



BRENTWOOD IN BLOOM WINNERS

Becket Keys Church of England School staff and students were delighted to discover this week that we have won 1st place the prestigious Brentwood in Bloom competition! Our Eco-Club have been working tirelessly on their project with an allotment plot, courtyard area, various display beds and hanging baskets all round the school.

The Eco-Club have taken their theme for the gardens from the Great War 100th anniversary. References to 'Dig for Victory' abound in the vegetable patch! Prayers and poems are displayed in many of the courtyard beds.

The gardens were not the only things that made a big impression on the judges though. They also commended the students on their excellent knowledge and understanding of the techniques that were being used, particularly in the allotment area. The judges also liked seeing that the students were joined by teachers, science technicians and reception



1st PLACE - BRENTWOOD IN BLOOM

Team Effort

staff in the project. It was a real whole school approach. This added great strength to the quality of the work.

Considering the school has, until very recently, been an on-going building site, the achievement is particularly impressive.

Mr Scott-Evans said: "I am extremely proud of the Eco-Club for this achievement. We entered the competition with a view to winning it. Our students and staff have

'pulled out all the stops' and learned a great deal from each other during the process."

Parents have also helped, with generous donations from 'Sow and Grow' a local garden centre owned by a family from the school community.

NEXT WEEK



Year 7 Flipped Learning Challenge

On Monday, Year 7 students will be learning how to programme using a piece of software called 'Scratch'. To make the most of this opportunity, students have been asked to bring headphones with them (in ear would be best). To find out more about this software visit www.scratch.mit.edu. There will also be a workshop provided by Anglian Water. Students will plan out a town's water supply network, making sure homes and businesses receive a reliable and cost effective water supply.

Year 8 Learn to Earn Day



Do you really need the lifestyle of a Premiership footballer to be happy? Is it worth ignoring your exams in the hope the X Factor will shoot you to stardom?

On Monday, a team of business volunteers will be working with Year 8 students to help develop their understanding of how education is key to their future success and happiness in work and life. Students will discover that they have talents which mean that careers that once might have seemed out of reach are actually achievable!

Education & Careers Fair

Our first Education and Careers Fair will be held on Monday 14th July 2014 from 5.30pm to 8.30pm in the main hall. Please feel free to attend between these times. The end of Year 8 is an important time as students will be making their option choices early on in Year 9. Although students do not have to be completely certain about their career path, the summer between Year 8 and Year 9 provides an opportunity to

reflect on their skills and talents. The education and careers fair will enable them to make connections between education, training and employment and will hopefully raise their aspirations and inspire them in their studies.

Representatives from many areas of industry and commerce will be available to answer questions and offer advice on options, career choices, academic requirements and how to enter a profession including who to apply to.

Colleges and universities will also be represented. In keeping with our Christian ethos, there will also be information on voluntary work to support our wider community. Our newly appointed independent careers adviser will be available to offer further guidance.

All Year 8 students are strongly encouraged to attend, and should be accompanied by parents/carers. Your presence will also help this event grow in future years, further benefiting your child. Thank you to everyone who has booked places online. If you have not booked, but would still like to attend, please turn up and register on the night.

First impressions are always important and students are to attend in school uniform to meet with professionals who are visitors to the school.

Governors' Speeches and Awards Evening

Final preparations are underway for our Governors' Speech and Awards Evening on Tuesday 15th July. There will be light refreshments in the Bistro from 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our school community to celebrate! We look forward to welcoming as many families to this event as possible. Tickets have already been offered to the families of students who have been nominated for an award. There are a few seats still available in the hall. If you would like to attend, please enquire at reception. It should be a memorable occasion!

OTHER NEWS

CHARITIES WEEK - 7th July to 11th July

A week of charity fundraising has been led by the Charity Committee this week. Thanks to students, staff and parents' generosity we have raised over £500 for St Francis Hospice and The Teenage Cancer Trust. Final figures for the year will be calculated this week.

PLEASE CAN ALL STUDENTS WHO TOOK PART IN THE SPONSORED EVENTS BRING THEIR MONEY IN NEXT WEEK SO WE CAN ADD IT TO THE TOTAL?

TIME TO RETURN ALL BOOKS

All books be returned to school next week! This includes:

- Any text books that have been borrowed
- All English texts and books from the library
- All reference books: Bibles, Dictionaries and SEN support materials

FAREWELL TO MISS ROUNDING

We shall be saying a farewell to Miss Rounding at the end of the year. Miss Rounding is moving on after a very successful year and we will miss her very much.

FESTIVAL PICNIC

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our Patronal Festival Picnic last week. We enjoyed great music and dance, fantastic refreshments, a 'lucky escape' with the weather and some fun sports! Thanks to Friends of Becket Keys (FoBK) for organising the Picnic and to all the staff and partner organisations who helped in various ways.

BBC RADIO ESSEX GUEST APPEARANCE

A big well done to Mrs Martin, Daisy Benson, Cara Tait and Emma Sanders for their fantastic radio appearance this week. Due to our success last year and this year at the Foreign Language Spelling Bee, they were asked to answer some questions and spell some words at the BBC Essex recording studio in Chelmsford. It was a great experience for all involved.

Congratulations to Emma who performed brilliantly at the National Finals this week.



SPORTS NEWS

ROUNDERS

Both the Year 7 and 8 teams competed in the local rounders rally at St Martin's this week. The Year 7 girls batted well, coming third in the group, although a series of fielding errors caused us to give away unnecessary points.

The girls finished 1st in the 'Plate Competition' and overall we finished 5th. There was some good decision making from the girls when running, in particular from Rachael Davison. This allowed us to gain rounders and half rounders from the other teams' fielding mistakes. The Year 8 girls were drawn in a tough group but managed to finish 2nd, allowing them to proceed to the semi-finals.

They were narrowly beaten 8-7 by Shenfield. There was a chance to draw on the second to last ball as Charlotte Tod gave an excellent hit, but unfortunately she was out at 4th post (if she was any closer, she would have been in!). The girls then proceeded to beat Ursuline school in the closest match they played. The result was 6-5½. Some great bowling from Farran Deal kept them from scoring off the last ball. The Year 8 girls came 3rd with Shenfield winning the overall title.

SPORTS DAY

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone Sports Day due to the weather. The new date is Wednesday 16th July. The event and timings will follow the same schedule as previously intended. We look forward to welcoming supporters! Students: keep training over the weekend!

(We will include a big article about Sports Day next week!)



CONGRATULATIONS

Harrison Powell came 17th in the National Cycling Championships last weekend

Oliver Legon was delighted to be selected to represent his club at the Essex County Championships Relays competition this weekend. His 4x50m freestyle team swam amazingly well, qualified for the finals and won the bronze medal.



Ryan Gamble was selected to represent the East of England Basketball team at a national event in Birmingham. Out of the 10 teams in the country, East of England came 3rd, missing out on the final by a 3 pointer on the buzzer from London.

Tyler Christian has joined the 'elite group' of Becket Keys students who have achieved a black belt in karate.

If any other students have any recent sporting achievements please let your PE teacher know – we love to hear about them!

UNIFORM MATTERS

KILTS

Please make sure that your daughter's skirts comply with the school uniform requirement; they should be worn no more than 3cm above the knee.

A letter was sent home about this recently.

SHOES

Please choose new shoes which comply with our uniform policy.

- Smart formal, black leather
- Preferably lace-up. Must have black laces.
- No kitten heels
- No platform heels
- No boots
- No 'trainer style'
- No sandals
- No ballet shoes

NEARLY NEW ITEMS FOR SALE

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



MAKE-UP

A reminder that girls may wear a small amount of concealer to hide a blemish, but no other make-up is allowed.

No nail varnish.
No eye make-up.
No lip stick.

We are aware that some schools are reporting that girls are having their eye lashes 'tinted'. We do not think that this is appropriate for Becket Keys and would appreciate your support in not allowing girls here to have that done.

We are also aware of a trend for girls' 'beauty parties' with some parents spending £30 on acrylic nails. This is not in line with the school uniform policy. Please consider carefully any 'treatments' and if in doubt check with us first please.

NOTICES

LOCKERS

Padlocks must be removed from all lockers. Any remaining padlocks will be cut off by the site team. We need all the lockers open so that they can be cleaned and re-assigned for next year.

NO CLUBS

There will be no clubs on the final day of term. The school day will finish at 3:20pm.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

End of year reports are in the process of being written. Students have enjoyed a marvellous year with many making incredible progress.

We look forward to sharing with you a short comment from each subject, a tutor comment and latest progress data. Report grades will be largely based on performance in the exam week and other assessments from Term 6.

VACANCIES

WORKING AT BECKET KEYS

We are always happy to receive CVs. Please send to vacancies@becketkeys.org

Our partners 'Accent Catering' and 'Churchill' often recruit new kitchen and cleaning staff. Please contact us if you would be interested in this sort of role.

vacancies@becketkeys.org

Dates for your Diary

Sun 13th July Becket Keys leading
intercessions at St Thomas' Church

Mon 14th July Our Careers Fair

Tues 15th July Speech & Awards Evening

Weds 16th July Reserve Sports Day

Fri 18th July Last day of the year!

Mon 21st July Staff Training Day

Tues 22nd July Staff Training Day

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



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