



37th EDITION - 7 July 2023

## MESSAGE FROM MR REID

### New Year 3

Welcome to our weekly newsletter, new year 3 parents! It was wonderful to have you visit us in school this week and show you around Amherst.

It was Kent schools transition day yesterday so the current year 2 children (who will join us in September) visited in the morning — they spent time with their new teachers and buddies, with lots of excitement all round! Also, many of our current year 6s went to their new schools for the day to meet staff and fellow students ahead of their move up to Secondary education.

### School Meals

I would like to promote and share how fantastic and unique our school lunches are. Not many schools run their own kitchen, with the majority using a contract catering company. Our kitchen team are directly employed and managed by Amherst which creates a high sense of loyalty, commitment and belonging.

I have worked in many schools over the years and have never experienced the high quality of food and menu choice that we have at Amherst. All staff are offered a lunch each day which supports our team but also ensures we are eating the same food as the children. The quality and taste is excellent. I know one of the highlights of my day is eating lunch! The atmosphere in the hall is one of enjoyment and relaxation.

One of our key points of difference to most primary schools is that the children order what they want for lunch each morning. We really do cook to order like a restaurant. The range of choice on the menu is superb. [Please click here to see our current menu.](#) Children can choose from a hot meal (vegetarian/vegan option available), jacket potato, pasta or bread. Fresh fruit and dessert is available daily. Our aim is for all children to eat a good lunch and be energised for the afternoon.

One aspect of our menu you might not be aware of is the daily bread & salad option (wraps, baguettes, etc with a range of fillings). It is like having a packed lunch but at school. Something to consider if your child is currently having packed lunches.

Our uptake remains high (approx. 80%) but we would welcome more children having school dinners. It is becoming increasingly hard financially due to increased food and staffing costs. From September we are increasing the daily price to £2.55. I am sure you will agree this is still excellent value.

### Summer BBQ

I look forward to seeing many of you at tomorrow's summer BBQ! Tickets are still available on [PTA Events](#).

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# 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.



## ADMISSIONS FOR 2024

**We have spaces for current year 2 children** wanting to start in Amherst School in **year 3** from **September 2023**. Please contact the school office if you are interested.



## YEAR 6 PRODUCTION– TICKETS

Please remember to book your tickets for the Oliver Performances on [www.schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk) —please use the code: **j9wxv**



## VACANCIES

Please visit [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com) to view our current vacancies for:

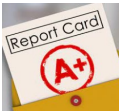
- Breakfast Club Assistant — Part-time
- Midday Supervisory Assistant — Part-time
- Catering Assistant — Part-time



## PTA TICKETS

Please visit [PTA EVENTS](#) for tickets now on sale:

- Amherst Summer BBQ—8 July
- Leavers’ Disco—19 July



## REPORTS – NEED TWO?

If you require two copies of your child’s school report due to family circumstances, please let the office know by Tuesday 11th July. We will keep this on record for subsequent years.



## YEAR 6– PE KIT

Please can year 6 have their PE Kit **in school every day** from now on as they might use every opportunity to get out and be active.



## WHEELING, WALKING AND CYCLING ROUTE

You may be aware that Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and Kent County Council (KCC) are working together in partnership to deliver a new cycle route that connects the east and west of Sevenoaks town.

Full details of the public consultation, including a map of the route, background documents and detailed drawings, as well as the online survey, will be available on the Council’s website at [www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/walkwheelcycle](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/walkwheelcycle) until midnight on Friday 14 July 2023.



## FUTURE DATES

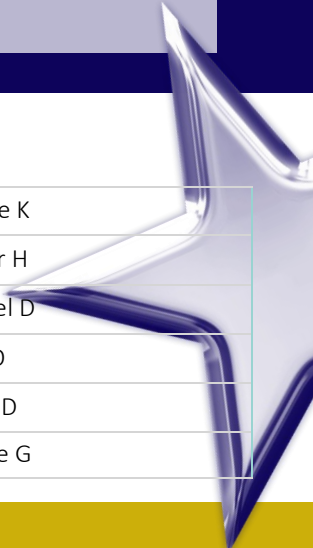
8 July	—	PTA Amherst Summer BBQ
10 July	—	Summer Production Dress Rehearsal <b>9.30am</b>
11 July	—	Summer Production Matinee Performance 1.45pm
12 July	—	Summer Production Evening Performance 7.00pm
13 July	—	Summer Production Evening Performance 7.00pm
19 July	—	Sports Day 1.00pm
19 July	—	PTA Leavers’ Disco
21 July	—	Rose Clifton Memorial Cricket Match 5.30pm
21 July	—	End of Term

# LET’S CELEBRATE

## STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Tom O, Frankie V, Adj S, Tomas B-W
3H	Zachary G, Luke F
3W	Léonie S, Tabitha P
4C	Eitan D
4DB	Frederick K
4SF	Lukas S, Henry H

5A	Charlie K
5J	Arthur H
5S	Gabriel D
6A	Josh O
6B	Harry D
6SB	Maeve G





# DISTRICT SPORTS

A massive well done to all the Amherst children who competed in the **District Sports Athletics** on Wednesday. **The team managed to come 2nd** in a very competitive event against lots of other schools in the area. All children showed **excellent sportsmanship** by cheering on their teammates and other schools. **A huge well done to the Year 5/6 relay team who managed to secure a 1st place in the final event of the day** and helped Amherst take home the **plate!**



## FOOTBALL—3W

**Chipstead FC** has four U8 teams, in which a number of the year 3s play. This year they have also created a Rep Squad of the best 2-3 players from each team. The Rep Squad played a tournament this weekend in **Crawley** with the top teams from Surrey, West and East Sussex. The Chipstead team won on penalties in the final. In the team of 9 players, **6 were from 3W!**

**Congratulations to Max, Arthur, Tobias, William, Ollie P and Maddock!**



## WIMBLEDON

Two former pupils, **Ella Walker and Ilse Russell-Jones** played in the **'Play Your Way to Wimbledon County Finals'** at Sundridge Park Tennis Club last Sunday in the 18 & Under Girls Doubles event. **They won the event and will now get to play in the National Finals on the grass courts at Wimbledon in August!**

This is a massive accomplishment for the girls, so I wanted to share the news with the school as **Ella and Ilse regularly represented Amherst** in the school tennis team throughout their time at the school and it demonstrates the importance of the team tennis element which no doubt encouraged the girls to stay in the game. **Congratulations to you both!**



## MUSIC

**Congratulations to the following children on their music exam results:**  
**PASS**

Grade 1 piano: Beatrix D, Lucy T, Zain W, Annabelle W

Grade 1 descant recorder: Mark G

Grade 1 flute: Ansh G

**MERIT**

Grade 2 piano: Joey S



**SATURDAY  
8TH JULY  
4 TO 8PM**

**SUMMER BBQ!**

**Get your tickets & tokens now!**

**We're going \*CASHLESS\* this year**

**Join the END OF YEAR FUN!!!**

Advance Family Tickets £20 (£25 at the gate)  
Available now via:  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta)

Buy a bag of 10 tokens for £10  
Tokens can be used for Candy Floss, Waffles, Sweeties, Soft Drinks & Ice creams.

\*Be sure to bring your cards/apple pay for purchasing food and drinks. We will have card readers at the Bar and BBQ!

The PTA want to thank both The Miners Arms & The South Park Tap for providing the booze for the bar!



**Special order for Team Amherst Water Bottles!**  
Order before 18 July 2023  
Order via [www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta)

**Water bottles £15.00**

**Team Amherst**  
Thomas Fritzer

**Hoodies**  
Child size: £22.00  
Adult size: £27.00

**Leavers Disco!**

**AMFEST 2023!**

EVERYONE IN YEAR 6 IS INVITED TO THEIR FESTIVAL STYLE LEAVERS DISCO!

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE HERE:

**PTA EVENTS**

WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY

£8 PER CHILD

MENCAP HALL 7 - 9PM

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the leaflets to see more information.

Kent County Council

**DYNAMIC COACHING**

[www.dynamiccoachinguk.com](http://www.dynamiccoachinguk.com)

**Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)**

**SUMMER ACTIVITY CLUB**

**AGES 5-15**

**Monday to Thursday from 10am-2pm**

Edenbridge Primary School, 13 High St, Edenbridge TN8 5AB

Week 1 - 24th to 27th July  
Week 2 - 31st July to 3rd August  
Week 3 - 7th to 10th August (open to paying families)  
Week 4 - 14th to 17th August (open to paying families)

**FREE PLACES AVAILABLE\***

\*FREE places and lunches are available during the summer holidays for children and young people entitled to Pupil Premium (Benefit-related Free School Meals). Bookings must be made via Kent County Council if applying for a free place. Voucher codes to book will be emailed to eligible families. Paid-for places are also available for those not eligible for funded places. Scan QR code to book.

**DYNAMIC COACHING**

**COST**

FREE places and lunches are available during the summer holidays for children and young people entitled to Free School Meals (Pupil Premium), subject to availability and eligibility.

Paid-for places are also available for those not eligible for funded places during weeks three and four. Please provide a packed lunch (no nuts) and a drink if paying for a place.

★ **£15 per day**

★ **£55 for all 4 days (this works out at £13.75 per day)**

We are proud to work in partnership with Kent County Council to improve the lives of children and young people.

Kent County Council



Email: [adam@arttennis.co.uk](mailto:adam@arttennis.co.uk)  
 Phone / Text: 07966 130242  
 Web: [www.arttennis.co.uk](http://www.arttennis.co.uk)

# Charity Tennis Day

Come and join us for our **Charity Tennis Day** at Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club on **Saturday 29th July**

**Venue:** Chipstead Place LTC, The Old Garden Road, TN13 2RJ

**Date & Time**  
 Saturday 29th July 2023  
 12-6pm  
 ○○○

The proceeds will be split equally between  
**West Kent Mind**  
 &  
**Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees**

**What's On:** A fun, family-friendly event with a live DJ, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Captain Jack Sparrow, Magician, Raffle, Tombola, on and off-court games & activities—including Speed of Serve, Beat the Coach & exhibition matches.

**Food & Drink:** BBQ & refreshments will be available.

**Call me!** If you have any queries please contact Adam on 07966 130 242

**Feel free to bring your friends & family to this fantastic event—the more the merrier.**  
**We look forward to seeing you there!**

Supporting:

*The Art of tennis*

# Free school meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Some schools in Kent manage their own Free Schools Meals application process. For more information, go to:  
[kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

# HORNCASTLES

**5% OFF SCHOOL UNIFORM IN JULY**

Enjoy a 5% discount on all uniform purchased throughout the month of July in-store and online.

# Large Animal Tours

Come and meet our resident animals during the Summer Holidays

Learn about their care and nutrition and, if you are lucky, you may get the chance to feed them! Our educational tours are suitable for adults and children aged 5+

Tickets are £10 per person and can be booked online or via reception (pre-booking is essential)

All tours start at 1.30pm and last for approx. 75 minutes

[www.foalfarm.org.uk/events](http://www.foalfarm.org.uk/events)    01959 572386 (option 5)

Tour dates:  
 Thursday 27th July  
 Saturday 29th July  
 Thursday 3rd August  
 Saturday 12th August  
 Saturday 19th August  
 Thursday 24th August

Foal Farm Animal Rescue  
 Jail Lane, Biggin Hill TN16 3AX  
 Registered Charity No. 201654

# Oakbury Tennis Club

Mini Tennis (4 - 7yrs)

Junior Tennis (8 - 13 yrs)

Private Coaching

Summer Holiday 2023 Tennis

07821 621 403

[oakbury@live.co.uk](mailto:oakbury@live.co.uk)

# Let's go

**SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN FOR 4½ - 14 YRS**

**EXTRA \*£20 OFF QUOTE SCHOOL20**

\*Minimum 2 days

Giving every child such an **AMAZING** experience they can't wait to come back!

Visit [barracudas.co.uk](http://barracudas.co.uk) or call 01480 467 567

PLACES BOOKING UP DON'T MISS OUT!

**80+ ACTIVITIES CHOICE FOR EVERY SESSION**

Recommended a friend (get a £10 gift card to your friend)

Trustpilot

Ofsted Ofsted

**BOOK NOW!**

NO ON-LINE! YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR BOOKING UP TO 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR BOOKING BEGINS! \*SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

# UNLOCK YOUR CHILD'S HOCKEY POTENTIAL!

**Calling all U12 talented young athletes!**

This is an open invitation from Sevenoaks Hockey Club to your child to showcase their skills this September.

**No Experience Required, Just Passion and Potential!**

We believe in nurturing raw talent, and that's why we welcome boys and girls from Years 5 & 6, regardless of their previous hockey experience. It's an equal playing field for all aspiring athletes looking to make their mark.

**Mark Your Calendars: Sunday, 3rd September**

Get ready for an action-packed morning of assessments at Holly Bush Lane, Sevenoaks, TN13 3UX. The doors open bright and early:

- Girls' registration at 08:45, followed by assessments from 09:00 to 10:30
- Boys' registration at 10:45, with assessments scheduled from 11:00 to 12:30.

**Affordable Excellence with Scholarships**

Several scholarships are available for new members, offering subsidised membership. We want to ensure that every child with a burning passion for hockey can get on the pitch without worrying about costs!

**Expert Coaching to Ignite their Potential**

Those who join our U12 squads will benefit from expert coaching from our experienced coaches who will guide them to refine their hockey skills, and help them become well-rounded athletes. Training sessions will be on Tuesday evenings.

All other players may attend an alternative session on Thursday evenings. Week night sessions are additional to club sessions for members which run on Sundays from September to Easter.

**Embrace the Challenge**

Our U12 squads compete in high-level competitions, and have consistently qualified for regional finals and even national finals in previous years. Players may also be invited to participate in the exciting Copper Box indoor hockey tournament in December.

**Take the First Step**

If your child's heart beats for hockey, don't let this chance slip away. Sign up now for the U12 Squad Assessments by visiting the link below. Together, we'll unlock their full potential, instill values of teamwork and resilience, and create memories that will last a lifetime.

Sign up here to secure your child's spot!

[www.sevenoakhockey.club](http://www.sevenoakhockey.club)