

Have a great half term

## AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

32nd EDITION - 23 May 2024



### MESSAGE FROM MR REID

END OF TERM

#### End of Term

It feels a long time ago that we returned after the Easter holidays on Monday 15th April.

It has been a **busy and productive six weeks with the children and staff working hard**. I always find this time of year is often strongest for learning. Children are settled and teachers know their children's strengths and how best to support them. It is great to see the progress children have made since September.

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#### Praise

One of my favourite parts of being a headteacher is **when children are sent to me for good reasons!**

I regularly have children come throughout the day and knock on my door. Some are confident and walk straight in whereas others are a little shy and feel slightly awkward when **receiving praise**. I **take the time to find out why** they have been sent and **look at the work** that they have brought. Sometimes there is no work that accompanies them as they have been sent due to an **act of kindness**. At the end I give them a **gold headteacher's award** (a sticker) and I am **continually delighted at the sense of pride** when they receive it.

**Children's faces light up** which helps remind me of the **purpose of our role** and what an impact that moment can have on a child. I can still remember individual **moments of praise** that I received as a child which contribute to shaping you as a person.

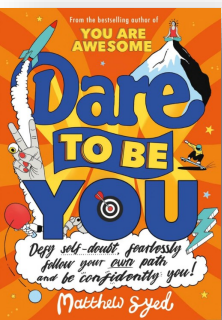


#### Dare to be you

One of my favourite books is *Dare to be You* by Matthew Syed and I would like to share once again his top tips for children to be true to themselves and help develop self-belief:

- Make **friends** with people who like you for you
- Make **choices** based on what you feel is right
- **Don't blindly copy** other people. Be you
- **Ask questions**. Keep asking questions. Make things work for you
- Don't be afraid to do things at your **own pace**.
- You should be prepared to **be flexible**
- **Be kind**
- **Make it happen**. Don't wait. Get out there. It is down to you

I hope you have a wonderful half term break and children get the chance to **recharge ready for the final term of the year**. I am going camping with my brother tonight (no children!) so hopefully the weather will remain fine.



# NOTICES

## attendance MATTERS REPORT ABSENCES

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

## GIFT AID

Thank you to parents who have made donations to the school over the last 2 terms. Please be reminded to complete our [gift aid form here](#).

## CLUBS [Week 3—7 June:](#)

All clubs are expected to run as normal, except:  
**NO Cricket (Wednesday 05/06)**

## SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

Please note that there was an amendment to the Booklet for Secondary School Visits - **The Skinners School does NOT have an open evening on 26/06/2024.**

Please [click here](#) to view the new booklet or find it on our school's website under Parents / Transfer to Secondary School.

## PTA NEWSLETTER

The PTA's May newsletter is available on the following [link](#). Please have a read of what the PTA parents are busy organising for the last term in school.

## VACANCIES

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

## SPONSORED SWIM

Your child will be coming home with the **sponsor form** for our whole school sponsored swim - **6 & 7th June.**

**We are still looking for PARENT HELPERS** to assist teachers and Mrs Warne counting widths and lengths. If you are able to help, please indicate your availability by [clicking here](#).

## FUTURE DATES

- 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 (Year 6 will visit their new secondary school)
- 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

## UNNAMED WATER BOTTLES

Please collect from the office.



# LET'S CELEBRATE

## FENCING

Gabriel K (6A) took part in the Tunbridge Wells Individual and School Team (TWIST) fencing tournament this weekend.

He won Silver, narrowly missing out on Gold to an older, more experienced fencer.

He was pleased with his performance but still aiming for gold next time!

Congratulation Gabriel!



## HOCKEY

Congratulations to all our hockey players who received awards this weekend at the Sevenoaks Junior Hockey Club End of Season Ceremony.

Lucas T (6A) received a certificate after being nominated for The Indomitable Spirit Award. It said "Lucas is always supportive and keen to play as a GK or outfield. He has bags of enthusiasm."

Well done Lucas!



## LACROSSE

On Wednesday 22nd May, a team of 11 Year 5 children made their way to Surrey to compete in the Lacrosse Regional competition.

The children played their 7 matches brilliantly and improved throughout the tournament. They were against older children with much more experience but never once gave up, showing amazing resilience. Unfortunately, we did not manage to get a win but finished the tournament on a draw in our best match yet.

Well done to all the children involved for representing Amherst, you made us incredibly proud. We look forward to playing more lacrosse next half term and next academic year as well.



## FOOTBALL—KENT

Out of the 71 Affiliated Primary schools West Kent SFA now has, 3 Amherst children have been selected for the new squad. A huge well done to all that took part as it's a great experience for the children.

The 3 pupils that were successful in gaining a spot in the Under 10 squad season of 2024/25 at West Kent SFA district football club are:

Max L (4SF), Tobias W (4SF) and William W-E (4SF)

Congratulations to you all!

# RE DAY

The children and staff enjoyed a successful RE day on Wednesday. We were impressed with the amount of knowledge gained about Sikhism and Buddhism by all through creative activities and art work. It was wonderful to come together at the end of the day to celebrate our learning and to view our whole school artwork.

Thank you also for all the donations of pebbles.

## SIKHISM



## BUDDHISM



# RE DAY

## PE & SWIMMING TIME TABLE

Term 6 – PE Timetable 2023/24

PE	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10				3W Swimming (MW, TR + GM)	
11 – 12			3CL Swimming (GL, HL + GM)	3H Swimming (LH, CGT + GM)	
1.35 – 2.30	4SF Swimming (JF, TR + CS)	5A Swimming (AA + GM)	6A Swimming (SA, AC + LB)	6B Swimming (TB, CL + JT)	4C Swimming (SC + GT)
2.30 – 3.25		5HR Swimming (SHR, AK + GM)	6W Swimming (BW + JT)	5J Swimming (TJ + GM)	4S Swimming (JW, AT + JE)

### SWIMMING KIT

- Swimming trunks (not loose fitting) for boys
- One piece for girls
- Swimming hat
- Goggles (optional)
- Towel



GAMES	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12					
1.30 – 2.30	6A Athletics (coach)	3W Cricket	5J Rounders	4S Rounders	6B Cricket
2.30 – 3.30	6W Athletics (coach)	3CL Cricket	5HR Rounders	4C Rounders	5A Cricket
(Extra class)		3H Cricket		4SF Athletics (coach) 1.30-2.30pm	

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## SUMMER CRICKET HOLIDAY COURSES

Invicta Cricket Coaching are running Holiday Cricket Courses throughout the summer for all SOFTBALL and HARBALL cricket players, aged 5-14 years. Boys and girls are welcome and groups will be split by age and/or ability. Whether you're a beginner, club or area player, these courses are perfect to develop your cricket skills in a fun and safe environment. Player of the day caps and prizes to be won.

**WEEKS OF FUN SUMMER CRICKET**

- ✓ Age: 5 - 14 years
- ✓ FUN Morning Skills blocks
- ✓ Afternoon Matches
- ✓ Cost: £45 per day or multi day discount

**DATES**

**Half Term**

- The Nevill, Tunbridge Wells: 28th - 31st May

**Summer Holiday**

- The Nevill, Tunbridge Wells: 22nd - 26th July
- The Nevill, Tunbridge Wells: 29th July - 2nd Aug
- Orchard Field, Sevenoaks 5th - 9th Aug
- Orchard Field, Sevenoaks 12th - 16th Aug

**MORNING CAMP**  
10am-12.30pm  
5-8 years old  
Softball

**ALL DAY CAMP**  
9.30am-3.30pm  
9-14 years old  
Softball / Harball

**PLAYER OF THE DAY HATS**

Got a Question? [Info@invictacricketcoaching.co.uk](mailto:Info@invictacricketcoaching.co.uk)

More Information? [www.invictacricketcoaching.co.uk](http://www.invictacricketcoaching.co.uk)



at HEVER CASTLE

WE'RE ADDING THE FINAL TOUCHES TO OUR NEW THEATRE, READY FOR OPENING NIGHT ON SAT 25 MAY AND OUR FIRST WEEK OF FUN OVER HALF TERM.

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US, WE'D LOVE TO SHOW YOU ROUND...

 70s & 80s SONGS REIMAGINED JAZZ DYNAMOS WITH LUCY RANDELL SAT 25 MAY	 Disney's FROZEN JR THIRTY FOURTH THEATRE WED 27 MAY	 THE ADVENTURES OF DR DOITTLE SILVERA THEATRE FRI 31 MAY
 GRINSTOCK COMEDY AWARD WINNING LIVE STAND-UP FRI 31 MAY	 HMS PINAFORE GILBERT & SULLIVAN SAT 1 JUNE	 THE CAROLE KING & JAMES TAYLOR STORY HEATH AWARDED WINNING NIGHT OWL SHOWS SUN 30 JUNE

Don't forget you can stay and play in the castle garden after the matinees or bring a picnic from 6.30pm before evening shows. Joint entry tickets are available too so you can spend even longer on the estate.

HEVERFESTIVAL.CO.UK  
TEL: 07378 488 477

## MAY 1/2 TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS

**STAR WARS** PLAY DOUGH PLANETS  
MANDALORIAN BATTLES  
STORMTROOPER COSTUME MAKING

**BUSHCRAFT** CANDY JEWELLERY MAKING  
CASTAWAY SURVIVAL  
FIRE LIGHTING, CARVING TOOLS & DEN MAKING

**WILD WEST** MARSHMALLOW SCULPTURES  
NERF LASSO SLINGING  
CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY BOOK NOW!

"THIS BLOWS THE OTHER CLUBS AWAY! I'VE NEVER SEEN MY CHILD SO HAPPY ABOUT A HOLIDAY CLUB BEFORE. 100% FRESH AIR, FUN, GAMES, EXPLORING & ADVENTURING IN NATURE WITH NEW FRIENDS & LOVELY LEADERS!"

★★★★★

The Outdoors Project

**"The Outdoors Project will be running clubs at Dunton Green Primary through the May half term (3 weeks away). Activities include Charlie & The Chocolate Factory, Wild West Nerf, Star Wars Day, Tribal Castaway Survival & Harry Potter Quidditch & Potions. 9am-3pm, £37.50 a day. For more info & bookings: [www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk](http://www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk)**

# D DAY 80

1944 2024

80th Anniversary of D Day  
Tea Party in Riverhead village hall  
Sunday 9th June 1-5pm  
Live band  
Free refreshments  
Children's activities




STUDY SMART

Aspire Education

GOV.UK

**LOOKING FOR A JOB IN A SCHOOL?**

Teaching Assistant  
Playground / Midday Supervisor  
Examinations Invigilator  
Cover Support Role  
Behaviour Support Role  
Youth Worker  
Support Work

Fully Funded (FREE) - Qualified in ONLY 6 weeks - No Travel - Online based - Classes in school hours

Accredited Qualifications:  
 • NCFE | CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours  
 • NCFE | CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding and Prevention: Progression to an ONLINE Level 3 Teaching Assistant Course FULLY FUNDED

Register here: [www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online) or scan the QR code

Contact Adam: 07534 175 965  
adam.shearer@aspireeducationacademy.co.uk

## The British Country Show Kent

The show with something for everybody

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

26TH AND 27TH OF MAY  
Wings of the Morning Field,  
1 London Road, Wrotham,  
Sevenoaks, Kent,  
TN15 7NS  
FREE PARKING,  
DOGS WELCOME, 10.30 - 5.30

INCLUDING:  
JONATHAN MARSHALL  
FALCONRY/DOG & DUCK  
WRESTLING/CHAINSAW COMP  
RURAL CRAFTS/MAGIC SHOWS  
BARREL RACING/LIVING HISTORY

INCLUDING WE LOVE DOGS

DISCOUNTED TICKETS ONLINE