

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

19th EDITION - 3 FEBRUARY 2023



MESSAGE FROM MR REID



Uniform Reminder

I would like to begin today's newsletter with a reminder about school uniform. The majority of children look incredibly smart every day and correctly follow the school uniform. Please could I draw your attention to the school uniform policy regarding shoes: **Black school shoes (no trainers or boots)**. We would appreciate if you can take the opportunity this weekend to **check the footwear that your child is wearing** to school. Very occasionally a child is unable to wear a school shoe due to a medical issue. Please ensure your child is not wearing boots or trainers. **Thank you** for your anticipated support.

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Chinese New Year Assembly

Thank you to Mrs Gibbons and Mandarin Club for a super Chinese New Year assembly this morning. This year is the year of the rabbit. The children performed confidently and enjoyed sharing their knowledge with the rest of the school.



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th February is Safer Internet Day. This year's theme is **Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online**. This will be the theme of Monday's assembly and I encourage you to take the opportunity to have those conversations with your child. Below is a list of top tips for how to engage more with your child's online activities and life.

- **Make space for regular conversations about life online**
Talk openly and frequently about what you are doing online and encourage your child to do the same. Talk about the positive experiences you can have online, share what you have done when you have come across content you did not want to, and how you dealt with the situation.
- **Make space for enjoying and exploring the online world together**
Play games, watch videos, and express an interest in your child's online life. Celebrate all the opportunities that technology has to offer, and show them what a great space the internet can be when used responsibly.
- **Make space for working as a family to agree expectations for going online**
Talk to your family about the role technology plays in your lives. Establish rules and expectations that encourage meaningful use of technology, in the same way you set boundaries in other areas of your children's lives. It's important to review these regularly and adapt them for each member of your family.
- **Make space for learning about the apps, games and websites your child is using**
There are lots of tools and guides to support you with keeping your child safe on whatever apps, games and websites they are using. Research age ratings, privacy settings, and safety features (like the block and report button) so that you are best placed to help your child should anything go wrong.
- **Make space for supporting and reassuring your child if things go wrong**
Remind your child they can talk to you about anything. If something goes wrong, listen and respond with reassurance and kindness and stay calm. Work with your child to find solutions to the problem—we are always happy to help you.

I hope you have a good weekend.

NOTICES



PTA DRESS SWAP

The Riverhead and Amherst Teams are collaborating to put on the **Dress & Gown swap** event! **24th March, 7-9pm**. Please [click here](#) for tickets and more information.



REPORT ABSENCES

All absences should be reported **via our website before 09.00am please**. Click on the link and complete the quick form — **NO need to email/call anymore: [Daily Absence Form](#)** (The form can also be found on our website under ATTENDANCE). Please complete the form for **every day** your child is off school.



YEAR 6– DT SOUP MAKING

On **6 Feb (6B)**, **7 Feb (6SB)** and **8 Feb (6A)** will be making soup in DT. Please provide children with the following equipment and ingredients for that day.
Equipment: A peeler, An apron/ old shirt, Plastic container
Ingredients: Children will be allocated one/two ingredients from their group. They will write this down on their homework sheet.



VACANCIES

Please visit www.kent-teach.com to view our current vacancy for a Teaching Assistant.



VALENTINE'S CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

Tickets will be on sale at the gate next week—**£1.00 / ticket**. The draw will happen in assembly on **Friday 10th February 2023**.



READING DOG

Following the retirement of Luna (our reading dog), we are looking for a furry friend to fill her place. Please contact the school office if you & your pet are interested.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Please see the letter about World Book Day on **2nd March 2023**. We would like children to come to school dressed as their favourite Book Character.



FUTURE DATES

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 10 February | — | Valentine's Raffle |
| 10 February | — | Term 3 Ends |
| 20 February | — | Term 4 Begins |
| 21 February | — | Year 3 Roman Day (3CL) |
| 22 February | — | Year 3 Roman Day (3H) |
| 23 February | — | Year 3 Roman Day (3W) |
| 02 March | — | World Book Day (Costume Day) |
| 13 March | — | Year 6 Trip to Parliament |
| 15 March | — | Year 4 Trip to the Science |
| 16 March | — | Love to Dance Performances 4.00 & 6.30pm |
| 17 March | — | Open Afternoon 2.45pm |
| 17 March | — | Clubs End |
| 21 March | — | Parent Consultations |
| 23 March | — | Parent Consultations |
| 24 March | — | PTA Dress Swap Event |
| 25 March | — | Sevenoaks Clean-up |
| 26 March | — | Sevenoaks Clean-up |
| 27 March | — | Sevenoaks Clean-up |
| 27 March | — | Year 3 Easter Performance - Dress Rehearsal |
| 28 March | — | Year 3 Easter Performance |
| 28 March | — | Amherst Music Festival 6.00pm |
| 31 March | — | Term 4 Ends |

PETS AS THERAPY
Our pets and people enriching lives, one visit at a time

We are looking for our own PAT Volunteer. Could it be you?



Become a volunteer with your pet and you will:

- Help your local community
- Bring joy to those you meet
- Make days a little brighter
- Boost your own wellbeing

There's no minimum commitment – we can't wait to welcome you as our PAT Team!



For more information or help:

- petsastherapy.org
- reception@petsastherapy.org
- 01865 671440

[petsastherapyUK](#)
[Pets As Therapy UK](#)
[petsastherapy_uk](#)

Registered Charity in England and Wales: 107946, Scotland: 00100895. A company limited by guarantee, registered in England: 107946.

**Please scan to apply**

**FR**
REGULATOR

LET'S CELEBRATE & PTA

STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Emme M	5A	Noah W
3H	Raph H	5J	Ronav D
3W	Lydia K	5S	Seb A
4C	Nikolas K	6A	Vicky C-G
4DB	Jack K	6B	Thomas L
4SF	Isabe N	6SB	Annie H

RAINFOREST ROADSHOW

Please [click here](#) to see our brave Year 5's learning about the Rainforest this week!

PTA

We are working hard behind the scenes in preparation for our **Dress Swap Event** and **Coronation Ball**.

For the children we are running our annual **Valentine's Chocolate Raffle**. Tickets will be on sale next week, after school at the gate. £1.00 / ticket

Thank you for all your continued support!





VALENTINE'S CHOCOLATE RAFFLE!

FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

The PTA will be selling Valentine's Raffle tickets next week at the school gate!

£1 / ticket



Celebrating the King's Coronation



DRESS SWAP!

The PTAs of Amherst and Riverhead are teaming up to put on a Coronation Ball dress & gown swap event!

When: 24th March 2023
Where: Amherst School Hall
Time: 7-9pm
Cost: £10 for the night which includes fizz/wine/nibbles



Please use this link to purchase your tickets for the evening:
[DRESS SWAP EVENT TICKETS](#)

The idea is for you to get nearly-new donations of gowns, dresses, shoes, bags, and so on for the spring ball. If you are able to donate an item, you will receive a token. You can then swap your token for a new garment to bring home and wear at the upcoming Coronation Ball!

If you have items to donate please contact either Hayley Hansford at amherst-chair@outlook.com or Rebecca Skinner at pta@riverhead.kent.sch.uk. We are looking to collect as many prior to the event as possible. If you don't have anything to donate but still want to come, that's fine! Just pay a small donation for any garment you choose on the night!



Save the date CORONATION BALL

3-COURSE DINNER, MUSIC & DANCING
7 O'CLOCK UNTIL MIDNIGHT
SATURDAY 22ND OF APRIL 2023
AT WESTERHAM GOLF CLUB
£75 PER PERSON



FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR AMHERST & RIVERHEAD SCHOOLS
LIMITED TICKETS GO ON SALE 20TH OF FEBRUARY

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the pictures to see more information.

THE KINGS CORONATION WEEKEND 6 - 8 May 2023

To celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, we would like to make Union Jack flags from Knitted Poppies to create a wonderful display in and around Riverhead

We already have hundreds of red poppies, so are asking all knitters to knit as many blue and white poppies as they can to make this display possible

Please see below the simple pattern which will create the poppy design:

Using white or blue double knitting wool and Size 8 needles, cast on 60 stitches

Knit 2, Purl 2 – repeat to the end of the row

Repeat this pattern 7 times

Slip 2, Knit 1, Passover. Repeat to end of the row.

Thread wool through all stitches, pull together and sew the seam

For a copy of the pattern or to leave completed poppies, please visit Batchelors the Butchers or Londis

For further details, to volunteer to help assemble this display, for a supply of wool or collection of completed poppies, please do not hesitate to contact Shirley Stewart, Riverhead Parish Council on 0771 055 3977



Monthly Coffee Mornings The Bullfinch at Riverhead



Riverhead Parish Council warmly invites you to join us at our monthly Coffee Mornings for anyone who is 60 plus.

10 a.m. until 11.30 a.m.
on the last Thursday of each month

at The Bullfinch Pub, Riverhead

where you will have the opportunity to meet up with friends and make new ones. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in comfortable surroundings and catch up on the local news in your area.

Cost is £3.00 per head for tea / coffee & cake.

If you have any questions, just call Mara at Riverhead Parish Council on 01732 461278



Love the Game UK Football Coaching

Love the Game UK February Half Term 3 Day Camp (5yrs - 15yrs)

Tue 14th February 2023 - Thu 16th February 2023

TWGSB Sevenoaks Campus

Love the Game UK is proud to offer this February Half Term Football Camp at Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys (TWGSB) Sevenoaks Campus, for 3 days from Tuesday 14th Feb to Thursday 16th.

We welcome both Boys and Girls of all abilities for what will be an action packed three days of fun, games, technical sessions, goals, a penalty king competition, and lots of matches in our afternoon tournaments.

All of our coaches are qualified, First Aid and Safeguarding trained, DBS checked, and some even come with Premier League Academy Coaching experience.

We look forward to seeing you there and welcoming you to Love the Game UK if you haven't been before.

Week	Dates
February 2023 Half Term	Tue 14th February 2023 - Thu 16th February 2023

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the pictures to see more information.

2023 Camps Open

Create Code Learn

TECH HOLIDAY CAMP

THE NEW BEACON
BRITAINS LANE, SEVENOAKS
KENT, TN13 2PB

FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE
www.nextthing.education

FEB HALF TERM 2023

What's on?

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

Curious Coders | Ingenious Inventors | Virtual Reality | Expert Engineers | Media Madness

Example weekly theme only, please see website for your camp specific activities

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 5 - 11

13TH - 17TH FEBRUARY LIMITED SPACES

AGES 5 - 11 MULTI DAY BOOKING DISCOUNTS!

Rave Reviews

"My son gave the camp rave reviews. The type of activities on offer were perfect for him and it was nice that they also had outdoor time during the breaks. He loved so many of the activities on offer. It was a nice alternative to a purely sports based camp. We will be back!"

★★★★★

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

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ACTIVITIES CLUB

FEBRUARY HALF TERM
13TH - 17TH FEBRUARY 2023

PEMBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL
LOWER GREEN ROAD
PEMBURY TN2 4EB

OVER 50 ACTIVITIES,
BOUNCY CASTLES,
FUN GAMES, NERF WARS,
ARCHERY, TEAM SPORTS,
...AND MORE!

5% DISCOUNT FOR SIBLINGS

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01444 461 889

Kids Play & Learn Preschool has spaces

for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

We accept private fees, FF2 Funding, Universal 15 hours and 30 hours funding!

Call or email for a meeting and look around on

07799023898

info@kidsplaypreschool.co.uk

Visit our website: www.kidsplaypreschool.co.uk

Find us on

Riverhead Village Hall
Amherst Hill
Sevenoaks
TN13 2EL

PETS AS THERAPY

Our pets and people enriching lives, one visit at a time

We are looking for our own PAT Volunteer. Could it be you?

Become a volunteer with your pet and you will:

- Help your local community
- Bring joy to those you meet
- Make days a little brighter
- Boost your own wellbeing

There's no minimum commitment – we can't wait to welcome you as our PAT Team!

For more information or help:

petsastherapy.org
reception@petsastherapy.org
01865 671440

[Pets As Therapy UK](https://www.facebook.com/petsastherapyUK)
[petsastherapy_uk](https://www.instagram.com/petsastherapy_uk)

Please scan to apply

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

COACHING FOR BEGINNERS

6 WEEK COURSE
20TH FEB - 27TH MAR
MONDAYS 1-2PM

£36

Come and learn a new skill and have fun whilst keeping fit!
Our courses are designed for female adults (18+) with little to no experience of playing football.

OUR COACHES

- Female FA Qualified
- Experienced, fun and understanding
- Enhanced DBS
- First Aid Trained

OUR VENUE

- Sevenoaks Town FC Mill Lane, Sevenoaks TN14 5BX
- First Class Facilities
- All weather 3G Pitch

TO BOOK PLEASE VISIT

WWW.FORTHELOVEOFSPORT.ORG