

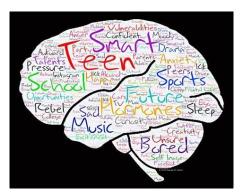
# Becket Keys Church of England School

17<sup>th</sup> January 2020

### THE SENIOR SWIM TEAM

#### Mr Scott-Evans writes...

### The Teenage Brain



Last week, I spoke to the students in Collective Worship about some reading I have been doing about the brain, and together we tried to apply some of the ideas to being a Christian teenager in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. It made me think that it might help if I wrote a short series in the Newsletter on this topic.

We started with this experiment. Read this:

What do you see? Opportunity is nowhere? Me too. My brain reads it with a pessimistic view.

Some people see: Opportunity is now here! They see an optimistic view.

This is not a particularly strong test of personality type. However, it is clear that in any situation, where there is a void of definite information, the brain is quick to fill in the gaps and jump to conclusions.

Look at the picture on the next page. Do you see the white dots? Do you see white lines or blocks joining up the dots? Of course, you do! But they are not there. Look again. All that we have here are grey crosses. The bits in between are made up by your brain!

......Contd on Page 2



### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

Is one of your New Year resolutions to try new things? Why not join a new club this term?

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Interested in Teaching?

Have you thought about teaching? Details here of a taster event so you can get more information about this rewarding career.

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Ordinary Time
Church is not just for Christmas.

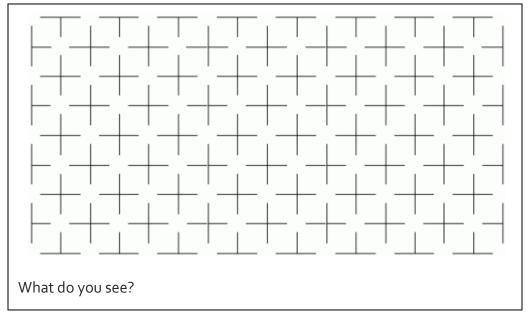
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#### **Sports News**

Details of the recent sporting events and a list of the future fixtures.

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**OPPORTUNITYISNOWHERE** 



The chemical in our brain that drives this is cortisol. Scientists tell us that cortisol is there to help us be aware of dangers and to react accordingly. It creates a reaction and a stress that <u>can</u> be very helpful.

However, sometimes the brain plays tricks on us. It can be overly pessimistic and create false anxiety. A high level of cortisol over a long time is not good and can cause high blood pressure and other health issues.

I spoke to your children about what might be triggering high levels of cortisol, last week. For example concerns about homework, fears over performance, test weeks, exams, coursework and so on can all cause stress. Actually, they are right to have some anxiety about these things. The cortisol is trying to create a sensible reaction and make them take steps to reduce the danger. Unfortunately, some students do not give themselves

time to stop and think carefully about what their body is saying to them. They ought to ponder what they need to do about it, but instead they distract themselves with their mobile phone, Xbox or other things. The busyness of constant connectivity means that they are not ever just quiet and thinking.

This is where, I think, prayer comes in. Stopping to listen to God makes space for His voice to speak to us. A voice we can trust from a God who loves us and cares for us. On my way to work each day, I deliberately do not listen to the radio or a Podcast or music; I just travel in a prayerful silence and give my brain time to process what the dangers of the day ahead might be. I can then consider carefully what I need to do and in what order.

Next week, I will talk more about what teenagers can do to make the most of their brains. For this week, I want to leave us all with the challenge of thinking about how much space are we making

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for our own mental health and well-being.

Give yourself 8 minutes at some point this weekend. Close your eyes and allow God to speak to you. Just breath and listen! If you fall asleep, then you are exhausted and that's the first thing you need to start to address! Get more sleep, better diet and/or more exercise. If you can stay awake and think – you might just hear God give you a nugget of advice that will have made this article worth writing!

#### **GODBLESSYOU!**

(You read that right!)

Mr Scott-Evans Headteacher

### **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.



# Education Sunday 2020

Our annual church service to celebrate Education will take place at St Thomas' Church on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020. 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 School, 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. The theme this year is 'Stewards of God's Creation'.

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 will be emailed home at the beginning of next week. Please hand in the 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



# New Member of Staff Mrs Walker Head of Psychology/Sociology



I am very excited to be beginning this new chapter in my career. Born and brought up in Brentwood, I attended a local secondary school and then went on to study for a degree in Sociology at the University of Reading. Here, I had the opportunity to pursue both modules of a Psychological and Philosophical nature too. I have a particular interest in Criminology. Whilst at university, I participated in a one-year programme of community service at Reading Alternative School, working with students with a diverse set of difficulties in learning.

Once I completed my degree, I went onto employment at a care home for adults with learning disabilities, where I had the opportunity to put my Psychological knowledge into practice.

I went on to complete a PGCE in Social Sciences and Humanities at the Institute of Education (University of London) and returned to Brentwood, where I was employed at a local secondary school and worked for nearly 14 years. Here, I gained experience, working as a subject leader and also pastorally with different cohorts of students. I have particularly gained extensive experience of working with the Sixth Form and have also been a Lead Examiner for both GCSE and A-Level for over 10 years. This new chapter on my journey at Becket Keys presents me with a chance to spend more time in the classroom to share my love of Philosophy, Sociology and Psychology.

Outside of school, I am a keen traveller and have spent time backpacking across Indonesia and exploring several parts of Europe. In recent years, most of my travelling has been done with my husband, who is a keen Historian, taking us to several areas of the world including, most recently, Germany and Japan. Sunday mornings often include a chance for me to put my baking skills to the test and I often take my bakes to work to share on a Monday! Maybe surprisingly so, I also ensure both a chance to unwind and keep fit through weight resistance training weekly.

I have only been working at Becket Keys for a week and I am glad to say that staff and students have been an absolute joy. I am proud to have been given the opportunity to work in a school with such a welcoming atmosphere and drive to ensure that students reach their potential and beyond.

Mrs Walker Head of Psychology & Sociology

### Late Gate

Early is on time. On time is late. And late is unacceptable!

At Becket Keys, we look to ensure that we are preparing students for life beyond school; this includes encouraging students to attend school regularly, and of course, on time.

Remember that the school gate closes at **8.25am**. This will allow students enough time to be at their first lesson on time. Period 1 begins at **8.30am**.

Brentwood is tough to manoeuvre on some occasions so we encourage students and parents to contact the school in the case of *genuine* lateness such as delayed public transport.

Parents can call the main school line or use the "Studybugs" app.

We thank you for your support.

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**



### **Lego & Board Games Club**

WHO: All years

• WHEN: Friday 12:50 - 1:20

(please eat lunch first)

• WHERE: R14 - 1st floor Runcie

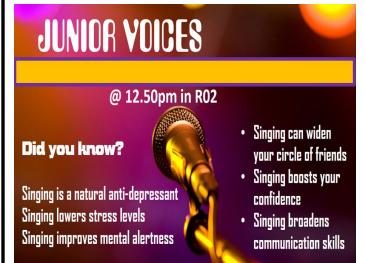
Hosted by Mrs Cavalier /Mr Thorpe













	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch	Ukulele	Junior Wind	Chamber Choir	Perfect	Worship
	Club	Band		Pitch/	Band/
				Saxophone	Junior
				Choir	Voices
3:30	Stage	GCSE	Orchestra		Rock
	Band	Composition			School/
					Perfect
					Pitch

Note: Students who would like to rehearse in a music room at lunchtime need to book the room. This can only be done on the morning of the day you wish to book.

## **Maths Club**



The UKMT Junior Maths Challenge takes place for selected students on:

Year 9, 10 – 6<sup>th</sup> February Year 7, 8 – 30<sup>th</sup> April

If you enjoy a good puzzle, or solving problems, come prepare for this competition on **Wednesday lunchtimes 1pm in J25**.

A team of students who attend will also be selected to represent Becket Keys at a team event at Cambridge University in March.

# GCSE Awards Evening Thursday 23rd January 2020

We have invited families from GCSE Cohort 2019 to celebrate their achievement at GCSE and witness the distribution of GCSE certificates.

Our presentation evening will last approximately ninety minutes, with highlights from the year group and musical interludes and prior to the ceremony light refreshments served in the Bistro.

Every student will receive their Examination Certificates and those who gained the English Baccalaureate will receive the RET EBacc Certificate. There will be three awards for each subject: 'Attainment', 'Progress' and 'Character'.

This will be a formal event and celebration. Gentlemen should wear a shirt and tie. Ladies should wear formal attire. Light refreshments will be served from 6.45 pm in the Bistro, doors to the Main Hall will open at 7.15pm so we can begin the ceremony promptly at 7.30pm.

There is no charge for a ticket, however, please only order the number you need because if all 500 tickets are 'sold' we will have people standing.

This should be a wonderful celebration. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible coming back for one more celebration of our 2019 GCSE cohort!

Please book the tickets under the name of the student.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/class-of-2019gcse-awards-evening-tickets-85223109615?ref=estw

# Chinese New Year Celebration Year 7



The Mandarin department is busy organising a celebration of the Chinese New Year for Year 7 students, when we welcome the Year of the Rat!

## THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2020

We have provisionally invited Mr James Trapp, from the British Museum, to start the day with an inspiring assembly. The students will then participate in different workshops, some run by external specialists. Students will gain a better understanding of Chinese culture and also experience Chinese cooking, food tasting, writing with Chinese calligraphy pens and learning to create their own artwork. There will be a lion dance and Chinese drumming performance on the playground at lunchtime and the Bistro are providing a Chinese themed lunch on that day.

So that we can give the students an experience to remember, we require a voluntary contribution of £11.25 from each Year 7 student in order to fund the day.

If you wish your child to be able to experience this fantastic day, please make your donation via ParentPay as soon as possible.

### Friends of Becket Keys



Tickets are selling fast for this event please visit <a href="https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fobk">www.pta-events.co.uk/fobk</a> to purchase. Last order date 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020.



Please make sure that ALL items of uniform, PE Kit and equipment arenamed.

There are many items that we are unable to return as we do not know whom they belong to.

Lost Property can be collected from Reception.



The thrill of being part of a band is a magical experience. This course provides the opportunity for young people between 11-18 to have the unique experience of being in a band. The students will write songs, jam, rehearse and record over two days during the Lent holiday.

This is an amazing opportunity and the students get to work with professional musicians.

Having a performance goal encourages practice and practice means that the students will improve. Stage presence and the art of performance are essential elements to being in a band. The students are helped to create a band identity that is unveiled at the final performance that parents and friends are invited to attend.

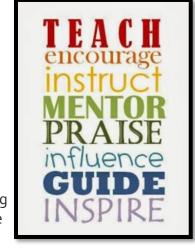
For more information go to: https://www.mybandworkshops.org/holidaymyband/



### **School Centred Initial Teacher Training**

## 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 the profession.

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 and 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.

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

## **TASTER EVENTS**

Mrs. Sharp will be organising taster events for Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 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 there 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.

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



# Church is not just for Christmas.

The calendar of the Christian Church now returns to what is sometimes referred to as 'Ordinary Time'. After all the festivities and celebrating the baptism of Jesus, this sounds unimportant, insignificant and maybe even boring. However, this is far from the truth. While the more eventful seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter may grab the attention of many, Ordinary Time also has much to offer. The Church's prayers and selections of readings allow us to accompany Jesus in his public ministry. The Church selects healings, signs, and essential teachings from the life of Jesus Christ, so that we can be reminded, reaffirmed, consoled, and challenged in how we are living the Christian way of life. Through Ordinary Time, the community of disciples are once again told by the Lord to forgive, accept others generously, be healed and serve as instruments of healing, seek peace, live

humbly, pray and trust in his care for them

Thinking beyond the practical purpose of this 'Ordinary Time', with this understanding, enables us to see that this time is far from ordinary. The purpose and benefits of this season are rather extraordinary, indispensable, and fundamental to our following of Jesus. If we do not know the way of Jesus, how can we celebrate it? Ordinary Time, therefore, is the continuous echo of the Lord in the life of the church and in the hearts of those who love and follow him.

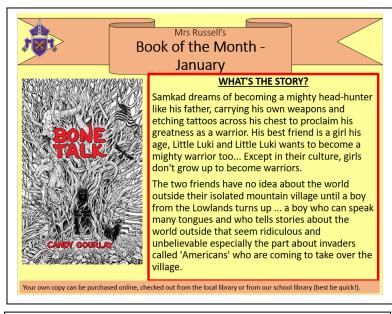
#### Let us pray:

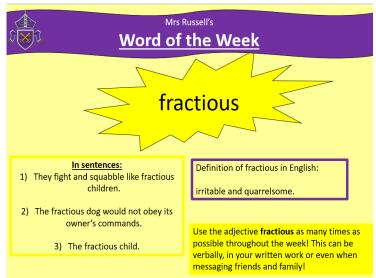
As we enter the Sundays of Ordinary Time, may we continue to walk with Jesus Christ, evaluating our lives and seeking God and our neighbour with greater sincerity. May we remember that Jesus is the way and the truth and the life (John 14:6). Let us make space for Jesus and walk with Him every single day of our lives. Amen.

Mrs Sharp Deputy Headteacher



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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.







## M&G Apprenticeship Insights Event – London



Tuesday 18 February 2020 From 16:00 to 18:00 10 Fenchurch Avenue, London EC3M 5AG

### Click here to register

or send us an email to apprenticeship@mandg.com This event is open to current and recent students (from GCSEs through to BITEC levels) who are interested in finding out more about M&G apprenticeship schemes.

Parents, teachers and careers advisers are also welcome at this event.

You will have the opportunity to hear from successful employees at M&G, participate in a Q&A session with our panellists, walk through the apprenticeship application process, learn about video interviewing skills, as well as network with current and former apprentices over refreshments.

We invite you to come prepared with questions to ask the apprentices during the panel discussion.

Please register your attendance and any questions you may wish to ask by 15 February 2020 and in return, we will confirm your space at the day.

We look forward to meeting you soon!



To find out more information before the event, please visit our corporate career website.

# **Becket Keys School Satellite Running Club**

Brentwood Running Club have training sessions from 3.30 to 4.30 pm after school each Thursday afternoon. There are a few spaces left for this term.

There is a small fee of £2 per session to cover the time given by qualified Club coaches. That is £22 for the 11 weeks of Spring Term.

Please make payment by bank transfer to Brentwood Running Club, sort code 09-01-51, a/c no. 73777309 using BK followed by the student's name as reference.

Please direct any questions to the Youth Section of the Brentwood Running Club web site.

Thank you.

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



Melvyn Cooper -Brentwood Running Club Youth Coach

## **Sports News**

Year 8
Boys' Football



Year 8 beat William De Ferrers 3-2 in a tough game. The conditions were appalling, wet and windy throughout thanks to storm
Brendan. We opened the scoring through a good passing move and Henry Wainwright opened proceedings. This was followed by goals Alfie Geeves who poached on a gifted opportunity, Henry Wainwright got his second from the penalty spot. WDF scored 2 good goals, the second of which was a well taken free kick.

### Man of the Match – Alfie Geeves Team:

- Henry Wainwright
- Joe Kitching
- Joe Thomas
- Sam Carey
- Alfie Geeves
- Callum Etchells
- Emeka Okafor
- Sam Boreham
- Callum Goodey
- Henry Clarke
- Alex Coombs
- Sam Turner

Mr Lane - PE Teacher

# Year 7 Girls' Netball

The Year 7 girls are currently bundle of excitement raring to get on the court. Their confidence after the Essex Plate is sky high! The girls had a change of structure which meant that they had to play 2 halves of 15 minutes They started extremely strongly taking the lead within the first few minutes. This thrilling start enticed the other team to step up their game, which made for a quick comeback. The girls lost their stamina and by the end of the half were run into the ground. Thankfully, Ms North stepped in for a half time team talk to address the deflated team. We are proud of their second half performance but we should credit the quick paced William De Ferrers side. Although the game did end with a defeat, the girls the importance of pacing yourself and switching on from the first whistle.



Man of the Match – Brooke Calver

Team:

- Sophie Gunn
- Anna-Kaye Fullerton
- Arabella Carroll
- Katie Todd
- Layla McDonald
- Lexie Kerry
- Brooke Calver

Ms North PE Teacher

# Year 8 Girls' Netball



What a win for the Year 8 girls! They were fantastic in their dedication to the game and, as requested, they started strongly and within the first 15 minutes they took 8 points! Ella Clarke, Olivia Wildman and Neve Jackson worked so well as a trio and were manipulating the defence throughout the game. Felicity Hooking started the game with some positive play throwing some strong balls into the D in order to gain those 8 points. The girls continued their strong game to finish the match 12 -1, their best win of the season.

Woman of the Match – Lowri Cole

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#### Team:

- Erin Delea
- Holly Roberts
- Lowri Cole
- Darcy Moody
- Felicity Hookings
- Neve Jackson
- Olivia Wildman
- Ella Clarke

### Year 10 Netball



The Year 10 girls proved themselves again in their latest battle against Moulsham school. Despite the time constraints of a rushed game, our girls worked incredibly hard to focus and regain possession to keep up with the fast paced game. After a last minute shake up of the team, the starting players were:

- Robyn Hart
- Rachel Picton
- Millie Selwyn
- Hannah Davis
- Mia Marriott
- Ellie Boreham
- Courtney Kambasha

As a new addition to the team, Courtney Kambasha is a force to be reckoned with! Continuous interception encouraged her side to fight tooth and nail. However, the deserved woman of the match goes to Hannah Davis who continually built up play, called for plays to be run, encouraged the whole team, directed them when they were led astray and (even when feeling poorly) continued to fight until bright red in the face! We are extremely proud of her efforts and would encourage you all to hear of Hannah's netball journey

> Miss Schafer PE Teacher

swimming team and we won every time I was in the team!

I was used to being the fastest in my school, but here, I have been humbled by my teammates who are much faster than I am! Oliver Legon – for example is an exceptional swimmer and a great captain. He leads by example with his little brother, Dan. I would like to thank Mr Wray and Miss Schafer for the last 2 years and many memories.

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." (2 Corinthians 4 verse 16)

> Charlie Cortney Year 13

### **Senior Swim Team**

After swimming for the school for 7 years, my time has come to an end. I will always remember the team spirit and all involved are constantly positive and driving me on to do well. Alice Keeley and Rachel Davison have brought such fond memories of the team after stepping up to the team despite not being swimmers. I am so glad that my final swim ended in 2 wins surrounded by a great group of girls!

Thank you to everyone at Becket Keys for the support and prayers for our final swim.

Rebecca Stroud Year 13

Before I joined Becket Keys, I was at Brentwood School. At Brentwood, I participated in the

It has been a pleasure to swim alongside my peers over the last 7 years. I have enjoyed the team spirit not only from the athletes but also from the members of staff., significantly Mr Wray who has been with us from the start. My best memory was the year of Luke Savage, Owen Day and Ben Cooper when we beat Brentwood School for the first time!

These years have been enjoyable for us all and I hope we leave behind a legacy of swimming champions!

Oliver Legon Year 13

### **Sports Fixtures**

## Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January

Year 7 Boys' Basketball v The Boswells School (H)

Year 9 Girls' Basketball v Brentwood County High School (A)

### Tuesday 21st January

Year 7 Girls' Football v Brentwood County High School (H)

### Wednesday 22nd January

Year 10 Boys' Basketball V King Edwards Grammar School (H)

Year 7B Netball Rally @ Brentwood Ursuline

## Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Year 7, 8 & 9 Girls' Football V Ormiston (H) Year 7 Rugby V Beaulieu Park

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Year 9 Girls' Basketball v The Boswells School (H)

## Tuesday 28th January

Year 7 Rugby Festival @ Great Baddow High School

Year 7 Girls' Basketball v The Boswells School
(A)

Year 9 Boys' Basketball v Great Baddow High School (H)

### Wednesday 29th January

Year 9 Netball v Great Baddow High School (H)

Year 8 Girls' Football v Chelmsford County High School (A)

Year 7 Essex Plate Netball v SFG (A)



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.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

# YEAR 7 CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

#### **GCSE AWARDS EVENING**

THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2020

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# YEAR 9 SUBJECT CONSULTATION EVENING

THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020

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### YEAR 9 CURRICULUM EVENING

TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

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# YEAR 8 SUBJECT CONSULTATION EVENING

THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

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#### **LENT HOLIDAY**

MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY

\*

INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

\*

YEAR 12 UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

INFORMATION EVENING

TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



# Becket Keys

## Church of England School

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