AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

4th EDITION - 29 September 2023

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MESSAGE FROM MR REID

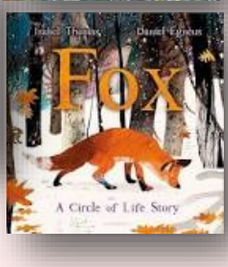
Reading

I hope you still have a love of reading and find the time to regularly read. As teachers, we see the power of reading and watch children flourish in all areas of the curriculum who have developed that love of reading. For **some children reading comes easily** but for **others the pleasure can be lost so early due to difficulties retaining sounds** and then not wanting to read.

As a junior school the vast majority of children join us being able to read. **Our job is therefore to expose the children to a range of high quality authors and genres to hopefully create life long readers.** Whatever stage your child's reading ability is at I would encourage your to **take a keen interest** in what they are reading. Children's books have improved so much over the last twenty years. **There are now so many beautiful books that are hard to resist.**

We are fortunate to have at Amherst a wonderful library. Our library is **open every day** at lunchtime and is incredibly popular. **Each class has weekly library time** where children can take books home.

Our whole school book projects promote a love of reading and exposure to high quality texts. One of my **favourite jobs** is ordering new books that could be potential candidates for our next project. Not all are suitable for a whole school project but are still fantastic books. So here are a few book recommendations of titles that did not get selected.

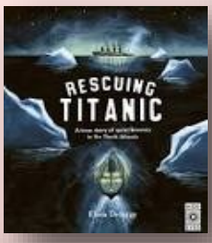


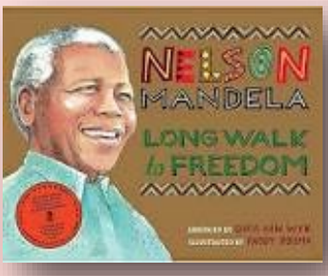
- The Lost Book Of Adventure by the Unknown Adventurer
- Fox - A Circle of Life Story by Isabel Thomas
- The Buildings that Made London by David Long and Josie Shenoy
- Rescuing Titanic by Flora Delargy
- Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom by Chris Van Wyk and Paddy Bouma
- Darwin's Voyage of Discovery by Jake Williams

A book can be a wonderful gift and show that you value reading. There are two books I bought my daughter when she was six that she still asks me to read to her having just started secondary school. **We both love reading them together** and now have an **emotional connection to the books** through many **happy hours** over the years.

Finally, my **current favourite book** is The Fortnight in September by R.C. Sherriff by Persephone Books. I would highly recommend it for a relaxing read with gentle humour. Just what you need after a busy day at school!

I hope you all have a great weekend.





> "Reading is exciting. Reading is fun. Reading is cool. There is nothing quite like the thrill of opening a book and being drawn into another world to meet new people and to discover their stories—it's like making new friends."
>
> CAMILLA PARKER BOWLES

NOTICES

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Photos will be taken on **Wednesday 4th October**. **ALL children should please wear winter uniform**. More information to follow.

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.

CLUBS: Week 2-6 October:

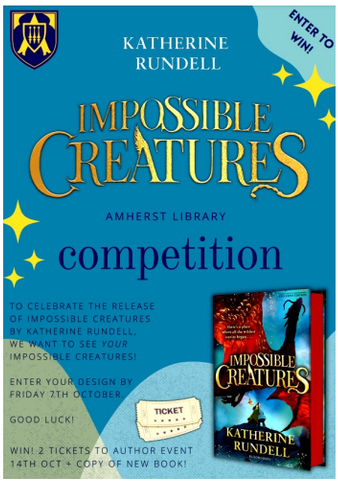
All clubs are on this week!

LIBRARY COMPETITION

To celebrate the release of Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell, we want to see your IMPOSSIBLE CREATURES!

Enter your design by **Friday, 7th October**!

You can WIN 2 tickets to the author event on 14th October and a copy of her new book!



2024—2025 TERM DATES NOW AVAILABLE

2024/25

Please click here for new term dates.

WELLIES

We would like all children to have a pair of wellie boots in school that can be stored on their classroom wellie racks. This is so the children can access the field in wet weather and have more space to play. Year 3 will be very used to this from Riverhead. Please name your child's boots and send them in over the next couple of weeks in preparation for the winter months.

VACANCIES

Please visit www.kent-teach.com to view our current vacancies.

FOOTBALL BOOT SWAP

If you put a pair in you can take a pair out or pay £2.00 for a pair of boots. All donations should please be in pairs with elastic bands please.

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

Please click on the following link for more information on if your child should stay at home or not. https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

WE HAVE SPACE!

We have spaces in current year 3 and 5. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

LETTERS SENT

Year 5—Kent Life Trip letter
Year 6—Anne Frank Film consent for Monday 2nd October.

FUTURE DATES

4 October	- Individual school photos 9.00am —12.00pm
5 October	- National Poetry Day
11 October	- Year 6—World War II day
12 October	- Year 5 Kent Life Trip
19 October	- Term 1 Ends
20 October	- Inset Day
30 October	- Term 2 Starts
17 November	- Open afternoon 2.45—3.15pm
20—22 November	- Book Fair
20—22 November	- Year 3 Rocks Days @ school
28 November	- Parents Evening (booking information will be sent a week before)
30 November	- Parents Evening (booking information will be sent a week before)
1 December	- Clubs End

LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Samuel F
3H	Ava B
3W	Millie F
4C	William C
4S	Brooke M
4SF	Alice J

5A	Sydney H
5HR	Rylee H
5J	Todd R
6A	Henry F
6B	Max R
6W	Caroline K

TRIATHLON SUCCESS

William W-E took part in his first triathlon on Saturday at Hever Castle and loved it.
It was a 200m swim, 3km bike, 1km run.

William was 15th overall, 12th boy out of 115 entrants. William is keen to get lots more of his school friends to take part next year.

Congratulations William!

PTA

Please put the following date in your calendar—it's all about CAKE **next FRIDAY**!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the leaflets to see more information.

Year 5 & 6 Parents

Please complete an absence form if you decide to take your child to visit a secondary school during the day.

Many thanks

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RUTH CABLE FAMILY CONCERT – TOY STORIES

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra's annual family concert is always a sell-out highlight of the year for the orchestra and audience. Join us for a 75-minute narrated programme which, this year, explores the world of toys and imagination. We are delighted to welcome back acclaimed actor David Leonard who will narrate The Magic Box by Richards. Other works featured include the Mazurka from Coppelia, the Dolly Suite by Faure, Funeral March of a Marionette by Gounod, The Top and Hobby Horse by Bizet, the Toy Symphony by Mozart, The Fantastic Toy Shop by Rossini and the Nutcracker Waltz by Tchaikovsky. A new addition to the concert is to support a young artist from the area by giving him or her the chance to perform with a full symphony orchestra. To debut this idea, we are thrilled to welcome Lachlan Edwards, a pupil at Sevenoaks School, who will perform Czardas by Monti.

SHOW TIMES

Sunday, October 15th

BOOK 4:00 PM