

# QUESTIONNAIRE

## Parent

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12th EDITION - 29 November 2024



## MESSAGE FROM MR REID

### Week of Successes

I have had a **week of feeling very proud** as the headteacher of Amherst School. It has been **full of sporting successes** by our **Girls' football team**, **Amherst football team**, **Table Tennis team** and **Chess team** combined with **Amherst Choir** singing with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in the Royal Albert Hall on Monday. I have also thoroughly enjoyed **parents' evening** this week having the opportunity to speak to many of you and hear such **positive feedback on your child's experience** at Amherst.

### Parent Questionnaire

It is at this time of year we ask if you could spare a short amount of time to complete our **annual parent questionnaire**. The feedback is really useful and helps us identify our strengths and areas to improve. If you have a child in more than one year group, please complete a questionnaire for each year. Please click on the correct year group below to access the questionnaire:

[YEAR 3](#)

[YEAR 4](#)

[YEAR 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

## Whole School Book Project

Hopefully during parents' evening this week you had a chance to see the **amazing displays** that each year group have produced as a result of the book project **Archipelago - An Atlas of Imagined Islands** edited by Huw Lewis-Jones.

The children and staff have worked so hard to produce such high quality writing and **artwork**. The **sense of pride** demonstrated by the children is wonderful to see and hear. We complete two whole school book projects each year and they continue to be one of our curriculum highlights. Our next project will be a joint venture with Riverhead after the February half-term. Please click on [the link](#) to the gallery to view further pictures.

I hope you all have a great weekend.



# 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 2- 6 DECEMBER

Extra club sessions booked for:

- Little Musketeers on 02/12
- Mandarin Club on 04/12

All other clubs have now finished.



## PTA AGM – MINUTES

Thank you to the parents who supported / attended the annual general meeting on the 12 November. Please find the minutes of the meeting by [clicking here](#).



## YEAR 5 – RESIDENTIAL TRIP

A letter with regards to the newly introduced **Year 5 Bushcraft Residential** trip went out to parents this week. You are now able to pay the first deposit via [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com).

The parents' information session will be held on **Wednesday 4th December at 6.00pm** hosted by The Bushcraft Company themselves. **This will be in the form of a live zoom session where the leaders will talk** through with parents the different parts of the trip and take questions afterwards. Parents are welcome to **join this session from home using the link below:**

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 391 983 401 897

Passcode: KU2Udr

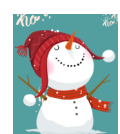


We are also **hosting the zoom session in class 5J** for those who would rather attend at school and parents should arrive no later than 5.50pm.



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH – BOOK YOUR CHILD'S MEAL

Please can you make sure to inform us of your child's meal preference for the Christmas Lunch, **NO LATER** than 30/11/2024. [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com)



## YEAR 4 - CHRISTMAS VARIETY SHOW

A letter was sent to all year 4 parents with information about the Year 4 production.

# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday  
7 December 2024  
12 - 3pm

## Hamper raffle & Grand Draw

£1 per ticket  
£10 for book of 10

Enter for a chance to win one of many luxury hampers, a magnum of prosecco and many more fabulous prizes!

- Each child has received an envelope with 2 books of 10 raffle tickets.
- Please return the completed tickets together with the cash and any unwanted tickets in the sealed envelope to the school reception by **Friday 6th December**.
- Raffle tickets will also be sold at the Christmas Bazaar.
- The winning tickets will be drawn at the end of the bazaar! Good Luck!

## PRIZE-IN-A-BOX

How it works:

- Purchase a key(s) for your chance to win...
- If your key unlocks the box....you win the PRIZE!
- Keys will be on sale next week after school and at the bazaar.
- The winning key will be announced at the end of the bazaar!

£5 per key

This year's prize is a Sony PlayStation 5 Console!

# AMHERST FESTIVE BAKE-OFF



FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER

PRIZES FOR EACH YEAR



## CALLING ALL AMHERST BAKERS!

Gather your friends and family around the table and whip up some sweet treats in support of your school. PRIZES for the most festive cake, the star bakers in each year and for the best parent entry. Please bring your delicious creations to the school office on the morning of Friday 6th December. Winners to be announced in assembly. Good Luck!



## ELFRIDGES

POPUP CHRISTMAS SHOP  
MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER

It's one of our favourite Christmas activities - watching big eyes filled with love and the spirit of Christmas Giving as they choose the best gift for the special adults in their lives.

Our elves have been very busy sourcing local, handmade, sustainable, and branded items for the children of Amherst School to choose from in the Elfridges PopUp Christmas Shop!

**ALL CHILDREN WILL TAKE PART IN SCHOOL TIME, CHOOSING TWO GIFTS THAT WILL BE WRAPPED, LABELLED AND TAKEN HOME TO BE SQUIRRELLED AWAY UNDER THEIR CHRISTMAS TREE!**

£5 PER CHILD FOR TWO GIFTS

visit [www.pta-events/amherstpta](http://www.pta-events/amherstpta) for tickets



## Advertising opportunity

Dear Parents,

We are excited about our Christmas Raffle for which you would have had tickets sent home this week.

If you own a company, or work at a company, who would like to sponsor one of our stalls or donate a raffle prize in return for advertising at the bazaar, please contact us via an email to [amherst-chair@outlook.com](mailto:amherst-chair@outlook.com).

Thank you so much for all your support,  
The Christmas Bazaar Committee

## Christmas - Donations this week

2-6th December

Just a friendly reminder that we will be collecting the following items below for the upcoming Christmas Bazaar.

There will be collection boxes in the reception area as you enter the school, between the double doors. Could we ask that all donations be left there please.

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

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

**DECORATE A BISCUIT** - We are looking for plain fairy cakes or Christmas shaped biscuits for children to decorate on the day.

**HAMPERS** - Hampers can be left in the reception area after 2pm or bring it along to the bazaar on the morning of the 2nd December. Unfortunately, we can't collect or store the hampers any earlier due to most of them containing bottles of alcohol (which can't be left in the school.)

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

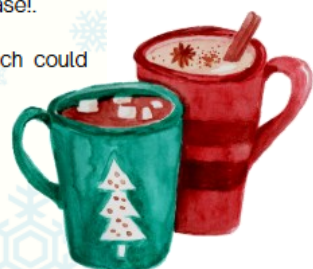
**TOYS** - Games and puzzles, complete and in good condition. No books please!

**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** as they are EVER so popular!

A huge effort goes into making this event successful for our school fundraising, and fun and memorable for the children!

We can't thank you enough for your continued support and generosity!



2 December	- Year 5 Victorian Day
6 December	- PTA's Amherst Festive Bake-off
7 December	- PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00pm
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	- Elfridges (formerly known as the 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	Olive N
3CL	Charlie B
3WH	Livia B
4C	Marcus P
4SF	Henry S
4T	Samuel F-A

5A	Tomas B-W
5HR	Billie-Jean S
5J	Navya I
6A	Cicely S
6MW	Eitan D
6W	Lucy I

## FOOTBALL

On Friday 22nd November, seven children took part in the Sevenoaks School indoor football tournament, competing against 9 other local schools.

Amherst impressively won all four of their group matches, scoring 15 goals in total! Amherst therefore successfully finished top of group A.

Each team went through to a new round depending on the group placings – Amherst qualified for the final of the main competition and faced a tricky Anthony Roper team. The whole team played fantastically well showing great determination, teamwork and passing ability. As a result, Amherst managed to win the final 4-0 thanks to some really impressive team goals – Amherst were the overall tournament winners! Huge congratulations to Sydney (6A), William (5HR), Tobias (5HR), Max (5HR), Richard (6MW), Coby (6A) and Alex (6A). Thank you to all the parents for assisting with transport and for their support throughout the tournament.



## CHESS

Well done to Amherst Chess Team for participating in Sevenoaks School Partnership Chess

Tournament on Tuesday 26th November.

The children played 3 rounds and were up against some incredibly tough teams, but all children showed great determination, resilience and strategy. Out of the 12 schools playing:

**Amherst A Team - 1st place taking gold.**

Richard L, Jake R, Henry A, Jasper F, Panos K, Haris K

**Amherst B Team— 2nd place taking silver.**



Vihaan G, Mark G, Zach G, Edward S, Nikolas K, Bertie D-L

Thank you to Miss Mladenova and parents for accompanying the children.



## GIRLS FOOTBALL

### DOUBLE TOURNAMENT SUCCESS!!

 Girls' Football Tournament! 

On Monday, we (the Amherst girls' football team) competed in the girls' football tournament.

In our first match, we won 1-0 thanks to Maddie H who scored the winning goal near the end against Otford.

Our second game was against Chiddingstone which went even better than the first, we beat them with a comfortable 4-0. The goals in this game were scored by Maddie H (again), Ella and Chayila who scored two.

In our third match, which was against Anthony Roper, Chayila scored yet another goal making it a hat-trick and winning the match 1-0.



# AMHERST CHOIR

The Amherst Choir was part of the Barnardo's Young Supporters Concert: 'INSPIRE' at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday night!

Singing sensation Heather Small joined by the world-renowned Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and 23 school choirs from across the UK to perform her signature hit song, 'Proud' to raise money for leading children's charity, Barnardo's.

Barnardo's annual Young Supporters Concert, now in its 25th year, was hosted by the charity's President, Natasha Kaplinsky OBE, for the fourth year running.

Across the evening, Barnardo's young supporters performed a medley of songs fitting with the event's theme of 'Inspire' to a 3,000-strong audience. The concert raised £80,000, which will support Barnardo's work with children and families across the UK, including in London.

## BARNARDOS

Changing childhoods.  
Changing lives.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

**BARRACUDAS**  
ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

HIGHLY RATED School Holiday Camps!!!

AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN **2025!**  
EARLY BOOKING OFFER!

LOWEST RATES GUARANTEED BOOK BY 31ST JANUARY

SAVE UP TO £100!

4½ to 14 year olds!  
80+ Activities!  
Choice each session!  
Specialist Courses!  
Flexible bookings!

barracudas.co.uk  
01480 467 567

OFSTED REGISTERED

Trustpilot

70AKS MULTI SPORTS

**KIDS WINTER CAMP**

A 5-Day Winter Sports Camp Filled with Fun Games and Activities!

DECEMBER 30th - JANUARY 3rd  
FROM 10AM-3PM  
COST: £20 PER DAY

RIVERHEAD INFANTS SCHOOL  
Activities include: Football, Tennis, Handball, Athletics, Dodgeball, Bench Ball, Relay Races, Parachute games and many more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 07584 419283

FOR CHILDREN AGED 3-11



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024, Tonbridge School**

Chapel of St Augustine, Tonbridge School, Kent TN9 1JP

Doors open at 6pm, service begins at 6:30pm

Hospice in the Weald warmly invites you to our Carols at Christmas Service. Enjoy an evening of beautiful live performances including two wonderful choirs: Royal Tunbridge Wells Orpheus Male Voice Choir and Tonbridge Community Singers.

**Available from 1 December 2024.**

THE 'ADVENT' ADVENTURE ... WITH PUPPETS!!!  
Android, Tablets & iPhones

Episode 2  
**The Inspector Calls**  
FREE!

Mr Knowles?  
My Peace & Joy RUINED!!  
Mr Knowles  
School Carotaker

PLANS TO TAKE OVER THE

**This Christmas!**  
The fun and exciting advent calendar continues!

History Troupe  
Studio  
COLLS

**THAT ADVENT PUPPET CALENDAR APP**

Find Us on Social Media  
See what's going on with our regular updates through the year

Download NOW to see the trailer under this door. Then from December 1st, follow the serial story each day as the doors unlock throughout Advent. Find out more on the website and play games.

OPEN THE DOOR

GET IT ON Google Play  
FREE!  
Download on the App Store

Quick, Put Mr Muddles on a school trip!  
Oh good gracious! I'll have to tell the head straightaway!  
Don't PANIC!  
Dorothy sees that the School Inspector is on his way.

www.st-peters-in-the-water.uk