

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 3 at Amherst School.

This letter is designed to provide you with some helpful information and to outline equipment needed for Year 3. At the beginning of each term, you will receive a newsletter detailing upcoming events and an outline of what the children will be learning in the term ahead. In September, your child will be given a planner which acts as a useful tool in home-school communication. Details of your child's homework will be provided in their planners and the intended learning for the following week, as well as it serving as a Reading Record. Termly newsletters, intended learning and details about homework will also be available on the school website.

In order to aid your child's independence at Amherst, it would be very helpful for you to spend time practising the following skills during the summer holidays: buttoning their shirts, as well as tying their own shoelaces and ties. This helps the children enormously during PE and maximises teaching time.

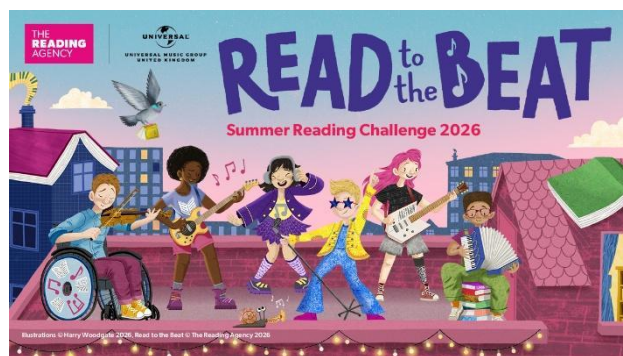
There will be a 'Meet the Teacher' event on Tuesday 15th September at 4.00pm, during which we will share key information and you will have the opportunity to see your child's classroom and chat to their teacher. If you have any questions or queries which you would like to raise with your child's class teacher, please do not hesitate to contact the school office so that we can arrange an appointment.

Holiday Homework

We strongly encourage all children to continue reading regularly during the summer holidays, enjoying books both independently and together as a family. For our homework we are inviting children to get involved in this year's Summer Reading Challenge, a national initiative which aims to encourage children to keep up a reading habit during the break from school. The 2026 Summer Reading Challenge is Read to the Beat, delivered by The Reading Agency in partnership with public libraries and powered by Universal Music Group UK. The theme inspires children to explore the connection between stories and songs, discovering how reading and music both ignite imagination and creativity.

This year's Challenge is brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate, and will launch on 20 June in Scotland and 4 July in England and Wales.

Children can take part for free, either at the library OR online. Children can sign up on the website <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> or at a local library. We look forward to hearing how the children get on with this challenge.



Class Based Equipment

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED

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 tray under their desk) and could contain:

- Coloured fineliners
- Highlighters
- Coloured felt tip pens/pencils

Uniform Change

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED

Shoes: In addition to school shoes, children will be allowed to wear a smart plain black trainer from next year. Please ensure that **the sole of the trainer is black** as well.



PE Kit

PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY NAMED

On the days when children have PE, they should wear the following to school:

- Amherst or plain navy t-shirt
- Navy shorts, skort or jogging bottoms
- White socks
- Trainers
- Amherst/plain navy sweatshirt or Team Amherst hoodie (please order hoodies on www.schoolgateway.com by the 17th July 2026; orders are only taken once a year)

If required for the lesson, children should bring the following with them or keep at school:

- Football/rugby (when advised): football boots, shin pads, knee-high sports socks
- Hockey: shin pads, gum shields

We will let you know which days and sports Year 3 will be doing in September. Please come to school in school uniform on the first day.

Other Items

Children should not bring any fidget or other toys from home. If teachers believe that fidget toys will benefit a child's learning, they will be provided by school so we can ensure the quality and quantity being used. Children can bring in an air ball or foam ball for breaktimes but should not be bringing in any other toys.

Year 3 – First day arrangements for Wednesday 3rd September only

On **Thursday 3rd September**, we will be providing a staggered start and earlier collection for our new Year 3 classes (for the first day only) to help establish routines. Years 4, 5 and 6 will arrive and be collected at the normal times.

Arrival

- 9.00am Ash Class to arrive and be welcomed by their Year 6 Buddies
- 9.10am Elm Class to arrive and be welcomed by their Year 6 Buddies
- 9.20am Oak Class to arrive and be welcomed by their Year 6 Buddies

Parents for all classes to say goodbye to their children at the children's entrance (wooden gate).

Collection

- At 3.20pm Year 3 will be dismissed 10 minutes earlier than the rest of the school on Thursday 3rd September and Friday 4th September.

From Thursday 4th September, Year 3 will arrive with the rest of the school between 8.30am and 8.45am.

We hope you all have a lovely relaxing holiday and we look forward to seeing you and the children in September.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Foinette, Mrs Barratt, Mr Stevens and Mrs Kelly