



# new curriculum

## AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

30th EDITION - 10 May 2024



### MESSAGE FROM MR REID

#### Curriculum Update

As I have mentioned before, over the last **18 months** we have been **reviewing** and **rewriting** the curriculum for certain subjects:

- History
- Geography
- Art
- Design and Technology
- Grammar and Punctuation
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

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We have followed a very successful process, which has involved the four year group leaders (Miss Wonnacott, Mr Clarke, Mrs Archer and Mr Barratt) working with the subject leaders out of class for two days per subject. This high investment in time and utilising their expertise has produced excellent outcomes. Our new curriculum in each subject is well sequenced and thoughtfully planned from Year 3 to Year 6. We have considered the learning journey and progression from the children's first lesson in Year 3 to their last lesson in Year 6. On 30th April we had an external advisor from Kent County Council visit to validate our curriculum work; he was extremely complimentary about what has been achieved.

The most recent subject to be completed was **PSHE** led by Miss Jones and Mrs Huntley. Our PSHE curriculum is themed termly on our six school values. We consider PSHE to be a very important subject as it contains lessons that hopefully help shape Amherst children to be positive members of any community. The academic subjects are important but how you manage yourself and relationships with others will have a huge impact on your life and are linked to self-esteem. How you feel about situations will drive behaviours both positive and negative. Learning to manage those feelings is a vital part of a school's curriculum and culture.

#### Resilience

We often talk to children about resilience but I'm not sure they understand what it is. We know it is useful to have but how do you create it in a child? Below is a good definition:



**Resilience means: The ability to be happy or successful again after something difficult or bad has happened.**

If we can help children understand that life is ever changing and that **what you feel today may be different tomorrow** helps them not feel so stuck. If they can believe it is possible to be happy or successful after something tricky happens then we don't need to worry as much about what has happened. **Every day provides another chance or opportunity.**

I hope you all have a great weekend and enjoy the wonderful weather. I am going to Brands Hatch on Sunday to watch the British Touring Cars and will be supporting local driver Jake Hill. I can't wait!



# NOTICES



## REPORT ABSENCES

Please complete the quick [Daily Absence Form](#) on our website before 9.00am for **every day** your child is off school.



## LIBRARY

Amherst School Library welcomes any book donations suitable for years 3-6. We are lucky enough to have enough Enid Blyton and David Walliams books at the moment. Thank you.



## CLUBS

### Week 13—17 May:

**13/05 - NO** Little Musketeers—due to SATS in the school hall (extra session on 01/07)

**14/05 - NO** Curling Club—due to SATS in the school hall

**16/05 - NO** Hockey Club—due to SATS

**17/05 - NO** Cricket Club Years 5&6



## RE DAY— 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY

Year 3 and 4 will be studying **Buddhism** and Year 5 and 6 will study **Sikhism**.

The day will be filled with a variety of activities, one of which includes painting **pebbles to create** a whole school art project. To help resource the day, please can your child bring in 2 pebbles in the **week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May**.



## YEAR 4 – RESOURCES NEEDED FOR NEXT WEEK!

As part of our Science curriculum and linked to our current 'Sound' topic, we will be **exploring pitch in class next week (w/b 13th May)**. We would appreciate if you could help by sending in any of the following items you might find around the house:

- **Cardboard tubes and small boxes** (e.g. kitchen rolls/Pringles tube/cereal boxes. No toilet rolls please).
- **Plastic food container, if possible with lid** (e.g. yoghurt pot, pâté pot).



## VACANCIES

Please apply on [Kent Teach](#) for the vacancies we have.



## KIDENZA – TESCO TOKENS

Please support this fundraising initiative to bring the Kidenza orchestra to Amherst and Riverhead Infants' Schools.



## YEAR 5– KENT TEST

### Key dates

<b>Monday 3 June 2024</b>	Registration opens at <a href="http://kent.gov.uk/kenttest">kent.gov.uk/kenttest</a> . You will receive a confirmation email when registration is complete.
<b>Monday 1 July 2024</b>	Registration closes at midnight. If your child attends a school outside Kent, you will receive an email by the end of August with your allocated test centre.
<b>Thursday 12 September 2024</b>	Children who attend a Kent primary school sit the test in their school.
<b>Saturday 14 September 2024</b>	Children who attend primary schools outside Kent or are Educated at Home sit the test in a Test Centre.
<b>Thursday 17 October 2024</b>	Kent Test Decisions emails are sent after 4pm to the email address used to register the child.



## FUTURE DATES

- 13 May - Year 6 SATS Week
- 17 May - PTA 2nd Hand Uniform Sale
- 17 May - PTA Parent Quiz Night
- 23 May - Term 5 Ends
- 24 May - Inset Day
- 3 June - Term 6 Starts
- 4 June - Year 5 Kent Test Meeting 6.00pm
- 4-6 June - Year 3 Horton Kirby Trips
- 6 & 7 June - Sponsored Swim in School
- 10-14 June - Year 6 Hilltop Residential
- 14 June - Year 4 Hampton Court Trip
- 14 June - Year 5 Greek Show—Dressing up
- 18-19 June - Year 5 Parent Consultations
- 28 June - Open Afternoon 2.45pm
- 28 June - Clubs End
- 1 July - New Parent Meeting 2.00pm
- 4 July - Kent Transition Day
- 6 July - Amherst Summer BBQ (Save the Date)
- 15 July - Summer Production—Dress Rehearsal 1.45pm
- 16 July - Summer Production—Matinee Performance 1.45pm
- 17 July - Summer Production—Evening Performance 7.00pm (all children to attend)
- 18 July - Summer Production—Evening Performance 7.00pm (all children to attend)
- 22 July - Sports Day
- 23 July - Rose Clifton Memorial Cricket Match
- 23 July - Term Ends

# LET'S CELEBRATE



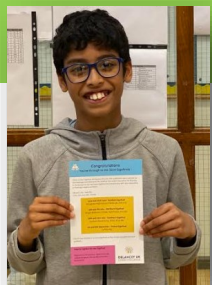
## STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Alfie W
3H	Florence O'H
3W	Tyler B-M
4C	Ella A
4S	Alice O
4SF	Edie S

5A	Lucy T
5HR	Ava K
5J	Freddie K
6A	Ethan S
6B	Zachary H
6W	Arthur H

## CHESS

Ronav D (6W) represented Amherst School at the Delancey UK chess challenge (Surrey - Megafinals) on 5th May 2024 and has qualified for the U11 boys Gigafinals! He will now compete with all the children who qualified across southern England on 21st July 2024 at the Sandown Racecourse in Esher. Congratulations Ronav!



## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our own Alex P (6B) and Jasmine M (4S) who are both part of two different productions at the Stag Theatre.

Jasmine is performing in the current production of Sleeping Beauty and Alex will soon be seen in School of Rock.



## CRICKET

The school cricket team who played Ashford Prep School last week: Eden G(5J), Ryan G(6A), Noah W(6A), John A(6W), Tom L(6W), Thomas W(5A), Ansh G(6W), Jack F(6W), James J(6A) and Jack R (6B).



# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## Parents Supporting Parents

A family support group for parents and carers of young people in the Sevenoaks District

Meeting once a week for 12 weeks, this support group will offer a safe space for parents/carers to share their experiences. Participants will gain confidence in talking about mental health, supporting young people engaging in behaviours including self-harm, and understand where to go for support in times of crisis.

Start date: Monday 3 June 2024  
Time: 9.30am - 11am

Venue: West Kent Mind, 34 St. John's Road, Sevenoaks, TN13  
for more details and to register, please visit our website:

[westkentmind.org.uk/parents-supporting-parents](http://westkentmind.org.uk/parents-supporting-parents)



Sevenoaks Primary Care Network



## Love the Game UK

Football Coaching

### MAY HALF-TERM FOOTBALL CAMP

- WEDNESDAY 29TH - FRIDAY 31ST MAY
- 10AM - 3PM

Fun, games, goals, saves, technical sessions, penalty shootouts, tournaments and more.

Ages 5-15 | Boys and girls of all abilities

Coaches are first aid and safeguarding trained, DBS checked, and some even have Premier League coaching experience.

£25 per day, £12.50 for half day or £90 for all 3 days

**Trinity School**  
Seal Hollow Road  
Sevenoaks  
TN13 3SL





Edge Green  
Respoke Kitchens & Living Spaces

**SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE!**




**To book -**

- Follow the QR code, taking you straight to our booking site.
- Go to our website, find Holiday Football Camps, and book your place there.

**See website for more details or email: [camps@lovethegameuk.co.uk](mailto:camps@lovethegameuk.co.uk)**

## MAY HOLIDAY COURSE

### Booking now! Sevenoaks Jitsu



- ✓ Learn awesome skills
- ✓ Make new friends
- ✓ Accelerate to your next belt
- ✓ Beginners welcome
- ✓ Loads of fun!



When: 9.30am to 12.30pm

- 27 to 31 May
- Early booking: book and pay by 19 May - £30 per morning
- Book after 19 May for £40 per morning

Contact Chris to book or for info  
Tel: 07914 805339  
Email: [chris.sevenoaksjitsu@icloud.com](mailto:chris.sevenoaksjitsu@icloud.com)  
Web: [www.sevenoaksjitsu.com](http://www.sevenoaksjitsu.com)

Adult classes - Children's classes - Women and teens' self defence - Easter holiday course - Birthday parties

### Riverhead Infants' School Forest School Seating Ideas



We are looking to develop our new Forest School area at Riverhead Infants' School.



Part of Forest School is the communal experience and sharing a campfire together.

We are wondering if anyone had access to logs and stumps similar to the pictures on this sheet. Any donations would be very welcomed and allow us to continue to build our Forest School area which will benefit the school, and the local area.



Thank you.



Dear All

We have just changed the date of our September Open Evening for year 7 and year 9 prospective families. The event was scheduled for Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September but has now been changed to Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September. To book places please use this link:

[Cranbrook School | Register Your Interest - Open Evening - Wednesday 18th September 2024](#)

