

2025

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

16th EDITION - 10 January 2025



MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Welcome Back

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back at the start of term. I hope you all had a good Christmas break. I would like to take this opportunity to **thank parents for all their generous gifts at the end of term** which were much appreciated by the staff team.

Determination

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

We will work hard to do our best even when things are difficult.

During Monday's assembly I shared with the children a **famous story of the determination** needed to complete the **building of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 by Colonel Washington Roebling**. On Monday night I reflected whether my assembly had really helped the children understand what determination actually is? The story I had shared was inspiring but not necessarily that helpful. Subsequently Tuesday's assembly focussed on the **benefits of having a growth mindset** and how **this approach enables determination to flourish**. A mental approach having the following attributes is far more helpful:

- Mistakes help me learn
- Feedback is valuable
- Is this my best work?
- I improve with practice
- I won't give up



I shared with the children **two video clips** which demonstrate and explore a growth mindset in action. You may want to watch them again with your child and discuss what ideas they prompt. Please click on the image below:



What is a good mistake?

An animated clip exploring how to think positively about making mistakes.



How your mindset can affect your approach to challenges

An animated clip exploring the difference between a growth mindset and a fixed mindset.



How to develop a positive mindset

An animated clip exploring how to develop a positive mindset.

Do you and your child have a growth or fixed mindset? Can you learn to change your mindset? Which mindset will help you develop high levels of determination? The reality is we all have a bit of both at different times. I know some days I have more determination than others to achieve my goals. Some days I am just surviving!

New Arrival!

Congratulations to Mrs Thomas and Mr Thomas who welcomed their baby son on 3rd January. I'm sure you will join us in sending them best wishes and congratulations as they begin their journey as a family.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Mr Reid

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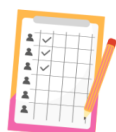
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NOTICES



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— WEEK 13-17 JANUARY 2025

13/01/2025—**No** Minecraft Club

14/01/2025—**No** Table Tennis

All clubs are expected to start and run as normal from Monday.



CLUBS — PLACES STILL AVAILABLE

For those who haven't yet signed up, a limited number of spaces are still available. Don't miss out on the opportunity for your child to join in on the fun and learning!

To sign up, please [click here](#) to tell us which clubs your child would like to attend.

- Clubs start week commencing 13 January 2025 and end 14th March 2025
- Once we finalise the club lists, we will confirm your child's place via email.
- We have spaces in: **'NEW' Lacrosse Club** / **Little Musketeers** / **Gymnastics** / **Cross Country** / **STORYTIME** / **Orchestra** / **Training Choir**



LOST PROPERTY

We have a Tom Ford glasses case at reception if you have lost yours.



PARENT READERS

We welcome parent readers back—thank you for your continued support.



Lunch Money

LUNCH MONEY

Please remember to top up your child's lunch money accounts on www.schoolgateway.com. Costs for this term are: Daily - £ 2.65 / Weekly - £ 13.25 / Term 3 - £79.50 / Term 4 - £79.50 / Term 3 & 4 - £159.00



STATIONERY

Please can you check with your child if they need to **replenish** any of their personal stationery in class. **Most children need a glue stick** at the moment.



WE HAVE SPACE

We have spaces in year 3 and 4. Please contact the school office if you are interested.



SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please click on the **subscribe** button to add school dates to your personal calendar. [Amherst School Calendar](#)



6 January	First day of term 3
13 January	Clubs Start
24 January	PTA Meeting - 1.45pm
4 February	Year 6 - Young Voices Trip
6 February	PTA 2nd Hand Uniform Sale 3.30pm
7 February	PTA Cake and Hot Dog Sale 3.30pm
14 February	Last day of term 3
24 February	First day of term 4
27 February	Year 3 - Roman Day
28 February	Year 3 - Roman Day
5 March	Year 3 - Roman Day
6 March	World Book Day
14 March	Clubs end
14 March	Open Afternoon - 2.45pm
17 March	Year 6 - Parliament Trip
19 March	Year 6 - Parliament Trip
21 March	PTA Meeting - 1.45pm
21 March	PTA Cake and Hot Dog Sale 3.30pm
22 March	PTA Spring Ball
24 March	Year 6 - Love to Dance Show - Stag Theatre
25 March	Parent Consultations
27 March	Parent Consultations
28 March	PTA School Disco
31 March	Year 3 Easter Production - 2.00pm
1 April	Year 3 Easter Production - 2.00pm
1 April	Amherst School Music Festival - 6.00pm - 8.00pm
4 April	Last Day of Term 4

LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Gabriella P
3CL	Izzy G
3WH	Brandon T
4C	Eleanor S
4SF	Jasper D
4T	Penelope C
5A	Lyla B
5HR	Oliver G
5J	Eloise C
6A	George B
6MW	Theo H
6W	George W-B



PE TIMETABLE - TERM 3

Term 3 – PE Timetable 2024/25

Indoor PE sessions

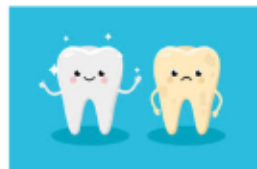
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12			4C Yoga		5HR Dance
1.35 – 2.30	6MW Indoor Athletics (coach)	6W Indoor Athletics (coach)	4T Yoga	3CL Fitness (coach)	5A Dance
2.30 – 3.25	6A Indoor Athletics (coach)	3B Fitness (coach)	4SF Yoga	3WH Fitness (coach)	5J Dance

Outdoor PE sessions

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12			5J Handball (coach)		
1.30 – 2.30	3B Netball	4C Lacrosse (coach)	5A Handball (coach)	6A Hockey (coach)	4SF Lacrosse (coach)
2.30 – 3.30	3CL Football	4T Lacrosse (coach)	5HR Handball (coach)	6W Football	
2.00 – 3.00 (Extra class)	3WH Tag Rugby			6MW Tag rugby	

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Live: Q&A Drop In Session With Your Oral Health Team



Do you have any oral health concerns or issues for those you care for and support?

If so drop in to our online session where you and your staff can receive advice and guidance from our dental professionals.

Please feel free to email any questions or concerns in advance:

kentchft.oralhealthkent@nhs.net

KCHFT Oral Health team will be available online for a live Q&A session where you can bring any concerns or gain advice for 0-19 Year olds in your care.

This will be on Thursday 23rd January at 3pm via Microsoft teams, please use the following link:

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 353 959 337 515

Passcode: hy2EW98Z

Please feel free to email in any questions you may have in advance and to circulate to your colleagues. We look forward to seeing you.

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

MEGA CAMPS

KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

CHILDCARE FROM 8am - 6pm

AGES 4 - 14

BOOK ONLINE NOW!
WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET
OR CALL 0333 012 4378

Ofsted Registered

ALL OUR STAFF ARE DBS CHECKED



SEVENOAKS TOWN HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The purpose of this survey is to find out if there is a need for affordable housing for people of all ages with strong connections to Sevenoaks Town. We also want to know if there are older homeowners who need to downsize or move to more suitable housing.

RACE are working with Sevenoaks Town Council and Sevenoaks District Council to undertake this survey.

If you or anyone in your household has a housing need, even if they've had to move away to find housing elsewhere, please complete this survey. Households might be single people, couples or families. It should take no more than 10 minutes to complete.