



AMHERST SCHOOL

Amherst School Newsletter No. 6

Message from Mr Reid

The pandemic creates many new ways of working and has a **positive** and **negative** impact on so many different areas.

An impact of COVID has been that **less people have moved to Sevenoaks** this year from abroad and within the UK. This has resulted for the first time that Amherst is not full in Year 3.

It made me reflect that many families outside of Riverhead are not aware that any **child can join Amherst at the beginning of Year 3** through the normal admissions process. We have **96 spaces in Year 3** and only 90 children transfer from Riverhead. This means every year there are 6 spaces for new children.

I may be biased but I believe many parents would jump at the chance for their child to attend Amherst for Years 3-6 but are not aware it is an option. Why would you not want to come to Amherst!

Applications for September 2021 open on Thursday 5 November 2020 and close at midnight on Friday 15 January 2021. If you are a current Year 2 parent at Riverhead this includes you.

Not being full (384 pupils) has a financial implication for the school as we are funded per pupil. **Please help promote locally joining Amherst in Year 3** as I anticipate we may have the same dynamic next year with less movement internationally and within the UK.

You as current parents are the most powerful form of recommendation to a prospective parent. As I always do, I am completing individual meetings (via Zoom this year) with prospective parents. Meetings can be booked via the school office. **A great advert for the school is our film celebrating the achievements of last year.** If you have not watched it yet please [click](#) on the picture below.

In this edition:

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PE Kit

It has been working well the children wearing to school their PE kit on the day of their games session. Now the **field is becoming muddy** we would like to make a change. Please could your child now wear their school shoes to school the day they are wearing their PE kit and **bring their football boots or trainers in a plastic bag to change in to at school.**



Kent Test

Next week on **Thursday 15th October** many of our **Year 6 children** will be **sitting the Kent Test** at school. Due to this every child will be eating lunch in their classroom as the hall is being used for the test. The school kitchen will be providing a packed lunch. Please could **Year 6 children arrive promptly at 8.30am** on Thursday 15th October to allow a little more time before the test begins.



Finally, as a reminder, the **government COVID guidance** can be found at www.gov.uk/coronavirus. If you, or any member of your household has one of the three COVID symptoms—the entire household should isolate, and the symptomatic person should get tested. Please call the school office if you need advice or have any questions.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Important THIS week!

BAGUETTE DAY

15 October 2020

Due to the **KENT TEST** on Thursday children will be having their lunch in classrooms.

- Lunch will be a baguette, yoghurt, fruit & cookie.

Please discuss with your child if they would like to have **HAM, CHEESE or TUNA** on their baguette. This will be pre-ordered on Monday morning.



COVID-19



If anyone in your household develops one of the following coronavirus symptoms, the whole household should isolate, and the symptomatic person should arrange for a COVID test.

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

Please find more information on COVID testing [here](#)

GREAT AMHERST BALLOON RACE

Final day for the balloon race. To see how far your child's balloon has gone, please click on the website:

Balloon Race

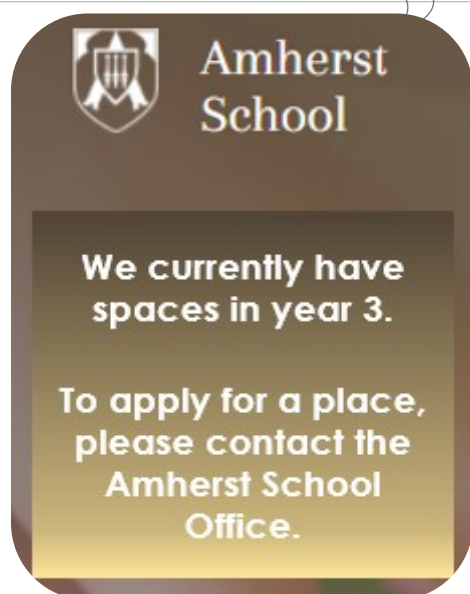
The race ends in ...
DAYS HOURS MINS
01 18 49



FLU IMMUNISATION 9 December 2020

A **letter will be sent home 28 days before** this date.

Parents will be required to give consent to online in order for their child to have this.



LUNCH BANDS

Each child has a set of bands in their desk at school.

Please **send any bands at home back** to school with your child.



REPORT ABSENCES

THANK YOU for reporting **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](#)



STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to all our stars of this week!

3A	James R	5A	Matthew P
3S	Trent S	5B	Logan M
3W	William G	5J	Ben H
4C	Amy C	6B	Madison R
4SF	Joe C	6D	Evie S
4W	Harper W	6P	Charlotte A

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to all our House Captains!

House Captain	Rose P
Vice House Captain	Liliya D
House Captain	Josh G
Vice House Captain	Zeph M
Vice House Captain	Sharon O
House Captain	Daisy R
House Captain	Finn S
Vice House Captain	Leon K
House Captain	Owen P
Vice House Captain	Jasper H
House Captain	Elizabeth S
Vice House Captain	Anna-Lotta M
Vice House Captain	Chloe I-C
House Captain	Amy A
Vice House Captain	George H
House Captain	Jack B



MUSIC

Congratulations to Finn S who has passed his Grade 1 guitar with Merit!!

AMHERST CHESS CLUB



This week’s tournament saw 12 players battling it out, playing between 1 and 14 games apiece.

Congratulations to Dylan D who came first, with Ben H and Mick H second and third.

Well done to everyone else who played: Owen P, Gabriel D, Poppy-Grace DL, Ryan VH, Cagan Y, Phoebe D, Harrison P and Harry D.

If you would like to play next week, the tournament will be on Tuesday at 4.30.

There is a wide range of abilities, from beginner to very experienced, the main objective is to have fun!

PTA NEWS

The **Amherst Balloon Race** is going strong, different balloons are leading the race every day! Our winner will be announced in assembly next week. Good luck to everybody during the next few days of the race!

Please click on the link below to read our **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**:



We will be launching our **FAMILY FUN EVENT**, the **Great Amherst Scavenger Hunt** on Monday, 12th October.

Your PTA team is also now putting our **SANTA'S HAT** on for the final planning of our **Xmas activities** – watch this space!

MATCH FUNDING: All of our events provide an opportunity for match funding. It is extra money which will be extremely helpful and needed for our Amherst Grand Design fundraising. Please do let us know if you can help at amherst-chair@outlook.com

Coming up:

12 th October –	Balloon race winners announced
22 nd October –	Scavenger hunt registration deadline
21 st October –	Xmas4Schools submission deadline
24 th October – 1 st November –	Amherst Scavenger Hunt

Finally, don't forget to follow us on Instagram – @amherstptaevents.

Have a fab weekend,

Your very busy PTA team



The school would like to support the Loaves and Fishes food bank at St John's The Baptist Church in Sevenoaks again as part of our Harvest Festival. The Loaves and Fishes Foodbank is an HMRC registered charity – XT36605 and is at the moment supporting up to 40 families with young children by giving them a large bag of non-perishable food every week of the year. This year the charity have asked for donations of:

Tinned meat for hot meals **especially** stewed steak, beef casserole/lamb stew, minced beef & onions, chicken in white sauce, **tinned vegetables** (preferably peas/carrots/green beans/sweetcorn) **and cereals**. They do not need any more pasta!

If you feel able to support the charity with a food donation please send it in **THURSDAY 22nd October 2020**. The staff will collect the donations and take them to the foodbank. **If any parents are able to help with transport** of these donations to the foodbank, please arrive at school by **12.30pm**.

IN & AROUND Sevenoaks

Please click on the image for more information on the following half term club.

SAMA SOUTHEAST



NEW KARATE CLASSES

CLASSES HELD AT

Ide Hill Village Hall Sevenoaks
Monday's 5.00pm - 6.00pm
Starting 12th October 2020

We run under Government Guidelines and social distancing
our Risk Assessment available to view on our website
Limited Space available class needs to be pre-booked

Register and book for your trial lessons on our website
SAMASOUTHEAST.CO.UK / SAMAKARATE.COM
01444 461889 / 07876 617 115



OCTOBER SOCCER SCHOOL


PSA is excited to announce that we will be hosting our unique Soccer Schools at Wrotham & Gillingham this October Half-Term. Throughout the 3 days players will enhance & develop their footballing ability and its a great way for players to make new friends & to keep fit throughout the Half-Term.

SOCCER SCHOOL INFO	RESERVE SPACE
<p>DURATION: 3 DAYS DATES: 27TH, 28TH & 29TH TIMING: 10AM - 3PM (9.30AM EARLY DROP OFF) YEAR GROUPS: YEAR R - YEAR 7 VENUES: WROTHAM SCHOOL PLAYFOOTBALL, RAINHAM KIT BAG: DRINKS, LUNCHES (NO NUTS), FOOTBALL BOOTS (NO METAL STUDS), SHIN PADS & SUITABLE OUTDOOR CLOTHING</p>	<p>IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE FOR THE PSA OCTOBER SOCCER SCHOOL PLEASE CLICK THE LINK TO SECURE YOUR SPACE.</p> <p>PSA SOCCER SCHOOL CLICK HERE</p>

COVID GUIDELINES

During our October Soccer School PSA will be following all Government guidelines regarding Covid-19 and will be implementing all rules & regulations for players to fully experience the environment by training like a pro throughout the 3 days.

www.pro-soccer.co @Pro_Soccer_Academy @ProSoccerAcademy



FREE ART & DESIGN COURSE PLACES for CHILDREN

We are the 'Hub' Centre for FUTURE CREATIVES, part of the University of the Arts, London (UAL) and they are offering free places on their October half-term course to children of our local primary schools.

- Monday 26 - Thursday 29 October, 9.30 - 12.00 noon (7-11 years)
- If any of your children are interested, please contact Toby Wynyard At UAL on t.wynyard@arts.ac.uk



[Future Creatives - Tonbridge - 7 to 11 year olds | UAL](#)

Future Creatives after school art and design classes in Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells give pupils the opportunity to access their creativity in a way that goes beyond typical classroom learning. Over the 6 weeks that the courses run, they will explore various art and design projects that bring together new creative skills, techniques and concepts.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Hayesbrook School

Virtual Open Event—please click on the wording below to view:

- Welcome Video with Introduction from our Head of School, Sebastian St John
- A guide to our innovative curriculum and what you and your child can expect from our specialist departments
- The Hayesbrook School Prospectus
- The Hayesbrook School Website



The Hayesbrook School

A Brook Learning Trust Academy

The Judd School

- Please click on the icon for Judd's open event / virtual tour:



Open Events

- For all open events, please click on the link to the

