

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

35th EDITION - 21 June 2024



HILLTOP
2024

MESSAGE FROM MR REID



SMART PHONE CAMPAIGN

Following the start of nationwide campaigns to delay the use of smartphones among children ([Smart Phone Free Childhood](#) and [Delay Smart Phones](#)) and increasing media coverage on the topic, it has got many of us thinking more about smartphones/social media and the potential impacts on children.

Parents within our school community have produced a survey in order to understand parent and carer views on this. The survey takes under 5 minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous: <https://forms.office.com/r/JNfy7kY9sB>

I would encourage all parents from our school community to complete this short survey. The aim is to have an open and respectful dialogue on the subject. The deadline for completing the survey is **Monday 8 July**.

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OPEN AFTERNOON

Please be reminded that we have our open afternoon on Friday 28th from **2.45pm to 3.30pm**. Please go to your child's classroom so they have the opportunity to share their work from this term with you. You are welcome to sit outside if the weather permits.

- **Entrance** is through the main reception.
- **Please let the class teacher know** if you are leaving before 3.30pm and **leave via the school gate** rather than the main entrance.
- **On your way in** - please make sure to pass through reception to have a look at lost property as everything not collected will be **donated to charity** at the end of the day.



HILLTOP

I had the pleasure of accompanying Year 6 on their residential trip to Hilltop last week. It was a wonderful week and I was so proud of all the children. It was fantastic to observe so many children challenging themselves and trying new things, whether it was an activity, food or sharing a bedroom with friends. Thank you to all staff that attended giving up their time and leaving their families for the week. I know Mrs Reid was very happy to see me back!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.



NOTICES

Attendance

REPORT ABSENCES

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



LION KING – GOOGLE CLASSROOM – MUSIC

All the music for our Summer Production is available on Google Classroom. A reminder of how to log in has been sent to all parents and carers this afternoon. Do encourage your children to practice hard!



INTERNATIONAL DAY– 26 JUNE

We are **celebrating all the different nationalities** that our families at Amherst represent.

During the morning children will have the opportunity to share with their classes some information about the different countries their families come from. Those who would like to talk should come prepared to share:

- their country's flag
- how to say hello or goodbye in their language
- how to count to 10 in their language
- any traditions or customs

On the day, children may:

- bring in a small flag
- have a flag painted on their cheek
- wear national dress (if there is one)

We hope they will enjoy celebrating different cultures and customs from around the world. **This is not a home clothes day.**



CLUBS [Week 17–21 June:](#)

NO Cricket Club (Wednesday 26/06) **NO Cricket Club (Friday 28/06)**

All other clubs are expected to run as normal.

ALL CLUBS END (28/06)



VACANCIES

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

Teaching Assistant / Breakfast Club Manager / Clerk to the Governors / After School Club Assistant



PARKING AND DRIVING

Please can parents be mindful of our neighbours with regards to parking and safety of pedestrians when coming to and going from school.



FUTURE DATES

- 26 June - International Day (details above)
- 28 June - Open Afternoon 2.45pm (come in to school to view your children's work)
- 28 June - Clubs End
- 1 July - New Parent Meeting 2.00pm
- 4 July - Kent Transition Day
- 6 July - **PTA Amherst Summer BBQ**
- 12 July - **PTA Year 6 Leavers' Disco — 6.30—8.00pm**
- 15 July - Summer Production—Dress Rehearsal 1.45pm
- 16 July - Summer Production—Matinee Performance 1.45pm
- 17 & 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



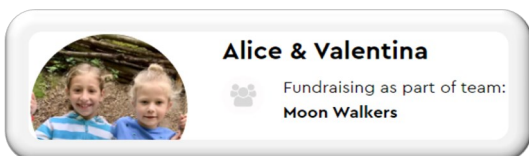
STAR OF THE WEEK

3CL	Jamie H	5A	Sofia B
3H	Henry V	5HR	Lyra G
3W	Teddy R	5J	Ayrton G
4C	Ernest M	6A	Phoebe D
4S	Luke F	6B	Amelie P
4SF	Eirene B	6W	Louis B-T

MOONLIGHT WALK

On Saturday **Valentina C (4S)** and **Alice R (3H)** took part in the moonlight walk to support Hospice of the Weald! Well done girls—it looked like everyone had a lot of fun while raising funds for such a wonderful charity!

Here is the girls' fundraising page link:



TENNIS

A huge well done to **Nathan (5J) & Todd (5A)** and **Oliver (5HR) & Tobias (4SF)** who qualified for the Finals Day of the **Kent School Doubles Tennis** event held at Bromley Tennis Centre on Friday 14th June. All 4 boys performed superbly showing great teamwork throughout the event. Nathan & Todd narrowly lost out in the quarter-finals 11-9 after having a match point at 9-8, while Tobias & Oliver won the boys red event to make Amherst the Red boys champions for the 2nd year running! **A fantastic achievement, well done all of you for great performances.**



MUSIC

Congratulations to Mina J (4SF) who attended the Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival and earned 3 "commended" certificates for Piano, Violin and Violin Duet.

Congratulations to Juliet H (4S) who won two categories the same festival - the Flute Grade 1 & 2 category and the Flute Beginners' 11 years and under category.

Well done girls!



FOOTBALL

A number of the boys in 4S play football for Chipstead FC. In their age group, U9, there are 40 boys in total from a number of schools who are split into 4 teams. Each of those teams compete in the Crowborough league. At the end of the season, the club has a celebration day and each player is given a trophy for participating and a few special awards are given to individuals in each team in recognition of their contribution over the season.

Dexter S, Linus B and Raph H all play for the Chipstead Kestrels Team and picked up 3 of the individual awards for the season for their team. **Congratulations boys!**



CRICKET

Congratulations to the school cricket team that attended the **Sevenoaks Partnership Kwik Cricket Festival** held on the Vine on Monday.

The team played superbly and did not lose a match, resulting in them winning the festival! This means they have now qualified for the county finals.

Well done to Ansh G (6W), Ryan G (6A), Noah W (6A), Gabriel D (6B) Tom L (6W), Phoebe D (6A), Annebelle W (6W) and Conor B (4S).



ARTISTIC SWIMMING

Last weekend **Emily A (4C), Matilda P-S (5J), Polly S (5A) and Ruby Q (5HR)** took part in the **Kent Artistic Swimming Competition** at K2 Crawley and achieved great success. This was an all day competition involving around 180 competitors from across Kent and beyond.

Emily's combo team took home the silver division 1 12 and under (U12) medal for their coco routine, with Ruby's team achieving gold for their mermaid routine. Polly and Matilda's team took the gold spot for their monsters routine in the U12 division 2 category.

Polly also took home a silver U12 duet medal for her cowgirls routine, and Matilda gained silver in the U12 grade 1 figures competition.

Brilliant success and their club Aquaoaks are very proud of them!



AMHERST CHOIR

Congratulations to the Amherst Choir for their brilliant performance at the Three Arts Festival last Saturday.

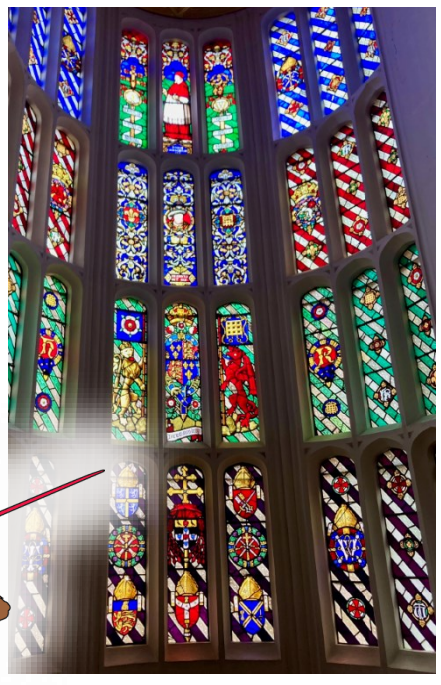
The choir sang *Homeward Bound* and *Mambo Italiano* and were delighted to be awarded first prize in the '13 and under' class, competing against older prep school children.

This rounds off a **fantastic hat-trick of local competitions** this year as the choir have also won the Maidstone Music Festival and the Tunbridge Wells Arts Festival.

Just brilliant—well done to the Amherst Choir and Mr Clarke!



HAMPTON COURT TRIP



COMMUNITY EVENTS

SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMPS

Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club

Tuesday 30th July - Friday 2nd of August

Tuesday 6th - Friday 9th of August

Tuesday 13th - Friday 16th of August

Tuesday 20th - Friday 23rd of August

Tuesday 27th - Friday 30th of August

9:00-12:00 ages 5-10

14:30-17:30 ages 11-16

All standards welcome & rackets can be provided if required!

£90 for club member for one week

£100 for non members for one week

£30 per day for individual days

10% early bird discount for all bookings paid by the 30th of June please

Contact adam@artennis.co.uk



ARTISTIC SWIMMING SUMMER CAMP



OUR 2024 SUMMER CAMP IS MUSICAL-THEMED!
EACH DAY, SWIMMERS WILL BE LEARNING ARTISTIC SWIMMING ROUTINES BASED ON DIFFERENT MUSICALS

DO YOU ENJOY SWIMMING, DANCE AND GYMNASTICS?
WHY NOT COMBINE THEM ALL AND JOIN IN THE FUN!



FROM BEGINNERS TO EXPERIENCED ARTISTIC SWIMMERS
BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 6-18 | MUST BE ABLE TO SWIM 50 METRES

PLACES ARE LIMITED

£165 FOR ALL 5 DAYS IF BOOKED BY 30 JUNE (£185 AFTER 30 JUNE)

£120 FOR 3 DAYS IF BOOKED BY 30 JUNE (£135 AFTER 30 JUNE)

PLEASE EMAIL FOR OTHER OPTIONS

HOLMEWOOD HOUSE SCHOOL - TN3 0EB

19-23 AUG | 9AM-3PM

FOR MORE INFO VISIT WWW.AQUAOAKS.CO.UK
EMAIL: INFO.AQUAOAKS@GMAIL.COM

Riverhead Infants' School (Sevenoaks)

Pied Piper Activities holiday camp in Kent

Embark on an exciting journey with Pied Piper multi-activity camps, the ultimate experience for children aged 3 to 12 during their Easter and Summer holidays!

Providing fantastic OFSTED registered childcare with over 60 different activities for children to take part in, you will have complete peace of mind knowing that your children are not only having a great time but are safe and cared for too.

Our camps are safe, friendly, and secure, ensuring your child's adventure unfolds in a nurturing environment. Our handpicked staff are carefully selected for their fun-loving, caring, enthusiastic and committed nature and their ability to deliver the Pied Piper difference throughout your child's week at camp.

Join Pied Piper at Riverhead Infants' School, where every moment is a chance to create wonderful childhood memories that last a lifetime!

Join the fun:



Riverhead Infants' School (Sevenoaks)



Creating wonderful
childhood memories...

Contact us:

E: teamyellow@piedpiperactivities.co.uk

W: piedpiperactivities.co.uk

Follow us on:

@PiedPiperActivitiesLtd

piedpiperactivities

BOOK NOW
ONLINE



Scan me to book!

Light Party summer edition

SUNDAY 30 JUNE

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING SUMMER PARTY!

Bring your family and join us for a fantastic day filled with laughter, excitement, and unforgettable memories at our Fun-Filled Summer Party!

Fun Games for Everyone!

Get ready for some friendly competition with our exciting games, including the thrilling Sponge Relay (remember your towel!), a Family Scavenger Hunt that will test your teamwork skills, and a hilarious Three-Legged Race that will have everyone in stitches.

Watermelon Challenge

Quench your summer thirst with our Watermelon Challenge, where you'll compete to see who can devour juicy watermelon slices the fastest.

Face Painting and Summer Crafts!
Fun for the Whole Family!

SCAN TO REGISTER



AS YOU LIKE IT

Thu 27th June 2024 - Sun 7th July 2024

Our annual summer production, performed at The White Rock Inn and then touring to St. Bravel's Castle.

Rosalind and her cousin escape into the forest and find Orlando, Rosalind's love. Disguised as a boy shepherd, Rosalind has Orlando woo her under the guise of "curing" him of his love for Rosalind. This is a Shakespearean love story with all of his traditional comedic devices and themes; love, loss, mistaken identity, cross dressing etc. Oh, and wrestling!!!

This is an outdoor production so please remember to bring your own chairs, warm clothes and umbrellas.

Please note that only food and drink purchased at the venue will be permitted.



SEVENOAKS
SHAKESPEARE