



## Aspirational Speakers

### Mr. Scott-Evans writes:

This week, some of our Year 9 and 10 students were given the opportunity to meet with Hannah Lynch, a barrister at St Pauls Chambers, practising in family, civil, education and criminal law. We are always on the lookout for aspirational speakers for our students and as the daughter of the CEO of RET, Hannah made an obvious choice!

Hannah attended her local comprehensive school in Surrey, from where she obtained a place at Oxford University. She studied Law at Jesus College, from 2006-2009 and, following her graduation, she undertook a Masters (LLM) in Public International Law at Nottingham University. Hannah then studied for the Bar Professional Training Course at Kaplan Law School in London. She now has a broad and developing practice as a junior barrister, living and working in Leeds.

Hannah's presentation gave the students insight into how to gain a place to study Law at university and how to specifically apply to Oxford University.

Hannah went on to describe: what it is like to study at Oxford; different routes to becoming a lawyer; and various careers in law.

Anna Townsend, Year 10, who has always been interested in law, said: *"I learned so much more by listening to Hannah and hearing about her journey to become a barrister. I am now even more interested in the subject and will definitely look into it further."*



Holly Hagger, Year 9, added: *"The talk was great because I am thinking about becoming a lawyer; it was good to find out more about the career and what qualifications you need to gain."*

James Jackson, Year 9, hadn't considered studying law at university but described the talk as *'insightful and informative'*.

Bethany Hancox, Year 10, said that it had made her think about which university course she may want to apply for and that she had also been

encouraged to keep working hard at her GCSEs, so that she can go on to study relevant A levels in preparation for this.

Daisy Benson, Year 10, concluded by saying: *"Hannah reminded us of the value of education and how everything you do, even prior to GCSEs, can contribute to a place at university. For example, different clubs you participate in and extra-curricular examinations, such as music grades, all help to build character and demonstrate commitment. The presentation provided me with an improved understanding of the university application process, which I found both interesting and useful."*

Hannah was an excellent role model for our students. If you know anyone who could come and speak to our students in a similar way, please let me know.

Special thanks to Mrs Cavalier for coordinating Hannah's visit and of course, to Hannah Lynch for giving up her time to speak to our students.

**Mr. Scott-Evans**  
**Headteacher**

# OTHER NEWS

## DRONE WORKSHOPS

In the second term, Science club had the opportunity to be taught about how drones (such as the one pictured) are made and used. They were also given the opportunity to learn how to fly these drones.

Now, thanks to the Essex County Council Education and Industry STEM programme, Becket Keys students have been invited to the Stow Maries Aerodrome on Saturday mornings. The dates are 13<sup>th</sup> February, 12<sup>th</sup> March and 16<sup>th</sup> April, and the sessions run from 10am until 2pm.



If this is something you are interested in, then please contact [Leanda.cable@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Leanda.cable@essex.gov.uk) at Essex County Council to find out further details.

## CHARITY CAKE SALE

There will be a Charity Cake sale on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February**. Cakes will be priced between 30p and 70p, so remember to bring some change!

Each form have been asked to bake at least two batches of cakes, so there should be plenty to go around! Happy Baking!



### Cake Sale

Tuesday 9th February  
2015

1:00-1:20

The Main Playground.



Bring in cakes  
to sell and  
money to buy!



Bring your cakes to  
the staff room before  
school on Tuesday

# MORE NEWS

## YEAR 7 Mandarin Day



This week Becket Keys held a very successful Mandarin Day for all the Year 7 students. This special event was organised to welcome the Chinese New Year, “the Year of the Monkey”.

Mandarin, a new and exciting language for pupils in the UK, has been taught for over three years at Becket Keys. All Year 7 students receive two periods a week and they can carry it on up to GCSE level. Mandarin is also set to become part of the A-level curriculum as the subject becomes further embedded in the school. We believe that learning one of the world’s most widely spoken languages will equip our students with a valuable tool for engaging with a nation that is re-shaping the world as we know it. China’s role in the past is equally important, and by choosing to learn this language, students are also developing an awareness of this land’s multi-faceted cultural legacy.



Mandarin Day started with an inspiring assembly, led by Thomas Godber, Head of Mandarin at Brighton College, who spoke about Chinese New Year and the significance of the monkey in Chinese culture. Students then participated in five educational and fun-packed workshops; they experimented with designing accessories using traditional Chinese patterns, had a go at Chinese calligraphy, learnt about Chinese culture through Chinese song and dance, watched the process of making gun powder and made their own stir-fry noodles. Finally, the students were treated to a spectacular traditional Chinese lion dance and received a souvenir for the day.

The keynote speaker from Brighton College, Mr Thomas Godber said, *“I have been really impressed with the positive attitude students at the school show towards learning Mandarin. They are clearly making excellent progress, which is testimony to the hard work of the school’s teachers to make the language as accessible as possible.”* Head of Mandarin, Mrs Zhao said, *“All the students I spoke to told me that they have had a fantastic day. The day has offered our students the opportunity to look beyond Chinese as merely a language and gain a deeper understanding of Chinese culture. It has been wonderful to see so many happy faces!”*



Teacher of Mandarin, Mr Khoo said *“I love to see the students engaging and enjoying the many different aspects of Chinese culture. I hope the day was memorable for the students and that this will be the start of their interest in all things Mandarin!”*

Zekel Brann and Ben Green, students from 7EW said, *“The day was very interesting, fun and exciting!”* Izzy Tilbrook, student from 7HS said, *“The day was really good. I really enjoyed learning about China.”* George Knight of 7HS said, *“It has been really fun and exciting. I enjoyed the Chinese cooking workshop but actually everything has been great.”* Nancy Parish and Molly Uwins students from 7EW said, *“we have learnt how to cook Chinese food and how to do a Chinese style dance. It is a very different day and we thoroughly enjoyed it! It is a very cultural day and we loved it!”*

## NOTICES

### Nearly New Uniform

A selection of nearly new uniform is available to buy from the school at very reasonable prices. Please enquire at Reception.

### Naming Property

It is very important that all of your son/daughter's property is named so that if it gets lost, we can return. There are still a large number of unnamed coats and other items that have not been claimed in lost property. Please enquire at Reception.



### CONTACT DETAILS

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## VACANCIES

We will be recruiting very soon. Please check our website in the coming weeks. We are looking for teachers in most subjects, particularly those who are enthusiastic about teaching A-levels in our new sixth form.

CVs welcome at any time:

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

### Dates for your Diary

- 12/02/16 Last day of Term
- 15/02/16 Lent Holiday
- 22/02/16 First day back
- 23/02/16 Year 7 Subject Consultation Evening

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