

# AMHERST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

37th EDITION - 4 July 2025



## MESSAGE FROM MR REID

### Summer BBQ

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Summer BBQ on Saturday. It was a great event and it was lovely to see parents and children enjoying themselves. Thank you so much to the PTA for all their hard work to ensure the Summer BBQ was such a success. Thank you also to you as parents for attending and supporting the event so generously.



### Buddy Olympics and Transition Day

On Tuesday we welcomed our new Year 3 children for their Year 5 Buddy Olympics event. Well done to the Year 5s for being superb buddies and planning such fun events. I am always so impressed by the maturity Year 5 demonstrate and the independence to create and lead the sporting activities. It is a great early experience of Amherst for Year 2.



On Thursday children got to meet their new teacher and the majority of Year 6 attended their secondary schools for a transition day. The school was a mix of excitement and a few nerves which is very normal. Change can be hard but hopefully the transition work we put in place will ease the anxiety for some.

### Smartphone Free Childhood

Last night I attended an event at Sevenoaks School, organised by Laura Trott MP, regarding the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign. Laura Trott MP had invited me to attend as a member of the panel due to Amherst School making the decision in September to not allow Smartphones to be brought to school. The panel was as follows:



- Andrew Reid (Head, Amherst Primary School – smartphone-free policy in place)
- Jesse Elzinga (Head, Sevenoaks School – smartphone-free policy in place)
- Raj Gandhi (Smartphone Free Childhood Campaign)
- Arabella Skinner (Health Professionals for Safer Screens)

Laura Trott MP chaired the debate and the audience were able to ask questions. I was proud to be able to represent Amherst at this event on such a key issue. Sevenoaks is working hard as a local community to delay children receiving smartphones but a change in government policy is what is really needed.

I look forward to seeing you all at Sports Day this afternoon. I hope you all have a good weekend.

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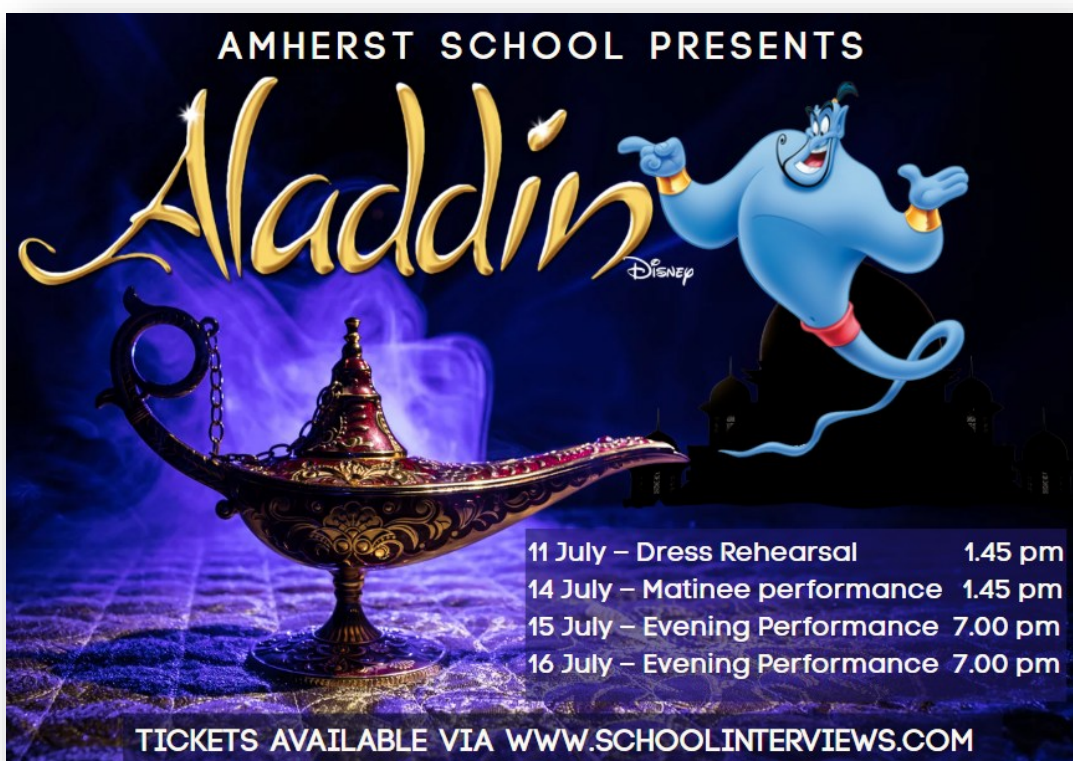
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Mr Reid

# 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](http://WWW.SCHOOLINTERVIEWS.COM)

## Performances:

- Dress Rehearsal - Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1.45 pm
- Matinee Performance - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 1.45 pm
- Evening Performance - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 7.00 pm
- Evening Performance - Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.schoolgateway.com) which will be going towards the cost of putting on the production.

We look forward to welcoming you to what



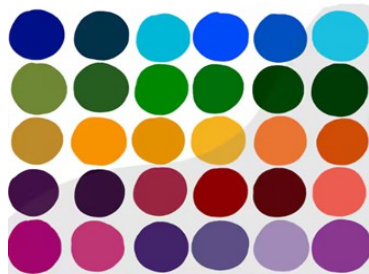
# ALADDIN- COSTUMES

## Year 3-5 children are to arrive in 'choir' costumes:

- Plain, brightly coloured t-shirt (no logos and no football shirts): colours such as blue, red, green, yellow, orange, etc. Bright 'jewel' tones preferred, not neon, please!
- Dark shorts (school grey shorts or P.E. shorts)
- School shoes or black plimsolls/jazz shoes

◇ Please can costumes come to school in a named bag no later than Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

### JEWEL TONES



## Year 6 actors:

- Change into their costumes which will be in their classrooms when they arrive.
- When Year 6 have changed and been registered, they should go to 5J and 6A.

◇ Please can costumes come to school in a named bag no later than Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

# GET READY *for* SEPTEMBER 2025

**TEAM AMHERST**  
**JOIN THE SQUAD!**

Order by  
31/07/25

**HOODIES & PERSONALISED WATER BOTTLES**

Hoodies from £22  
Personalised water bottles £15

[www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/amherstpta)

**PTA hoodies & bottles**

Please buy your **stationary pack** by clicking on [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com)

The pack includes:

- a clear popper wallet,
- a 30cm/300mm ruler,
- a large clear pencil case,
- a pair of scissors,
- 5 HB pencils,
- a double pencil sharpener,
- a rubber,
- a whiteboard pen,
- a Pritt stick
- a pack of 12 colouring pencils
- a pack of 10 coloured fineliners.



Packs will be given to children on the first

**£12.00 pp**

# NOTICES

## Attendance

### 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.

### BREAKFAST CLUB SPACES AVAILABLE

We have spaces available from September, please complete our [booking form here](#)

### LETTERS SENT

- Year 3 — Two Reports Inquiry
- Year 5 — Residential Letter to Hilltop Outdoor Centre
- Year 5 — DT: Bread Making
- Whole School — Aladdin costume information
- Whole School — Mr Reid's Headteachers Letter

### PLEASE RETURN

Please can we ask that the following items should be returned to school before we break up next week.

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

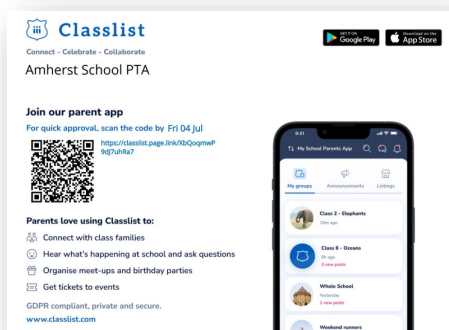
### PTA—OUR NEW ONLINE HOME!

Dear Parents and Carers,

From the academic year **2025/26**, the PTA has decided to switch event management platforms from **PTA-Events** to **Classlist**. Many of you will already be familiar with Classlist, as it has been used successfully by Riverhead for the past few years.

Why are we making the switch?

- **Improved user experience** – Classlist offers a user-friendly app and supports Apple Pay and Google Pay.
  - **Lower platform fees** – Just **1.5%** compared to **3.95%** with PTA-Events.
  - **Simpler admin tools** – Easier event creation and dynamic event check-ins.
- To join, simply search for **Amherst School** on the Classlist app or scan the QR code below.



Thank you for your continued support!

The PTA Team

### CLUBS

**Please note**, the following clubs have an **extra session**:  
Little Musketeers / Street Dance

### FUTURE DATES

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

3CL	Eddie W	5A	Jasper F
3H	Arthur B & Hester M	5HR	Max L
3W	Tamara H	5J	Luke F
4C	Gabriel G-C	6A	Lottie P
4S	Arthur R	6B	Chayila M
4SF	Cameron H	6W	Lyra G



## FUNDRAISING

Reuben in 4SF did over the weekend. He raised £113 by selling cupcakes and making games all in aid of the Folly



## ACRO

Over the weekend Juliette R and her trio came 2nd in their international Acro Competition. Juliette is a flyer/top and has two bases in year seven.

Congratulations on this fantastic achievement — it looked amazing!

## CLASS 4C MAKING MUFFINS



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please click on the images for more information.

## Other activities over the summer

Kent County Council activities for children, young people and their families.

For details about activities for young people up to age of 18, contact the Swanley Family Hub on 03000 421545.

**Edenbridge Town Council activities**  
Stangrove Park, Edenbridge, Thursdays 7, 14 and 21 August from 2pm to 5pm.



If you have any questions or would like more information

**t** 01732 227000

**e** [communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk)

**w** [sevenoaks.gov.uk/familyfundays](http://sevenoaks.gov.uk/familyfundays)

Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices,  
Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HG

Visit our Sevenoaks offices:  
Monday to Thursday, 8.45am to 5pm  
Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm

This publication is available in large print and can be explained in other languages by calling 01732 227000.

**f** Sevenoaks District Council Official

**i** [sevenoaksdistrictcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/sevenoaksdistrictcouncil)

**in** Sevenoaks District Council

**x** [sdc\\_newsdesk](https://twitter.com/sdc_newsdesk)

We may take photos and film at Family Fun Days. The photos and footage may be used in our publications and shared with the local press, on social media and funding partners. If you do not want to be photographed or filmed, please tell a member of staff on the day.

## Family Fun Days 2025

**FREE**



**Play Place**  
Where a playgroup is a game

**Sevenoaks**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

**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**

## SUMMER GUITAR ROCK CAMP

### THE STAG THEATRE, SEVENOAKS

**LEARN CLASSIC ROCK SONGS** ★ **PERFORM LIVE ON STAGE**

**FIRST CAMP JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> 30<sup>TH</sup> AND AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>**  
**SECOND CAMP AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup> 13<sup>TH</sup> AND 15<sup>TH</sup>**  
**THIRD CAMP AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup> 20<sup>TH</sup> AND 22<sup>ND</sup>**

WEEKLY COURSE CONSISTS OF 5 SESSIONS

<p>HALF DAYS - MORNINGS 9:30AM - 12:30PM</p> <p>HALF DAYS - AFTERNOONS 1:00PM - 4:00PM</p> <p>FULL DAYS - 9:30AM - 4:00PM</p>	<p>BOOK YOUR WEEK COURSE BEFORE JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> FOR DISCOUNTED PRICE</p> <p>PLACES ARE LIMITED</p>
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT [TOMRMURRAY@HOTMAIL.CO.UK](mailto:TOMRMURRAY@HOTMAIL.CO.UK)

## Sevenoaks Bookshop

# Summer Photography Competition

We've partnered with **HOPSTAR** to find Sevenoaks' best young photographer!

First Prize  
*Expert Camera by Hopstar*

Runner Up Prize  
*A copy of 'Eyes Open - 23 Photography Projects for Children' by Susan Meiselas*

**To Enter:**

- Send the best photo you have taken of summer - it can be taken anywhere, anytime, of anyone or anything, we just want it to say 'summer' to us!
- Drop your entry in the Summer Competition Box at the Bookshop (in an envelope with your name, age and a parent/carer's contact number on it) \*
- Only one entry per child (aged 5-15 yrs)
- Closing date 15<sup>th</sup> August

\*If you don't have access to a printer, please email us at [enquiries@sevenoaksbookshop.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sevenoaksbookshop.co.uk) and we can arrange for your entry to be submitted another way