



# AMHERST SCHOOL

Amherst School Newsletter No. 1



## Message from Mr Reid

It was **wonderful to welcome** all children and parents back to school on Wednesday having had such a long period away.

The children arrived with **smiling faces and a heart warming keenness** to be back at school. I know for many children the return to school created understandable feelings of anxiety. I hope as they come to the end of their third day feelings of excitement, enthusiasm and happiness have lowered the levels of anxiety.

Having spoken to many children over the last three days a **recurring theme is they prefer many of the adjustments made**. Feedback on the new style lunchtime is that it is **calmer, quieter** and the children enjoy sitting as a class. The zones outside for **playtime** and lunchtime have also been positively received. The children have more space utilising half the field and half the **playground** for one year group at a time.

I have been so **impressed with the children's positive attitude** and how quickly they have settled into the new routines.



*& new children*

A special mention to our new Year 3 children and other new children who have made a super start to their time at Amherst. The Year 3 teaching team have all commented how well they have adapted and managed the transition process successfully.

I have put together a **short video message** (I think I must be missing my YouTube assemblies!) regarding the start to the term. Please **click on the photo** below to view.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Mr Reid



# 1ST DAY BACK

# Important THIS week!

## COVID TESTING

We have been advised that pupils and staff who feel unwell, should get tested if they develop one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell,

or they are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse).



Please find more information on testing [here](#) **Public Health England**

## RETURN SPORT KIT

Please can all children who still have Amherst TEAM kit at home, bring it back to school and give it to Mrs Talliss.



## REPORT ABSENCES

Please report absences via our website before 09.00am in the morning.

Click on the link and complete the quick form—no need to email anymore:

[Daily Absence Form](#)



## VACANCIES

Please click on the link to view the job description and apply for:

[Teaching Assistant Vacancy](#)



## CALENDAR

Please subscribe to the school calendar by clicking on the **SUBSCRIBE** button on the Calendar page on our website:

[School Calendar](#)



## ORDER ONLINE

Order the following online via [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) :

- School Tie
- Gum Shield
- Ink Pens
- Replacement Planner
- Stationary Packs

**Schoolgateway**

## CONSENT— WALKING HOME

Please give permission via School Gateway for your child to walk home with an older sibling OR meet you / the person collecting them, outside the school gate (i.e. Common, Riverhead, etc).

Please click [here](#) to give consent.



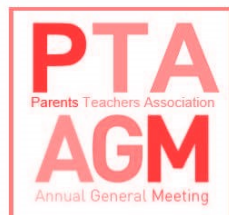
## PTA AGM MEETING

Our amazing PTA has their AGM meeting on **8 September 2020 at 20.00** — ALL PARENTS are welcome to join via ZOOM (details below):

Join [Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 725 2243 3696

Passcode: p16Br5



# AJFC — Amherst Junior Football Club

We are commencing the new AJFC season on **Saturday 12th September 2020**.

Due to Covid management, the set-up will be slightly different this year in that juniors (years 2-4) will run from 08:30-10:00 and seniors (years 5-6) 10:00-11:30. All will take place on the common and parents should social distance themselves on the side lines.

Please come along with your completed registration form as there will be a registration desk for submission. Forms will be available on the day should you not have one. Payment will only be accepted by direct bank transfer.

All children will need shin-pads and should bring water bottles with sessions consisting of drills and some friendly matches. Finally, the club only exists with the help of parents so please come and see us at the registration desk if you would be happy to partner up with an experienced coach to help look after the children. Hope to see you there!



AJFC Committee

## MUSIC

### Virtual Children's Choir

The Bach Choir invites all children to take part in a Virtual Choir Project.

Please register [HERE](#) (Password: Vocalise!).

Using this website, children will be able to learn a song called 'Love' by composer Will Todd and to send in a video recording by 15 September. This will be combined into a virtual choir and the final video posted online and various social media platforms. We hope that many children will enjoy taking part in this project. If you have any queries, please get in touch with Mr Clarke.



### New Music Teacher

We are delighted to welcome singing teacher **Eleanor Jones** to Amherst. Eleanor (BMus, MMus) is a soprano who regularly performs in the UK and abroad. She was awarded a Distinction for her Masters of Music degree from Trinity Laban Conservatoire and has performed with various leading orchestras, opera companies and on national radio. She should be contacted directly to arrange lessons at [eleanor.janes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eleanor.janes@hotmail.co.uk).

Singing lessons complement and build upon the musical teaching the children would get in choir, so these lessons are recommended for any and all children!



### Music Google Classroom

Whilst musical clubs are not able to take place in school, we have set up a Music Google Classroom to provide some resources including choir songs, Young Voices resources and potentially a platform to do online concerts in the coming months. This is in its early stages and will be updated over the next few weeks. We would love to have lots of children signed up to this and just like our Google Classrooms over lockdown, your child can join by clicking [JOIN NOW](#) and using their Google Classroom details to log on. More details to follow in future newsletters.



Google Classroom

### National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choirs Auditions

The National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choirs encourage all talented young singers from all backgrounds and musical styles to audition.

Booking opens Tuesday 8th September.

Please click [HERE](#) for more information on these choirs.

Please click [HERE](#) to book.

