



## INTERVIEWS & INJECTIONS!

**Mr. Scott-Evans writes:**

### NEW TEACHERS

This week we have been very busy interviewing new teachers for our school. We have been delighted by the quality and quantity of applicants and we are excited to be bringing a number of new teachers into the school.

As part of our growth plan, we're looking for new colleagues to fill the additional capacity we need for September 2016 in English, Mathematics, Science, Drama, Technology, Art and Food. In addition, this year, we are looking for a colleague to help me spearhead the creation of our outstanding Sixth Form provision.

We have successfully recruited in most areas, but are advertising again for Geography, Mathematics and Science. As usual, we will not interview anyone who does not secure a 'good' or 'outstanding' grade in their lesson observation. The Russell Education Trust (RET) have once again provided us with OfSTED trained inspectors to assist with the process and our own senior team have also been present in every observation and interview.

I have worked with governors in the interviews and also, crucially, been listening to the feedback of students who are involved (offering tours and through participating in the lesson observations). Only when an applicant manages to impress the full compliment of our team, are they offered a position.



Every teacher has to teach a good or outstanding lesson

It has been clear from the reactions of those we have met this week that there is a strong demand to work in a school like ours. The recent SIAMS inspection result confirms to colleagues that this is a place of excellence and this is resulting in more and more high quality applicants. I feel very excited and confident about the process again this year.

### INJECTIONS

Congratulations to all the students who had injections today! I know how some of you feel about them! You were very brave! Staff were caring and understanding to those who were nervous and I think it all went smoothly. It was good to see students being supportive and making sure we were all a bit more delicate with each other today!

### REMINDER

A final reminder from me to make the most of the opportunity to hear from the team at 'Inner Drive' who are here next week for the Enrichment Day.

After a day with the students, They are running an evening session for parents and staff called 'The Teenage Brain.' It promises to be a very useful event. You can book your tickets on line via the Parents' Evening booking system.

18<sup>th</sup> March  
6:45 to 7:45pm  
Free of Charge

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr. Scott-Evans  
**Headteacher**

# OTHER NEWS

## PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

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Becket Keys' Public Speaking Team provided a wonderful presentation at the regional finals of the Rotary Club public speaking competition. Although Ella Crowley, Alice Keely and Jamie Wilson didn't walk away as winners, a considerable number of the audience commented on how engaging and well presented their work was and how it was of winning quality.

Well done to **Catherine Barker** and **Claire Ransley**, who were presented with their bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March. They are both embarking on their silver award!

We will be entering teams next year in the Senior category (Year 10 and above in September 2016) and the intermediate category (Year 7 to 9 in September 2016). If you are interested in being part of a team or helping with the speech writing and training, then see Mrs Ahlner or Miss Sandiford and come along on Tuesday lunchtimes to Philosophy and Debating when we will be starting to plan our entries.

## IT IS NEARLY CHRISTMAS!

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Not really, although our resident Robin on 'The Patch' might think so! Whilst it may be difficult to think about Christmas at this time of year, the Royal Horticultural Society Campaign for School Gardening is looking for artists to design a Christmas card for sale in their shops. Entries from Becket Keys would fall into the 12-18 years old category.

Visit: <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Competitions/Christmas-Card-Design-Competition> to find out more and print off a template.



Eco Club have decided to support this competition and felt that other budding artists in the school might also like to get involved. Profits made from the sale of the Christmas cards will go toward the charitable work of the Royal Horticultural Society, which includes the RHS Campaign for School Gardening.

Winners will also receive a framed copy of their design, several packs of their printed Christmas cards and a bundle of gardening goodies and art supplies worth £100.

The RHS Campaign for School Gardens inspires and supports many schools to provide opportunities for students to boost their skills and development. They literally help grow skills for life!

All entries need to be handed into form tutors by the 18<sup>th</sup> March. Mrs Sharp will then send all entries to the RHS.

## PARENTS' FORUM

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We are holding a Parents' Forum on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 11.55 – 12.45pm. Open to all parents, it will be an opportunity for parents to give feedback on how the school can continue to grow and improve. The main areas for discussion will be:

- Transition
- Uniform
- Exam readiness

Please book your place on the Parents' Evening booking system.

# SPORTS & MUSIC NEWS

## RUGBY NEWS

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Next week, there are four rugby fixtures in the calendar. These rugby fixtures are for all ages, across the school. The PE department would like to make parents and students aware that the teams selected for these events will be larger than normal to ensure that all students are given adequate rest between each event. Students should be aware that they may not be selected for all fixtures.

## YEAR 7 NETBALL

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On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March the Year 7 netball B team played in a rally at Brentwood School. The players included Nancy Parish (GA), Lara King (GD), Ellie Veness (WA), Katie Brown (C), Erin Carolan (GK), Hannah Lawrence (GS) and Abigail Catton (WD). The team played very well with determination throughout the games. We came fifth out of six teams. The schools we played included Brentwood County High, Brentwood School, Ursuline School, St Martin's and Anglo-European School. We were able to win one game (2-1). We scored lots of goals in other matches but didn't win. We will train very hard so that we are ready to perform even better in upcoming matches!

## YEAR 7 & 8 NETBALL

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On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, Year 7 and 8 girls had a netball fixture against Ormiston Rivers. The girls performed brilliantly with the Year 7s winning 38/1 and the Year 8s winning 19/0. Whilst we are pleased that the girls played so well, it was the lovely comment from the staff at Ormiston that really made us proud. At the end of the match, the girls were thanked for their brilliant sportsmanship and grace in winning. Very rarely do staff from competing schools make comments of this nature. Well done to all those involved!

## YEAR 8 BOYS' RUGBY

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**Saint John Payne 0                      Becket Keys 20**

The Year 8 boys' rugby team enjoyed their game away against Saint John Payne. Two tries in each half gave Becket Keys the victory, but the game was not as straightforward as the score line may have suggested. The tries came from Louis Ridley (x2), Harry O'Herlihy and James Peace. At times, Becket Keys played some very entertaining rugby, passing the ball through the hands to create spaces and tries, which was great to watch. The team would like to work on doing this more consistently in their final game. The team worked very hard to secure the ball in the ruck and create a solid defensive line, but at times Saint John Payne were able to get through and nearly score. The team showed great character and determination in the game and are looking forward to finishing the season strongly.



## SPRING CONCERT

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On Tuesday next week we are holding a Spring Concert (7pm). Many musicians from the school will be performing and celebrating their hard work from the year so far. Please come along to support our students, if you can. Tickets are available on ScoPay for £4. It is always great to have an audience!

If you think your son/daughter would benefit from playing at such an event, please contact Mrs Sands via the website to request that they are considered for future concerts. We are now running three per year.

## NOTICES

### SCHOOL STATIONERY

The school shop is open every day in the Bistro at lunchtime. We sell all essential Becket Keys' stationery items, at good prices. Students should not be without pens, pencils, whiteboard pens, glue sticks, protractors, rulers and so on. These are all available in the shop.

### GIRLS' HAIR

Girls' hair must be tied back every day. It should be fully tied up, not half and half. Hairbands and ribbons should be purple, black, white, grey or natural colours. Parents can help with this, by encouraging girls to plait their hair, etc.

### GIRLS' KILTS

Teachers will be checking the length of girls' kilts next week. They should be knee length.

### CONTACT US

Teachers are contactable via the website. Your email will go directly to them and they will normally respond within 24 hours (and definitely within 3 working days).

### CONTACT DETAILS

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## VACANCIES

We will continue to interview next week for various teaching posts. Students will be involved in the process in the usual ways, for example, being part of interview lessons and giving tours. Some will be asked to give feedback and ask questions.

Other opportunities will be arising in the school. If you are interested in a position, please send your CV to [vacancies@becketkeys.org](mailto:vacancies@becketkeys.org)

### Dates for your Diary

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

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