



## FIRMLY ROOTED

### Mr. Scott-Evans writes:

What a fabulous start to the year! The sun has been shining and the mood has been bright and warm in our school as we started the new year with 600 students.

The recently appointed staff have settled in quickly and we are all learning how to work alongside each other again in our rapidly growing school.

The theme for our school development this year is 'ROOTS'. We are once again using the 'Parable of the Sower' from St Matthew's Gospel (Chapter 13) to inspire our thinking. We have thought particularly about the verses that talk about the importance of roots. New plants must grow strong roots to survive – is our school any different? Like some of the seeds in the Gospel Parable, we have grown up quickly and had plenty of early success, but now we must ensure our roots are really strong and firm as we grow to our full size and eventually bear the fruits quite rightly expected of our 'Outstanding' school.

There is plenty for teachers and students to think about in this regard, so we are using our times of collective worship to

give ourselves time and space to reflect on the messages of the parable.

Students are considering the right choices they need to make each day, the outstanding progress they intend to achieve, how they can make sure the strong Christian ethos of the school has an impact on their character.



Teachers are considering carefully the plans they have for the year ahead, making sure

that the student voice is making a difference to the way we do things, but also the changes to GCSEs are reflected in our approach. New teachers are also learning what it means to work at this special school and how our Christian values pervade everything that we do. We are making sure that systems and communications are well established to assist with the rapid growth of the staff team.

We are looking forward to seeing you all this afternoon for our open school. Students are keen to introduce you to their form teacher and show you where they are based. Then we turn our attention to the Open Mornings and Evenings. As always we are really excited about showing visitors what makes this school such a distinctive choice. We are proud of what we have here – we must ensure we remain firmly rooted!

**Mr Scott-Evans  
Headteacher**

# OTHER NEWS

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS



We are excited to be starting our extra-curricular provision from **Monday 14th September**. Attached with this newsletter is the timetable of the varied array of activities and clubs on offer. We very much hope that every student will attend at least one activity each week.

Students interested in any of the activities should turn up for the first session and register with the teacher involved. If an activity is extremely popular, then it may be necessary to operate a rota system throughout the year.

TUP (Turn Up and Play) activities are sports' activities where students can turn up and play in their school uniform. Please note that students must change into trainers first.

HAS (Help Advice and Support) time is offered by departments to facilitate students getting individual specialist help or having a quiet place to complete work for the subject.

Homework club is available for all year groups every day and is a popular choice for learning. The club is to support students wishing to complete class or homework. It runs every night in C11. Other rooms can be opened for students if there is not enough space!

Please be aware that it is possible that changes may need to be made to the timetable at times, dependent upon staffing and student participation.

We look forward to welcoming your son/daughter to an activity.

### Alice in Wonderland Auditions



**Tuesday 15th September**  
3.30 – 5.00pm

Alice  
Mr. Mitchell  
Caterpillar  
Mad Hatter



**Come to: Runcie Hall** (Drama Studio)

**Wednesday 16th September**  
3.30 – 5.00pm

Cheshire Cat  
Tweedledum & Tweedledee  
Queen of Hearts

**Come to: Main Hall** (where we have collective worship)

### MUSIC LESSONS

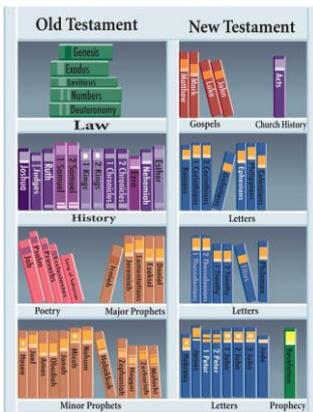
To enquire about individual music tuition for your child, please contact Mrs. Sands, Head of Music at the following email:

[peripatetic@becketkeys.org](mailto:peripatetic@becketkeys.org)



# MORE NEWS

## Becket Keys Bible Reading Challenge



This year, students will be completing a Bible reading challenge during tutorials based on a Scripture Union publication. The challenge is based around 100 carefully selected Bible readings (50 from the Old Testament and 50 from the New Testament) designed to give participants a good understanding of the overall Bible story from Genesis to Revelation. The readings are divided into five themes.

“Christian values are not enough – it is the beliefs that underpin the values that make the real difference: belief about God, about what it is to be human, about the Church and the world. The story of God’s dealings with his people and the world, and the beliefs expressed through that story, form the basis for the distinctive ethos of Church Schools.” John Cox

Consider reading along with us and considering the application of the words to your own life. Mrs. Sharp will include five readings per week, pausing the challenge during Advent and Lent, when students will be involved in special tutorials to prepare for Christmas and Easter respectively. Below is the first series of readings accompanied by key questions and a prayer. We hope you chose to join us!

### In the Beginning

1	Creation	Genesis 1:1-2:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What evidence for the existence of God do you see in the world around you?</li> <li>• When so you feel closest to God?</li> </ul>	Thank you, Lord God, for the incredible design and beauty of you creation. Help me do a better job of caring for it. Amen.
2	The Fall	Genesis 3:1-3:24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What makes you feel guilty?</li> <li>• Have you done anything in the last week or so that you deeply regret?</li> <li>• How could you make things right with others and God?</li> </ul>	Dear Lord, It’s hard for me to admit, but I have a problem with sin. Please forgive me and help me live in a way that pleases you. Amen.
3	The Flood	Genesis 6:5-7:24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you find yourself in situations where you are surrounded by sin?</li> <li>• How can you respond in ways that are pleasing to God?</li> </ul>	Lord God, I want to follow your way for my life. Please help me to keep my eyes on you and your path, no matter what those around me are doing. Amen.
4	God’s Covenant with Noah	Genesis 8:1-9:17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What things most remind you that God loves you?</li> <li>• What one thing could you do today to show you are grateful for his love?</li> </ul>	Thank you, Lord, that you love me even though you know all the secrets of my heart. Help me to share your love with others today. Amen.
5	Tower of Babel	Genesis 11:1-11:9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you got difficult or even broken communication in your family? Your place of work or study?</li> <li>• How has pride been a factor? How could you change the situation?</li> </ul>	O Lord, no matter how hard I try, pride seems to sneak into my heart. Forgive me and help me to be humble in all that I do. Amen.

# NOTICES

## Hair

We believe that hairstyle is an important aspect of the image central to the individual student and the image the individual student creates for Becket Keys.

Please check the uniform policy here:

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

Boys' hair should be short, above the collar. Girls' long hair must be tied back in a ribbon or band (school colours).

No one should have an extreme hairstyle: no colours, no shapes or stripes cut into hair etc.

## Jewellery

Only medic alert bracelets, watches and earrings may be worn. No other jewellery.

Only girls can wear earrings (one per ear lobe).

See uniform policy for more details:

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

## Bikes

Students riding without helmets are putting themselves at great risk on the busy roads near the school. Students should ride on the road or walk their bikes on the paths immediately around the school. It is not fair for others to have bikes around them.

## 20ps for charity

Thanks to all the students who have brought their six 20p coins in to school. Please can any remaining donations be sent in next week?



## CONTACT DETAILS

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

# VACANCIES

## WE ARE RECRUITING:

We are recruiting for **Mathematics & Science Learning Support Technicians.**

Please see our website for details and to apply:

[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

22/09/2015	Open Morning & Evening (Y6)
30/09/2015	Open Morning & Evening (Y6)
7/10/2015	Year 7 & 8 Meet the Tutor Evening
8/10/2015	Open Morning & Evening (Y6)
15/10/2015	War Horse Theatre Trip
23/10/2015	Inset Day
26/10/2015	All Saints Holiday