



## HIGH EXPECTATIONS!

Mr Scott-Evans writes:

Well! Today's Solar Eclipse was a bit of a disappointment wasn't it? Thank goodness for the BBC who provided us with excellent images and a commentary from Brian Cox. This helped us to feel like our expectations were met a bit more and that we actually got to witness this important event. We all saw the Brentwood sky dim a bit and it felt a fraction colder, but I think everyone expected a lot more! Weren't we supposed to be plunged into darkness?!

How often this week has that happened to you? Have you expected great things, only to find that they did not quite live up to your expectations?

You may have heard it was my fortieth birthday this week. I came to school wondering what to expect – if anything. Sometimes that is a better way to go into a day. I was open-minded! So when the staff sang to me in morning briefing, presented me with cake and balloons and bunting, it was all a really nice surprise. One Year 8 form sent me a video message by email of them singing 'Happy Birthday' with a piano accompaniment! What a treat! My expectations were exceeded!



Next week is the 'Oliver!' performance; I guess the cast must be feeling the pressure now. Everyone keeps telling me their expectations are high.

Mrs Ahlner told me: 'It is going to be incredible!' But what do we expect? I think we expect to see young people putting themselves 'out there' and taking risks. I think we expect to see our students working together as a team and supporting each other. We certainly expect them to feel a rush of adrenaline as they take to the stage. Surely no one expects a West End Show, although maybe you will be pleasantly surprised! The students are all Year 9 or below. Everyone who wanted a part got one. Yes there were auditions, but no one was left out! That means our drama teacher has a cast of over

160 and just a few months to pull it all together.

I hope you will join me on one of the performance nights to encourage our young cast as they sing and dance and act. We will be selling tickets on the night for £5 each (£3 for concessions; Under 7s free). It would be great to exceed our cast's expectations with a good full audience each night. So even if your son/daughter is not involved, why not bring the family along and support those who have given up hours and hours of their year to produce the school play. I am confident: you'll be glad you did and that your expectations will be met!

Mr Andy Scott-Evans  
**Headteacher**



# SPORTS NEWS

## Year 7 Girls' Basketball V Anglo European

The Year 7s played away at Anglo European on Thursday for their final game of a busy and successful season! The game was slow to start with Becket Keys taking a 4-0 lead during the first quarter. We were not short of attacking movements and shots; however our accuracy when shooting let us down as we regularly hit the rim and backboard and watched the ball bounce back into the key! Anglo had some quick players but we were able to prevent them scoring. Elizabeth broke down the opposition's attack with some vital interceptions that turned into attacking opportunities for Becket Keys. The overall score was 10-2 – a low score for basketball but nevertheless still an important win!

## Year 7 & 8 MESSA Cross Country

We used this opportunity to select students who have been on the fringes of the cross country squad to see how they would perform on a more competitive stage. After excellent success in the district event last week, we were confident that the school would run well in this event. 23 schools competed.

The Year 7 girls ran a 2km course. Out of 120 runners the girls came as follows: Emmi Deal 17<sup>th</sup>, Olivia Mullan 18<sup>th</sup>, Ellie Martin 33<sup>rd</sup>, Abi Carey 44<sup>th</sup> and Ella O'Herlihy 75<sup>th</sup>. The girls' team finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place.

The Year 7 boys ran a 2.5km course. Out of 110 runners: Jacob MacDonnell 7<sup>th</sup>, Harry Howard 8<sup>th</sup>, Todd Miller 13<sup>th</sup>, Johnny Wyndham 30<sup>th</sup>, William McDermott 50<sup>th</sup>, Jasper Stuckey 58<sup>rd</sup> and Max Warren 67<sup>th</sup>. Our Year 7 boys team finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> narrowly losing out to the Brentwood School.

The Year 8 boys ran a 2.8km course. Out of 81 runners: Luke Savage 3<sup>rd</sup>, Daniel Ogunleye 18<sup>th</sup>, Ben Cooper 23<sup>rd</sup>, Jack Buckland 27<sup>th</sup>, Luke Seaward 31<sup>st</sup>, Freddie Mattock 33<sup>rd</sup>, Harrison Powell 46<sup>th</sup>, Josh Selwyn 60<sup>th</sup>. Grace Burrell raced well and came 15<sup>th</sup> in her race.

Well done to all students who took part. Our cross country is going from strength to strength and every year we are becoming more competitive.

Thanks to Mr Conway for giving up his Tuesday mornings to run the cross country club and to the students who attend every week. It has also been great to see several students competing in the Brentwood 'ParkRun' at South Weald every Saturday. Jack Buckland, Ben Cooper and Oliver Bradbury all ran PBs last week. This event is free of charge and open to all, students and parents. It would be great to see more students running on a weekly basis. This will make us an even stronger force next season, when we enter the English Schools Cross Country Championships again.

## Y7 Emerging Schools' Rugby Finals

Report by Patrick Warriner, Year 7

Having performed well at the district competition the Year 7 rugby team went on to play all the other successful schools from every district across Essex in a finals competition. We made a strong start by winning our first game tightly 2-1 with hard work from forwards Louis Ridley and Harrison Cole. After a long break before the second game, we were not prepared for the match. On the pitch it was a hard contest, we struggled to break their line of defence but we showed good commitment and gave them a good match. It ended with a 6-0 loss, but that didn't stop Todd Miller and Lewis Deller making some spectacular tackles.

The following game was the same kind of story with a big and strong attacking line, they took every chance they could and won comfortably 4-1. Good work from Ryan Blignaut at Number 9. As a team we played very well in the last game by passing the ball out and getting some great tries from Patrick Warriner, Louis Ridley and William Davey. We won our final game 5-0, which ended our tournament on a high. Well done to all students who took part, they were a credit to the school. The rugby scouts at the event were impressed by the way we have gelled as a team.

# MORE SPORTS



## Boys' U14 Hockey Plate Competition

Well done to the boys' hockey team who were runners up in the Essex U14 plate competition. They faced a tough opposition in Hockerhill Anglo European School at Chelmer Park on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Becket Keys showed great defence in the first half of the game, keeping the score to 0-0 until 30 seconds before half time. In the second half Ryan Chapman had a lot to do in goal as Hockerhill pinned Becket Keys into their own half for the opening 10 minutes. There were a number of goals scored against Becket Keys in quick succession, which led to deflated moral within the team for a while. However, Becket Keys kept attacking Hockerhill and Joel Reeves and Jacob MacDonnell had a couple of chances to move the ball into the "D" during the latter part of the second half. Unfortunately, the game ended 7-0 to Hockerhill, but Becket Keys have learnt a lot from playing against such a strong opponent and have demonstrated great potential. They should not feel disappointed as they are currently the second best boys' hockey team in their category in Essex and have done extremely well to get into the finals!

## Girls' U12s Hockey Tournament

The U12 girls attended the Emerging Schools' Hockey Tournament in Redbridge on Thursday. For all students it was their first competitive hockey experience. Olivia Mullen was brave enough to go in goal and demonstrated a natural ability as a hockey goalkeeper, producing some great saves against some strong opponents. In the whole tournament Olivia only let in 4 goals! The girls had 7 matches and displayed some great skills and vast improvement throughout the tournament. Their opening game against Caterham was won 2-0 with goals from Georgie and Maria. The second game was the toughest of the tournament against a team which had some players who had played hockey competitively before and demonstrated some excellent stick work. Olivia pulled off some great saves to keep the score to a 2-0 loss.

Becket Keys drew against Woodbridge, Alec Hunter and Sweyne Park 0-0 to gain 3 points from those 3 games. We also had an unfortunate loss to Harwich team as while the girls were substituting, the opposition took the opportunity to use the space created to score, but Molly quickly scored a fantastic goal assisted by many of her team mates to bring the score level, but it wasn't to be. Harwich scored with 30 seconds to go. The girls have learnt a valuable lesson from this game - to make sure they know the positions they are going to! Becket Keys also won against Caterham where Isla scored 2 goals! Well done Isla.

Overall, the girls came 3<sup>rd</sup> (and not far behind second place, Woodbridge, who we drew with), which is an excellent achievement for girls who have all just started playing! All girls played fantastically well during this tournament and Miss Honey hopes that the girls will continue to play together and will come to training during the summer term so we can improve upon a great start to their hockey careers in school!

## Year 7 Inter-House Mixed Netball

Next Thursday (26<sup>th</sup>) we will be running the annual Year 7 Inter-House Netball competition for both boys and girls. Forms may select up to 10 players, only 7 may play at once. Games will start straight away at the start of lunch. Students playing are advised to bring a packed lunch or collect a sandwich from the bistro at break to eat after the competition.

- Each form will play 5 games, one against every form
- Games will be 5 minutes in length.
- 3 points for a win, 1 for a draw and 0 for a loss
- The team with the most points will be crowned IHS Netball Champions!

## NOTICES

### Lost Property

There is still a lot of lost property including pencil cases, glasses and watches! Please ask your son/daughter to check at Reception for missing items.

### Girls' Kilts

A reminder that girls' kilts should be 'on the knee'. We have noticed a few girls have grown considerably over the last few months and they are now wearing kilts that are too short. We will be checking this over the next few weeks and sending cards home to girls who need a new kilt!

### Absence in Exceptional Circumstances

Parents wishing to apply for consideration for their son/daughter to be granted absence in exceptional circumstance need to give the school at least one month to deal with the request. Requests that come with less time than this are more likely to be unauthorised. All leave of absence requests (not medical) must have a Leave of Absence form completed in advance. Forms can be collected from Reception.

**HPV Vaccinations** Consent forms (Year 8 Girls) to be returned by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April at the latest.

**Bikeability Forms** Consent Forms to be returned to Reception before Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

### Food Technology

Please remember an apron and plastic container if you are cooking at school!

### Catering Accounts

Please ensure these are kept topped up. Lunch tickets are only available as a last resort and should not be used regularly.



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## VACANCIES

### WE ARE NOW RECRUITING!

Check our website for details:

[www.becketkeys.org/vacancies.php](http://www.becketkeys.org/vacancies.php)

### Dates for your Diary

22<sup>nd</sup> March      Ball boys & girls @ Wembley!  
24<sup>th</sup> March - 27<sup>th</sup> March      Oliver!  
30<sup>th</sup> March - 10<sup>th</sup> April      Easter Holiday  
20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April      Bikeability  
23<sup>rd</sup> April      Year 8 Girls' HPV Vaccinations

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