



MESSAGE FROM MR REID



Whole school book

Our next **whole school book project**, which begins after half-term, will be **'A River'** by **Marc Martin**. This will be a joint project with Riverhead who will be studying the book at the same time. Teachers from both schools are meeting after school on Tuesday 4th February to work collaboratively on teaching ideas for writing and art.

There is a river outside my window. Where will it take me? So begins an imaginary journey from the city to the sea. From factories to farmlands, roads to rainforests, each new landscape is explored through stunning illustrations and poetic text from award-winning picture book creator Marc Martin.

I am sure the **project will be a huge success** and I look forward to seeing the work that the children from Amherst and Riverhead produce.



Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to all parents who completed our annual parent questionnaire in December. It was pleasing to have areas of **strength affirmed** and help us **identify areas to improve**. Thank you to parents who took the time to **write a comment** as the extra narrative really helps. Please see the overall results below.

	Total Responses	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not Bullied
My child is happy at this school	128	96 (75%)	29 (23%)	3 (2%)		
My child feels safe at this school		98 (77%)	28 (22%)	1 (0.5%)	1 (0.5%)	
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved		72 (56%)	50 (39%)	6 (5%)		
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.		10	10	7	1	100 (78%)
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.		72 (56%)	51 (40%)	4 (3%)	1 (1%)	
When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly		40 (31%)	30 (23%)	7 (5%)		51 (41%)
The school has high expectations for my child		87 (68%)	38 (30%)	1 (1%)	2 (1%)	
My child does well at this school.		77 (60%)	51 (40%)			
The school lets me know how my child is doing		63 (49%)	58 (45%)	7 (6%)		
There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school		77 (60%)	47 (38%)	4 (2%)		
My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school		86 (67%)	36 (28%)	4 (3%)	2 (2%)	
The school supports my child's wider personal development		71 (55%)	50 (39%)	7 (6%)		
I would recommend this school to another parent.		122 (95%)		6 (5%)		
My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	23	11 (48%)	12 (52%)			



Wear Something Red

On Friday 7th February we are supporting the charity **ECHO** by **wearing something red to school (with your school uniform)**. Our connection with this charity is linked to George W-B (6W). George was born with six heart defects and has been treated at **The Evelina Children's Hospital** in London since birth. He has undergone three open heart surgeries, the first being when he was only 6 days old. ECHO have supported George's family since he was born. **ECHO has grown to be a wonderful charity that provides much needed support to individuals and whole families, supporting families across the whole of the UK.** Funds they raise also help to buy essential equipment for the cardiac ward at The Evelina's Children's Hospital.

- For more information, please see: [Evelina London](#) / [ECHO](#)
- Donations to this charity are welcome via www.schoolgateway.com (HEART MONTH FUNDRAISING 2025).

I hope you have a good 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 – WEEK 3 – 7 FEBRUARY 2025

05/02—NO Love to dance

05/02—NO Chess Tutoring

All other clubs are expected to run as normal next week.



PARKING

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



REMINDERS & LETTERS SENT THIS WEEK

Love to dance — Ticket Sales going live on Monday!

Year 3 — English Unit

Remember shoe box + any extra art supplies (stickers, feathers, gems, etc).

Year 6 Hilltop — Payment due 31.01.2025



PTA

The PTA is currently looking for a new secretary to join the team. Please contact amherst-chair@outlook.com or amherst-treasurer@outlook.com if you would like to join the team in making a difference for Amherst.

School Uniform Sale!
Thursday, 6th February
3.00pm

Cash & Card for payment
Logo Items £3, non-Logo £2, Misc £1

**Amherst
Cake & Hot Dog Sale**
Friday 7th February
3.30pm

Amherst PTA and Class 4T welcome any baked donations (homemade or store bought - **no nuts please**)
Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL DISCO

28TH MARCH 2025

YEARS 3 & 4 | 4.30 - 6.00PM
YEARS 5 & 6 | 6.00 - 7.30PM

BOOKING VIA [PTA EVENTS](#)
CLOSING MIDNIGHT 25 MARCH
£5 PER CHILD

SQUASH & SNACKS INCLUDED BUT
PLEASE BRING OWN WATER BOTTLE



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	Eddie W
3CL	Hester M
3WH	Martha H
4C	Hugo B
4SF	Millie F
4T	Cameron H

5A	Emily A
5HR	Imogen H
5J	Dexter S
6A	Scarlett O
6MW	Mark G
6W	Maya S

LACROSSE

On Monday 20th January our Year 6 Lacrosse team had a friendly match against Chiddingstone. The children were very excited to wear our new kit - kindly donated by Sofia B's mum.

It was a very successful afternoon as the team won every match played and really showed how much their Lacrosse skills have developed.

We are looking forward to our Sevenoaks schools tournament soon.



TENNIS

Well done to all 14 Amherst children who took part in the Sevenoaks School Doubles on Saturday. Big congratulations to Marnya and Emma who won the girls event beating Granville in the final. Panos and Vihaan went on to take the bronze medal in the boys event defeating Sevenoaks Primary in the 3rd place play off. A total of 40 children took part in each event, so a great performance from Amherst. Well done to all of you for commitment to preparing for the events on a Tuesday lunchtime at Chipstead Place LTC!



COMMUNITY EVENTS



**FEBRUARY
HALF TERM
WORKSHOP**

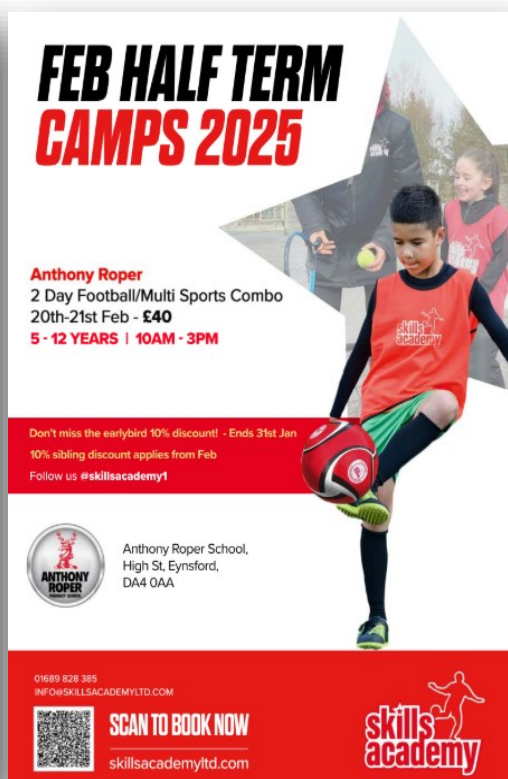
Monday 17th
£40 per day

Age 4 - 11 years

Team work makes the dreams work!

Half Term Dance Workshop
Dancing, Games, Crafts and more...
At Amherst School, 10:00am - 3:00pm

To Book please contact: amy@sevenoaksdance.co.uk



**FEB HALF TERM
CAMPS 2025**

Anthony Roper
2 Day Football/Multi Sports Combo
20th-21st Feb - £40
5 - 12 YEARS | 10AM - 3PM

Don't miss the earlybird 10% discount! - Ends 31st Jan
10% sibling discount applies from Feb
Follow us #skillsacademy1

Anthony Roper School,
High St, Eynsford,
DA4 0AA

01689 828 365
INFO@SKILLSACADEMYLTD.COM

SCAN TO BOOK NOW
skillsacademyltd.com

skills academy



WE ACCEPT
CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS

**MEGA
CAMPS**
KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

CHILD CARE 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



The TOAST Club

This first 2025 Term

Puppets
Story Keepers with a quiz
More badges
More crafts!

Hot drinks - squash
- biscuits and
lots of toast!

Oxford Methodist Church
TUESDAYS
3.30 - 5pm

Toast Club is open to all primary school families.
Come and enjoy being involved together, in a relaxed atmosphere,
with refreshments from the start,
and of course Toast with a variety of spreads!
On any Toast day, we offer a variety of craft, an animated bible story with
'Friends & Heroes', fun with puppets, maybe some illusions and plenty of fun!

PLEASE NOTE
Toast runs on the understanding that parents are still in charge of their children
and will maintain good behaviour during the time together however good the adult
conversation gets. Sibling welcome.

Club dates this term
14th & 28th January, 11th February
Next Term
4th & 18th March, 1st April

Oxford Christmas Fayre VIDEO
of Dorothy's vlog@
www.oxfordsociety.org.uk/2024/11



FOR AGES 6 TO 12

GIRLZ ACADEMY

**HALF-TERM
FOOTBALL
CAMP**

- Fun Drills and Activities
- Mini Tournaments
- All Abilities Welcome
- Sibling Discounts Available
- Prizes To Be Won

CHEVENING PRIMARY SCHOOL, SEVENOAKS,
KENT, TN13 2SA

PRICES
1 DAY - £30
2 DAYS - £50

20TH & 21ST FEBRUARY
10AM TO 3PM

Follow us @girlzacademy Contact Us 07578448248 info@girlzacademy.co.uk

COMMUNITY EVENTS

STUDY SMART
Free Online Courses

aspire Education

ncfe. | cache

Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course



Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

6 Week Course
Mon - Fri
Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

www.studysmartuk.online

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. Teaching Assistants, SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.



This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.
If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.

ESCAPEROOMS
AT DONNINGTON MANOR



Half-Term Offer!
Escape for 10% less
Code - HFT10



TRAIN CARRIAGE SEATED GAME



BIRTHDAY PACKAGES



TEAM - BUILDING ACTIVITY

More Information ☎ +44 (0)1732 468511 ✉ Escaperooms@donningtonmanor.com

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM CAMP
Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club
Tuesday 18th - Friday 21st of February
9:00-12:00 ages 5-10



All standards welcome & rackets can be provided if required!

£80 for club member for one week
£90 for non members for one week
Individual days available upon request

Contact adam@artennis.co.uk

artennis