



AMHERST SCHOOL

Amherst School Newsletter No. 32

Message from Mr Reid

Year 6 have completed a second successful week back at school! We have been so impressed with how the children have adapted to the new routines. We have also been impressed with the children's emotional resilience and having a 'let's enjoy what is possible' attitude. This has been particularly significant this week, as under normal circumstances, Year 6 would have been away at Hilltop.



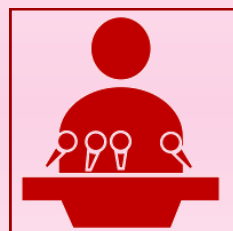
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We are very aware that Year 6 are missing significant events during Term 6 such as the summer production and Hilltop. **We will do all we can** to counter that disappointment and **ensure their final weeks at Amherst are still memorable ones.**

The **government announced this week that children in Years 3,4 and 5 will not be returning** before the summer holidays. I know this is a **big disappointment** and suddenly the prospect of home schooling until Tuesday 21st July may **feel overwhelming**. It is always hard to manage the emotion of having a hope that something might happen but not having any control over whether it will happen.

On that note, **I would advise you to be cautious** about getting excited over the government idea of 'summer catch up programmes' and 'all children back in September'. This is again a case of **headline statements in a press conference with no plan behind it**. I usually avoid being political but as a school leader, this pattern of government communication is becoming frustrating and unhelpful for all of us!

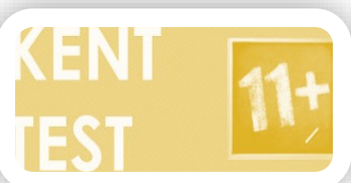


We have the desire for all children to be back in school as soon as possible. As mentioned before, until the restriction of a maximum class size of 15 is lifted, **schools are stuck**. The reference to **headteacher's taking more pupils** where possible, is related to **schools that were unable to open on 1st June** or unable to take all pupils in identified year groups.

We will continue to plan ahead the best we can. We will be prepared to have all children back in September but also start to consider contingency plans for not having all year groups back at the same time.



Google Classroom — Please can I remind you that the **expectation** is that **every child will upload the piece of work each week identified by the year group**. The longer home schooling continues, the more important this is to allow teachers to give more detailed feedback than just a short well done. If this is something you have not been doing please could I request that you **start from next week**. If your **enthusiasm for Google Classroom** has started to **dwindle**, again I would encourage a fresh start from Monday!



Kent Test — We are still **awaiting for an update from KCC regarding the Kent Test**. As soon as one is received I will communicate with you any changes. My **advice** at the moment, is continue planning and preparing that the original dates will be followed.

Yr 5 PARENT CONSULTATIONS



Parent Consultations will take place via **telephone appointment** on

- Wednesday 17th June from 1.30pm-5.00pm
- Thursday 18th June from 3.00pm-6.30pm.
- They will still be **ten minutes long**, and strict time keeping will be essential!

Please log in to [SCHOOL INTERVIEWS](#) and enter event code **axunt**

Please be aware teachers

- will **not have as much information** this year due to not having taught your child since March and also not having **June assessment data**.
- Most children did complete an **NFER assessment** just before school closure in March and an assessment in December.
- However, **we often see a pattern of their June assessment being higher than their March score**.
- This is not unusual so please do not be alarmed if your child's March score is lower than their end of Year 4 June assessment!

The **Year 5 teachers will do their best to provide** some insight to which type of school your child will be best suited to and where they will thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

Ultimately it is **you as parents who decide whether your child sits the test** and we are always **supportive** of all decisions taken.

Registration for the Kent Test will proceed as normal between 1st June - 1st July. Please go to [KENT TEST REGISTRATION](#) to register your child for the Kent Test.

DISTRICT SPORTS



This is in place of District Sports this year!

Please could as many of you enter as possible as Amherst are currently reigning champions and we would like to retain our **crown**!

Minute to Win it!

- The whole family can take part each week
- Each week send the results Sportspartnership@knoleacademy.org:
- Send your Surname, School and Score.

Week 1

How many minutes have you either walked or run as a family or individual.

Total for the week:

This can be more than one day of walking or running during **Monday 15th June to Sunday 21st June** total added together.

DISTRICT SPORTS LOCKDOWN

Minute to Win it

Week 1 : (15 June) - Walk or run. How many minutes of activity can you do?

Week 2 : (22 June) - How many skips in a minute?

Week 3 : (29 June) - Wheels— bike/scooter/ rollerboots. How many minutes of activity can you do?

Week 4 : (6 July) - Around the world. Pass a ball around your waist ... how many times can you do it in a minute?

The whole family can take part in this year's District Sports event!
Results will be announced on **20 July 2020**.

To enter: Send your surname, school name and results to:
Sportspartnership@knoleacademy.org,

For more information, visit the Sports Partnership section of the Knole Academy website:
<https://www.knoleacademy.org/490/knole-sports-partnership-10>

You can also follow us on our social media platforms:

knoleacademy Knole Academy News @KnoleAcademy



AMHERST PTA

Amherst Young Photographer Competition



This is the **LAST WEEK** to submit your photos — closing date for entries to 19th June.

All other details have not changed but if you do need us to send you the details, please drop us a note (Amherst-chair@outlook.com). The entries we have seen so far have been really fantastic and a real joy to receive – thank you to your children for sharing their ‘happiness’ with us!

- Please email your photo to us by clicking here: **SUBMIT** (amherst.competitions@gmail.com)
- Please pay for your submission by clicking here: **PAY**

Upcoming Events

The PTA is adapting to the new norm. We had **our first Zoom PTA meeting** last night – with a very good and productive result. We are very **proud to announce** that we have some **more fun Amherst community events planned**. More details will follow.



Amherst School BBQ in a bag – 11th July 2020 - **please save the date**

Our wonderful Summer BBQ committee have put on their thinking hats and have come up with a fantastic idea of how we as a school community can still have our Summer BBQ. The PTA team will meet up with the BBQ committee next Wednesday to discuss and plan more. We will be able to provide you with the final details next week. In the meantime, **please do save the date!**



Amherst School goes camping

A lot of you have asked if we organise a camping event at home. YES, WE CAN!
Date & details to follow.



Amherst School Escape Room

Another fab event for our children to be connected with their school friends is to solve puzzles and problems while being apart. Date & details to follow.



Amherst School lottery

Take part in our new Amherst School lottery with a chance to win while supporting your school. Details to follow.



CHESS

Amherst's online chess club has grown and grown this week, there are currently 40+ members with more joining every day!

We played our first Amherst Club tournament on Tuesday, which 18 players entered. It was a nail-biting event to watch, with some fantastic chess played.

Congratulations to Lucas T in 1st place, Ben H 2nd, and Benjamin H 3rd.

On Wednesday we played in our first online Primary Schools Battle, which 11 brave players entered, and all won at least one game. Amherst came 5th, a brilliant result for our first inter-school tournament.

Well done to everyone who entered: Ryan vH, Lucas T, Shabd L, Tessa H, Isaac H, Ben H, Owen P, Rory S, Dylan R, George F and William R.

We are planning to hold **Amherst Club tournaments every week**, and the next **Primary Schools Battle is in 2 weeks**.

CLICK on the icon:

There are also many other things to explore on lichess.org, for example training.

SPORT CHALLENGES



Hockey

Please **click on the icon** to visit the **Sevenoaks hockey club** site to find out about the hockey lockdown skills challenges!

Everybody who enters will be invited to a taster session once hockey resumes, if you enter your e mail address into the form where you enter your scores.



Tennis

Please **click on the icon** to visit the **Sevenoaks tennis academy** website to find the challenges.

To enter, please email tennisacademybookings@gmail.com with the following information :

Participants initials, Year Group or Adult School Category - With Racket / non Racket or if you want to enter both it is not a problem!



Athletics

Please **click on the icon** to visit the **Sevenoaks Athletics Club** website to find the challenges.

Instructions on what to do were emailed to parents earlier in the week.

We are top of the leader board and it is the last day to get scores in to Sevenoaks Athletics club !!

Sevenoaks AC Schools Leaderboard

School	Points
Amherst	131
Anthony Roper	87
Churchill	20
Shoreham	17
Guest	15

ACHIEVEMENTS

Annie Tallboy has passed her Grade 3 Flute with Merit

Paige Ward has taken a taekwondo grading via Zoom and has successfully passed to blue belt.

Congratulations!

COMMUNITY HUB

As part of Sevenoaks School's service programme they have set-up an **online Community Education Hub** which is a bank of student and teacher-made **videos**. There are **STEM home experiments**, **HIIT workout** with our sports teacher and **Cookalong videos**, which they will continue to add to. Please feel free to share and enjoy: [Education Hub](#)

Community Education Hub
SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

THIS WEEK'S ASSEMBLY

Please click here to listen to **Mr Reid's assembly** of 8 June 2020.



KENT TEST REGISTRATION

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**HOW TO
REGISTER**

MAP ANSWERS

Answers to last week's map challenge - Map 6

The first family to reply with the most amount of correct answers was:

First Place: The Parker family

Answers

1. A. Three; b. Two; c. Seven
2. Eastmoor Street and Westmoor Street
3. Camel Road and Swan Road
4. Silvertown
5. Queen Victoria and Albert
6. 750m

STAR OF THE WEEK



3A — Florence B

Florence is very happy to be Star of the Week! She is having a great time at home and is really enjoying her school work, particularly her favourite subject English and she has even started writing her own novel! She is having lots of fun playing with her 3 younger brothers and has done some fantastic Lego building this week and has nearly finished Hogwarts!



3W — James R

James has been working really hard on his Google classroom homework this week as well as helping his dad build a small vegetable patch in the garden. However, he is most excited about cycling and recently did 20km on the Forest Way trail bumping into Mrs Wheeler at the same time!



3S — Harry H

Harry has had a good week learning about angles. He's also worked hard on his English and produced a lovely piece of work on growing cress! He was upset to hear that he won't be able to return to school and see Miss Steptowe who he misses so much. Harry is looking forward to meeting a few of his class mates on the common later as he's missed them.



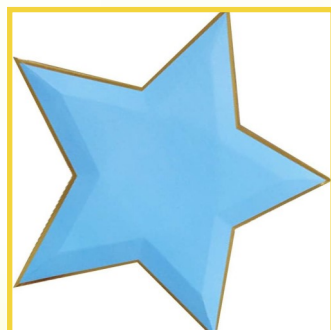
4C — Luke J

Luke has loved watching author Rob Biddulph videos and drawing the characters from his books. He has been completing his school work and particularly enjoyed writing about his Arctic Blizzard Dragon. Luke is becoming a master baker, creating some yummy cakes and is loving walking and playing with his dog Willow.



4SF— Mick H

Mick is really enjoying Art classes and made lots of pictures for us. Here he made a picture of the Golden Hind, related to the history topic. He also built a zoo in our front garden for local children to enjoy, which was lovely to see.



4W— Emily B

Emily wakes up every day at 7am and practises the flute for 20 minutes. She then likes to read (she has almost read all David Walliams books). Emily has achieved 5 stars on most of her touch typing tasks (she will try until she achieves that goal before moving on).



5B — Violet D

Violet is enjoying her time at home. She is happy and follows her timetable. She runs with her older Brother most days and enjoys baking with her older Sister. She spends many hours gardening.



5H— Esme L

Although Esme is missing school and all of her friends and teachers, she has been keeping in touch with them all by FaceTime. She is really enjoying the Greek project and the literacy and has almost finished her paint by numbers! She can't wait to see everyone again and be back at school.



5J— William C

William has been working really hard and seems to be in the swing of home schooling now. He enjoyed acting out his Greek myth and allocated out all the parts, including having his sister Mae behind the camera. He's been practising his football skills and has become a keen basketball player and cyclist. He always keeps us smiling with his cheeky sense of humour! He can't wait to join his 5J friends again!



6A— Alexandra C

Alexandra is spending most sunny afternoons riding her bike, discovering the natural beauties in the Sevenoaks area and also to train herself for a longer bike trip from Sevenoaks to Rochester Castle and return. She has recently completed a 22 mile round trip bike ride from Sevenoaks to Hever Castle.



6B— Zara W

Zara has been very happy to be back at school with her friends and enjoying gaining more independence by making her own way to and from school on some days. There have been many dog-walks with JoJo when the weather has been nice. She is also in the process of helping her Dad with redecorating her bedroom. Oh yes and of course, lots of videos on TikTok!!



6P— Aoife G

Aoife has been very helpful this week doing extra chores such as hoovering, cleaning and watering the plants.

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Paper maps and their digital equivalent, the image tile, are curated products. A snapshot in time. This map of Stratford in east London, the location of the Olympic Park for London 2012 Games, depicts the area with all the temporary buildings and facilities put in place for that moment in time. Afterwards our maps were updated again as buildings not required as part of the Olympic legacy were torn down or remodelled. Of course, this happens with all our maps but normally over longer timescales, with familiar na-

Questions

Easy

- 1. How many masts are marked on the map?
- 2. How many stadiums and arenas are marked on the map?

Medium

- 3. Which entry on the map provides two possible spellings, both which are valid?
- 4. What do ‘stadium,’ ‘village’ and ‘aquatic’ all have in common?

Tricky

- 5. Which locations on the map sound like the following?
 - A. Street with a larger stick
 - B. Place where tall fermented honey drinks meet
 - C. The pepper containers of a place of worship
 - D. A European country, trademarked
 - E. Thee different types of water

