

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

2nd EDITION - 15 September 2023



MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Trust

At Amherst we have six school values:

- Trust
- Kindness
- Determination
- Politeness
- Fairness
- Cooperation

Each value is linked to a school term and inspires an assembly theme and the PSHE curriculum. This term’s value is **Trust**. **Mountaineering** is full of stories that have excellent examples of trust in action. Climbers having to trust themselves, team members, equipment and the weather forecast.

I spent time in Monday’s assembly telling the story of George Mallory and whether, with Sandy Irvine, they could have been the first to summit Mount Everest in 1924. This would have been twenty-nine years prior to Sir Edmund Hillary and Tensing Norgay in 1953. The story is true and a great mystery of the mountaineering world. It captured the children’s interest and imagination.

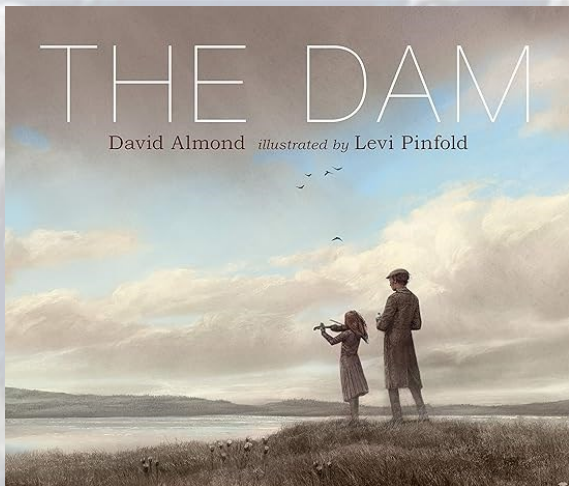
Did Mallory and Irvine sadly fall and die on the way up to the summit or on the way down having reached the top? If you have time over the weekend ask your child about George Mallory, in particular the puzzle of his wife’s photo. I would be interested to find out how much they have remembered.

The Dam by David Almond

Twice a year at Amherst we complete a whole school book project in Terms 2 and 4.

I am excited to be able to announce that our next project is going to be *The Dam* by David Almond.

It is a wonderful book exploring the building of Kielder Water (reservoir) in Northumberland. The story provokes many themes to explore. The project focuses on art and creative writing. I’m sure it will be a great success like our previous whole school book projects.



I hope you all have a great weekend. The weather looks good for tomorrow which sadly will be my last cricket match of the season!

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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.



WE HAVE SPACE!

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



SCHOOL LUNCH

Please remember to make payment for lunch via www.schoolgateway.com. Costs for the new term are: Daily - £ 2.55 / Weekly -£ 12.75 / Term 1 - £ 86.70 (34 days)



COMPLETE THE CLUBS FORM ONLINE

Please [click here](#) to tell us which clubs your child would like to attend.



2024—2025 TERM DATES NOW AVAILABLE

Please [click here](#) for new term dates.



HEALTHY SNACKS

Mr Reid spoke to the children in assembly last week about the **importance of a healthy snack at breaktime**. Please ensure your child has **fruit, vegetables** or a **cereal bar**. Please remember too that the **school is nut free**.

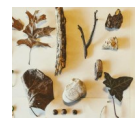
LETTERS SENT



YEAR 6 — **Young Voices letter** asking for consent, payment for coaches via www.schoolgateway.com and ordering t-shirt packs and spectator tickets via [Young Voices Order Form](#)



YEAR 5 — **5HR & 5J** children need to bring in a gum shield (pre-moulded to their teeth/mouth) and shin pads for their hockey lessons.



YEAR 4

In **art lessons**, we are creating observational drawings of natural objects. Please could your child bring in some natural objects for next week's art lesson, e.g. shells, leaves, pine cones etc (max of 4 objects). Art lessons are on the following days: 4C - Tuesday, 4S - Friday, 4SF - Friday



PARENT READERS

We are looking for parent readers on: **Yr 6**— Monday, **Yr 5**— Wednesday, **Y 4**— Thursday, **Yr 3**— Tuesday. The reading sessions will run between **1.30pm and 3.30pm**. Please register your interest on www.schoolgateway.com .



AUTUMN TERM LETTERS — please click on the links below

[Year 3 Autumn Term Letter](#)

[Year 4 Autumn Term Letter](#)

[Year 5 Autumn Term Letter](#)

[Year 6 Autumn Term Letter](#)



SECONDARY SCHOOL— OPEN DAYS

Please familiarise yourself with the secondary school open days put together in [one booklet](#) for your convenience.



FOOTBALL BOOT SWAP

Please find our boot swap box in the lobby at Reception. If you put a pair in you can take a pair out or pay £2.00 for a pair of boots. All boots donations in pairs with elastic bands please.



VACANCIES

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



FUTURE DATES

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 19 September | - Meet the Teacher—Yr 3@ 4.00pm / Yr 4 @ 4.45pm (no childcare) |
| 20 September | - Meet the Teacher—Yr 5 @ 4.00pm / Yr 6 @ 4.45pm |
| 20 September | - Safeguarding training—all volunteers 2.30pm |
| 21 September | - Table Tennis—2nd trial 3.30pm—5.00pm |
| 25 September | - Clubs Start |
| 27 September | - Year 6 Secondary School Application meeting 7.00pm-8.00pm |
| 4 October | - Individual school photos 9.00am —12.00pm |
| 5 October | - National Poetry Day |
| 12 October | - Year 5 Kent Life Trip |
| 19 October | - Term 1 Ends |

LET’S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Joba O
3H	Joshua P
3W	Phoebe B
4C	Torben A
4S	Linus B
4SF	Oliver G

5A	Oliver B
5HR	William J
5J	Tilly W
6A	Danny L
6B	Harrison P
6W	Jack F

SCOUTS & MUSIC SUCCESS

Congratulations to **Kimi M** who has been awarded Cubs Chief Scout’s Silver Award. He was also awarded a Merit in his Trinity Drum Grade 1 exam. Well done Kimi!

CLUBS — LIST & SIGN UP

Your child will be coming home with a paper copy of the **Autumn/Spring Clubs** list today.

You will see from the list that we are in the fortunate position of being able to offer a wide range of clubs. Please discuss with your child which clubs they would like to join.

- To sign up, **please complete the online form by the latest Monday 18th September 2023 at 12.00pm.**
- Clubs start week commencing 25th September 2023 and end 1st December 2023, with the exception of a few.**

CONFIRMATION OF PLACES
There will be a limited number of children per club.
Once we finalise the club lists, **we will confirm your child’s place via an email from the office towards the end of next week.**
There may be occasions when a club has to be cancelled at short notice but generally, we will give as much notice as possible of cancellation. Similarly, should your child not be able to attend on a particular day, your child should please notify the teacher in charge of the club.

REQUESTS FOR HELP
For the clubs below to run, we welcome offers of help with:

- Chess (Monday)
- Girls Football (Thursday)
- Hockey Drivers (Thursday)
- Cross Country (Friday)



COMPLETE THE CLUBS FORM ONLINE
Please [click here](#) to tell us which clubs your child would like to attend.

PTA—TEAM AMHERST

Dear Parents

Riverhead Carnival—Sunday, 17 September 2023.

Remember to come and support our school’s stall at the Riverhead Carnival on Sunday!

Thank you to year 4, especially class 4SF who is running this event.

Thank you also for all the sweet and chocolate donations we received through the week.

See you on Sunday!

Your PTA Team

JAZZ

White Mice

Yummy Refreshers

Sprinkle Dips

HEAVENLY SWEETS

Double Dip

DRUMSTICK

Cherries

RIVERHEAD CARNIVAL!

Our first event of the year is at the upcoming Riverhead Carnival on Sunday, 17th September. This is a Year 4 event, so we are asking for Year 4 contributions for our **chocolate/sweet tombola stall!**

Please could you bring a donation of either chocolate or a sweet by **Thursday, 14th Sept.** to the office. (Reminder of NO nuts please!)

Thank you!
Your PTA Team

PTA

MATHS @ HOME

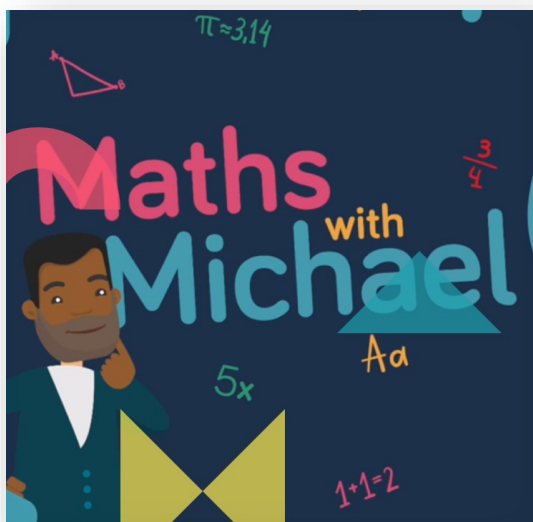
Supporting your child with maths at home

We believe that every child can succeed in maths, and one of the most important building blocks for success is a positive mindset. One of things parents can do to help with this is to support your child to feel good about maths at home, too. For example, you can talk to your child about the maths they are working on in school and encourage them to show you the methods they've learned.

There are lots of opportunities to help **build this positive mindset** because we use mathematical concepts and procedures many times in our daily lives, often without realising that it's maths! You could talk about the amount of money you have when you go shopping, how much the items cost and how much you have left after you've paid the bill. When baking, encourage your child to read the recipe and measure out the ingredients accurately, and when you're travelling, discuss location and direction.

Maths with Michael

White Rose (the maths scheme we follow at Amherst) have released a video series called 'Maths with Michael' aimed at supporting parents with understanding current teaching methods used for the four operations (+ - ÷ x). We hope these may help parents feel more confident with supporting their child's maths. There are also printable guides which show the steps used for teaching the formal methods for these four operations.

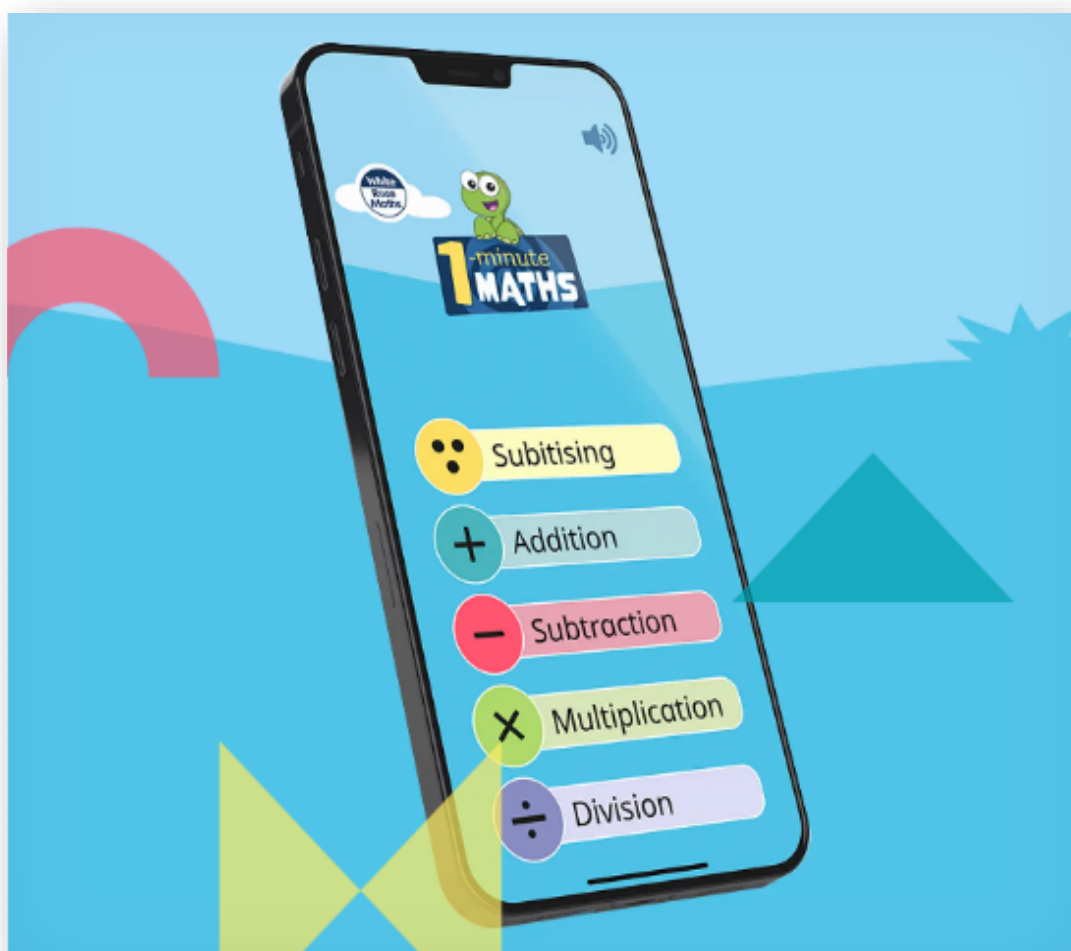


<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/maths-with-michael>

1 Minute Maths

White Rose have also released an app called '1 Minute Maths'. This is free and is aimed at supporting children with times tables and rapid recall of number bonds. It is based around short fluency tasks which take up to one minute a day to securely embed number facts. The app is accessible on a laptop or tablet.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/1-minute-maths#download>



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the leaflets to see more information.



KENT EDUCATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

PARENT/CARER CONSULTATION LINE

Free 30 minute phone/video
consultation with an Educational
Psychologist for parents and carers.



The aim of this service is to provide advice and guidance to parents and carers to support children's wellbeing and learning.

Topics or areas that you may wish to discuss might include:

- Social and emotional issues
- Concerns about learning
- Family relationships
- Concerns about behaviour
- Daily routines including sleep

kepscommunitysupport@kent.gov.uk

If you would like to make use of this service please send a message to the email address above including the following information:

- your name;
- phone number;
- a convenient time to call (morning or afternoon)
- your child's education phase e.g. early years, primary school, secondary school; - a brief description of what you wish to discuss.
- the district in Kent in which you live.

We will do our best to respond within 10 working days but this is subject to availability, particularly during school holidays.



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 in pairs
with elastic bands
please.



RIVERHEAD CARNIVAL



Sunday 17th September
12pm to 4.30pm

CHIPSTEAD COMMON, WITCHES LANE
TN13 2AQ

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FAMILY FUN!

- inflatables •
- scouts BBQ & pizza van •
- ale & pimm's tent •
- craft gin and prosecco •
- live band & DJ •
- dog show •
- arena display •
- egg throwing comp •
- market stalls •
- and much more!



Sponsored/Supported by: The Bullfinch pub, Frank's Barbers, Sevenoaks Animal Feeds, Spot Van Hire, Fairseat Farm Eggs, Arcs & Sparks, Cottage Farm Butchers and Batchelors

Organised by 3rd Sevenoaks Scout Group. For information visit www.3rdsevenoaks.org.uk or email 3rdsevenoaksfundraising@gmail.com



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the leaflets to see more information.

Mote Farm Open Day

Sunday 17th September 11am-4pm

Mote Farm, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, TN15 0NT

What 3 words [///luck.mixed.leaves](#)



We will be holding another open day on 17th September. This open day will be slightly smaller compared to the day we had in July.

We will have:

- Tractor and trailer rides around the farm
- Meet some of the Mote Farm animals including Shirley & Sharlotte two of our beef shorthorns who you will be able to see and stroke
- Mote farm burgers & sausages
- Tea, coffee & cold drinks
- Childrens farm quiz & craft activities
- Mote Farm Beef for sale – a variety of cuts will be available on the day. We only have a limited amount so please feel free to email us to order in advance

We accept cards and cash

Free entry with charges applying to some activities

Website- motefarm.org

Facebook- [Mote Farm](#)

Email- motefarmsales@gmail.com

70AKS MULTI SPORTS

OCTOBER HALF TERM SPORTS CAMP

23RD OCTOBER - 27TH OCTOBER

10AM-3PM

CHEVENING PRIMARY SCHOOL

£25 PER DAY
£100 PER WEEK

FULLY DBS CHECKED
FA LEVEL 1 FOOTBALL COACH
LTA LEVEL 3 TENNIS COACH

Amanda - 07584419283
facebook.com/70aksMultiSports

KITLOCKER.COM



The Football Coaching Group provides expert football coaching for 5-11s

Our specialist coaches cater for all abilities aged 5-11 and provide the children with the opportunity to get active, learn new skills, fulfil their potential and enjoy the game.

- First Session FREE
- Boys & Girls Aged 5-11
- Weekly 90 minute session
- 3G based high quality pitches
- FREE Personalised Nike Shirt

Venue

Mondays: 5.30pm - 7pm
Weald of Kent School, Seal Hollow Road, TN13 3SN

www.thefootballcoachinggroup.com/signup

#EnjoyTheGame

MEGA CAMPS

KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

EARN THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

AGES 17+

WE'RE RECRUITING IN SEVENOAKS!

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SENIOR COACHES
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FIND OUT MORE AT
WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET/JOBS/
OR CALL 0333 012 4378 (OPTION 3)

ALL OUR STAFF ARE DBS CHECKED



Food & Farming Open Day

Saturday 7 October
12:00 - 16:00

Prebook your FREE tickets

BBQ | Cakes | Meet the calves
Bore Place produce at the Farm Gate
Watch the cows being milked | Children's activities

www.boreplace.org