



IN WONDERLAND...?

Mr. Scott-Evans writes:

Our students are, today, half way through another year of their education at Becket Keys Church of England School. The complete journey is, for most of them, a 7 year one (including 6th Form) and so for our Founding Students, most of them are actually now half way through their entire Becket Keys journey!

Hopefully, they feel like it is a wonderful place to be. We work hard to make it a utopia of opportunity and challenge. It would be great to have your

views on our school. How are we doing? Is it a 'wonderland'?

Perhaps you could take five minutes to complete the survey here:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/125180/1>

So far 100% of parents this year have said that they would recommend this school to someone else. Thank you for this encouragement! It is only through hearing your views that we can be sure we are along the right lines. So please do contact us via our website if you want to comment more specifically on any issue:

<https://www.becketkeys.org/contact.php>

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Next term, we will be putting on our fourth school play. You may already have bought your tickets on the SCOPay system – thank you!

There are details about the show on page 4, but I would like to add here my own encouragement to you to attend.

So many students do not get to go to the theatre. It is such an expensive night out for a family. Our school play offers a great opportunity for families to enjoy some

live theatre and I can assure you that it will be a simply wonderful performance.

Not only is the acting and directing superb, it is always a joy to see young people here putting themselves on the stage and learning those key lessons of holding an audience's attention and taking risks in terms of their dancing, acting and performing.

Get along to the play – you won't be disappointed. It may well inspire your son or daughter to get involved next year and it is one of the most marvelous things to do during your time at secondary school.

Some students here have taken a role every year since starting and it clearly improves not only their drama grades, but also so many other important elements:

Attendance
Behaviour
Confidence
Determination
Enjoyment
Friendships

LENT

As we start our Lent Holiday, I wish all our students a restful break. I hope all of you will be able to find some time for yourselves next week.

Best regards

CAKE SALE: THANK YOU!

Thank you to all students who contributed cakes for the charity cake sale this week: enough were received to allow cakes to be sold on two lunchtimes.

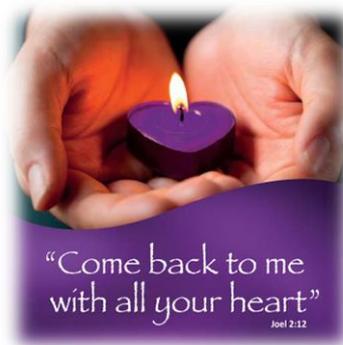
Particular mention should go to Saffron Wilson who brought in two 'show stopping' cakes, whilst 7HS more than won the competition for the form who baked the most cakes, donating 15 batches! In fact, Year 7 overall were the cake producers of the school, contributing 2/3 of the total cakes sold – so thank you Year 7! Thank you too to 8AC, 8EW, 8HS, 9EW, 9FS, 9HS, 9WW and 10PP for their contributions.

The total raised will be announced after the Lent Holiday, but Mrs Ahlner would just like to thank whoever baked the most delicious gingerbread cupcakes that she purchased! Thank you to the Charity committee and other staff members for giving up their lunchtime to help run the sale. Photo to follow!

OTHER NEWS

LENT AT BECKT KEYS CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

Lent is a season of spiritual preparation. It calls us to renew our lives and turn to God, who is full of compassion. There will be plenty of opportunities for students, staff and visitors to draw closer to God this Lent. There are special spaces to explore around the school, Lenten tutorial materials and the opportunity to attend a short lunchtime Eucharist every Friday throughout Lent. These Lenten Eucharists are open to all members of our community, so please do join us at 1pm in the Chapel. Feel free to also take part in our reflection activities or add a prayer to our prayer tree in reception.



From Tuesday 23rd February, we are also able to offer Christian Mediation sessions to help students 'be still and know God' (Psalm 48:10). These will take place during tutor time for students from all year groups who express an interest. Please talk to your son/daughter about making the most of these opportunities.

When your soul whispers of its deepest longings,
may you quiet yourself to listen.
May you follow the path of yearning to the One alone that
blends the uneven edges
into a life of meaning.
May you meet and be united with God
and give thanks for the whispers
that led you there. Amen.



INNER DRIVE – PARENT WORKSHOP

Mark Your Calendar
Don't sit on the sidelines...Get involved!

THE
**TEENAGE
BRAIN**

Ever wanted to know how the teenage brain works?
Now is your opportunity

Keep the **18th March** free
from **6.45-7.45pm**

Mrs Sharp writes: During our enrichment day on the 18th March, both Years 9 and 10 will benefit from workshops provided by 'Inner Drive'. Inner Drive is passionate about helping athletes, students and businesses realise their true potential through the development of an ideal mindset and an ability to perform under pressure.



As part of their day, Year 9 students will benefit from concentration training and Year 10, from learning how to study with the brain in mind. In the evening, we have now booked Inner Drive to provide an 'understanding the teenage brain' workshop for parents and staff. By better understanding how the teenage brain works and the challenges students face, we will be better able to support them together. The workshops will help develop strategies to overcome and manage procrastination, stress, multi-tasking, working memory and more. Indeed, improved self management and psychological well-being for us all! Please mark the date in your diary and join teachers for this interactive and engaging workshop.

You Turn

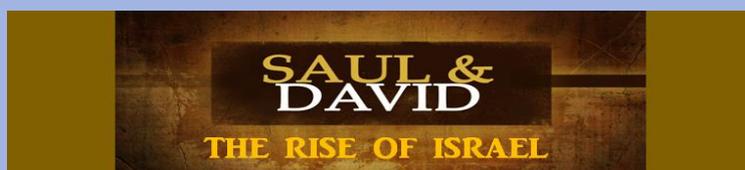
MORE NEWS

BK BIBLE READING CHALLENGE CONTINUES – THE RISE OF ISRAEL

Who would lead the people of Israel now that they had settled in the Promised Land? That's the big question being worked out in our next five readings. As we have seen, God's plan was to form Abraham's descendants into a 'great nation' and through them to bring 'great blessing' to all people (Genesis 12:2,3). That blessing would be a Saviour for the sins of the entire world – Jesus Christ.

Because of their unique place in his plan, the Israelites experienced God's direct help and guidance over the years. It was God who freed the children of Israel from captivity in Egypt; God who led them through the desert with pillars of cloud and fire; God who brought them to the Promised Land. And along the way it was God who took the initiative to reveal his priorities by giving them the Law at Mount Sinai. Since the very beginning, God had been powerfully and miraculously leading his people. But, as we will see, the Israelites became uncomfortable with God's leadership style; he absolutely refused to let them worship other gods or participate in all the things that went with that. Instead, they wanted a king 'like all the other nations' (1 Samuel 8:19,20). On the surface this didn't seem such an outrageous request. But behind Israel's desire for a 'normal king' was a rejection of God's rule over them (1 Samuel 8:6,7). It's the same choice we face today: to follow Jesus and be part of God's kingdom or to go our own way. It's a decision with eternal consequences.

In spite of their subtle rejection of him, God doesn't abandon his people. He gives them the kings they want and continues working out his plan through them. As a result, we are introduced to some of the Bible's greatest characters. We meet Samuel, the boy who listened to God; Saul, Israel's talented first king who came to a tragic end; and David, Israel's greatest king and 'a man after God's own heart'. Our readings bring us to the pinnacle of Israel's history – the one time when they had both the land and peace. As we know from reading the rest of the Bible and our daily newspapers, it didn't last. But what a glorious time it was!



31	Samuel listens to God	1 Samuel 1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which character from our reading do you identify with? What do you learn from their experience that can help you? How could you do a better job of modeling your commitment to Christ to those around you? 	Father, I need your help to demonstrate my love for you to others. Help me become an effective witness for you. Amen.
32	King Saul	1 Samuel 8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When you say, 'Jesus is Lord' what do you mean? What could you do this week to cultivate the ability to hear God better? 	Lord Jesus, I want to be a fully committed follower. Please prepare my heart so that you can use me to do your will. Amen.
33	David and Goliath	1 Samuel 16:1-18:16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How have you reacted to the successes in your life? Who around you has a heart for God and how can you tell? How could you cultivate a heart for God? 	Lord God, forgive me for comparing myself to others on superficial things. Please help me develop a heart that is eager to know and follow you. Amen.
34	David and Saul	1 Samuel 23:7 – 24:22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Think of some situations when you have been tempted. What was your first impulse? Think of one situation in which you need to be courageous and trust God. What will that require of you? 	Lord God, I want my first impulse to be a willingness to obey you. I can't do that in my own strength alone, so I ask that you fill me with your Spirit now and always. Amen.
35	King David	2 Samuel 5-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has God ever shaped your character through difficulties? How? Are you still applying those lessons today? 	King Jesus, I worship and praise you with my whole heart right now. I want to follow your will for my life, wherever it takes me. Amen.

MORE NEWS

TICKETS ON SALE!

This year's school production of **Alice in Wonderland** and **Alice Through the Looking Glass** will be performed during the second week back after the Lent holiday. The performances will run from 7pm till 9pm on:

Wednesday 2nd March
Thursday 3rd March
Friday 4th March



To reserve your seats please pay on the online SCOPay system. Tickets are £4 each and will be shown as a one line item on the system, so if you want to purchase two tickets, type £8 into the value box and follow your purchase through to completion via the shopping basket. Seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. **Please note that your SCOPay receipt will act as your ticket - please bring a printout of the email receipt to show on the door.**

FoBK NEWS

“Friends of Becket Keys” staged another highly successful quiz night on Friday 5th February with over 100 parents, teachers and friends in attendance. Thank you to Clare Middleditch and Jane Uwins for organising the evening.

Special thanks go to James Savage, Quiz Master Extraordinaire, who led this most enjoyable and intellectually challenging event. With 15 teams taking part, the competition was tough, and the break couldn't have come soon enough for some!

The anonymity of team names saves a number of people from shame, but we can say that the winners were “Quizzle Chicks and Cocks”, with winners of the Best Team name as “Oldham Inn Firm”, as chosen by the FoBK Adjudicator.

The support of the those attending this event raised £700, which will go towards funding additional resources for the benefit of our students. If there are any parents who may be able to “Match Fund” this event, FoBK would be delighted to hear from you - please contact Alison Butler on FoBK@becketkeys.org if you can help. Thank you to everyone who came along and making this a great evening. FoBK look forward to seeing you at the next event.

Do you have any unwanted clothing? – Don't bin it! - FoBK will be organising a “cash for clothes” collection at the school, scheduled for **Monday 11th April**. Full details regarding collection/drop off will be provided after the Lent Holiday. Meanwhile, if you have any spare unwanted clothes/shoes please start bagging them up and help us raise funds for the school.

REHEARSAL REMINDER

A Reminder to all students who are in the school production that there is an all-day rehearsal for the whole cast on **Monday 15th February** (Monday in The Lent Holiday) from **9am-4pm**.

Students should bring a packed lunch and whatever costumes they have managed to source. Students are asked to meet promptly at 9am in the Main Hall. Please contact Mr Harries as soon as possible if your child is unable to make this rehearsal. Please could all cast members also bring a **coat hanger** and a **plastic carrier bag** (both labelled with your name) to this rehearsal? This will enable us to organise costumes for the play.



MORE NEWS

GEOGRAPHY GCSE RESIDENTIAL TRIP JANUARY 27th – 29th



Mr Goldstein, Head of Geography writes:

On Wednesday 27th January, the Year 10 Geography students set off on the first ever GCSE residential. The aim of the trip was to collect results for their controlled assessment, which is worth 25% of their final GCSE. Students carried out a pilot study on arriving at Juniper Hall in Dorking, Surrey. This allowed them to familiarise themselves with their group members and perfect data collection methods to be used the next day. In the evening, students worked on the introductions and methodology sections of their controlled assessment and managed to combine work completed in class, along with information picked up on site, to produce high quality drafts.



On Thursday, students visited five different sites along the River Tillingbourne. It was exceptional to see the enthusiasm of all involved for the entirety of the data collection day. The data collected is vital to their controlled assessment and students worked hard in their groups to ensure it was collected to the highest degree of accuracy. On returning to Juniper Hall, students collated all of the data that had been collected. Many students went above and beyond what was expected of them, with some even staying in the classroom until 9pm!

The final day of the trip allowed students to start presenting their results. Students completed complex data presentation techniques that will allow them to access the highest marking level in their work. Spearman's Rank and ArcGIS were amongst techniques taught to the students by the dedicated Juniper Hall Staff.

I would like to thank all staff, both at Becket Keys and Juniper Hall, for making the trip a huge success, however, without the students' hard work, perseverance and dedication to their geography GCSE, the trip would not have had the impact that it did. Suffice to say, the silent coach on the way home showed how hard everyone had worked!



NOTICES

LOST COAT!

One of our Year 7 students has been searching for her coat. It is named 'Rachel Allen' and has a pair of gloves in the pocket.

We have been searching for weeks and just cannot find it. Please can you check at home?

Named items are always returned to the students. Unnamed items are kept in lost property for several weeks and then disposed of. If you have lost something, please ask your child to speak to their tutor about locating it.

DONATIONS WELCOME

Donations of books, cooking equipment and musical instruments are always welcome.

Thank you to everyone who has donated items this term.

SICKLY

Remember to use the Sickly App to report absence. It is faster and easier for the school as well as you! <https://www.sickly.org/>

It is quick and easy to register and start using the App if you have a smart phone. If not you can use it on the website.

BISTRO

Please note: we cannot give away free meals or lend families money! Each ScoPay account has a small 'buffer' facility, but this is only for emergencies and will only cover the cost of a sandwich. Please keep the account topped up!

CONTACT DETAILS

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VACANCIES

We are now recruiting to fill vacancies in our growing school. Each year we need about 10 new teachers.

<http://www.becketkeys.org/vacancies.php>

We are looking specifically for:

Mathematics
English
Science
History
Geography
Art
Technology
Drama
Food
Head of 6th Form

We are particularly looking for teachers who are enthusiastic about teaching A-levels in our new sixth form.

CVs welcome at any time.

Please check the website for details.

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