

A

M

S

T

E

R

N

E



19th Edition
30 January
2026

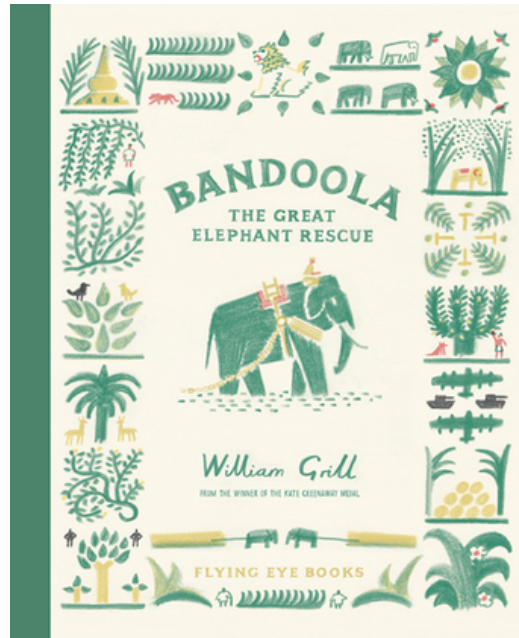
AMHERST SCHOOL

TRUST KINDNESS DETERMINATION FAIRNESS CO-OPERATION POLITENESS

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Whole School Book Project

I am excited to be able to share with you that our whole school book project after half term will be *Bandoola The Great Elephant Rescue* by William Grill. I would encourage you to purchase a copy. It would make a great bed time story over several nights.



Reading

Throughout the year, we emphasise the important role reading plays in your child's development. Please see page 2 where I share my thoughts on the topic this week.

Umbrellas

Please could we request that children do not bring umbrellas to school. Thank you for your anticipated reinforcement and support of this request.

HIGHLIGHTS

Mr Reid's Message

◆
Topic

◆
Notices

◆
PTA

◆
Let's Celebrate

◆
Community Events

REMINDERS

4 Feb - Interhouse
6 Feb - PTA Cake & Pancake Sale
6 Feb - PTA Quiz Night

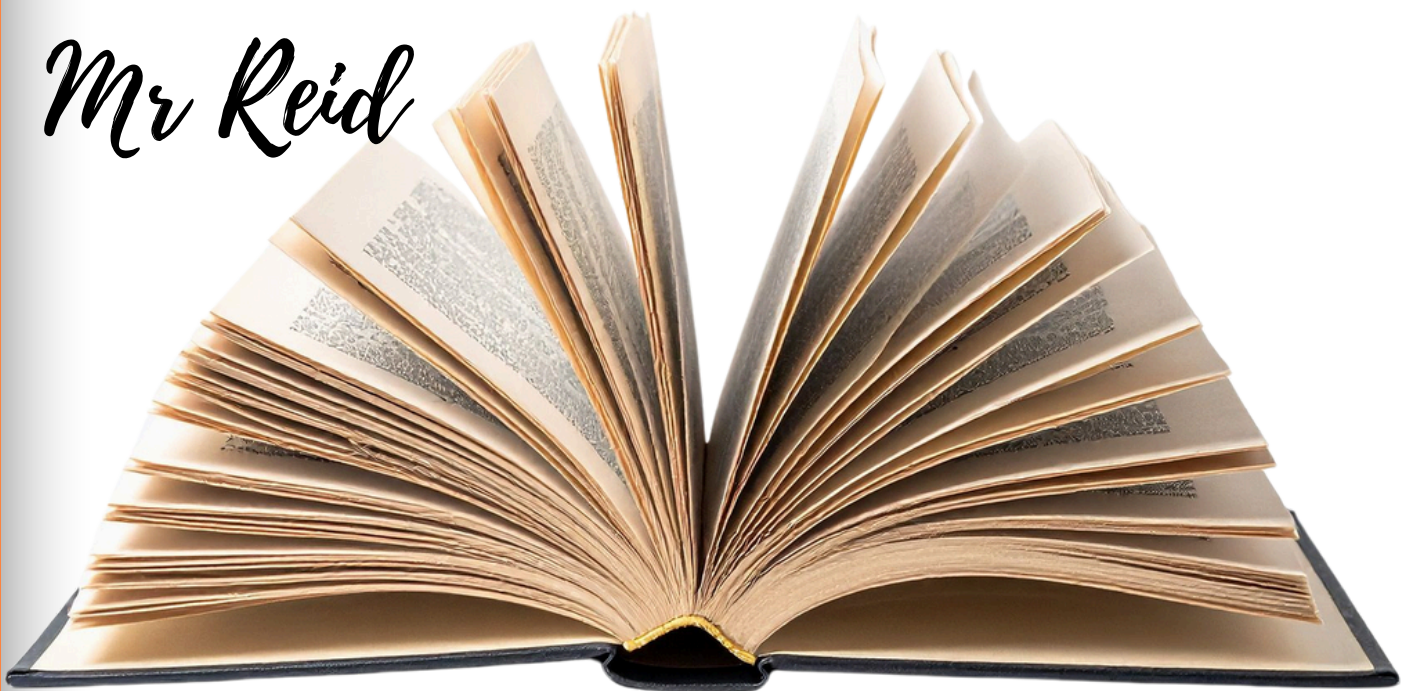
I regularly share with you how **important reading** is for a child's development. Not just from a language perspective but also the **quality time spent with your child**. Reading to, or with, your child is a powerful bonding experience and should not be underestimated. **Your child loves spending time with you!**

Miss Watson sent me a **fantastic quote** this week regarding reading that I would like to share with you:

As a teacher, I can't tell you which kids were bottle fed or breast fed when they were babies. I can't tell you which kids have always been decked out in the latest designer clothes. I can't tell you which ones have always had the newest toys. I can't tell you which kids started nursery really early. But I CAN tell which children have been read to regularly at home. Because you see it. You see it in their vocabulary, their confidence with words, their imagination, their ability to sit with a story and think. And here's the thing. It's not about being perfect. It's not about reading for an hour every night. Sometimes it's ten minutes. Sometimes it's the same story over and over again. Sometimes it's you half asleep, doing the voices terribly. But that time matters. Because when you read to your child, you're not just teaching them how to read. You're teaching them that books matter, that words matter, that they matter. And honestly, that's one of the greatest gifts you can give your child.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Mr Reid





REPORT ABSENCE - 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.



CLUBS — WEEK beginning 2 FEBRUARY 2026

ALL clubs should be running as normal.



LETTERS SENT

· Year 3 - Intended Learning



PARKING

Parents, please consider our neighbours and children walking to school when parking at drop off or when collecting your children from school.



VACANCIES

Please click here to look at our current vacancies: We are looking for Teaching Assistant to work on Thursday and Friday - there is no flexibility on days.



NUT FREE SNACKS / FRUIT

Please can you ensure your child brings in a **healthy snack** to school.



MERIT BADGES

Please can you return all merit badges to the school office. Many thanks.



Lunch Money

LUNCH MONEY

Please remember to top up your child's lunch money accounts on

www.schoolgateway.com .

TEAM AMHERST

- SAVE THE DATES** (with PTA logo)
- TERMS 4-6**
- FRI 20 MAR AMHERST SOCIAL EVENING TBC** (Amherst School Hall)
- WED 1 APR EASTER EGG TREASURE HUNT** (Amherst School during school hours)
- FRI 24 APR KIDS SCHOOL DISCO** (After school in the hall)
- SAT 4 JULY SUMMER BBQ**

CALENDAR DATES 2026

**** Red dates added this week**

04-Feb	Inter House Competition
06-Feb	PTA Cake and Pancake Sale - 3.30pm
06-Feb	PTA Quiz Night - 8.00pm
10-Feb	Safer Internet Day
13-Feb	PTA Crazy Hair Day
13-Feb	END OF TERM
HALF TERM	
23-Feb	START OF TERM
23-Feb	Year 3 Resilience Show - Shooting Stars
23-Feb	Year 6 - Young Voices 2026
27-Feb	PTA Fancy Dress Costume / 2nd Hand Uniform Sale - 3.30pm
03-Mar	PTA Meeting - 7.00 - 8.00pm (at school)
05-Mar	World Book Day
09-Mar	Year 5 - Rainforest Roadshow (workshop at school)
10-Mar	Science Day
11 - 13 Mar	Year 3 - Roman Day
13-Mar	Open Afternoon - 2.45pm
16-Mar	Year 6 - Trip to Parliament
20-Mar	Red Nose Day
20-Mar	PTA - Cake Sale
20-Mar	Clubs End
23-Mar	Year 6 Dance Troupe - Love 2 Dance Show @ the Stag Theatre
24-Mar	Parent Consultations
25-Mar	BUDDY: Riverhead Shared Books and Playtime
26-Mar	Parent Consultations
30-Mar	Year 3 - Easter Production Dress Rehearsal - 2.00pm - 3.00pm
31-Mar	Year 3 - Easter Production - 2.00pm - 3.00pm
31-Mar	Amherst Music Festival - 6.00pm
02-Apr	LAST DAY OF TERM
EASTER	



PLEASE VISIT [Classlist](#) FOR TICKETS / DONATIONS!

As we look ahead to the coming weeks, there's a lot to look forward to!!

Introducing Crazy Hair Day!

On the last day of term, children are invited to come to school with their hair as crazy as they can make it... nothing is off limits - the crazier the better!

Minimum donation of £1 please, payable via Classlist. If you haven't yet signed up, please do so using the link below... we have lots of exciting events coming up and you will need to be registered to make donations and buy tickets.

Quiz Night

FRIDAY 6TH FEB

Doors open 7:30 PM
for 8pm start

AMHERST SCHOOL HALL
£10 PER PERSON
TEAMS OF UP TO 10

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINK
Tickets on sale on Classlist

Carmen Austin Architecture
MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BOARD

**Amherst
Cake & Pancake Sale**

Friday 6th February
3.30pm

Any baked donations (homemade or store bought - no nuts please) greatly appreciated!
Thank you for your support!

TEAM AMHERST PRESENTS

CRAZY HAIR DAY

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY

To raise funds for new classroom tables and chairs at Amherst School

MAKE A DONATION ON CLASSLIST TODAY

STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Jasmine K
3FB	Evie-Rae W
3WH	Charlie M
4C	Oliver W
4HR	Evie P
4SL	Abi D

5A	Oliver B
5CS	SarahLouise S
5J	Reuben M
6A	Juliet H
6DT	Ella A-O
6N	Emily T



BALLROOM DANCING

Ffion B (4C) took part in the Herne Bay Dance Festival yesterday and came 4th in her waltz. Congratulations Ffion!



WATER POLO

On Wednesday 28th January a team of children from Year 6 participated in a Water Polo competition at Sevenoaks School. It was the first time that the team had played this sport and they developed the skills required for the game very quickly. Amherst won 4 of their 6 games and their score of 9-0, in their second game, displayed the skill of the team. All of the children demonstrated incredible stamina and strength during the matches.

As a result of brilliant play, Amherst came third overall in the competition.

Huge congratulations: Heila S, Neve L, Rosa K, Raph H, Conor B and William H.

Many thanks to all the parents for transporting and supporting the children.

Mrs Wheeler



HANDWRITING EASTER HOLIDAY GROUP






Supporting Families
through Occupational Therapy



Bookings are essential:
01732 462933
info@equalchanceot.co.uk

When? 13th to 17th April 2026
Mon-Fri (1.5 hours per day)

Who? Age 3.5 to 8 years

Where? Equal Chance Clinic
Sevenoaks, Kent

Spaces limited
Max 4 in a group
Sensory Integration Approach
Run by Specialist Paediatric
Occupational Therapist

Group Focus

Shoulder Stability	Group Interaction
Spatial + Body Awareness	Hand Muscle Strength
Bilateral Integration	Pencil Grasp + Grasp Development
Midline Crossing	Visuo-Motor Integration
Hand Eye Coordination	In-Hand Object Manipulation



FEBRUARY FREE PARENTING CLINIC
RAISING RESILIENT KIDS: BUILDING REAL CONFIDENCE

PARENTING CLINIC

RAISING RESILIENT KIDS

23 FEB

12.00 TO 12.30PM

HOSTED ON ZOOM
Come live or catch the replay

In this month's Free Parenting Clinic, we'll explore:

- The real difference between confidence and self-esteem (spoiler: they're not the same)
- Why "praise more" doesn't always build resilient kids
- How confidence is quietly shaped at home, every single day
- Practical, realistic ways to support your child to bounce back, believe in themselves, and try again

This isn't about raising loud, fearless children. It's about raising kids who trust themselves, cope with setbacks, and keep going when things wobble.

Join Anisa Lewis, Parenting Coach, for a relaxed, supportive 30-minute online talk, designed for busy parents who want tools that actually work in real family life.

Is your child holding it together all day, only to fall apart where it's safe?

Or maybe they doubt themselves, avoid challenges, or give up quickly when things feel hard?

We talk about confidence a lot... but what does it actually mean for our children?

REGISTER HERE

Monday, March 23rd, 2026


12:00 PM

The FREE Parenting Clinic with Anisa Lewis

This is a monthly FREE Parenting Clinic on different themes. The Clinics are recorded and a replay is sent out to all participants, so you do not need to attend live if you are unable.


2026

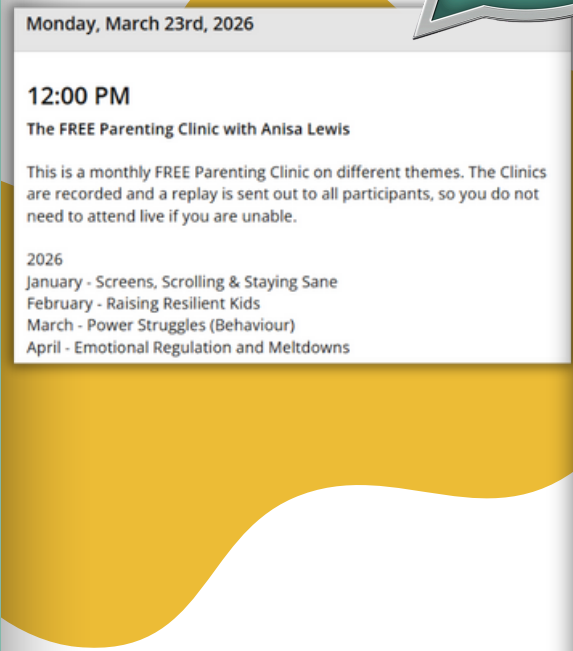
January - Screens, Scrolling & Staying Sane
February - Raising Resilient Kids
March - Power Struggles (Behaviour)
April - Emotional Regulation and Meltdowns



Anisa Lewis
Parenting Coach

Book your free place here:
<https://anisalewis.as.me/theclinic>
 or email: hello@anisalewis.com for the booking link.





FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP

Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club
TN13 2RJ

Tuesday 17th - Friday 20th February

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

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

All standards welcome & rackets can be provided if required.

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




HALF TERM ADVENTURE



STEM Club

Lego Creative Play
Build & Learn
Robotics



Football Fun by WE MAKE FOOTBALLERS.

Learn new Skills
Make friends
Individual & Team Challenges

£35 per day **Dunton Green Pavillion**
16-20 FEB Sevenoaks TN13 2UR

Registration At
gil@wemakefootballers.com +44 07771146473

Please click on the images for more information.

MEGA CAMPS

2026 CAMP DATES

FEBRUARY
16TH FEB - 20TH FEB

EASTER*
30TH MAR - 17TH APR

MAY
26TH MAY - 29TH MAY

SUMMER
21ST JUL - 28TH AUG

OCTOBER & CHRISTMAS DATES TBC
Visit: www.megacamps.net
for your locations exact dates & more details

NERF GAMES & LASER TAG



CAMP HOURS 9am-4pm
EXTENDED HOURS 8am-6pm

NEW EXCITING ACTIVITIES & STRUCTURE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN 2026

ARTS & CRAFTS



INFLATABLE FUN



MAKING MEMORIES



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR PRICE FREEZE AND EARLY BIRD OFFERS!**
WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET

*DATES VARY DEPENDING ON LOCATION
**PRICE FREEZE UNTIL JAN 31ST 2026

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

Aged between 9-15 and love to bake?
We'd love to hear from you!

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15TH MARCH 2026