

HELLO

PLEASE

BE POLITE

THANK YOU

EXCUSE ME

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

22nd EDITION - 28 February 2025



MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Whole School Book Project

The children have made a fantastic start to our whole school book project *A River* by Marc Martin. The children and staff are highly enthusiastic about the book and I have seen some wonderful writing this week from all year groups. The project will last for 2-3 weeks and I look forward to seeing the finished displays which will showcase the children's writing and artwork.

In Tuesday's assembly I shared information about Marc Martin so the children could begin to understand who he is and how his experiences influence his work. We learnt about his childhood:

I had a really happy childhood, but I'm an only child, which meant I had to find creative ways of playing and using my imagination without other kids around. I played with Lego a lot, and it enabled me to create worlds in which to exist and dream. I also rode my bicycle quite a bit - I spent many afternoons after school riding around the neighbourhood and exploring my surroundings.

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Hopefully your children are talking positively about the book. If you have younger siblings at Riverhead, they too have been studying *A River* this week.

Politeness

This term's school value is politeness. The accompanying school rule to this value states:

We will be well-mannered and courteous towards everyone at Amherst School.

In assembly next week I will be exploring with the children how we can put politeness into action. These actions go far further than just the usual saying of please and thank you to be a polite person. Research has shown the polite people exhibit many of the following behaviours:

- They can admit when they're wrong
- They make others feel comfortable
- They have polite body language
- They don't interrupt
- They disagree without anger
- They don't gossip
- They listen more than they speak
- They don't take joy in others' mistakes

Brands Hatch

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter before half term, I had the wonderful opportunity to complete the Formula 4 Masters driving experience at Brands Hatch in half term. It was amazing! Although when the professional driver drove me around I realised I wasn't quite as quick as I thought I was!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.



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 3 - 7 MARCH 2025

Thursday 06/03/2025 - NO Cross Country Club

All other clubs are expected to run as normal.



REMINDERS & LETTERS SENT

Year 5 Bushcraft Trip - Payment due today 28.02.2025



PANCAKE DAY– SHROVE TUESDAY

On Tuesday we will **serve pancakes for dessert**. If your child would like to have a school meal on Tuesday, please ask them to book a meal with their teacher at registration time.



AMHERST MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Amherst Music Concert will take place on **Tuesday 1st April at 6.00pm**. If your child learns an instrument out of school and plays to a high level and would like to take part in the concert, please can you let us know by completing the following [registration form](#).



PTA – 2ND HAND UNIFORM & UPCOMING EVENTS

We currently have a glut of second hand uniform, which is becoming difficult to store or manage. **Please** can you **limit donations to**: Team Amherst hoodies, good quality Amherst logo items & ties



SCIENCE

Our Science Day is on 11th March and we are looking for donations of the following:

- Plastic Milk **bottle lids**
- Empty **plastic drinks bottles** (not large 2L bottles.)
- Empty **tissue boxes**
- Cardboard **tubes & Cereal boxes**
- **Yogurt pots & tin cans** (clean with no sharp edges!)



CLASS PHOTOS

Please order your child's class photo via www.getphotos.co.uk and using the class codes in the body of the email. The **cut off** for ordering photos with **free delivery** to school is **13 March 2025**.



VACANCIES

We currently have a position available for a Teaching Assistant. Please apply via [Kent Teach](#)— application closing date 14/03/2025



HEART MONTH FUNDRAISING

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our charity fundraising effort for on behalf of ECHO (Evelina Children's Heart Organisation). A fantastic amount of **£601.50** was raised!

5 March	Year 3 - Roman Day 3B
6 March	World Book Day
11 March	Science Day
14 March	Clubs end
14 March	Open Afternoon - 2.45pm
17 March	Year 6 - Parliament Trip 6A
19 March	Year 6 - Parliament Trip 6M & 6W
21 March	Red Nose Day
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

UPCOMING EVENTS

LET'S CELEBRATE



STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Kio F
3CL	Lola T
3WH	Poppy S
4C	Theo P
4SF	Phoebe B
4T	Darcy A

5A	Oliver B
5HR	Jess C
5J	Henry W
6A	Ayrton G
6MW	Elias S-T
6W	Leni M

BALLET

In half-term Libby H (3B) competed at Royal Tunbridge Wells Dance Festival and achieved the below results:

- 2nd Classical Ballet Solo
- 2nd Modern Solo
- 4th Classical Character Solo
- 1st Classical Ballet Duet
- 1st Classical Ballet Trio

She was also invited to the bursary class at the end of the half term festival. It was 22 dancers aged 8-18, each performed their classical ballet solo and there was one winner adjudicated by Mica Bradbury (soloist in the Royal Ballet). Before Mica awarded the winner she said she wanted to specially mention one dancer and give them a place at one of her workshops at Royal Opera House and that dancer was Libby who she praised for her technical strength and performance quality at such a young age.

Congratulations to Libby on this fantastic result!



FOOTBALL

Congratulations to the Amherst football team on winning the Schools League for 2024/25!! The team had their last two league games against Seal and Otford on Tuesday.

We expected them to be difficult: Seal proved tricky opponents to overcome in the final of our first tournament, while Otford were well placed at 3rd in the league prior to the game.

Against Seal, the team were not up to their usual high standards in the first half, which ended 0-0.

They found their groove in the second half, ending as comfortable 3-0 winners. They went into the final game against Otford knowing victory would seal the league title, and the team played some of their best football of the season, ending with a **fantastic 5-0 win. This marks Amherst's first league title in 4 years, and their first unbeaten season in at least a decade.** The whole squad has been fantastic, always showing incredible sportsmanship and dedication in every match. They have been a pleasure to coach, and leave behind a fantastic legacy for the school - myself and Mr. Barratt are very proud!

Mr Hafford-Robson



RED NOSE DAY

FRIDAY, 21 MARCH 2025

Raising money for children around the world who are living in poverty

This year we are planning to celebrate Red Nose Day. The School Council have chosen the following activities to fund raise.

Children do not have to take part but if they would like they need to donate £1 per activity or go on www.schoolgateway.com to pay.

Fundraising Activities children can enter:



- Wear pyjamas to school (no slippers) or something red (£1)



- Quiz (£1)



- Draw off (£1)



- Bake off (no need to donate as cakes will be sold)



LOTS OF PRIZES!



Donations can be made via www.schoolgateway.com

500 WORDS STORY

We were both young when I closed my eyes. And the flashback starts. I'm standing there on a balcony in summer...

500 WORDS

Amherst School Library invites you to enter our first ever 500 words story-writing competition!

- Competition opens: Monday 24th February
- Closing date: Friday 28th March
- Please hand in your entry to the library desk
- Make sure you have written your name and class on your story!

Rules:

- The story must be an original piece of fiction - and not a re-telling of real events, either historical or current.
- It must not copy someone else's story, TV programme or film.
- You can use fictional or real-life characters - from today or from history (e.g. Harry Kane or Neil Armstrong) - but we're looking for made-up stories!
- Your story could also take place in the past (e.g. Roman Britain) or the future!
- Your story could use real life experiences as a creative springboard, as long as the story is fictional.
- Each story must be written by one person.
- Stories must be 500 words or fewer, but there is no lower limit.
- Only one story may be entered per child, and it must be all your own work!

Prizes for winners!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

70AKS MULTI SPORTS

7th-11th & 14th-17th April
£20 per day

EASTER SPORTS CAMP

10AM-3PM
AGES 3-11 YEARS

Football Athletics Tennis and many more

Riverhead Infants School

About us
Come and join Amanda and the team for some fun sports, games and activities! We are fully DBS checked and first aid trained.

More Information
We run a mixture of fun activities during our camp days, with lots of sports mixed in. We also enjoy many old school PE games such as bench ball, bench football, bulldog and our favourite, dodgeball!

Contact Amanda on 07584 419283

Activate Camps at **The New Beacon**
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ACTIVATE YOUR 2025 CAMPS!

7-9 Apr
11-15 Aug

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WTMA

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Come and enjoy MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING with us!

3-5 years Ninjo Tigers
6-8 years Samurai Tigers
9-11 years Juniors
11-13 years Juniors*

CONFIDENCE BOOST
Watch as your kids develop self-assurance with every punch and kick. They're learning to believe in themselves, both on and off the mat.

PHYSICAL FITNESS
Taekwon-do keeps your little ones active, helping them build strength, stamina, and coordination while having a blast.

DISCIPLINE
Our classes teach discipline, respect, and focus. These skills will benefit them in school, sports, and life!

FRIENDSHIP & TEAMWORK
Your child will make lifelong friends while learning how to work together as part of a team.

FUN AND EXCITEMENT
Let's face it, Taekwon-do is FUN! It's not just another activity; it's an adventure.

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FREE TWO WEEK TRIAL!

info@wtma.co.uk
WWW.WTMA.CO.UK

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

... IS LOOKING FOR BRILLIANT BAKERS, AGES 9-15 FOR THE NEXT NEW AND EXCITING SERIES!

APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 23RD MARCH

APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

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HIGHLY RATED School Holiday Camps!!

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8 MARCH TO 31 AUGUST 2025

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