

CONTENTS

1. Mr Reid's Message
2. Notices & Star of the Week
3. Notices (continued)
4. Year 5 Rainforest
5. PTA & Local Events

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

WEAR SOMETHING RED DAY FRIDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

On Friday 11th February we are going to support the charity ECHO by **wearing something red** to school. Our connection with this charity is linked to George Warner-Bryce (3W).



George was born with six heart defects and has been treated at The Evelina Children's Hospital in London since birth. He has undergone three open heart surgeries, the first being when he was only 6 days old.

ECHO have supported George's family since he was born. They showed them around the hospital and gave an insight on what to expect, equipment that could be used and what it was. It was originally set up by a group of parents who needed support.

ECHO has grown to be a wonderful charity that provides much needed support to individuals and whole families, supporting families across the whole of the UK. Funds they raise also help to buy essential equipment for the cardiac ward at The Evelina's Children's Hospital. More information is available [on their website](#).



Please don't worry about wearing something red (no new clothes need to be bought!), red socks would be enough. **Please donate via www.schoolgateway.com** (HEART MONTH FUNDRAISING 2022) on **11th February** to help support ECHO.

COVID UPDATE

We have seen a sharp increase this week in the number of cases amongst children and staff. Currently we have 28 children absent and 9 staff. 25 of our pupil cases are linked to three classes. The amount of staff absent is becoming challenging but we will do all we can to minimise any disruption.

UNIFORM REMINDER

A quick reminder regarding certain areas of uniform: Please ensure your child:

- wears **black school shoes** rather than boots
- doesn't wear their **PE sweatshirt** in place of their school jumper or cardigan
- removes any **nail varnish** after the weekend
- wears **plain stud earrings** if their ears are pierced

Thank you for your anticipated support. **The vast majority of Amherst children look incredibly smart everyday!**

I hope you all have a good weekend.

NOTICES



STATIONERY

Please can you check with your child if they need to **replenish** any of their personal stationery in class.

REPORT ABSENCES

All absences should be reported **via our website before 09.00am**. Click on the link and complete the quick form. **NO need to email/call any more:**

[Daily Absence Form](#)



LOST PROPERTY

We still have lots of **lost uniform, coats, gloves** etc in school—if you are missing anything, please come and have a look.



FUTURE DATES

11 Feb— PTA Valentine's raffle
 11 Feb—Wear something red (fundraising for Evelina's Children's Heart Organisation)
 11 Feb —Term 3 ends
 21 Feb—Term 4 starts
 23/24/25 Feb—Year 3 Roman days
 24 Feb—PTA meeting



VACANCIES

Please find a **list of our current vacancies** on the [KENT TEACH](#) website.

Vacancies

AMHERST CHOIR DATES

Tunbridge Wells Arts Festival - Saturday 5th March, 2.00pm
 Tonbridge Castle (Hillview Primary Festival of the Arts) - Friday 8th July

Amherst Music Concert

29th March, School Hall, 6.30pm—8.15pm
 Amherst, Training, Boys and Flute choirs, the orchestra and individual instrumentalists (invited by music teachers) will be attending.

STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Gabriel P
3MW	Thomas K
3W	Henry H
4C	Autumn J
4SF	James R
4S	Sara I

5A	Elsie P
5J	Josh M
5S	Bluebell S
6B	Dejan B
6H	Daniel A
6SB	Sebastian H

NOTICES

CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 7-13 February 2022. This year's theme is **Growing Together**. We would like to encourage everyone to take part with their families by spending time with each other completing some activities that you enjoy doing with one another.

Instead of completing written homework this week, **the children’s homework is to spend some time enjoying how it feels to share activities with family members**. We hope this will encourage both children and parents to **reflect upon the importance of finding happiness in activities that slow down our pace of life**.

We have suggested some activities to do together below, some of which are taken from the list in children’s planners about things to do before leaving Amherst. All we would ask is that **each child either brings in a photograph of themselves and another person taking part in the activity or evidence of the activity itself**. These will be used to create a well-being display in school.

Well-being BINGO

Go for a walk in the woods and identify seven different native trees by their leaves.	Sit and watch the birds in the garden for at least half an hour and identify ten British birds	Go on a walk and try and find some different British wild flowers.		Learn some map reading skills and go on a walk using them, Go geocaching
 Play a board game with the whole family.	Spend time outdoors looking at the night sky and learn some constellations.			
Find five family songs you all like. Play them aloud and everyone join in dancing.	Bake a cake and decorate it. Then take it to someone else and enjoy eating it together.	Write a letter to a family relative you haven't seen for a while and pop it in the post for them.	Draw, paint, collage a piece of artwork with someone else and display for others to see it.	Make up a short play, write a script and perform it to others in the family.
Learn a piece of music to perform to others in the family. Maybe join with someone else who can play an instrument.	Listen to some classical music and learn the names of five classical composers.	Make up a gym or dance routine with another family member and perform it to others.	Make up a song and perform it to the rest of the family	Choose a book to read with an adult and spend time reading together and discussing the story line and characters
Make a card for some one else using craft materials so it is 3D e.g collage, decoupage	Go on a long bike ride with another member of the family.	Lay outside on something waterproof, close your eyes. Listen carefully to all the sounds. Come in and write a list of what you heard	Plan a treasure hunt and lay clues for others. This could be inside or outside.	Plan a meal, use a recipe to help cook some food and enjoy a family meal that you helped prepare.

SPORT UPDATE – TENNIS

Three pairs represented Amherst in the **Mini Orange Sevenoaks School Doubles** for years 4 & 5 on Saturday 29th January: **Ronav D & Ryan G, Ben S & Ansh G, Tom L & Charlie H**.

The boys **performed very well** in a strong field of 18 doubles pairs, particularly considering they were among the youngest competitors.

Ryan & Ronav narrowly missed qualification to the knock-out stages, as did Ben & Ansh whose Round Robin box required a count-back to determine qualification. The boys just missed out, finishing 3rd, with the top two going through.

Tom & Charlie qualified to the quarter-finals after winning all of their matches before losing in a close battle with New Beacon who were the eventual winners.

The boys have worked hard in their team training sessions at Chipstead Place LTC to prepare and I’m very proud of their efforts. No doubt they will continue to improve significantly ahead of the Summer events at Bromley!

Adam Reavely



RAINFOREST ROADSHOW



YEAR
5



PTA NOTICES

Valentine's Chocolate Raffle

Tickets on sale 8th to 10th Feb
at the school gates - cash only
£1 per ticket or 6 for £5

Prize draw 11th February 2022

To pay by bank transfer:
Amherst School PTA
60-19-02
76190617
Ref: child's name & class
Email confirmation to
amherst-treasurer@outlook.com



MATCH FUNDING

Match funding is a simple way to
maximise fundraising efforts. Please
check with your employer if they will
match fund any of our fundraising efforts.

For information please e-mail: amherst-
chair@outlook.com OR amherst-
treasurer@outlook.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING

HALF TERM CAMP

DO YOU ENJOY SWIMMING, DANCE AND
GYMNASTICS? HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO
TRY ALL THREE BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TIME?
HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY

JOIN THE AQUAOAKS ARTISTIC SWIMMING HALF TERM CAMP

WELCOMING SWIMMERS OF ALL ABILITIES
BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 6-18
MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM 25 METRES
£12 PER SINGLE DAY

SENNOCKE CENTRE | SEVENOAKS SCHOOL POOL

15 & 17 FEB | 2-4PM

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
WWW.AQUAOAKS.CO.UK

FUN SKILLS TRAINING AND MATCH PLAY.



Netball camps in 2022, age 6-16. Expert
coaching, great fun! Based in Oxted, Surrey

- Half term – February 14th/15th 10am-3pm
- Easter – April 4th, 5th, 6th 10am-3pm
- Summer – July/ August 10am-3pm
 - Week 1: July 25th/26th/27th
 - Week 2: August 2nd/3rd/4th
 - Week 3: August 14th/15th/17th

Minis workshops 1st Sunday of every month –
intro & skills development for under 8s
Structured and enjoyable programs run by experienced,
enthusiastic England Netball trained coaches.

Book online at www.girlsatattack.com

CONTACT THE TEAM AND BE ONE OF THE GIRLS!



ONE OF THE GIRLS

www.girlsatattack.com
girlsatattack@gmail.com

2022 Camps Open

Code **Create** **Learn**

TECH HOLIDAY CAMP

FEBRUARY HALF -TERM

THE NEW BEACON SCHOOL, TN13 2PB
£194 FOR FULL WEEK, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE
www.nextthing.education

FEB HALF TERM 2022

What's on?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Curious Coders	Ingenuous Inventors	Virtual Reality	Expert Engineers	Media Madness

Example schedule only, activities of each camp may differ

Movie Making | Video Game Design | Robot Coding | STEM Experiments | Engineering

14TH - 18TH FEBRUARY LIMITED SPACES

AGES 5 - 11 MULTI DAY BOOKING DISCOUNTS!

Covid-19 Safety Procedures
Providing safe, fun, educational and essential childcare.

★★★★★

"My 8 year old son was totally absorbed and loved his day at camp from beginning to end. He still raves about it and has his 3D Darth Vader head, that he printed."
C. French (Parent)

How to book

STEP 1
SCAN THE QR CODE

STEP 2
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP

STEP 3
USE OUR COUPON TO GET £5 OFF

5FEB

W: WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION
E: INFO@NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150