



# CHRISTMAS

## BAZAAR

Saturday  
7 December 2024  
12 - 3pm


AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

13th EDITION - 6 December 2024



## MESSAGE FROM MR REID

### Parent Questionnaire

 Thank you to parents who have already completed the annual questionnaire. If you have not yet had the opportunity to do it please could I encourage you to do so. Your views and opinions of your child's experience, really help inform us regarding 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](#)

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### Christmas Bazaar

 I look forward to seeing many of you at tomorrow's Christmas Bazaar. Thank you to the whole PTA team who have been working so hard getting ready for tomorrow. This is always such a special day and really marks the beginning of Christmas at Amherst.

Funds raised will go towards our IT hardware replacement programme which will see the upgrade of all the computers in the IT suite, upgrade 40 children's laptops, 15 new teacher laptops that power the interactive classroom screens and some admin computers too. This will be over the next 12 months to ensure we are Windows 11 compatible. This is a significant investment in our IT infrastructure and will ensure the children's teaching and learning experience continues to be of highest quality during the coming years. We continue to also use two class sets of iPads. We are very fortunate that the PTA, and you as parents, are able to support this project.

### Christmas Events

 I thought it would be useful to list the upcoming Christmas events taking place during the last two weeks of term. It is a busy time at home and school!

- Saturday 7th December - Christmas Bazaar 12.00pm—3.00pm
- Monday 9th December - Year 4 Christmas Performance 2.00pm
- Tuesday 10th December - Year 4 Christmas Performance 6.00pm—6.45pm
- Monday 16th December - Whole school Carol Service at St. Mary's Riverhead 6.00pm
- Tuesday 17th December - Whole school trip to Pantomime at The Stag 10.15am
- Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 19th December - Amherst & Training Choirs sing in Trafalgar Square—leave school at 2.20pm
- Friday 20th December - End of term

I hope you all have a great weekend and look forward to seeing many of you tomorrow at the Bazaar.

Mr Reid

# 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 9-13 DECEMBER— NO CLUBS

- Amherst Choir will be rehearsing—12/12



## YEAR 4 - CHRISTMAS VARIETY SHOW

Please note that all Riverhead siblings of Year 4 children saw the performance this morning when they attended the dress rehearsal. We look forward to seeing parents (and grandparents) at Monday's matinee and Tuesday's evening performances. You are definitely in for a treat!

### **Drop off & collection arrangements for Tuesday's Evening Performance:**

Please can children return to school for **5.45pm** via the children's entrance as usual. Collection is at **6.45pm** from classes (via reception).



## FOOTBALL BOOTS & TRAINERS

We welcome donations of football boots and trainers (laces tied). All donations can be dropped off at reception. Many thanks in advance.



## SCHOOL CAR PARK

Please note, the car park is for staff and Blue Badge holders only. Please only use the disabled parking bays if you are a Blue Badge holder.



## TUNBRIDGE WELLS GIRLS GRAMMAR — CONSULTATION

Please [click here](#) to view the consultation process on the admission arrangements for 2026.



## CONSULTATION OF KCC COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS FOR 2026

Kent County Council are consulting on the admission arrangements for Community & Voluntary Controlled schools for September 2026 intake. Please [click here to view](#) the proposed changes. ▲



## LATENESS

Please could I remind all parents that the school day starts at 8.50am. Please ensure your child is on time every day as being late is disruptive for the child and the rest of the class. Thank you for your anticipated support in this matter.



## PARKING

Parents, please consider our neighbours and children walking to school when parking at drop off or when collecting your children from school.

Save  
The  
Date



7 December	- PTA Christmas Bazaar 12.00pm
9 December	- Year 4 Christmas Production 2.00pm
10 December	- Year 4 Christmas Production 6.00pm (6.45pm pick up)
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 10.15am
18 December	- Christmas Lunch
19-Dec	- Amherst & Training Choirs to Trafalgar Square - 2.20pm
20 December	- Last day of term

# LET'S CELEBRATE

## STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Heidi W	5A	Jasper P
3CL	Bea P-S	5HR	Evie M
3WH	Ollie W	5J	Dougie B
4C	James T	6A	Alex B
4SF	Imogen H	6MW	Olivia P
4T	Ella J	6W	Clarissa M

## AMHERST CHOIR

The Amherst Choir had a busy week singing at the Sevenoaks Lights Switch-On Event in town on Saturday afternoon, going on to perform alongside the Sevenoaks Sings Choir raising £4500 for Sevenoaks Larder and Bradbourne RDA.

Well done to everyone in the choir for your contribution and participation in these events. You sounded lovely and all of the practising paid off!



## FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

Big congratulations to Cameron H (4T) for running a fantastic bake-sale fundraiser.

Cameron decided to raise money for Amherst School and raised the brilliant sum of £65.62.

This has been spent on play equipment for our toy pods on the playground.

THANK YOU and well done Cameron!



## BASKETBALL

On Monday 2nd December a team from Year 4 participated in the Knole Sports Partnership Basketball competition at Knole Academy. All the children played with such enthusiasm and determination and developed their basketball skills during the matches. Many of the team had not taken part in a basketball game before so it was wonderful to see their confidence grow during the day.

The team came second overall in the competition. They all represented the school brilliantly. Huge congratulations to: Sam H, Carter S, Yannike N, Marnya N, Charlie G, Joshua P and Panos K

Thank you to all the parents who transported and supported the team.

Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Davies



# CHESS CLUB

Huge congratulations to all the members of Mrs. Thomas' Chess Club for their fantastic efforts and dedication this term! Throughout the Autumn Term, scores were tracked, and we're thrilled to announce the high scorers who have earned special awards:



## Gold Awards

Haris K (Year 6), Zach G (Year 5), Panos K (Year 4), Kian M (Year 3)

## Silver Awards

Henry A (Year 6), Jake R (Year 5), Rowyn L (Year 4), Leo H-M (Year 3)

## Bronze Awards

Mark G (Year 6), Adj S (Year 5), Ruby W (Year 4), Eddie W (Year 3)



# AMHERST FESTIVE BAKE-OFF

Huge congratulations to all the children on their amazing entries to the Amherst Festive Bake-Off. The year group winners are:

- 3WH — Iris L
- 4T — Rose M
- 5A — Hope B
- 6A — Scarlett O

The overall winner of this year's Bake-Off is Hope B (5A)! Congratulations to all of you!



# CHRISTMAS TREE—ST MARY'S

The children have been making decorations to display at the Christmas Tree Exhibition at St Mary's Riverhead. If you would like to drop in over the weekend to see the exhibition, please be on the lookout for the beautiful pom-poms made in Amherst colours with our school values spelled out in beads.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS



IN THE **COMMUNITY**  
**ANGELS CAMPS**  
*Soccer*

On the the  
**Tonbridge Angels**  
**3G pitch!**

Football coaching & fun football themed activities for boys & girls age 5 to 12 years.

Our team of FA qualified coaches will help the children develop their football skills in a fun and friendly environment.

**Family & friends discount offer**  
£15 per 2 children for all 3 days  
KAR524

**EARLY BIRD 10% OFF**  
If you book by 30th Nov. CB525

**Christmas Half Term**  
For school years 2-9

**3 DAYS FOOTBALL COACHING & FUN**  
MONDAY 30th December  
THURSDAY 2nd January  
FRIDAY 3rd January

Scan to book now using our online booking system  
<https://tonbridge-angels.class-forkids.io/camps>

**Book Now!**

£25 per day (9am - 3pm)  
£65 for 3 days (9am - 3pm)

Make sure you wear the correct footwear and bring a water bottle and packed lunch!  
Footwear Guide

Tonbridge Angels Football Club  
Halcyon Wealth Longmead Stadium, Darenth Avenue, Tonbridge TN10 3JF



**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, Worships Hill Sevenoaks TN13 2AS

**£30 a Day**

Contact: amy@sevenoaksdance.co.uk



**XMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS**  
"Childcare during the holidays they want to go to"  
Fresh air. Fresh activities. Fresh attitude.

**SEVENOAKS PRIMARY TN13 3PY**

**MONDAY 23 DEC**  
**XMAS CAMPFIRE COOKOUT & FIRELIGHTING**  
Gather around the campfire for some winter treats! The kids will be cooking pancakes, brewing pine needle tea & toasting s'mores over the campfire, plus honing their firelighting skills with a range of different bushcraft techniques

**MONDAY 30 DEC**  
**MEGA GAMES, SNOW MAKING, SMORES & ART ATTACK**  
A magical mix of mega field games, outdoors adventures & seasonal fun - it's what we're famous for! Toast s'mores around the campfire to recharge between mega play time, make 'snow' balls to take home, & paint using water pistols!

For more info on dates, locations and how the clubs run & to book: [www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk](http://www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk)



**CREATIVE COURAGE FOR LIFE!**



**ENROLLING FOR THE NEW TERM**  
**STAGECOACH OTFORD, RIVERHEAD & SEVENOAKS NORTH**  
Singing, dancing and acting classes for 4 - 18 year-olds

Giving children and young people the Creative Courage to stand up on stage for over 35 years.

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