



Becket Keys Church of England School

15th May 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes ...

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Matthew 6:34

It is hard not to worry in times of change. This week, the beginning of the unlocking began. After weeks of lockdown and "stay at home" messages, we were told that things were going to change. Some people have gone back to work, the roads and railways have certainly been busier, and schools have been told to start to get ready for some sort of partial re-opening.

It is still not clear how schools will partially re-open. But the intention seems to be that Year 10 and 12 will be prioritised in secondary schools with some sort of face to face provision being

given from 1st June. There have been some apparently conflicting messages about this and so I am waiting for greater clarity before making any particular plans.

Years 7, 8 and 9 should not expect to return to school before the summer holiday. It may happen, but it seems increasingly unlikely. We will see. So, these students need to keep working hard at home. If not already in a routine that looks very much like a school day, I would suggest now is the time to try it: 2 periods then break; 2 periods then lunch; 2 more periods and then finish. Make a pattern that works for you, but it should have six 50-minute lesson slots in it per day.

Parents who have still not got the Satchel One (used to be Show My Homework) App really should get this and get into a pattern of

.....Contd on Page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

VE Day Celebrations

Becket Keys families had great fun celebrating this special day.

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New Hope Update

New Hope Children's Centre in Kenya celebrate their 20th birthday.

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looking at it each day to see whether the work is being completed and what sort of marks and comments your son/daughter is getting.

The teachers are setting lessons in line with every student's normal timetable. It will match up pretty accurately and there is time guidance on every single piece set to show how long students should spend on it. Teachers also make sure that it is clear whether anything needs to be handed in or not; they then follow up with students who do not submit work to check that everything is OK.

Students can contact teachers for help via the Satchel One app/website and parents can see these comments and the responses. All staff can be contacted via the School Website:

<https://www.becketkeys.org/contact.php>. Each email sent in is pushed to the member of staff who will aim to respond within a few hours. So, if you are worried about the amount of work or have a question about how to complete it – get in touch!

Teachers are using YouTube to publish short videos to support their lessons and we know that students do find these helpful. We also know that there are some who struggle with access to technology and have to share devices or have limited data for downloading. We are trying to get support for families in these situations.

I have heard of students working collaboratively on tasks, and I would encourage this as long as it is not all day! Perhaps, the afternoons might be a good time for students to use their favourite social media or messaging apps to communicate with each other and see 'how did you get on with x or y?' If your son/daughter does not seem to have people he/she can contact please speak to the form teacher. I am sure that we could help make contacts for you. If you want to check that you have parental controls in place to protect your son/daughter on-line please look at this:

<https://tinyurl.com/BKOnLineSafety>. You will find a very helpful website here with tips about every platform you could think of!

I know it may feel daunting that our students have been away from school for such a long time, and that it will continue, but every student is in the same situation and schools will adjust and cope when they return. Please do not worry!

Parents of Year 11 and 13 students will be pleased to know that the grade allocation process, which I have overseen personally, with significant work undertaken by Heads of Department and the senior leadership team, is nearing completion, in plenty of time before any deadlines. Colleagues from the Russell Education Trust have been checking our processes all along and have advised us on the approach to take. I can assure you that a lot of care has gone into it - and we certainly want our students to do as well as they can.

All the staff involved are also acutely aware that grades need to be backed by evidence and that overall, they need to be broadly in line with recent years. Of course, fortunately, the school has received excellent results since we started being an exam centre and so we are hopeful that any exam board moderation processes will leave us with excellent results this summer. The results will come out, as usual, in August:

Year 13: Thursday 13th August

Year 11: Thursday 20th August

You could be forgiven for worrying about a number of issues for your family at the moment. We are here to support you. Please do get in touch with our staff if you need us. Tutors and Heads of Year support general well-being. Teachers and Heads of Department support curriculum lessons. Whatever you need – just ask.

We cannot take your worries away, but we can listen and help. We are good at that!

Keep up the good work. And do not worry!

Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

VE Day Celebrations



History Department

On Friday 8th May Britain came together to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. On this day in 1945 Britain and its allies accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany after nearly 6 years of war. At 3:00pm Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced on the radio to the British public that the war had ended. Upon hearing this, people took to the streets and celebrated this momentous day with parties and festivities.

No one could have foreseen that we would be celebrating this landmark day under very different circumstances 75 years later. Despite this, the British spirit stood resolute and undeterred. Across the United Kingdom people hung bunting, baked wartime food and took part 'social distancing' street parties with relatives and neighbours. The students of Becket Keys were no different. Mr. Lock and Mrs. Knowles have been inundated with submissions from Year 8 and Year 9 whose History work last week was to create either a poster, a postcard or wartime food for VE day. Here are some of the creative ways our students chose to celebrate the day - along with a few staff submissions as well!



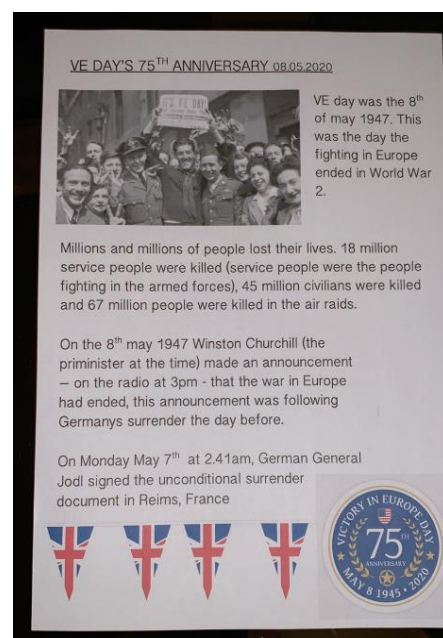
Excellent Scones
Max Barton Year 8



Cream Tea
Ava Dolding



William Charters made these scones from a wartime recipe



A well-researched poster
McKenzie Reid



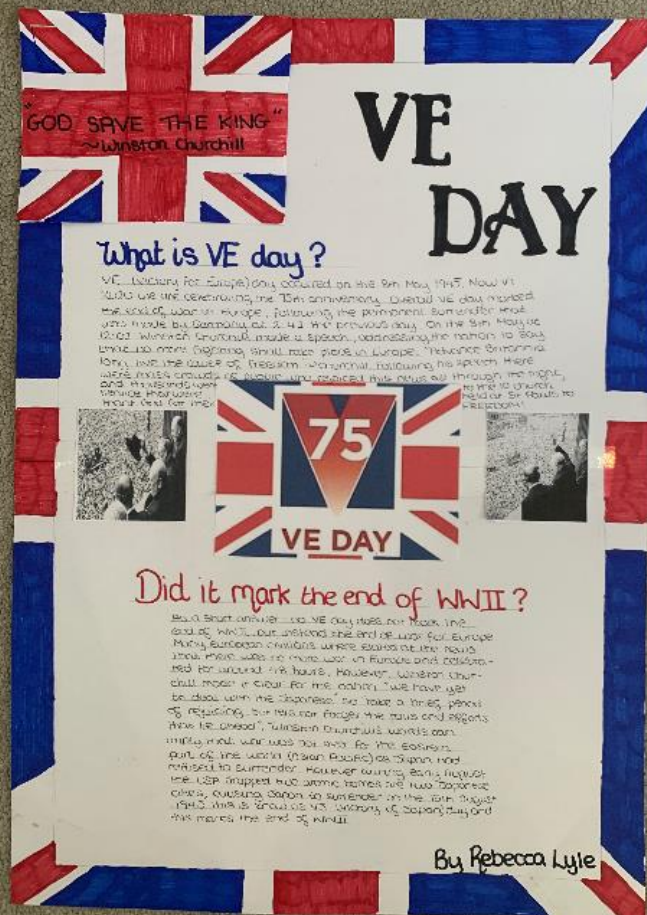
Lydia Christian made afternoon tea for her grandparents and had a social distancing street party.



Adam Mahoney in Year8 had afternoon tea in the garden



Isabel Slaney Year 8 made a delicious Victoria Sponge and bread pudding.



Outstanding poster by Rebecca Lyle in Year 9



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Church of England School



Mrs English baked scones and biscuits, and had a wonderful picnic for VE day, they enjoyed music from the 1940s and slept overnight in the garden.



Mrs Knowles enjoyed afternoon tea indoors and then had a street party in the afternoon. The children decorated the house and made bread.



Miss Schafer had a wonderful afternoon tea in her street, strictly following the social distancing rules.





Irene's Wartime Memory

I was lucky enough to have a street party down my road last Friday to both celebrate and commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. A neighbour who lives round the corner, Irene, is currently in self-isolation and has been so for the last couple of months. Irene, who is 80, was born in Brentwood and during the war lived in Harold Wood with her grandparents. Her mother was a nurse at Harold Wood hospital and her father was serving in the army.

Her street did not have a party organised. As she was by herself, I baked her a cake, as I knew she would want to join in the celebrations. We had a lovely chat on her driveway where she told me about her and her family's wartime experiences. I made a video of Irene talking about one of her wartime memories, below is her story exactly as she told it to me.

I was born as the war started and the first 6 years I was in lockdown as we are now.

When I was a little girl, I stayed at my nan and grandad's, and a bomb dropped at the bottom of the road and killed everybody that lived at the bottom of the road. I was fortunate that I survived as I was at the top of the road. It was Pancake Day, it was Shrove Tuesday, nan was in the kitchen making pancakes and a doodlebug came over and when the doodlebugs came over they droned; and all of a sudden it would stop and when the drone stopped the doodlebug came down. And my grandad was with me and nan was making pancakes in the kitchen and the doodlebugs stopped buzzing and came to the ground. It fell at the bottom of the road and all the windows and doors came in my nan and grandad's house. My granddad threw me under the table and that is where one of the songs come from..... (Irene sang this) 'Knees up Mother Brown, knees up Mother Brown, under the table you must go, ee-aye, ee-aye, ee-aye-oh, if I catch you bending I'll saw your legs right off so knees up, knees up, don't get the breeze up knees up Mother Brown!' Breeze up meant don't be scared. You know, all those songs at that time... so many memories. My nan, in the kitchen, got knocked out as all the doors and windows came in and I was under the table with my grandad. Later on, we went down the road and all the houses at the bottom of the road had been wiped out and we went

down to see them. There were fire engines there and I can remember seeing under all the rubble of a house an arm, a lady's arm, with a wristwatch. And things like that, you know. With children now aged 6, it is so different, it was such a different time.

And we had an Anderson shelter and when at night the doodlebug sirens used to whir and it started up to tell you that we were getting planes coming over. The shelter was in the garden and you know, it might be 1.00 or 2.00 o'clock in the morning and we would have to ... my mum, me a little baby, would have to run down the garden into the Anderson shelter. There were no lights, no street lights... nothing. Everything was in blackout. They used to have wardens come round and if you had a little chink in your curtains that was showing, a little bit of light they would come and knock on your door and tell you turn off the light or pull the curtains. And another thing that has not been spoken about much, the German planes used to drop incendiary bombs that flared in preparation for bombing raids. They used to light up so if you had one in your garden the wardens would come round and tell you to extinguish it.

Oh, there are so many things I could tell you

Olivia Banfield
7PP

New Hope 20th Birthday

New Hope celebrated their 20th birthday on 16th April. Anne writes:

Dear Beloved of The Lord,

Today was a great day here at New Hope.

A day full of activities, as we celebrated our 20th anniversary. On Sunday, April 16th 2000, New Hope (then 'Stars for Jesus Girls') was born. As I look back meditate upon our journey during the last 20 years, my heart is full of gratitude. I thank the ALMIGHTY GOD.. He has been our Guide, and has been renewing our strength every moment. Every day we wake up with good health and renewed energy. I thank YOU ALL, with your families and friends. Your prayers and financial support has made it possible for to us to achieve what we have achieved. Some of you may have spent sleepless nights trying to figure out how our kids will feed and go to school.

A big thank you GOD BLESS YOU, MAY YOU NEVER LACK.

I thank my children, Regina, Catherine, Anthony and Caroline. Thanks for your support, and 'donating' your parents to Ministry. I join the composer of the song AMAZING GRACE----

*'Through many dangers toils and snares, I have already come
is Grace that brought me safe thus far and Grace will lead
me home'.*

Lastly. The journey continues. This was NEW HOPE part A. I invite you all to continue and join NEW HOPE part B. I invite new friends and well wishers to join New Hope Part B. Bye for now. In His Service,

Anne and Tiras Chege

If you would like to make a donation to New Hope this can be done via the local charity Hand in Hand using the following details:

Cooperative Bank

Sort code: 08 92 99

Hand in Hand Account Number: 65885150 ref New Hope

New Hope:

<http://www.newhopeuplands.org>



Drama Department



Year 7 were set the task to watch The National Theatre production of Peter Pan co-produced with Bristol Old Vic Theatre.

Students were asked to take a scene from the play and creatively design a set. There have been some fantastic ideas and drawings but this really caught my attention.

Well done Mae Blackwell, I love the detailed use of characters. If you look very closely you can see Peter Pan looking down on everyone.

Mrs Barr

NORTH LONDON FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA

1

MONOLOGUE

Choose or write a monologue to act on video.
Keep to the theme of either:
Isolation, Family, Happiness
Video your acting on a smartphone - landscape.
Tell us your name, age and contact details
Send entries to: speechanddramanlf@outlook.com
Closing Date: 29th May 2020
Open to ages 7 -18yrs
Prizes awarded by age category.
Winners will be announced Sunday 7th June.

Judges:
Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shields
Award-winning writers and actors from Mischief Comedy.

The videos deemed best by our Judges will be compiled and edited to be shown on the NLF social media pages. T&Cs apply available via northlondonfestival.org.uk

Do you miss performing?

Rehearse and do your best

Acting or writing? You choose

Make an impact on the 'North London Festival'

An amazing opportunity to show your talent

(Feel free to email your clips to either Mrs Barr or Mrs Palmer for feedback)

Poem of the Week

The Tale of the Custard Dragon by Ogden Nash

*Belinda lived in a little white house,
With a little black kitten
and a little grey mouse,
And a little yellow dog and
a little red wagon,
And a realio, trulio, little pet dragon.*

*Now the name of the little black kitten was Ink,
And the little grey mouse, she called her Blink,
And the little yellow dog was sharp as Mustard,
But the dragon was a coward, and she called him Custard.*

*Custard the dragon had big sharp teeth,
And spikes on top of him and scales underneath,
Mouth like a fireplace, chimney for a nose,
And realio, trulio, daggers on his toes.*

*Belinda was as brave as a barrel full of bears,
And Ink and Blink chased lions down the stairs,
Mustard was as brave as a tiger in a rage,*



But Custard cried for a nice safe cage.

*Belinda tickled him, she tickled him unmerciful,
Ink, Blink and Mustard, they rudely called him Percival,
They all sat laughing in the little red wagon
At the realio, trulio, cowardly dragon.*

*Belinda giggled till she shook the house,
And Blink said 'Week!', which is giggling for a mouse,
Ink and Mustard rudely asked his age,
When Custard cried for a nice safe cage.*

*Suddenly, suddenly they heard a nasty sound,
And Mustard growled, and they all looked around.*

*Meowch! cried Ink, and Ooh! cried Belinda,
For there was a pirate, climbing in the winda.*

*Pistol in his left hand, pistol in his right,
And he held in his teeth a cutlass bright,
His beard was black, one leg was wood;
It was clear that the pirate meant no good.*

*Belinda paled, and she cried, 'Help! Help!'
But Mustard fled with a terrified yelp,
Ink trickled down to the bottom of the household,
And little mouse Blink strategically mouseholed.*

*But up jumped Custard snorting like an engine,
Clashed his tail like irons in a dungeon,*

*With a clatter and a clank
and a jangling squirm
He went at the pirate like
a robin at a worm.*

*The pirate gaped at
Belinda's dragon,
And gulped some grog
from his pocket flagon,
He fired two bullets but
they didn't hit,
And Custard gobbled him,
every bit.*

*Belinda embraced him,
Mustard licked him,
No one mourned for his
pirate victim
Ink and Blink in glee did
gyrate
Around the dragon that
ate the pyrate.*

*Belinda still lives in her
little white house,
With her little black kitten
and her little grey mouse,
And her little yellow dog
and her little red wagon,
And her realio, trulio,
little pet dragon.*

*Belinda is as brave as a
barrel full of bears,
And Ink and Blink chase
lions down the stairs,
Mustard is as brave as a
tiger in a rage,
But Custard keeps crying
for a nice safe cage.*



Mrs Russell's Book of the Month - May



WHAT'S THE STORY?

Natasha: I'm a girl who believes in science and facts. Not fate. Not destiny. Or dreams that will never come true. I'm definitely not the kind of girl who meets a cute boy on a crowded New York City street and falls in love with him. Not when my family is twelve hours away from being deported to Jamaica. Falling in love with him won't be my story.

Daniel: I've always been the good son, the good student, living up to my parents' high expectations. Never the poet. Or the dreamer. But when I see her, I forget about all that. Something about Natasha makes me think that fate has something much more extraordinary in store—for both of us.

The Universe: Every moment in our lives has brought us to this single moment. A million futures lie before us. Which one will come true?

You can watch the trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3On0BXzGnui>

All books can be purchased on Amazon or you can support your local independent bookseller. www.chickenandfrog.com



Mrs Russell's Word of the Week

Brusque

Definition in English:

abrupt or offhand in speech or manner.

In sentences:

1. He was brusque and candid, two traits she hadn't yet gotten used to.
2. Her tone was brusque.
3. Brusque, impatient and sarcastic, his often abrasive manner rubbed many crewmembers the wrong way.

Use the word brusque as many times as possible throughout the week! This can be verbally, in your written work or even when messaging friends and family!

Food Department

I would like to say a big thank you to all of the students who have sent in pictures for their 'Cook at Home' projects. I am sure that you and your families have enjoyed cooking and eating these wonderful dishes.

I have been inspired by many of you and have even tried to recreate some of these recipes at home myself. This week I will be attempting Swathi Javagopal's potato and pea samosa and Lillie Wilkinson's chocolate brownie. I also love fresh salad and was pleased to see Layla Ford making a very healthy looking bowl of salad for her family. Please do keep your cooking attempts coming in via Satchel One so I can share how great our students at Becket Keys are at cooking. Well done.

Mrs English
Food Teacher



Chicken Wings
Bolade Egbeyemi Year 9



Chicken Pie (school recipe)
Thomas Heyes Year 9



Homemade pizza with a yeast free dough and chocolate brownies.

Lillie Wilkinson Year 8



Vegetarian Samosa
Swathi Jayagopal Year 9



Chicken Curry
Macey Laker Year 8



Chicken in a white wine and cream sauce with cauliflower rice and broccoli

Anna Uings Year 9



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Chicken curry with Naan bread
Ella Stroud Year 9



Victoria sponge and delicious
looking BBQ
Georgina Eaton Year 9



A very healthy salad
Layla Ford Year 7



A wonderful celebration cake!
Fibian McKenzie - Year 8



Apple crumble.
Matilda Gamble Year 8



Mac 'n' cheese with leeks and
carrots
Matilda Smith Year 8

To celebrate VE day keen baker Fibian made this amazing Victoria sponge for her history homework, would you believe that it has no eggs in it?! We think it looks fantastic, well done Fibian!

Last week, I suggested that you try your hand at making pastry at home and we have seen some great photos of pies, quiches and sausage rolls. We were particularly impressed by Ben Warn making this delicious bacon, leek and cheese tart, I am sure his family loved eating this! Courtney made these lovely mini quiches which not only look great, but are also great practice for her GCSE. Here are some other great dishes made this week.

**Ben Warn – Year 8****Mini Quiches
Courtney Kambasha Year 10****Pasta & Tomato Sauce
Isla Webb Year 7**

This week's recipe is inspired by Isla Webb who posted this rich looking pasta with tomato sauce. I have been reading that it is still hard to get hold of ready-made tomato sauce, which surprises me because making your own tomato sauce is so easy, so here is my simple recipe so you can have a go. This sauce is very versatile, so you can add whatever vegetables you have at home. You can also add cooked bacon, or tuna or any cooked minced meat to suit what is available. If someone in your family does not like vegetables yet, you can blend this sauce so it is smooth and they will never know that it is packed with most of their 5 a day!

**Mr Shapland
Head of Food**

Recipe to Try at Home

Basic Tomato Sauce

1 Teaspoon Oil
 ½ Onion chopped
 1 Clove garlic – finely chopped
 ½ Carrot – chopped (optional)
 1/3 Celery – chopped (optional)
 ¼ Pepper sliced – diced (optional)
 1 Teaspoon tomato Puree
 1 Can tomatoes
 1 pinch mixed herbs or oregano
 1 pinch chilli flakes
 Salt and black pepper
 150g Dried Penne or your favourite pasta shape
 Grated parmesan (or other cheese) to serve

Method

Chop all vegetables. Add onion and garlic to pan. Cook gently for 2 mins.

Add celery, carrot and pepper or any other vegetables you have and cook for 5 mins. Add tomato puree, cook for 2 mins. Add tomatoes and herbs, water if needed, salt and pepper. Add cooked meat/tuna and simmer for 20 minutes on a low heat. Add fresh basil and parmesan if using.

Weigh 150g of Penne Pasta. Bring a large pan of water to the boil. Add pasta and cook for about 10 minutes, check the packet for cooking time. Carefully drain in a colander and add the cooked pasta to the sauce.

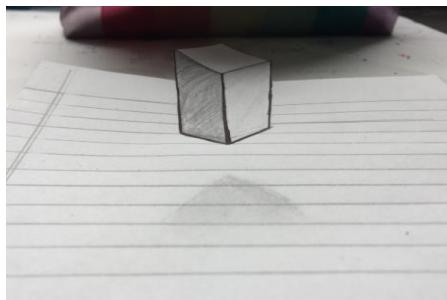
Divide equally between 2 plates.

Mathematics Department

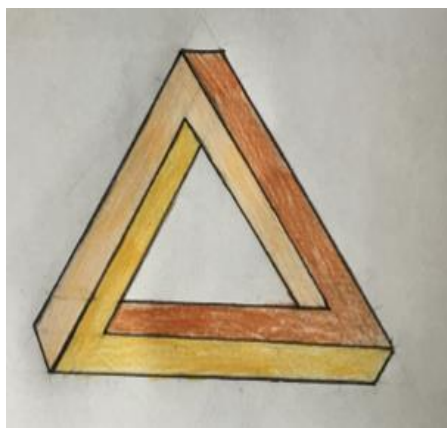
Mr Sedgley: Where Mathematics meets Art – inspired by Escher

Year 7 have been working this term on tessellation and 3D shapes. The students were given a choice of creative tasks to illustrate what they had learned. This is where the Mathematics world meets the art world inspired by Artist M.C Escher who made mathematically inspired art.

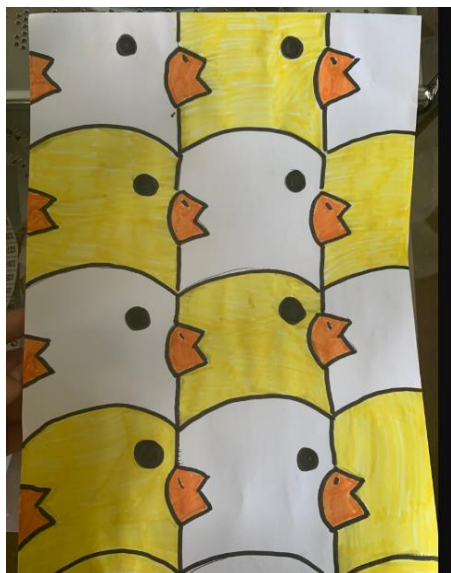
The students could either make an Escher tessellation, draw an 'impossible object' or create a 3D illusion. There was lots of fantastic work submitted via Show My Homework. Some of our favourite ones here.



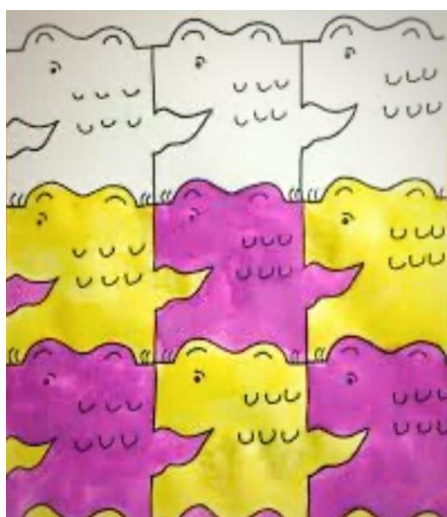
Elizabeth Thompson



Minela Kypyte



Isabelle King



Oliver Turner



Olivia Banfield

Weekly Challenge

Research task:

We can also use You Tube to reveal the secrets of the impossible triangle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fcbjOKVfoY>

and you can make your own:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6afsh2eaOVs>

Maths Puzzle 4: How old are they?

Reversing the digits of grandfather Arthur's age gives that of his son Brian. The difference of their ages is three times that of Arthur's grandson Christopher, which in turn is a seventh of his grandfather's age. Neither Arthur nor Brian were teenage fathers.

How old are they?

Mathematics puzzle

UKMT challenge answers

4.

Solution: C

The letters **J**, **N** and **R** do not have an axis of symmetry. So these letters cannot look the same when reflected in a mirror, however the mirror is held. The letters **U**, **I** and **O** all have at least one axis of symmetry. So each may look the same when reflected in a mirror.

Extension problem

- 4.1 Count the number of symmetries (reflections and rotations) of each letter of the alphabet. (The answer will depend on the font you use. For example, **K** does not have an axis of symmetry, but **K** does.)

18.

Solution: D

If we add all the numbers in the horizontal column and all the numbers in the vertical row, we get a total of $21 + 21 = 42$. In doing this sum we add in all the numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 once except for x which is added in twice. So the total we get is $2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + x = 35 + x$. Since this equals 42, we must have $x = 7$.

To complete the solution we should check that with $x = 7$, it is possible to place the remaining numbers in the other squares so that the four numbers in the horizontal row add up to 21, and so also do the four numbers in the vertical column. We ask you to do this in Extension Problem 18.1



Extension problem



- 18.1 Show that with $x = 7$, it is possible to place the remaining numbers, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8, in the other squares so that the four numbers in the horizontal row add up to 21, and so also do the four numbers in the vertical column. We ask you to do this in Extension Problem 18.1
- 18.2 In how many different ways can the numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 be placed in the squares so that the four numbers in the horizontal row add up to 21, and the four numbers in the vertical column also add up to 21?

21.

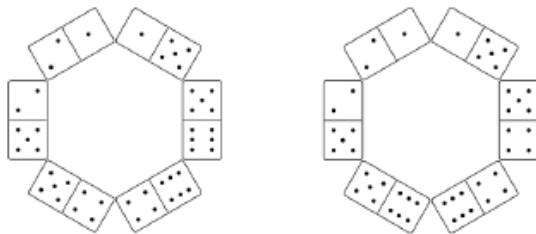
Solution: B




There are only two 1-pip dominoes among the five Dominic has. These must therefore be adjacent. Likewise for the two 2-pips and the two 4-pips. So the ring must include the three adjacent dominoes

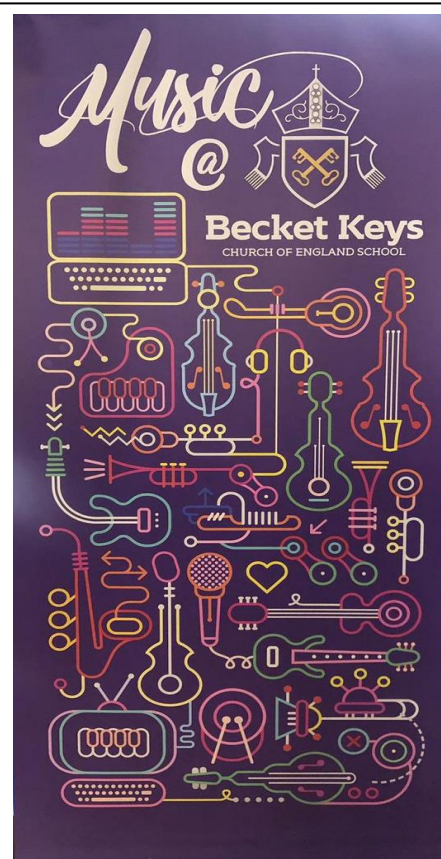
 and also the two adjacent dominoes . The ring

may now be completed by placing the remaining domino  adjacent to the 5-pips at either end of the block of three dominoes, and to the 6-pips on the domino . In either case this leaves two 5-pips dominoes which can then be placed adjacent to each other to complete the ring.

We therefore see that Dominic can create two different rings of six dominoes, as shown below.



We now see that there are just 2 dominoes that the domino  cannot be adjacent to, namely the domino  and, of course, the domino .



For your listening pleasure this week

The Music Department will have some suggestions each week for pieces of music to listen to. You may find a genre you did not know you loved!

Opera

La donna e mobile from Rigoletto

Verdi

<https://youtu.be/5ij8HyYMiUo>

Video Game Music

Monument Valley 2

Todd Baker

<https://youtu.be/CHr8NMTyUHQ>

PE Challenge



Art & Textiles

It has been a great week of home learning.

Well done for all of the fantastic work submitted to Mrs
Cherry & Mrs Brassett



Star Artist for Art



Evie Knight
Year 10

Free drawing and portraiture lessons every Sunday! Follow the link or on YouTube.

<https://rawumberstudios.com/online-portrait-drawing/>

This is a great opportunity to challenge and develop your art skills.

Evie has produced some wonderful pieces of coursework for GCSE Art. Exploring portraiture and lighting. We are looking forward to seeing Evie's future pieces.

Lilia Rogers Yr9

**Keep your
exhibition
entries
coming!**

**'Life in Lockdown'
Sneak peak!**



Samantha Pain Yr9



Alfred Clark Yr 8

@becketkeysart



Art & Textiles



There is so much beautiful Textiles work submitted every week that it is a pity we cannot show all of it here.

Thank you to everyone for their hard work. Well done!

Star designer for Textiles



Seen as how we cannot visit exhibitions and galleries right now, why not explore the stunning ONLINE collections from the V&A museum.

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/collections>

I love the way Amelia responded to this task in such a creative way. She tried out lots of different media when drawing her shells. My favourite is the 'Drawing with thread'.

Charlotte Hope Y10



Saffron Wilson Y12



The 'Upcycling Challenge'
Sneak peak!

Keep your exhibition entries BEFORE coming!



Erin Delea 8AS

@becketkeysart

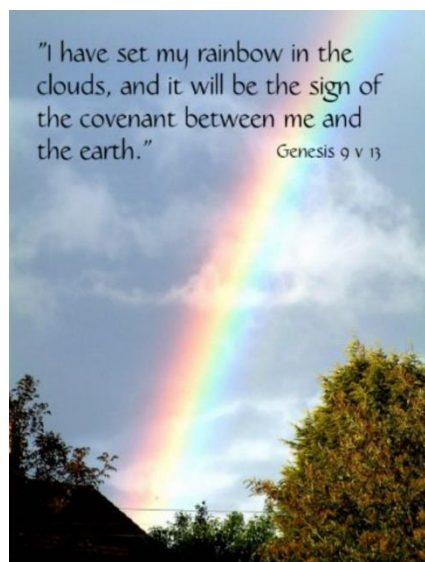




After every storm . . .



I am sure, like me, the beautiful rainbows of all shapes and sizes in windows and drawn in chalk on pavements at the moment bring a smile to your face. They are a symbol of hope and looking for a brighter future at this difficult time. They are a symbol of a sense of community and reaching out to others in love.



For an even deeper understanding of the significance and meaning of rainbows, we can look to the Bible. Here we find that the rainbow is truly a reflection and symbol of the beauty of love. It represents a

loving promise, a covenant, like no other.

In Genesis 9:12-15, we read:

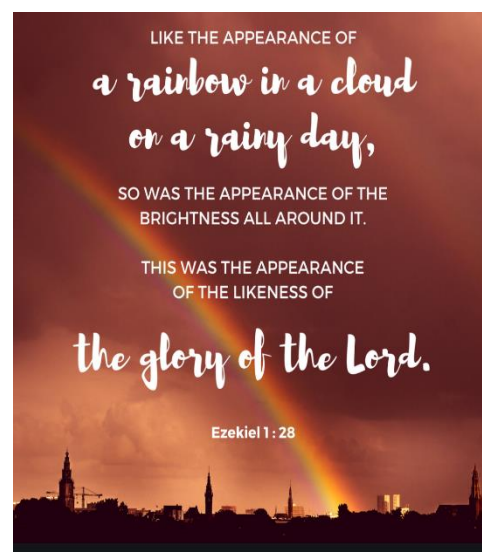
'And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life.'

The rainbow reassured Noah and his family that a flood on the same scale will never take place again. After the Flood, God made an everlasting covenant with Noah, his family, their descendants and all the living creatures. He promised never again to destroy the earth by a flood. The rainbow was the sign

of that promise. It was a reminder of God's commitment to the earth.

The rainbow is also a picture of God's beauty, holiness and majesty. Ezekiel 1:28 states:

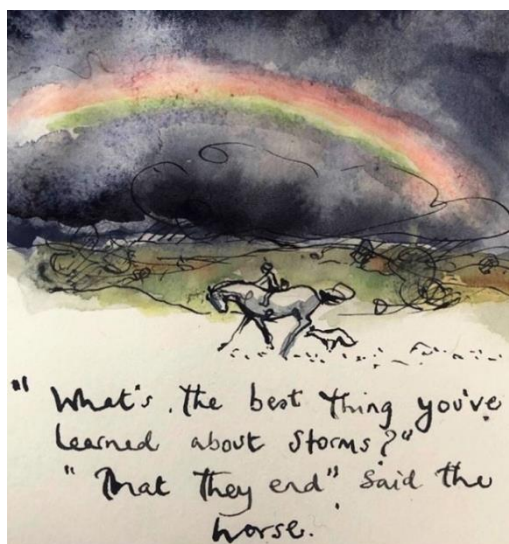
"Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD."



The rainbow is precious. It is a symbol of God's splendour and amazing grace. God's promises are unshakeable on the firm foundation of Christ's sacrifice for us all on the cross. After the storm of the Easter story, the appearances of Jesus after the Resurrection are the rainbow. We can be sure of the gift of salvation and redemption forever. In fact, the rainbow is not merely a symbol. It is not simply part of an ancient story. It is a living example of God's faithfulness. It is an assurance that God has not forgotten us and that he continues to work in this world.



Charlie Mackesy has written and illustrated a beautiful book called *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*. In the extract included here, we see his characters at the end of a storm and the beginning of a rainbow. We are all going through a bit of a storm at the moment as we learn what it is like to live with the coronavirus. In all the uncertainty and confusion, always remember there will be a rainbow at the end of the storm. This crisis will come to an end. That is our hope. For Christians, it



is a hope that is not 'just looking on the bright side' but based on the knowledge of a loving God who keeps his promises.

So, enjoy all the rainbows and the hope they bring. Next time you encounter a rainbow in a window, pause and take a moment to feel peace in your heart. Remember the everlasting promise of God's love, grace and mercy. Then, carry on confidently, walking in God's light. 'Hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep His promise' (Hebrews 10:23).

Dear Lord,

We thank you for rainbows of hope and love.

We thank you for the promise of sunshine after the rain and calm after the storm.

At this difficult time, we put our trust in you and continue to walk in your light.

Amen.

**Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher**



Speakers for Schools Inspiration Programme provides a network of today's most inspiring figures across business, arts, politics and more donating their time to help inspire students to fuel their ambition. They are passionate about providing a high quality and personal service, making it seamless for speakers, educators and organisations to get involved.

Speakers in the network range from CEOs of major companies to notable national journalists, arts people, scientists, leading entrepreneurs and academics. You can check who is coming up this week here.

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/>



The BBC have also released a wealth of information to support students. Our teachers may direct you to some of these to support your home learning or you can have a browse yourself.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

Child Bereavement UK have several short guidance films including:

[Coronavirus – supporting bereaved children](#)

[Supporting a bereaved child with Autistic Spectrum Disorder](#)

[When you can't visit someone who is ill](#)

Do you need support regarding a particular child or young person?

Your School Nurse is available to support you with the Health and Wellbeing needs of any child, young person or family you may have concerns about. Please contact your local team for further information:

Mid Essex Tel: 0300 247 0014

North Essex Tel: 0300 247 0015

South Essex Tel: 0300 247 0013

West Essex Tel: 0300 247 0122

CHAT Health: Our texting service remains active and is well-resourced with highly skilled School Nurses. Young people have the opportunity to contact us directly.

Mid Essex School Nursing Service	07520 615731
South Essex School Nursing Service	07520 615732
West Essex School Nursing Service	07520 615733
North East Essex School Nursing Service	07520 615734

Checkout our website and search engine for services local to schools and your communities:

www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

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