

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

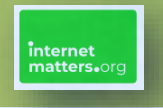
6th EDITION - 11 October 2024



MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Online safety

This week I would like to take the opportunity to share some excellent resources regarding **online safety and managing screen time at home**. This is a hard area to navigate as a parent and all families will have slightly different approaches. You may well be used to your child saying that they are the only one not to have something but this is a normal part of parenting!



Internet Matters has some excellent resources. They have created an ABC checklist:

Activate - Use the controls and tools available from broadband providers, online platforms and apps to install safe search settings, block inappropriate content and prevent contact from strangers.

Balance - Agree a good balance for your children's screen time, taking education and leisure content into account. Encourage active screen time over passive and consider setting limits for the total hours spent online each day.

Check - Check which apps your children use and the relevant age limits for each platform. And talk regularly about online safety and what they might come across so you can work together to manage any risks and keep online experiences positive.

To view the full resource please [click here](#).



Another source of guidance and advice is the **Vodafone Digital Parenting** online magazine. An excellent recent article, worth reading, focuses on advice regarding a family guide to managing screen time, including parents and children. Please [click here](#) to view the full article.



At school we use **Project Evolve** as part of our PSHE and Computing curriculums to teach and equip children with the skills they need in this area. If you would like to know more about Project Evolve please [click here](#).

Brands Hatch

I enjoyed a fabulous day at Brands Hatch on Sunday with my children. The day was even more special because local driver Jake Hill (who we were supporting) won the British Touring Car Championship for the first time.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.



Mr Reid

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NOTICES



REPORT ABSENCES

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



CLUBS

All clubs should run as normal.

NEW VIOLIN TEACHER

We are delighted to be welcoming Ros Killpack as a new violin and viola teacher. Mrs Killpack is an extremely experienced instrumentalist and teacher, working both in schools and the Bromley Youth Music Trust. She led a music assembly for the children earlier this week, demonstrating both instruments and performing an incredible rendition of Brahms' *Hungarian Dance No. 5*! We are so excited to welcome her to peripatetic teaching at Amherst and any children interested in learning with her can contact her on roshind@hotmail.com. As a reminder, the contact details for all our music teachers can be found at [Music Teachers](#)



COLD WEATHER – JUMPERS, COATS & WELLIES

Please can you make sure to **send your child to school** with a **jumper** and a **warm coat** for playtimes—even if it is not raining. Please also feel free to send in a **pair of wellies** for children to go on the field in wet weather.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

To see if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please [click here](#) to apply for free school meals. If you need help completing the form please contact the school office.



LETTERS SENT THIS WEEK

- Year 6 — WW II Day Letter
- Amherst Choir — Barnardo's Trip Letter & order T-shirts by **Monday 14/10/2024**
- Whole School Trip —Pantomime Letter



YEAR 3 SWIMMING

We have managed to book in an extra swimming slot again for each Year 3 class next week. Please can you ensure your child has their swimming in school on their class days:

3B - Thursday & Friday / 3CL - Monday & Thursday / 3WH - Monday & Thursday



VAN COLS– SCHOOL PHOTOS

The photographs have now been released to the website.

The website for these codes is www.getphotos.co.uk. The online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **23rd October 2024**.



18-Oct	- PTA Cake & Hot Dog Sale
21-23 October	- Year 3 Rocks Workshop
23 October	- Year 6 - WWII day
24 October	- Year 6 WWII Shelter visit - Chipstead
24 October	- Last Day of Term
25 October	- Inset Day
4 November	- Term 2 starts
5 November	- PTA Match Funding Evening 7.00pm
12 November	- PTA AGM 7.00—8.00pm
15 November	- Children in Need
15 November	- Open Afternoon 2.45pm
18-20 November	- Book Fair
25 November	- Amherst Choir Barnardo's
26 & 28 November	- Parents Evening
29 November	- Clubs End
7 December	- PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00pm
9 December	- Year 4 Christmas Production 2.00pm
10 December	- Year 4 Christmas Production 6.00pm
16 December	- Carol Service 6.00pm
17 December	- Whole School Pantomime Trip
18 December	- Christmas Lunch
20 December	- Last day of term

LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Harriet W	5A	William H
3CL	Belle T	5HR	Tobias W
3WH	Sophie G-J	5J	Felix S
4C	Elijah G	6A	Matilda P-S
4SF	Lara S	6MW	Thomas W
4T	Henry V	6W	Maddie M

HOCKEY

Congratulations to the Year 6 hockey team that won the Sevenoaks Partnership hockey festival on Monday. The team played brilliantly and managed to win every match. This means they have qualified for the Kent Finals where they will represent Sevenoaks competing against the other areas in Kent.

Well done to Ben G, Chayila M, Clarissa M, Isabe N, Jacob B, Jessica P, Joey S and Oliver K.



FOOTBALL

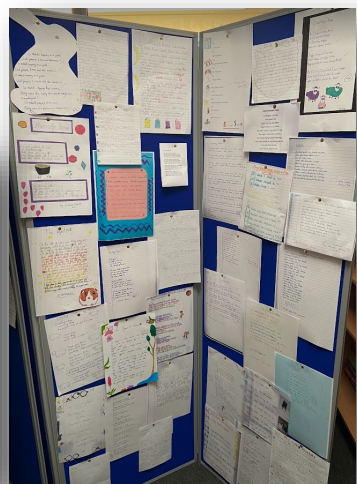
Congratulations to the Amherst football team on winning the St Michael's Football Tournament! Despite being on top in all 3 group matches, a mix of good goalkeeping by the opposition, and what felt like a magnetic crossbar, meant we finished second in our group, allowing us to qualify for the semi final with a draw, a win and a loss. Everything seemed to come together in the semi final, beating Seal St. Lawrence 3-0. This meant we were set to play Seal in the final, the team which had beaten us 1-0 in the group stage. The team played incredibly well, relentlessly pressing the opposition, but again some good goalkeeping kept the score to 0-0 at half time. That was until captain Coby scored a great long range goal, finally breaking the deadlock. The team withstood some late pressure to clinch the trophy for Amherst. Shout out to Tobias as the star of the tournament - he never stopped running, tackling and passing and popped up with a great goal as well. The team showed impeccable behaviour throughout the day and were great ambassadors for Amherst. Well done boys!



POETRY WINNERS

Well done and congratulations to all our poetry winners!

The teachers thoroughly enjoyed reading all of your poems and found it exceptionally hard to choose one winner per class. So many of you clearly spent a lot of time and effort thinking of the words for your poem, as well as the design of them. This photo shows just a selection of these poems. We would like to recognise and celebrate all this hard work, so we are planning on displaying a selection of your wonderful poems up in the library for all to see.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN TRAIL

19th - 31st October

Join in our trail to find the animals hidden in pumpkin pictures around the farm
Collect your prize from the Tea Room

Open daily (except Tuesday) from 1.30pm - 4.30pm

£4 per entry



Foal Farm Animal Rescue
Jail Lane, Biggin Hill, TN16 3AX
www.foalfarm.org.uk




STUDY SMART Free Online Courses | **aspire Education** | **n.c.f.e.** | **cache** | Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

www.studysmartuk.online

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

CACHE Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
CACHE Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
CACHE Certificate in the Principles of SEN

Six Week Course
Mon - Fri
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2:30pm
3rd session 4 - 4:30pm
(optional session for reflection and support if needed)

Available in the following levels:

Level 1:	CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment CACHE Level 1 Certificate in Wellbeing Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace
Level 2:	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Level 3:	Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

www.studysmartuk.online

Please go to our website address above, for more information.

*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that **MUST** be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.

CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE

AUTUMNAL & CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

18 OCT & 30 NOV BETWEEN 11:30-3

WORKSHOP WITH EMMA FULLER-WILKE
WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP
WELCOME FIZZ | AFTERNOON TEA
ONLINE PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED £15 PER PERSON

AUTUMNAL WREATH FRIDAY 18TH OCT 11:30AM - 3PM	CHRISTMAS WREATH SATURDAY 30TH NOV 11:30AM - 3PM
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CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE, HILL HOATH ROAD, TN8 7AD
www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk

CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE

HALF TERM HALLOWEEN TALES

OPEN EVERY DAY 27 OCT - 3 NOV OPENING HOURS 11-5

SPOOKY STORYTELLING INSIDE THE CASTLE
GHOSTLY GUIDE | MYSTERY TO SOLVE
CRAFTS | THEMED TEA ROOM TREATS
STORYTELLING INCLUDED WITH YOUR ADMISSION TICKETS

SUNDAY 27 OCT - SUNDAY 3 NOV
OPEN EVERY DAY THIS WEEK
11 AM - 5 PM (LAST ENTRY 4.15)

CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE, HILL HOATH ROAD, TN8 7AD

www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk

OCTOBER 1/2 TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS

DUNTON GREEN PRIMARY TN13

MONDAY 28TH OCT
CIRCUS SKILLS & SPOOKY FUN

TUESDAY 29TH OCT
HARRY POTTER QUIDDITCH, WAND MAKING & POTIONS

WEDNESDAY 30TH OCT
NERF: FORAGE, LOCK & LOAD

THURSDAY 31ST OCT
TRICK OR TREAT DAY

FRIDAY 25TH OCT
CAMPFIRE CRAFTS & PUMPKIN CATAPULTS

JOIN US FOR AUTUMNAL & SPOOKY FUN THIS HALF TERM. EVERY DAY HAS DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES BASED ON THE DAY'S THEME. COME FOR JUST 1 DAY OR THE WEEK. OFSTED REGISTERED. CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED. 9AM TO 3PM. £39.50 PER DAY. AGES 5-11

"BEST HOLIDAY CLUB AROUND" ★★★★★ BOOK NOW

For more info on dates, locations and how the clubs run & to book: WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK




BOOK NOW

PUMPKIN CATAPULTS
POTIONS & WAND MAKING
NERF: FORAGE, LOCK & LOAD
CIRCUS SKILLS
SLIME MAKING
CAMPFIRE TREATS
ZOMBIE SCAVENGER HUNT

SCHOOL HOLIDAY & WRAPAROUND CLUBS

OCTOBER HALF TERM
28TH OCT - 1ST NOV 2024

ST. JOHNS PRIMARY SCHOOL
CUNNINGHAM ROAD
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
TN4 9EW

OVER 50 ACTIVITIES,
BOUNCY CASTLES,
FUN GAMES, NERF WARS
ARCHERY, TEAM SPORTS,
...AND MORE!

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LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

Southeast Kids Camps | **SOUTHEASTKIDSCAMPS.CO.UK**
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Orsted Registered

URGENT APPEAL

Folly Wildlife Rescue is at risk of closure.

Without your support, we can't continue to help wildlife in need.



Please donate now to help us reach our goal of **£250,000**

How can you help?

- Become a Friend of Folly
- Check our Amazon wish-list
- Support our Online Auction
- Scan below to donate now



DONATE NOW
#savefolly

FOLLY Wildlife RESCUE

Working For Wildlife In Kent & Sussex

General Enquiries - [Please Click Here](#)

☎ **HELPLINE 01892 543213**

OPEN HOURS
9.00am - 4.00pm

[For Out Of Hours Advice Please Click Here](#)

Broadwater Forest Wildlife Hospital
Fairview Lane, Broadwater Forest
Tunbridge Wells, TN3 9LU

The Southern Wildlife Care & Advisory Trust
Registered Charity No. 1091857

OCTOBER HALF-TERM CAMP
Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club

Tuesday 29th October - Friday 1st of November

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 13th of October

Contact adam@artennis.co.uk



HARVEST - THANK YOU

On behalf of the Sevenoaks (Loaves & Fishes) Foodbank, I want to thank the children, parents and staff for all the contributions made to your recent Harvest donations. The generosity and kindness shown has been totally inspiring. We are extremely grateful for your contributions to the Foodbank, which enables us to continually support those in our community who are struggling to make ends meet.

Thank you so much for playing a part in bringing help and hope to those in need

Kind regards Isabelle Mercer, Trustee

