



# AMHERST SCHOOL

Amherst School Newsletter No. 34

**In this edition:**

- 1. Message from Mr Reid
- 2. Amherst PTA
- 3. Sport & Chess
- 4. Other
- 5. Star of the week
- 6. Map 33

## Message from Mr Reid

I hope you have had a successful week and enjoyed/survived the change in temperature!

As mentioned in last week’s newsletter we have been trialling Google Meets to enable remote **meetings between teachers and their classes**. We discovered a major glitch around teachers not being able to end the meetings successfully so have therefore decided to use **Zoom** instead.



If your child is in Years 3, 4 and 5 you will have been sent a **letter** today regarding protocols for using Zoom. We will use the Google Classroom platform to share the meeting link which will appear on your child’s stream. This will be a recurring meeting for the last three weeks of term.

**Please don’t worry if your child misses their first meeting** due to a technical issue or not remembering to join the meeting. It might be a good idea to **join the meeting a few minutes before** to ensure cameras and microphones are working.

### TRANSITION

On **Monday 29th June** you will receive my Headteacher’s Letter for the summer term. As usual this will **contain details of who your child’s teacher will be next year**. If the Zoom meetings go well next week, we will be able to use this platform to complete transition meetings in small groups with your child’s new teacher.

During the last week of term we are going to ask all children to upload a piece of work about themselves for their new teacher to view and comment on via Google Classroom. This will include setting up a Google Classroom for Year 2 pupils for that week so they can also share a piece of work and begin to feel part of Amherst.

Monday 29th June is also the day all information will be sent to our new Year 3 parents. Our induction talk and tour has been replaced by a video tour and video of my talk. This will be placed on the school website.



As referenced in last week’s newsletter letter, I predict the last few weeks of term could be quite **difficult as restrictions in school become stricter** than wider society. It must be **confusing for a child** why they can go to a packed beach on a hot day with their family but at school are kept in a strict social bubble!

Please can I ask that if your child is attending school that you continue to be respectful **and mindful of the social distancing rules** in place outside of school. As much as we want to move life forward we do not want lockdown to be imposed again. **KCC have today released a statement** that schools must continue to follow the guidance given linked to schools reopening on 1st June. The statement included the following:

*We are aware that a number of schools plan to offer provision in a way that does not accord with the current guidance. This includes:*

- *Ending of term early to offset the time that schools remained open at half term and Easter*
- *Holding of sports days*
- *Rota-ing of pupils*
- *Shortening the term for some year groups to offer two weeks for pupils not currently in school to attend for a fortnight*
- *Pupils joining the school in Year R in September attending school this term*
- *Planning now for a delayed start to Term 1 in September, either for the whole school or individual year groups*

*It is absolutely understandable that schools wish to explore all opportunities for as many children to attend school this term as possible, especially as the hard work of schools has meant that the wider opening this month went well and confidence is high. However, the virus remains in circulation within the community and it is important that the prevailing guidance is followed today for the protection of staff, children and society.*

# AMHERST PTA

**Marshmallows at the ready.....** Amherst is going camping!

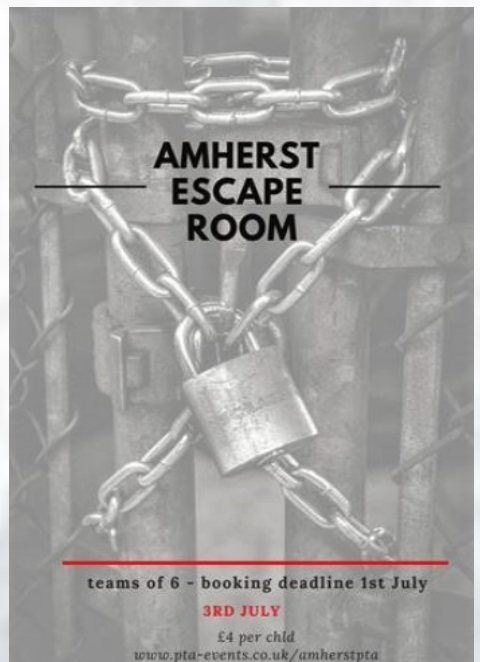


We are really looking forward to seeing you on Saturday evening, be it in in your living room under a sheet, or fully tented up in your garden! Please don't forget to send us your pictures and if you need a reminder about your class zoom call log in, just send us a note.

Also coming up with more details to follow:

## 3<sup>rd</sup> July Escape Room

Can you escape the mansion before midnight?!?!? Join us and your friends for a seriously fun, family friendly virtual escape room!



## 11<sup>th</sup> July Amherst Summer BBQ In A Box

..... launches early next week!



Have a wonderful weekend and don't forget your marshmallows!

Follow us on social media:

@EventsPTA @amherstptaevents

# SPORT CHALLENGES

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
- Send the results to [Sportspartnership@knoleacademy.org](mailto:Sportspartnership@knoleacademy.org):
- Send your
  - \* Surname,
  - \* School and
  - \* Score.

### Week 3

- How many minutes have you either cycled, scootered or roller skated as a family or individual
- Total for the week: this can be more than one day of activity during Monday 29th June to Sunday 5th July 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](mailto: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:

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# CHESS

This week we had two fantastic tournaments.



On Tuesday, our friendly Amherst Club tournament attracted 22 players, the most so far.

We trialled a different format- each player had 10 minutes per game instead of 5. This proved popular, as players were less panicked and thought longer about their moves. Congratulations to everyone for participating, especially those giving it a try for the first time. The top three scorers were Tessa H, Ben H and Lucas T.

On Wednesday, we entered the second Primary Battle against 7 other schools.

We came a respectable 5th, given that we were the top state school. 11 Amherst players entered- very well done to Tessa H, Lucas T, Ben H, George F, Dylan D, Isaac H, Owen P, Poppy-Grace DL, Benjamin H, Mick H and William R.

## UK Chess Challenge

This competition which we played the first round at school is now playing Megafinals on [lichess.org](https://lichess.org). Anyone can enter, it costs £30, and it is a tournament separated into age groups. Each player plays 6 games within a 2 hour window. There was one Megafinal held last weekend, in which Ben H won 4 games (and qualified for the next round) and Lucas T won 3 games. Congratulations to both. There is another round of Megafinals on 4/5 July. To enter, go to [delanceyukschoolschesschallenge.com](https://delanceyukschoolschesschallenge.com)

We had the following message from our UNIFORM SUPPLIER:

As well as the disruption with supply we also have one of the earliest back to school dates for some time, adding extra pressure for delivery.

- Please let your parents know that they should **order in July** to help us deliver their uniform for back to school before 1st September.
- For orders placed in August, whilst we will be working hard to deliver these before the start of the new term, we process orders strictly in date order. We have lost nearly 3 months of preparation time in the lead up to the back to school peak period. With the impact of both social distancing measures and this lost time, we expect delays with later orders.

## THIS WEEK'S ASSEMBLY

Please click here to listen to **Mr Reid's assembly** of 22 June 2020.



## KENT TEST REGISTRATION

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



## MAP ANSWERS

**Answers to last week's map challenge - Map 17**

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

**First Place:**     **The Parker family (three weeks in a row!)**

**Answers**

1. Four: 'Cairn', 'Settlement', 'Copper' and 'Mine'
2. 1085m and 119m
3. Seven
4. Devil's Kitchen
5. They are all preceded by 'Llyn', the Welsh word for 'lake'
6. 1750m



# STAR OF THE WEEK



**3A — Charlie T**

Charlie this week has been learning geocaching, the secret treasure hunt and continuing to climb higher and higher trees. He is also catching up on schoolwork and helping out in doing the gardening.



**3W — Dane R**

Dane is getting into the routine of home-schooling. He has worked extremely hard on improving his reading and maths skills. In his free time he loves spending time outdoors on his bicycle and running, especially with the great weather that we are currently experiencing.



**3S — William K**

William has swum in the English sea for the first time without any help!



**4C — Laila C**

Laila misses school and her friends terribly. She has seen that drawing on her resources is key to success with home-schooling as she contacted Mr Clarke for help with decimals. She has learnt the value of money, and the difference between wants and needs only buying things from the shops that were vital using her 'Go Laila' contactless card for her purchases!



**4SF— Dylan R**

Dylan's teacher commented that his Varjak Paw writing was an absolutely fantastic piece of work. He has also been enjoying the return of Manchester United, Chipstead Football, Holmesdale Cricket, virtual chess club, paddle boarding and has completed six 1000 piece jigsaw puzzles during lockdown.



**4W— Poppy-Grace DL**

Poppy-Grace has done some amazing suspense writing this week, and has made a fantastic model of the Globe Theatre. She's been working hard on her school work, but also riding her bike, swimming in a river and reading in the hammock. She is missing her friends but is being lovely to her little brother and very kind to her parents, even making them cups of tea!



**5B — Chloe I-C**

Totally inspired by the Ancient Greek topic and the piece of work asking to prepare a Greek menu to cook this week, Chloe has been very busy creating her own pizzeria. For Father's Day she baked a cake for her dad, all by herself, and then we were treated to our own 'Pizza Tuesday' - delicious! We're really looking forward to the Greek feast later this week!



**5H— Elise A**

Elise is working hard but missing school, she can't wait to see her friends and teachers again! Her favourite part of the Greek topic has been writing and acting out her script. She has written other scripts for fun, and she's keeping up with dance and piano via Zoom. She's enjoyed lots of cycling and camping in the garden - and she's looking forward to seeing her friends at the class camp out this weekend!



**5J— Madison R**

Madison very much enjoyed doing the Greek Project..... She made a menu, which she is going to make for Mum & Dad this weekend, and she made a sign for her Taverna! And she also dressed up as a Greek Waitress.



**6A— Lluan D**

Lluan is enjoying her time and has done lots of bike riding in the woods. She is very keen on art and has done some amazing paintings. Here she is on one of our recent family walks.



**6B— Neev G**

Neev has enjoyed being back to school, meeting his teachers and friends, having some independence of being in the last term of year 6. He is back to tennis courts, playing matches and cricket training that has been the highlight of his week. Neev has been going through books at the speed of light and has also explored some new genres and some of his favourite ones again.



**6P— Kaydie R**

Kaydie has loved being back at school and seeing her friends and Miss Parish. She has been continuing with her online guitar and singing lessons, as well as looking after her fruit and veg that she planted a few months ago. She has also been enjoying practising a new skill after school, penny boarding and she is getting quite good at it now.

Radcliffe Road, Nottingham

This unassuming stretch of road in Nottingham, Radcliffe Road, was the first tarmac road in the world. Tarmac was invented after an accidental spillage of tar was covered with waste slag from a nearby furnace by locals attempting to deal with the sticky mess. County surveyor for Nottinghamshire, Edgar Hooley, happened to be walking in Denby in 1901 and came across the spillage site. Being, in a position to develop and perfect a heated mix of tar, slag and stone chips, he began transforming road surfaces, starting with a five-mile stretch of Radcliffe Road.

Questions

Easy

- 1.How many places of worship (‘PW’) are marked on the map?
- 2.How many times does the word ‘meadow’ ( or ‘meadows’) appear on the map?

Medium

- 3. The names of how many different sports appear on the map?
- 4. How many streets share their name with former monarchs of the UK or England?

Tricky

- 5. Which two roads share their names with capital cities?

Challenging

- 6. Given that the scale of the map is 1:10 000, what is the distance between the two furthest apart pavilions as the crow flies, to the nearest 100 metres?

