



AMHERST SCHOOL

Amherst School Newsletter No. 2

Message from Mr Reid

The children have continued to enjoy being back at school, even if a little tired at times. We are all gaining our school resilience back after such a long period away.

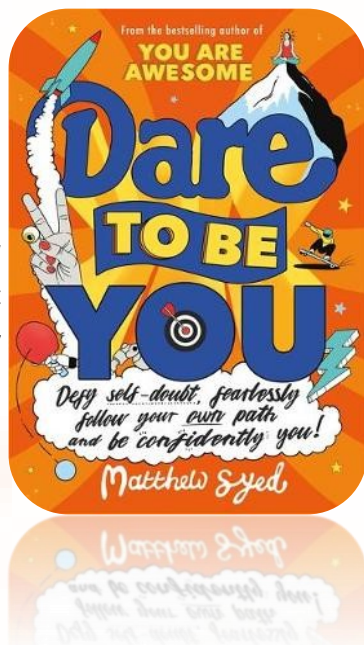
This week I started **reading a book** with my children at home called '**Dare to be You**' by **Matthew Syed**. It is an excellent book that I would recommend which contains valuable advice and guidance to children (and adults!) as they develop. It is written in a style that is engaging and accessible across a range of ages.

The **book focuses on the ability to defy self-doubt**, follow your own path and be confidently you. **It is written post lockdown and contains some very timely messages**. Key points that it helps children work towards are:

- Make friends with people who like you for you.
- Make choices based on what you feel is right.
- Don't blindly copy other people. Be you.
- Ask questions. Keep asking questions. Make things work for you.
- Don't be afraid to do things at your own pace.
- You should be prepared to be flexible.
- Be kind. And don't listen to anyone who isn't kind towards you.
- Make it happen. Don't wait. Get out there. It is down to you.
- Dare to be different. Dare to be you.

In this edition:

1. Message from Mr Reid
2. Important this week!
3. AJFC & Music

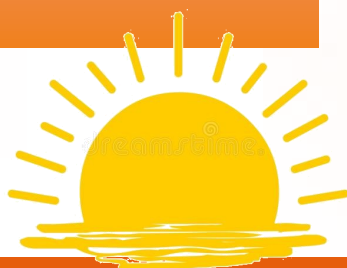


Below is an **extract from the book** to give you a feel for the style of writing.

So, if we could find a way to boost our confidence and be happy being who we want to be, there would probably be a whole lot less to worry about. And then we'd have a whole lot more time to do the things we really enjoy (like, for me, table tennis. Did I mention...? Oh okay, yes I did).

*And that is what **THIS BOOK** is for. I am going to prove (a big claim, you can vote me off the show if I don't) why you should dare to be yourself. That's right, this is a book about you (well, actually, it is quite a lot about me). But seriously, this book really is about **YOU**. About the person you are now, the person you were ten minutes ago as well as two years ago. About the person you will be tomorrow and the day after that, the year after that and into the future. **YOUR** future. Like it or not, you are you. So let's decide, right here, right now, to make sure you **LIKE** yourself.*

I hope you all have a good weekend and get a chance to enjoy the sunny weather.



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

INSET DAY **change**

The Year One phonics screening check has been released and it is now Monday 7th June. As Riverhead Infants' School and Amherst School synchronise their term dates, we have made the following changes:

Term 5 ends: 27 May 2021

Inset Day: 28 May 2021

Term 6 starts: 7 June 2021

For **all term dates** click [here](#)

Subscribe to the Calendar [here](#)



REPORT ABSENCES

PLEASE REPORT ALL ABSENCES via our website before 09.00am in the morning.

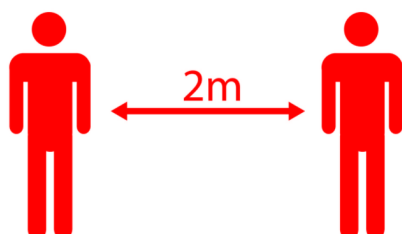
Click on the link and complete the quick form—no need to email anymore:

[Daily Absence Form](#)



SOCIAL DISTANCE

It is of the **UTMOST** importance to please remember to keep your social distance when collecting children and dropping them off in the morning.



AJFC—12 September

Please find the registration form for tomorrow's first session of football on Chipstead Common here:

[Registration Form](#)

TIMINGS:

Juniors (years 2-4) from 08:30-10:00

Seniors (years 5-6) from 10:00-11:30.



ORDER ONLINE

Order the following online via 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.



VACANCIES

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

[Catering Manager - Part Time](#)



PTA NEWS

Your PTA is truly back for business!

We are busy preparing in the background our first events after introducing them last Tuesday to the class reps during our AGM & PTA meeting.

We are working on the finer details at the moment as we will ensure that all our events comply with new social distancing/government rules.

We will provide more information nearer the time of each event but **here is a taster** of what we have in stock for you until half term:

- **Friday, 25th September cake sale** (pre-order)
- **Tuesday, 29th September** our new monthly **second hand uniform sale**
- **Friday, 2nd October** launch of the virtual **Amherst balloon race**
- **Saturday, 24th October** Amherst Sevenoaks **Scavenger hunt**
- **The Xmas4School Art box** has also arrived (yes, already!) and your child will soon come home with the template for their Xmas art

We really hope you like the sound of all those upcoming events – we are very exciting to introduce some new ones this term.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Your PTA Lead Team



Secondary Open Days

Secondary schools all have different ways in which they run their open days.

Please click on this link to see the list of events we have been given: [Open Days](#)

Lunch Bands

Children have been provided with a **set of wrist bands** for lunch. They are meant to **keep these in their desks** at school.

Please send the bands back if you see any at home.



Acapella Octet

A great opportunity for the families of Amherst School to listen to some world class A Capella music in a family friendly virtual performance hosted by Walthamstow Hall school as part of their ProMusic Concert Series. I've been to a number of their Pro-Music professional concerts before and they have always been outstanding.

More details on the concert, and how to book tickets are included in the attachments below. The direct link to booking tickets is: [bookings](#)

