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AMHERST SCHOOL

TRUST KINDNESS DETERMINATION FAIRNESS CO-OPERATION POLITENESS

MESSAGE FROM MR REID

MAKING MISTAKES

I am always pleased to observe teachers celebrating children's mistakes as learning opportunities. This **positive culture** enables children to **take risks when learning**, which is **vital for them to develop further**. One of the biggest factors to hold children back is their **fear of failure**.

As parents we too have to manage children's mistakes, of which there **will make many**. This week I was asked the question 'How often do you **let your children fail?**'. As parents our **instinct is to protect** our children and try wherever possible to **enable them to be successful**. This unwittingly can involve predicting potential failure and saving them from it. **What if our overprotection was having the opposite affect?**

As children progress to secondary school more than ever **they are going to need the skills to make independent decisions** and be responsible for their behaviours and learning.



Children only build **resilience** by making **mistakes** and **learning** from them.

We often feel it is our fault if they have forgotten their homework or missed the bus because they were late. **Continually shielding your child from the consequences** of those two scenarios is **not helping them take responsibility** for their own actions. Letting them fail can be hard to watch but can lead to positive outcomes.

If we want those behaviours to be present at secondary school we need to start whilst they are at Amherst. We can let them make **mistakes** and have the **opportunity to learn** from them in a **supportive environment**. It is such a **hard balance to get right as a parent!** Maybe this weekend reflect on that original question 'How often do I let my child fail?'.

I am going to **Brands Hatch on Sunday** to watch the British Superbikes. Remember children **under 13 go for free!**

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Mr Reid





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 - 19 October 2026:

ALL CLUBS should be running as normal.



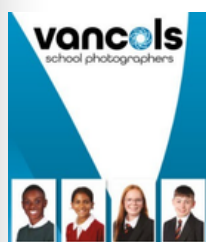
DATA COLLECTION

Data collection sheets were distributed to children on Thursday in sealed envelopes. Please **check the details carefully**, make any necessary **amendments**, and **sign and date the form** before **returning it in the original envelope to the school office** or your child's class teacher by **Wednesday, 21 October 2026**.



WINNING HOUSE - WOLFE

This term's winning house is Wolfe. Children can come to school on the last day wearing **YELLOW**.



SCHOOL PHOTOS ARE READY!

Vancols Photographers are pleased to confirm that the School Photographs are ready to view using the QR code on your proof card.

If you have already scanned the QR code on the Proof and registered you will receive an auto email notification.

If you have not done it yet, don't panic, you can still view by scanning the QR code on your Proof and following the instructions.

If you have **not received your Proof or it has been lost** you can call Vancols **Parent Line on 01206 273711** however if you do not have an existing account with Van Cols you will need to contact the school directly for the website photo code.

The **online cut-off date** for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **28th October 2026**.



Children should remember to bring their PE kit for CLUBS!



PTA CHRISTMAS CARDS

The PTA understand that there may have been **last minute drawing disasters** or card designs dropped in a puddle. So we're giving you a little extra time to finish your Christmas designs. **Designs need to be back at the school office by 12pm on Monday.** There are spare forms at reception.

AMHERST SCHOOL		** RED DATES newly added
CALENDAR DATES 2026 - 2027		
19-Oct	Year 3 - Rocks Day Workshop - Ash Class	
19-Oct	Year 6 - Soup Making - Hawthorne Class	
20-Oct	Year 3 - Rocks Day Workshop - Elm Class	
20-Oct	Year 6 - Soup Making - Sycamore Class	
21-Oct	Year 3 - Rocks Day Workshop - Oak Class	
21-Oct	Year 6 - Soup Making - Chestnut Class	
21-Oct	Year 5 - Science Dome Workshop	
22-Oct	School Photos - catch up session - 9.00am	
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	PTA Meeting 1.30pm	
13-Nov	Open Afternoon - 2.45 - 3.30pm - Parents are invited to visit children's classrooms	
14-Nov	World Diabetes Day - wear blue for £1.00 donation	
16 - 18 Nov	Book Fair	
19-Nov	Year 3 - Parent Times Tables Meeting (9.05am in hall)	
19-Nov	Book Fair Collection	
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	PTA Uniform & Christmas Jumper Sale 3.30pm	
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		

STAR OF THE WEEK



ASH	Elodie C
ELM	Mila V
OAK	Elliot S
BIRCH	Melek F
CEDAR	Henry L
MAPLE	Bella P

BEECH	Amelia D
ROWAN	Agnes McK
WILLOW	Brandon T
CHESTNUT	Layah W
HAWTHORN	Eliza O'H
SYCAMORE	Avish M

NETBALL



Amherst Netball team played the first of their league matches this week against Anthony Roper. The team were all super keen and played incredibly well for their first season match together. The netball match is played in four six minute quarters with players rotating into one of the five positions: GA, GS, GD, C, GK.

This means our players have to be very versatile to change positions as well as changing scoring ends. After the first quarter Amherst led 1-0. In the second quarter Anthony Roper scored alongside another Amherst goal. In the final two quarters we had a run of great goal scoring and super defence to finish with a final score of 6-2 to Amherst. A promising start to the season. The team were: Holly C, Alana B, Yannike N, Marnya N, Lara H, Lara S, Phoebe B and Sam H. Thank you to all our parent supporters.

HOCKEY



Well done to our Year 4 hockey team that took part in a festival on Monday afternoon. For some of the children this was the first time that they had played hockey. I was so impressed with each child's effort and determination despite the wet weather! They played really well ending up being placed third overall which was a great achievement. Well done to Alex G, Iris M, Alessio G, Jasmine K, Randle W and Florence P.



SUPPORTING YOUR TEEN WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH

Navigating mental health together.

Learn how to recognise signs of mental health issues, communicate more effectively, and create a supportive atmosphere at home.

Where: Delivered Online

Date: 10/11/2026

Time: 19.00 to 21.00

To book a place please scan the QR Code below or contact 03000 412222



and quote course code ONL/154967/R/PF



Kent Adult Education is part of
Community Learning and Skills



For more information
scan the QR code

kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk
FREE, Fun & Informal

Dear friends at Amherst School,

Sevenoaks (Loaves and Fishes) Foodbank would like to thank you for your very generous donations from your Harvest Festival this year, and for your support of the Foodbank.

Please pass on our thanks to all the pupils, parents and staff who donated so generously and organised the delivery to the Foodbank. Your support is very much appreciated and enables us to continue to help our clients in the local community.

Thank you once again for your generosity,

With all best wishes

Sevenoaks (Loaves and Fishes) Foodbank



Sevenoaks (Loaves and Fishes) Foodbank

With all best wishes

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

HALLOWEEN SPOOKY TRAIL

19th October – 31st October

Join in our trail to find the animals hidden in Halloween pictures around the farm
Collect your prize from the Tea Room

Open daily (except Tuesday) from 1.30pm - 4.30pm

£5 per entry

FOAL FARM
Animal Rescue

Foal Farm Animal Rescue
Jail Lane, Biggin Hill, TN16 3AX
www.foalfarm.org.uk

Riverhead PC have arranged for **tree surgery** to take place in Riverhead Parkland during October half term. The timing was chosen to minimise the impact on families on the school run but nevertheless we wanted to bring the works to your attention. The works are expected to take around 2 days and affect trees on the border with Holmesdale cricket club.

TRY PADEL THIS HALF TERM!

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER

30MINS SESSIONS 9AM - 11AM

SESSIONS FOR AGES 5+

JUST £5!

FIND US AT
POLHILL GARDEN CENTRE, TN14 7AD

CONTACT: info@sevenoakspadel.co.uk

vocala choir

Fancy joining a friendly, local choir? Motherhood can be joyful - and it can be tricky too. Vocala gives you a space to sing, connect, and support one another. We've been singing together for over 10 years, and our membership now numbers more than 30 wonderful women, from first-time mums with newborns to those whose children have long since flown the nest. Our repertoire is wonderfully varied: folk songs, pop hits, a cappella arrangements, show tunes, and music from around the world.

THE STAG PLAZA SUITE

FRIDAY MORNINGS IN TERM TIME

9.30 - 11.10

VOCALCHOIR.CO.UK

NO AUDITIONS OR REQUIREMENT TO READ MUSIC!
CHILDREN WELCOME, TOYS PROVIDED
FREE COFFEE AND CAKE

Come and try a session for free, email vocalasevenoaks@gmail.com

LAURA TROTT MP's CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

ENTRY DEADLINE 16 NOVEMBER

Post to Laura Trott MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA or email laura.trott.mp@parliament.uk

Completed entries should either be posted to: Laura Trott MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA or scanned and sent to laura.trott.mp@parliament.uk

HARLEQUINS THEATRE SCHOOL

OPEN WEEK

2nd November – 7th November

Come and discover our performing arts classes in Bromley, Anerley, Eltham and Sevenoaks

DANCE ★ DRAMA ★ SINGING ★ MUSICAL THEATRE ★ ACRO

Register your interest [CLICK HERE >](#) **View our timetable** [CLICK HERE >](#)

Classes for ages 3+ | All abilities welcome | Friendly, supportive training | Professional performance opportunities

WHERE EVERY CHILD CAN TAKE THE STAGE

Registration deadline is 11 December 2026

tunbridge wells PUPPETRY festival

26th - 31st OCTOBER 2026

QR code: [Click here for more info and to book tickets](#)

ROYAL VICTORIA PLACE
SOUTHBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
THE PANTILES
FORUM

THE KNIGHT FRANK SCHOOLS TRIATHLON SERIES 2027

Sevenoaks School Sunday 9th May 2027

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2026

WHAT IS IT?
The Knight Frank Schools Triathlon is the UK's largest sport fundraising event for children aged 7 - 13 years old. On the day, the three sports are completed in a relay format before crossing the finish line together as a team. All abilities are welcome to take part in this event! Watch [this video](#) to learn more!

HOW TO REGISTER?

- Create a team of 3, 4 or 5, then choose your team name!
- One parent registers the team's interest via the link above (you will need all participant names and their parent/guardian's email*)
- You will receive an email to confirm if your team has or hasn't been successful within 3 weeks of the deadline date given above
- If your team is given a place, we will email all parents within the team inviting them to register their child for the event.
- Set up your team or individual JustGiving page. You can also fundraising online if you prefer.

FUNDRAISING
Each participant must fundraise a minimum of £60, with a target of £100. Your fundraising supports Restless Development: More than ever the world needs young people's power and leadership to solve its greatest challenges. Every year we train, mentor, nurture and connect thousands of young people to use their youth power and lead change.

THE DISTANCES

DISCIPLINE	YEAR 3 & 4	YEAR 5 & 6	YEAR 7 & 8
SWIM	50M	50M	50M
CYCLE	1000M	1000M	2000M
RUN	750M	750M	750M

Head to our FAQs for more event info and to find out what's included!

QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH! schoolstriathlon@restlessdevelopment.org www.schoolstriathlon.co.uk