



AMHERST SCHOOL



Message from Mr Reid

We are looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Monday morning!

Teachers have been busy working hard today to ensure classrooms are ready. It has been wonderful to feel the buzz of excitement in school today as staff prepare for the children's return.

Well done to all parents who have been supporting home learning! I'm sure your house will feel a lot quieter on Monday with the children back at school! Thank you to all staff for their hard work during this period of school closure. This includes Key Worker provision in school and remote learning. They have all been amazing!

Staff are now completing twice weekly lateral flow testing which is an excellent addition to our protective measures. You may have read in the news that adults living in households with school pupils (which you all are) are also now invited to complete lateral flow testing.

I strongly encourage you to take up this offer as it will make a huge difference in detecting asymptomatic cases in our school community.

This strategy is for adults not primary aged children.

Please read the following information from the DfE and KCC:

The following people in England will have access to regular rapid lateral flow testing made available to them as schools reopen:

- secondary school pupils
- primary and secondary school staff
- households, childcare and support bubbles of primary and secondary-age pupils
- households, childcare and support bubbles of primary and secondary staff

Primary school pupils will not be asked to test at this time.

You can order kits to test your household, childcare bubble or support bubble if at least one member:

- is a school pupil
- works in a school (this includes temporary workers or volunteers)

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test.

- **Get a test through your employer**

Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

- **Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site**

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator.

You may need to book an appointment.

[Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site.](#)

- **Order home test kits online**

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online.

Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

[Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#)

- **Collect test kits**

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect.

Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment.

Do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times.

[Find your nearest home test kit collection point.](#)

Please read below key reminders regarding our return to school on Monday.

I hope you all have a **good weekend** and ensure the children are fresh and ready for what feels like the start of the year again!

THIS WEEK's NOTICES

<div>PARENTS Social distancing</div> <p>Please make every effort at all time to remain socially distanced (2m apart) when dropping off and collecting your child from school. Collection at the end of the day from the playground is our most congested time. The purpose of collecting from the playground is to provide enough space for parents to socially distance.</p> <p>Please could we request that a face covering is worn when collecting and dropping off.</p> <p>Please be mindful on the common as this has been an area in the past where social distancing has been ignored. Lack of social distancing outside of school undermines the protective measures provided in school.</p>	<div>MR REID's assembly</div> <p>Please click on the picture below to view Mr Reid's assembly of this week.</p> <div></div>
<div>FACE COVERINGS</div> <p>Reminder that there is no requirement for a primary aged child to wear a face covering at school.</p> <p>We understand this is a sensitive area and a personal choice. If your child does wish to wear a face covering please ensure the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They have a bag to place it in when not wearing it• They understand no one else can touch or adjust their face covering• Remember to wash their hands after putting on or removing	<div>CLASSROOM VENTILATION</div> <p>The importance of good ventilation is vital and a very effective protective measure in reducing transmission.</p> <p>We will be ensuring classrooms are well ventilated and regular purging of air to replace stagnant air.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High level classrooms windows will be open whatever the weather• Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed if the weather is colder. It is always easier to take off a layer if too hot. <div></div>
<div>EQUIPMENT</div> <p>Please ensure your child has all the necessary stationery and equipment as detailed in the return to school letter.</p> <p>We want to avoid children sharing resources so it is more important than ever that they have their own equipment.</p> <div></div>	<div>CHESS CLUB</div> <p>On Wednesday eight Amherst chess players entered the first inter-school tournament of the year. It was a huge event - 161 players representing 10 schools - and all the Amherst players contributed to our very respectable total of 59 points. Congratulations to all our players: Ben H, Dylan D, Poppy Grace DL, Mick H, Jake A, Lucas T, Avani T and Arnav T.</p> <p>Next week we have an Amherst friendly tournament on Tuesday at 5pm, and the following week is the 2nd Primary Schools battle on 17th March.</p>
<div>LIBRARY BOOKS</div> <p>Please return any library or class library books that you finished during this period of school closure.</p> <div></div>	

STAR OF THE WEEK



3A— Jack G

Excellent editing skills Jack! You checked your spellings, punctuation and grammar really carefully working through your monologue. This meant your writing was the best it could be! On top of this, you delivered a fabulous performance as the giant for the rest of the children using great expression and body language. Well done Jack!



3S— Effie D

Effie can't wait to go back to school. This week she has been practicing her piano and completed her Hogwarts Lego castle. She has also been planning her brother's 5th birthday celebration, helping to make a Spider-Man cake and organising party games.



3W— Kimi M

Kimi has enjoyed learning about the Romans this term. He was surprised to learn about their disgusting diet. Although Kimi has enjoyed his time in the key worker group he's looking forward to having all his friends at school on Monday. Kimi likes joining his Beaver meetings on zoom.



4C— Edward H

This week Edward has worked hard, paying particular attention to his handwriting. He has continued to be patient and kind to his younger sister; listening to her reading and singing. In his spare time, he has enjoyed playing with his new basketball and net. He is excited about seeing his friends and teachers when he returns to school next week.



4SF— Ethan W

Ethan has really embraced and enjoyed his time at school during lockdown. He has especially enjoyed learning about light reflections in science and making colourful book marks in art this week. Ethan is so excited to see his friends when everyone returns to school on Monday!



4W— Ben I

Ben has been working really hard at his school work and has loved learning about Mount Everest. During the past weekend he helped build a pond in the garden and baked a Lemon Drizzle cake for his family. Ben is looking forward to seeing all his friends when school reopens next week but first, he is really looking forward to his birthday on Saturday!



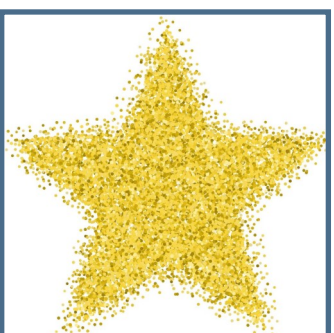
5A— Rosie F

Rosie worked so hard all week to make sure she could enjoy her sister's first birthday. She enjoyed her descriptive English and has started writing her own novel. She's also written some piano pieces and had great fun completing the PTA's walking to Sydney challenge!



5B— Lexie G

Lexie always works incredibly hard in class. This is reflected in the amazing descriptive written work she has produced this week. Well done Lexie. Lexie also celebrated her 10th birthday this week—Happy Birthday!



5J— Eleanor H

Eleanor has been motivated to work independently this term and has enjoyed challenging herself in maths. She has observed her compost decompose this week and got lots of exercise on her trampoline. She has spent a lot of her spare time reading books about puppy training, in anticipation of the family puppy that is arriving at the end of the term!



6B— Joseph N-B

Joseph has really enjoyed his last week schooling at home. He loved putting together his presentation about Emu's on PowerPoint and researching this species - did you know they have two eyelids?!? Joseph has also started reading a new book, written by Tom Clancy and had been working independently during the day which has been a real help to his mum!



6P— Emilia K

Emilia wowed us with her delicious baking on Wednesday. She is really proud of her Lighthouse writing this week, particularly as she found it so challenging. She can't wait to return to school and see her classmates and teachers again.



6D— Charlotte A

Besides planning her school work, she has taken to teaching her parents about what she learns and reads. She has taught us about cat behaviour (they always come home), and the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn (they are at 23.5° which is related to Earth's tilt!)

PTA

Mother's Day is on Sunday, 14th March and your PTA felt that whilst every year, mothers deserve some real recognition and pampering, this year they deserved **an even more special day!**

To help you with this, we are curating a **Mother's Day hamper**, for you to give to grandmothers, mother-in-laws, or any other mum you feel deserves to be spoiled **PLUS also and absolutely one for yourself!**

What we can tell you is that this **Mother's Day gift** will arrive beautifully presented (including home baked goods & hand crafted items) on your doorstep on the Saturday before Mother's Day. **The cost of the Mother's Day hamper is £25** (you are welcome to make a further £5 donation if you choose) and they can be ordered at **any time before 5pm on Friday the 12th.**

There are only **100 hampers**, so please click [here](#) (PTA Website) to order yours and see more details.



PHYSICAL Activity & Sport

Physical Activity and Sport Specialists will be offering these new Live PE After School Online Clubs throughout this term.

The sessions are delivered by the PASS Team via Zoom and each session will be supported by at least two members of the PASS team. There is no need to sign up or register, you simply log in on the day! It is a great opportunity for the children to have some additional exercise. We hope you enjoy them.



Monday 4pm - 4.45pm - Match Fit Club - Getting you ready to re-join your sports team and be match fit!

<https://zoom.us/j/96712894431?pwd=WExtbllJZE8wQldqZFdYUzQ3TG40Zz09>

Meeting ID: 967 1289 4431

Passcode: FITNESS

Tuesday 4pm - 4.45pm - KS2 Dance Club - Learn a new dance each week!

<https://zoom.us/j/92633963834?pwd=ei9vTlJrN3RFY1QxWU1GSkZjUGgrZz09>

Meeting ID: 926 3396 3834

Passcode: DANCE

Wednesday 4pm - 4.45pm - EYFS / KS1/ Lower KS2 Shooting Stars - This club is targeted mainly at girls who we aim to engage through active storytelling and the Football Association's Shooting Stars programme for schools.

<https://zoom.us/j/98544329482?pwd=R0dhajNMB3Bib0JTaWw0WUhhUUE1PZz09>

Meeting ID: 985 4432 9482

