



# AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

7th EDITION - 19 October 2023



## MESSAGE FROM MR REID

I can't quite believe it is the end of term today. Although the beginning of term seems like a distant memory the last few weeks have passed by particularly quickly.



**Well done to Year 3 children** who have completed their first term at Amherst. They are a wonderful year group and we have been so impressed with their positive attitude and keenness to always do their best. It has been a pleasure to observe so many children mature and become more independent in the last seven weeks.

We don't underestimate the amount of changes the children have to manage moving from Riverhead (and other schools) to Amherst. It can feel both exciting and daunting, even a little overwhelming, when starting at a new school. It is a credit to the children's resilience and enthusiasm to see so many happy Year 3 children every day. I'm sure they are tired by the end of this term and ready for a break. We purposely do not set homework during the holidays at Amherst to give all children (and parents) a break and to avoid the inevitable last night of the holidays rush to finish a piece of homework!

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### Houses

Well done to Wolfe who were the winning house this term amassing the most house points over the last seven weeks. We have introduced a new reward this year that the winning house can wear non-uniform on the last day of term and where possible include an item of their house colour. It was fantastic to see so much yellow today in assembly. It has been great to raise the profile of house points this term and motivate all children to want to do their best.

## Harvest Festival

Thank you to everyone who contributed today to the large amount of food that we were able to deliver to the Loaves and Fishes foodbank. I know it is much needed and will be greatly appreciated. Thank you to Mrs Bates, Mr & Mrs Comer and Miss Lyon for helping transport the food.



I hope you all have a wonderful half-term and enjoy the change in routine. We look forward to welcoming children back on Monday 30th October.

*Happy half term!*

# 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.



## NEW SCHOOL MENU!!

Please [click here](#) for our NEW menu which goes live on Monday 30 October 2023. Please be reminded to top up your child's lunch money account **in advance**. Please make payment via [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com). Costs for the new term are as follows:  
Daily - £ 2.55 / Weekly -£ 12.75 / Term 2 - £ 89.25 (35 days)



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS ARE READY!

Vancols Photographers are pleased to confirm that the School Photographs are **ready to view using the QR code on your proof card**. The website for these codes is [www.getphotos.co.uk](http://www.getphotos.co.uk). The online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**



## LETTERS SENT

**Class 6B** - Photo consent for a class yearbook.  
**Choir** - Letter with Christmas Performances  
**Year 4** - Battle Abbey Trip letter  
**Whole School** - Amherst School Enrichment Fund Letter—£35.00 per pupil via [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com)



## PARKING

Parents, please park and drive considerably thinking of our neighbours and children walking to school when parking at drop off or when collecting your children in the afternoon.



## MERIT BADGES

Please can you return all merit badges to the school office—we do not have any Knole badges at the moment. Many thanks



## 6B PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Please note that 6B's parent consultations will be on 08/11/2023 and 09/11/2023. Booking information will soon be released.



## WELLIES

Please note that after half term, children must have wellies to be allowed to go on the field.



## MUSIC TEACHERS

Contact details for our music teachers are on the school's website or [click here](#).



## STATIONERY

Over half term, please can you check with your child if they need to **replenish** any of their personal stationery in class. **Most children need a glue stick** at the moment.



## ANNUAL CONSENTS

Please can you ensure that all the consent requests for your child have been answered. Please provide consent via [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) with regards to photos, medical, walking home and local area visits.



## CLUBS

**WEEK 30 Oct—3 Nov:** All clubs are on! (**Water Polo** has now finished.)



## FUTURE DATES

20 October - Inset Day  
30 October - Term 2 Starts  
8 & 9 November - 6B Parents Evening (booking information will be sent a week before)  
10 November - Year 4 Battle Abbey Trip  
17 November - Open afternoon for Amherst Parents 2.45—3.15pm  
17 November - Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements  
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  
2 December - PTA Christmas Bazaar (12.00—3.00pm)



# INTER HOUSE COMPETITIONS



This week some children from each year group have taken part in competitions representing their house.



## CURLING:

On Wednesday morning 24 children in each year group took part in a curling competition. Each house played three games against the other houses. Well done to Bradbourne who won the inter-house curling competition.



## EMOJI QUIZ:

On Wednesday lunchtime, there was an emoji quiz on films. House and vice captains set the quiz questions and ran the competition. The winning house was Amherst.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNING HOUSE OF THE TERM:

Lastly, well done to **Wolfe** for winning the house points competition this term. There will be competitions every term with the aim that every child will have represented their house at something throughout the year.

Look out for more competitions next term!



# PTA NEWSLETTER



We are looking forward to a **year of FUN** not only for our children but for us as parents — **TEAM AMHERST!**

Our **first newsletter for 2023** is ready for you — [please click here](#). Happy reading!

Do keep in touch

Your PTA Lead Team



**Hayley Hansford, Chair**  
[amherst-chair@outlook.com](mailto:amherst-chair@outlook.com)



**Nicole Miles, Vice Chair**  
[amherst-events@outlook.com](mailto:amherst-events@outlook.com)



**Annie Peel, Secretary**  
[amherst-secretary@outlook.com](mailto:amherst-secretary@outlook.com)



**Steve Harrison, Treasurer**  
[amherst-treasurer@outlook.com](mailto:amherst-treasurer@outlook.com)



**Beth Harrison,**  
**Newsletter**

## UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

It's been wonderful meeting so many new faces this first half term, I think this is going to be a great year.

After half term, it's full steam ahead for Christmas fun! We will try and make this as simple and stress free as possible but it's always a busy term. However, it's so worth it in the end as the bazaar is a really fun day and a wonderful start to creating the Christmas magic!

We've a few new exciting things to try out this term including 'Amherst School Bake Off'. Have a restful half term and I look forward to meeting many more of you over the Christmas run up!

*Hayley x*

# PE TIMETABLE

Please note that the timings on the PE timetable is a rough guidance only.

Children who will participate in **football** and **rugby** after half term will need a pair of **football boots** in school. **Hockey** is played on the playground and children will need a **gumshield**.



## Term 2 – PE Timetable 2023/24

### Indoor PE sessions

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 11.45				3W Dance	4C Dance
1.35 – 2.30	5J Gymnastics	5A Gymnastics	6W Yoga	3CL Dance	4S Dance
2.30 – 3.25	6B Yoga	5HR Gymnastics	6A Yoga	3H Dance	4SF Dance

### Outdoor PE sessions

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12			Year 4SF Handball		
1.30 – 2.30	3CL Rugby		Year 4C Handball	5A Hockey	6W Football
2.30 – 3.30	3H Football		Year 4S Handball	5HR Hockey	6B Rugby
2.00 – 3.00 (Extra class)	3W Netball			5J Football	6A Hockey

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY!

3rd Sevenoaks Scout Group invites you to

RIVERHEAD FIREWORKS

SATURDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

Scout Hut, Bradbourne Vale Road, TN13 3DE

THE QUIETER ONE!

4.00pm - 6.00pm

First firework 5pm

OR

THE LOUDER ONE!

6.30pm - 8.30pm

First rocket 7.30pm

NEW! Full display with quieter fireworks and fewer people

Our popular full display with rockets and music

HOT DOGS . BURGERS . MULLED WINE . BAR

FAMILY TICKET (4) £25 - FAMILY TICKET (3) £20 - SINGLE TICKET £8

Under 3s FREE. Limited parking. Advance tickets only.

Tickets on sale from 9th Oct from Frank's Barbers, The Bullfinch and Batchelors.

www.riverheadfireworks.com

Registered charity number 303437

THE NEST

LITTLE ELVES

WORKSHOP

WELLBEING ACTIVITIES

CRAFTS, SENSORY CIRCUITS, GINGER BREAD DECORATING, SANTAS LOST BOOT SCAVENGER HUNT, AND MORE!

DEC. 14th - DEC. 21th

9 a.m. - 3 p.m | £55pp | Age: 4-10

Limited Spaces | 01732447000

The Nest, Stables Studio, Watermill House, Chipstead, TN13 2RY

BOOK NOW AT

WWW.THENEST.HEALTH