

Becket Keys Church of England School

29th November 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes...

What is going on in school? Mocks

The Mock exams for Year 11 and Year 13 have been taking place all week. Please remember these students in your prayers. Mocks are a great opportunity for students to practise in exam conditions and to see what they need to improve on.

Some students seem not to feel "the pressure" and will not have revised anywhere near enough! Others will have worked really hard and put themselves under too much pressure to perform. Neither is where we want students to be! Please pray that our students get the balance right and use these mocks positively to revise and try to reach their target grades.

Students should be doing regular revision in addition to any homework that they are set. They should be aiming to increase the amount of time they are revising each month and at the moment the mocks should provide a real focus to revise diligently and carefully. They should focus on the subjects/topics they are weaker at; they should be pushing away the temptations of the mobile phone and the games console for the next couple of weeks of serious concerted effort. The best revision is usually attempting practice questions, checking they have memorised key facts/dates/vocab and not simply reading, notetaking or highlighting!

If you want to pray specifically, please look at our website here to check the timetables:

https://www.becketkeys.org/exams.php



Mathematics Department
Year 12 students took part in the
UKMT Senior Maths Challenge.

Page 3

The Gift of Reading
We would love your support with this year's book appeal.

Page 4

Advent Sleepout Challenge
We are collaborating with St Thomas
of Canterbury Church to raise money
for those without homes.

Page 5

Biblical Pause

'A Week of Hope' Details of the Advent Prayer Calendar.

Page 6

Sports News

Check out the latest results and see the upcoming fixture list.

Page 13

......Contd. from Page 1
If you want need advice, please
feel free to contact your
son/daughter's teachers via the
website:

https://www.becketkeys.org/cont act.php

Sixth Form

Year 12 had their first subject consultation evening last week: an opportunity to see how they have settled into Sixth Form and what progress they have made already. It is important to get into good habits early on as for some students the freedom and independence of Sixth Form is hard to get used to. We will let you know next week how your son/daughter is coping! Our structures and systems help prevent this from being too much of an issue and I am delighted to see the rapid development of our students. They are now taking on the responsibility of prefects around the school and making a valuable contribution as role models.

Year 11

Year 11s have nearly all been seen regarding their next steps after GCSEs. Our Senior Leadership Team and/or Sixth Form team have met with them all for a face to face chat. Soon (I suggest over Christmas), all Year 11s need to apply (via our website) for a place here at Sixth Form. Remember, all students have to do this, they do not simply carry on to Sixth Form, they must apply and meet the entrance requirements (8 GCSEs Grade 4 and above

including English and Mathematics) to gain a place. Other requirements apply for each individual subject and these need to be looked at carefully. All the details are here:

https://www.becketkeys.org/appl yforsixthform.php

Year 10

I hope that Year 10 are looking at Year 11s taking their mocks and thinking, 'that will be me in 12 months' time'. Time moves quickly and there is no time like the present! If Year 10s work diligently now it makes next year much more straight-forward. Revision should be an on-going process. Year 10s should be revising now the things that they learned in Term 1 and 2 and checking their books are tidy and clear and easy to revise from. Making revision cards now and going over key facts is crucial to success. Knowing that you are revising all the time is essential to reducing stress and anxiety. Our regular assessment pattern encourages students to revise in this way, but your son/daughter will need reminding at home and will need a quiet space with time set aside each week for this. Remember - do not let him/her keep revising his/her favourite subject! We all need to work hardest on the subjects that are most challenging.

Lower School

Year 8s will have a parents' evening in February; in the meantime, a great way to see what your son/daughter is doing

is to look in their books when they bring them home. Check the basics. Are the dates, titles and so on underlined and clear? Are diagrams finished? Are all sheets trimmed and stuck in? What about handwriting? Is it improving through the year? It should be. If it is getting worse, they need to buck their ideas up! Have they responded (in red) to the teacher comments (green ink)? Are all spelling corrections practised at least six times? If you want some advice from a teacher, you can contact us via the website:

https://www.becketkeys.org/cont act.php

Year 7 continue to flourish with the best attendance in the school! They seem to be enjoying their lessons, making new friendships and trying the different clubs. They are also honing their singing skills with our weekly singing practice sessions. We hope that all Year 7 parents will join us for the Christmas Concert on Tuesday 10th December to hear them as all Year 7s sing at this important event again this year. You will also be entertained by musicians across the school at this prestigious festival of music! Keep the date clear in your diary!

They have also now begun studying either Mandarin or Spanish in earnest. The aim is for every student to take either Mandarin or Spanish to GCSE and get a good pass. Working hard now with plenty of homework and self study will ensure success in these important subjects.

Page **2** of **14**

Year 9 need to keep working hard across all their courses. In PSHE lessons we are speaking to them about the "options process". As usual we will give clear guidance as to which subjects we think your son/daughter should take at GCSE to give themselves the best possible chances of good grades. We will also meet with students and parents to discuss alternatives if there are subjects that are preferred for particular reasons. Students will need good behaviour and effort grades across all their subjects to have freedom to choose. I always say to Year 9: "The way you do anything is the way you do everything." What I mean is: they need to show a good attitude and effort in all their subjects to have free choice next year. We will look at their grades across ALL of their subjects to decide whether they can do the specific courses that they want to do.

Everyone needs to keep working hard. Step by step. Day by day. We are all moving forward as a team together.

You should be proud of all your children. I am.

Enjoy the weekend.

Mr Scott-Evans Headteacher



Mathematics Department



This week, Mrs Rubery took a team of four Year 12 students to represent Becket Keys at the UKMT senior team maths challenge.

The Senior Team Maths
Challenge is a competition giving students the opportunity to tackle a variety of engaging mathematical activities while developing teamwork and communication skills.

Teams of four students from schools and colleges across the UK take part in dozens of Regional Finals and high-scoring teams are invited to compete in the National Final.

Unfortunately, we did not get to move onto the next round, but a great evening was enjoyed by all and lots of lessons learned for when we come back bigger and stronger next year!

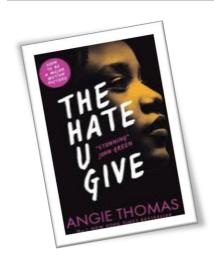
We will next be preparing for the Year 10 Team Maths Challenge. Any interested students should come to J25 on Wednesday lunch times for Maths club, where we will focus next term on our problem solving skills.



Mrs Rubery Mathematics Teacher

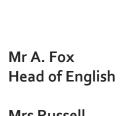


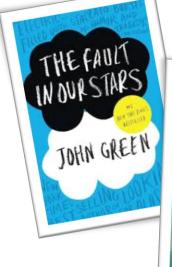
Give the Gift of Reading this Christmas

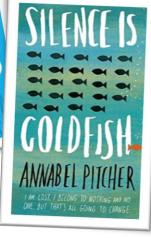


As Christmas Day draws nearer and excitement levels inevitably rise, it is worth taking time to pause and reflect on the true meaning of the season. In an increasingly commercialised and materialistic world, it is often easy to forget the notion of charity and altruism; giving to others in need is far more rewarding than receiving presents oneself, and giving the gift of reading can impact individuals and the community on so many levels.

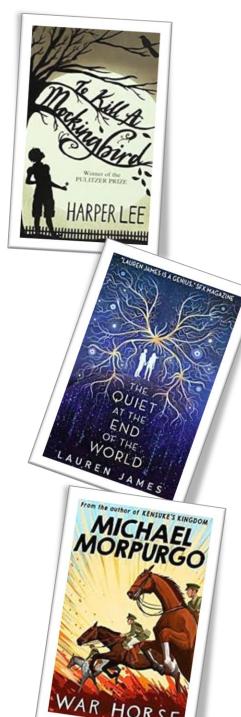
I would like to appeal to parents, students and staff alike, to donate a book this Christmas. With three Christmas trees located around the school building, this is the perfect opportunity for people to wrap up a favourite or inspirational read, and allow others to enjoy the gift of reading. Whether your chosen read is a work of fiction or nonfiction, intended for enjoyment and escapism or to enhance subject knowledge and academia, all types of literary gifts are much welcomed. There will be a separate Christmas tree in the Sixth Form area for people to donate more challenging and thought-provoking books perhaps directly related to one of the many A-level courses being studied. It would be so rewarding and beneficial if we could continue to foster the love for reading in the Becket Keys community, and what better time to ignite the flame of literacy than during the Advent season? So, please, consider donating a book this Christmas; the gift of reading is one that we should all be able to enjoy.















Want to give someone the gift of warmth, comfort, food and hope this Advent? Prepared to ditch your duvet and sleepout in St. Thomas of Canterbury Church?

This year, St Thomas of Canterbury Church would like to make the Advent Sleepout Challenge a new tradition for its associated Church Schools. The aim is to raise money for the Together Network (a key programme of the Church Urban Fund – the social action of the Church of England) and their work with winter night shelters and the homeless. All you have to do is get as many sponsors as you can, for you to give up your comfy beds for a night, in one of the coldest months of the year, and sleep on the floor at St Thomas' Church. This event is open to students of all ages (from Year 7-Year 13).

This Church run event for Becket Keys students will be on the night of the 13th December. Please be reassured that this event is not attempting to recreate the sense of danger and deprivation faced by many homeless people. It will be a fun event to raise funds that will help those who need it most. There will be a rota of DBS checked adults on duty all night to ensure safety and security. The key details of the event are below:

LOCATION: St Thomas of Canterbury Parish Church, St. Thomas Road, Brentwood, CM14 4DF BED: The floor DATE: Night of the 13th December TIME: 8.30pm until 9.00am

PROVIDED: Evening hot drinks and snacks, breakfast and fun!

BRING: Sleeping bag, favourite pyjamas or onesie, layers (wooly jumper, hat and gloves), cosy blanket, a torch and wash bag.

In December 2018, 83,700 households' experiences homelessness (up 5% from 2017) in the UK. Last Year, the Church Urban Fund via the Together Network, were able to provide over 4,300 winter night shelter spaces, offering individuals food, a safe space to sleep and much needed friendship. Thanks to fundraising events, such as taking part in the Advent Sleepout Challenge, one of their night shelters was able to open permanently throughout the winter period. So let's gather together, have some fun and raise as much sponsorship money as possible, to help transform as many lives as possible.

To take part, Complete the Consent form accompanying this newsletter and visit the fundraising page for this event (below) to get started on collecting sponsorships. You can also set up your own fundraising page as a tab and still add to 'Team St. Thomas' total. A printed sponsorship has been provided, in case you prefer this method.

https://adventsleepoutChallenge2019.everydayhero.com/uk/team-becket-keys-st-thomas-of-Canterbury

Let's make a difference!

Date for forms - Friday 6th December!

P A US E

A week of Hope

Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel

Isaiah 7:14

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church prepares to celebrate the coming (adventus) of Christ in his incarnation, and also looks ahead to his final advent. He will come to search the world in the light of God's values, to look for justice and for love in our lives and relationships. We are not only expecting a child, but also a judge - and He is one and the same person, the vulnerable baby who judges us and challenges us in his profound need for care and security.

Waiting is always hard, but Christmas is worth waiting for! It is a special time and at its heart is a gift of love from God to the world. At Becket Keys Church of England School, students and staff will ensure that, despite commercial pressure and the busyness of this season, there is plenty of time for spiritual preparation. Each week, I will



share with you the theme our school community will be focusing on, so you too can join us in our Advent Journey. There are three ways to join us:

- Follow the Becket Keys prayer calendar
- 2. Join us at one or more of our Eucharists
- Join one of our prayer meetings (every Wednesday 7.50am and 11.15am)
- 4. Read the Biblical Pause each week to discover the coming week's focus for worship

I have included our prayer calendar in this newsletter. At the end of each day, lessons will pause, lights will be dimmed and candles will be lit for a short time of quiet reflection and prayer.

Join us, whether at home or work, perhaps even encourage others to join you too! There are A4

Page 6 of 14

versions of this calendar in reception, if you would like to collect one.

Next week, as explored in this week's Biblical Pause, our first theme will be hope. The story of Jesus' birth began thousands of years before he was born. God promised the people of Israel that he would provide a Messiah (Saviour) to save them from their sins. For centuries, the people of Israel waited with great hope for the Messiah to come. In the words of Isaiah 7:14, 'Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel'.

The prophet Isaiah, who lived hundreds of years before Jesus, predicted the birth of Jesus as a promise of hope from God. The word Immanuel means God living with us, and was fulfilled when

Jesus came to live on earth as the Messiah.

Reflect on these questions:

What is something you are hoping for this Christmas?

Why is it so hard for children to wait until Christmas to receive their presents?

Can you imagine waiting hundreds of years for Jesus to come like the people of Israel had to?

Let us pray:

Father in Heaven, thank you for the gift of your son Jesus who was not only the hope of Israel thousands of years ago, but our hope of salvation today. Help us to keep the hope of Jesus in our school and homes this Advent and Christmas season.

Amen.

Mrs. Sharp Deputy Headteacher







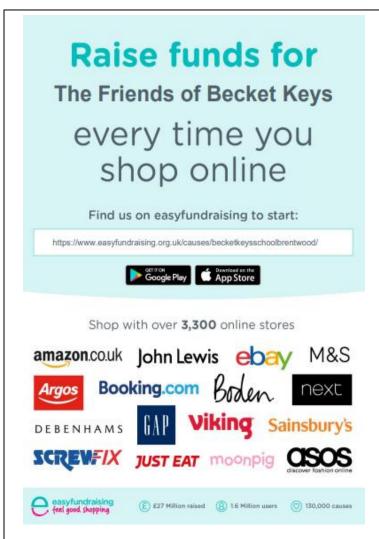
Jack Petchey Award Winner boosts music provision

Our first Jack Petchey award winner for this academic year was Jeremiah Ajanlekoko. Jeremiah was nominated by the school community for the following reasons:

Jeremiah is always willing to help others and is held in high regard by his peers. He is a fantastic ambassador for our school and encourages others to get more involved in community events, both in school and the local area. As part of the school council, he expresses the views of others with sensitivity and diplomacy. He is always looking to improve things for others and his 'can do' attitude is infectious. He is an example of faith in action.

He has purchased a base and electro acoustic ukulele for the music department. This is a popular instrument amongst our students and these high quality ukuleles will support teaching and learning in classes as well as extra-curricular clubs.

Well done Jeremiah!



Christmas Shopping? Why not see if you can help raise some funds for FoBK through your online purchases in a few easy steps:

Follow this link:

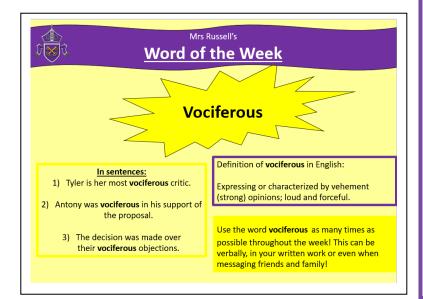
- https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ becketkeysschoolbrentwood/?invite=24A809 &referral-campaign=s2s
- Click 'Support this Cause'.
- If new to Easyfundraising then set up an account.
- Browse the hundreds of online shops who
 participate in the scheme and go shopping! As
 long as you go into the online sites through the
 Easyfundraising site, you will register a
 donation to FoBK. You can even get an App for
 your phone! It will not cost you a penny!













This year's Christmas Carol Concert takes place on **Tuesday 10th December** in the Main Hall and will be a wonderful opportunity to listen to music performed by Year 7, Stage Band, Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Pitch Perfect, Junior Voices, Junior Wind Band and the Saxophone Choir.

Doors open at 7.15pm, and the concert begins starts at 7:30pm.

Refreshments will be available in the Bistro from 6.45pm. As our main hall can only seat 300, we have to limit seats to three per family, at a cost of £5.00 per seat.

To reserve your seats please pay on Parent Pay and bring the receipt as your concert ticket. All performers will be onstage throughout, so you do not need a ticket for your son/daughter if they are performing.

The Christmas Carol Concert is a wonderful tradition at Becket Keys and we look forward to sharing in the festivities with you and your family.

Mr Romhany Director of Music

FRIENDS OF BECKET KEYS HAVE THE FOLLOWING HIGHLY DISCOUNTED THEATRE SHOWS AVAILABLE

www.pta-events.co.uk/fobk



Tuesday 28th January 2020 7:30pm Sondeim Theatre, London W1V 8BA £32.50 EACH



Thursday 20th Feb 2020 7:30pm Duchess Theatre London WC2B 5LA £26.00 EACH



Thursday 7th May 2020 7:00pm Cambridge Theatre London WC2H 9HU £30.00 EACH



Thursday 25th June 2020 7:30pm Coliseum Theatre London WC2N 4ES £30.00 EACH

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES PLEASE FoBK@becketkeys.org



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.

7.50am and 11.15am every Wednesday.

All are welcome.

Lunchtime Eucharist Advent Services

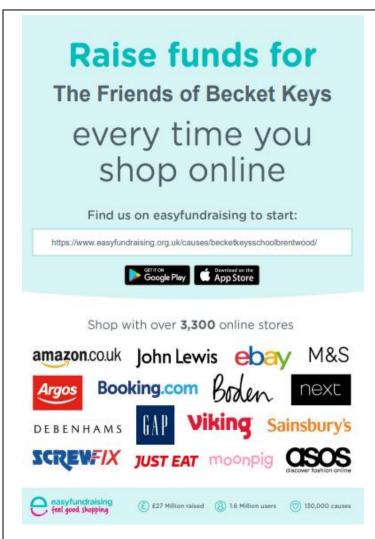


Father Mark North comes in to school every Friday lunchtime to celebrate communion in the John Wraw Chapel (Justin Welby building).

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.



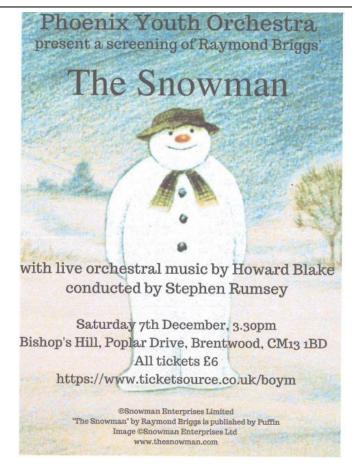


Christmas Shopping? Why not see if you can help raise some funds for FoBK through your online purchases in a few easy steps:

Follow this link:

- https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ becketkeysschoolbrentwood/?invite=24A809 &referral-campaign=s2s
- Click 'Support this Cause'.
- If new to Easyfundraising then set up an account.
- Browse the hundreds of online shops who
 participate in the scheme and go shopping! As
 long as you go into the online sites through the
 Easyfundraising site, you will register a
 donation to FoBK. You can even get an App for
 your phone! It will not cost you a penny!





Sports News

Year 8 Netball

The Year 8 B team rally was held at Ursuline School. As new comers to this particular rally, it was a joy to see that it was insideaway from the miserable weather! This excited the girls and got them off to a flying start. Their games finished as followed:

Game 1: WonGame 2: LostGame 3: Lost

This placed our girls in the top 3 in the borough which is quite an achievement for such a competitive area!

Special mention to Woman of the Match: Eniola Olulode and Entertainment Specialist: Lizzie Dixon for her comical defending which resembles asking a question in a lesson.

Team:

- Olivia James
- Lizzie Dixon
- Isabella Love
- Isabel Barry
- Eniola Olude
- Rachel Lyle
- Ella Stevenson
- Fibian Mckenzie

Year 9 Girls' Basketball MESSA Rally

On Thursday our Year 9 girls prepared themselves for one of their toughest competitions yet.

The MESSA Basketball Rally v St Martins and Shenfield. This brought fear, anxiety and stress to all members of the team due to the reputation of these prestigious sides!

However, Becket Keys is known for their perseverance, dedication and determination for all sports and by George we definitely had all these qualities and more on this game day! Our first game got us in the mood for a battle; Shenfield came at us strong with some fantastic link up play which lead to a loss against an outstanding side.

The battle continued into our second game against St Martins, one of which flourished with talent, drive and sheer desire to win. In the final 5 minutes the score was 8-8, our pressure forced a time out for the opposition giving us time for a motivation talk on the base line. Play continued and Becket Keys, strong as ever, forced two turnovers resulting in 4 consecutive points making it 12-

8. Our defense remained strong and allowed us to take the game! Finishing 2nd in the district!



Team:

- Saskia Bashford
- Lucy Gunn
- Izzi Brook
- Phillipa Burrell
- Isabella Haywood-Biles
- Pip Barden
- Mckenzie Reid
- Millie Cordwell
- Josiane Pouadjeu Kammani

Women of the Match: Captain – Saskia Bashford and Izzi Brook

Indoor Athletics Trials – Boys – Year 7 & 8

Thursday 5th December

In preparation for the Brentwood Indoor Athletics competition we require 8 athletes to compete in the following events:

- Vertical Jump
- Standing long jump
- Standing Triple Jump
 - Speed Bounce
 - Sprint Relays
- Individual sprints
- Indoor Shot Put



If you believe you could impact this team please come along to the above trials in order to gain a place on the team. Selection will be based on performance at trials. Students will also be invited to these trials if felt appropriate.



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**. The event takes place at 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/

Becket Keys have a number of Cross Country events coming up. If you have been chosen for any of these, then participation in the Park Run each week will give you an excellent opportunity to continue your training. 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.



<u>Upcoming</u> <u>Sports Fixtures</u>

Monday 2nd December
Year 7 Essex Cup Netball v
St Angela's School (H)

<u>Tuesday 3rd December</u> Year 9 Football v Moulsham (H)

Wednesday 4th December Year 7 Basketball v Anglo European School (A)

<u>Thursday 5th December</u> Year 11 Basketball v Moulsham (A) Year 8 Netball v Brentwood County

High School (H)



<u>Wednesday 11th December</u> Year 7 & 8 Boys' Indoor Athletics @ Shenfield High School

Monday 16th December Year 7 Girls' Football v St Martin's School (A)

<u>Wednesday 18th December</u> Year 7 Girls' Basketball v St John Payne Catholic School (A)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 11 & YEAR 13 MOCK EXAMS

25TH NOVEMBER – 6TH DECEMBER

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CAROLS AT THE BAYTREE CENTRE

TUESDAY 3RD DECEMBER

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CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

10TH DECEMBER

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STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER

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KEY STAGE 5

AWARDS & PRESENTATION EVENING

TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER

*

LAST DAY OF TERM

STUDENT HALF DAY

THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER



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