



TEENAGERS!

Mr. Scott-Evans writes:

We are thoroughly enjoying our teenagers! There are more and more here every day! We've got 600 students now and will have another 150 joining in September. All will be teenagers for the vast majority of their time here.

One day, we'll have 1050! That is quite a thought!

I guess we all ask ourselves the same sort of questions from time to time:

"Is this normal?"

"Is my son/daughter going through the same things as other young people their age?"

Whilst you are probably well aware of what your son/daughter is going through, we are in a very different (and wonderful!) position to be able to offer an insight as to what is 'normal' and 'expected'. We really enjoy the opportunities parents' evenings provide us to sit with you and get your insights (by the way, thanks to all who came this week for the Year 7 parents' evening!). We also recognise that, from time to time, it is helpful for parents to hear about teenagers 'in general' rather than just one at a time.

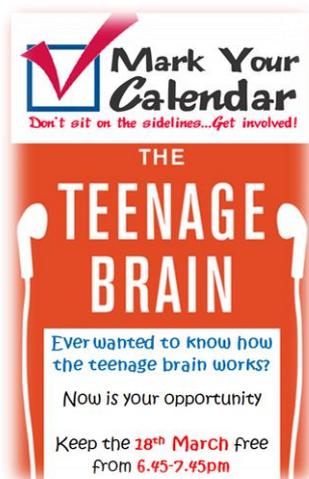
With that in mind we are organising a special event on Friday 18th March for students (during the day) and parents and staff (in the evening) to examine the wonders of the teenage brain! The sessions will be led by our friends from 'Inner Drive' who have been to the school before on several occasions to lead 'growth mindset' seminars.

We are delighted that they are able to bring their expertise to our school once again. You can find out more here:

www.innerdrive.co.uk

Inner Drive
THE TEENAGE BRAIN
6:45 to 7:45pm
Becket Keys Main Hall

The teenage brain workshop teaches staff and parents how to help students use their brains effectively and make better decisions under pressure. An improved understanding of how the teenage brain works and the challenges students face will enable us to support them better. It is exciting to think that parents and staff will be receiving training together. We will truly be in the best position to help our students navigate the teenage years!



In addition, the session will also contain the key messages delivered to students throughout the day, so that parents and students can engage in conversations to reinforce and enhance their workshop experiences.

KEY MESSAGES

MULTI-TASKING

Why multi-tasking is so hard

MEMORY

The brain's limitations with remembering lots of information

SLEEP

Why teenagers struggle to get enough sleep

ORGANISATION

How teenagers can avoid procrastinating

MANAGING STRESS

Why teenagers struggle to read emotions effectively

Book tickets now (FREE!) on the parents' evening booking system.

Whilst you are online, you really need to make sure you get your tickets for Alice In Wonderland! They are selling fast and you really do not want to miss this opportunity! It promises to be an excellent show.

We are really delighted with all the commitment our students and staff have shown to this and we can't wait for next week.

Mr. Scott-Evans
Headteacher

OTHER NEWS



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Our Christian Meditation sessions have started at Becket Keys. Meditation goes beyond words, images, thoughts and feelings. It leads us into stillness, silence and simplicity, allowing us to be in the present moment. It allows God's mysterious presence, which is already within us, to become the reality which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we are and do. The method which students have been introduced to involves the repetition of a single word faithfully during the time of meditation. It will be interesting to see how meditation affects our students; how it shifts their priorities and alters their perceptions of the challenges they face in their everyday lives.

It is not too late to join these sessions. Students from all year groups are welcome. Sessions are taking place on **Tuesdays** during tutor time. If your son/daughter wishes to discuss this opportunity further, please encourage them to talk to their form tutor or Mrs. Sharp.

YEAR 8 ROYAL GEOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION AMBASSADORS' VISIT

Mr. Goldstein, Head of Geography writes:

The Geography Department have been lucky enough to secure a visit from four Royal Geographic Association Ambassadors on **Thursday 17th March**. The Geography Ambassador scheme recruits, trains and supports undergraduate, postgraduate and graduate geographers from universities and business to act as ambassadors for geography in the classroom and beyond.

The four ambassadors will be attending all Year 8 Humanities lessons throughout the morning. It is a great way to introduce students to the many exciting and relevant benefits of studying geography, widening their perception of the subject and encouraging them to pursue it beyond the compulsory stages. This is a very exciting opportunity for all Year 8 students and one that I am sure they will find extremely useful and thoroughly enjoyable.

CHARITIES COMMITTEE NEWS

The final total raised from the charity bake sale before the Lent Holiday was a massive £255. Thank you again to all those who baked or bought cakes!

To all our enthusiastic bakers, we would like to sell cakes with proceeds to our nominated charities, before the Alice in Wonderland production next **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening**. If you would like to contribute cakes, please bring them to Mrs. Ahlner's room on any of the production days, to be sold that evening.

MORE NEWS

BRENTWOOD HALF MARATHON & FUN RUN

The Brentwood half marathon and fun run, organised by the Rotary Club of Brentwood à Becket, is now in its 35th year. Over this period of time, the event has raised well over £2 million for local, national and international charities. Becket Keys will be the hub for this event on **Sunday 20th March** and the Rotary Club would like our support. As the event is now fast approaching, we would like to invite as many of our school community to help on site during the event or participate through running. Our PE department will be supporting students in their preparation for the event. There are many ways that you can support this event:

RUNNERS: Students who intend to compete in the Fun Run need to register online: <http://www.brentwoodhalf.org/fun-run-entry/4582074477> and enter the team name as 'Becket Keys'. Students are encouraged to raise money for our school charities, Little Haven's Hospice (in memory of Katie Anderson) and Kids Inspire, by completing the sponsorship form we are sending with this newsletter.

HELPERS: Students who are not competing can help on site during the day. Parents and carers are also welcome! For further information, please refer to the letter sent to you with this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there!

A TRIP TO CHINA

We are proud to announce that Becket Keys has been chosen along with just six other schools in Essex to be paired with a school in Jiangsu Province, South China. This partnership has been initiated through the STEM UK-China school partnership programme in collaboration with Essex County Council. The Mandarin and Science departments are working together to support this exciting project within the school. A member of staff and six students from our partner school, Shuren School in Jiangsu, will visit us at the beginning of July and in return, we will send six students and one member of staff to visit them in China in October.

We are planning to choose two students from Years 8, 9 & 10 to pioneer the trip. The participating students will need to pay the visa fee and flight tickets, which will be around £1,200. All the information about the trip has been sent to parents this week and Mrs. Zhao and Mr. Macallan are holding a "China Project Information Evening" on **Thursday 10th March at 7pm**. Please register online on the Parents' Evening system to book your places! The project officer, Miss Zhong Wang, from the Essex County Council, will be on hand to answer any questions and queries you may have. Students should attend in full school uniform and be ready to make a great first impression!



MOTHER'S DAY SALE

To raise funds for World Challenge Costa Rica 2017, some of our year 10 students will be holding a gift sale on **Wednesday 2nd and Friday 4th March** at lunchtime. Hand crafted and Gift wrapped presents will cost £2.50 or £3.00 including a Mother's day card. Please encourage the students to support this cause and grab a great gift at the same time.

SPRING MUSIC CONCERT

Tickets for the Spring Music Concert on **Tuesday 15th March at 7pm** are now available to purchase on Scopay. The concert will include performances from all the extra-curricular music clubs, as well as some solo items and small group items. It is set to be a wonderful evening.

SPORTS NEWS

YEAR 7 GIRLS' NETBALL

On Wednesday 10th February, the Becket Keys' Netball team played in a rally at William De Ferrers School. We played 5 matches against different schools. We played really well and we won 2 matches, drew 2 and lost 1. Our players for this match were:

Katie Brown	(Centre)
Megan Clements	(Wing defence)
Lara King	(Wing attack)
Nancy Parish	(Goal attack)
Abigail Catton	(Goal keeper)
Abbie Smallcombe	(Goal defence)
Hannah Lawrence	(Goal shooter)
Leah Deller	Swapped SUB

The team showed a real improvement and hopefully we will continue to improve in future games.

Written by Lara King, Katie Brown and Megan Clements



YEAR 10 BOYS' RUGBY

There are now four fixtures in the calendar for Year 10 Boys' Rugby. Please could all students interested in this ensure that they attend Rugby training. It is crucial that the team has coaching time before each event.

NOTICES

SCHOOL TERM DATES

A reminder that all term dates can be found on our website here:

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

Once you have selected the relevant year e.g. 2015-16 on the tab, you can select a calendar grid at the top of the page, which shows the full school year calendar including all inset days, school holidays and bank holidays.

ALICE REHEARSALS

A reminder that all-day rehearsals for the school production will be taking place as follows:

Tuesday 1st March – all-day Technical Rehearsals running until 5pm

Wednesday 2nd March – all day Dress Rehearsals running until 3.20pm



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.

We are looking specifically for:

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

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

Please check the website for details:

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

Dates for your Diary

02/03/16-04/03/16	Alice in Wonderland
10/03/16	Year 8 Subject Consultation Evening
10/03/16	Years 8,9 & 10 China Project Information Evening @ 7pm
11/03/16	Year 9 & 10 Vaccinations
15/03/16	Spring Music Concert @ 7pm
18/03/16	Enrichment Day
20/03/16	Brentwood Half Marathon & Fun Run
21/03/16	FoBK Becket Keys' Bake Off
24/03/16	Last Day of Term
11/04/16	Inset Day
12/04/16	First Day Back

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