



EUCCHARIST CELEBRATION AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH

# Becket Keys Church of England School

6<sup>th</sup> November 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

## Hold Nothing Back!

### Mr Scott-Evans writes

Shaquille (Shaq) O'Neal was 17 when he heard the words which changed his life.

If you do not know who Shaq is then you would be in good company – several teachers had never heard of him when I spoke about him this week in Collective Worship! Therefore, for those who don't know, he is one of the most successful and admired basketball players ever! He was the most valuable and most effective player in the NBA for several years. Google him!

Anyway, he very nearly did not reach his potential or even come close. At 17 his life changed.

At 17 he went to a summer basketball camp and finally came across other players who were

better than him! He had never experienced this before! It knocked his confidence; he had always been the best and did not know how to cope.

I see this with students here all the time. Year 7s who used to be "the best" at Primary School come here and find the competition is a lot more fierce. I see it with Year 10s and 11s who have taken it easy for a couple of terms and suddenly students who were supposed to be below them are taking over and moving ahead of them. Even those who are working hard and doing all they can seem to find it incredibly demotivating when others come past them. Why does it happen? There are reasons. I have three simple tips to help counter them. But first: Shaquille O'Neal.

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**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

## Celebrating All Saints

The whole school was able to celebrate this day.

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Help us break the record for the amount of shoeboxes sent.

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Shaq told his mother that he was going to take a break from basketball and come back to it later. His mother then said the words that totally changed his life. She said: "Later doesn't come to everybody." And that snapped him back into reality and gave him a plan.

Shaquille says: "You work hard now. You don't wait. If you're lazy or you sit back and don't want to excel, you'll get nothing. If you work hard enough, you'll be given what you deserve."

I am sure you can see why I have been telling this story in school this week. I've told it alongside the story from Mark's Gospel about the widow who gave all she had into the treasury. I've been looking at the rewards we can expect to reap if we give our all. Shaquille made a conscious decision to give everything. And he reaped the rewards.

It is clear that he made a decision to excel. He recognised that you get what you deserve. Very few of us can be Shaquille O'Neal, but we can choose to excel. As Bill Shankly once said: "If I became a bin man tomorrow; I'd be the best bin man who ever lived." Excellence is a choice.

I have been challenging students to think about what they are spending their time on and what they want to excel in. 'You get what you deserve.'

I have been seeing a few students flipping plastic bottles of water onto walls and picnic benches

recently. This is a craze going round which some of our younger students are enjoying. Some of them are getting very good at it – their practice is paying off. They will get what they deserve, namely, an uncanny knack of being able to throw a bottle and make it land on its bottom. Well done!

However, if they looked around them they would see other students practising other skills which will be more valuable: acting in the school play, performing with school choir/orchestra, playing for our many sports teams; collecting money for charity, fixing computers and learning new skills or simply practising Spanish in readiness for the oral exams.

Each one will get what they deserve!

I spoke to the students about the widow who gave the very little she had, but she gave it all. Sometimes there are students I see who feel poor, like they have little to offer. Perhaps that is why they are choosing to perfect bottle tossing – it is the first thing they've found that they can excel in!

All through my career I have tried to concentrate on things that students can ALL do, things that facilitate them in being able to give of their best. Three simple things all students can do which I guarantee will make a difference to their performance, progress and self-esteem are listed here.

1. *Push yourself to be presenting yourself and your books as well as you can. Get a bit better every day.*

2. *Get to lessons early every time – don't be late. Don't miss a minute.*
3. *Make the most of every lesson, learn something every time. Don't get distracted and don't be a distraction.*

Everyone can do these things, everyone can excel at these, and if you do: you will get what you deserve. It is our job as teachers to inspire them to give all they can.

Something or someone inspired that widow to give her all.

A few wise words from his mother inspired Shaquille.

Who will inspire your son or daughter? Will it be you? Will it be me? Will it be one of our teachers? Someone needs to do it! Maybe this week's newsletter is the breakthrough for someone. I live in hope!

The widow gave her all. Around her were the rich who gave out of their abundance. There is a stark warning here. Those who have so much are sometimes the most likely to hold something back. Hold nothing back! You'll get what you deserve!



**MR SCOTT EVANS**  
**HEADTEACHER**

(See Matthew Syed's book "Bounce" for the story of Shaquille O'Neal p.150)

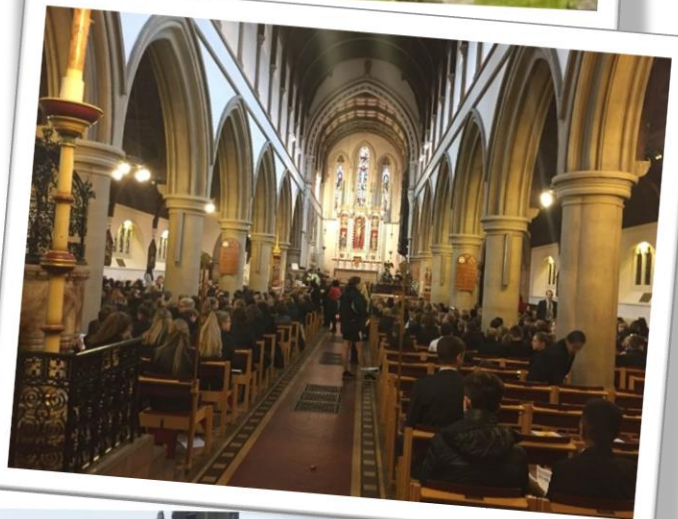
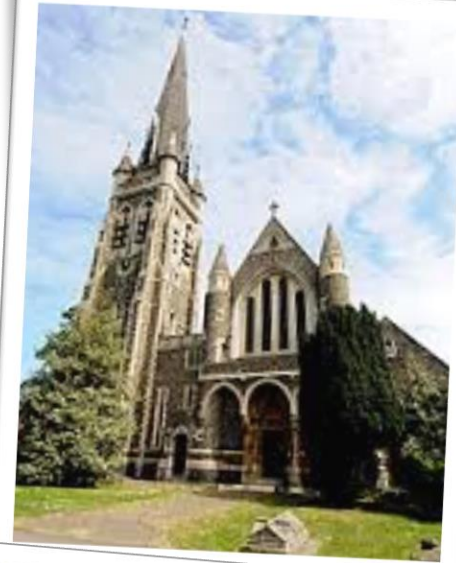
## All Saints' Eucharist

All students and staff were able to participate in a Eucharist celebration as part of All Saints' Day on Tuesday. As our school is growing each year it was necessary to split the school and have two Eucharist services simultaneously. Half went to the St Thomas of Canterbury Church in Brentwood where Father Colin Hewitt was celebrant. Half stayed at school and had their service in the Main Hall with Father Mark James and Father Garry Jenkins. In the future, we are hoping to involve other local churches.

The students who walked to the Church were extremely well behaved and courteous to the members of the public they encountered and it was a wonderful chance to pause and reflect.

Becket Keys is a Church of England School, however we do have students from other faiths and some of no faith. The majority were very appreciative of the opportunity to pray, others learned a lot from their first experience and others are still just not sure, but quietly tried to take something from it.

Please speak to your son/daughter about their experience.





## Notice from the Head Teacher

### Uniform

It is important to all of us that every one of the students who attend Becket Keys looks smart in their uniform at all times. A reminder regarding the length of the girls' skirts has recently been sent out to all parents so please continue to remind your daughter of this issue. Mr Scott-Evans will be running sessions after school on Fridays for those who choose not to adhere to this request.

Please see the website, if you need more details about the school dress code.

### BOYS

Blazer: Black blazer with Becket Keys Logo

Trousers: Charcoal grey – not black or grey. Straight leg.

Shirt: plain white with stiff collar for wearing with a tie (short or long sleeved) – top button done up and shirt always tucked in. No polo or open necked shirts.

Socks: Plain grey or black.

Shoes: Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes – lace up shoes to have black laces. No trainers or boots, no white or coloured laces. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro. No sandals.

Jumper or slipover: Grey with purple stripes.

Tie: Worn to top of trousers.

### GIRLS

Blazer: Black blazer with Becket Keys Logo

Becket Keys Purple 'Warrior' Tartan must be purchased from SmartyPants. Skirt must be worn no higher than 5cm above the knee

Blouse: plain white reverse collar – top button done up, no polo shirts

Socks: Plain white.

Tights: Plain/neutral or black tights, neutral trainer socks or no socks/tights at all.

Shoes: Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes – lace up shoes to have black laces, no trainers or boots. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro. No kitten heels, sandals, platform shoes, ballet pumps, white or coloured laces.

Jumper or slipover: Grey with purple stripes.



[SmartyPants Schoolwear](http://SmartyPants Schoolwear)

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Now that the weather is getting colder please remember that all students will be in need of a **COAT** - Plain **BLACK** without coloured flashes, logos or slogans, no "fashion items", no "puffer" jackets

**JEWELLERY** - Medic alert chain, if necessary. Girls may wear one small silver or gold sleeper or stud in the lobe of each ear, but they must be removed for all PE lessons. It is not acceptable to put tape over the ears. No other jewellery or body piercings are allowed.



## Sixth Form Update Evening

### 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

### 7.00pm – 8.00pm

The Sixth form will be opening in September 2017. Our new purpose built Sixth Form centre provides an ideal environment in which to teach and support students through their Post 16 education.

Our outstanding school will be focused on securing top university places and high quality apprenticeships for our students.

On the evening Mr Scott-Evans will be presenting a short introduction to the new Sixth form, followed by updates on:

- How to apply
- How places will be offered
- Courses
- Buildings
- Uniform

If you have any questions, please either email Mr Scott-Evans via the website [www.becketkeys6th.org](http://www.becketkeys6th.org) or Tweet the new Sixth Form Twitter page: @BecketKeys6th

# Christmas Shoebox Appeal



Once again we will again be supporting the Christmas shoebox appeal to give people in disadvantaged areas the gift of Christmas. This year we are hoping to break our record and donate 400 shoeboxes!

## How to pack a shoebox:

1. Get an empty medium sized shoebox, wrapping the lid and box separately in colourful wrapping paper. Attach the appropriate boy/girl label and the age category 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14 to the top of the shoebox.
2. Fill with a selection of gifts, fun toys, hygiene items and school supplies along with a 'wow' item such as a cuddly toy or deflated football and pump.
3. Make your shipping donation, online is best, you can then discover the destination of your box if you add the barcode supplied to the shoebox. Please donate £3 for each shoebox you send to cover the transportation

## Gift Suggestions

Something the child will immediately embrace like a cuddly toy, doll, skipping rope or a small puzzle.

Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.

Toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.

Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, wrapped sweets (best-before-date must be at least March of the following year).

Please **DO NOT** include - used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate or other food items; liquids or lotions of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers, mirrors or fragile items; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; clothing other than as listed above.

costs. Alternatively put cash or cheque in an envelope on top of the contents of your box.

4. Pray for the child who will receive your box. You can put a photograph, card or letter in there if you like.
5. Please bring your shoeboxes to Reception on the morning Wednesday November the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Find out more:

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child>



## Year 7

### Digging Deep

We launched our partnership with Chelmsford Museum in our founding year with an interactive archaeology workshop. This has been enjoyed by students ever since! Genuine artefacts from different time periods will be explored. Students will decide how to piece together the past. The session will also introduce students to their next unit of work in history ('Struggle for power - How did medieval monarchs keep control of England?') through considering the Normans in Essex and evidence from places such as Pleshey Castle. Students will be escorted to the hall by their class teacher. See below for the timetable for Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November all sessions will take place in the Main Hall.

**MRS K. KNOWLES**



	Period 1 and 2 8.30-10.10	Period 3 and 4 11.05-12.45	Period 5 and 6 1.40-3.20
Groups	EW and FS	HS and 7tHi1	7tHi2 and 7tHi3
Teachers	TWR and MBR	JBU/LRE/KKN	RPE/JSI/DHU

**real christmas trees**  
Buy a tree and invest in your child's education

**Christmas Tree Sale**  
Saturday 3rd December  
Nordmann Fir various sizes, £20, £25, £35

**FoBK**  
Stunning trees, collect or delivered!  
email: [FoBK@becketkeys.org](mailto:FoBK@becketkeys.org) for ordering  
(by the 28th November please.)

PosterMyWall.com

### Friends of Becket Keys

Following on from a very successful year last year FoBK are once again offering Christmas Trees for sale. Great feedback was received last year about the quality of the trees so pick your size and order your tree by 28<sup>th</sup> November via email [FoBK@becketkeys.org](mailto:FoBK@becketkeys.org) You can even get it delivered locally for £2.00!

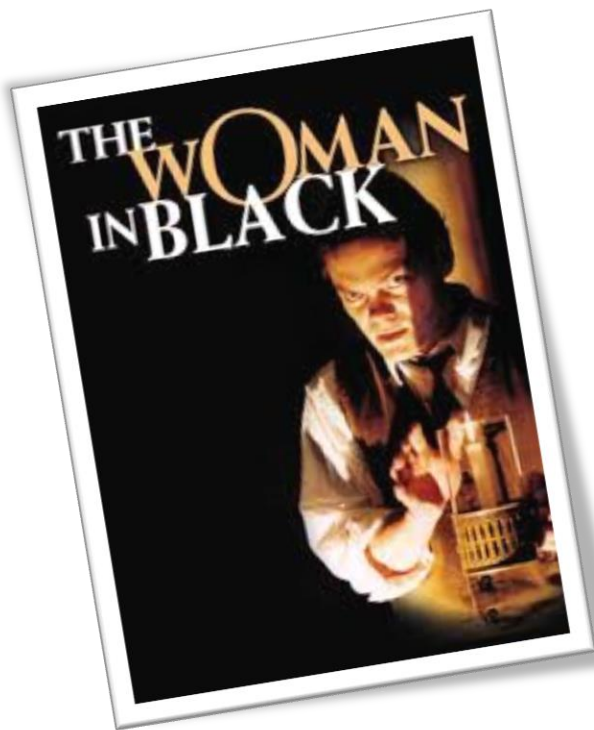
The approximate sizes & prices are:

4 ft - £20.00

5 ft - £25.00

6 ft - £35.00





### YEAR 10 & 11 - Drama students

## THE WOMAN IN BLACK

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016

This play is an essential part of your GCSE course so in order to secure a place on this trip a payment of £31.00 needs to be made on our SCOpay online system by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016 so that we can secure the seats.

This is a fantastic opportunity to see a live production of the play which will assist you in your studies.



### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE & POPPY APPEAL

Remembrance Day is a day of reflection, it allows us to remember or think about all those people who are affected by wars, both in the past and now. It allows us to think about all those people who suffer in wars all around the world. It reminds us how important it is to work for peace.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November, at 10.40am, students will be assembling on the tennis courts for a short Armistice Memorial Service. **Parents and carers are very welcome to join us.** Representatives of our school community will also be attending a short service and laying a wreath at the Brentwood War Memorial.

We are again supporting The Royal British Legion, through the selling of poppies. This helps provide lifelong support for the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, Reservists, Veterans and their families. Remembrance is especially poignant this year, as we commemorate 100 years since the Battle of the Somme. For many people, the Battle of the Somme was the battle that symbolised the horrors of warfare in World War One; this one battle had a marked effect on overall casualty figures and epitomises the futility of trench warfare.

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We will remember them.*

**Robert Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)**





Lauren Pamenter 10PP has been chosen to represent Essex Cricket Development Squad for the 4<sup>th</sup> year running! Well done Lauren!



## VACANCIES

We are currently looking for teachers in the following subjects to start Easter 2017 (or before):

English Teacher

Science Teacher

Mathematics Teacher

PE Teacher

Cover Teacher

We are also seeking Invigilators to assist with our exam schedule along with a Lead Invigilator

For more information and application details go to the website [www.becketkeys.org](http://www.becketkeys.org)

## DATES FOR YOU DIARY

### AN EVENING WITH TERRY WAITE



FRIDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

7.00PM – 10.00PM

Main Hall

Tickets £5.90 – some available on the door

Year 9 Subject Consultation

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November

3.45pm – 7.30pm

## Becket Keys Church of England School

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