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MESSAGE FROM MR REID

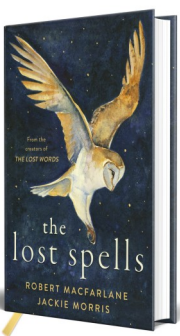
The children have continued to enjoy their return to school. It has been wonderful to welcome back **music teachers** this week and hear **music lessons** once again taking place. Online music lessons are a good substitute but face to face teaching is so much better.

CLUBS



We are in the **process of planning** what year group clubs we will be able to offer in Terms 5 and 6. It will be a **slimmed down version** compared to our normal vast array of clubs (due to the current restrictions) but at least we are moving in the right direction. We will communicate before Easter about the new clubs and provide time to sign up.

NEW WHOLE SCHOOL BOOK PROJECT

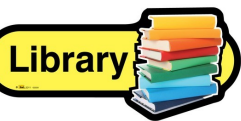


After Easter we will be beginning our latest whole school book project. **The chosen book is 'The Lost Spells' written by Robert Macfarlane and illustrated by Jackie Morris.** It is a beautiful poetry book which inspires a love of nature. I would encourage you to purchase a copy as both adults and children will enjoy reading it.

Many of you will recognise this book as it did feature in one of my online assemblies during school closure. We studied 'The Lost Words' in October 2019 which was a highly successful book project. Children are always so engaged when the theme is animals and the natural world.

One of my favourite aspects of these projects is when the displays begin to go up in the hall and we start to see the amazing writing and artwork that the children have produced. There is a real sense of excitement, pride and whole school cohesion. I'm sure this project will be just as successful.

SCHOOL LIBRARY



Our **school library software has been upgraded** and is now cloud based. This provides lots of new opportunities such as tracking what books the children have read, recommendations based on the stock in our library and writing book reviews to share with other children. Although we are currently not able to have parent volunteers on site to help run the library, classes are going to start having the opportunity to use the library and bring books home.

Please return any library books you may still have at home even from past siblings who attended Amherst!



AMHERST CHOIR

Amherst School choir have been chosen to premiere a new piece called Invention by composer Russell Hepplewhite, with lyrics by poet Michael Rosen.

The choir had a workshop with Emily Barden, a professional composer and choral director on Thursday.

The choir were able to Zoom with Michael Rosen a couple of weeks ago, asking him questions about the piece.

IT IS VERY EXCITING!



Emily Barden
@bardenmusic

@FridayPMs on my way to Amherst School in Sevenoaks to work with their choir on Invention - one of the brand new Friday Afternoons songs by @MichaelRosenYes and @RussHepplewhite premiering this spring. So exciting to be hearing children sing :)



Emily Barden @bardenmusic · 2h

...

Replying to @bardenmusic

Just finished the session and it was amazing!! They sound beautiful. They've also designed their own inventions inspired by the song @MichaelRosenYes how do you like the sound of an everlasting Lemon sherbet that never loses its taste.. or The Glasses of Truth..??



1



6



Michael Rosen ❤️❤️🎓🎓 @Micha... · 2h

...

Replying to @bardenmusic, @FridayPMs and @RussHepplewhite

Great! Thanks! Wish the children the very best and I hope they enjoy the singing!



2





STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to all our STARS of this week!

3A Olivia R

3S Ronav D

3W Joanna H

4C Ewan S

4SF Charlotte B

4W Daniel S

5A Amber H

5B Ella R-J

5J Blake F

6B Jaden W

6D Mya B

6P Ava D



CHESS CLUB

On Wednesday we played the **second inter-school tournament** of the year against 9 other primaries and prep schools. After a fantastic and concentrated effort by all our players, we finished in 5th place.

Many congratulations to everyone who entered: Dylan D, Lucas T, Mick H, Ben H, Jake A, Owen P, Poppy Grace DL, Fred K and Leon K.

PTA

We hope that everyone who received a Mother's Day Hamper was able to find some time for themselves, to enjoy the contents, and that all our Mums, Nans, Carers and Step mums had a truly wonderful day.

Can you believe it is almost Easter already?!?!? So, as time marches on, here is what we have lined up for you over the coming few weeks:

EASTER BAKING CLASS
27th March (booking closes 23rd March)

EASTER EGG RAFFLE
1st April (tickets to be purchased by 29th March)

AMHERST YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
Theme is Animals
Submission deadline is 23rd April



We haven't sent you full details of the bottom two events – this will happen next week.

Have a **wonderful** (and **hopefully sunny!**) weekend.

THIS WEEK'S NOTICES

FREE WELLBEING WEBINAR FOR PARENTS

A webinar to help you recognise and respond to your child's emotional health needs both within and beyond the pandemic.

Please see more details on the last page of the newsletter.

'TEAM AMHERST' HOODIES

We seem to have more and more unnamed 'Team Amherst' hoodies in the lost property box.

PLEASE make sure your child's hoodie is named.

VACANCIES

INCLUSION Manager/SENCO

We have a vacancy for an Inclusion Manager/SENCO to enhance the good provision in the school and develop further the strategic provision of SEN.

Please [click here](#) for more information.

KS2 Teacher

We have a vacancy for an enthusiastic and talented KS2 teacher to join our team in September 2021.

Please [click here](#) for more information.



AMHERST IS GOING TO TOKYO

We know that all the children are incredibly active and we would love to be the first school, within the Sevenoaks Partnership, to arrive in Tokyo!

We would like the children to let us know how many miles they have covered whilst running, walking or cycling (or participating in any sport) each week.

The total miles will be submitted each week until we reach Tokyo. Even if it is just 1 mile that the children cover each week, it all adds up!

Please log your miles by [clicking here](#) !



EVENTS / COMMUNITY

Please click on the pictures below to access the links / booking forms or to find more information:

Easter Holiday Camps

EASTER HOCKEY CAMPS

Afternoon Camps

Boys Years 4 & 5

Girls Years 4 - 6

6,7,14,15 April

13:00 - 16:00



clubmark

ENGLAND HOCKEY



SEVENOAKS
HOCKEY CLUB

EASTER HOCKEY CAMPS

Morning Camps

Boys Years 6 - 11

Girls Years 7 - 11

6,7,14,15 April

09:30 - 12:30



clubmark

ENGLAND HOCKEY



SEVENOAKS
HOCKEY CLUB

Rivermere Care Home

Easter Egg S'mile - help us make a mile-long Easter egg trail!

To celebrate spring, we'd like to give back to our local community, who have been so supportive to us during the last year.

Our residents are asking for donations of Easter Eggs to be dropped off at our home's front door. Before we distribute the eggs to the local children, we are first going to measure the line of eggs.

Could Avery care homes make the first-mile long Easter Egg trail?

Please help us by donating any Easter eggs, no matter how big or small!

We'll store the eggs and keep them safe, so don't delay,
make your donation today! (Or no later than 27th March 2021)

Thank you in advance .

EASTER

EGG

S'MILE

DONATE
EASTER
EGGS

Avery



MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY!



Supporting Parents and Carers



Helping Parents and Carers to Support Children's Emotional Wellbeing in Times of Uncertainty

This one-hour webinar offers parents and carers a space to gain knowledge rich approaches and key skills to help you recognise and respond to your child's emotional health needs both within and beyond the pandemic.

The aims of this session:

- To provide you with a safe space to pause and reflect on your own emotional needs and the needs of your child.
- Explore the possible impact that the pandemic has had on your family.
- Gain an understanding on how to protect mental health and wellbeing in challenging times.
- Take away top tips for helping your child thrive through resilience.
- Start to build your own family wellbeing toolkit

For those that were unable to attend the live session earlier this week – the recording is now available on The Education People website and available for anyone to watch. Please [click here](#) to access the recording and for further information on Mental Health & Wellbeing.

**THE EDUCATION
PEOPLE**

Families[®]

West Kent

FREE

IN THIS ISSUE

**Education
Easter
Outdoor Activities
Early Years**



Win a Smoby Playhouse!

Families[®]
Magazine

+ K'nex Construction Toys
SEE INSIDE



March/April 2021

Familiesonline.co.uk