



DEBATE COMPETITION SUCCESS

The Becket Keys' debating team performed fantastically in their first ever competition against Brentwood School last Friday. Will Sainsbury (Year 7) and Georgina Podd (Year 8) were the overall team winners from a total of 6 teams, whilst Matthew Jennings (Year 8) was given the 'Best Personality' individual speaker award, voted for by the audience.

Alice Keely (Year 7) gave a brilliantly confident opening speech about the benefits of single sex schools. It's a tough call being the first speaker in a competition, but she presented an emphatic speech with vitality and interest, setting the highest possible standard for the other speakers to follow. Her team colleague, James Parker (Year 8), as second speaker, offered confident answers to questions from the floor, finding less obvious points and silencing questioners!

Will Sainsbury's animated and naturally presented speech advocated equality for women, as he argued against the proposition that 'women should remain at home'. Georgina Podd's excellent response to the arguments posed by the Brentwood school showed a superb ability to 'think on her feet' and present her ideas with conviction.

Matthew Jennings presented an assured speech about why testing on animals should be allowed, delivered with confidence and aplomb, convincing many in the audience to agree with his views. Bethany Hancox challenged tough arguments posed by the Brentwood school clearly and concisely, rounding off a superb team effort by Becket Keys' students.

**WINNERS!**

GET INVOLVED...

Our reserve speaker, Peter Angeli, confidently posed questions to both teams, modelling this procedure to the audience members. In turn, other Becket Keys' students who had come along to support the team, asked insightful and challenging questions in response to what they had heard.

Our thanks go to the parents who were able to come along and support the teams. We are also especially grateful to Sam Turnpenny (Year 12) from Brentwood School, who has been training our team members every Wednesday morning before school, and helped to organise the competition. We couldn't have done it without him! Thanks also to

Brentwood School for organising and hosting the event.

If you are interested in joining the debating club, then it will be running for the rest of this academic year on Tuesday lunchtimes at 12.50 in Miss Rounding's room. We are going to start preparing for a return competition against Brentwood School in October, and also a regional competition in December, where we will be pitted against Year 12s and 13s! Inter-house debates will also start taking place in the new academic year.

OTHER NEWS



PARENT WORKSHOP

Our most parent workshops took place on 14th May. We would like to thank all the staff and parents who came along and took part in the discussions. Our workshops included: Character Education, The Teenage Brain and Sex & Relationship Education. Parents all gave very positive feedback and we will look to run a similar event again soon.

SCHOOL RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

Next week our school trips will take Year 7 to Bushcraft and Year 8 to Madrid. Students and staff are very excited and looking forward to all that will take place.

We have set up two **emergency** telephone lines for the periods whilst we are away. You will be able to contact the trip leaders on these numbers:

Year 7: 01277 286609

Year 8: 01277 286604

These numbers will redirect to mobile phones of staff on the trip. Please only use in an emergency!

We will be sending out Tweets from the usual accounts: @BecketKeys and @MrScottEvans. You can see the @BecketKeys ones on the website. We will also send text messages from the usual school account to confirm return to school times.

If any medical information or food allergy information has changed – please contact the school office: office@becketkeys.org.



SPORTS NEWS

Last Wednesday the Year 7 and 8 rounders teams had their first match of the year against St Martin's.

YEAR 8 GIRLS

We played two innings of 27 good balls and thanks to some excellent batting from Hannah McCarthy and Charlotte Todd, we won the first innings 11.5 – 11! During the second innings we fielded well, however too much risk taking and some excellent first post fielding from St Martin's meant several players were out early. The overall score was 24–19 to St Martin's.

YEAR 7 GIRLS

The Year 7 girls had their first ever rounders fixture and played very competitively during the first innings. The score was 9–8 to St Martin's with both teams trying to gain experience and understanding of the positions they were suited to in terms of fielding.

Despite being the strongest team in terms of decision making, the girls need to further develop and refine their batting and bowling skills at rounders practice on Mondays. St Martins also one the second innings 7–3, making the overall score 16 – 11.

INTER-HOUSE SPORT

Next week, inter-house sport returns with Year 7 competing in mixed rounders and Year 8 competing in mixed cricket! The matches will run over lunchtimes; sports captains need to ensure that their teams arrive on time. Please remember to bring your trainers! You will not be able to participate without them. We look forward to seeing some competitive matches – good luck to all involved!

TURN UP AND PLAY TENNIS

Mr Lastauskas, one of our talented caretakers will be running a turn up and play tennis club on the tennis courts at lunchtimes. This will generally happen when the field is open, so to avoid disappointment, bring a pair of trainers that you can leave in your locker. Whenever it is sunny, you will be able to play.

Thank you again to all those students who helped sweep the tennis courts. All three courts have now been cleared of leaves and are ready to be used.

LOCAL COACHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS

There is a 'netball future talent' day at New Hall School for Year 7 girls on Tuesday 27th May 10am–3pm. The event costs £25 and involves developing core skills, fitness and gameplay.

The Essex FA are also running a girls' football festival on Saturday 19th July. The event is free for girls aged 8–18 and is at 11am–2.30pm at Shenfield School. There will be skills, challenges and game play.

If you are interested in either of these events see Miss Webb for more information.



UNIFORM MATTERS LOST PROPERTY

All lost property is eventually returned to students if it is named, and students can check with reception to see if anything has been handed in. If it is not named we leave it where it was lost to encourage students to re-trace their steps and find it.

GIRLS' SOCKS

Girls' socks must be white and below the knee.

BOYS' SOCKS

Boys' socks must be plain grey or black ankle socks.



NEARLY NEW ITEMS FOR SALE

Please donate any good quality school uniform items which could be re-sold (proceeds to school fund).

Boys' Blazer
size 28" £10

Purple Reversible PE
top (2) 26/28" £5

Skort
22/24" £5

Jumpers (4)
size 30" £5
Jumpers (2)
Size 34"

Grey slipover size 28" £5
Grey slipover size 30" £5

Boys' trousers age 11/12 £5

Boys' s/s shirts
age 9/10 £1

Boys' l/s shirts
age 9/10 £1

Hoodie (Medium) £5

Girls' Blouse Banner size 28"
£3

Girls' Blazer Size 16 £5
Girls' Blazer 38" £6
Girls' Blazer 32" £10



TRAVEL TIPS!

BICYCLES

Please ensure your son/daughter has a helmet if they are cycling to and from school. Our cycle shelter is available for all staff and students to use and is locked during the day and monitored by CCTV.

TURNING CIRCLE

Please do not drive into Sawyers Hall Lane if you can avoid it.

If you do drive in (before 8:20am or after 4pm) then please use the turning circle past the school on the right hand side.

Do not turn round in the drive way or in front of the school as this is dangerous.

NOTICES

ABSENCE LINE

We are pleased to inform you that we now have a dedicated text message number for student absence messages: 0786 000 50 61.

If your son/daughter is absent please text their full name and form and the reason for absence. Please note that this line will be checked once a day at 9am for absence messages. Please do not text any other information to this number.

Of course, you can also still inform us of absence by leaving a voicemail on our dedicated absence line: 01277 286612 or by emailing office@becketkeys.org

Whichever method of communication you choose, please try to inform us by 8.30am if your son/daughter will be absent and remember that you need to contact us on every day of their absence.

If we do not hear from you we will contact the police to inform them that we believe your son/daughter is missing.

AUTHORISED ABSENCE

Please remember to contact us as early as possible if you think that you need to take your son/daughter out of school for an 'exceptional circumstance'.

We are generally unable to authorise any absence during school time, but we will consider "exceptional circumstances" e.g. certain medical appointments or a family funeral.

Families are not allowed to take holidays during term times and should not request to do so.



CONTACT DETAILS

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Brentwood
Essex
CM15 9DA

T: 01277 286600

office@becketkeys.org

www.becketkeys.org

@BecketKeys

NOTICES

PRAYER

Our prayer meetings are on Tuesdays at 11:30am. Anyone from the Becket Keys Church of England School community is welcome to join us (parents, other relatives, friends of the school etc).

Please send any prayer requests to: office@becketkeys.org. If you wish to join our prayer mailing list to receive a regular update of issues to pray for, you can also email us.

Diocese Centenary Prayer:

We thank you generous God,
for we have truly known your grace;
we thank you merciful God,
for we have heard the gospel of
Christ;
we thank you victorious God,
for we have a hope laid up in heaven.
As we celebrate these hundred years,
so we commit ourselves to you,
firm in faith,
strong in love,
bearing fruit in all the world.
We thank you loving God, now and for
ever. Amen.

Dates for your Diary

5th May	Bank Holiday
6th May	School Residential Meeting
23rd – 25th May	Bushcraft Trip (Year 7)
23rd – 26th May	Madrid Trip (Year 8)

You can keep up to date with a daily tweet from Becket Keys by following us on Twitter: @BecketKeys.

