



YEAR 7 ENJOYING THEIR PANTO TRIP LAST FRIDAY.

Becket Keys Church of England School

9th December 2016

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Christmas Joy

Mr A Scott-Evans
Headteacher

Jesus was born into less than ideal circumstances! Teenage parents in curious circumstances, no medical support and an unhygienic stable for the birth, unreasonable government demands leading to a ridiculous journey just before birth and inhospitable inn keepers refusing to take them in. Simply outrageous!

Many of us may well be thinking that we are in less than ideal circumstances as we prepare for Christmas. We are looking at our family and seeing pain, hurt and problems. Maybe our own financial situation at the moment means the family home is not as beautifully decorated as we would like and the presents under the tree are not quite what everyone was hoping for. Maybe we are concerned about the changing political landscape and what the year(s) ahead will mean. Perhaps we feel isolated and

unwelcome in our own community – or can see others who are. Whatever your circumstances this Advent, as we approach Christmas, my prayer is that you and your family will allow Jesus to be the centre of attention and let Him 'complete' your family like He has done for many people over the centuries. He is the master of healing the sick and restoring the broken.

As a school our daily Advent prayers this year are focusing on being a light in our community. Taking the focus off ourselves and what we want to get out of Christmas and putting it onto what we can bring to others. Like Dave in the Sainsbury's advert realising that the greatest joy this Christmas may well be to give more of our time.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bq5SGSCZe4E>

If everyone took this approach, what a Christmas it would be!



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Christmas Events & Preparation

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Christmas Events & Preparation

Becket Bistro



Thursday 15th December

Thank you to all those who bought a ticket for the Christmas Meal this year. Please remember if you have not ordered a meal you will need to collect a sandwich at break time or bring in a packed lunch.

The wonderful staff in the Bistro will have a number of helpers that day to assist serving a delicious Christmas Lunch.

Lunchtime will follow the usual pattern with Year 10 & 11 eating first at 12.40pm and the younger years at 1.10pm.

Don't forget your Christmas Jumper!!

Non uniform day at Becket Keys



Come to school in your Christmas Jumper!

Thursday 15th December 2016. Please give £1 to your form tutor that day. Proceeds go to Save the Children. If you do not have a Christmas jumper then you can make one you have look festive but please note the non-uniform guidelines attached.



**DISCO TICKETS
AVAILABLE
FROM MRS
MULLEN IN THE
LIBRARY AT
LUNCHTIME. IF
YOU WISH TO
ATTEND YOU
NEED TO GET A
TICKET IN
ADVANCE
PLEASE**



Christmas Services

Please find attached a list of the Christmas Services in the local Churches in Brentwood and the surrounding villages.





CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR STAFF

Please do not feel any pressure to buy a gift, feel free to just write a card. Teachers do enjoy wine and chocolates, but it is not necessary! They would rather see students giving their time and money to charity.



Thanks to Toby in Year 7 we have a beautiful new advent wreath in the hall. Toby assists with the flowers at his local Church and so we were very fortunate when he volunteered to help with the school wreath.



Advent Eucharists

Advent School Eucharists will be held every Friday lunchtime in the Chapel, between now and the end of term. Students, staff and parents are welcome to attend - please arrive at 12.50pm for a 1pm start. It is a wonderful opportunity for peace and calm; a time to reflect and be still at this busy time of year. A time to remember the true meaning of this season.

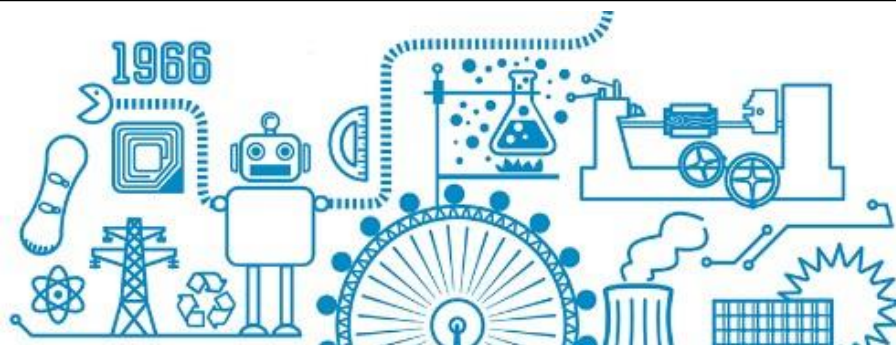
The Advent Eucharists for the whole school are being held at St Thomas of Canterbury and at the school on Monday 19th December, starting at 11.15. For Year 8-11 who are going to the church the service will be led by Father Colin. Year 7 will be celebrating their Advent Eucharist in the School Hall with Father Jenkins. All members of our school community are welcome to attend either service.

Christmas Concert Tuesday 13th December at 7.30pm

Parents and carers are invited to this wonderful event. We do have some tickets available, the cost is **£4.00 per ticket**.

To reserve your seats please pay on the online SCOpay system, entering the total cost in the 'Enter Payment Amount' field. For example, £4 for one ticket, £8 for two tickets and so on. Seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. **Please note that your SCOpay receipt will act as your concert ticket - please bring a printout of the email receipt to show on the door.**





New Course - Girls into Physics

The Smallpeice Trust is delighted to announce the launch of a brand new course - **Girls into Physics**. Proudly sponsored by The Stephen Hawking Foundation and Cambridge Quantum Computing, in association with Royal Holloway, University of London.

Course summary – How do we detect particles? What are cosmic rays? What happens in temperatures that approach the absolute zero? From particle physics and accelerators to condensed matter and astronomy, in this course you'll explore the world around us in an interactive, engaging and creative way.

Year 10 Girls

Date: 22/07/2017 to 24/07/2017 3 days, 2 nights full board residential

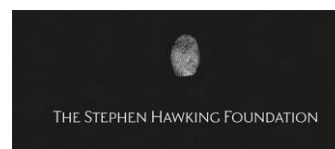
Price: £195

Location: Royal Holloway, University of London

“The Stephen Hawking Foundation is pleased to be supporting The Smallpeice Trust in the latest initiative to enhance the appeal of STEM subject study by girls across the United Kingdom. This is an extremely important long term objective and the 2017 residential course at the Royal Holloway is an important continuing step along the critical journey” – The Stephen Hawking Foundation.

Please keep checking the website and social media for updates and any special announcements: [twitter](#) & [facebook](#).

Any questions please contact the team on 01926 333 200 or email info@smallpeicetrust.org.uk



Chinese Visitors in School



On Wednesday, 7th December, we had two Chinese visitors to the school, Mr Guojun Zhang, the chief Chief of Division of European and African Affairs, Foreign Affairs Office of Changzhou Municipal People's Government of Jiangsu and Mr Ruoyu Zhou from the department of Culture of Jiangsu Province. Mr Zhang and Mr Zhou observed Year 8 and Year 10 Mandarin lessons and had a tour around the school. Not only were they impressed by the school itself, but also by how well our students are learning.

During the Year 10 Mandarin lesson, students introduced themselves in Mandarin, showcasing what they have learnt. Mr Zhang distributed some Chinese paper cuts and Chinese lucky knots to students for their hard work in learning



Mandarin as early Christmas presents. Mr Zhang says, "This is my first time to visit Becket Keys CofE school. It is very impressive! I did not know before that there were so many students could speak Mandarin so well. I believe in the future your school will be the best bridge to promote the cultural exchange between Chinese and the UK. Congratulations to all of you!"

"Speaking to the visitors was a very valued opportunity as we learned lots more about the Chinese culture and also improved the fluency of our speaking in preparation for our exam. It was very interesting to learn about how they learned English, as it motivated us all to continue with our Chinese studies."

Keylee Ashman in Year 10

"When speaking to the visitors we had a very in-depth discussion about the culture of China, we

learnt about how Chinese people go about their life and the history of their country. This has enhanced my knowledge of the country and how to behave in China. The visitors encouraged us to go to China to improve our ability in the language and to improve our fluency, therefore preparing us for our exam. It was a very interesting discussion and lesson. I have been taught a lot about China and it has been a very useful experience for my Mandarin studies".

Charlie Johnson in Year 10



Sports News

Football

The Year 8 team got their first win of the season as they beat Saint John Payne 2-1. The score didn't reflect the dominance that Becket Keys showed throughout but this was down to poor decision making in the final third of the pitch.

Liam Rank scored the opening goal after good work by Cederick Asante. However, SJP equalised at the end of the first half as they were able to counter from a Becket Keys attack.

At half time, Mr Savage changed the system from a 4-4-2 to a 3-5-2 and it seemed to work, as Becket Keys continued to pepper the SJP goal until eventually Cederick Asante scored with a great turn after a fantastic overlap from Billy Dobson. Becket Keys managed to hold on for the deserved victory and have Archie and Aston Cammell to thank for some great last ditch tackling and goalkeeping.

Man of the Match: Liam Rank

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Becket Keys | 2 |
| John Payne | 1 |

Sports Fixtures

Monday 12th December
Year 7 & 9 Girls' Football (a)
vs St Martins

Tuesday 13th December
Year 9 Football (h)
vs St John Payne

Wednesday 14th December
U-16 Boys' Basketball (a)
vs Fitz

Thursday 15th December
Year 7 Boys' Basketball (a)
vs Moulsham

Year 8 Boys' Basketball (h)
vs KEGS

Year 11 Mock Exams

Our Year 11 cohort have sat their mock exams in the hall during the past two weeks and they are now finished!

Remember if the results show that there are gaps in knowledge, students will be invited to a new round of period 7 workshops starting after Christmas. As a school we are excited and eagerly await these mock results. We are even more excited to find out how we perform on GCSE results day in the summer.

Charity Doughnut and Cookie sale!

FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2016

1.00pm – 1.20pm

THE MAIN PLAYGROUND

There will be a great variety of doughnuts and cookies for sale in order to raise money for one of our chosen charities this year. All items are only 50p!! So please come along for a sweet snack.



Sixth Former for a Day

The Sixth Form will be opening in September 2017. Students now have an opportunity to be a Sixth Former for a day on 13th January 2016. The day will begin with drinks and pastries in the Bistro and students will have a chance to try out six different lessons during the day.

This event is open to students from other schools so be sure to tell your friends! They need to register the subjects they are interested in trying and simply come along in their current school uniform and join in the events during the day.

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



GCSE Assessment Changes

The assessment system for the new GCSE courses can be confusing! RET and Mr Scott-Evans have been working on a presentation to help parents to understand the new system. In the presentation Mr Scott-Evans talks about the new 1-9 levels and how RET are setting targets for GCSE students. Please click on the link to see the presentation and to hear Mr Scott-Evans explaining what it all means.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6n477Tsq6kk>

Parent Consultation Evening

This was a very successful and well attended event with many parents finding the workshops and information useful. The subjects covered were:

Curriculum Information – GCSE core subjects

English GCSE – Explaining the demands of the new English GCSE.

Setting Targets and Assessing the new GCSEs – Assessment levels and targets explained.

Developing Literacy – Quick wins.

If you were unable to attend do not worry as Mrs Trebess will be sending out the information on the workshops directly to parents.

'LET'S LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER' ENGAGEMENT EVENT

15th December 2016

At prayer meetings, staff and parents regularly pray for the safety of our students on their way to and from school as the nights draw in - particularly those on bikes. The safety of our students and other road users is always of paramount importance. As part of the 'Let's Look out for each other' campaign (supported by the Department for Transport, Safer Essex Roads Partnership - SERP) an event will take place as students leave school on 15th December. The SERP Road Safety Team will be joined by the fire car from Essex Fire and Rescue, who will together provide free bike lights (if needed), high viz straps and bottles for students who bring their bikes to school. Leaflets will also be provided to help our students share the road with other vehicles safely. Advice will be given about shared access on paths, cycling safely on roads during busy traffic times and the importance of making sure bikes have working lights. The event will take place near the bike sheds.



BE THERE WITH YOUR BIKE!



VACANCIES

It is an exciting time at Becket Keys, with the building of the new Sixth Form and the continued expansion of the school, there will soon be opportunities for subject teachers to start after Easter 2017.

Keep an eye on the website for more information and application details

www.becketkeys.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Advent Prayers

Tuesday 11.30am

Advent Eucharists

1.00pm Friday

Christmas Concert

Tuesday 13th December

7.30pm

School Christmas Dinner

in the Bistro

Thursday 15th December

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