

THE

GREAT  
SPOTACULAR

## AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

10th EDITION - 17 November 2023



## MESSAGE FROM MR REID

## Children in Need

Thank you to each and every one of you for supporting our fundraising efforts for CHILDREN IN NEED today!

Our fun run this morning was 'crisp and sunny' with lots of smiles from parents and children while doing laps around the field.

We had a table overflowing with cupcakes and can't thank you enough for your donations. All going for a good cause, while making the end of day cake sale something to look forward to!



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## Open Afternoon

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Open Afternoon today. Children are always so keen to share their work and school with you. It also serves the purpose of informing you about your child's experience and progress prior to parents' evening in the coming weeks. I really enjoy seeing children taking their parents on a grand tour displaying obvious pride in our school from the mundane areas to the more exciting!



## Things I can do Before Leaving Amherst School

I wanted this week to bring your attention to a section near the back of your child's planner. Many years ago Miss Jones and I devised a list of things that we think every child should know or be able to do when they leave Amherst School. The areas include:

- **Practical Activities** such as *sew on a button, ride a bike, polish my own shoes*
- **Safety** such as *how to cross the road safely, basic first aid, know my address*
- **Community** *raise money for charity, clear up litter in your local area, speak in assembly*
- **General Knowledge** *know capital cities in the UK, know 15 flags of the world*
- **Nature in Great Britain** *know 7 different trees and leaves, identify 10 British birds*
- **Subjects** *know all my times tables, recite a poem off by heart*
- **Holiday Homework** *have a picnic, wash the car, camp outdoors*

If you have not looked at this list with your child I would encourage you to try and find some time this weekend to do so. Some of the suggestions may seem quite old fashioned but can be easily overlooked in a child's development. They are things that we would all like most children to be able to do but we can make an assumption that they can do them when they can't. It could be they have never been shown how to do it or haven't had the opportunity to experience it. I'm sure there will be lots on the list that they can do which can be satisfying to tick off.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

# NOTICES



## CHRISTMAS CAROL COMPETITION

Think you have what it takes to write your own Christmas song? The winning child's carol will be sung in our school's Carol Service on Monday 11th December.

**The Rules:** Just focus on words as we will work with the winner to come up with a tune. Try to write at least two verses. Hand your completed lyrics in to Mr Clarke or at the school Reception Desk. The deadline is **Monday 20th November**.

KENT-TEACH.COM

## VACANCIES

Please click on [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com) to see our current list of vacancies.

SCHOOL  
ADMISSIONS

## APPLY NOW FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Applications for a Year 3 place starting in September 2024 are now open. Please apply online (<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places>). Amherst School is a Junior School where children join us in Year 3. We have 96 places available, with up to 90 children joining us from Riverhead School, our linked infant school.

If you would like to visit the school before applying, or are interested in an In Year Application, please ring us on 01732 452577 or email [office@amherst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@amherst.kent.sch.uk).



## BOOK FAIR 20<sup>TH</sup>— 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER

Our annual book fair is being held from **Monday 20th - Wednesday 22nd November 2023**, in the small hall after school from **3:30pm - 4:00pm**. Your children had the chance to explore the fair today.

- Preferred payment method is online via a QR code.
- We will accept cash if online payment is difficult.

[Please click here to browse the catalogue .](#)



## BAZAAR COLLECTION — NEXT WEEK

**Mystery Bag Week** - please see more information on page 3.



## CLUBS

**WEEK 20-24 Nov:**

**No Mandarin Club / Last Basketball Club (no club on 30/11)**



## SEVENOAKS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Please come and support our Choir who will be singing next Friday 24/11/2023 at 6.05—6.20pm on the main stage.

## FUTURE DATES

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 20—22 November    | - Book Fair  |
| 20—22 November    | - Year 3 Rocks Days @ school                                       |
| 24 November       | - PTA Christmas Jumper Sale  |
| 28 & 30 November  | - Parents Evening (booking information will be sent a week before) |
| 1 December        | - Clubs End  |
| 1 December        | - Year 4 Christmas Performance—Dress Rehearsal                     |
| <b>2 December</b> | <b>- PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00—3.00pm</b>                         |
| 4 December        | - Year 4 Christmas Performance—Matinee 2.00pm                      |
| 4 December        | - PTA Mini Bazaar 9.00—11.00am                                     |
| <b>5 December</b> | <b>- Year 4 Christmas Performance—Evening 6.00—7.30pm</b>          |
| 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  |





# PTA—CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Games, Grotto,  
tombolas,  
toys & more!

Saturday 2nd  
December  
12-3pm

## AMHERST SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR!

20th - 24th  
November

### This week is a donation week!

Just a friendly reminder that we will be collecting the following items below for the upcoming Christmas Bazaar. There will be collection boxes in the reception area as you enter the school, between the double doors.

### MYSTERY BAG Week

Mystery Bag Week - Each child will be sent home with two (2) bags on Monday— a green & red bag.

These bags can be decorated with Christmas stickers or drawings if any child is keen!

Please, can each bag be filled with small gifts and/or treats (NB max of 5 items per bag). Please don't feel the need to purchase new, this is the time to see if you have any unwanted, unused items in your cabinet that would make a good donation!

Some ideas:

- Toiletries (bath bombs, lip balms, lip gloss, etc...)
- Fun stationary (pencils, rubbers, little note pads, stickers etc...)
- Small Games (cards or puzzles, temporary tattoos)

Friday  
1st Dec

### TOYS, GAMES & BOOK SETS Day

## AMHERST FESTIVE BAKE OFF!! IT'S COMPETITION TIME!

Do you have what it takes to be the next **Star Amherst Baker**?

Gather your friends and family around the table and whip up some sweet treats in support of your school. Whether you're a baking pro with a go-to recipe or eager to try something new, the possibilities are endless!

And what's a competition without prizes? There will be a First Prize winner for the most festive Christmas cake or cupcakes, and runner-ups for each year group. All cakes will be sold at the bazaar, so your creations won't go to waste and will help support your school!

**Please bring your delicious decorated creations to the office on the morning of:**

**Friday 1st of December**

Please make sure you label your cake clearly with your name and class. The cakes will be judged by Mr Reid and **prizes will be given out in assembly on Friday morning.**

The only rules are the cakes have to be homemade (no store bought please), be creative... and to have fun!!

## GOOD LUCK!



A huge effort goes into making this event successful for our school fundraising, and fun and memorable for the children! We can't thank you enough for your continued support and generosity!

# LET'S CELEBRATE

## STAR OF THE WEEK



3CL	Carter S
3H	Ruby W
3W	Uzair K
4C	Hope B
4S	Rebecca R
4SF	Tobias W

5A	Theo H
5HR	Maddie M
5J	Johana H
6A	Bailey D
6B	Millie P
6W	Zain W

## YEAR 3 FOOTBALL

On Friday afternoon a **team of Year 3 pupils** went to Kemsing Primary School to compete in a football tournament. **They showed excellent sportsmanship, skill and determination to win 2 of their matches, draw 2 of their matches and get through to the semi finals!!** A fantastic team effort! Well done Amherst.

- 1-0 won against Shoreham
- 1-1 Seal
- 0-0 Lady Boswells
- 2-1 won against Kemsing Jaguars
- 1-0 Semi final lost to Kemsing Tigers

It was a brilliant event! Thank you to all the parents who stayed to support.



## TABLE TENNIS

On Wednesday, 9 children went to compete in the **Kent School Table Tennis Competition**.

The boys were split into two teams and competed against four other schools in a group stage. After the initial rounds of games, the two teams were then seeded into the final group of games.

Both teams did extremely well, with **one team coming as runners up** in their group, and **the other team won their group** and have been **invited to play in a regional competition** later in the year!

**Congratulations to the whole team.** Well done to Jake R (4SF), Max L (4SF), William W-E (4SF), Alex B (5J), Eden G (5J), Richard L (5A), Jack F (6W), Zain W (6W) and Zach H (6B).





# HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Well done to our **Under 11 Girls hockey team** that took part in a **tournament at Burgess Hill** last Friday.

The team played superbly all day. Sixteen teams were split into four groups playing each other. Amherst won their first game 1-0 against Cumnor House. Their second game was against Burgess Hill which again they won 1-0.

The team's final group stage game was against Danes Hill which they narrowly lost 1-0. This placed them second in the group which qualified them for the cup quarter final against Ardingly.

A tough game followed with the score 0-0 at the end of full time. The girls then completed penalty shuffles which they unfortunately lost.



Congratulations to Isabe N (5HR), Clarissa M (5HR), Chayila M (5A), Jessica P (5A), Annebelle W (6W), Sophie F (6A), Lyla M(6A), Jessica S (5A).

## YEAR 4—BATTLE ABBEY TRIP

*Step into England's story*

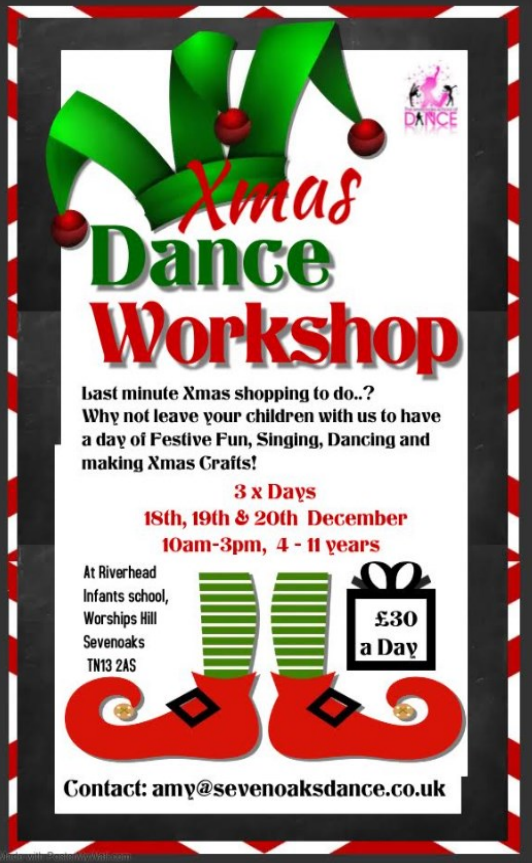


**Year 4 visited Battle Abbey last week and learned more about 1066 AND THE NORMAN CONQUEST.**

1066 was a momentous year for England. The death of the elderly English king, Edward the Confessor, on 5 January set off a chain of events that would lead, on 14 October, to the Battle of Hastings. In the years that followed, the Normans had a profound impact on the country they had conquered.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## Xmas Dance Workshop

Last minute Xmas shopping to do...? Why not leave your children with us to have a day of Festive Fun, Singing, Dancing and making Xmas Crafts!

**3 x Days**  
**18th, 19th & 20th December**  
**10am-3pm, 4 - 11 years**

At Riverhead  
Infants school,  
Warships Hill  
Sevenoaks  
TN13 2AS

**£30 a Day**

Contact: amy@sevenoaksdance.co.uk

## SYMPTOMS OF DIABETES



Weeing more often



Being really thirsty



Wounds slow to heal



Losing weight



Feeling tired



Blurred eyesight



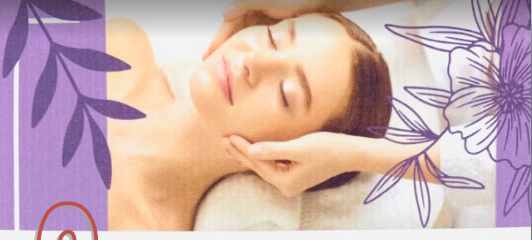
Genital itching and thrush

If you notice any symptoms, contact your GP straight away. For more information visit [diabetes.org.uk/symptom](https://diabetes.org.uk/symptom)




**DIABETES UK**  
KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES.

The British Diabetic Association (subsisting as Diabetes UK, a charity registered in England and Wales no. 215190) and in Scotland no. SC039136). ©Diabetes UK 2021



## Holistic & Wellness Fair

24th November 2023 6-9pm  
New Ash Green Village Hall



Natural Skincare  
Gemstone Jewellery  
Fashion  
Sound Bath  
Hypnotherapy

Muscle Release  
Acu-Sound  
Massage  
Gel Nails  
And more!

Pre-booking available  
WhatsApp 07827264905

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

## MEGA CAMPS

KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

CHILDCARE FROM 8am - 6pm

AGES 4-14

### CHRISTMAS CAMP 2023

EARLY BIRD OFFERS AVAILABLE UNTIL 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER

CLIMBING WALL

KIDS FAVOURITE

ANIMAL WORKSHOP

INFLATABLE FUN

NERF WARS

DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES EACH DAY AS WELL AS FOOTBALL, DODGEBALL, ROUNDERS, KIWIK CRICKET, BASKETBALL, TEAM GAMES, ARTS & CRAFTS AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR CHRISTMAS DATES & VENUES

BOOK ONLINE NOW!  
[WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET](http://WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET)  
OR CALL 0333 012 4378

Ofsted Registered

ALL OUR STAFF ARE DBS CHECKED



## STONEPITTS CHRISTMAS TREES

Stonepitts Farm are once again offering a £2.00 donation to Amherst School for every Christmas tree bought by parents and staff. Please visit the website for more details:  
[www.stonepitts.com](http://www.stonepitts.com)

Please show this snippet from our newsletter when making your purchase.

Stonepitts also make a donation per tree sold to various charities. This year the donation goes to Demelza Hospice Care for Children.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Little Street

4 sessions a day  
7 days a week

Festive role play fun  
in a little world for  
big imaginations

Christmas activities  
available during sessions  
from 27th November

Little Street, The Square, Sevenoaks, TN13 2AB  
Book online at [www.little-street.co.uk](http://www.little-street.co.uk)



## Love the Game UK

Football Coaching

## Development Centre FREE Trial

Open to both Boys and Girls in  
School Years 3-6

### What to expect if successful?

- UEFA Licensed coaching
- Fixtures against local & professional clubs
- Technical & tactical sessions
- S&C and Nutrition plans
- Sessions on high quality 3G surface
- Specialist GK Coaching
- Individual development plans



### WHERE?

Trinity School  
Sevenoaks  
Seal Hollow Road  
TN13 3SL

### WHEN?

Wednesday  
20th December  
3:10-4:10pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

[DCTRIALS@lovethethegameuk.co.uk](mailto:DCTRIALS@lovethethegameuk.co.uk)

[www.lovethethegameuk.co.uk](http://www.lovethethegameuk.co.uk)



Have fun  
Learn awesome skills  
Make new friends

Do **Jujitsu**!!

## Holiday course & Dodgeball now booking!

- 18th to 22nd December
- 9.30am - 12.30pm
- £30 per morning
- Dodgeball: 1pm-3pm on 20/21/22 December, £25/session
- Book as many or as few days as you want
- Opportunity to change belt faster 😊
- No experience necessary - family & friends are welcome! (it's a great way to try it out!)

Contact Chris to book: 07914 805 339 ; [chris.sevenoaksjitsu@icloud.com](mailto:chris.sevenoaksjitsu@icloud.com)



## CHEERLEADING CLUB

Opening Night

Join us for our Opening Night to launch the brand new cheerleading club coming to The Leigh Academy, Tonbridge starting up on 17th January 2024. Head to the Trinity Dance Eventbrite page to register your child's place and come along for a go!

**FREE**  
WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2024

- ✓ Free to attend, just register your place!
- ✓ All abilities welcome, boys and girls
- ✓ Learn stunts, motions, tumbling, jumps and more
- ✓ Friendly and relaxed environment
- ✓ A free gift to take away
- ✓ An opportunity to try the club before starting

**TRINITY STARS**  
4-8 years old  
4.30 - 5.30 PM

**TRINITY ROCKETS**  
9-12 years old  
5.30 - 6.30 PM

**SPORTS HALL AT THE LEIGH ACADEMY, TONBRIDGE**  
Brook Street, Tonbridge TN9 2PH

### REGISTRATION LINK



[bit.ly/trinitydance-cheerleadingclub](https://bit.ly/trinitydance-cheerleadingclub)

### CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION



Head Coach - Lauren  
[lauren@trinitydance.co.uk](mailto:lauren@trinitydance.co.uk) or @\_TrinityDance\_



See other side for details on joining the club

**NEW!**



**TRINITY STARS** (4-8 yrs old)  
Wednesday's 4.30 - 5.30 PM

A fun, recreational class introducing athletes to the fundamentals of cheerleading. Suitable for all abilities.

**TRINITY ROCKETS** (9-12 yrs old)  
Wednesday's 5.30 - 6.30 PM

An exciting recreational class coaching athletes in cheerleading stunts, tumbling, dance and jumps. Suitable for all abilities.

- ✓ Qualified coach
- ✓ Fully insured club
- ✓ DBS checked
- ✓ First aid trained
- ✓ Safeguarding trained

**BOOK NOW!**



**FIRST SESSION 17TH JANUARY 24**  
Ongoing during the school term



**THE LEIGH ACADEMY TONBRIDGE**  
Brook Street, Tonbridge Kent TN9 2PH



**£6.00 PER SESSION**  
Payments made as block bookings for each term

### REGISTER NOW!

Places will be limited so book your place now by emailing Lauren on [lauren@trinitydance.co.uk](mailto:lauren@trinitydance.co.uk) to receive an enrolment form

@\_TrinityDance\_