

AMHERST SCHOOL

TRUST KINDNESS DETERMINATION FAIRNESS CO-OPERATION POLITENESS

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

This week in assembly **we explored the theme of trust** within mountaineering. I have a love of the mountains which I enjoy sharing with the children.

This week I focussed on the amazing survival experience of Joe Simpson. Joe was climbing in the Peruvian Andes with his friend Simon Yates. It is a famous story of the climbing partners finding themselves in an **impossible situation** where Simon ended up controversially having to **cut their rope to free themselves**. At the point of cutting the rope Simon was lowering Joe (who had broken his leg) down the mountain but they got stuck in a storm not able to move up or down and both faced **certain death**.

We discussed how it must have felt for Simon to cut the rope knowing his friend would fall. We explored how Joe must have felt knowing the rope had been cut. Simon searched for Joe but couldn't find him as he had fallen into a crevasse. Joe survived the fall but then had to crawl five miles back to their tent where luckily Simon was still waiting.

It is an **amazing tale of survival and endurance** which we all found inspiring. The story has been captured by Joe Simpson in his book *Touching the Void*, it has subsequently been made into a film too which the children could watch when they are over 15.

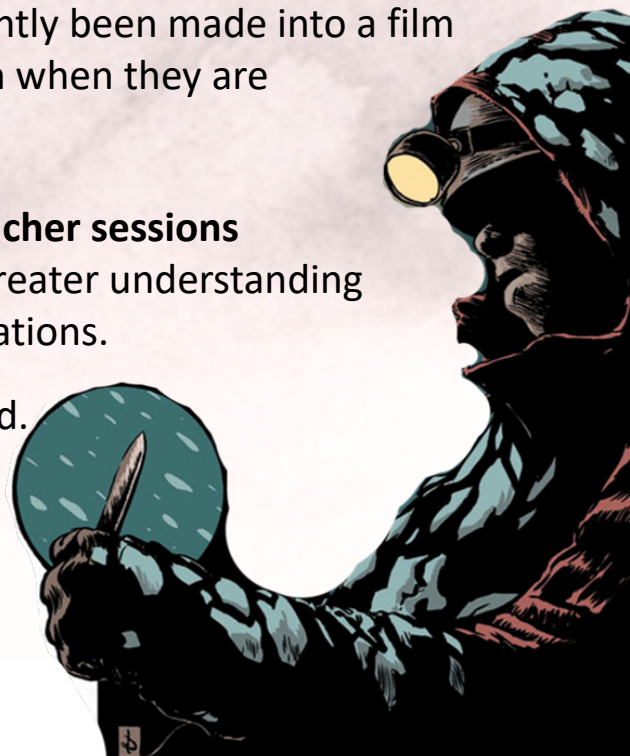
I hope you found the **Meet the Teacher sessions** **useful** this week and now have a greater understanding of your child's routines and expectations.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Mr Reid



4th Edition
25 Sep
2026





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 START!

Week beginning - 28 September 2026:

· **ALL CLUBS** should be running as **normal**.



SCHOOL PHOTOS

We have the school photographers in on **6th October 2026**.

Please can all children come dressed in **winter uniform**. Many thanks.



YEAR 6 —YOUNG VOICES - **LAST DAY for orders 25/09!**

Please remember to complete your booking form and payment for the coach, t-shirt packs and tickets on

www.schoolgateway.com and via the [order form](#) here.



YEAR 6 - SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATION MEETING NOTES

Please [click here](#) to view the slides of the secondary school transition meeting held on 23 September 2026.



PTA - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM is on **9th October at 1.30pm** in the **Bullfinch Pub** and it would be brilliant to see lots of you there! Please can each class send at least one class rep to this meeting.

'Many hands make light work', and we will be starting to discuss our Christmas bazaar - which definitely takes many hands!

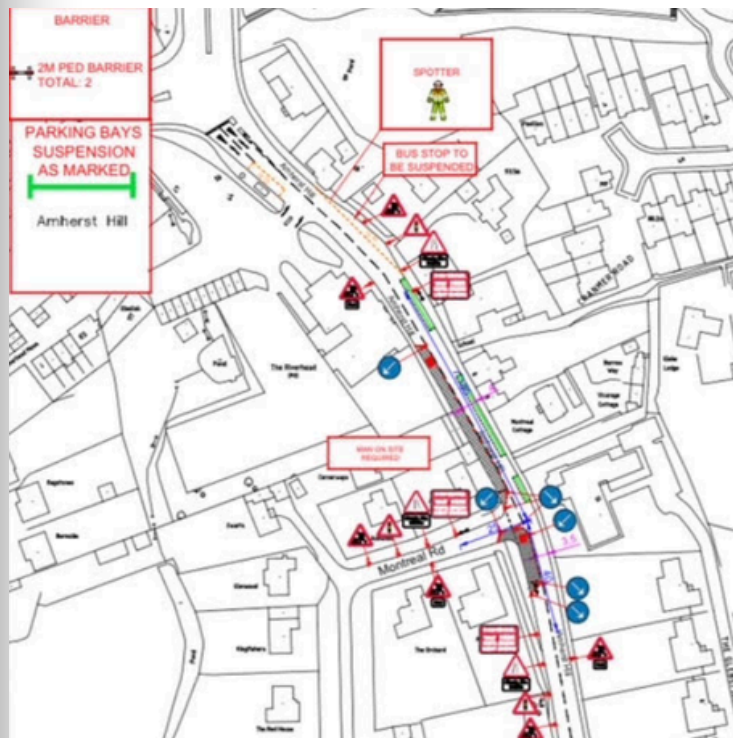
See you at the meeting - Your PTA Team

PARKING

Please be considerate towards our neighbours when you drop children off in the morning and collect them at the end of the day. Thank you for your support.



ROAD WORKS - 28 Sep to 16 Nov



We have been informed of upcoming road works to Amherst Hill starting on 28 September and lasting to 16 November 2026.

Please see the plans to the left which give further detail. 3- way lights will be in operation and will be moved along as works progress.

We expect this to have an impact on daily traffic around the Riverhead and possibly surrounding area.

HARVEST FESTIVAL - 8 October 2026

We are celebrating Harvest Festival on Thursday, 8 October. If there are **any parents who are able to help drive the food to St John's** on this day we would be very grateful. We would appreciate your help at the following times:

- Please arrive at Amherst at **11.00am** to load cars with the food
- Transport food to St John's **11.30am - 12.30pm**

If you are able to help, please let us know via an email to office@amherst.kent.sch.uk. Please find below the list of food Loaves and Fishes are in need of - we would also appreciate donations of big shopping bags.



Food and daily essentials

1	2	3	4
Tinned food	Other food	Household essentials	No thank you
Meat (Corned beef, ham, spam, hot dogs, meatballs, chicken curry, chicken casserole, beef curry, Irish stew) Fish (Tuna and other) Vegetables (Sweetcorn, carrots, green beans, potatoes) Soup Baked Beans Desserts (Custard, fruits, rice pudding) Vegetarian meals Chickpeas, lentils Pasta (Ravioli, mac 'n' cheese, spaghetti)	UHT milk Biscuits Pasta sauce Rice sauce Pasta Rice (dried and microwave) Coffee, tea Breakfast cereals Chocolate spread Marmite Cooking Ingredients	Toilet paper Shower gel Shampoo Deodorant Soap Women's hygiene Toothbrush and toothpaste Shaving products Washing up liquid Surface cleaning spray Bleach Cit Bin bags Cleaning cloths and sponges	We don't take: Pet food Bottled water Catering size tins Canned drinks Alcohol Out-of-date products

Current priorities: Cereal (no porridge), squash drinks, sanitary towels

We are full so: No baked beans, no hot dogs, no meat balls, no instant coffee, no stock cubes, no pot noodles, no tuna, no tampons



STAR OF THE WEEK

ASH	Sylvie S
ELM	Jack W
OAK	Samuel H
BIRCH	George C
CEDAR	Sienna G
MAPLE	Imogen F

BEECH	Juliette R
WILLOW	Izzy W
ROWAN	Kian M
CHESTNUT	James T
HAWTHORN	Millie M
SYCAMORE	Florence V



RUGBY

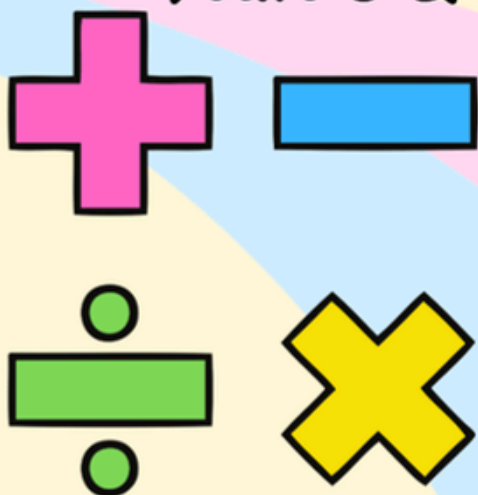
On Monday a team of Year 6's went to Sevenoaks Rugby club to compete in a Tag Rugby festival. They were in a group of similar sized schools and played 6 matches on the day, winning 5 and drawing 1.



Throughout the whole tournament they demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and brilliant sportsmanship when competing against the other schools. They were eventually crowned as the champions of the event. They should all be proud of themselves and the way they represented the school. Well done to Josh P, Charlie G, Jack P, Thomas P, Sam H, William W, Jamie H, Marnya N, Kitty I, Lara S and Immi H.

MATHS WORKSHOP for parents

Years 3 & 4



- On **Friday, 2 October 2026** at **9.00am** we will host a **maths workshop** for parents in the school hall.
- **Come and learn** about how the **four maths operations** are taught at Amherst focusing on the formal methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication, division.
- At **9.30am** parents are **invited into their child's classroom** to join in a maths lesson with them.

MEET THE TEACHER

Please find below the links to the slides of this week's MEET THE TEACHER sessions.

Year



Year



Year



Year



CLUBS

COMPLETE THE CLUBS FORM ONLINE

If you have not yet signed your child up for extra-curricular clubs, please [click here](#) to tell us which clubs your child would like to do.

We have open spaces in the following clubs:

Little musketeers / **Cross Country** / **All Language Clubs**
 / **Table Tennis Year 3 & Year 4** / **Ju Jitsu** / **Hockey** /
Lego Yr 5&6 / **Basketball** / **Crochet** / **Lacrosse** /
Orchestra



CLUBS

**SIGN UP
NOW!**

AMHERST SCHOOL**CALENDAR DATES 2026 - 2027**

28-Sep	Clubs start
02-Oct	Year 3 & 4 - Parent Maths (Calculations) Meeting (9.05am in hall)
06-Oct	School Photos
08-Oct	Harvest Festival
09-Oct	PTA Cake Sale 3.30pm
09-Oct	PTA AGM 1.30pm @ The Bullfinch Pub
12-Oct	Year 5 - Anglo Saxon Workshop - hall booked 9.10 - 10.35am
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
CHRISTMAS	



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

Half term & HALLOWEEN fun at Emmetts Garden

Fun-Gus Activity Trail

9 October–1 November
Help Fun-Gus and Myrra uncover a secret code and save the Wood Wide Web. Trails £3 & inc prize. (Admission applies.)

Fairground

23 October–1 November
Carousel, swing boats and teacup rides. Ages 2-8 (Admission applies.) £10 wristband for unlimited rides/day. £12 combined ticket inc Fun-Gus trail.

Spooky Woodcraft Workshop

29 October–1 November
Carve a wooden mushroom keyring. Activity lead by Wild Side Learning. Ages 8+, booking essential, £8. (Admission applies.)

Spiderweb Weaving Workshop

29 October–1 November
Create your own woven spider web and pinecone spider. Drop-in session, free with admission, ages 2+.

nationaltrust.org.uk/emmetts-garden

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FREE ONLINE LIVE
13 OCTOBER
12.00PM
30 MINUTES
REPLAY AVAILABLE

WALKING ON EGGSHELLS

When you never quite know what might tip the balance.

Some days everything seems manageable. Other days, the smallest thing can lead to tears, anger, shutting down or a reaction you didn't see coming.

You may find yourself watching your child's mood, choosing your words carefully or wondering which version of your child you're going to get.

Join Parenting Coach, Anisa Lewis, for this free 30-minute Live to look beneath those big emotions and explore practical ways to respond, without the whole family feeling as though they're walking on eggshells.

BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE:
anisalewis.as.me/LivewithAnisa
Or email: hello@anisalewis.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

We're Going on a Ghost Hunt at Chartwell

3 Oct–1 Nov

A spooktacular family activity trail specially designed for under 8s.

Storytelling events

27 Oct & 28 Oct

Stories, music and gentle spooky fun for little trick-or-treaters.

Free with admission.

nationaltrust.org.uk/chartwell

For everyone, for ever

If parents book with 'we make footballers' holiday club and then email the club with code **WMFAMHERSTOCTHC** they will make a £5 donation to the school per booking.

OCTOBER FOOTBALL HOLIDAY DEVELOPMENT CAMP FOR 5-12 YEAR OLDS

SEVENOAKS

26TH-30TH OCTOBER

For early drop off please join our partners Sevenoaks Tennis Centre. 7oakswitec@gmail.com

Football Development Camps built around our proven coaching method, designed to help every player improve - whatever their level.

SCHEDULE & PRICE

STANDARD PRICE:
£170 FOR 1 WEEK (MON-FRI)
£38 PER DAY

Monday to Friday: 10am - 3pm
9:30am drop off and 3pm collection

Contact us: gill@wemakefootballers.com
07771 146 473

TEAM GAMES EVERY DAY

DAILY SKILL CHALLENGES

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

1V1 & TOURNAMENT DAY

BOOK A SPACE

CAMP ADDRESS
West Heath School
Ashgrove Road
Sevenoaks
TN13 1SR

TRUSTED BY OVER 100,000 PARENTS
 Trustpilot
★★★★★

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

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

HOLMESDALE CRICKET CLUB

WINTER CRICKET COACHING

SKILLS • CONFIDENCE • FUN • FOR EVERYONE

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

ALL LEVELS WELCOME!

NEW TO CRICKET? YOU ARE VERY WELCOME!

GIRLS
PLAY DEVELOP BELONG

BOYS
LEARN IMPROVE ENJOY

12:00 – 1:30pm	1:30 – 3:00pm	3:00 – 4:30pm
SOFTBALL CRICKET Suggested Years 3, 4 & 5 For children who are new to cricket or currently playing softball. Focus on fun, being active and developing core skills.	SOFTBALL & INTRODUCTION TO HARBALL Suggested Years 5, 6 & 7 A mixture of softball and hardball training, with the opportunity to try hardball when ready. No pressure to use a hard ball – particularly for girls, you are very welcome to continue with softball throughout these sessions.	HARBALL CRICKET Suggested Years 6+ For established hardball players who already have experience of training and/or playing with a hard ball. Sessions will be mostly hardball, with the focus on developing technique, individual skills and game awareness.
 SOFTBALL PRACTICE	 SOFTBALL & HARBALL	 MOSTLY HARBALL PRACTICE

 Dedicated girls' and boys' coaching groups

 Small groups – minimum 1 coach to 6 children

 ECB-qualified coaches

 Emphasis on fun, confidence and development

 Games, drills, nets and match practice

Saturdays
10th October – 12th December 2026
(No session on 28th November)

St Michael's Prep School, Otford

£180 for all 9 weeks or £23 per individual session

Open to everyone!
Not just Holmesdale members – all children are very welcome.

BOOK NOW! →
PLACES ARE LIMITED



HOLMESDALE CRICKET CLUB
1840

SKILLS FOR TODAY • CONFIDENCE FOR TOMORROW

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS & OFFER TAX-FREE CHILDCARE!

MEGA CAMPS

KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

CHILDCARE FROM 8am – 6pm

AGES 4 - 14

OCTOBER CAMP 2026

CHECK WEBSITE FOR OCTOBER LOCATIONS & DATES

WALL CLIMBING



KIDS FAVOURITE

FANCY DRESS



GO KARTING IS BACK



ANIMAL WORKSHOP



DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS AND SPORTS AVAILABLE EACH DAY

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT ESSEX & KENT THIS OCTOBER

CHECK WEBSITE FOR LOCATIONS & DATES

Ofsted
Registered

BOOK ONLINE NOW!
WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET
 OR CALL 0333 012 4378

ALL OUR STAFF ARE

DBS CHECKED