

Message FROM MR REID

YEAR 4 CHRISTMAS VARIETY SHOW

Congratulations to all the children and staff in Year 4 for the two **wonderful performances** this week of their Christmas Variety Show. The children performed with **confidence** and **enthusiasm**. It was great to see children performing to an audience again. They gain so much from the experience and it will form a key part of their **Amherst memories**. They don't get Year 4 again!

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BANDOOLA DISPLAYS

As mentioned in my Headteacher's letter this week it was wonderful to return to school on Monday and be greeted by such **amazing displays** of the children's writing and art. Please [click here](#) to view gallery created on the school website.

PAUL COOKSON VISIT

On Wednesday **we were treated to a fantastic assembly and workshops** by the **poet Paul Cookson**. He was **highly entertaining** and the children really engaged with his sessions. He shared some of his poems and insight into his creative process. **He even inspired a group of Year 6 children to write a poem about him at lunchtime!** Thank you to Mrs Archer and Miss Harvey for organising the visit. Developing a love of reading, and exposing the children to a wide range of genres, is a key aim at Amherst for all our children.



COVID UPDATE

As of today we have 7 children absent who have either a positive lateral flow or PCR test. **Encouragingly** we have no staff currently absent due to COVID.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

As we approach the last week of term I **hope we manage to complete all our planned Christmas events**. Next week there is **Carol Service on Monday**, trip to the **panto** on Wednesday and **Christmas Lunch** on Thursday. Schools are currently being asked by the DfE to review their COVID contingency plans. I will keep you updated if anything changes.

I **hope you are starting to feel some excitement around the approach of Christmas despite some of the current uncertainties**. We are getting our Christmas tree this weekend which is always an exciting time. Try and **find some pleasure in the build up** rather than just feeling overwhelmed by how much there is still to do!

I hope you all have a good weekend.

NOTICES

NUT FREE SNACKS & CEREAL BARS

Please can you ensure your children bring in healthy snack to school.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Children can wear **Christmas Jumpers** with their school uniform to the Christmas Lunch on Thursday.



MENU CHANGE— LAST DAY

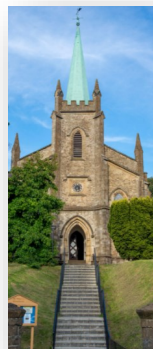
Please note that we will have a **menu change for the last day of term**. The following will be available:

- JACKET POTATO (Beans, Cheese, Tuna)
- PASTA & SAUCE
- BAGUETTE / PANINI (Cheese & Ham)

MENU

CAROL SERVICE

You are invited to attend our Whole School Carol Service on **13 December** at **6.00pm** at St. Mary's Church Riverhead.



PANTOMIME

A reminder of our **Whole School Trip** to the **Stag Theatre** on **15 December 2021**. Please remember to give consent and make payment via www.schoolgateway.com.



FLUTE CHOIR PERFORMANCE

The **Amherst Flute Choir** are playing Christmas carols in Sevenoaks town centre (by Costa Coffee) on **Saturday 11/12/21** from 11am to 12pm to raise money for the British Heart Foundation and provide some festive spirit to Sevenoaks shoppers. Please come along and listen to them if you can!



CLOTHING LAYERS

Please ensure your child has enough layers on for both **classroom** and **play/lunchtime** as we are keeping windows open during lessons.



CHILDREN IN NEED

We raised a fantastic amount for Children in Need—**£717.28!!!**

Thank you to the School Council, Miss Jones and Miss Huntley for planning all the activities and to you as parents for supporting so generously.



FUTURE DATES

13 Dec—Secrets Room
 13 Dec—Whole School Carol Service **6.00 pm**
 15 Dec—Stag Pantomime
 16 Dec—Christmas Lunch
 17 Dec—Last day of term
 4 Jan—Inset Day
 5 Jan—Inset Day
 6 Jan—Term Starts



SCHOOL FUND

This is a reminder of our school fund contribution that is now live on www.schoolgateway.com. The money raised is spent on enriching opportunities and activities, equipment, extra books and resources.

THE  FUND

PTA

CHRISTMAS AT AMHERST

Thank you to everyone who supported our hybrid (online and other) Christmas Bazaar this year!!

Your generosity and support is very much appreciated!!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Mrs Bradley leaving gift contribution via PTA Events up to 15th December

Christmas lunch - 16th December (remember your Christmas Jumper)

Secrets room

13th December (£2.50 per gift via PTA Events)



Happy Holiday Sale

The PTA/Bazaar committee will sell remaining items from the Christmas bazaar e.g. party bags, stockings etc. This will be available at the school gate (weather permitting) from the 14th – 16th December 2021.



Festive Sweet Bags

The PTA will provide festive sweet bags on the final day of term (17 Dec 2021) and each child will receive one. There will be free from options, should any child require this. If anyone would like to donate an optional £1 to the PTA fund via PTA Events it will be gratefully received, also any additional sweet bags for siblings can be purchased via PTA events until the 15th December 2021.



STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Mark G	5A	Belle M
3MW	Joshua K	5J	Emma H
3W	Oliver K	5S	Annie H
4C	Avani T	6B	Connor L
4SF	Molly K	6H	Rachel B
4S	Matilda B	6SB	Lexie G

MUSIC

Congratulations to the following children with their **fantastic music exam results!**

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|---------------|
| Joe C | - grade 2 piano | - merit |
| Lois L | - grade 1 flute | - distinction |
| Carla F | - grade 2 flute | - distinction |
| Molly G | - grade 1 recorder | - distinction |
| Isla P | - grade 2 flute | - distinction |
| Eleanor H | - grade 5 flute | - distinction |

YEAR 5 Breadmaking masterpieces

