

Lent is a time for
prayer, fasting
almsgiving, reflection

Becket Keys Church of England School

1st March 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr. Scott-Evans writes...

Fairtrade Fortnight and Lent

In Collective Worship this week I have been speaking to Year 7 to 10 about Fairtrade Fortnight. I have linked the work of the Fairtrade Foundation and chocolate (which is this year's focus product) and Lent which, of course, starts next week.

We have looked at the Rosine Bekoin who is a female farm owner in Cote D'Ivoire. I wonder if your son/daughter can tell you why she is so inspirational and unusual in her country.

You can find out more here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6icYTti1H4g>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-XbP4cn8xhU>

I hope you find this as interesting as I have this week.

Giving up chocolate for Lent is generally a good temptation test for students. Can they give it up Monday to Saturday through to Easter? How about a smaller part of the week?

Or perhaps they should look at giving up something that is even closer to their heart? The X-Box? Could they reduce the time they spend on this? Limit it to just the weekend? Spend the time on their homework instead?

We have been giving this a lot of thought and will continue into next week.

I have read to the students from St Matthew's Gospel:

"When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for

.....contd. on Page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Biblical Pause

'Time for a Change'. Reflection and fasting at the beginning of Lent.

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they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly, I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

This reminds us that when we fast (not if!), that it is not a matter for public display and attention, it is a matter for us and God. It is supposed to help us develop spiritually not just in terms of health, homework or admiration from friends.

This Lent we will be challenging students not just to think about what they can give up, but how by doing so it can draw them closer to God. Perhaps it is not about giving something up but taking something on.

How about?

1. Buying Fairtrade products;
2. Spending less time on a phone and more time in prayer and reading the Bible;
3. Going for a run/walking the dog.

What will your Lent look like this year? How will it help you? The world? And your relationship with God?

Sometimes life is hard enough without making it more challenging for Lent. Perhaps God will not ask you to give anything up this Lent. Maybe He

will just want to be with you during whatever it is that is already occupying your time and making life so hard! Let's use this weekend to give it some thought.

Matthew 11 v 28 – 30:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Mr. Scott-Evans
Headteacher



Tickets now on sale for our FoBK 80s Tribute Night

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2019

Tickets from www.pta-events.co.uk/fobk

Available to all over 18's £10 each.

BIBLICAL PAUSES

Next week sees the beginning of Lent. For some people, being marked with the sign of the cross on **Ash Wednesday** symbolises their desire to 'return to the Father'.



Through the Ash Wednesday readings, God begs us to come back. These readings reassure us that the God who calls us is 'gracious and merciful . . . full of steadfast love' (Joel 2:12-13). It was to show just how loving God is that Jesus told the story of the prodigal son. Having explained how the youngest son had resolved to return home, Jesus places the spotlight on the waiting father. He tells us that while the son was still a long way from home, 'the father saw . . . his son' (Luke 15:20). He was willing his son to return home; like children on a day trip to the beach competing to catch the first glimpse of the sea. God, likewise, will wait patiently until we respond to His love.



Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent and a day on which to prepare for setting aside the next six weeks to consider how we live our lives together with God; a day to consider our own mortality and our shared humanity. From dust we are and to dust we shall all return. At the threshold for Lent, it can be considered a 'liminal' time – a time that can bring change and transformation for individuals and communities. This time might involve a more focused period of prayer, reflection or even fasting. Standing on this threshold, we are also invited to hear the words written in Isaiah 58:6-7: 'Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?'

As we enter a period of reflecting or fasting, we can become aware of what we crave, more alert to the compulsions that control us. From there, we can explore ways of naming these compulsions before God and looking for ways of being free from them. While vital for the deepening of our inner lives, we must find a way for this to turn into action or we risk losing ourselves in our own piety. **Repentance** – the U-turn change of direction – must find expression in our lives. **Faith must result in action.** This might be as simple as reducing what we consume in order that we might share our 'bread', giving our energy to raising the awareness of the suffering of others, or



spending our time with those who find themselves excluded and vilified.



Mr. Scott-Evans has been encouraging students to support 'Fairtrade Fortnight' during collective worship this week. This year, Fairtrade Fortnight focuses on cocoa. Farmers of this much-loved product have seen prices fall to crisis levels in the last few years, making life incredibly difficult for cocoa farmers. This is especially true in West Africa where most cocoa is grown. Mr. Scott-Evans encouraged students to take action, by sending a postcard to our Prime Minister, calling for the UK Government to make sure our trade with Low Income Countries puts poverty reduction first, delivering living incomes for all. **Global changes start from the collective action of individuals.**

May this time of fasting be a time when our senses are heightened, so that we can see and take notice of those who are held by the bonds of injustice, those who are held by the yoke of oppression, and discover how we may work with them to loosen and break those chains – that together we might shout out, not hold back, and fast in a way that makes our voices heard on high.

Read the words of Isaiah chapter 58 verses 1-12:

1. Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.
2. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God.
3. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers.
4. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.
5. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?
6. Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
7. Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

8. Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear-guard.
9. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil.



10. If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.
11. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.
12. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the

foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Consider:

1. As you stand on the threshold of Lent, what is it that you most hope to see happen within you and your community?
2. Looking over Isaiah 58:6-10, is there anything in this passage that makes you uncomfortable? If so, think about that discomfort and consider/discuss why it might exist.
3. What does, or might, this kind of fasting look like in your community and context?
4. From verse 8 onwards there is an inspiring description of the blessings that befall a community who challenge injustice, free the oppressed, share food, clothe the naked and welcome the homeless. Reading over this slowly, are you drawn to any of these in particular?



Pray:

*Lord Jesus,
When I would shut my eyes –
because I am afraid to see,
when I would hold on tightly –
because I am afraid to share,
when I would close my doors –
because I am afraid to get
involved,
may I find courage
in the company of your people,
learning with them to open my
eyes,
my hands,
my home
and my heart.
AMEN.*

Mrs. Sharp
Deputy Headteacher

Spring Concert Change of Date

Please note that there has been a change in the date of this concert, it will now be held on:

Thursday 4th April 2019



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.

Please come to reception five minutes prior to the beginning of the prayer meeting

**Tuesday 11.15am
Wednesday 7.50am**

All are welcome!

Lunchtime Eucharist



Father Mark North comes in to school every Friday lunchtime to celebrate communion in the John Wraw Chapel (Justin Welby building).

All members of the local community and parents are also invited to these short twenty-minute services. Please arrive in reception at 12.50pm for a 1pm start.

INTERESTED IN TEACHING?

The school is always interested to hear from those who wish to consider teaching as a career. Readers may well be aware of the current difficulties all schools face in recruiting high quality staff. Becket Keys Church of England School has an advantage given its reputation and being an outstanding church school, but we cannot be complacent.

The school would welcome expressions of interest from qualified teachers, those looking to return to the profession or those wishing to enter it.

We offer School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) as a route into teaching. We work closely with the Billericay Education Consortium who have connections to a large network of partnership schools in Essex and Havering. They provide bespoke training of the highest quality. Over the last five years, 100% of their trainees have passed the course with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and gained a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) with 60 Master credits. The programme offers a real balance between hands on classroom experiences and the theory underpinning educational practice.



**BILLERICAY
EDUCATIONAL
CONSORTIUM**

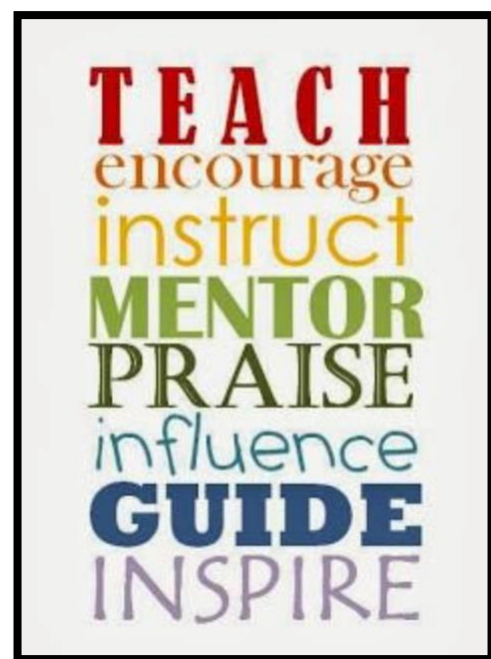
School Centered Initial Teacher Training

Please contact **Mrs. Sharp (Professional Mentor for Billericay Education Consortium at Becket Keys)** or go direct to <https://www.billericayscitt.com/> for further details.

If you are interested in attending either of these events, please complete the form found on line at <https://www.billericayscitt.com/information-events/> or alternatively, contact becky@billericayscitt.com to reserve a place.

TASTER EVENTS

Mrs. Sharp will be organising taster events for 11th March and 1st April from 9.30 - 12.30am at Becket Keys. Attending one of these events will give you a chance to experience life in school and discover whether teaching may be the career for you. During your visit, you will observe lessons and meet with mentors and staff who work in partnership with the Billericay Educational Consortium. You will get the chance to have a chat with ex-trainees who have been employed by the school, and current trainees who are placed here for their training year. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have, either about the course or teaching in general.



Whole School Production!

AUDITIONS COMING SOON!!!!

Would you like to be involved in this year's whole school production?

Would you like to use the production to help you gain more confidence in group situations?

Would you like to learn about the craft of theatre?

Do you regret not getting involved last year?

No matter how big or small, a role can be created for everyone.



Bookings are now open for places in this term's after school running club. Held for one hour each Thursday afternoon.

Payment is now due for the second term of 6 weeks $\times \pounds 2 = \pounds 12.00$. This small weekly fee covers the time given by qualified coaches from Thrift Green Trotters Running Club to lead the sessions. Please make payment by bank transfer to the following account:

Account name: Thrift Green Trotters
Sort code: 09-01-51
Account number: 73777309

Please use BK followed by your son/daughter's name as payment reference. Please direct any queries to the Youth Section on the Thrift Green Trotters web site

<https://thriftgreentrotters.co.uk/juniors/>.

Melvyn Cooper
Thrift GreenTrotters Youth Coach

Mathematics Challenge Answers

1. What is the value of 2019 tenths?
b) 201.9
2. There are 120, 000 red squirrels living in Scotland. This represents 75% of their total population. How many more squirrels live in Scotland than live in the remainder of the UK?
d) 80,000
3. How many positive cubes less than 5,000 end in the digit 5?
b) 2
4. Megan writes down a list of five numbers. The mean of her first three numbers is -3. The mean of her first four numbers is 4. The mean of her first five numbers is -5. What is the difference between her fourth and fifth number?
a) 66
5. Four of the following six digit integers are always divisible by 7, regardless of the values of the digits P and Q. Which of the following is not necessarily a multiple of 7?
e) PPP QQQ

Student Achievement



Samantha Pain 8AC, attended the Standout Theatre Company Competition at James Hornsby School on Sunday, 24th February and came **1st** in her Modern Ballet Solo!

Congratulations Samantha!

Madrid Trip Year 8



Please note that the final Madrid trip payment is due today. Kindly pay £489 via ParentPay by the end of the day.

Thank you!

Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play | Get it from Microsoft

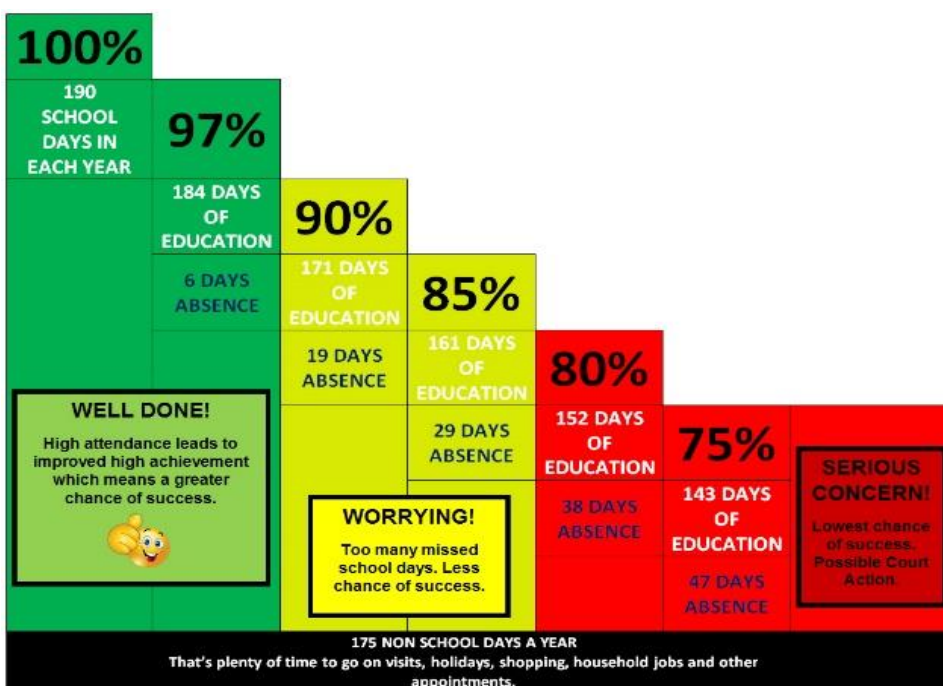
Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health
See what illnesses are going around
Secure system, all communications encrypted

Working in partnership with: NHS | Brighton and Sussex Medical School | Brighton & Hove City Council | EPR | EPR

Studybugs

School Absence

This chart represents how much time is missed throughout a year if attendance is low. Which category are you in? Anything under 90% is classed as "persistently absent" and can result in legal action from the school and the local authorities. We never want to go down this route at Becket Keys, so please ensure your children are in school as much as possible.



How to Apply to University Year 11 & 12 Information Evening

We have scheduled an information evening about the process that students (and parents) need to be aware of when applying for places at universities. This event has now been opened up to parents of Year 11 students.

This event is to be on **Tuesday 12th March 2019**, starting at 6:30pm in the Main Hall. It is for parents/carers only; students will be learning this information through a series of presentations in and out of school.

The main speaker will be Paul Dunton from Anglia Ruskin University, who will speak for about 45 minutes. He will cover topics as varied as why students should consider going to university, how they should complete their applications and what financial support there is. Mr Peggs will also speak briefly about how we are going to guide students through all of this and what parents can do to support their sons/daughters through what can be a difficult time for families. At the end, there will be a chance to speak with individual members of staff, including Mr Khoo (Head of Year 12) and Mrs Course (Head of Year 13), so that you can ask any questions you have.



We are aware that there are many families who are going through this process for the first time. Consequently, please be aware that the content of the information evening will be aimed at these families and we might cover areas that not everyone needs further explanations of. However, this is a unique chance to hear how we are going to support all students through this process and, therefore, we do encourage you to attend in order to gain a greater insight of what we are putting in place at Becket Keys.

If you wish to attend this evening, please follow this link to book tickets for the event.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-apply-to-university-information-evening-tickets-56560308405>

Please note that you are limited to two tickets per family and that this is for parents/carers only.

Mr. R. Peggs
Head of Sixth Form

St Thomas of Canterbury Church



Bishop Norman is coming to St Thomas' Church in the evening of 1st May to administer the sacrament of confirmation.

If there are any students, staff or parents who would be interested in being prepared for confirmation so that they can receive Holy Communion and confirm their baptismal promises, please contact Fr Mark North to discuss this further.

You can email him on frmarknorth@btinternet.com or phone him on 01277 231629 or 07508604115.

Sports News

Year 8

Boys' Football



The Year 8 boys' football team put in a good performance against Ormiston Rivers, dominating possession and creating chances, but unfortunately were left disappointed by the result, as they could not convert enough in the final third. Ormiston led at half-time through an extremely fortunate own-goal, after a mix-up in the Becket Keys defence. Becket Keys had created chance after chance in the first half, but the final ball let them down. In the second half, opportunities came and went, but Ormiston were able to score on the break again. Melchi Egbeyemi pulled a goal back for Becket Keys after a great run and finish, but then Ormiston scored at the end of the game, counter-attacking once more.

The boys are determined to keep working hard in training, particularly focusing on their finishing. The boys will be training on grass too to adapt to different conditions more easily.

Ormiston Rivers Academy	3
Becket Keys	1

Sporting Fixtures

Monday 4th March

Year 7 Girls' Football v Great Baddow High School (h)

Year 8 Girls' Basketball v Great Baddow (a)

Tuesday 5th March

Year 10 v Year 11 Boys' Football (h)

Wednesday 6th March

Year 9 Rugby v Plume Academy (a)

Thursday 7th March

Year 7 and Year 10 Netball v Anglo European School (h)

Monday 11th March

Year 9 Football v Boswells (a)

Year 8 Basketball v Great Baddow High School at St Martins -Essex Cup Semi-Final

Tuesday 12th March

Year 7 Basketball v King Edward VI Grammar School (a)

Sixth Form Basketball v St Martin's (h)

Wednesday 13th March

Year 8 and 9 Football v St John Payne (a)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 13 MOCK EXAMS

NEW DATES

26TH FEBRUARY - 8TH MARCH 2019

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HOW TO APPLY TO UNIVERSITY INFORMATION EVENING

TUESDAY 12TH MARCH 2019

*

FOBK 80S TRIBUTE NIGHT

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2019

*

YEAR 10 CURRICULUM EVENING

THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2019

*

YEAR 11 CURRICULUM EVENING (INVITE ONLY)

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2019

*

SPRING CONCERT NEW DATE!

THURSDAY 4TH APRIL 2019

*

INSET DAY

FRIDAY 5TH APRIL 2019

*

EASTER HOLIDAY

MONDAY 8TH APRIL – FRIDAY 19TH APRIL 19

Shrove Tuesday



St Thomas of Canterbury Church are holding a Pancake party to mark the start of Lent. This event is suitable for all ages; the cost is £3 per ticket and includes two pancakes with a choice of toppings.

**Tuesday 5th March 2019
3.45pm to 4.45pm**

Tickets are £3 and are available from Sarah Howard (07779 851250) or from the Church Centre. Space is limited, so please buy your ticket in advance.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Becket Keys

Church of England School

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Twitter: [@BecketKeys](https://twitter.com/BecketKeys)

<https://www.facebook.com/becketkeys>

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

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