

AMHERST SUMMER BBQ

Music - Food - Games - Inflatables

SATURDAY
28TH JUNE
3PM - 7PM

JOIN US FOR A
FUN AFTERNOON
OF FAMILY
ENTERTAINMENT!

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Cooperation

This term's value is **cooperation** and it has been wonderful to see it in action over the last four weeks. When I was away at Hilltop with Year 6 two weeks ago, **cooperation was essential** for the week to run smoothly. The children were pushed out of their comfort zone whether it was jumping off Air Jump, sharing a room for the first time or trying new food. It was so pleasing to observe the **high levels of support and encouragement** that the children gave to each other to overcome their individual challenges. **Support and encouragement should not be underestimated** as **key tools** to be able to successfully cooperate.

As I write this, Year 5 will be waking up in Penshurst having camped the night during their two day Bushcraft experience. I'm sure again high levels of **cooperation** have been needed to make the trip a success. I look forward to seeing the children and staff later this afternoon who I'm sure will be proud of their achievements. Most importantly, **I hope they had an enjoyable and fun time making some key childhood memories.**

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Summer BBQ

I look forward to seeing many of you at tomorrow's Summer BBQ. The weather forecast looks good and I'm sure it will be a great success. **Thank you to the PTA in advance** for all their hard work setting up and running the event. We should all be very **grateful and appreciative of the efforts of a small team of individuals** that enable the whole school community to have a fun afternoon.

Dates for end of term

As we enter the last three weeks of term I would like to make you aware of **key events** to have in your diary:

- **Thursday 3rd July** - Transition morning where children will meet their new teacher for next year and Year 6 children will visit their secondary school
- **Friday 4th July** - Sports Day 1.30pm
- **Monday 14th July** - Matinee Performance of Aladdin 1.45pm
- **Tuesday 15th July** - Evening performance of Aladdin 7.00pm
- **Wednesday 16th July** - Evening performance of Aladdin 7.00pm
- **Friday 18th July** - Rose Clifton Memorial Cricket Match at Holmesdale 5.00pm

Rose Clifton Memorial Cricket Match

It has become tradition that the end of the school year finishes with a cricket match at Holmesdale Cricket Club. The match is between **Mr Reid's team** and the **Year 6 parents**. I hear the parents' team have been practising this year so we could be in for quite a match! **All families are welcome to attend** and the cricket club will be providing a **BBQ** and the **clubhouse bar** will be open.

Open Afternoon

We hope you enjoyed attending our **Open Afternoon on Wednesday**. The children take so much **pride** in showing parents their work and giving them **impromptu tours** of the school. The sense of pride and achievement that the children display is **fantastic** to see.

I hope you all have great weekend and I look forward to seeing lots of you at the Summer BBQ tomorrow.

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.



DOGS AT PICK UP

Please can we remind parents not to bring any dogs onto the school site at pick up time. We would appreciate your support with this. Thank you.



PLEASE RETURN

Please can we ask that the following items are returned to school before the end of the year:

- Lunch bands
- Merit badges
- Library books
- Amherst Sports kit
- Year 6 official Aladdin script books (after the production)



CLUBS

All clubs finish today.

The following clubs have an **extra session**:

Little Musketeers / Street Dance / Spanish Club / Chess Tutoring



VACANCY

We have two teaching assistant vacancies - please [click here](#)



ALADDIN MUSIC

Children can learn the music for Aladdin by following the steps below:

1. Log out of all Google accounts on the device—**VERY IMPORTANT**
 2. Go to <https://classroom.google.com/>
 3. Log in with your email address:
 - Email address: namesurname@amherst.kent.sch.uk
 - Password: **Amherst** and **the year your child started** @ Amherst
i.e. **Amherst2024** if they started in 2024
- a. Click the + sign in the right corner
 - b. Type in Class Code: Idh7i2y (small letter L)



PARKING

Parents, please consider our neighbours and the safety of children walking to school when parking during drop-off and collection times.

We have received reports of vehicles being parked on **double yellow lines** in Cranmer Road. This creates a safety hazard and causes inconvenience to others.

Please park responsibly and abide by local parking regulations to help keep everyone safe and ensure good relationships with our neighbours. Thank you for your cooperation.



LETTERS SENT

Year 3—Pizza making

Year 4—DT Muffin making

Year 5—SRE talk on Tuesday 8 July



FUTURE DATES


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 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

LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK



3B	Olive N
3CL	Lois B
3WH	Teddy S
4C	Jamie H
4SF	Ernie T
4T	Alice R

5A	<i>Out camping!</i> 
5HR	
5J	
6A	Toby T
6MW	Sofia C
6W	Macey B



DANCE

Penelope N & Elliott H performed at Bromley Festival of Dance at the weekend, and I am delighted to share with you they placed 1st and won their over all category.

The festival hosted over 600 performances with children attending from all over the UK.

Congratulations to Penelope and Elliott!

CHOIR—THREE ARTS FESTIVAL

Well done to the Amherst Choir for their brilliant performance at the Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival last Saturday. The choir sang *Love Grows Here* and *Sir Duke* and were delighted to be awarded a mark of 'Outstanding' and first prize in the '13 and under' class. The shield can be seen in the Reception area of the school. This marks the seventh consecutive year of wins in all competitions for the Amherst Choir, continuing a streak that dates back to 2018. It also rounds off a fantastic year of choir events and competitions, having also won the Tunbridge Wells Arts Festival earlier this year. Amazing!



PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

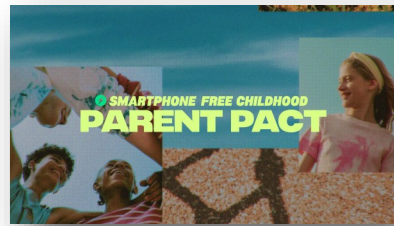
Parenting in the Digital Age - Useful resources

Thanks to everyone who attended the recent talks at Riverhead and Amherst. It was an opportunity to bring our parent community together to open up the conversation about the challenges and opportunities our children face as they grow up surrounded by tablets, smartphones, social media, and constant digital connection.

A selection of useful resources has been put together to support parents in navigating this fast-changing landscape. This includes practical advice on **setting healthy boundaries** around screen time, understanding the **risks of social media**, managing issues like **cyberbullying and online safety**, and fostering open, **ongoing conversations with your children** about their digital lives. There are a range of brilliant resources that can be found via smartphonefreechildhood.org and a recommended list of content to watch.

Join nearly 150,000 parents in delaying smartphone use for kids.

One key topic discussed was the growing movement to **delay the introduction of smartphones**. Many experts - and parents - are seeing the benefits of holding off on giving children full internet access until they are more emotionally and socially ready. Over 5,000 parents in Kent have signed up in less than one year.



If you would like to join nearly 150,000 UK-based parents in signing the **Smartphone Free Childhood parent pact**, then it takes just 30 seconds to do so here -

<https://parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Smartphone-free Sevenoaks schools - Thursday 3rd July, 6:30pm (Sevenoaks School)

Sevenoaks and Swanley MP, Laura Trott, is partnering with Smartphone Free Childhood to host an important event on **Thursday 3rd July, 6:30pm** at Sevenoaks School (The Space Performing Arts Centre).



Headteachers from primary and secondary schools across the constituency have been invited to attend, alongside local council representatives, health professionals and parents.

The aim is to explore the growing impact of smartphones on children's wellbeing and education, and to discuss how schools and parents in our area might work together to foster healthier digital habits among young people, including the possibility of smartphone-free school policies.

The aim is to foster momentum behind a shared community approach — one that could benefit all children across the region.

The panel will include:

- Laura Trott – MP for Sevenoaks, Swanley and the Dartford Villages
- Jesse Elzinga – Headteacher, Sevenoaks School (smartphone-free policy in place)
- Andrew Reid – Headteacher, Amherst School (smartphone-free policy in place)
- Raj Gandhi – Smartphone Free Childhood Representative
- Arabella Skinner – Health Professionals for Safer Screens

***YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR A FREE EVENT TICKET HERE*:** [Sevenoaks Event](#)

We're all doing our best...

The digital world is constantly evolving, but with the right guidance and support, we can help our children develop the confidence and critical thinking they need to use technology in safe, balanced, and positive ways.

If anyone would like more information then please contact me via smartphonefreechildhoodkent@gmail.com.

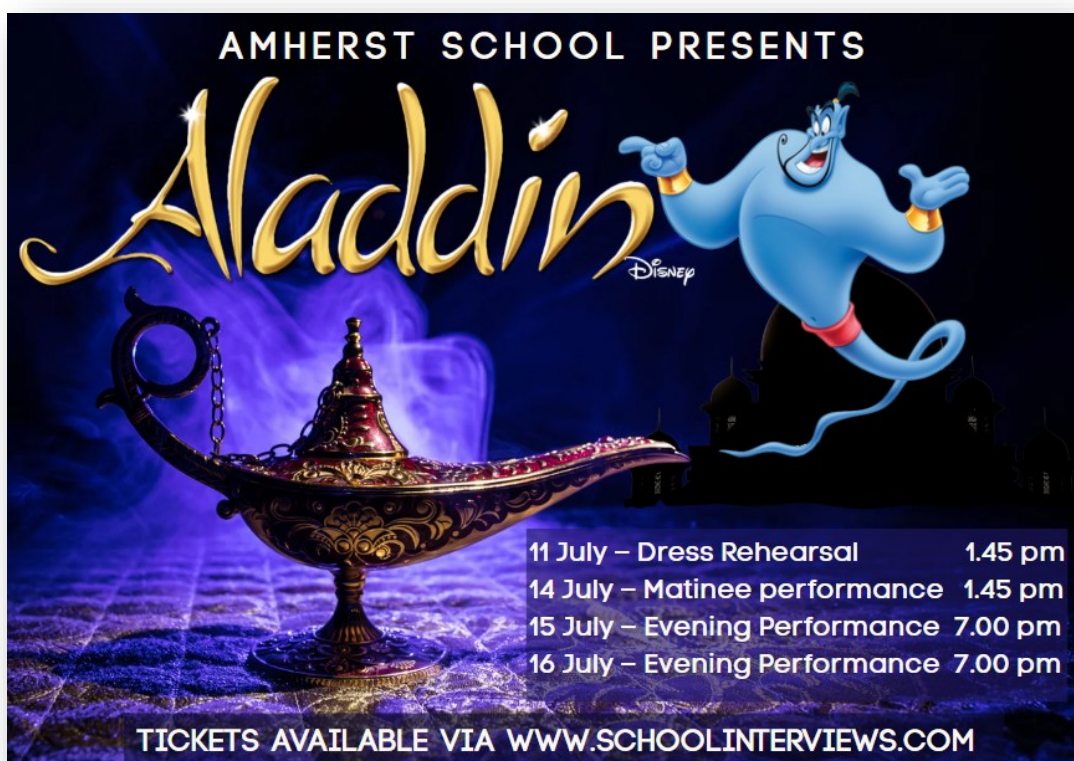
Thank you,

Katherine Myatt
Regional Leader, Smartphone-free Childhood

ALADDIN – TICKETS

Dear Parents,

You are invited to our summer production of *Aladdin*.



AMHERST SCHOOL PRESENTS

Aladdin

Disney

11 July – Dress Rehearsal 1.45 pm
14 July – Matinee performance 1.45 pm
15 July – Evening Performance 7.00 pm
16 July – Evening Performance 7.00 pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA WWW.SCHOOLINTERVIEWS.COM

Performances:

- Dress Rehearsal - Friday 11th July 1.45 pm
- Matinee Performance - Monday 14th July 1.45 pm
- Evening Performance - Tuesday 15th July 7.00 pm
- Evening Performance - Wednesday 16th July 7.00 pm

The **whole school** takes part in this annual celebration on stage - year 6 are the cast of actors and the rest of the school is our mass choir.

There will be a dress rehearsal on Friday 11th July at 1.45pm which is open to parents, particularly those who wish to **bring young children**.

Please note that siblings of year 6 children in Riverhead will have a chance to see the performance during the dress rehearsal.

The **main productions are intended for parents only** and we would be grateful if you would **not bring children**.

Seating for the performances are limited – we only have **620 tickets** for **770 parents**.

- At present, places are limited to **two per family**.
- If you book more than two tickets, the system will cancel random excess tickets booked.
- If you would like more tickets, please **[add your name to our waiting list here](#)**.

Tickets should be booked online using www.schoolinterviews.co.uk with event code **b8se3**

- This will be open for booking on a **first come first served** basis from now.
- Please have your **booking confirmation** ready on your **phone** when coming to attend the performance of your choice.

An **online donation** will be available via www.schoolgateway.com which will be going towards the cost of putting on the production.

We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a **highlight** of the year!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the images for more information.

SUMMER CAMP
Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club
TN13 2RJ

Tuesday 22nd - Friday 25th of July
 Tuesday 29th July - Friday 1st of August
 Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th of August
 Tuesday 12th - Friday 15th of August
 Tuesday 19th - Friday 22nd of August

9:00-12:00 ages 5-10
 14:30-17:30 ages 11-16

£85 for Club Member for One Week
 £95 for Non Members for One Week
 Individual Days Available Upon Request
 10% early bird discount if you book before the 1st of July

All standards welcome & rackets can be provided if required.

Contact
 adam@artennis.co.uk
 to book by scanning the QR code




West Kent Athletics club
 July 28th, 29th, 30th 2025
 Athletics Camp

3 days of athletics where anyone and everyone will take part in all the athletics events, play games and receive an athletics stats sheet with all their best results on to compare each time they come to an athletics camp to track progress.

Each group will have tailored sessions with their designated coach and will be in groups with others of a similar age ready for action packed athletics Events we will cover:



75M/100M
 600M/800M
 HURDLES
 LONG JUMP
 POLEVAULT
 HIGH JUMP
 TRIPLE JUMP
 JAVELIN
 DISCUS
 SHOT PUTT
 HAMMER
 RACE WALKING



Details
 Dates - 28th July - 30th July 2025
 Duration - 10:00am - 15:00pm
 Location - The Judd School, Brook Street, TN9 2PN
 (Please bring your own packed lunch)
 Cost - £125 for full course.
 £45 per day (Please email to book individual dates)
 Age range - 6 -14 (athletes will be split into groups based on age) u9/u11/u13/u15

Website: <https://www.westkentathleticsclub.co.uk>
 Contact: 07368 234321 Email: westkentac@gmail.com

Club night information
 Come along and do athletics - no experience and any ability can turn up to our pay as you go sessions.
 Monday - Tunbridge Wells - 6:00pm - 7:00pm - £7 per session
 Wednesday - Tonbridge - 6:30pm-7:30pm - £7 per session
 Saturday - Medway - 11:00am - 12:00pm - £5 per session
 Check our website or email for more information & 1-2-1 sessions

MBCTSUK England Lacrosse Insured
 Full Enhanced DBS
 School Safeguarding Compliant

Summer Lacrosse Camp

When?
 July 21st - 23rd
 Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday
 10 am - 3 pm

Where?
 Walthamstow Hall Playing Fields

Cost?
 £50 per day

Coaches?
 Ben Page-Laycock - current
GB & England international player
 Supported by Annabelle Cole, a standout Wally Hall U18 and **England** Aspire player

Tuck shop available! Bring packed lunches & any meds.

Book your spot here!

Escape Room Challenges!
 Brainteasers and Riddles!
 Board Games!
 Mystery Maths Quiz!

Maths

Holiday Activity Programme at Sevenoaks

Join us on a three-day 'Around the World' journey of fun learning for pupils in Year 5!

19-21 August 2025

www.sevenoaksschool.org/service-and-partnerships/primary-partnerships Book here



SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

FOAL FARM Animal Rescue

Drawing Competition

Draw your favourite Foal Farm animal for a chance to win a behind the scenes tour of Foal Farm

Send your entries to commercial@foalfarm.org.uk or via post to Foal Farm, Jail Lane, Biggin Hill, TN16 3AX
 Closing date for entries 14th July 2025

4 age categories:
 6 yrs and under
 7 to 10 yrs
 11 to 15 yrs
 16 yrs and above

Winners announced at our Country Festival on Sunday 20th July






ANNOUNCING THIS YEARS SUMMER CAMP THEME

Matilda

Sawmill Studios, Rectory Lane, Brasted, TN16 1JR
 Monday 28th July - Wednesday 30th July
 10am - 3pm
 £30 per day or £75 for all 3 days
 Ages 4+ years

FLASH SALE

10% OFF

FOR ONE WEEK ONLY
 USE CODE FLASH10



