

End of term

AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

32nd EDITION - 23 May 2025



MESSAGE FROM MR REID



End of Term

As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like to use today's newsletter as an opportunity to remember that we need to be kind to ourselves.

The half term break can provide a good opportunity for children (and adults) to reset and be ready for all the fun and challenges of Term 6.



Be Kind to Yourself

Below are five top tips to help achieve this:

- 1. Find a routine with sleep** - Find routines that work well for you so you can sleep well. It might be going to bed at the same time each night. It might be re-reading your favourite Harry Potter for twenty minutes to relax and unwind. It might be having some water by your bed in case you wake up thirsty.
- 2. Find time to get exercise** - Exercise is brilliant. Why? Because it releases lots of feel-good endorphins which make you feel amazing. Increase your effort in PE lessons, take a good long walk or think about joining a local sports club.
- 3. Find things that make you feel calm** - Try to find something you can do if your mind starts racing and you begin to feel overloaded. It might be reading, listening to music or absorbing yourself in a drawing. Whatever works for you.
- 4. Take time away from screens** - Although tech is fascinating, we can get consumed by it. Put down your screen and try something different. Rather than spending an afternoon scrolling or playing games online, arrange to meet your friends in person or hang out with your family. This will help you see that what is happening online is only a tiny part of a much bigger world. There is so much else going on out there - go and find it!
- 5. Don't bottle things up** - Find time to talk to friends, family or teachers about things that cause you anxiety. You won't be the only one, everyone has things that worry them.



RE Day

Thank you to Mrs Lester and Mrs Fox who led this year's RE day. The children had the opportunity to discuss and learn more about Christianity and Buddhism and created wonderful works of art to accompany the theme of the day.

I hope you all have a great half term break and get to enjoy the bank holiday weekend. Please remember the children return on **Tuesday** 3rd June.

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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 3 – 6 JUNE

All clubs are expected to run as normal.



MERIT BADGES

Please remember to bring back your merit badges — we are missing yellow badges at the moment.



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.



RIVERHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

The Council would like to acknowledge the communication received regarding the new road layout / crossing between Amherst and Riverhead Infants' School. They are liaising with local government and Laura Trott about this.



PTA

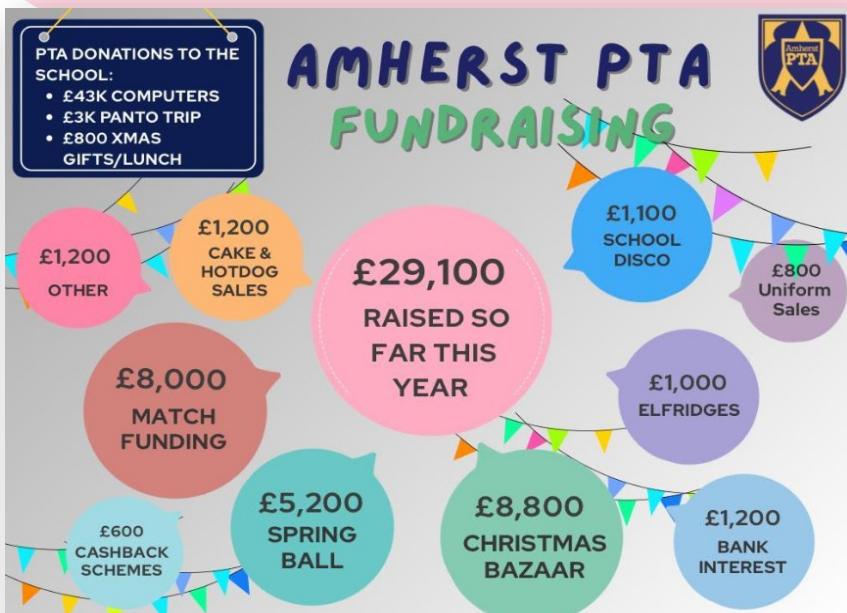
Dear Parents and Carers

We're excited to share the fantastic amount raised so far this year - thank you! Your generous donations have made a real difference, and we're so proud to show you how those funds have been put to good use.

As we head into the final term, we've got lots to look forward to, including our much-loved Summer BBQ, seven delicious ice cream and ice lolly sales, and more!

Thank you so much for your continued support of the PTA!

The PTA Team



Please [click here](#) to find out more about the sponsored board initiative.



LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK



3B	Sophia B
3CL	Arthur B
3WH	Abi D
4C	Joseph L
4SF	Evelyn N
4T	Millie M

5A	Tom O
5HR	Tabitha P
5J	All of 5J
6A	Imrie L-G
6MW	Jess P
6W	Jacob B



AMHERST JUNIOR FOOTBALL

On Saturday Amherst Junior Football Club ('AJFC') held their end of season presentation evening in the school hall. For those of you who are not familiar with AJFC— the club is a parent/volunteer run club supported by but run independently from Amherst School.

Congratulations to the teams and players who were awarded trophies celebrating another fantastic season. Congratulations to Joshua E (5J) who was awarded the trophy AJFC seniors most improved player.



SWIMMING

Mark G (6MW) participated in Sevenoaks Club swimming gala held on 17 May at the Leisure Centre. He won the following medals in his age group: Gold: 50 meter freestyle & Bronze: 100M IM, 100M freestyle. Well done Mark!



FOOTBALL

Five boys from Amherst competed in a football 6's tournament on Saturday in Uckfield for Chipstead Eagles U10's: Maddock M, Tobias W, Max L, Dexter S, Linus B.

They won all 5 of their group games, the quarterfinal and semifinal to get through to the Cup Final, only conceding 1 goal throughout 7 games. The final was 0-0, and

only decided against them 8-9 in penalties - which took two rounds for the players, it was so even! The bitterness of a penalties was tough, but they showed character and bounced back knowing they all did their absolute best in all 8 games. They all got a very nice silver medal too.



ATHLETICS

On Wednesday afternoon, 15 children from year 3 & 4 took part in an athletics competition at Sevenoaks school. The children didn't let a very wet start dampen their spirits and Ffion and Evie A powered on through the rain to kick things off with the girls' 60m sprints. Luckily, the sun came out as Benson and Charlie G competed in the basketball shotput whilst

Jasper and Jacob took part in the standing long jump. The 600m long distance race was a very tough event; huge well done to Evie P, Evie H, Kio, Benson and Charlie G who were brave enough to run and all finished the race with brilliant times! After this, Charlie B and Josh raced in the 60m sprint while in the girls' field events, Ava and Cassia took part in the shotput and Zoe and Livia competed in the long jump. Everybody had great fun in the team relays to finish off the afternoon. They showed excellent teamwork and superb passing of the baton, with the year 4 team coming first! Well done to Evie A, Benson and Charlie B who also won their individual events and to all the children for overcoming nerves and the very wet weather all whilst keeping a smile on their faces! Overall, Amherst came 2nd out of 10 schools competing - a fantastic achievement and all the children should be very proud!

Mrs Davies

FOOTBALL

Congratulations to Linus B (5J) on his selection for the West Kent SFA District Squad for the 2025/26 season! After a series of challenging trials, Linus has been offered a space as goalkeeper. He's really looking forward to playing alongside Max, Tobias, and William who are already part of the squad!

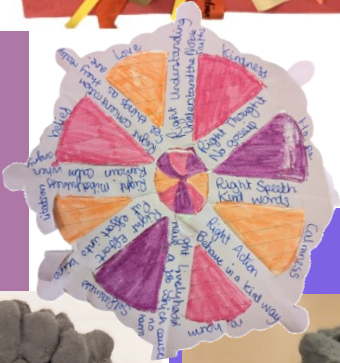
RE DAY

On Thursday, we enjoyed a special RE day focussing on Buddhism in years 5 & 6 and Christianity in years 3 & 4. We explored an overarching theme of how animals are used in religions. Our chosen animal was a lion. Years 5 & 6 created Buddhist temple guardians and learnt about Buddhist Dharma. Years 3 & 4 explored the story from the Bible of Daniel and the Lion's den and created incredible 3D lion faces.



RE DAY

Christianity



Buddhism

YEAR 5 PARENTS– KENT TEST

For those parents who were unable to attend Tuesday's Kent Test Meeting with Mr Reid, please find the presentation of the evening by [clicking here](#).

Kent Test

For children starting secondary school in September 2026

If your child is currently in Year 5, and you intend to apply to a Kent Grammar school, register online at kent.gov.uk/kenttest

Registration opens on 2 June 2025 and closes at midnight on 1 July 2025

Who is the Kent Test for?

The Kent Test is for children who wish to apply for a Kent Grammar school place for September 2026 and are either resident in the UK or are the children of UK Service Personnel / other Crown Servants returning to the UK. A list of Kent Grammar schools can be found [here](#). Schools in Medway, Bexley and Bromley are outside the Kent Local Authority area. If you live outside Kent, please consider carefully before registering whether your child can attend the testing session in Kent, and how they would travel to school if they were offered a school place in Kent.

How do I register for the Kent Test?

Go to kent.gov.uk/kenttest and create an online account for yourself as parent/guardian. Add your child's details to your account to start the registration process. When you have completed and submitted your registration you should get a confirmation email. If you do not, the registration may not have been completed correctly. (Tip: Please check your junk/spam folder for the email before contacting us!)

What if my child has access requirements?

If your child has a disability or SEN which will affect their access to testing, you should discuss this with their primary school before registering them, as the school will need to apply for any necessary access arrangements. Requests will not be accepted after 1 July 2025.

What happens after I register?

If your child attends a school outside Kent, we will email you details of their test centre by the end of August. Let us know if after registration you move house, change your email address or your child changes primary school. Otherwise, their test papers may go to the wrong place, or you may not get their results.

How do I apply for a Kent Grammar school?

You apply by naming the school as a preference on your Local Authority's secondary application form.

If my child is assessed suitable for grammar school by the Kent Test, will I automatically be offered a grammar school place?

No, a Kent Grammar school assessment does not guarantee your child a place in a Kent Grammar school. Grammar schools are often oversubscribed, meaning more children apply than the school has room for. Oversubscribed schools use their admission criteria to rank applicants in priority order, so it's important to check the admission criteria for schools you are interested in. A Kent Grammar school can only consider your child for a place if you have named it on your application and your child has been tested and assessed suitable for admission. If your child is not offered a place at the school, you can appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel and may be able to add them to the school's waiting list.

Key dates

Monday 2 June 2025	Registration opens at kent.gov.uk/kenttest . You will receive a confirmation email when registration is complete.
Tuesday 1 July 2025	Registration closes at midnight. If your child attends a school outside Kent, you will receive an email by the end of August with your Allocated Test Centre.
Thursday 11 September 2025	Children who attend a Kent primary school sit the test in their school.
Saturday 13 September 2025 / Sunday 14 September 2025	Children who attend primary schools outside Kent or are Educated at Home sit the test in a Test Centre.
Thursday 16 October 2025	Kent Test Decisions emails are sent after 4pm to the email address used to register the child.

Need help?

Further information about the test and about transport to grammar school for low-income families can be found on our website at kent.gov.uk. If your child is outside the age range for the test, or cannot take the test on a Saturday please email kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk.

For help registering please email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk. Only one registration per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of registration. Keep your login details safe and use the email address you registered from for all communication with the team.



TERM 6 PE TIMETABLE

Playground	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10			5HR Cricket		
11 – 12		5A Cricket	5J Cricket		
1.35 – 2.30	4SF Tennis	6A Cricket (Coach)	4T Tennis	5A Stoolball	3WH Tennis
2.30 – 3.30	3CL Tennis	6MW Cricket (Coach)	4C Tennis	5J Stoolball	3B Tennis

Field	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12					
1.30 – 2.30	4T Athletics (Coach)	3WH Rounders	6A Lacrosse	6W Athletics (Coach)	4SF Rounders
2.30 – 3.30	4C Athletics (Coach)	3B Rounders	6MW + 6W Lacrosse	5HR Stoolball	3CL Rounders

TERM 5 & 6 - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2 June	INSET day
3 June	First day of Term 6
4 June	Sex & Relationship Education Talk—Year 5 & 6 parents 3.45pm
6 June	Year 3 Trip - Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve
6 June	Year 4 Trip - Hampton Court
6 June	PTA Ice Cream Sale
9-13 June	Year 6 - Hilltop Residential
9-12 June	Amherst's Got Talent week
13 June	PTA Ice Cream Sale
17 June	Year 5 - Greek Workshop - children to dress up
17 June	Year 5 Parent Consultations
18 June	Year 5 Parent Consultations
19 June	Kent Fire and Rescue Workshop
20 June	PTA Ice Cream Sale
25 June	Open Afternoon 2.45pm
26-27 June	Year 5 Bushcraft Trip
27 June	Clubs End
28 June	PTA Summer BBQ 3.00pm - 7.00pm
30 June	New Parent Meeting 2.00pm - 3.00pm
1 July	Year 5 Buddy Olympics
2 July	PTA Ice Cream Sale
3 July	Secondary School Transition Day
4 July	Sports Day 1.30pm - 3.30pm
11 July	PTA - Year end review & plan for 25/26 1.45pm - 2.45pm
11 July	PTA Ice Cream Sale
11 July	PTA Leavers' Disco 5.30pm - 7.30pm
11 July	Summer Production - Dress Rehearsal 1.45pm - 3.15pm
14 July	Summer Production - Matinee Performance 1.45pm - 3.15pm
15 July	Summer Production - Evening Performance 7.00pm - 8.30pm
16 July	Summer Production - Evening Performance 7.00pm - 8.30pm
18 July	PTA Ice Cream Sale
18 July	Rose Clifton Memorial Cricket Match 5.30pm - 9.30pm
18 July	Last Day of Term 6

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the images for more information.



Parenting in the Digital Age



Raising kids in the digital age isn't easy. Many of us are asking the same questions and facing the same pressures.

Join us for an open, supportive discussion designed to inform and empower parents and discover some of the powerful benefits of delaying smartphones and social media for children.

Tuesday 24 June Amherst Primary School 7:00pm-8:30pm

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfnc9js>



Trials Taking Place In June & July
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Visit Our Website
Or Scan The QR Code



www.sevenoaksfootballacademy.org.uk

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What's On

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SHOWTIME
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Leave the dancing to the girls?
I don't think so...

www.showtime.london   

Showtime Performing Arts are offering a **FREE TRIAL** day on Saturday 21st at Weald of Kent, Sevenoaks
 Tinytme 3+, 9am to 10am
 Showtime 6+, 10 till 1pm
 Bring a drink and a snack. Places will be limited so register now to receive further information and a place



BARRACUDAS
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The UK's favourite school holiday activity camp!!!

COMPETITION! WIN A FREE WEEK AT CAMP!

PLUS £250 DONATION FOR YOUR SCHOOL AND A MINI BILLY TOY!

KIDS COMPETITION
Task: Design a new activity for summer 2025!

ACTIVITY COULD BE:

- Based on existing activity with a twist
- Repurposing equipment to play in another way
- Add your theme to an activity
- An activity you love already which you'd like to see at camp

WE WILL REPLICATE YOUR ACTIVITY IDEA AT CAMP!

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!
ENTRIES SUBMITTED TO FUN@BARRACUDAS.CO.UK BY 16TH JUNE
INCLUDE YOUR NAME, AGE & NAME & LOCATION OF SCHOOL WITH YOUR ENTRY!

WIN A MINI BILLY!

SCAN ME! 

Let's GO!

barracudas.co.uk
01480 467 567

OFSTED REGISTERED