



AMHERST SCHOOL

Amherst School Newsletter No. 10

Message from Mr Reid

COVID-19 Update

This week we have seen an increasing number of **secondary schools sending children home** to self-isolate due to being a close contact with a confirmed case of COVID. The government **guidance states** that only the close contact is required to isolate, and families in this situation should continue to send siblings to school.

There is **no requirement for the whole household to self-isolate** in these circumstances, only the person who has been in close contact with the confirmed case.

However, **if your child or anyone in your household then develops any of the three main signs or symptoms** the symptomatic person should get tested and the whole household must isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

In this edition:

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2. Important Dates!
3. Achievements
4. PTA
5. Other



One can safely say that the comradeship and resource of the members of the Expedition was worthy of the highest traditions of Polar service; and it was a privilege to me to have had under my command men who, through dark days and the stress and strain of continuous danger, kept up their spirits and carried out their work regardless of themselves and heedless of the limelight.

Ernest Shackleton

The above is a **quote from Ernest Shackleton's book South**, which is his account of the expedition. The quote comes at the end of the book and **I couldn't help but make comparisons** with leading a school during the pandemic. **I too feel very fortunate to be working with children, staff and parents that carry out their work with the same positive attitude in spite of the challenges we are currently facing.**

When recruiting his crew Shackleton quizzed candidates on their practical skills, but also about more unusual things, like if they could sing well. This **broader approach** to assessing someone's suitability to join his crew, meant it was very easy to create such a **strong positive team culture**. It also meant in times of hardship spirits were kept high and **success of the team was the overriding belief**.

Children in Need

It was great today to see so **many children and staff wearing something spotty or yellow** in support of Children in Need. **Mr Clarke's Children in Need socks** were a **particular highlight!** We have all raised the **fantastic amount of £637.00** this week!

I hope you all have a good weekend.



In aid of

BBC

**Children
in Need**

Important THIS week!

WEEKEND Covid Reporting

If your child receives a positive COVID result outside of normal school hours, it is important that we are informed immediately in order to identify, contact and isolate close contacts as soon as possible. This may well happen when the school office is closed.

Please could we request that you email office@amherst.kent.sch.uk with the date of the positive test, and the date when COVID symptoms began. This email account is being checked in the evening and at weekends for COVID related communications.



THIS TERMS VALUE

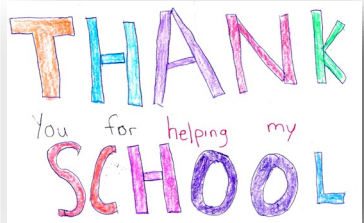


THANK YOU

Thank you to every parent who has donated £35.00 to our school fund this year.

With your support our children will have continued access to great equipment, resources and teaching.

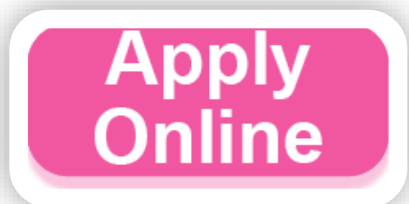
If you still wanted to make a contribution, please click on www.schoolgateway.com



VACANCIES

We have the following vacancy on Kent Teach:

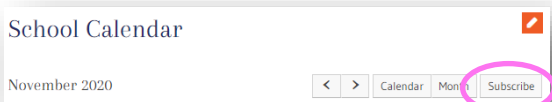
Teaching Assistant for 20 hours per week, Mon - Fri mornings only.



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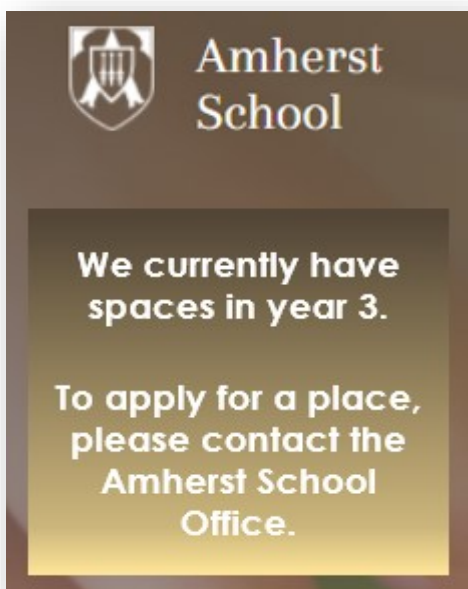
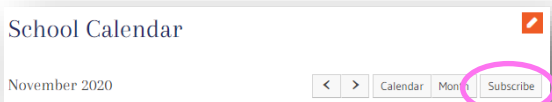
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COVID-19

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](#)

Updated information for [parents](#)

STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to all our stars of this week!

3A	Amelia P
3S	Ansh G
3W	Avani T
4C	Zach R
4SF	Belle M
4W	Alastair B

5A	Dylan D
5B	Diego Q
5J	Kitty L
6B	Suzzie M
6D	Emily R
6P	Isaac M

MUSIC

Congratulations to **Emilia K** who pass her Grade 2 Singing exam with distinction!



YEAR 4 HOLI HANDS



BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Class competition winners:

3A—Jensen M / Florence D

3S— Louis B-T/ Tom M-M

3W —James J / Lucas I-C

4C—Caitlin J / Annabel A

4SF—Page W / Lucy E

4W—Rufus D / Shalom O

5A—Ettie J / Alice M

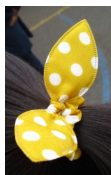
5B—Emma G / Eliza A

5J—Luca R-H / Amaia B

6B—Jaden W / Edward C

6D—Sharon O / Matthew P

6P—Georgina G / Chloe I-C



CHESS CLUB

Well done to all the players who entered the **Primary Schools 1st Team Battle** on Wednesday.

It was so exciting to watch live, as the results trickled in, we went up and then down and then up the leader board, to **finish as the top state school in a brilliant 4th position!!**

Thank you to everyone who entered: Ben H, Jake A, Dylan D, Edward C, Owen P, Mick H, Benjamin H, William R, Arnav T, Poppy-Grace DL, Leon K, Lucas T, Fred K, Harrison P and Avani T. I really hope you enjoyed it. I'm sure there will be another Primary Battle later this term.

Next Wednesday (18th November) we will hold another friendly tournament for Amherst players only.



PTA NEWS



Christmas is coming...

Your PTA team is very excited to present you our upcoming Christmas fun!

From 21st until 29th November we will have our **Amherst Fair** – it is our online Christmas shop where you will be able to buy lovely home-made gifts, stockings for the whole family including pets, beauty hamper bags and presents at reasonable prices from the comfort of your home.

The items in our Christmas shop are made and donated by our school community with all the proceeds going towards the PTA fundraising. We have also a selection of local small businesses who will be selling their wonderful products while the PTA will receive a small contribution of each sale. Collection of all items bought will be via your children at school, although we might be able to offer a social distance safe 'click and collect' service if the lockdown restrictions have been lifted.

From 2nd until 5th December we will have our **Amherst Silent Auction** with the opportunity to bid for wonderful prizes. Our Auction will be online – all the prizes have been very kindly donated by members of the school community and local businesses.

On 5th December we will have our **VIRTUAL Amherst Christmas Bazaar** – we hope you will all join us in for an afternoon of fun and festive activities:

- During the day, the children will have the opportunity to play **fun games** which the Year 6 children have created (more information to follow).
- Mr Reid will host the **Amherst Hamper and Grand Draw** live **via zoom at 4.30pm** – you will be in for a treat with our luxury hampers and wonderful grand draw gifts, again donated by members our school community and local businesses. Tickets for the Amherst Hamper and Grand Draw will shortly be sent to you via your child's book bag later this week. Please return all counterfoils and unused tickets to the school by 1 December 2020.

- **German Christmas Market Experience** – we can't take you to a **German Christmas Market** but we can bring the **German Christmas market** to you!

Your family will be able to enjoy mulled wine, hot chocolate, Bratwurst mit Brötchen (sausage in a bun), Bratäpfel (baked apples), German Christmas treats and much more. So get wrapped up warm and enjoy your hot drinks and Bratwurst outside while watching Mr Reid doing the zoom draw at 4.30pm and go back into the house afterwards to a delicious smell of baked apples. While having those and other treats, why not give the special Amherst Christmas Quiz a go and listen to Christmas songs. **The German Christmas Market Experience will be delivered to your house on Saturday morning, ready for you to enjoy in the afternoon.**
(more information to follow)

Help needed over the next few weeks:

We have prepared a Christmas activities overview for you with all the deadlines. It looks a lot but once your donations for our shop and prizes for the Silent Auction/Grand Draw are emailed and out of the way, **your PTA team will take care of the rest so you can enjoy the festive fun!!**

DEADLINE TODAY - Friday, 13.11.2020.

Donations to shop	Amherst-market-ing@outlook.com	Parents to email Jeni the details and photos of items, including suggested price and how many they have to sell.
Stockings & beauty hampers	Amherst-treasurer@outlook.com	Class reps to email Steven how many and what type of beauty hampers and stockings the class is able to supply.





Any questions, please do let me know. As always, we are so **very grateful for all your amazing support!**

Suse & your PTA team



WORLD DIABETES DAY
14 NOVEMBER

The 4Ts:

- ☒  Toilet
- ☒  Tired
- ☒  Thirsty
- ☒  Thinner



The 4Ts

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