

AMHERST SCHOOL

TRUST KINDNESS DETERMINATION FAIRNESS CO-OPERATION POLITENESS

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

Transition Morning

It was **wonderful to welcome children from Riverhead and those joining us from other schools** for their transition morning yesterday. All children enjoyed the opportunity to spend the morning with their new teacher in preparation for next year. There is always a buzz of excitement and a little bit of nervousness during transition morning. It was lovely to see so many happy faces at the end as children moved back to their original classes.

It was good to welcome **Miss Holtshausen, Mrs Kelly and Mr Stevens** to Amherst yesterday as **new teachers to the school**. All three had a **highly successful day** and took the opportunity to **complete transition work in the afternoon getting to know their new classes**. Mr Stevens and Mrs Kelly (Year 3) visited Riverhead in the afternoon to spend time with children in their current setting and to gain a broader understanding of the children's educational journey.

No Ties

It is due to be quite **warm again**, so we have made the decision that children **do not need to wear ties next week**. Please ensure your child has a **water bottle** and **hat** each day and suncream is applied before school.

Healthy Snacks

Please could we remind you that children should be having **fruit or vegetables** as their **breaktime snack**. We have noticed an increase in children having a wide range of snacks, which also has the impact of more litter due to wrappers.

Sports Day

I am looking forward to **Sports Day this afternoon**. **Wolfe** have not won since 2014 so maybe this will be their year!

I hope you all have a good weekend and look forward to **seeing you at the Summer BBQ** tomorrow.

Mr Reid



37th Edition
3 July
2026



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 part of our mass choir.

All children are expected to participate in all performances. If your child is unable to participate, we ask parents to inform their class teacher.



ARRANGEMENTS

Dress rehearsal on Monday 13th July at 1.45 pm, this performance is open to parents who wish **to bring young children**.

- Please note that siblings of year 6 children who are at Riverhead will watch the performance during the dress rehearsal so should not attend other performances.

For evening performances:

- **Year 6** should arrive at **6.30pm**
- **Years 3-5** should arrive at **6.45pm** and go straight to their classrooms
- The **main productions** are **intended for parents only**.

COSTUMES

Whole-school Outfit / Clothes - named and in school by Wednesday 8th July

- Dark t-shirt (preferably black or grey with no logos)
- Dark shorts (school grey shorts or P.E. shorts)
- School shoes or plain black shoes
- Optional: bandana (in bright colours), flat cap
- We will apply a **small amount of face paint** at school so please inform teachers if your child cannot wear face paint.

Children should **not bring metal water bottles** to performances as these can be very noisy.

Year 6 costumes be in school no later than Monday 6th July.

TICKETS

- Seating for the performances is limited. Places are limited to **two tickets** per family (irrespective of how many children you have at Amherst).
- 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](#).
- **Book tickets** on-line via <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk/code/qdhfv> (Code qdhfv)
- Please **have your booking confirmation ready on your phone** when coming to attend the performance of your choice.



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.



AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

On Monday 6 July, Louise Austin will sign copies of her book in school. If your child already has their own copy and would like Louise to sign it, please make sure they bring it into school.



CLUBS — WEEK beginning 6th July 2026

CLUBS ENDED - 26 June 2026

Monday: Little Musketeers has a final session.



KENT TEACH

Please view our current vacancies by [clicking here](#):

**** Midday, Teaching, Catering and After School Club Assistants**



LETTERS SENT

- Year 3 - [Intended Learning](#)
- Year 6 - SRE Talks



PLEASE RETURN

Please can we ask that the following items are returned to school before we break up:

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



KNOLE ACADEMY OPEN DAY - Saturday 19th September 2026

Knole Academy's Open Day is now available for booking.

Please click on www.knoleacademy.org.



PIANO

We have an upright Daneman piano that is available for a donation. The buyer please needs to arrange collection between 22nd and 24th July. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

TEAM AMHERST

Hoodies & water bottles

Hoodies can be worn for PE lessons, so no need to buy an additional sweatshirt. And who gets to the end of the school year without needing a shiny new bottle?!

This is a once a year event, so don't delay, go on to www.schoolgateway.com to place your order today.

The order DEADLINE is Friday 17th July when we'll close our doors again until next summer. Unfortunately, **no late orders** can be placed after this time. Items will be handed out in school in the first week of September.

Thank you for your continued support.

The PTA Team



CLASS EQUIPMENT

In a change from previous years, **we will be providing all of the essential stationery for children.** This will include: pencils, pens, rubbers, rulers, pencil sharpeners, scissors, whiteboard pens, glue sticks, protractors and colouring pencils. There will be sufficient dictionaries and thesauruses in the classrooms for all children.

If your child would like to bring in some of their own stationery, this should be a small pencil case (which will fit in a **small tray** under their **new desk**) and could contain:

- **Coloured fineliners**
- **Highlighters**
- **Blue handwriting, rollerball or fountain pens (no biros)**

Once children receive their pen license in year 4 one of the following pens will help them to produce better handwriting:



STAR OF THE WEEK



3B	Alfie S
3FB	Ferdi S-R
3WH	Imogen F
4C	Theo E
4HR	Murray S
4SL	Martha H

5A	Margot S
5CS	Elijah G, William R, Sammy F
5J	Avish M
6A	Zach B
6DT	Jacob L
6N	Lila R

CROCHET

Our Amherst Crochet Club have worked incredibly hard this term to create two beautiful handmade blankets, which we are delighted to donate to the cats at a local RSPCA centre. We are so proud of the pupils' creativity, kindness and dedication, and we hope their thoughtful gifts will provide comfort to the cats while they wait for their forever homes.



FOOTBALL

Margot (5A) and her Otford United U10 team, the Comets, won their football tournament on Sunday and also picked up a shield trophy from their unbeaten season. Well done Margot!



KARATE

On 21 June, Max (3WH) competed at the Japan Karate Association (JKA) England National Championship in Crawley. He won the bronze medal for his Heian Shodan in the kata competition (kata is a choreographed sequence of defensive and offensive moves).



WIMBLEDON

On Tuesday we were very fortunate to be able to take eight children to Wimbledon. It was a wonderful experience and we got to see some great tennis on Court 1. We were hoping Wawrinka would win!



PARENTING CLINIC

SUMMER HOLIDAY SURVIVAL

6 JULY

12.00 TO 12.30PM

HOSTED ON ZOOM

Come live or catch the replay

Join Anisa Lewis, Parenting Coach, for this month's Free Parenting Clinic.

This clinic is for any parent heading into the summer holidays wondering how on earth they are going to get through it.

In this 30-minute session, Anisa will share:

- How to set up the holidays in a way that works for your family
- Why children struggle without structure and what actually helps
- How to handle bickering, boredom and big emotions without losing yourself
- Simple ways to stay connected even when everyone is on top of each other

This is not about Pinterest-perfect summers or entertaining your children every minute. It is about finding a rhythm that protects your sanity and supports your family.

Book your free place here:

<https://anisa.lewis.as.me/theclinic>

or

Email: hello@anisa.lewis.com for the booking link.



Summer Holiday Survival: Making It Through With Your Sanity Intact

No structure. No school run. No routine.

With the right support, parents can shape the summer in a way that feels calmer, more connected, and far less like survival mode.

Parents often tell me:

- I love my children, but six weeks feels like a very long time
- The fighting and the boredom wear me down completely
- I feel guilty for not enjoying it more than I do

You are not a bad parent. You are a normal one. And you do not have to simply endure the summer. There are ways to make it feel lighter for everyone.



Anisa Lewis

Parenting Coach

Please click on the images or scan the QR codes for more information.

For parents of neurodivergent kids

A STEADY SUMMER



No routine

Overwhelmed

Sensory overload

Big emotions

Exhausted

Discover simple strategies that really work for neurodivergent families.

.....
13th July - Online

.....
14th July - in person

.....
Booking and further info:
<https://corrineround.com/steady-through-summer>

NHS

Kent and Medway Mental Health NHS Trust

Parent Workshop

Helping Your Child Move to Secondary School

6/07/2026 17:30—19:30pm

*Workshop timings change from term to

Is your child moving to secondary school? Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your child with this step in their lives?

You are invited to a workshop which thinks about how to prepare and support your child with this move. We will consider challenges and concerns and discuss techniques that you can use at home to help them feel ready for the move ahead.

If you would like to join, please [ctrl + click the link below](#) or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams:

[Starting Secondary School](#) | [Meeting-Join](#) | [Microsoft Teams](#)

Our workshops are held on Microsoft Teams. You can create an account for free. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions please speak to your child's school. Currently, this workshop is only available to parents/carers of children attending an EWT/EST school. Please speak to your child's school or check our website for our list of schools. If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email: EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk

We look forward to meeting you

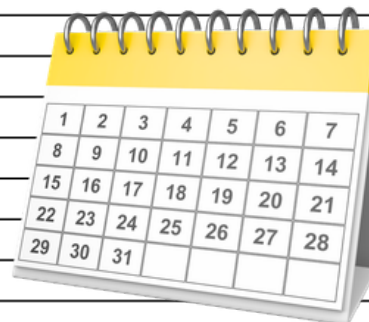


EMOTIONAL WELLBEING TEAM KENT
EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TEAM
MEDWAY

CALENDAR DATES 2026

**** Red dates added / changed this week**

04-Jul	PTA: Amherst Summer BBQ
06-Jul	Author Visit: Louise Austin (Alex Abbott is [Un]Dead) - BOOK SIGNING
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
08-Jul	District Sports
08-Jul	Year 6 - Sex and Relationship Education Talk
09-Jul	Year 6 - Sex and Relationship Education Talk
09-Jul	PTA: Ice Lolly Sale
10-Jul	PTA: Leavers' Disco - 6.00pm - 8.00pm
13-Jul	Summer Production - Dress Rehearsal - 1.45pm - 3.00pm
14-Jul	Summer Production - Matinee Performance - 1.45pm - 3.00pm
15-Jul	Summer Production - Evening Performance - 7.00pm - 8.15pm
16-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	



Summer Workshop

Sevenoaks School of Dance

Book our Summer 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 Summer!

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

27th, 29th & 30th July - £30 per Day
10am - 3pm
Boys & Girls
Aged 4 - 11 Years
Riverhead Village Hall,
Amherst Hill,
Sevenoaks
TN13 2EL

England Lacrosse Insured
Full Enhanced DBS
School Safeguarding Compliant

Summer Lacrosse Camp

When?
13th, 14th and 15th July
Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday
10 am - 3 pm

Where?
Walthamstow Hall Playing Fields

Cost?
£60 per day (incl. VAT)

Coaches?
Mike Barrett - ex England and Denmark international player
Ben Page-Laycock - current GB & England international player

Book your spot here!

Tuck shop available! Bring packed lunches & **any meds.**

Family Fun Days 2026

FREE

Family Fun Days are back!

Our ever popular and FREE Family Fun Days return for four weeks of action-packed activities over the school summer holidays.

As ever, they will include crafts, games, sports, face-painting and more in a friendly and safe environment. Kent Police will be on hand to offer free bike marking at some locations too.

There's no need to book, simply turn up and have fun. However, children must be supervised by a parent or guardian at all times. Activities are provided for children under the age of 12, but they may not be suitable for very young children.

Please bring waterproof clothing and sunscreen. Refreshments and toilets are available at locations where indicated.

We recommend you check our website or our social media accounts before setting off as the schedule may change if there's wet weather.

For more information, visit www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/familyfunday.

The days are funded and organised by us, run by Play Place and supported by town and parish councils.

Family Fun Day dates & locations

Monday 27 July Chevening Chipstead Recreation Ground, Chevening Road, Chipstead TN13 2SA	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Tuesday 28 July Hextable Hextable Heritage Centre, College Road, BR8 7LT	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Wednesday 29 July Farningham Market Meadow, High Street, Farningham DA4 0DH	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲

Thursday 30 July Dunton Green Dunton Green Recreation Ground, TN13 2UR	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Friday 31 July Crockenhill Crockenhill Village Hall, Stones Cross Road, Crockenhill BR8 8LT	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Monday 3 August West Kingsdown West Kingsdown, Gamecock Meadow, London Mill Lane, TN14 5BX	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Tuesday 4 August Sevenoaks Greatness Recreation Ground, Mill Lane, TN14 5BX	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Wednesday 5 August Swanley Swanley Park, New Barn Road, BR8 7PW	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Thursday 6 August Edenbridge Stangrove Park, TH8 5LU	2pm to 5pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Friday 7 August Chiddingstone Chiddingstone Causeway Sports Field, Tonbridge Road, TN11 8JS	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Monday 10 August Seal Seal Recreation Ground, High Street, TN15 0AF	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Tuesday 11 August Hartley Woodland Avenue Recreation Ground, Woodland Avenue, DA3 7DB	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Wednesday 12 August Knockholt Knockholt Recreation Ground, Main Road, Knockholt TN14 7LG	1.30pm to 4pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Thursday 13 August Westerham King Georges Playing Field, Costello's Meadow, Westerham TN16 1BN	10am to 1pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Friday 14 August Halstead The Pavilion & Recreation Ground, Station Road, Halstead, Sevenoaks TN14 7DH	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Monday 17 August Sundridge Sundridge Recreation Ground, Main Road, Sundridge TN14 6EJ	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Tuesday 18 August New Ash Green The Minnis, DA3 8HH	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Wednesday 19 August Shoreham Shoreham Recreation Ground, High Street, Shoreham, Sevenoaks TN14 7TB	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Thursday 20 August Horton Kirby & South Darenth Heathside Recreation Ground, Horton Road, South Darenth DA4 9AZ	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲
Friday 21 August Leigh The Green, TN11 8QP	10.30am to 1.30pm	WC ☕ 🚲

Key:
Toilets available
Refreshments available (charges may apply)
Free Kent Police bike marking sessions

Year 6 - Travel options - September 2026

Lullingstone Castle

4th & 5th July
11am- 5pm

English Civil War Society Weekend

Adults £17 - under 16's FREE

www.lullingstonecastle.co.uk

KCC Travel Savers Code of Conduct 2025/26

KCC Travel Saver, KCC 16+ Travel Saver and Free Home to School Travel Passes.



- £ -
spread
the cost

For more information visit:

kent.gov.uk/travelsaver
kent.gov.uk/16plustravelsaver



Save money on student bus travel

If you're a student getting the bus to school, college or university make big savings on your travel and spread the cost of the ticket over affordable monthly payments when you pay by direct debit.

- Reduced price bus travel for the academic year
- Unlimited bus travel in your chosen Arriva Zone, 7 days a week
- Convenient monthly direct debit
- No minimum contract - cancel anytime



Scan QR code or visit our website to get started.
arriva.co.uk/monthlytickets



SummerCraft

The summertime craft competition for schools and families



Competition time!

SummerCraft is our brand new competition celebrating all things summertime! Create something summer related using any medium you like and share it with us to have your work added to our gallery and a chance to win a prize!

Logo created by Sara, a pupil from Caterham School. Thanks Sara!



Over £500 worth of prizes to be won

- £50 Farshore and Electric Monkey book bundles
- A monthly £50 GoGift Global Gift Card prize
- A pair of sustainably made, Dubs kid's Glide trainers
- A copy of the board game Race to Infinity!
- A Bigjigs stacking rainbow
- A Bigjigs dressing table

How to enter

1. Create a summer-themed craft entry in any medium: paper, fabric, clay, paint, collage... the more imaginative the better!
2. Snap a photo or video of your creation.
3. Upload your entry via the competition page on our website playootiboo.com/projects/summercraft



Free and inclusive

- Free to enter as many times as you like
- Open to everyone, everywhere; no matter your age or ability
- Closes at midnight on Monday 31 August



ootiboo.com



@ootiboo

Please click on the images or scan the QR codes for more information.

MINI MARATHON

Rose Hill School
Tunbridge Wells
Sat 1st August 10-12

with runs for:
0-2yrs 2-4yrs 5-12yrs

Enter > Get sponsored > Run!

babyumbrella.org.uk/mini-marathon

£5/£10 entry

In partnership with:

Sponsored by:

Charity number 1190745

Please click on the images or scan the QR codes for more information.

SUMMER CAMPS
Chipstead Place Lawn Tennis Club

Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th July
Tuesday 28th - Friday 31st July
Tuesday 4th - Friday 7th August
Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th August
Tuesday 17th - Friday 21st August

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

All standards welcome & rackets can be provided if required!

£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 5th of July

Contact adam@artennis.co.uk

RIVERHEAD PARISH COUNCIL WE ARE HIRING ASSISTANT PARISH CLERK PART-TIME (20 HOURS/WEEK) • LOCAL OFFICE

Looking for a rewarding, flexible local role that fits around family or school hours?

The Role:

Assisting with Village Hall bookings and allotment administration.

Handling daily enquiries and correspondence.

Providing friendly, local office cover.

What we're looking for: Strong IT literacy, great organisational skills, and a community-minded attitude. Local government experience is not required.

Interested? Call 074 3866 6454 or email clerk@riverheadparishcouncil.gov.uk

Full job advertisement and application process on request.

EXTENDED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

From September 2026, households in receipt of Universal Credit will receive "extended" free school meals.

An application for free school meals is required. Please apply via <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals>

We encourage you to submit an application before the end of term in readiness for September. Please speak to the office if you need any assistance with your application.

"Targeted" free school meals will remain available to households with income of £7,400 or less.

Transitional protections will end, and free school meal applications will be reviewed annually.

Department for Education

SEPTEMBER 2026 CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS



Attention parents of years 2 - 8 of 2026/7.

Registration is now open for AJFC.

Matches are played on Saturdays from Autumn 26 to Spring 27. This upcoming season we are introducing a new years 7 and 8 league for Veterans of AJFC juniors and seniors or other kids in the Sevenoaks area who want to play football in a friendly and inclusive team.

AMHERST JUNIOR FC 2026-27 SEASON

Who are we?

Parent / Volunteer led club, supported by Amherst School

What do we do?

Fun football for all children

When?

Saturday mornings in term time
September - Easter

What's the format?

Internal league, cups and friendlies, with a little bit of training mixed in.

Why AJFC?

At AJFC the focus is on inclusivity and fun! We are open to all, and every child will be given the chance to play and develop their skills and confidence every week, with lots of encouragement throughout.

- ✓ Junior League (Years 2 - 4)
- ✓ Senior League (Years 5 & 6)
- ✓ **New League for Years 7 & 8!**
- ✓ Mixed ability girls and boys
- ✓ Cost is £65 for the season
- ✓ No mid-week training
- ✓ No away games
- ✓ All children play every week

Register now at www.amherstfc.co.uk

Email any questions to amherstfc@gmail.com

