

AMHERST SCHOOL

TRUST KINDNESS DETERMINATION FAIRNESS CO-OPERATION POLITENESS

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Year 6 SATs

Well done to all the children in Year 6 for working so hard this week completing their SATs tests. We were so impressed with their conscientious attitude and desire to do their best. Well done and thanks to all staff that have supported the children this week and enabled such a calm and positive atmosphere. The children deserve a good rest this weekend.

Internet Disruption

We have been experiencing **disruption this week due to our Internet connection** having become intermittent. Ironically this has been triggered by the DfE moving our school over to full fibre to enable us to have a faster connection. We are working hard to fix the problem but apologise if our communication is not as timely as it normally is.

We look forward to

I can't quite believe next week is the **final week before half term**. The last four weeks since the Easter holidays seem to have gone very quickly.

Next week we are looking forward to **Louise Austin - author of *Alex Abbott is [Un] Dead***. She will be providing an assembly followed by writing workshops for each year group throughout the day. Some of you will know Louise as a parent and a governor of Amherst School.

We have an **RE afternoon planned on Wednesday** with a focus on caring for animals:

- Year 3 - Jewish beliefs about stewardship of creation and animals. Art focus: British Wildlife
- Year 4 - Hindu belief of Ahimsa. Art focus: Sacred cows
- Year 5 - Christians beliefs about care of animals. St Francis of Assisi. Art focus: wolves
- Year 6 - Humanism. Care for animals. Art focus: dogs

I hope you have a great weekend.

Mr Reid



31st Edition
15 May
2026

REMINDERS

- 18 May - Author Visit
- 19 May - Year 5 Kent Test Meeting 6.00 - 7.00pm
- 21 May - RE Afternoon
- 22 May - PTA Cake Sale
- 22 May - Last Day of Term



REPORT ABSENCE - Please [click here](#) to 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 18 May 2026

CANCELLED CLUBS:

Tuesday - No Mindfulness

ALL other clubs should be running as normal.



LETTERS SENT

· Year 3 - **Intended Learning**

· Year 5 - Greek Workshop



WINNING HOUSE — BRADBOURNE

Congratulations to Bradbourne winning this term's house points. Children are allowed to wear red on Friday — last day of term.



TRASH TO TREASURE CLUB - Monday - Cardboard vehicles

Please bring in flat cardboard pieces, bottle caps, straws or skewers and small boxes.



SWIMMING - Year 4 & 5

Please note that the 2nd swimming instalment is due on 22/05/2026.

BREAKING NEWS

Our summer production will be...

Mary POPPINS

... and it is going to be supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!!

AMHERST WATER FUN RUN

SATURDAY 6 JUNE
11am - 12.30pm

Join us for a fun-filled family morning run full of water surprises...

Multiple wet zones (can also be avoided!)

£6 per entry (parents, siblings, all ages welcome)

Includes unlimited hotdogs and an ice pop!

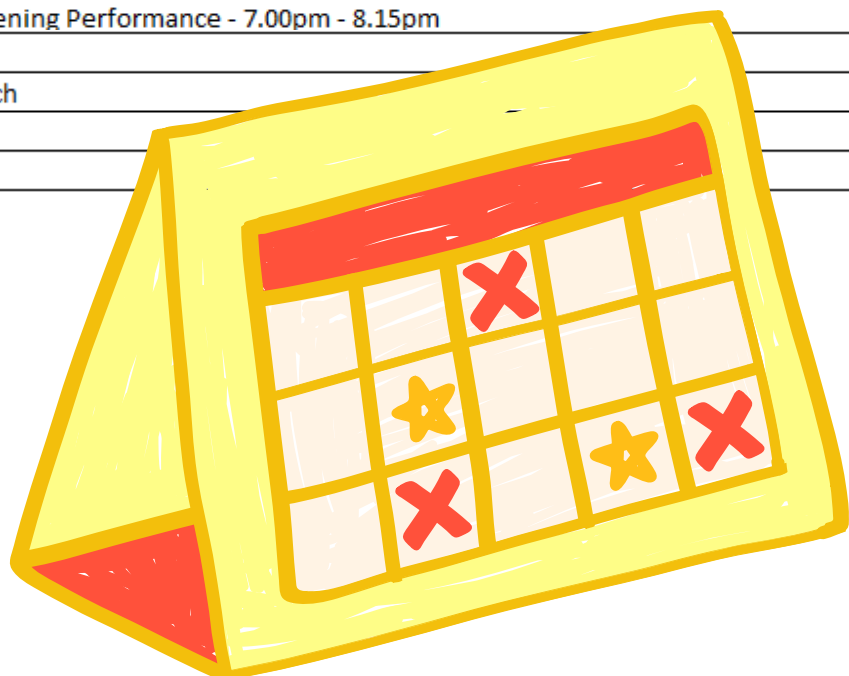
Tickets on sale on classlist - limited places available!

FUTURE DATES

CALENDAR DATES 2026

** Red dates added this week

18-May	Author Visit: Louise Austin (Alex Abbott is [Un]Dead)
19-May	Year 5 Kent Test & Hilltop Meeting - 6.00 - 7.00pm (no childcare available)
20-May	Year 6 Health Questionnaire - The Lancaster Model (TLM)
21-May	RE Day
22-May	PTA Cake Sale
22-May	LAST DAY OF TERM
HALF TERM	
01-Jun	Inset Day
02-Jun	FIRST DAY OF TERM
03-Jun	Year 5 - Greek Workshop
03-Jun	SRE Talk (Year 5 & 6 Parents - ICT suite childcare cover) - 3.30pm - 4.30pm
05-Jun	Year 4 Trip - Hampton Court Palace
05-Jun	PTA: 2nd Hand Uniform Sale
06-Jun	Team Amherst's inaugural Water Fun Run - 11.00am - 12.30pm
10-Jun	Year 6 Parents -Helping Your Child Move to Secondary School - 10:30—12:30pm
8-12-Jun	Hilltop 2026
8-12-Jun	Amherst's Got Talent
8-12-Jun	Year 5 Assessment Week - please avoid booking Secondary School Open Days
16-Jun	Parent Consultations - Year 5
17-Jun	Year 3 Trip - Lullingstone Castle
17-Jun	Parent Consultations - Year 5
20-Jun	Amherst Choir - Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival - 9.15am
26-Jun	Clubs End
30-Jun	Buddy Meeting: Year 5 & 2 - Olympics Event with Riverhead
02-Jul	Kent Transition day
03-Jul	Amherst Choir - Hillview Primary Festival of Arts - 9.30am
03-Jul	Sports Day - 1.30pm
04-Jul	PTA: Amherst Summer BBQ
06-Jul	Year 6 Parents -Helping Your Child Move to Secondary School - 17:30—19:30pm
06-Jul	Year 5 - Sex & Relationship Education Talks - please avoid booking Secondary School Open Days
06-Jul	No Parent Readers for the rest of the term
08-Jul	District Sports
09-Jul	PTA: Ice Lolly Sale
10-Jul	PTA: Leavers' Disco - 5.30pm - 7.30pm
10-Jul	Summer Production - Dress Rehearsal - 1.45pm - 3.00pm
13-Jul	Summer Production - Matinee Performance - 1.45pm - 3.00pm
14-Jul	Summer Production - Evening Performance - 7.00pm - 8.15pm
15-Jul	Summer Production - Evening Performance - 7.00pm - 8.15pm
17-Jul	PTA: Ice Lolly Sale
21-Jul	Rose Clifton Cricket Match
21-Jul	LAST DAY OF TERM
SUMMER	



Calling all parents with a few hours to spare **TEAM AMHERST**

The PTA has yet to fill all of its vacancies and cannot legally function without more volunteers.

We have had a couple of parents step forward (thank you!) and they are very happy to discuss allocating responsibilities depending on who joins the team - it is meant to be a fun and rewarding experience and you will be able to utilise your skills and do things you enjoy, not be thrust into a world of pain!

No volunteers mean = no iPads, no new desks, chairs and lockers, defunct PCs in the computer room, Internet speed from the 1990s(!) and worst of all... NO FUN... no BBQ or Christmas Bazaar, no ice cream sales or discos 😞

PLEASE, if you think you could **make even a small contribution**, get in touch with the school office and come and join our team!

Amherst PTA will be launching a Summer Auction in Term 6.



There will be a variety of fun school related **experiences** for Amherst students as well as a number of donations from local suppliers and sports clubs. We are currently collecting auction lots so if you are able to contribute a donation – gift vouchers, experiences, handmade items

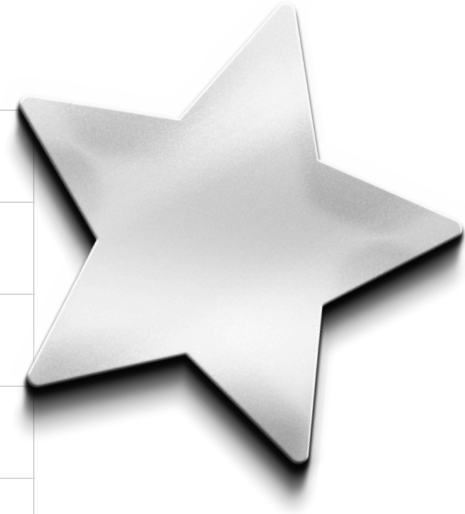
or offer up any skills or services e.g. photography, interior design, landscaping – it would be greatly appreciated. Please let us know via Amherst-events@outlook.com. All proceeds made from the silent auction will go towards enriching school activities and resources for the children, with our focus this year on supporting the school to replace desks and chairs in the classrooms that will benefit all Amherst children.

PLEASE VISIT *Classlist* FOR TICKETS / DONATIONS!

STAR OF THE WEEK

3B	Mana K
3FB	Alina R
3WH	Bella P
4C	James S
4HR	Blake T
4SL	Anthony M

5A	Samuel F-A
5CS	Ademola S
5J	Evelyn N
6A	Mattie L-G
6DT	Emily A
6N	Edie S



TRIATHLON SUCCESS

A team of four **5A boys**, Josh P, Jack P, Oliver B and Thomas P (the JJOT Invincibles) took part in the Sevenoaks Schools triathlon on Sunday. Each team member swam 50m, cycled 1000m and ran 750m and they finished a brilliant 28th out of 114 teams in their year 5/6 age category. More importantly they raised a fantastic £525, split between Amherst School and Restless Development, the event's charity sponsor. Well done boys!



Lawrie, Oliver, Sophia and Elise (**all from 4C**) also competed in the Triathlon on Sunday. They followed up a very strong swim with a fantastic bike and run to be the 1st team across the finish line on the day! They finished an amazing 7th place out of the 119 teams in their age group and ahead of many of the teams in the older age groups.



Finally, a **year 3 team** - Briony (3B), Eleanor (3FB), Evelyn (3WH) and Georgia (3WH) also took part on Sunday - it was the girls' first triathlon and they were amazing completing all three segments in a great time with lots of teamwork and excitement. The girls were second in their start group (with only the yr 4 Amherst team ahead!) and raised a fantastic £580 for Restless Development and Amherst's chosen charity.



RUGBY

Congratulations to Rowyn L (5A) who was awarded the Player of the Season award at Sevenoaks Rugby Club as he embodies exactly what it means to be part of this club. He's there every week, he tries hard, always listens and puts his hand up for every tournament. Well done Rowyn!



CHEER LEADING

Abi D (4SL) took part in Ice Blast cheerleading competition on Saturday, her team Rockets came 5th in their division. Congratulations Abi!



FREE Summer Reading with First News – just for our students!

At **Amherst School**, we know how important it is to keep children reading, thinking and engaged over the summer holidays. That's why we're excited to offer all our students free access to **First News** – the UK's award-winning newspaper for young people aged 7–14.



The content is written with KS2 and KS3 in mind, but we're confident that there's something for everyone, regardless of their age or reading level.

We subscribe to First News and know firsthand that First News helps children:

- Build strong reading habits
- Stay informed in an age-appropriate, safe environment
- Develop critical thinking and media literacy skills
- Engage in meaningful conversations at home

What's included in your free summer subscription?

Unlimited access to the First News app until Friday 4 September, which includes:

- 📰 The weekly newspaper and an archive of past issues
- 🧠 Weekly news quiz to test knowledge in a fun way
- 🔊 Daily news stories to read, listen or watch
- 🗳️ Polls and interactive content
- 🧩 Puzzles and games
- 🗨️ Discussion points for families

It's fun, educational and completely free – all summer long.

Click here to get started

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/summer-reading-2026/?fn=LLN1HDK4>



Year 5 Parents

Please note the information below with regards to registering your child for the Kent Test.

Kent Test

For children starting secondary school in September 2027

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 1 June 2026 and closes at midnight on 1 July 2026

Who is the Kent Test for?

The Kent Test is for children who wish to apply for a Kent Grammar school place for September 2027 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 2026.

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 1 June 2026	Registration opens at kent.gov.uk/kenttest . You will receive a confirmation email when registration is complete.
Wednesday 1 July 2026	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 10 September 2026	Children who attend a Kent primary school sit the test in their school.
Saturday 12 September 2026 / Sunday 13 September 2026	Children who attend primary schools outside Kent or are Educated at Home sit the test in a Test Centre.
Thursday 15 October 2026	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.



Hi, my name is Rachel and my job is to hear from all children and young people in England.

As the Children's Commissioner I've launched this survey so you can have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today. I will take your views to the Government, to help them make life better for children. Everything you tell me will be kept private. You don't have to answer any question if you don't want to. There are no right or wrong answers. Just answer honestly! To find out more, visit my [website](#).

Please click on the images for more information.



Love the Game UK

Football Coaching

MAY HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMPS



Fun, games, goals, saves, technical sessions, penalty shootouts, tournaments and more.

Ages 5-14 | Boys and girls of all abilities

Coaches are first aid and safeguarding trained, DBS checked, and some even have Premier League coaching experience.



Early drop off and late pickup available.

Sevenoaks

Wednesday 27th May - Friday 29th May

£26 per day, £60 for three days



TWGSB Sevenoaks
Seal Hollow Road
Sevenoaks
TN13 3SL

10AM - 3PM

Gravesend

Tuesday 26th May

£23 for the day



Shears Green Junior
School
White Avenue, Northfleet,
Gravesend, Kent, DA11
7JB

10% OFF

CODE - EARLY10

EXPIRES 15TH MAY

SIBLING AND
DEVELOPMENT
CENTRE PLAYER
DISCOUNT
AVAILABLE



See website for more details or email:
camps@lovethegameuk.co.uk

To book -

- Follow the QR code, taking you straight to our booking site.
- Go to our website, find 'Holiday Football Camps', and book your place there.



The UK's
Leading
Renewable
Installer



Please click on the images for more information.



Kent Quiz Trails with

WHAT'S ON?

IN KENT.COM

Helping families explore and enjoy the Garden of England - at low-cost!

COME & TRY Netball



We're looking for Y3 & Y4 players to join our friendly, competitive squad.

Visit www.otfordnetballclub.com to register your interest and we'll be in touch with a date for a taster session in June.

Training
TUESDAY EVENINGS
5 - 6.15PM

Matches
SATURDAY MORNINGS
WHEN MATCH READY

ALL AT TRINITY SCHOOL SEVENOAKS

