

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

OPEN AFTERNOON

It was **wonderful to welcome** so many of you into school yesterday for **our first Open Afternoon since March 2020**. The **children were proud** to be able to share their work with you. For our Year 3 and 4 parents it was their first Open Afternoon. We were lucky with the weather which enabled many families to sit outside. I saw many children giving their parents the full tour! It was lovely to see the children's sense of pride as they showed off their school.

It is so important **you get this opportunity to share your child's work and learning environment**. I hope it has **helped you gain a clearer picture** of their **experience at Amherst** so far. Another purpose is to enable you be **more informed** of your child's progress and achievements prior to parent consultations in November.

COVID UPDATE

We have continued to have a small amount of cases each week. Currently we have seven pupils absent with COVID and two members of staff. Although this term will present challenges, I am determined to carry on as normal as much as we can. **We will continue to follow guidance**, keep you **well informed** and **make proportionate responses** when needed.

HALF TERM

I hope you all **have a good half term** break.

Your children have **worked so hard** this term and deserve a **rest**. We are continuing with our policy of not setting homework during holidays. I **look forward to welcoming** you all back to school on **Monday 1st November**.

Happy half term!

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NOTICES

YEAR 6 KENT TEST REMINDERS

21 October—Results day

1 November—Closing date for secondary school applications.

POOL FUND

Please be reminded of the voluntary **POOL FUND DONATION** . We made a huge investment in our school's pool in order for children to ENJOY and make the MOST of this term's swimming lessons. Please donate via www.schoolgateway.com



FUTURE DATES

22 October—INSET Day

1 November—Term Starts

2 November—Yr 5 Pottery workshop

9 November— Choir Barnardo's RAH

10 November—Will Grill visit

16& 17 November—Parent Consultations

19 November—Children in Need



VACANCIES

We have vacancies in school — please click on [Kent Teach](#) for more details.



GAMES LESSONS WINTER TERM

Football boots are usually part of the winter games program for all sports on the field e.g rugby, lacrosse, football .

Please also ensure your child also has **tracksuit trousers** and a **sweat shirts** at hand.



STAR OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to all our STARS of this week!

3B	Thomas W
3MW	Matilda C
3W	Kitty B
4C	Millie B
4SF	Florence H
4S	Jack F

5A	Paige W
5J	Rufus D
5S	Georgia C
6B	Rosie F
6H	Beau S
6SB	Aimee H

SPORT

AQUA SPLASH SWIMMING TOURNAMENT

On Friday 15th October, a team of swimmers from Years 3 and 4 participated in the **Aqua Splash swimming competition** at Sevenoaks School.

Each child took part in an individual race and a mixed relay.

Our swimmers performed amazingly well and demonstrated incredible strength, skill and determination. The support from the rest of the team and parents really assisted the children and created a wonderful atmosphere.

All the children came in the top four in their individual race, which was either front crawl, breast-stroke or backstroke, with many children being awarded a gold, silver or bronze medal.

In addition, we won the Year 4 mixed relay and the Year 3 mixed relay.

As a result of our astonishing swimmers we won the whole competition.

After the races, the children also had great fun practising swimming skills such as sculling, rescuing, diving and team building.

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to: Tom L, Sebastian A, Gabriel D, Lilly- May S, Sidney W, Grace G, Ruby Q, Talia L, Cicely S, Jacob B, Oliver K and Richard L.

A big thank you to Ruby for 'stepping in' at the last minute due to another child's illness.

Thank you to the parents for transporting the children and for their wonderful support.



VOLLEYBALL— SEB M-S

Four months ago Seb decided he wanted to try volleyball. I told him that if he showed perseverance and commitment I would sign him up to a Team. He practiced for hours in the garden night and day with a football and a badminton net. He avidly followed volleyball in the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics and has been researching the game in his spare time. He joined Maidstone Volleyball Club team last month and it turns out he is pretty good!

This morning Seb delivered the opening serve of the U18 tournament at Copper Box Area at the Olympic Park in London. Seb was the youngest player of the tournament. He played alongside England development squad players. What an inspiration! Maidstone Volleyball Club will join the National Volleyball Grand Prix League in January 2022 where Seb will hopefully be selected to play in more tournaments.

Seb's has shown a fantastic attitude and commitment to his new passion and I'm incredibly proud of him.

Best wishes
Seb's mum





SIGN UP

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We're encouraging all parents and carers to sign up to **PTA EVENTS WEBSITE** AND **ONLINE CLASS LISTS on the same website**. Signing up to your class list means:

- the **PTA can contact you** when there is something wrong with any of your orders AND
- it also provides a **secure and easy way for class parents to exchange personal details** with one another if you would like to do so. (You can opt out).

How do I sign up to the PTA Events website & ONLINE Class lists?

CREATE an account on our PTA Events website / online parent community

Just go to www.ptaevents.co.uk/amherstpta and click the **register tab** at the top of the page.

Once signed in (even is previously registered), please sign up to your class list:

Select **'my account'** at the top of the webpage, and then select the tab called **Class**

- Mailing Lists**
- Click **here** on the yellow block to register your child's name, and choose the right class from the drop down list.

The screenshot shows the 'Class Mailing Lists' tab selected in the top navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a yellow button with the text 'Click here to register a child on a class mailing list.' which is circled in red. Below the button is a table with columns: Name, Class, Year, Share, Delete, Contacts, and Message. The table contains one row with the following data: Name (empty), Class (5S), Year (2021-2022), Share (checked), Delete (trash icon), Contacts (person icon with 18), and Message (empty).

Name	Class	Year	Share	Delete	Contacts	Message
	5S	2021-2022	✓		(18)	

- Enter the **class password**. For example, the **class password** for class 3B is **PTA3B**, 5S is **PTA5S**, etc.
- Tick **'share my details with the class'** if want your contact details to be visible to other parents from your class. Your contact details will only be seen by other parents in your class, and not to the wider PTA community.
- Tick **'I agree to receive emails from this class list'**. This enables the PTA to reach out to you with regards to your orders.
- Click **'Register'** / or save.

Once registration is complete, click on the **'contacts'** tab next to your child's name to view the details of other parents registered to your class list. If you have more than one child at Amherst , repeat the above steps to add them to their class lists.

You should only need to do this once for each child as the website carries over the classlists from year to year.

PLEASE NOTE

- The PTA does not send marketing emails, but ticking these boxes will enable them to communicate with you should they need to.
- The PTA takes its responsibilities for personal data seriously, and will never share your details with third parties (see our Data Protection Policy for more).

THANK YOU for your support—Have a lovely HALF TERM!
Your PTA TEAM

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Harvest Donations

Dear Mr Reid

Please can you convey a heartfelt thank you to all the children, staff and parents who contributed to the generous donation of food to Sevenoaks Loaves and Fishes Foodbank. Every item that we received from your Harvest collection will make a difference to someone!

Times are really tough for so many local people these days and as a Foodbank we so appreciate the abundance of food that has been donated. It is encouraging to see that people still demonstrate compassion and kindness to those in need

We are very grateful to Amherst School for your contribution to helping others.

Yours sincerely

Sevenoaks Loaves and Fishes Foodbank

Venue: St John's Church Hall,

St John's Church,

Quaker's Hall Lane,

Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks (Loaves and Fishes) Foodbank is an Independent charity, registered with the Charity Commission, RCN 119431.



CHILDREN IN NEED



Week 15-19 November

Art Competition- £1 to enter

All artwork must be hand-drawn/ original and started from scratch. Please do not print images off the internet and colour them in.

Year 3

A winter theme with Pudsey somewhere in the picture.

Year 4

Comic strip with Pudsey in the artwork

Year 5

Either an Autumn or a Winter collage with Pudsey in the picture

Year 6

Pudsey made by using 100% recycled material. (i.e. not paper maché)

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Vancols Photographers are pleased to confirm that the School Photographs are ready to view using the QR code on your proof card your child brought home last week. The website for these codes is www.getphotos.co.uk

Please note that the online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **27th October 2021**

If you have already scanned the QR code on the Proof and registered you will receive an auto email notification. If you have not done it yet, don't panic, you can still view by scanning the QR code on your Proof and following the instructions.

If by chance you have not received your Proof or it has been lost you can email the school office and they will be able to provide you the order code.



Vancols Photographers

PLEASE NOTE ... CLASS PHOTOS TO FOLLOW!

EVENTS / COMMUNITY

Please click on the images to find more information.

A poster for a fireworks event. The background is a dark, textured surface with string lights at the top. On the left, three wooden signs are stacked vertically, reading 'BBQ', 'Music', and 'Mulled Wine'. To the right of these signs, the text '3rd Sevenoaks Scout Group' is written in yellow. Below this, the words 'Riverhead' and 'Fireworks' are written in large, bold, red and yellow letters respectively. In the center, the text 'First Rocket 7pm' is written in white. Below this, the text 'TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT...' is written in yellow, followed by 'Batchelors', 'The Bullfinch', and 'Frank's Barbers' in white. On the right side, there is an illustration of a campfire with marshmallows on sticks. At the bottom, the date 'SATURDAY 6th NOVEMBER' is written in yellow, and the location 'Gates Open from 6pm Scout HQ Bradbourne Vale Road' is written in yellow. At the very bottom, the ticket prices are listed: 'Advance Ticket: £15 Family [x4] £5 Single' and 'Gate Ticket: £20 Family [x4] £7 Single'.

THE HAYESBROOK SCHOOL

Hayesbrook Academy are holding a Principal and Senior Leadership team Q&A session this Saturday morning, 23 October at 9am to 10.30am.

If you would like to attend then please follow the link to book:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/year-6-principalslt-ga-session-tickets-169491891811>