



Becket Keys Church of England School

18th January 2019

GCSE AWARDS EVENING – EBACC CERTIFICATE WINNERS

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Mr. Peggs writes...

Sixth Former for a Day

After a few months of excited expectancy, today saw the occasion of our third Sixth Former for a Day event – and this year it was bigger and better than ever as word of our excellent Sixth Form has spread!



157 Year 11 students, including 34 from other schools, experienced a day of Key Stage 5 lessons in order to help them gain an insight into what they can expect at Becket Keys next year. They also

had the chance to become familiar with important parts of the Sixth Form programme as they attended a Collective Worship and tutorial period. Both of these are central to keeping the students bonded as a tightly knit community where there is plenty of support (and laughs) for each other.

The tutorial groups are also the basis of the House Cup that runs over the academic year and the Year 11 students took part in the weekly current affairs quiz. Mr. Fox's form for the day won this, meaning that Katherine and Aryan were able to come up at the final debrief and collect the prizes on behalf of their tutor group.

Of course, with the main objective of the day being to discover what is different

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BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Biblical Pause

Still dews of quietness, a focus on quiet prayer.

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Student Achievement

Our students have many different interests outside of their school life. Read more about some of their talents.

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Year 11 – Geography Field Trip

Seventy Year 11 students visited Juniper Hall for their field trip.

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Pictures from the GCSE Presentation Evening held on Thursday.

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between Year 11 and the Sixth Form, there were plenty of opportunities to gain this knowledge and ask interesting questions. During a talk in the morning, a dozen Year 12 Prefects explained what they found interesting and enjoyable about their time in the Sixth Form so far, as well as pointing out the main differences to last year and what has surprised them. This meant that the younger students were able to understand:

- how external students are made to feel extremely welcome and settle in successfully
- how they will be supported with their learning and their emotional wellbeing
- the extra-curricular opportunities on offer
- the structure of the 'Next Steps' programme that will help them apply for university, apprenticeships and employment
- the ways in which our more able students are given chances to develop as part of the Scholars' Society
- the House Cup
- and much more!



Another important way for students to find out crucial information about the choices that they have to make was through the subject fair. Year 12 and Year 13 students ran these 'market stalls' all day and answered a huge number of interesting questions about the content of different courses, the ways in which lessons are delivered and how the pressures of studying at this advanced level need to be handled. Naturally, Year 11 students were curious to see the older students' work and – naturally! – the Sixth Form students enjoyed showing off their organised subject folders, skilled exam responses and creative coursework.

Reactions to the day have been extremely positive. Lauren, an external student, explained that she attended because one of her friends at Becket Keys had told her "how good the school was". She elaborated by saying that she "really liked it because all of the students are so friendly" and that the "Sports Science lesson was the best because of all of the collaborative learning through group work". Other students were equally as happy, with Denzel (Becket Keys) enjoying "Theatre Studies due to the

creativity of the performance in the lesson", Ethan (external) engaging in the "interactive experiment" about osmosis in his Applied Science lesson and Ofe (Becket Keys) relishing the "very interesting topics of gender roles and the criminal justice system" in her Sociology lesson.



Many teachers made comments about how impressed they were with the Year 11 students. Mr. Hughes, Lead Advisor for Science in the RET, loved this "fantastic opportunity to see young people engaging enthusiastically in the application of scientific theories" in his lessons, as well as remarking how special it was to see "external students with such positive attitudes fitting in perfectly alongside our own students who we are proud of". Mr. Fenn, Assistant Headteacher and a Sixth Form tutor, explained that he "enjoyed the naturally competitive attitude of the students" in his tutor group during the House quiz, before declaring that "they are 'House Competition ready'" and starting to cherry-pick his tutees for next year! Mrs Course, Head of Year 13, described how she was taken aback at "the wonderful atmosphere and blending of students from different backgrounds".



In no particular order, my top five highlights of the day were:

- watching the Theatre Studies class execute a scary silent performance to a chilling soundtrack in semi-darkness (I shall have nightmares this weekend!)
- being pleasantly surprised by how the external students were so confident in chatting to our own students in Years 11-13
- feeling pride at how our own students in Years 11-13 made the external students feel so welcome (I no longer get surprised at this, but never take it for granted)
- seeing students being introduced to the latest Spanish pop sensation in the subject of that language
- witnessing students in a Biology lesson, who had never used powerful microscopes before, be astounded at what they could discover when looking at blood cells.

In short, it has been a fantastic day and this experience only makes us all look even more forward to next year as our school continues to grow!

So far, we have had nearly 200 applications from students who are interested in joining our Sixth Form next year, including over 60 from students who currently go to other schools – and they keep on coming in on a daily basis.

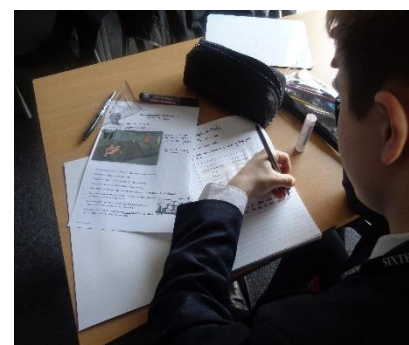
The closing deadline for applications is Friday 15th February; please see the information at the end of this article for details of how to apply. **Every student who applies will be interviewed** and these will commence shortly after the deadline.

All students who are interviewed will be offered a place in the Sixth Form and invited to our compulsory Bridging Event that will last for two days towards the end of June. There will also be several other occasions that prospective Sixth Form students will be able to join in activities in order to prepare for their time in Years 12 and 13 at Becket Keys. Please keep an eye out for notices about these.

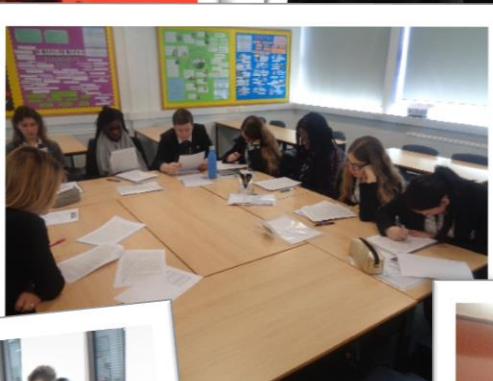
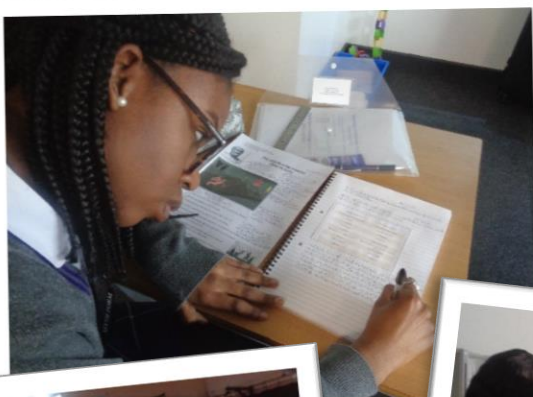
If you know a Year 11 student who you think might be interested in applying, please let him/her know the closing deadline for applications and ask him/her to do so by using the relevant forms on the Sixth Form area of the school website (<https://www.becketkeys.org/app/lyforsixthform.php>). Questions

about the Sixth Form can be sent to SixthForm@becketkeys.org

Mr. Peggs
Head of Sixth Form



Sixth Former for a Day



BIBLICAL PAUSES

Still dew's of quietness

One of the richest forms of prayer can occur when the heart is absolutely quiet. As the psalmist says, “**Be still and know that I am God**” (Psalm 46:10). These words tell us that to know God (that is to know a deep and loving relationship with Him) we must be still. It is in stillness that He will come to us; it is in stillness that we can listen; it is in stillness where He can speak to our hearts. This message reminds me of a verse from the popular hymn ‘Dear Lord and Father of mankind’:

**Drop thy still dew's of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain
and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.**

*John Greenleaf Whittier
(1807-92)*

On my journey of prayer, I have found that a very precious way to pray is just through silence. There are times when we can wear ourselves out by trying to seek the ‘right words’. So try no thoughts or words, just wanting to be silent in the presence of God. One of the high points in prayer is where two silences meet, God's silence and our silence. No need for thoughts and



words can get in the way. I do not think that we consider the value of silence often enough. It is rare to come across it in our world of loud music and mobile telephones. And yet, silence is essential for spiritual growth and healing. I have found that many people that I talk to consider silence as awkward. We have all witnessed silence in a small group or perhaps when in a lift with strangers. Now one is sure what to say. On the other hand, there is a silence that consoles us: the silence of a sleeping child, the tranquility of a church and just sitting in the middle of God's creation.

Saint Anselm, a Benedictine monk and Christian philosopher (1033-1109), wrote:

**Come now, little man,
Turn aside for a while from your
daily employment, escape for a
moment from the tumult of
your thoughts.
Put aside your weighty cares, let
your burdensome distractions
wait,**

**Free yourself awhile for God and
rest awhile in him.**

**Enter the inner chamber of your
soul, shut out everything except
God .**

**And that which can help you in
seeking him, and, when you
have shut the door, seek him.
Now, my whole heart, say to
God, 'I seek your face, Lord, it is
your face I seek'.**

To hear the whisper of God, we must turn down the volume of the world. We must find time to disconnect from everything and be still in His presence today. He waits for us to draw near. The world asks us to be busy. God asks us to be still so that we can receive love, peace and guidance.

You may like to try this simple prayer exercise:

Just sit down and, keeping your back straight but free, begin quieting your mind and your body by taking a few relaxing, deep breaths. Close your eyes, if you wish. Centre your awareness on

the silent and infinite presence of God within your heart.

Let the Spirit lead you beyond the noisy world of space and time and into the silent realm where God dwells as the source and ground of your being. Center your attention on that hushed point within you where the human touches the divine, where the branch (you) intersects with Jesus, the vine—where you and God are one and dwell in each other.

Let yourself sink into the silent immensity of God. Simply let your prayer be a silent *being there* with God. Without any need for thoughts and words, exchange quiet love with God for as long as you feel inspired to do so.

Let us pray:

Father God your world is in such a hurry – timetables, schedules and deadlines. There are ever increasing demands on our time and on our lives. Help us, Lord, to find the hollows and pockets of peacefulness within the days: where we may stop and sit and share in peace with you; where we can expose the secrets of our hearts; where we may hear your still small voice more strongly than the loudest clamour on our time; where we may sit in solitude and silence at the foot of your cross. Timeless.

Amen.

I pray that we thank God for His peace. A peace that reminds us that we are created to live that

peace and that we can find this by simply being still and silent.

Mrs. Sharp
Deputy Headteacher



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Friday Lunchtime Eucharist Service



Father Mark North (our new Parish Priest at St. Thomas of Canterbury Parish Church) will be coming in every Friday lunchtime to celebrate communion in the John Wraw Chapel (Justin Welby building). He was pleased to see how well the Advent services were attended and wanted to ensure that this opportunity remained available throughout the year. All members of the local community and parents will also be invited to these services. Please arrive in reception at 12.45pm for a 1pm start.

These are short, no more than 20-minute services, which punctuates the day with an opportunity of stillness in the presence of God. They are also a chance to be together as God's family. Please do join us, if you can. If you are unable to join us, due to work commitments, perhaps pause at 1pm and pray. Be with us in spirit. Please also encourage your son or daughter to attend.



From left to right: Archdeacon of Chelmsford; Bishop of Richborough; Father Mark North (our new Parish Priest); Bishop of Bradwell; Father Ossie Trellis



Education Sunday 2019

Our annual church service to celebrate Education will take place at St Thomas' Church on Sunday, 27th January 2019. Education Sunday is a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in the world of education. It is our chance to offer thanks and prayers for the life and work of Becket Keys Church of England School, St. Thomas' Infant and Junior Schools, Jigsaw Pre-School and all people associated with them.

We hope as many students and families as possible will be able to attend and come together as a school and church community for this special service. All students attending must wear their school uniform and will be expected to sit together at the front of the Church with their teachers. Parents are very welcome to stay and sit in other areas of the church for the service. Students will need to gather at 9.40 for a 10am start.



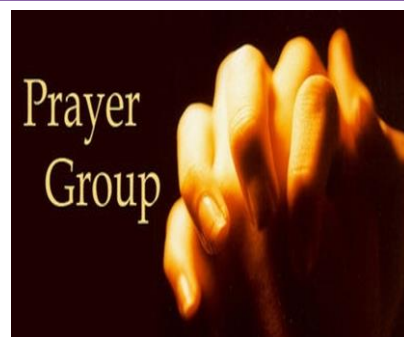
If you feel able, please also take part in the St Thomas' Great British Bake off. This includes prizes for the best cakes in the following categories: pre-school, infant school, junior school, senior school and adult. You may bake whatever cake or biscuit you like. Entry to the competition is free. Please deliver any cakes to the kitchen prior to the service.

The service will be followed by a Friends of Saint Thomas' cake sale (in aid of church funds), which will take place in the church hall after the service, to which all are very welcome. Tea and coffee will also be served.

I would be very grateful if you could complete the invitation at the end of the letter that was emailed home earlier this week. Please hand in reply slip to main reception, as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance. I am looking forward to seeing our parish church full of Becket Keys' students and parents!

Mrs. Sharp
Deputy Headteacher



Every week we allocate time to pray for the school and the wider community. Parents, carers, teachers and friends are invited to take time and pray with Mr. Scott-Evans.

Tuesday 11.15am
Wednesday 7.50am

All are welcome!

Student Achievement

Ruby Thorne Year 10



Before Christmas, I was lucky enough to be part of the cast for the pantomime *Beauty & the Beast*, staged at the Broadway theatre in Barking by the Polka Dot Theatre Company.

The first day of rehearsals was a day to remember! I met the wonderful cast, director and choreographer. The talent from the principal cast members who were able to sing, dance and act all at once overwhelmed me! We also had the pleasure of seeing the outstanding performing dogs Reggie & Tilly, they always met all expectations with their fabulous tricks that would earn them the loudest cheers from the audience.



When it was time for the first show, we all felt anxious that we would be able to perform all our dances and would run through them over and over in the wings making sure we remembered every correction we were given.

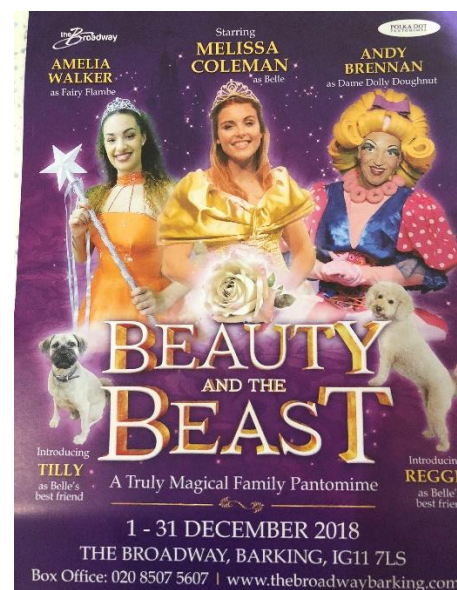
One of my costumes was very tight, which made it hard to breathe, however you have to keep a smile on your face in panto land! Energy appears from nowhere once you hear the music begin and you step out on the stage for the beginning of the show. It is wonderful to see faces of the children in the front row light up.



After the show, the children would love to see the cast come out into reception. The characters would greet them, answer their questions and have their pictures taken. It is a fantastic feeling to think that I will be part of their memories of their panto trip.



I can honestly say that being part of this production has been one of the best experiences of my life. I will always remember the skills that I have learned and I miss the cast and production team and even miss the heavy costumes! Most of all I will remember the sheer joy of performing every day during December and I look forward with great excitement to my next show.



Joshua Webb

Year 7



Joshua Webb is a Year 7 student who enjoys karate when he is not at school. He has a busy year ahead with lots of training and local competitions in preparation for two major events. He has been chosen to compete at a European Open Karate competition in Malta in March. He will be there as a member of the national squad of his Karate organisation Kazen Kai (www.kazenkai.com).

Joshua will also take part in the World Karate Championships in June! This is his first time at this level of competition and we are sure he will do his very best! We look forward hearing about his experiences!

Good luck Joshua!

Poppy Dadson

Year 10

Poppy had a fantastic end to her 2018 Shetland Pony Grand National season with **THREE** fantastic wins at Olympia, London International Horse Show and Liverpool International Horse Show.

Poppy has been competing her pony Merkisayre Sea Duble all over the UK competing against 50+ other riders to earn one of the 10 places available at the above shows. Poppy and Duble happily won the very first qualifier back in June 18 to secure their ticket to Olympia and Liverpool early on in the season. The pair then carried on their winning streak and picked up many wins all over the country including Royal Windsor Horse Show,

Gatcombe Eventing Festival, Badminton Horse Trials to name a few.

Poppy has now hung up her patent race boots and breeches and passed the reins of Duble on to his next Jockey. Poppy is now back competing her jumping ponies on the Affiliated circuit and Working Hunter Shows with hopes of qualifying for the Horse of the Year Show and Olympia again.



New Member of Staff - Welcome!



Mr. Shapland Head of Food

I have always had a passion for food and cooking and on completion of my law postgrad, I decided to train as a chef (much to the astonishment of my parents!). Within 12 months, I had started my own catering business, which I successfully ran for 5 years before deciding to sell up and move to London. At the same time, I changed career and used my legal background to start work in the City.

During the following 15 years, I worked with private clients managing their investment portfolios and tax arrangements. This work was highly pressurised and it was whilst I was replying to client emails on my honeymoon that I decided it was time for change. I felt it was time to return to my initial career and I worked with some of the best chefs in London, getting a good feel for life in a Michelin starred kitchen. I

quickly realised that 15 hour days are not conducive to a happy home life, so I explored other careers in food including volunteering in a school. The experience of teaching students how to cook was genuinely life changing – within a month, I was given a full time position in the school. That was almost 6 years ago and I feel leaving the world of finance behind was the best decision ever.

Outside of the classroom, I enjoy travelling to partake in my hobbies of scuba diving and skiing. I also have retained my passion for cooking and I very much look forward to inspiring the next generation of “Masterchefs” in my career in Becket Keys.

Congratulations Mr. & Mrs Macallan!



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs Macallan on the safe arrival of Joshua Edward Macallan.

Joshua arrived (slightly early) on Sunday 6th January 2019.

Hire of School Facilities

Are you, or any groups or organisations you know looking to hire some of the amazing facilities at Becket Keys?

We have some availability for our fabulous new Sports Hall, Classrooms, Cookery Rooms, The John Wraw Chapel and Sixth Form areas in our new Justin Welby building!

Please email:

lettings@becketkeys.org or call 01277 286649 or visit

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

Year 11 Geography Field Trip

Juniper Hall

10th to 11th January 2019



Very early on Thursday 10th January, 70 bleary eyed Year 11 geographers embarked on the first tentative steps of their GCSE geographical field studies investigation.

We headed over the Dartford Bridge and down to the Field Studies Centre at Juniper Hall at the base of Box Hill, part of the Surrey Hills and the beautiful North Downs.

We quickly got settled in and began our investigations into different woodlands and our urban investigations in Leatherhead.



An excellent experience was had by all. The lessons were long and tough but the students came back well informed about the area, and sites that we used. They worked well and now know how to relate their learning in their forthcoming GCSE examination in the summer.



The accommodation and catering were just right and the 'cherry on the top' of the trip was that the M25 was kind to us and we managed to arrive back safe and sound before our estimated time of arrival!





Jack Petchey Awards

Recognising the contributions of our students with the help of Jack Petchey



Alex was nominated by staff and students alike to receive the Jack Petchey award last term. As Head Boy, he has supported many school events and has encouraged others to do the same. Year 7 students have expressed their appreciation of Alex's support during their science and maths classes. This has built his reputation amongst younger students. He has also been recognised as a very good sportsman. Alex is an ambassador for our school and is clearly a positive role model.

It is apt to write at this time, as the Head Boy and Girl Honours Board Alex choose to spend his £250 achievement award grant money on has now been installed in main reception. Alex felt that this would recognise the contributions of students to the life of the school, as well as

establish the history and traditions for our new school. A fitting choice, for one of our founding cohort! The importance of the development of Christian character in our students is also celebrated in Alex's success.

Congratulations, once again, Alex and thank you!

**Mrs. Sharp
Jack Petchey Achievement
Award Coordinator**



27th January 2019
**St Thomas' Great British Bake Off
and cake sale**

**Baking competition open to all.
Bake whatever cake or biscuit you like.
Free entry**

<p>Pre-school, Infant School, Junior School, Senior School and Adult categories</p>	<p>All entries will be sold as part of the cake sale after judging</p>
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**If the competition isn't for you,
please either donate to the cake sale or
buy some of the cakes in aid of
church funds**

GCSE Awards Presentation Evening



We had a wonderful evening celebrating the achievements of the 2016-2018 GCSE cohort on Thursday. Many thanks to Mr. Ian Kemble for attending as our guest speaker and congratulations to all the prizewinners. Photographs are available to purchase from the Carmel Jane website www.carmeljane.co.uk. Code BKA9

Sports News

Year 7 Basketball



The Year 7 basketball team played against Saint John Payne.

They all played so well! The team told me that this match taught them a great deal about how important it was to be positive. They did not have a great third quarter but scored six unanswered points in the fourth quarter when their attitude towards each other was positive.

This was a close match and the boys won 28-25.

Full Team:

Bobby Mattock
Folarin Olukoya
Caleb Lawani
Theo Vandermerwe
Henry Clark
Joseph Kitching
Joel Wilson
Felix Haywood-Biles

Mr Wray
PE Teacher

Year 7 Girls' Rugby

This academic year saw the creation of a new extra curriculum activity at Becket Keys. For the first time girls in Year 7 have the opportunity to play rugby! Every Wednesday a group of Year 7 girls have been meeting after school to learn the basics of one of the fastest growing women's sports in the UK.



For many, this was their first introduction to the sport. However, their enthusiasm to learn something new has been reflected in how quickly they have learned brand new skills. From basic handling and passing of the ball to full contact tackling the girls have proved to be quick learners and ever eager to do something new. For some of the girls their progress has not only been restricted to rugby skills but also to development of their character. These girls have demonstrated a growth in confidence, motivation and self-esteem. This development in character will serve them

throughout their school life and long after.

With the New Year comes a great opportunity for girls of Year 7 to be involved in this growing women's movement in sport and to a part of a unique community within Becket Keys. To join, girls can either meet outside the sports hall Wednesday at 3:10pm or see Mr. Lock for further details.

PE Club Information

Clubs are open to all, unless specified on the timetable

- Lunchtime clubs DO NOT require you to be changed. You must however, have non-marking trainers, if you are entering the sports hall.
- If you want your own copy of the PE timetable, please see the PE team in the Sports Hall office.
- All sports clubs are now running



Parkrun organise free, weekly, 5km timed runs around the world. They are open to everyone, free, and are safe and easy to take part in.

These events take place in pleasant parkland surroundings and they encourage people of every ability to take part; from those taking their first steps in running to Olympians; from juniors to experienced runners. All are welcome!

Parkrun takes place:

Every Saturday at 9.00am.

Weald Country Park

South Weald

Brentwood

CM14 5QS.

It is free to take part but please register prior to attending. For more information:

<http://www.parkrun.org.uk/brentwood/>

If you are a member of any of the school sports teams, then joining the Park Run each week will be great way to improve your overall fitness.



Sports Fixtures

Monday 21st January

Year 8 Girls' Basketball v The Boswells School (h)

Tuesday 22nd January

Year 9 Netball v Shenfield High School (h)

Tuesday 29th January

Year 8 Girls' Basketball v Shenfield High School (h)

Wednesday 30th January

Year 10 Basketball v St. John Payne (h)

Year 7 and 8 Girls' Indoor Athletics
(at Shenfield High School)

Tuesday 5th February

Year 7 Football
v Chelmer Valley High School (h)

Year 7 and 8 Boys' Indoor Athletics
@ Shenfield High School

Wednesday 5th February

Year 7 and 8 Boys' & Girls' Cross Country
@ Stubbers

Thursday 7th February

Year 9 Basketball v St. John Payne (a)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 9 CONSULTATION EVENING

THURSDAY 24TH JANUARY 2019

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YEAR 7 MANDARIN DAY

WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2019

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YEAR 9 CURRICULUM EVENING

TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2019

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DEADLINE FOR SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS

FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2019

*

LENT HOLIDAY

18TH FEBRUARY – 22ND FEBRUARY 2019

*

INSET DAY

MONDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2019

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YEAR 13 MOCK EXAMS

NEW DATES

26TH FEBRUARY - 8TH MARCH 2019

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YEAR 10 CURRICULUM EVENING

THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2019

FREE youth SPORTS FESTIVAL

Calling all Years 1 to Year 13!

**Sunday 20th January
10:00am - 2:45pm**

On Sunday 20th January the Brentwood Centre is open for you to try out lots of new sports.

Soft Archery Yoga Football MMA

Splash Time In The Pool Bouncy Castle

To register simply complete and return the form overleaf to the Brentwood Centre main reception or email to youth@brentwoodleisure.co.uk

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Sessions will be split into appropriate age brackets, but if your child wishes to do things with their friends or siblings please let us know. Please wear trainers, bring your swimming kit, a water bottle and lunch, or money to buy lunch at the Centre.

Becket Keys Chat 1st Brentwood Leisure Trust

For more information:
Email: youth@brentwoodleisure.co.uk Tel: 01277 246057
Brentwood Centre, Doddington Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9NN

Becket Keys

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[@BecketKeys6th](https://www.facebook.com/becketkeys)

[@MrScottEvans](https://www.facebook.com/becketkeys)