



A WAY THROUGH?

Mr. Scott-Evans writes:

Pedestrian Access

Last week I attended a meeting about the traffic congestion in Sawyers Hall Lane. I discussed with other head teachers, Councillors and parents the issues surrounding the path to Doddinghurst Road remaining closed, potential ways forward and for making improvements to Sawyers Hall Lane.

Unfortunately, there will be cost implications to all the options, but some next steps were agreed upon. A small working group is going to be set up and we will ask an independent group to create a viability study for a path to be instated back down to Doddinghurst Road.

We have also agreed to ask Highways to look at some improvements to the pedestrian experience in Sawyers Hall Lane. Our students are not well accommodated along the narrow paths and we need to think carefully about how we can keep them safe. It does not look like the path will be opening any time soon (as both Becket Keys and Grove House are about to embark on significant building work),

however, there is hope that a solution can be found moving forward.

Year 10 Drama Exams

On Tuesday I walked over to the Drama Hall not sure what to expect from our very first Year 10 GCSE Drama Controlled Assessment. There was a camera in the room, 20 or so Year 10s in mufti – all very loud and full of nervous energy and (thank goodness!), a calm and collected Mr Harries.

Whilst I was not sure what to expect, it was clear that the students knew exactly what was going on and it was a tremendous privilege to be with them. For two hours, I assisted Mr Harries with moderation and enjoyed watching our students at their best.

The commitment of the students was incredible and the quality of their work was astonishing. Everything that Mr Harries threw at them was gobbled up at great pace and with fantastic energy. The pace of their creative thinking and composition was a joy to behold. Their teamwork was so strong and compelling; I wanted to join in myself!

At times I was almost moved to tears as I saw our students performing their improvised work based on the events of the Columbine shootings. Parents should be very proud of their sons and daughters and once again Mr Harries proves what incredible work he is doing in our school.

Trips

We continue to spend a great deal of time and energy on running trips for our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who give up time with their families to attend. This weekend seven colleagues are giving up their Bank Holiday to take Year 9s to Bude. I wish them a wonderful time and will be praying for good weather!

Mr Scott Evans
Headteacher

OTHER NEWS

UK MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

Mrs Moffat and Mr Pethers report: On **Thursday 28th April**, nearly 130 elite Mathematicians from Year 7 and 8 took part in the inaugural UK Mathematics Challenge. This challenge tests our students' ability to solve a variety of demanding mathematical problems, encouraging them to use both their problem solving and reasoning skills.

Have a go at a question yourself, taken from the challenge! Answer on the back page.

Example Question:

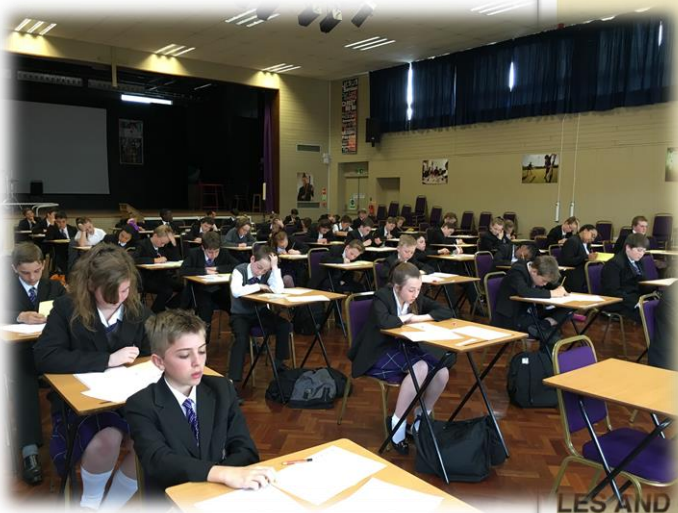
In a group of 48 children, the ratio of boys to girls is 3:5.

How many boys must join the group to make the ratio 5:3?

A) 48 B) 40 C) 32 D) 24 E) 8



We are extremely proud of all the students who took part and they should be pleased with their efforts. We are already all very excited for next year's challenge!



UK JUNIOR MATHEMATICAL CHALLENGE

THURSDAY 28th APRIL 2016

Organised by the **United Kingdom Mathematics Trust**
from the **School of Mathematics, University of Leeds**



Institute
and Faculty
of Actuaries

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES (to be read before starting)

Do not open the paper until the Invigilator tells you to do so.

Time allowed: **1 hour**.

No answers, or personal details, may be entered after the allowed hour is over.

YEAR 11 PROM

The date for the Year 11 Prom has been set for **Wednesday, 5th July 2017!** Further details will be available next year. The event will take place at Stockbrook Manor. Please save the date.

MORE NEWS

PE FIXTURES

The PE department would like to remind all parents and students that communication regarding fixtures will be changing. Fixtures will now be announced on the **'Becket Keys PE staff' Twitter page:** https://twitter.com/BKS_PE?lang=en-gb rather than emails and texts.

The students will also be informed of the event details by either the team captain or the member of staff involved. A display board will be used in school to assist with this. As a department, we feel this provides the students with more responsibility, a value central to the Christian Faith.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY NEWS

On Tuesday, **Year 10 Food Technology** students were visited by Nick Gunyon, Catering and Hospitality Curriculum Manager at Havering College. Nick has over 40 years of experience as a chef and gave practical demonstrations of jointing a chicken for sauté, deboning and stuffing a thigh joint, and steaming a chicken breast stuffed with prawn mousse and wrapped in Parma ham. He gave insights into 'a day in the life' of a chef and further education routes available to students.



Students really enjoyed the sessions - *'I really enjoyed watching Nick work his magic to change a simple chicken into exciting food'* said Tom. *'The chicken was really good!'* said Max.



EVEN MORE NEWS

TERM TIME HOLIDAY REQUESTS

Whilst the school recognises that a visit overseas can be of great benefit and brings with it a host of learning opportunities, we are unable to authorise such visits in term time. Taking your child out of school during term time will be detrimental to their educational progress. Moreover, we are obliged to make a referral to the Educational Welfare Service. We ask that you consider this when planning your annual holiday.

The school is only able to authorise term time absence in extenuating circumstances such as a family bereavement, medical appointments and music exams. In these situations the school looks to provide as much support as possible. For these absences, please ask your son/daughter to collect a **Leave of Absence form** from reception or request a form by emailing office@becketkeys.org.

YEAR 7 CASTLES – PLEASE COLLECT!

Thank you once again for all for your contributions to the Year 7 History Castles project. Please could students collect their castles before **Friday 6th May**, otherwise we will presume you do not wish to keep your castle. The castles have been exceptional this year. Please see below a reminder of the top ten castles:

Eleanor Veness, Daniel Legon, Amy Allpress, Kristin van Heerden, Eddie Lygoe, Emily Taylor, Rosie Fryatt, Megan Clements, Tommy Palmer, Archie Van Klink and a special mention to Reese Wildman for an excellent painting.



UPDATE: MARIA GAMBLE'S FUNDRAISING HAIR CUT

An enormous 'well done' to **Maria Gamble (7HS)** who has raised a huge sum of money to help children who have lost their hair through cancer treatment, by donating some of her own hair and raising money to provide real hair wigs. Here is a personal 'thank you' from Maria:





THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to everyone who supported Maria who had 7 inches cut off her hair to raise money for **The Little Princess Trust** who provide real hair wigs to boys and girls in the UK and Ireland that have sadly lost their own hair through cancer treatment.

With your help, Maria has raised a magnificent

£2,285 which is more than the cost of **6 wigs**

So THANK YOU once again for your support,
You can view more photographs of the event on Maria's donation page...

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/mariagamble1>



NOTICES

UNIFORM MATTERS

A reminder that girls cannot have their ears pierced until the summer holiday. They should get them pierced on the first day to allow the full six weeks to heal. Earrings must be small with discreet designs and worn in the lobe.

Students are not allowed to wear any other jewellery apart from a small cross on their lapel.

SHOES

Shoes must be black and leather. We prefer lace ups. Students can borrow shoes from the school in emergencies.

Mr Partis, (parent of Nicholas and Phoebe) along with 20 colleagues at Howard Lodge Residential Home & its sister home, Dudbrook Hall, will be running the 6 km Nuclear Races for two charities (Cancer Research and Dementia Awareness) on the **14th May**.

Please help them to raise as much money as possible by donating here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/Stmichaelshomesltd>

CONTACT DETAILS

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VACANCIES

Please see our website for details of all current vacancies:

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

MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

How did you get on?

The answer is c) 32

Dates for your Diary

Friday 29 April to Wednesday 4 May
Year 9 Bude Trip

Monday 2 May – Bank Holiday

Wednesday 11th May - Whole School & Sports
Photographs

Friday 13 May – FoBK Wine Tasting Quiz

Thursday 26 May - Sunday 29 May
Year 8 Madrid Trip

Friday 27 May – Sunday 29 May
Year 7 Bushcraft Trip

Friday 27 May
Year 7 & 8 Day trip to Stubbers

Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June – Whitsun Holiday

Monday 6th June – First Day Back

Friday 17th June – INSET Day

Monday 20th June – INSET Day