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MESSAGE FROM MR REID

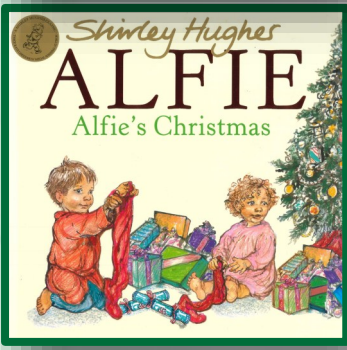
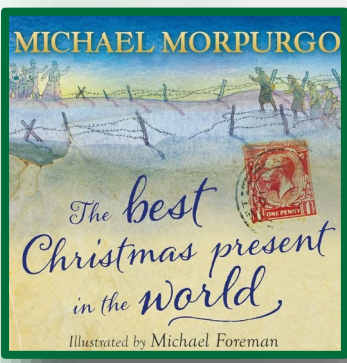
Christmas Bazaar

I am really looking forward to the Christmas Bazaar tomorrow at 12.00pm. Thank you in advance to our amazing PTA team that have been working hard in preparation for the event. It is always a highlight of the year and everyone is so generous with their time and donations.

Christmas Stories

A tradition I have created at Amherst over the years, during the final week of Term 2, is to read the children Christmas stories in assembly. We read the same stories each year which is what makes it become a tradition. I'm sure like me you have many Christmas traditions in your house which your children look forward to (and would be very upset if you didn't do them!). There is a wonderful familiarity and comforting feeling being read a story that you know once a year. It goes into a child's long term memory and I'm sure will be something they reflect on as an adult as part of their Christmas experience at Amherst. The stories that over the years have become tradition are:

- *Alfie's Christmas* by Shirley Hughes
- *Father Christmas* by Raymond Briggs
- *The best Christmas Present in the world* by Michael Morpurgo



Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to parents who have already completed the questionnaire. If you have not had a chance to do it yet I would really encourage you to do so. It is a key part of how we gain parental feedback.



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing lots of you at the Christmas Bazaar tomorrow.

Mr Reid

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

If you have a child in more than one year group, please complete a questionnaire for each year. Please click on the correct year group below to access the questionnaire:

- [Year 3](#)
- [Year 4](#)
- [Year 5](#)
- [Year 6](#)



POPPY APPEAL

We raised a fantastic
£342.09
which goes to the
Royal British Legion.

Thank you for your generosity.

NOTICES



REPORT ABSENCES

Please complete the quick [Daily Absence Form](#) on our website before 9.00am for **every day** your child is off school. The form should also be used for medical appointments, holiday requests and school visits.



AMHERST CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Decorate a BISCUIT – PLEASE can we have more donations of plain Christmas shaped biscuits and plain fairy cakes for children to decorate at the bazaar tomorrow.



CLUBS – WEEK BEGINNING – 8 DECEMBER 2025

Rehearsals for both Choirs are **on** this week:

- Tennis Squad (Yr 3 & 4)—Tuesday lunchtime (make up session)
- Amherst Choir—Thursday 3.30—3.40pm
- Training Choir—Friday 8.15am
- Tennis Squad (Yr 5 & 6) —Friday lunchtime (make up session)

All other clubs have now finished.



LETTERS SENT

Year 3 — [Intended Learning](#)



SPRING CLUBS SIGN UP

We have space in the following clubs:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Lego—Year 5 & 6 | Table Tennis—Year 4 |
| Spanish—Year 5 & 6 | Spanish—Year 4 |
| Tennis Beginners—Year 3 & 4 | Lego—Year 3 & 4 |
| French—Year 3 | Disney—Year 4 |
| Spanish—Year 3 | Story Time— Year 5 & 6 |

Please click here to complete our [BOOKING FORM](#)



READING VOLUNTEERS

Year 3, 5 and 6 - Today was the last day for Reading Volunteers

Thank you so much for your wonderful support in nurturing our children's reading journey this year. The time you dedicated to them is truly invaluable. We look forward to welcoming you back in January with all volunteers back from **5th January 2026**.



VACANCIES

We are advertising various positions:

Midday Supervisory Assistant and Breakfast Club Assistant

Please see more information on www.kent-teach.com.

When SHOPPING for Christmas

ELFRIDGES
THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS POP UP SHOP

It's one of our favourite Christmas activities—watching big eyes filled with love and the spirit of Christmas Giving as they choose the best gift for the special adults in their lives.

TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER

ALL CHILDREN WILL TAKE PART DURING SCHOOL TIME, CHOOSING TWO GIFTS THAT WILL BE WRAPPED, LABELLED AND TAKEN HOME TO BE SQUIRRELED AWAY UNDER THEIR CHRISTMAS TREE!

£5 PER CHILD FOR TWO GIFTS

PLEASE VISIT CLASSLIST TO BUY TICKETS

Scan the QR code to visit our cause page

Support us through **easyfundraising**

SUPPORT AMHERST EVERY TIME YOU SHOP ONLINE

All you need to do is:

1. Scan the above QR code and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Amherst School PTA at no extra cost to you whatsoever!



EVENTS & DATES



CHOIR *Sevenoaks Lights Switch On*

This past week, the Amherst Choir performed both at the main Sevenoaks Lights Switch-On and at the Littlecourt Lunch Club. The children sang a range of Christmas songs including Santa Claus Is Coming To Town, Carol of the Bells and A Spaceman Came Travelling. The choir were absolutely brilliant in both, singing with enthusiasm and acting as a real credit to the school. A particular well done to our wonderful soloists from Years 5 and 6. We are now looking forward to performing at St Nicholas' Church tomorrow evening, our Carol Service on Monday 15th December in St Mary's Church, and joining the Training Choir in Trafalgar Square on Thursday 18th December. An exciting few weeks ahead!



FUTURE DATES

CALENDAR DATES 2025-2026 ** Red dates added this week

06-Dec	PTA Bazaar - 12.00 - 3.00pm
08-Dec	Year 4 - Christmas Production - Matinee Performance - 2.00 - 3.00pm
09-Dec	Year 4 - Christmas Production - Evening Performance - 6.00 - 7.00pm
11-Dec	Interhouse Competition
12-Dec	PTA: Cake & Hot Dog Sale - 3.30pm
15-Dec	Carol Service Rehearsal - 1.30 - 3.30pm
15-Dec	Whole School - Carol Service - 6.00pm at St Mary's Church, Riverhead
16-Dec	PTA: Elfridges Pop-up Shop at school - 1.30 - 3.30pm
17-Dec	Christmas Lunch - 12.00 - 2.00pm (Christmas Jumper with uniform)
19-Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM
CHRISTMAS	





LET'S CELEBRATE

STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Allegra C
3FB	Gigi P
3WH	Randall W
4C	Kio F
4HR	Amy Auer
4SL	Nauris V

5A	Darcy A
5CS	Gabriel G-C
5J	Maisie P
6A	Brooke M
6DT	Elissa B
6N	Eirene B



CHEER & DANCE

Emme did amazingly well at her cheer competition this weekend. She was competing against many highly skilled teams at the Bring It On Future Cheer Competition in Paris. Her team from Ice Athletics came 2nd, which is an incredible achievement.



BEAVERS

Conrad R (3FB) was awarded the Andrew Wood Trophy for Beaver of the Year for the Brookland Colony at the 3rd Sevenoaks Scouts. This award is presented to the young person in the colony whom the Volunteer Team feels embodies the spirit of Scouting, by being polite, tries their best, is kind, considerate and helpful. He was presented with a special woggle and the trophy last night. Congratulations Conrad!



BASKETBALL

On Monday 1st December, a team of seven children from Year 3 participated in the Sevenoaks School Sports Partnership Basketball competition at Knole Academy. This was the team's first experience of playing basketball but you would not have believed it when watching their matches,

because they were incredible. Every member of the team grasped the skills really quickly and they all showed amazing speed, superb passing and great dribbling. As a result of these skills, Amherst won four out of their five matches very convincingly. Our last match was against Anthony Roper, who had also won all their matches. We narrowly missed out on winning this final match, however we came second overall in the competition, which was a great achievement. The children displayed wonderful team work and brilliant determination. They were a credit to the school. Huge congratulations to Ella C, Alina R, Nova L, Henry L, Nathan L, Johannes W and Leo K. Many thanks to the parents for transporting and supporting the children.



NETBALL

Our netball team played another two of our league matches. **Our first match** against St Katharine's Knockholt got off to a slow start. It was still a 0-0 at the end of the first quarter. Ella and Valentina scored two goals to bring Amherst into the lead while Eloise and Kitty defended well and prevented St Katherine's from scoring. In the final quarter Amherst stormed ahead with four goals resulting in a 6-0 victory. Eloise and Ethan were a great

duo and popped the balls in the net while Kitty kept feeding them into the semi-circle. **The second game**, against Lady Boswells, we anticipated to be more of a challenge from past history against the team. Amherst started with a strong 3-1 lead in the first quarter. Neve and Kitty were a dynamic duo in the semi-circle scoring as Valentina displayed some excellent interception to prevent the ball leaving our end of the court. Meanwhile, Henry and Ethan continued the strong defence at the far end. With a further three more goals scored by Amherst - one amazing shot from the edge of the semi-circle by Ella fed in by Emily playing Centre, Amherst were 5-1 up at the start of the final quarter. The whole team rallied around to keep the pressure on which resulted in a 7-1 win for Amherst. Well done for another super set of matches to our team: Emily, Valentina, Neve, Eloise, Henry, Ella, Kitty and Ethan.

WATERHOUSE

The children took part in an interhouse DT competition to make a boat using recyclable resources. They worked in pairs and had 10 minutes planning time, 30 minutes making time before testing their boats. They all had to work to the same design brief which was: to use at least 3 materials, to include a sail, it must fit inside the bucket of water and to test their buoyancy using marbles. It was wonderful to see such creativity, collaboration and excitement as they worked with their partners. The house captains were on hand for advice, helping to test the final designs using marbles as the weights. They also displayed great leadership qualities when supporting the younger children. It was a successful morning of high engagement, promoting our Amherst values of cooperation, determination and fairness.

The winning pair in each house were:

- Jasmine and Casia (Bradbourne),
- Arthur, Wilfred and Ben (Amherst),
- Oscar and Cameron (Wolfe) and
- Jasper and Emily (Knole).



COMMUNITY

Riverhead Parish Council

Invite you to

Christmas Lights & Carol Singing

with St Mary's Church Choir

Thursday 11th December 6pm

The Heights, opposite Londis

Free Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

UK Health Security Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slipped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

BARRACUDAS ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN 2026!
EXCLUSIVE PARENT DISCOUNT

USE CODE **SCHOOL20** FOR AN EXTRA £20 OFF YOUR BOOKING!

Minimum 2 days. Not to be used in conjunction with other offer codes.

- 4 to 14 year olds!
- 80+ Activities!
- Choice each session!
- Specialist Courses!
- Flexible bookings!

barracudas.co.uk
01480 467 567

HIGHLY RATED School Holiday Camps!!!



SCAN ME!



OFSTED REGISTERED



7OAKS MULTI SPORT'S SPORTY WINTER CAMP



RIVERHEAD INFANTS SCHOOL
£20 PER DAY

DECEMBER
22/12, 23/12,
29/12 & 30/12
FROM 10AM-3PM

Activities include: Football, Tennis, Dodgeball, Bench Ball, Bench Football, Parachute games, Mini Olympics, Music games and many more

Contact Amanda For more information:

07584 419283

www.7oaksmultisports.co.uk

CHILDREN AGED 3-11

Christmas Workshop

Sevenoaks School of Dance

Book our Christmas Workshop for a fun, creative, and friendly day!

Our workshop features Street Dance, Musical Theatre, Singing and even some Crafty fun and Games.

Come Dance, Create, and Make New Friends this Christmas!

For more information or to book, please contact:
phoebe@sevenoaksdance.co.uk

22nd & 23rd December - £30 Per Day
10am - 3pm

Boys & Girls
Aged 4 - 11 Years
Amherst School,
Witches Lane,
Sevenoaks,
TN13 2AX

