

Kindness is like
a seed.
Plant it in others and
watch it grow.



AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

10th EDITION - 15 November 2024



MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Kindness

This term's value is kindness. The school rule which accompanies this value is:

*We will treat everybody and everything with care
and respect at Amherst School.*

Kindness is such a key value and all of us benefit from the support and encouragement that kindness brings. I firmly believe that kindness can be taught and developed. It is not that some children are stuck being a kind person or an unkind person. We also focus on how to be kind to yourself. Our PSHE curriculum is bespoke to our school values with a weekly lesson each term on that value.

Learning objectives for Kindness this term include:

Year 3

- I can explain how families are different and special people in my life.
- I can identify the importance of showing kindness to everyone.
- I can explain how to be a good friend.
- I can identify strategies to use if I am feeling sad due to the loss of something important to me.
- I can identify what makes me happy and healthy.

Year 4

- I can identify how I can show kindness in different settings (school and home).
- I can explain how people are different and shouldn't be stereotyped.
- I can recognise and respond to the size of a problem.
- I can understand what peer pressure is.
- I can stand up for what I believe is right.

Year 5

- I can identify key characteristics of family life, understanding respect for everyone's family.
- I can explain what mental health is and how we can take care of it.
- I can identify the impact of bullying on others. (Including both offline and online)
- I can explain the benefits and importance of including others.
- I can understand the importance of healthy lifestyle choices.

Year 6

- I can identify ways to resolve conflict.
- I can make my own informed decisions in order to have a balanced healthy lifestyle.
- I can explain the causes and impacts of bullying.
- I can understand how family structures can change.
- I can understand the importance of memories in times of change.

Riverhead Infants' School

We enjoyed a **shared leadership meeting between both schools** on Tuesday this week. It was **great for our leadership teams to work together** on a range of topics. We plan to meet once each seasonal term. Thank you to Mr King for hosting.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Reid

CONTENTS

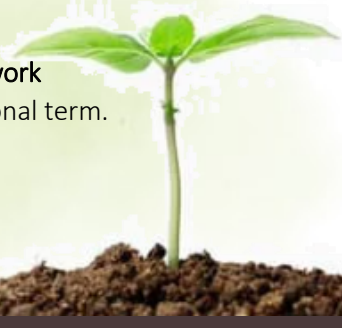
Message from Mr Reid
PAGE 1

Notices
PAGE 2

Let's Celebrate
Parent Consultations
PAGE 3

PTA Christmas
PAGE 4

Community Events
PAGE 5



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 WEEK 18-22 NOVEMBER

All clubs are expected to run as normal.

Extra session booked for **Little Musketeers** on 02/12 & **Mandarin Club** on 04/12



LETTERS SENT THIS WEEK

Whole School—Christmas Lunch



COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

We would like to invite you to our BOOK FAIR which is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon from 3.30—4.00pm in the small hall!



SKINNERS' SCHOOL ADMISSION CONSULTATION

The Skinners' School is consulting over proposed admissions arrangements for September 2026. For your information, the consultation documents can be viewed via this [link](#).



GOVERNOR VACANCY

We are currently seeking a **volunteer with a background in finance** to join our friendly team so please do get in touch if you (or someone you know in the wider community) might be interested in getting involved. We are actively seeking someone for this role so please do get in touch with Emily Grier, Chair of Governors via the school office.



AMHERST SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND

Amherst continues to be one of the lowest funded schools in Kent per pupil and yet achieves some of the **highest academic results**. It is a constant struggle to maintain the high level of supportive and adaptive teaching and learning that we provide. Your donation really does make a difference. This year we are asking parents to contribute £35 per child. All pupils benefit from the Enrichment Fund and your contribution is important. **PLEASE MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION** via www.schoolgateway.com.



CHARITY BAKE SALE

We will appreciate donations of cakes for the charity bake sale on 21 November 2024. Cakes can be dropped off in Reception on the day. Many thanks for your anticipated support.



UPCOMING EVENTS

18-20 November	- Book Fair
21 November	- Charity Fun Run - 8.00am
22 November	- Charity Bake Sale - 3.30pm
25 November	- Amherst Choir Barnardo's
26 & 28 November	- Parents Consultations (information to follow)
29 November	- Clubs End
2 December	- Year 5 Victorian Day
7 December	- PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00pm
8 December	- PTA Mini Bazaar
9 December	- Year 4 Christmas Production 2.00pm
10 December	- Year 4 Christmas Production 6.00pm
13 December	- PTA Cake and Hot Dog Sale
16 December	- Secrets Room
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	Albie A
3CL	Alex T
3WH	Andy G
4C	Alfie W
4SF	Avish M
4T	Rose M

5A	Douglas B
5HR	Kitty G
5J	Harriet S
6A	Melody G
6MW	Gabriel P
6W	Ava K

HOCKEY



Well done to our Under 11 Girls hockey team that played in the UKSA Schools tournament on Friday 8th November.

Sixteen schools entered and Amherst were placed in a group with Cumnor House, Kent College and St. Teresa's. The team played superbly and won all their games.

This meant they progressed to the quarter-finals where they narrowly beat Reigate St. Marys's on penalty shuffles.

Well done to Isabe who saved each one and Clarissa, Chayila and Jessica P for scoring. A very close semi-final followed with the team narrowly losing 2-0 to Brambletye. The team were amazing all day and should be proud of being in the top four out of 16 schools. It should be noted we were the only state school participating.

Congratulations to Isabe N, Clarissa M, Chayila M, Jessica P, Marnya N, Madeline K, Rosa K and Jessica S.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent consultations will take place in the school hall on **Tuesday 26 November** from 3.40 to 8.00pm and **Thursday 28 November** from 3.40 to 6.30pm.

Bookings close on **Monday 18 November** at 4.00pm.

Please log into www.schoolinterviews.co.uk and enter the event code sent to you via email.

We kindly ask that you make every effort to attend the upcoming parent consultations.

These meetings are a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress.

Please note that it may be difficult for teachers to accommodate special appointments outside of the scheduled consultation times, so we encourage you to attend at the designated time to ensure that your child's needs are fully addressed.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Your PTA team is very excited to present you with our upcoming Christmas fun!



The day to set aside is:

❄ Saturday, 7 December 2024 from 12.00 - 3.00pm.

The event is:

❄ The PTA's Amherst Christmas Bazaar

We hope you will all join us for an afternoon of fun and festive activities!

During the afternoon, the children will have the opportunity to play **fun games** which the Year 6 children have created and Mr Reid will host the **Amherst Hamper and Grand Draw**. You will be in for a treat with our luxury hampers and wonderful grand draw gifts, again donated by members of our school community and local businesses. (Tickets for the Amherst Hamper and Grand Draw will shortly be sent to you via your child's bookbag.) In addition to that we have an array of stalls, tombolas and our very own Santa in his Grotto!

Help needed over the next few weeks!

We have prepared a **Christmas activities overview (below)** with all the deadlines. It looks a lot but once your donations for the stalls are out of the way, **we can look forward to enjoying the festive fun on the day!!**

Christmas Bazaar Donations



We will be collecting donations for the Amherst Christmas bazaar from Monday 25th November. There will be large labelled boxes in the reception area where you can place your donations.

25-29 Nov - Toys, choccies, mystery bags, stocking fillers

2-6 Dec - Bottles, Hampers (Fri 6th), Cakes (Fri 6th)

Thank you for your support and generosity!



Chocolates (big or small, bags or bars...it doesn't matter!) Please **NO NUTS** or containing alcohol!

TOYS - Games and puzzles, complete and in good condition. No books please!

Stocking fillers - ANY stocking fillers for men, women or pets which could include toiletries, pamper products, dog treats....or any other small items!

Mystery Bags - Each child will be sent home with **2 bags** (which can be decorated!) & can be filled with small gifts and/or treats (max 5/bag). Please try to recycle items around the house you may have rather than purchasing all new. Some ideas: Toiletries (bath bombs, lip balms, lip gloss); Fun stationary (pencils, rubbers, little note pads, stickers etc...); Games (cards or puzzles, temporary tattoos); A sweet treat such as haribo or wrapped candies

Bottles - ANY sort! A variety of both alcohol & non-alcoholic would be great!



**2-6
December**

Cakes - Cakes, cookies baked or store bought. **NO NUTS** pls!



Hampers - Class reps to bring in their assembled hampers to the school

Ho ho ho!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

START YOUR FOOTBALLING JOURNEY WITH

WE MAKE FOOTBALLERS

FOOTBALL TRAINING FOR 4-12 YEAR OLDS OF ALL ABILITIES

The most fun your child will have with friends each and every week!



BOOK YOUR FREE SESSION TODAY!



Address
West Heath School
Ashgrove Road
Sevenoaks
TN13 1SR

Price
£80 for 8 sessions
All year round
Indoor in the winter, outdoor in the summer training



SEVENOAKS PCN NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

THEME: ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



This week is Anti-bullying week 11-15th November and the theme is Choose Respect. Sevenoaks PCN have created this newsletter to help support you & your young person if they are being bullied. We hope you find it useful!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ZAP Online Workshop for children, young people, parents & carers Impacted by Bullying:

90min online workshop:
Tuesday 26th November
4:30pm - 6pm
Parent & Carer session -
6:30pm - 8:30pm
<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/training-and-workshops/zap-workshops-for-young-people-impacted-by-bullying>

PARENT TRAINING AVAILABLE

ZAP Advice Line

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/parent-advice-line>

ZAP Bullying Awareness

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/training-and-workshops/training-for-parents-and-carers/online-safety-and-cyberbullying-awareness-for-parents-and-carers>

ZAP Online Safety and Cyberbullying Awareness

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/training-and-workshops/training-for-parents-and-carers/online-safety-and-cyberbullying-awareness-for-parents>

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK - [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/70AKSPCN/](https://www.facebook.com/70AKSPCN/)



KENT SUPPORTED HOMES

Helping young people on their journey into adulthood and independence

03000 420 002
kentfostering.co.uk



Kent Fostering and Supported Homes are looking for new carers and hosts to join our outstanding fostering community in helping to care for some of Kent's most vulnerable children and young people.

Being part of our team you'll receive excellent support, fantastic training opportunities and could really make a positive difference to a child's life.

If you'd like to find out more please take a look at our website where you can watch [this short film](#) which we hope will inspire you to think about fostering with us.

It's never too late to give a child a second chance to shine, become the person they can be, and make a difference.

For more information please give us a call on 03000 420 002, fill in our [online enquiry form](#) or sign up to our [mailing list](#)

If you feel that you would be able to help us or if you would like any further information please do get in touch.

Kind Regards
Liz Bailey, Kent Fostering and KSH Initial Enquiries Advisor | Kent County Council

CHRISTMAS WITH THE SEVENOAKS PLAYERS

OTFORD VILLAGE HALL

DECEMBER 13 - 19:30
DECEMBER 14 - 14:30
DECEMBER 14 - 19:30

TICKET PRICE

£12.50

BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT:

WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/70AKSPLAYERS

A CHRISTMAS STYLE CABARET WITH A BAR - TICKETS £12.50

Our very own Alf K (4T) will be performing in the show!

MEGA CAMPS 2024
CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DISCOUNTS AND OFFERS

INFLATABLE FOOT DARTS
DART THROWING
BOARD GAMES
INFLATABLE FUN

DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS AND SPORTS AVAILABLE EACH DAY

BOOK ONLINE NOW!
WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET
OR CALL 0353 012 4378

SEVENOAKS

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

Do you work in schools, health services, voluntary sector, early help or other services in Sevenoaks? Do you want to feel more confident supporting young people?

Focus Topic
Social Media: the 'impact' on children's mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Aims to:

- Explore the latest research and evidence on the 'impact' of social media use on children's mental health and wellbeing.
- Consider what schools can do to develop and deliver meaningful online safety education and respond to social media concerns.
- Signpost a range of educational resources and approaches to support children identified at greater risk of harm.

Location
Knole Academy, Bradbourne Vale Road, Kent, TN13 3LE

How to register
Simply click on this link to [Register for your free place](#)

*By registering for this event you will automatically be registered for our mailing list to hear about more events near you. Please email wellbeing@barchool@kent.gov.uk to opt out or for more information

Date/Time
Wednesday 4th December
9:30am-12pm



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!

One Day Workshop
Monday 23rd December
10am-3pm, 4-11 years

At Riverhead Infants school, Washlips Hill Sevenoaks TN13 2AS

£30 a Day

Contact: amy@sevenoaksdance.co.uk