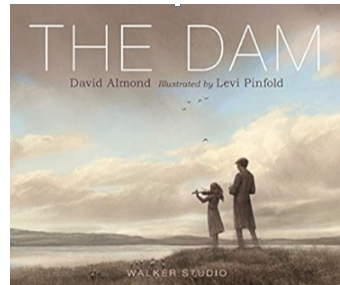




MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Whole School Book Project



The children and have made an **excellent start** to our latest whole school book project *The Dam* by **David Almond**. The projects are designed to promote a **love of books** and inspire the children to create their own **high quality creative writing and artwork**.

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The week started with **Year 6 completing an orienteering course around the school grounds** locating facts and pictures linked to the story.

I had a wonderful moment this week when **Raphael H (4S)** came to see me with a poem he **had written** during breakfast time at home inspired by the *The Dam* and poetry lessons he had completed in Year 4. **It was fantastic to see a child so inspired and passionate about his learning.**

New Octagon



Thank you to the PTA who have funded the **new Octagon** you will have seen being constructed during half term and the **beginning of this week**. When the Jubilee building was built we had to demolish our

previous Octagon to make space. It is great that the **replacement is now complete** and will be **enjoyed by children** at playtime and lunchtime.

Wellies!



The children have really enjoyed the opportunity this week to continue using the edges of the field during **playtime and lunchtime**. In previous years we have stopped using the field when it got too muddy. The extra and alternative space to the playground makes a big difference and it is great that the children will now have access to it all year round.



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.



POPPY APPEAL

We will be selling poppies at school next week. Please bring small change for a donation.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please [click here](#) for our NEW menu and remember to top up your child's lunch money account **in advance**. Payment should be made via www.schoolgateway.com.



LETTERS SENT

Whole School - Whole School Pantomime - Jack and the Beanstalk
Year 3 - Rocks day letter



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—thank you.



WELLIES

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](#).



CLUBS

WEEK 6—10 Nov: All clubs are on!



FUTURE DATES

8 & 9 November - 6B Parents Evening
10 November - Year 4 Battle Abbey Trip
17 November - Children in Need (Charity Run @ 8.00am and Cake Sale after school)
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
1 December - Year 4 Christmas Performance—Dress Rehearsal
2 December - PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00—3.00pm
4 December - Year 4 Christmas Performance—Matinee 2.00pm
4 December - PTA Mini Bazaar 9.00—11.00am
4 December - Year 4 Christmas Performance—Evening 6.00—7.30pm
11 December - Flu Vaccinations 9.00am
11 December - PTA Secrets Room 2.00—3.30pm
11 December - Christmas Carol Service 6.00—7.00pm
13 December - Whole School Pantomime—Stag Theatre 10.15am
14 December - Christmas Lunch (children can wear their Christmas Jumpers)
15 December - Term 2 Ends

STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Lily M
3H	Oliver B
3W	Holly C
4C	Eloise P
4S	Oli A
4SF	Tabitha P

5A	Maddie H
5HR	William G
5J	Lottie P
6A	Millie B
6B	Seb A
6W	Mia L



AMHERST SCHOOL BOOKFAIR



21 November
22 November
23 November

3.30 - 4.00pm
Small Hall

CHILDREN IN NEED

It is Children in Need day on Friday 17th November.

This year Children in Need's slogan is: 'Challenge Yourself and Be SPOTacular'.

Amherst School would like to support the charity again with two fundraising activities.



The first will be our annual cross country run.

This takes place on the school field at 8.00am and children can challenge themselves by setting a target for the number of laps they can complete. Children can dress up wearing something spotty or yellow like Pudsey. It will cost £1 minimum to enter and money can either be donated online or coins dropped in the charity buckets.



There will also be a cake sale after school.

We would welcome as many donations of cup cakes as possible for our sale. If you are able to make some cakes please bring them into Reception on Friday 17th in the morning. This will be a cash sale after school and children will need to have £1 coins for a cake. If there are any parents able to help run the cake sale we would really appreciate it.



ROAD SAFETY— AMHERST AND RIVERHEAD

**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

Dear Parents,

We know that the whole school community feels passionately about the road safety of all our pupils. Therefore, we have decided to make this a whole school focus for the forthcoming academic year and hopefully improve the situation for future Riverhead and Amherst children. **The school leadership team are working alongside local councillors to improve traffic measures outside the schools.** The School Council representatives will be heavily involved in this campaign by becoming ambassadors for road safety for each of their classes. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing with you how we plan to achieve this in our schools and hope that parents are able to support us with parts of this initiative.



We all know the benefits of walking on our children's physical and mental well-being. Research shows that the **physical activity helps children be in the right frame of mind for learning** when they arrive at school. Furthermore, walking home from school may provide you with more opportunities to talk to your child and find out how their school day has been. We know it is hard to change routines but ask that you might consider making a small change just once per week, for the whole family's health and well-being and to help with the number of cars outside our schools.

The school has been selected as one of only ten schools in Kent for funding to support the delivery of **'Walk to School Living Streets Campaign.'** This is a countrywide program promoting the importance of walking on pupils' physical and mental health- as well as making it greener for the environment. The overall objective is to improve children's road safety awareness and ultimately the number of children involved in road traffic accidents by encouraging as many as possible to try and walk to school. Here is a short video to explain the campaign. <https://youtu.be/opOzWJw1Hs0>

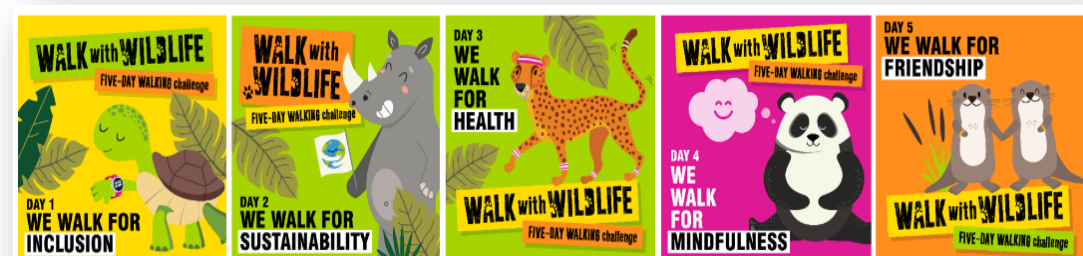
We recognise the challenges faced by parents when getting children to school on time. The juggling act that takes place every day to drop children off at school and get to work on time. Our lives are all busy and many families simply do not live near the school. The walking to school campaign includes many modes of transport such as: **cycling, scooting and park and stride** (parking the car ten minutes away and walking the last part of the journey). In order to facilitate the park and stride option, we have been in discussion with some local carparks to ask if parents could use this as an alternative and there will more information to follow. The roads around the Marlborough Crescent area are wider for parked cars and would then provide the option of walking through 'the hole in the wall' to both schools.

As part of the Living Streets Campaign, the children will be asked to **record the way they travel to school each day.** There are **badges** they can collect each month if they are able to walk/scoot/bike/ park and stride to school at least once each week and it is hoped they will enjoy collecting them.



Road safety awareness week takes place from 19th - 25th November. The children will all have an assembly and PHSE sessions on the importance of road safety, along with practical advice on crossing roads and wearing bright reflective garments during the forthcoming winter months.

We know this can only be achieved with the whole community working together and we value your support on this project.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

E-scooters – are you breaking the law?

Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?

No, it's illegal...

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?

No, it's illegal...

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?

The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



Kent Police

Think before you buy:

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities. For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit www.kent.police.uk/road-safety

“Coaches and Parents working to produce winning character on and off the pitch”

We all want our children to reach their full potential and thoroughly enjoy the journey in sport.

As a club, we recognise the unique and valuable contribution both coaches and parents play in helping the junior players get the most out of their sports experiences. To ensure that our club and home partnership is as strong as it can be, we have arranged two sessions from Richard Shorter for coaches, parents and sports teachers from local schools to attend.

These sessions, which are free to attend, will explore ways in which parents can help their children gain the most from their sporting experiences – we hope that hearing this will also help inform the part that coaches and teachers play in their development.

Organisations that use Richard and his expertise include England Hockey, Kent Cricket, Manchester United, West Ham, Spurs and Liverpool football clubs. Richard will be sharing insights from these organisations on how we can all support junior players to reach their full potential. Whilst the sessions will be attended primarily by a hockey coaching/parenting audience, the messages apply equally well to all sports. At both sessions, there will be an opportunity for a short Q&A. We hope you can join us for one of the sessions:

Tuesday 28 November—7.45pm to 9.15pm @ the Vine Clubhouse

The bar will be open for you to buy refreshments. Please arrive by 7.30pm to get seated and ready for the session to start on time. Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/richard-shorter-talks-tickets-748446091407?aff=oddtcreator>

Wednesday 6 December— 8.00pm to 9.15pm via ZOOM

Please be online by 7.50pm for the session to start online. Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/richard-shorter-talks-tickets-748472209527?aff=oddtcreator>

You can visit <https://non-perfectdad.co.uk/> to learn more about Richard's work.

We hope you will be able to join us for one of these sessions which I think will be very helpful and thought provoking for all.

Yours in Sport,

Mike Clyne
Chair of Junior Hockey

At Sevenoaks Hockey Club we offer casual, fun, pay and play hockey for parents which is a great way to get fit, meet new friends and learn a new skill or brush up on old ones.

Our 2 sessions are at Holly Bush Lane Astro:

- Mondays 7.30pm Back to Hockey;
- Tuesday 9.30am Social Hockey and coffee

No experience is necessary for either, or players can be hockey returners. We have very positive feedback on these sessions and would love to get more of the local schools' parents' community involved in playing accessible sport.

SOCIAL HOCKEY

Tuesdays 9.30am
at Holly Bush Lane
Non-members welcome
Fun Fitness Coffee
Any player level
1st XI Coach

All adult players welcome
from beginners to returners!
More info at
www.sevenoakshockey.club



GET BACK IN THE GAME!

ADULT BACK TO HOCKEY

Mondays 7.30pm - 9pm
at Holly Bush Lane

Any level welcome from
beginners to returners!

www.tickettailor.com/events/sevenoakshockey/



RICHARD SHORTER TALKS

“Coaches and Parents working to produce winning character on and off the pitch”

Via Zoom
6th December
20.00-21.15

