



A WONDERFUL WEEK

Mr Scott-Evans writes:

It has been a great week at school. Key Stage 3 students have been superb in the exam hall and have really shown themselves in the best light, performing brilliantly.

Teachers have been busy invigilating and pouring over exam papers late into the evenings. I'm so proud of our students and staff.

Staff have also been preparing for the trips to Bushcraft (departs Friday) and Madrid (departs Thursday). These trips take hours and hours to organise and eat into teachers' personal lives; we are very grateful for the time they commit to them.

Summer clubs (sport, music, academic, creative) are full to bursting with students either performing, studying or competing.

Meanwhile, Mr Harries has been getting us all excited about our first ever Shakespeare performances. He has announced that Key Stage 4 will have their own play next year and they'll be performing scenes from three of his most famous works.

Daisy and Elisabeth have sat the Spanish GCSE one year early and we were inspected by exam officials for the first time. Other Year 10s have been working hard on their Science ISAs gaining important marks for their GCSEs. In History and Geography finishing touches have been made to controlled assessments.

Year 10s have been raising money for their World Challenge by washing cars and baking cakes.

Friends of Becket Keys hosted our inaugural wine tasting experience. Thanks to all who came and supported it. I think we raised nearly £1000!

The Bistro has been really busy this week. With hundreds of students lining up to buy the fabulous food in there. The new fruit juice ice lollies and fresh sorbets have also gone down well!

On the sports field we've had a Year 8 (Will Davy) and Year 9s (Tom Burkert and Luke Savage) stepping up to the play with the Year 10s. Whilst Syd Macaulay (Year 9) has been telling us about her experience riding her horse in front of the Queen (and having a chat with her over dinner!). Syd also met Ant & Dec!

I've been working through our appeals and waiting lists, with hundreds of students still wanting to gain a place, it is a constant job!

We've also had meetings about our new buildings. Having gained planning permission for the Welby Building, we are now pushing ahead with plans to get on with the building work. It is due to commence in Mid-June.

We are also looking to gain planning permission for a new lift in the Williams Building. Having successfully got funding for this,

we'd like to call it the 'Anderson Lift' and install it in memory of Katie, a former student of Becket Keys who passed away in Year 8 after a brave fight with illness. I've been working with the design team on the lift and we're nearly ready to go.

And excitingly, I've been looking at the first drafts of drawings for our new sports hall. I'd like to write more about this next week as the funding for it only replaces 'like for like' with what we have already and we'd really like to try and fund a fitness suite and larger changing facilities and a balcony. Perhaps we could work together as a community to try and invest a little more to get something that really sets us apart and supports our fantastic sporting provision.

So, it has been a wonderful week! I have enjoyed almost every minute of it. These are indeed exciting times!

And now I'm off to get ready to take my son to see Crystal Palace in the FA Cup final on Saturday. Maybe...just maybe...!

Have a lovely weekend!

**Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher**

OTHER NEWS

BECKET KEYS' SHAKESPEARE SHOWCASE

We are excited to announce that the upper school production next year will be a Shakespeare Spectacular, showcasing reduced versions of three of Shakespeare's most beloved plays. This production will be for next year's Year 10s and 11s (so this year's 9s and 10s) and will be performed at some point around January 2017 in order to avoid any potential disruption to GCSEs.

We will be presenting one of Shakespeare's silliest comedies, Twelfth Night; one of his most famous tragedies, King Lear and one of his greatest spectacles, The Tempest. Auditions will be on **Tuesday 14th June and Wednesday 15th June**, with rehearsals starting shortly after. We will also be offering two audition workshops on **Tuesday 24th May and Tuesday 7th June** where Mr Harries and Miss Alzapiedi will be available to help with language and characters and to offer direction.

Alongside this newsletter, please find attached audition packs for all three plays along with a document offering hints and tips for actors auditioning for a Shakespeare play.

Details of the lower school production will be announced nearer the Summer Holidays.

Please contact Mr Harries if you have any questions.

FOBK WINE TASTING QUIZ



Last Friday, a packed hall of parents joined together for a lively and entertaining evening, as FoBK hosted its first "Call my bluff" wine tasting quiz. Thanks to Alison Butler and Penny Richardson for organising.

Teams were poured a wine "blind" and asked to pit their wits, wine knowledge and intuition against the devious and cheating lies of the panel of wine experts, headed by parent and local wine tutor John Kernaghan. Joining John on the *distinguished* panel were Mrs Ruth (Head of Food Tech) and Mr Jensch (Head of PE), who took the audience on a tasting

experience of 6 wines (1 sparkling, 2 white, 3 red) and sought to convince onlookers that they could accurately describe the wines.

Needless to say, as the evening progressed some of the bluffers (John Kernaghan) delivered the wine descriptions with eloquence and charisma, whilst the others (Mrs Ruth and Mr Jensch - who were world experts at the end of the tasting), became more and more elaborated in their approach, and the audience became more and more confused.

The wine was accompanied by cheeseboards with fruit, bread & crackers, all for a really reasonable price. Special thanks to John Kernaghan and all the volunteers who helped out on the night. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all, and rumour has it, may be repeated at some future date.

MORE NEWS

ROCK PERFORMANCE

Two of our students (Sophie in Year 9 and Nicole in Year 10) will be performing with their band 'Let's be Strange' at the ROCKIT event at The Hermit next **Friday 27th May**. This event is restricted to teenagers only.

Please see:

<https://www.facebook.com/hermitclub>
for more information.



BECKET KEYS' STUDENT MEETS THE QUEEN

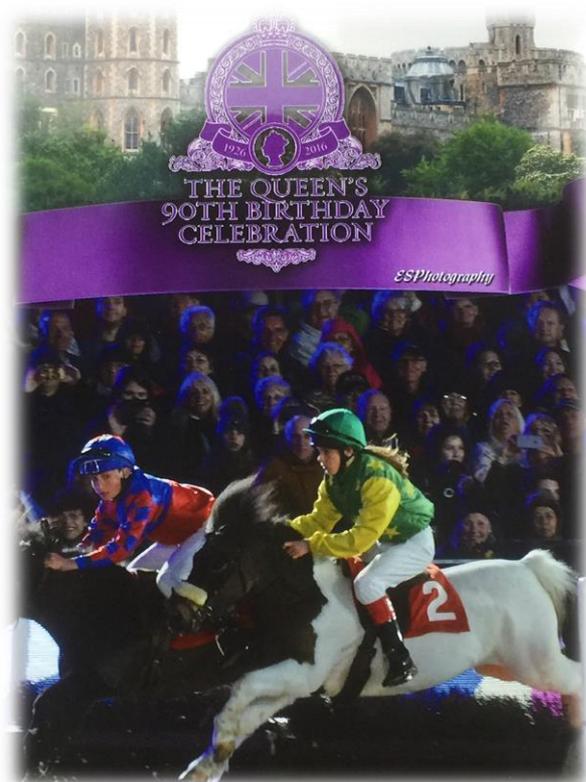


Jockey, Sydney (9PP) had an exciting week last week. "Congratulations on your fantastic performance in the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations".

Last Sunday, Sydney left in the early hours of the morning to go to Windsor for what can only be described as an experience of a lifetime - the celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday.

On the previous Monday, the jockeys had a rehearsal for the pageant and then travelled to Windsor Racecourse to race in the Queen's colours where they were interviewed and the race was shown live on television. Sydney won third place!

On Thursday, whilst having lunch, the Queen came into the dining area and stopped at the end of Sydney's table, asking Sydney and Eve, another jockey, if they were being well looked after, what an amazing surprise! After all the rehearsals, the event began on Thursday, with the main televised show aired live on Sunday evening and watched by the Queen. What a fantastic and unforgettable week for Sydney!



SPORTS NEWS

YEAR 9 GIRLS' CRICKET

Miss Ellis reports: On **Friday 13th May**, seven Year 9 students competed in an U15 girls' cricket competition held at Springfield Cricket Club in Chelmsford. The event took place over the whole day playing against five other schools in the tournament.

The team included Lauren Pamerter (c), Alice Keely, Cleo Cooke, Rebecca Stroud, Grace Burrell, Divine Okwuosa and Rachael Davison.

All of the team played well considering a lack of competition experience. With some further practice, the team has real promise. Well played ladies!



YEAR 10 BOYS' CRICKET

Mr Jensch writes: On **Thursday 19th May**, with only a ten man team, we took on St Martin's in our first Year 10 cricket fixture of the year. The team also featured three Year 9 players and a Year 8 due to a player shortage.

St Martin's are an excellent team and on a cricket tour in the Bahamas next week, which probably shows you just how strong they are.

The format was 16-16(overs). The lads put up an excellent fight and after 16 overs, posted a score of 60.

For a short time things looked promising and Luke Savage, Year 9 was particularly impressive with the ball. We managed to snatch 3 quick wickets and put St Martin's under pressure. However, it wasn't to be and they posted a score of 62-4 after 12 overs. This was however a competitive contest and again, the boys were brilliant (both teams).

YEAR 9 BOYS' CRICKET

Becket Keys (54 all out) lost by 8 wickets to St Martin's (55-2)

Mr Wray reports: The Year 9 Boys' Cricket team enjoyed their first game of the season on Tuesday against an experienced side from St Martin's. Becket Keys went into bat first and started solidly for the first couple of overs, with Josh Mclean and Harvey Pope able to defend resolutely. Both were unable to go on and increase their runs from here, which was unfortunately the story of the Becket Keys' batting line-up. Tom Burkert and Joel Reeves both looked like they had played themselves in, only to get out soon after reaching double-figures. Luke Seaward and Jack Kennedy were able to hold on for several overs and increase the Becket Keys' total. However, despite Luke Savage and Nicco Lovelock building pressure with the ball, St Martin's were able to reach the Becket Keys' total with 3 overs to spare. Tom Burkert led the team extremely well. The boys are now looking forward to their home game against BCHS on Thursday 9th June, which will determine which round of the competition they go into next.

NOTICES

VAN REQUIRED

We are looking for some help transporting sports equipment on Sports Day. We require the use of a van on **Friday 8th July**. If you can help, please let the PE staff know by emailing: office@becketkeys.org

E-SAFETY PRESENTATION

Reminder: Year 7 and 8 parents are invited to attend an e-safety presentation in the main hall on **Wednesday 25th May** at 7.30 p.m. Iain Gunn and two CEOP Ambassadors will be presenting and the session is scheduled to run for two hours. A place at this presentation can be booked through the parents' evening booking system up until 24th May; places are limited to one per family.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL PICNIC

SAVE THE DATE

The annual FoBK Patronal Festival Picnic will take place on **Saturday 2nd July**. Details of activities that will be on offer on the day and how to purchase tickets will be sent out shortly after the Whitsun Holiday. Watch this space!



CONTACT DETAILS

Becket Keys CofE School
Sawyers Hall Lane
Brentwood
Essex
CM15 9DA

01277 286600

office@becketkeys.org
www.becketkeys.org

VACANCIES

We are recruiting for an Examinations and Data Officer. Please see our website for details:

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

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 26th May - Sunday 29 May
Year 8 Madrid Trip

Friday 27th May – Sunday 29 May
Year 7 Bushcraft Trip

Friday 27th May
Year 7 & 8 Day trip to Stubbers

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June – Whitsun
Holiday

Monday 6th June – First Day Back

Friday 17th June – INSET Day

Monday 20th June – INSET Day

Saturday 2nd July
FoBK Patronal Festival and Picnic