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May Newsletter

Bushcraft—The Ultimate Challenge?!

Students of Becket Keys Church of England School ventured out on their Bushcraft Weekend and enjoyed a challenging and rewarding weekend away.

The Bushcraft trip lived up to its billing. Students were taught to survive in the woods: building shelters, making and keeping fires, cooking over open flames, orienteering and developing first aid skills.

Students particularly impressed the teachers in their attitude towards the challenges posed by the food provided on the trip. Many students tried new things and spoke positively about the experience. Some had never tried cous-cous or paella, others were trying trout and pannassed salmon for the first time. For a few the challenge of eating a raw salmon eye or foraged vegetation was a more appropriate challenge.

Students also had to rise to the challenges of sleeping under canvas; some had never done this before. Others chose to sleep in the shelters that they had built and all had to cope with no running water and 'festival-style' toilets.

One of the highlights for all the students was the freshwater swimming. Plunging into a cold lake took quite some courage, but nearly all of the students

rose to this particular challenge.

As a first ever residential trip, Bushcraft certainly met the two main objectives we were setting out to achieve, providing:

1. A first step towards Duke of Edinburgh type trips.
2. An opportunity for students to rely on one another and to dig deep into their own strength.

The trip was designed to build on the head teachers' challenge which is an on-going competition that all of the students are participating in. More details of this can be found on our website.

It has been great to hear feedback about the trip from parents, students and staff. As a result we have learned some lessons for next year to make the trip even more successful.

We are now turning our attention to various trip options for Year 8 and 9 which will continue to challenge the students and support the curriculum in various ways.

I would like to thank the Bushcraft Company for their expertise and the staff (Mrs Ahlner, Mrs France, Miss Gill, Mrs Sharp and Mr Fenn) for giving



up their weekend to make it happen!

Andy Scott-Evans
Head Teacher

Check out more photographs from the trip on pages 6-7!



*On the glorious splendour of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
Psalm 145:55*



Bishop Stephen will give the key note address at our Prize Giving & Speech Day Service

Dates for your diary

Summer BBQ

6th July 12noon to 4pm

Tickets for families of Becket Keys will go on sale soon for this fun Saturday event.

Music Concert

11th July 7pm

Drama club, choir and orchestra already working hard to rehearse for this journey through the musicals. Our musicians will once again be joined by professionals for this exciting evening. Tickets will be sent home soon.

Prize Giving & Speech Day

16th July 7pm

Join Bishop Stephen, students, governors, special guests and staff for this exciting evening of prizes, speeches and musi-

cal entertainment. This year all students and families will be able to attend so please come along and enjoy a special evening celebration. Tickets will be sent home soon.



The Summer BBQ promises to be a really great Becket Keys event

“...the team knew that they had a chance of getting promoted into the A league.”

Boys' Football – The match on Monday the 29th against Anglo European was our last of the season and the team knew that they had a chance of getting promoted into the A league. Our boys went 4-2 ahead, only to concede 3 goals in a row to make the score 5-4 to Anglo European. Becket Keys showed great mental strength to pull a goal back and hold out for a draw. Anglo had

several chances in the last 5 minutes of the game but could not get the ball past our goalkeeper, Finley Richardson, who made some vital saves late on. Unfortunately we did not get promoted, but we look forward to training hard and making this our target for next season.

Cricket – The cricket teams (boys and girls) will be picked

soon. Please make sure that you attend lunchtime and afterschool clubs if you want a chance to represent the school. If you do not get selected the first time, continue to train hard as the teams will change each game depending on how people are performing at training. We are looking into getting a B team game played in July, so all who attend the club who are not selected for the A team need to train hard so that they get selected to represent the



Get fit

Follow Mr Fenn's 6 week programme to improve your family's fitness!

More Sports News

school this way.

Athletics – On Wednesday 1st May, we had 62 students attend the club. Please make a record on the 'notes' page in your planners of your Personal Best Times/Distances. This way, you have a target to beat next time. The next session will be tailored towards chosen events, so start thinking which event you will choose.

Fitness Programme – We are now at the end of week 2. Hopefully you are starting to get into the routine of 10 minutes exercise, at a certain time of the day, each day. In weeks 3 and 4 the activities change slightly, please look at the sheets and adjust your training accordingly.



Brentwood Band attend Collective Worship

We were delighted to be joined by Messrs Wyndham (father and son) from Brentwood Band this week in Collective Worship. A truly inspiring talk and performance!

Students were given cards and leaflets about the **British Legion Youth Band** and we hope that many will consider attending.

At £1 per week it must provide some of the best value music tuition and fun that money can buy!



TORCH

Holding the Olympic Torch



PRIVILEGE

Meeting the leaders of the band!

Sports Day

“A competition where all students participate.”

Our sports day will take place on 12th July (or 17th if the weather spoils the first day).

It will be a whole day event with various activities throughout. In the afternoon, parents will be invited from 1pm to attend and support.

Becket Keys Church of England School Sports Day will be:

‘A competition where form tutors and students feel a sense of house identity.’

‘A competition where all students participate.’

‘A competition where success is celebrated.’

‘A competition where all who try their best are praised.’

Field and track events will be part of the programme and students are training hard in:

FIELD: discus, javelin and shot putt.

TRACK: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m

ICT Club—an update from Miss Gill



It has been a busy term at ICT club, with students setting up their own websites and deconstructing computers to find out what really makes them work.

The website is now an on-going project where students are able to upload any school projects or information about their personal areas of interest.

More recently, students have been busy learning about PC hardware. iPads were used to

make some fantastic videos of the deconstruction process of the PCs. These will be used to help students in the following years and also provide guidance and allow students to reconstruct the PCs.

The students will be focusing on learning how to use software to create animations. These will be uploaded to the websites, allowing students to track their progress over the year.

The students' websites can be found on <http://www.ictclub.org.uk/websites.html>.



INTER-SCHOOL PECHA KUCHA COMPETITION THE ART OF CONCISE PRESENTATION

On the 1st July, Becket Keys will be hosting an Inter-School Pecha Kucha competition (organised by Brentwood Curriculum Deputies and a local businessman, Mr Rolison). Following on from delivering persuasive speeches in English lessons, this provides the perfect opportunity for our talented speakers to hone their skills. Students will make twenty PowerPoint slides with minimal text. Each slide will automatically progress after twenty seconds. Using PowerPoint presenter mode, they will use these images and time frame to deliver their speeches. Presentations will focus on 'My First Year'. This should lead to an interesting competition, as it also enables students in the Brentwood area to share what is special about their school. Mr Rolison has offered the prize of a computer projector to the school of the winning team.

A group of students have now started to meet with Mrs Sharp and Mrs Endicott at lunchtimes (alternating between Mondays and Tuesday to minimise impact on other clubs). Our final team will soon be chosen. If any additional students would like to accept this challenge, please come along on Monday lunchtime next week. This is a valuable opportunity which develops skills essential for future careers and builds self-confidence. The chosen team will also deliver their speech at our Speech and Awards Evening on the 16th July.

Timeline of events

19/03/2013	Pecha Kucha launch with year 7 in assembly (special guest: Mr Rolison)
19/03/2013	Tutor groups work on submissions
10/05/2013	Focus group start to meet - House competition 6/20 = 2 minutes using 20/20 = 6 minutes 40 seconds principle
01/07/2013	Final held at Becket Keys 7pm (invitations to guests sent out at the beginning of June to partnership schools)
16/07/13	Becket Keys team deliver speech at Speech and Awards Evening 7pm

CRITICAL THINKING: Tomas Anderson writes... What if there was no reality?

This is a question many people do not understand and one that people have been trying to solve for many years. It is a similar type of question to 'what is the meaning of life?' If there was no reality, then life would be a dream or an image our mind is projecting to trick us. Maybe life is someone's imagination or maybe we are dead.

If there was no reality then when we died, what would happen, would we start a new life? If there was no reality there would be nothing, but then nothing has to exist otherwise we would not have a word for it. If

people never remember themselves being born what if we weren't, and we just appeared along with things like videos and evidence of us being born. Right now, we could be nowhere and just in darkness and our mind is projecting an image of our life. Imagine this, you are sitting down looking out of a window and you see the land around. You turn around and it's gone, you turn back and your mind projects the image of the land around you.

When I asked some of my friends this question they said it was impossible because they were standing there talking to me,

it was happening so it existed. In a way I agreed with them, there has to be some form of reality, but it could be anything. I could be a bowl of petunias floating through space and be thinking about a life I just decided to make up. Some people become scared of the unknown.

So when you tell them that they just wasted their life because they don't exist and they're a bowl of petunias they're going to deny it! I would have too but then I realised its completely possible (although I don't think I am a bowl of flowers!) and I started to question life a lot wondering

if I actually existed or not. I soon realised that the possibility of me not actually existing was possible and that if this life wasn't real then what was? Also, what if we were part of a computer programme like in the film 'The Matrix'?

This one question is unable to be answered and will continue like that for many years. It led me on to other questions, like am I alive or dead? What is life? How big is the universe? Then I thought of a question that really is interesting: **WHAT IS REALITY?**

Careers advice



Next year students will be receiving careers advice as part of the curriculum and through our newly established learning resource centre.

We would like to know whether any parents or friends of the school would be willing to offer insights about their career. A short talk to a

group of students could make a significant difference.

If you feel able to give a talk to a class or year group we would like to hear from you. We would also like to hear from anyone that would be willing to speak to smaller, particularly interested groups of students.

Please contact Miss Le Grand via office@becketkeys.org with details of your place of work and days/times available.

“An intermediate fitness programme will be coming out soon”

Rounders

The A and B rounders teams had their second fixture of the summer against Brentwood Ursuline this month. The A team batted and fielded very well, but gave away too many penalties which lost them the game. The B team also lost, but they made fewer errors and showed good progress through the two games. The Ursuline PE teacher would like a return fixture next term, so watch this space!

The Becket Keys 6 Week

Fitness Programme
The 6 Week Fitness Programme

has come to an end. If you have enjoyed this programme please don't stop using it. Feel free to tweak it slightly to meet your needs. An **intermediate** fitness programme will be coming out soon. This is for those athletes who have built up a moderate level of fitness and would like to boost their levels further.

If you have any photos (action shots) of anyone doing the programme (students of Becket Keys, mums, dads, brothers, sisters) please send them to office@becketkeys.org.

Sports Photos

If you have represented Becket Keys at **any** sport this year then please bring **FULL PE KIT** in on 3rd June, which is the first day back after half term. An email will be sent to parents with a kit list so that the correct kit is worn.

Inter House Sport

Inter House Netball will be on Thursday 6th June. So far our house winners are:

Cross Country - 7ES
Badminton - 7GF
Volleyball - 7NG

Drug Awareness Workshop

We are pleased to announce a wonderful opportunity for the students and parents of Becket Keys Church of England School.

Thanks to the extended services partnership with other local schools we are pleased to be hosting a drugs awareness workshop here this term.

On the 3rd July, Paul Hannaford will be making a presentation to our students about the dangers of drugs. He is well known for his hard hitting talks in schools and we look forward to hearing him at

Becket Keys.

We are trying to organise our next workshop for parents and wondered how many would be interested in an evening with Paul.

Please let us know if you would like to hear Paul talk about protecting your children from the dangers of drugs:

office@becketkeys.org

Find out more about Paul here: www.paulhannaford.com





FUN!



COMMUNITY



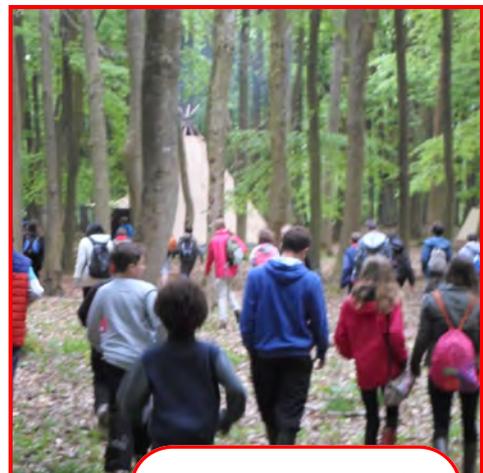
LEARN



HIKE



JUMP IN!



TOGETHER



COOK IT



EAT IT!



WASH IT



RESCUE



FRIENDS



SHELTER