

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

28th EDITION - 28 APRIL 2023



MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Coronation



I am pleased to be able to share with you Amherst’s plans to celebrate the King’s Coronation. We are trying to replicate elements of the national timetable on Friday 5th May such as *The Coronation Service, Coronation Concert, Coronation Big Lunch* and *The Big Help Out*. The day will be as follows:

- Children can wear red, white and blue (no football kit) on Friday
- Special Coronation assembly at 10.00am including performance by the Amherst Flute Choir playing Coronation music and whole school singing of God Save the King
- Amherst Big Tidy Up at 11.00am, classes will help to tidy up inside and outside
- Coronation activities in class throughout the day
- Special Coronation Lunch outside at tables weather permitting
- Amherst Big Dance - whole school coordinated line dance on the playground!
- Every child and member of staff will be given a commemorative gift and flag to take home

I’m sure the day will be great fun and hopefully create a wonderful memory for all children of this important occasion. I would also like to promote a special community church service that is being held at **St. Mary’s on Sunday 7th May at 9.30am**. All families are invited to attend as members of Amherst School and the local community.

London Marathon



Congratulations to Mrs Wakem for completing the London Marathon last weekend. She ran to raise funds for Amherst PTA which we are incredibly grateful for. [Thank you and well done!](#)

Attendance Update



As referenced in my spring term Headteacher’s letter good attendance has become a national area of concern in schools and Amherst is no different. Whole school attendance since September is currently nearly 2% lower than pre-Covid years. I am aware there was much illness just before Christmas but we are yet to see attendance return to normal levels.

If your child has low attendance of 90%, that equates to almost 19 school days missed in an academic year - four weeks of learning. The DfE class ‘attendance of 90% or below’ as persistently absent. As a parent, you may not be aware how much time your child has had off especially if it is the odd day here and there. Traditionally the summer term is one of high attendance due to less illness. The expectation (unless your child has a medical condition) is that a child’s attendance would be 95% and above. Thank you for your anticipated support in this matter.

Clubs



It has been great to have clubs beginning this week and seeing children enjoy attending the wide range of clubs on offer. If your child is unable to attend a club please remind your child to inform the adult that runs the club. Thank you to the office team for all their hard work ensuring the clubs system runs smoothly. As always, there is a huge amount of work behind the scenes!

I hope you all have wonderful weekend and enjoy the additional day off.

CONTENTS

Message from Mr Reid	PAGE 1
Notices	PAGE 2
Let’s Celebrate	PAGE 3
PTA	PAGE 4
Community Events	PAGE 5

NOTICES



REPORT ABSENCES

All absences should be reported **via our website (under Attendance)** before **09.00am**. Please click on the link and complete the quick [Daily Absence Form](#) . Please complete the form for **every day** your child is off school.



LOST PROPERTY

- A Skoda car key with a house key attached to it was found on the footpath running between Riverhead and Brittain's Lane. Please contact the school office if this might be yours.
- A dental brace was handed into reception.



YEAR GROUP LETTERS

The year group letters for the summer term were sent home today. Please find a copy on the school's website by selecting your child's year group: [Year group letter](#)



NUT FREE & HEALTHY SNACKS FOR BREAK

Please can you ensure your children bring in **healthy snacks** to school—please NO CRISPS or CHOCOLATE BARS.

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

LUNCH

Please ensure to book your child's coronation lunch by **Tuesday 2nd May, 12.00pm**. As part of our Coronation Celebrations on Friday 5th May 2023 the kitchen will be preparing a picnic lunch for the children. This will be instead of the normal school menu.

1. [Please complete the booking form here](#)
2. Please give consent via www.schoolgateway.com

OWN CLOTHES

Friday 5th May 2023 is an own clothes day. Please can children dress in red, white and blue (no football kit).



VACANCIES

Please visit www.kent-teach.com to view our current vacancies for:
Breakfast Club Assistant — Part-time



CLUBS

These clubs **will not be on next week** (2-5th May):

- Wednesday —Year 3/4 Cricket Club
- Thursday —Water Polo



SATS WEEK: 9TH — 12TH MAY

Year 6 Parents, we would appreciate it if you can avoid making any appointments in the week above.



SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

Please click on [this link](#) to find all secondary school open days for 2023/2024.



FUTURE DATES

1 May	— Bank Holiday — School closed
5 May	— Coronation Celebration (own clothes: red, white & blue)
5 May	— Coronation PTA Cake Sale— 3.30pm
8 May	— Bank Holiday — School closed
9 –12 May	— SATS week
13 May	— AJFC (Amherst Junior Football Club) Presentation Evening
22 May	— Year 5 British Museum Trip
25 May	— Term 5 Ends
26 May	— Inset Day
5 June	— Term 6 Starts

LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Ben F
3H	Isbobel K
3W	Luca H
4C	Cecily K
4DB	William J
4SF	Maddie M

5A	Phoebe D
5J	John A
5S	Rowan N
6A	Toby W
6B	Lucy E
6SB	Ewan S

TABLE TENNIS

On Saturday, Georgia represented Kent in the U11 Girls National table tennis competition in Wolverhampton.

Georgia played some very competitive matches and came third in her group, narrowly missing out on the knock-out stage. She really enjoyed the experience.

Well done Georgia!



LONDON MARATHON SUCCESS

Congratulations to Mrs Wakem who completed the London Marathon last Sunday. She ran the 42km in a fantastic time.

Mrs Wakem raised a staggering **£2361 for the Amherst PTA!** A huge thank you from our school community to you Pav—we were rooting for you all day long and kept watching to see if we could spot you on the TV!

We're raising £2,000 to help raise funds for Amherst PTA to recreate the schools outdoor areas.

118%

£2,361

raised of £2,000 target by 105 supporters



CORONATION FESTIVITIES TO COME

Riverhead Parish Council invites you to a

‘KINGS Coronation Celebration’

Sunday 7 May 2023

12 noon – 4 p.m.

Riverhead Parkland

Free activities for all the family

DOG SHOW @ 2.30 p.m.

Including Perfect Puppy and Waggiest Tail

Five classes – entry free

Live Jazz Band / Magician Robert Pound

Face Painting / Storytelling / Childrens Crafts

Refreshments available to purchase from

Red Pizza Van / Scouts BBQ

Licenced Bar / SPECS AND BEAR

Ice Creams / Sweet stall

Toilet facilities available



AMHERST SCHOOL PTA



Coronation Ball

& ASSOCIATED EVENTS

TOTAL RAISED £11,145

WE CANNOT THANK EVERYONE ENOUGH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

TO ALL THOSE WHO DONATED PRIZES, SUPPORTED OUR DRESS SWAP EVENT, THE CHILDRENS DRAWING COMPETITION, THE RAFFLE, THE AUCTION & TO ALL THOSE WHO ATTENDED ON SATURDAY NIGHT!....THANK YOU!

ALL OF THE FUNDS RAISED BY BOTH PTA'S GO DIRECTLY BACK TO SCHOOL IN SUPPORTING FANTASTIC PROJECTS THAT SUPPORT THE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR CHILDREN

WINNER OF THE CHILDRENS DRAWING COMPETITION
KITTY IRELAND, YEAR 2



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOP RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS:

1ST PRIZE - NINTENDO SWITCH - THE THOMAS FAMILY
2ND PRIZE - £300 OLD BANK VOUCHER - THE WADE FAMILY
3RD PRIZE - FAMILY FUN HAMPER - THE SALMON FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS & AUCTION WINNERS



AND A FINAL THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS



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WARNERS
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SILVER SPONSORS



BRONZE SPONSORS

Coronation Cake Sale!



We will happily accept any coronation themed cakes & cupcakes for the sale!

Friday 5th May



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the leaflets to see more information.

Oakbury Tennis Club

Venue : Walthamstow Hall Junior School, Bradbourne Park Road, Sevenoaks
Oakbury Tennis Club 07821 621 403
Flexible basis but please register your email so that we can keep you updated
Rackets and all other equipment provided

Mini Tennis Club (4 – 7yrs)

Saturdays & Sundays : 9.00 – 10.30am (no need to book)
Saturdays & Sundays : 2.00 – 3.30pm (please text the first name of the player before 11.00am for these sessions only)

Tennis related co-ordination work eg catching, over-arm throwing, basic rallying to improve judgement. Simplified intro to basic shots according to ability. Fun games to develop coordination and sustain interest.

Note : 1 hour session at same cost offered, if 1 only attendee (2 family members count as 1 attendee).

Flexible basis / 1 extra family member in group / £ 8 / No extra cost

Junior Tennis (8 – 13yrs)

Saturdays & Sundays : 11.00am to 1.00pm (no need to book)
Saturdays & Sundays : 4.00 to 6.00pm (please text the first name of the player before 11.00am for this sessions only)

Detailed introduction / review and practice of the basic tennis strokes listed below: Forehand Drive / Backhand Drive / Serve / Volleys / Slice Backhand. Tennis related co-ordination work. Game/ adapted tournament at the end of the session.

Note : 1 hour session at same cost offered, if 1 only attendee (2 family members count as 1 attendee).

Flexible basis / 1 extra family member in group / £ 12 / No extra cost

Oakbury Tennis Club

Head Coach : USPTR 'Professional' Grade 1997

www.tennis-sevenoaks.co.uk / 07821 621 403 / oakburylive.co.uk



BOOK BY
6TH JUNE
TO SAVE

ULTIMATE
ACTIVITY
CAMPS



PAY BY
CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS

GET SET FOR ULTIMATE HOLIDAY FUN!



Outstanding activity day
camps for 4 to 14 year
olds during the school
summer holidays at

THE NEW
BEACON SCHOOL
IN SEVENOAKS

ULTIMATEACTIVITY.CO.UK



BOXOFFICE@HEVERFESTIVAL.CO.UK



Vivat Rex!

An exhibition to mark
The Coronation of

His Majesty King Charles III

&

Her Majesty The Queen Consort

St Botolph's Church,
Lullingstone

Free Entry to the church only
Sunday 7th May ~ 1pm-5pm
Monday 8th May ~ 11am-5pm



Sunday service:

11am BCP Morning Prayer,
in joyful celebration of
the coronation of
KING CHARLES III
followed by
a bring-and-share picnic



Memorabilia of
coronations past,
with medals and
magazines,
souvenirs and toys,
Prayer Books and

Service Books for
Coronations from
Queen Victoria to
Queen Elizabeth II
and of course mugs.



Vivat Regina!