



## BECKET KEYS' LIBRARY APPEAL

### Mr Scott-Evans writes:

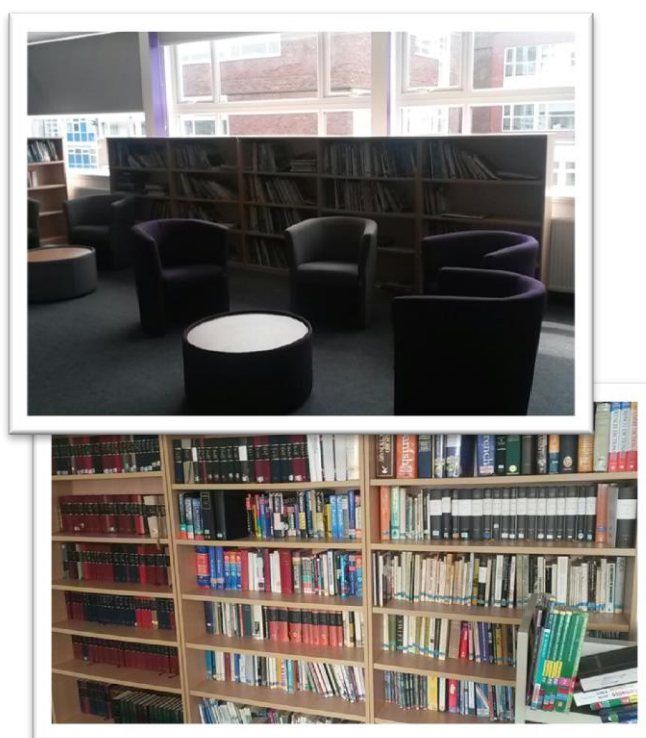
Can you donate some books to our library? Can you help support by volunteering a few hours each week?

Reading is one of the most productive things we can do with our time. As more and more young people just read snippets from social media and little bits of text on websites, the joy of reading books is slipping away. This would be a great shame!

Reading is known to have ten great benefits (for more details check out: <http://bit.ly/IO7ZMd>)

1. Mental Stimulation
2. Stress Reduction
3. Knowledge Building
4. Vocabulary Extension
5. Memory Improvement
6. Stronger Analytical Skills
7. Improved Focus
8. Better Writing Skills
9. Tranquility
10. Free Entertainment

Our library needs to be a great source of fiction and non-fiction and a place where students love to be so that they can easily benefit from the all of the above.



Over this year, thousands of library books have been borrowed and each week students are given a total of at least an hour of silent reading time in school.

As the books fly in and out of our library the wear and tear on them is quite high and many of our books need replacing this summer in readiness for next year. We also are a bit worried that some books have stayed at home rather than coming back into school.

So please can everyone search their house for our Becket Keys' books and start bringing them back into school so that we can restock?

We have put a trolley in reception for the return of the school library books. We would also like to receive any new donations of books. If you have good quality books at home that are not going to be read again, but which would be enjoyed in our library, please consider donating them to our school.

As a top priority, we would really like more fiction books. This is the section which is used the most, but we would also welcome new non-fiction texts if you have them.

In addition, we are looking to extend the opening hours of our library and could do with a larger parent volunteer team who could help support us. If you are willing to consider this please contact me via the school office: [office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org).

It would be great to hear from you. Full training will be provided.

**Andy Scott-Evans**  
Headteacher

# OTHER NEWS



## BECKET KEYS DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Last Friday, Paul Hannaford (a former drug addict) delivered an engaging, informative and hard hitting presentation to Year 7. It provided a real and horrifying insight into drug addiction, alcohol, gang life, knife crime and prison life. Paul began smoking cannabis at the age of 13 and over a period of eight years tried other drugs before finally succumbing to heroin and crack cocaine for 15 years. Listening to Paul's life story is a highly effective way of ensure our students say 'no' to drugs. This talk was followed by a well-received parent forum.

The harm caused by the use of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs by young people can be divided into the immediate damage caused to developing minds and bodies, and the risks of developing addictions and behaviour which last long into adulthood. In addition to this presentation, drugs education at Becket Keys is delivered through Science and PSHEE. A PSHEE drugs education overview has been created for Year 7 through to 11. All year groups will have input from this programme following our exam period. Our programme has been carefully designed to ensure that content is age appropriate and timely. It is based on statistical research into ages at which young people are likely to be first exposed to particular drugs. Importantly, the programme includes approaches which are based upon social influences and life skills (e.g. resisting 'peer pressure', assessing risk, problem-solving, self-esteem, assertiveness and changing perception of society and peer group norms). Research has found this approach to be highly effective.

Drugs education is not simply about ensuring our students are well informed and correcting any misconceptions they may have, it is about equipping them with the interpersonal skills needed to deal with handling situations where alcohol or drugs are available and enhancing some of the factors which protect against substance misuse. (These protective factors include children/young adults spending time with the family, setting clear limits when going out with their friends and communicating openly.)

Paul Hannaford spoke to teachers about the need 'for a timely drip feed' of accurate drugs information for our students and that is exactly what we intend to do. We are committed to supporting our students' ability to make safe and informed choices, now and in the future.

As a reminder, it is strictly against the school rules for any Becket Keys' students to use drugs, tobacco or alcohol. It is dealt with quickly and assertively, usually with exclusion.

# MORE NEWS

## MANDARIN TRIP TO ETON COLLEGE

By Daisy Benson, Year 9

The Mandarin GCSE club went on a trip to Eton College in Windsor on Wednesday 3rd June. It was a greatly anticipated outing, and the ten of us who are studying Mandarin next year went with Mrs Zhao and Miss France. When we arrived at Eton, we were immediately overwhelmed by the elaborate designs and intricate interiors of the buildings; it looked like a hotel!

We were taken to Miss Ling's classroom where we each told her about ourselves in Mandarin. Then it was off to the adjacent classroom, to have a lesson with ten boys who are studying Mandarin. They knew nothing about us coming to their school for the day, but as soon as their teacher told them, they stood up as we came in! Some of them even pulled our chairs out so we could sit down.



We learnt about the Dragon Boat Festival and the vocabulary to accompany it. The Dragon Boat Festival is a celebration that involves Dragon Boat Racing, and it happens on the 5th day of the 5th lunar month. The tradition is derived from the legend of the poet Chu Yuan, who was loved by the Chinese people. However, when the old Emperor died, Chu Yuan was unjustly banished and he threw himself into the Mi Lo River. His devoted followers, having heard the news, banged drums to frighten the fish away so that they didn't eat Chu Yuan's body. They threw zong zi into the river to feed the braver fish so that they didn't feast on the poet's body, and this is why Chinese people eat zong zi at the Dragon Boat Festival, which is a recipe of sticky rice stuffed with different fillings and wrapped in bamboo, reeds or other large leaves.



After the lesson, we had a tour of Eton College. The chapel was astounding, with a great organ and rows and rows of pews. We even saw Prince William and Prince Harry's names carved into the door to commemorate their education at Eton. Then it was off to lunch, which was just like an all-you-can-eat buffet! After that, it was time to depart, but not before we saw the flag flying at Windsor Castle to signify that the Queen was home! A brilliant day that we will never forget.



# EVENTS NEWS

## PATRONAL FESTIVAL PICNIC

**Saturday 4th July 12:00 – 4:00pm**

Tickets are now on sale for the Friends of Becket Keys Patronal Festival Picnic. Activities will include:



Inflatable (pay on the day), extra-curricular club demonstrations

Time for Year 6 and existing students and their families to meet and chat.

Domino's Pizza stall and/or bring your own picnic and picnic blankets - relax and have fun!

Tickets can be exchanged for a speciality coffee or tea (adults) or an ice-cream (children)

**Tickets: Adults - £3.00**

**Children under 13yrs - £2.00 (under 3yrs free)**

Tickets available from Reception. Cheques made payable to 'The Friends of Becket Keys'. All profits will go to our school charities: WorldVision and Great Ormond Street Hospital

## BECKET KEYS' GOT TALENT

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 7:00 – 9:00pm**

Tickets for Becket Keys' Got Talent are now on sale. Students can purchase tickets Monday & Wednesday breaktimes on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Carey Building.

**BECKET KEYS GOT  
T★LENT  
2015**

**Tickets: £3 per person**

**£10 for a family of 4 (any combination of adults & children)**

When you purchase your tickets, you will be able to choose which row you would like to sit in. Any seat is a good seat but the sooner you buy your tickets the more choice you have of where you would like to sit. It will prove to be a wonderful evening and I am sure the students would really appreciate your support.

## MUSIC FESTIVAL

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 7:00pm**

Following the success of last year's concert, we will be performing once again in a joint concert with St Peter's School on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. This will be held at St Peter's Church, South Weald, and will start at 7pm.

**Students from Becket Keys who are performing in the choir or orchestra, please collect a letter from the office regarding the arrangements.**

**Tickets: £5 for adults, £3 for concessions and children are free**

Tickets are available from Pauline Davidson ([concert@southwealdfestival.co.uk](mailto:concert@southwealdfestival.co.uk)), Becket Keys Office or from St Peter's Church after the service on Sundays. There will also be some available on the door. Please do come and support what promises to be an enjoyable evening of music.

# SPORTS NEWS

## Year 7 Boys' Cricket vs Brentwood County High School (BKS 126-3 beat BCHS 58-3)

The Year 7 boys' cricket team put in a good performance in their home match against BCHS. Becket Keys were put in to bat first, with Jasper Stuckey and Jacob Macdonnell opening. The boys started quickly, keeping the run rate high by running quick singles and the odd boundary. Jacob Macdonnell was unlucky to get run out for 6 after some indecision between the wickets. Jasper Stuckey went on to retire unbeaten on 28; a fine innings of singles and fours, including a magnificent cover drive that went for four to finish his knock. Dominic Spicer and Patrick Warriner came in and continued to keep the run rate high, with Dominic also retiring on 25 after being patient, but playing some great shots when the ball was there to be hit. Danny Brown came in and stayed until the end of the Becket Keys' innings with Patrick, who hit a quick-fire 10 from the last 2 overs to finish on 20 not out.

BCHS then came in and Jasper Stuckey opened the bowling. Jasper was able to get a wicket in the first over to put the pressure on BCHS from the start. Every outfield player for Becket Keys bowled at least 1 over, and all managed to build pressure whilst keeping the number of extras low. Zach Antoniou got a wicket after a BCHS batsman drove his delivery straight to a fielder. Becket Keys were then able to bowl accurately to keep the run rate low. BCHS stayed well for their 16 overs, but Becket Keys were able to complete their performance and advance to the next stage of the competition.

## Rounders V Brentwood School

The girls in P half had the opportunity to play competitive rounders on a lovely sunny day at The Brentwood School during last Friday's PE lesson. Three matches took place and all students

competed against students of a similar ability. It was a fantastic afternoon and the girls seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves!

The A team had an incredibly close game. The score ended up being 13- 12 ½ to Becket Keys! The girls batted first and scored a respectable 8 rounders in the first innings, but agreed they needed to take more risks in the later stages of the game in order to get more ½ rounders. With some excellent bowling skills from Isabella Connelly and fielding skills on the posts by Emily Barrett and Bethany Mayo, Becket Keys kept

Brentwood School down to 5 rounders. When the second innings came around the girls took a lot of risks early in the game and Brentwood School showed some excellent fielding skills to get out 6 of our players within 10 balls! The total score after Becket Keys second batting innings was 13. Brentwood School took on the challenge and had some excellent long hitting skills in the second innings, leaving them 1 rounder to win from the last ball. Becket Keys came out victorious when Georgie Loader and Emily Barrett worked together to get the last batter out at 2nd post.

The B team won their game 13.5 – 8! Talia O'Donovan, Evie Skinner and Olivia Haggerty made

a fantastic contribution to the score with some far and powerful hits. The game also gave us the chance to practise our fielding. Although there were some initial errors, as the game developed we became more alert and made better decisions!

The C team competed well, with some good hits from Apple-Jayne, Hayward, Amy Davies and Holly Rowland and we took the opportunity to score some rounders! When fielding, Katherine Ellery was able to catch out two of the Brentwood players, however, Brentwood were more alert when fielding and this prevented us scoring as many rounders as they did. The overall score was 12-8 to Brentwood, but a great time was had by all!



## NOTICES

### LOCKERS

Lockers for the next academic year are now available to reserve for **£12** for the year, allocated on a first come-first served basis. Application forms can be picked up from Reception.

### NEARLY NEW UNIFORM

If you have any nearly new items of school uniform which you would be prepared to donate, please drop these at the office for a sale at the Patronal Festival.

### CASTLES PROJECT!

As much as Mrs Knowles would like to be able to keep all your castles in school, she is unable to store 150 Medieval castles. If you haven't yet taken your castle home, please collect it from C36 before Friday 19th June. If your castle is not collected by this date, Mrs Knowles will presume you do not want to keep it.

### MADRID

European Health Insurance Cards: We still have a number of cards to return to students. We have contacted the parents of students concerned. Please remind your son/daughter to collect their card from Mrs Townsend.

We also have a duty-free bag containing a large quantity of sweets which was left on the coach. If this belongs to your son/daughter, please ask them to collect it from the office.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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CM15 9DA

01277 286600

[office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)  
[www.becketkeys.org](http://www.becketkeys.org)



## VACANCIES

### WE WILL SOON BE RECRUITING AGAIN!

Keep an eye on our website for details:

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

We are always looking to 'over staff' with teachers in any subject. Please send CVs to our school whether we have an advert placed or not.

### Dates for your Diary

15 <sup>th</sup> June	Non-Student day
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Music Festival @ St Peter's Church South Weald
30 <sup>th</sup> June	BKGT 7-9pm
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Patronal Festival Picnic
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Governors' Speeches & Awards evening

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