forward to!

First up, Quiz Night – we still have some tickets left....



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

Photography Competition

This launches on 10th February and details will be with you shortly..... our theme this year is 'Happiness'. As well as awarding one young person the accolade 'Amherst Young Photographer of the Year' there will be 3 winners per year who will ALL receive a famed copy of their image plus a place in a 2 hour photography workshop.

Disco

Its time for our little people to dust off their dabs, and come and throw some serious shapes! DJ, Disco Lights, Glowsticks, and some yummy snacks – the children are going to have a great time! 6th March – 5pm-8pm – tickets (£4) are now ready to be booked:

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



Dates for your diary:

7th February: Quiz Night

10th February: Photography Competition Launch

14th February: Valentine Raffle

25th February: Pancake Breakfast

6th March: School Disco

31st March: Photographs Competition Closing Date

Follow us on social media:

@EventsPTA

@amherstptaevents

Thank you. Helen Holmes, Inclusion Manager
(helen.holmes@amherst.kent.sch.uk).

SPORT

Sevenoaks and Malling Indoor Athletics Competition - Year 5 & 6

On Monday 27th January, a team of children from Years 5 and 6 participated in the Sportshall Athletics competition at Aylesford Sports College.

Each competitor took part in two track events and two field events involving throwing and jumping. Our athletes were incredible and displayed amazing skill and determination. The children won many of their track events and achieved superb results in their field competitions. Because of their fantastic efforts, our team won the whole competition.

SPORT - contd

Massive congratulations to: Liliya D, Rose P, Connie C, Vivien R, Caoimhe M, Ella W, Eva G, Sharon O, Hattie R, Teddy L, Ollie C, Luke M, Ethan T, James P, Charlie T, Freddie M, Freddie S and Blake R.

Thank you to the parents who transported and supported the children.

Mr Barratt



Sevenoaks and Malling Indoor Athletics Competition - Year 4

On Wednesday 29th January, a team of children from Year 4 also travelled to Aylesford Sports College to take part in the Sportshall Athletics competition.

This was the first time that any of the athletes had participated in an indoor athletics festival. The atmosphere was amazing in the sports hall where the track relays took place and the competition was strong. However, we came first or second in every relay race, due to the children's sheer grit and competitiveness. Each child also competed in throwing and jumping field events and again showed skill to achieve some fantastic results. All of our athletes were amazing and we came second overall.

Huge congratulations to: Rina N, Olivia W, Bronagh M, Alice M, Ella RJ, Isla C, Imogen F, Amiee H, Ava T, Matthew P, Lucas D, Zac S, Diego Q, Isaac H, Connor L, Dejan B, Joseph H and Peter W.

Thank you to the parents who transported and supported the children.

Mrs Wheeler



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

You are invited to the
Hospices Of Hope

Bagpuss Appeal Launch Party

Wednesday 12th February 2020

With special guests, Emily Firmin who starred in the original Bagpuss TV series, and Dan Postgate in attendance...

An exciting new appeal to fund the Bagpuss Wing for children with rare or life-limiting illness at Hospice Casa Sperantei.

Free entrance and drinks reception | Vine Baptist Church, Park Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3UP | 7pm - 9.30pm

Please register for the event online or via the QR code below



For more information and to register visit:
hospicesofhope.co.uk/event/bagpuss-launch-sevenoaks



Events in the Local Community - contd

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>

DRAMA SINGING DANCE

FEED THEIR IMAGINATION...
...WATCH THEIR CONFIDENCE GROW!

TWO WEEK TRIAL AVAILABLE BOOK NOW!

T: 020 8447 4530 E: enquiries@jigsawarts.co.uk W: jigsawarts.co.uk

DRAMA SINGING DANCE

Jigsaw has been providing high quality performing arts classes for more than 20 years, giving your child a place to belong!

- Drama, singing and dance
- Learn social skills, build self-esteem
- Two week trial available to all new customers
- 90 minute sessions for children aged 5 to 11
- There are sessions for children aged 7 to 10
- Students are taught by specialist performing arts tutors
- End of term shows, presentations, certificates and awards

Visit www.jigsawarts.co.uk for more information, or call 020 8447 4530 to speak with a member of our team and book a two week trial today!

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/jigsawarts](https://www.facebook.com/jigsawarts) Follow us on Twitter: [@jigsawarts](https://twitter.com/jigsawarts) Follow us on Instagram: [@jigsawarts](https://www.instagram.com/jigsawarts)

T: 020 8447 4530 E: enquiries@jigsawarts.co.uk W: jigsawarts.co.uk

CFC Foundation Training Camp

Hayesbrook School
Hayesbrook School, Brook Street, Tonbridge, TN9 2PH
Male & Female Football Training Camp
5 - 11 year olds

Day 1
Date: **Tuesday 18th February 2020.** Time: **09:30-15:00**
Registration from **09:00**

Day 2
Date: **Wednesday 19th February 2020.** Time: **09:30-15:00**
Registration from **09:00**

Course code: **FDCTC-HYB-K-1**
Providing opportunities for 5 - 11 year olds

BOOK ONLINE NOW www.chelseasoccerschools.co.uk
For further details please contact **John Rourke**
E: john.rourke@chelseafc.com M: 07720975201

Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir
with Amherst School Choir
conducted by Robyn Sevastos

Music for a Spring Evening

Rutter: Gloria
Lambert: Rio Grande
Chilcott: Little Jazz Mass
Brahms: Liebeslieder Waltzes

7.30pm
Sunday
29 March

Pamoja Hall,
Sevenoaks School

Tickets £14; £13 over 60s; £5 students and U21
available from choir members,
at www.sevenoaks-philharmonic.org.uk
01732 467765
or on the door (subject to availability)

Registered Charity No 263930

Tickets for the above concert can be bought on-line but Pamoja Box Office have no 'Print at Home' facility. Tickets can be posted for an extra 60p. People buying tickets on the night might have to cope with a lengthy queue. Previous concerts have had to start late because of this so please make every effort to buy your tickets in advance either on-line or at the Box Office, which is open from 1pm - 2pm Monday to Friday.

Sevenoaks Hockey Club

Half Term Holiday Camp at Hollybush

- Year 4 - Year 11
- General Camp & Skills Masterclasses
- Thur 20th & Fri 21st February
- Beginners through to County Level +
- Information and online booking at <http://sjhc.eventbrite.co.uk>



Term Dates 2020

TERM 3

FINISH: Friday 14th February 2020

TERM 4

START: Monday 24th February 2020

FINISH: Wednesday 1st April 2020

TERM 5

START: Thursday 16th April 2020

BANK HOL: Friday 8th May 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 Dates 2020/2021

TERM 1

Staff Inset: Tuesday 1st September 2020

START: Wednesday 2nd September 2020

FINISH: Thursday 22nd October 2020

Staff Inset: Friday 23rd October 2020

TERM 2

START: Monday 2nd November 2020

FINISH: Friday 18th December 2020

TERM 3

Staff Inset: Monday 4th January 2021

Staff Inset: Tuesday 5th January 2021

START: Wednesday 6th January 2021

FINISH: Friday 12th February 2021

TERM 4

START: Monday 22nd February 2021

FINISH: Thursday 1st April 2021

TERM 5

START: Monday 19th April 2021

FINISH: Friday 28th May 2021

TERM 6

Staff Inset: Monday 7th June 2021

START: Tuesday 8th June 2021

FINISH: Wednesday 21st July 2021