

AMHERST SCHOOL

TRUST KINDNESS DETERMINATION FAIRNESS CO-OPERATION POLITENESS

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

It has been a **great full first week with the children working hard** to do their **best**. It has been wonderful to see Year 3 grow in **confidence** as the week has progressed. Many children who were tentatively coming through the gate on the first few days are now **confidently striding** through with a smile.

Well done to all Year 6 children who completed the Kent Test yesterday. I'm sure they are relieved it is now done! I always remind the children that the Kent Test only tests a very small part of who you are. It is an important test but it does not define you. Hopefully they can move on now and enjoy the new term.

At Amherst we have six school values that underpin all we do. Each value is linked to a school term.

This term's value is Trust:

We will act responsibly and honestly to earn the trust of each other at Amherst School.

After four years at Amherst we **hope that all six values are firmly instilled** in every child to help them make good decisions and choices.

I hope you all have a good weekend and enjoy some autumnal sunshine.

**We will act
responsibly and
honestly to earn
the trust of each
other**



2nd Edition

11 Sep
2026

Mr Reid

STAR OF THE WEEK



ASH	Tom C	BEECH	Elliott H
ELM	Noah G	WILLOW	Eddie W
OAK	Sophie R	ROWAN	Jacob G
BIRCH	Oscar H-M	CHESTNUT	Stevie A-C
CEDAR	Samuel C	HAWTHORN	Ruby W
MAPLE	Niamh R	SYCAMORE	Penelope N

TENNIS

Over the summer, Emma S competed in the Kent County Tennis Championships, reaching the semi-final of the Girls' 10U event and the consolation final of the Girls' 11U event. She has also recently been selected for the Kent Tennis Junior County Training Programme for the 2026–27 season and will be training with the Kent 12U county group. Congratulations Emma!



AUTUMN YEAR GROUP LETTERS

Please click on the links below for information on curriculum, trips, homework and more!

[Year 3 Letter](#)

[Year 4 Letter](#)

[Year 5 Letter](#)

[Year 6 Letter](#)



Team Amherst



A very big welcome back to school from your new PTA Lead Team.

A quick introduction to your new lead team: Laura Crawforth and Beccy Keane (Co-Chairs), Sarah Harrison (Vice Chair), Kathryn Auer (Secretary) together with Kevin Flynn, our treasurer, who has fortunately stayed on to show us the ropes.

We kick the year off with a BIG THANK YOU for the chocolate donations this week, the start of the school year can feel hectic, so we're grateful for your support. The Riverhead Carnival is a great event and we hope to see many of you there on Sunday. Remember to bring some cash as the chocolate tombola is **CASH ONLY!!**

There is lots to look forward to on the PTA calendar this year.

- We're already thinking about the **Christmas Bazaar** and the **Joint Amherst & Riverhead Spring Ball**, which will take place in March. If anyone loves organising a party and would like to lead or support the Ball sub-committee then let us know, it's always a fun night.
- Our first nearly new sale will be on **Friday 18th September**. Our **branded stock is low**, so please do drop any donations into reception before then.
- Our purpose is to organise fun events that families love in order to raise much needed funds for the school. With that in mind, we'd like to mention **matched funding**. It's the easiest way for us to significantly increase the money raised at events like the Bazaar and the Ball. Beccy is a matched funder, and has found that it's an easy, quick and rewarding thing to do. Please contact us if you want to know more - amherst-chair@outlook.com.

Please do come and say hi if you see us on the school run or on the tombola stall on Sunday.

Beccy, Laura & the rest of the team

2026/27 PTA Lead Team



Laura Crawforth, Co-Chair
amherst-chair@outlook.com



Beccy Keane, Co-Chair
amherst-chair@outlook.com



Sarah Harrison, Vice-Chair
amherst-events@outlook.com



Kevin Flynn, Treasurer
amherst-treasurer@outlook.com



Kathryn Auer, Secretary
amherst-secretary@outlook.com

- Have ideas?
- Want to get involved?
- Join the PTA!



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.



DONATION REQUEST

- Any old pots or pans for our mud kitchen
- Any shorter scaffolding planks we can use at forest school
- Toys that can be used in a play kitchen (wooden food, mini utensils, etc)
- Any unwanted Sylvanian Family type toys



OPEN SPACES for SEPTEMBER

BREAKFAST CLUB:

We have openings on Monday to Friday

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB:

We have openings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.



SECONDARY SCHOOL VISITS

Parents, please be reminded of the comprehensive document with **ALL OPEN DAYS** for this term. Please [click here](#).

*** Please remember to complete an absence form for each Open Day your child attends. Thank you.



SCHOOL LUNCH MONEY

Please be reminded to top up your child's lunch money account via www.schoolgateway.com.



PTA Term 1 Events Calendar

Sun 13th September

**Riverhead Carnival
(chocolate tombola)**

Fri 18th September

Nearly New Sale

Fri 9th October

Cake Sale

Fri 9th October

PTA AGM



RIVERHEAD CARNIVAL

SUNDAY 13TH SEPT

Amherst PTA & Riverhead PTA will be holding a chocolate tombola stall to raise money for Amherst School & Riverhead Infants School.

Any donations of chocolates or sweets, big or small, will be greatly appreciated – BUT NO NUTS PLS!

Collection boxes will be outside the school offices. Please let your class reps know if you can help on the stall.

Thank you for your support!





AMHERST SCHOOL**CALENDAR DATES 2026 - 2027**

15-Sep	Table Tennis Trials - Donnington Hall - 4.00 - 6.00pm
15-Sep	Meet the Teacher Year 3 - 4.00pm (There will be a movie in the ICT suite for children)
15-Sep	Meet the Teacher Year 4 - 4.45pm (There will be a movie in the ICT suite for children)
16-Sep	Meet the Teacher Year 5 - 4.00pm (There will be a movie in the ICT suite for children)
16-Sep	Meet the Teacher Year 6 - 4.45pm (There will be a movie in the ICT suite for children)
21-Sep	Clubs start
22-Sep	Table Tennis Trials - Donnington Hall - 4.00 - 6.00pm
22-Sep	Year 6 - National Child Measurement Programme
22-Sep	Year 6 - Secondary Application Meeting (no childcare)
02-Oct	Year 3 & 4 - Parent Maths (Calculations) Meeting (9.05am in hall)
05-Oct	Year 5 - Anglo Saxon Workshop - hall booked 9.10 - 10.35am
06-Oct	School Photos
08-Oct	Harvest Festival
09-Oct	PTA AGM Meeting 1.30pm @ The Bullfinch Pub
19-Oct	Year 3 - Rocks Day Workshop
20-Oct	Year 3 - Rocks Day Workshop
21-Oct	Year 3 - Rocks Day Workshop
21-Oct	Year 5 - Science Dome Workshop
22-Oct	LAST DAY OF TERM
23-Oct	Inset day
HALF TERM	
02-Nov	Inset day
03-Nov	TERM STARTS
10-Nov	Flu Immunisations - whole school
11-Nov	Remembrance assembly - 1 minute silence
13-Nov	Open Afternoon - 2.45 - 3.30pm
14-Nov	World Diabetes Day
16 - 18 Nov	Book Fair
19-Nov	Year 3 - Parent Times Tables Meeting (9.05am in hall)
19-Nov	Book Fair Collection
19-Nov	Times Tables Parent Workshop in the Hall - 9.05 - 10.05am
24-Nov	Parent Consultations - 3.40 - 8.00pm (Whole school / not Oak Class)
25-Nov	Parent Consultations - (Oak Class)
26-Nov	Parent Consultations - 3.40 - 6.30pm (Whole School)
27-Nov	Clubs End
02-Dec	Whole School Pantomime
04-Dec	Year 4 - Christmas Production - Dress Rehearsal - 9.30 - 10.30am
05-Dec	PTA Bazaar - 12.00 - 3.00pm
07-Dec	Year 4 - Christmas Production - Matinee Performance - 2.00 - 3.00pm
08-Dec	Year 4 - Christmas Production - Evening Performance - 6.00 - 7.00pm
14-Dec	Whole School - Carol Service - 6.00pm
15-Dec	PTA: Elfridges Pop-up Shop at school - 1.30 - 3.00pm
16-Dec	Christmas Lunch - 12.00pm
18-Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM



Your child should have brought home a paper copy of the Autumn & Spring Clubs list yesterday.

Here are a few notes to guide you when you look at the list. You will see from the list that we are in the fortunate position of being able to offer a wide range of clubs. Please discuss with your child which clubs they would like to join.

- To sign up, please complete the online form by **SUNDAY 13 September 2026**
- Clubs start week commencing 21 September 2026 and end 27 November 2026, with the exception of a few.

CONFIRMATION OF PLACES

There will be a limited number of children per club.

Once we finalise the club lists, we will confirm your child's place via an email from the office towards the end of next week. If you do not receive email confirmation this means the club is full and your child's name will automatically be added to a waiting list.

PARENT HELP NEEDED

For the clubs below to run, we welcome offers of parental help. Please indicate your availability on the booking form:

- Chess (Monday)
- Cross Country (Tuesday)
- Girls Football (Thursday)
- Hockey Drivers (Thursday)

COMPLETE THE CLUBS FORM ONLINE

Please [click here](#) to tell us which clubs your child would like to attend.

CANCELLING CLUBS

There may be occasions when a club has to be cancelled at short notice but generally, we will give as much notice as possible of cancellation. Similarly, should your child not be able to attend on a particular day, your child should please notify the teacher in charge of the club.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS @ AMHERST SCHOOL

CLUBS EXPLAINED

AUTUMN AND SPRING CLUBS LIST (winter & indoor clubs)		SUMMER CLUBS LIST (summer & outside clubs)
- New Sign up - Clubs list sent to parent by mid-September - Parents sign children up via the Clubs booking form - Club allocations are communicated for:		- New Sign up - Clubs list sent to parents before Easter - Parents sign children up via the Clubs booking form - Club allocations are communicated for:
AUTUMN (Term 1 and 2) Starts 4th week of term to end November	SPRING (Term 3 and 4) Starts 2 nd week of term to mid March	SUMMER (Term 5 and 6) Starts 2 nd week of term to end of June
CHESS CLUB EXAMPLE: 80 children chose Chess as 1 st choice club in September 30 children were allocated a place in Autumn (T 1&2) 30 children were allocated a place in Spring (T 3&4) - The rest will go on the waiting list for when a space opens up		ATHLETICS CLUB EXAMPLE: 60 children chose Athletics as 1 st choice club in March 30 children were allocated a place in 5th Half term 30 children were allocated a place in 6th Half term - The rest will go on the waiting list for when a space opens up
END OF DECEMBER - Reminders for Autumn club attendance coming to an end are sent out - Reminders for Spring term attendance from January are sent out - MINI SIGN UP - For clubs with changes or with open spaces - Those clubs already allocated in September will be blacked out on the updated clubs list.		
 The booking form will show only the open and available spaces		



SIGN UP NOW

Signatureistare

TABLE TENNIS SQUAD

Children are able to sign up to take part in trials for the Amherst Table Tennis Squad run by Darenth Table Tennis Club. The club will meet on Tuesday afternoon from 4.00pm – 6.00pm at Donnington Hall in Dunton Green (post code TN13 2UN). Mr and Mrs Field, who are both qualified table tennis coaches, will be coaching each session. The club is for the more proficient players and it can lead to local and county competitions.

Trials for this term's squad will be held on 15 and 22 September 2026, from 4.00 – 6.00pm at Donnington Hall. Parents will have to arrange transport for their children to and from the hall. The coaches will appreciate parent volunteers to help with setting up the tables before the trials start.

- Children only have to attend one of the afternoon trials.
- Please can children change into their PE kit and trainers for this club.
- Children **should sign up for ONE of the trials** at the **reception desk** in school.
- There is no charge for the trials.

After selection, taking part in the squad involves the following:

- The cost of the club is £34.50 payable directly to Darenth TTC.
- Parents will have to arrange transport for their children to and from the club.
- The coaches will require parent volunteers to help with setting up the tables before the club starts.

We look forward to seeing your child at the trials.

Children are allowed to come to school in their PE KIT on days that they have Indoor or Outdoor sessions.

Term 1 – PE Timetable 2026/27

Indoor PE sessions

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12	Yr 5 Willow Gymnastics	Yr 6 Chestnut Dance		Yr 3 Elm Yoga	
1.35 – 2.30	Yr 5 Beech Gymnastics	Yr 6 Hawthorn Dance		Yr 3 Oak Yoga	Yr 4 Cedar Dance
2.30 – 3.25	Yr 5 Rowan Gymnastics	Yr 6 Sycamore Dance	Yr 4 Maple Dance	Yr 3 Ash Yoga	Yr 4 Birch Dance

Outdoor PE sessions

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.10 – 10.10					
11 – 12			Yr 3 Oak Handball (coach)		
1.30 – 2.30		Yr 4 Birch Hockey	Yr 3 Elm Handball (coach)	Yr 5 Beech Hockey	Yr 6 Hawthorn Football
2.30 – 3.30		Yr 4 Maple Hockey	Yr 3 Ash Handball (coach)	Yr 5 Rowan Hockey	Yr 6 Sycamore Tag Rugby
2.00 – 3.00 (Extra class)		Yr 4 Cedar Football		Yr 5 Willow Tag Rugby	Yr 6 Chestnut Hockey



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

**AJFC 2026/27 SEASON
YEARS 2-8
PLAYERS WANTED**




Registration for the 2026/27 season is live and we are looking for players across all age groups from years 2-8 to participate.

Junior League (Years 2-4)
Senior League (Years 5 & 6)
Youth League (Years 7 & 8)

Amherst Junior FC is a welcoming club for boys and girls of all abilities to come and enjoy playing team football each week, locally with friends.

So why not come along and give it a go?
Cost for the whole season is only £65 per child.

Please use the following link to register or find out more
<https://www.amherstfc.co.uk/registrations.html>

We are also looking for parent coaches to help run the sessions, no experience needed. We look forward to seeing you all for the start of the new season this September.

live WITH ANISA

FREE ONLINE LIVE
15 SEPTEMBER
11.00PM
30 MINUTES
REPLAY AVAILABLE

EVERYTHING TURNS INTO A BATTLE
Understanding the behaviour beneath the behaviour.

Getting dressed. Leaving the house. Teeth. Screens. Homework. Bedtime. Sometimes the simplest request seems to turn into a negotiation, an argument or complete refusal.

Join Parenting Coach Anisa Lewis for this free 30-minute Live to understand what might be sitting underneath the behaviour and learn practical ways to reduce some of those everyday battles.

BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE:
anislewis@me.com or hello@anisaonline.com
and I'll send you the link.
Can't join me live? Book your place and I'll send you the replay.

ANISA LEWIS
POSITIVE PARENTING

**ALL YEAR 6 PUPILS!
KIMS HOSPITAL 2026
CHRISTMAS CARD
COMPETITION!**

**THEME:
SANTA'S WORKSHOP**

★ **DESIGN THE OFFICIAL
KIMS HOSPITAL
CHRISTMAS CARD
FOR 2026!**

WINNING SCHOOL
£1000
IN BOOK VOUCHERS!

2ND RUNNER UP
£500
IN BOOK VOUCHERS!

3RD RUNNER UP
£500
IN BOOK VOUCHERS!

THE WINNING DESIGN
WILL BECOME THE OFFICIAL
KIMS HOSPITAL
CHRISTMAS CARD FOR 2026!

THE WINNING ARTIST
WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL PRIZE
AND RECOGNITION FOR
THEIR ACHIEVEMENT!

QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH!
julia.breed@kims.org.uk

★ LET YOUR CREATIVITY BRING SANTA'S WORKSHOP TO LIFE!
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR AMAZING DESIGNS! ★

SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL

**WE'RE SEEKING
COMMUNITY DONATIONS
TO HELP US PURCHASE THE
FREEHOLD OF THE STAG
AND SECURE THE FUTURE
OF THIS IMPORTANT
COMMUNITY ASSET.**

WILL YOU PLEDGE TODAY?

Sevenoaks Town Council is proposing to acquire the freehold of the Stag Theatre and Cinema, as a prudent means of securing this important community asset for current and future generations. The Town Council is seeking to raise £100,000 in community donations towards the cost, and is calling on residents, businesses and Stag supporters to contribute to help safeguard the venue's future.

The Stag is a valued community venue that supports the cultural life and local economy of Sevenoaks, as well as providing a home for the youth café. Freehold ownership would offer permanent security, remove exposure to future landlord decisions and provide the confidence needed to attract major, long-term investment to upgrade the venue and for the wider town.

Sevenoaks District Council is choosing to charge £650,000 for the freehold of the Stag. In order to purchase the freehold, the Town Council is proposing to cover the £650,000 price by combining a Public Works Loan, some of the Town Council's capital reserves, alongside community donations.

Sevenoaks Town Council is asking anyone interested in pledging a community donation to support the freehold purchase of the Stag to complete a pledge form by **1 October 2026**.

If you wish to pledge a community donation, please complete the pledge form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/stagfreeholdpledge, scan the QR code or pick up a copy at Sevenoaks Town Council office on Bradbourne Vale Road.

Find out more at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk/stag-theatre-cinema

01732 459953 www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk



**3RD SEVENOAKS SCOUTS PRESENT
RIVERHEAD
CARNIVAL**

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

12:00 - 4:30 PM | CHIPSTEAD COMMON, WITCHES LANE

BBQ - BAR -
4 LOCAL BANDS SUPPORTED
BY WE TEACH MUSIC -
LUXURY HAMPER RAFFLE -
NEXT GEN 'BEAT THE GOALIE' -
INFLATABLES -
CRAFT ACTIVITIES - ICE CREAM
FACE PAINTING
& MORE FAMILY FUN!

FREE ENTRY



A Sevenoaks Visual Arts Forum Exhibition

Knole Tree Gallery
Nature's Own Sculpture Trail

Renewal | Cycle | Imagination



Jackie Gwyther
2-19 September 2026

Mon 10-4 | Tue-Fri 10-6 | Sat 10-4

Sevenoaks kaleidoscope gallery
A Sevenoaks Visual Arts Forum artist led space
Bradbourne Lane, Sevenoaks, TN11 9JD




1st Chevening Girl Guides are recruiting!

We are looking for new volunteers to help run 1st Chevening Girl Guides. The unit has enjoyed being a part of Chevening community for many years, and provides a fun space for young girls to meet and play games, try their hand at different crafts and challenges, and take part in outings and adventures! We are looking for new leaders to step forward and help so that we can keep offering all these opportunities to our girls. If interested, please contact Katie Whitehead at 1stcheveningguides@gmail.com for more information or to have a chat about becoming a leader. It would be wonderful to keep this tradition and opportunity alive for our local community. The Guides meet at Chevening Parish Hall on a Friday evening from 6.30-7.45pm.



**RIVERHEAD PRESCHOOL
NOW OPEN!**

Where little beginnings lead to big futures.
Located at Holmesdale Cricket Club, Riverhead Preschool provides a warm, nurturing and inspiring environment where children are encouraged to learn, explore, grow in confidence and discover the joy of learning.

We are now welcoming new children and families.

**Welcome to
Riverhead
Preschool**
www.riverheadpreschool.co.uk



www.riverheadpreschool.co.uk