



Becket Keys Church of England School

11th September 2020

MEET THE SENIOR PREFECT TEAM!

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes ...

Why Authority Matters Now More Than Ever!

Proverbs 11:14 (King James Version)

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

When you think of authority in school do you think back to your own school days? Or those you read about? Is your vision of school something like Hogwarts? Or Grange Hill?! What are the teachers like? Dickens' Gradgrind or Dahl's Trunchbull?

When I speak to friends, family, teachers and students about authority in school I often hear misgivings about whether authority is actually still in place in modern schools, and if it is,

whether it is cruel or somehow stifling to students' creativity.

Based on my experience this week, I can confirm once again that authority is alive and well at Becket Keys. Authority is different from being authoritarian. No one wants to see that. I am not talking about teachers ruling it over students. That is never our way. But what is needed, now more than ever, is a clear sense that adults know what they are doing and that they are able to provide a secure and sensible environment where students can feel safe and confident and get on with the business of learning.

Authority is partnered here with Christian care, respect and the highest aspirations. It sees students and staff working alongside each other highly

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BECKET KEYS
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Exam Result Days

We were determined that our students would still be able to attend school to collect their results!

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Important information for all families to note.

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Meet Some New Staff

We are delighted to welcome some new colleagues to Becket Keys!

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Meet the new Senior Prefect Team.

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Biblical Pause

He Will Carry You.

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effectively. This week, new routines needed to be established and agreed upon quickly. So, students looked to the teachers for guidance about what would be required of them. Where to go? How to use the hand gel? What to do about face coverings? Students' attitude of respect for the authority of the teacher has been notable in the success that we have established. This must come from the home environment and for that, I thank you. Your support in responding to our letters, guides and videos has been crucial.

You often find in fictional caricatures of teachers and schools that students (in the role of the hero) need to defy authority in the pursuit of a noble goal. Not here. At Becket Keys, the 'noble path' is that of co-operation and participation! There is nothing noble in breaking the rules. As I always say, "You cannot break the rules; you can only break yourself against the rules!"

It has been a joy to return to school this week to see a community alive with the sound of teaching, laughter, movement, music and drama. Whilst we are restricted in certain things that we would normally love to see the students doing (singing, for example!), constraint is not the overriding experience. Instead, there is a strong sense of relief. It is good to be back. It is not easy to be constantly making decisions

for the good of the community, but I am proud of how everyone is responding. Authority weighs heavily on my shoulders at such a time as this, but the reward comes as I see a community thriving each day.

Over the next few weeks, I hope to write about the importance of authority in schools because I believe it is needed more than ever. As you continue to trust us with not only the education of your sons/daughters but also their safety on a day to day basis, I hope that knowing this is a school where the authority of the teachers is respected will comfort you that you are in the right place!


Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher



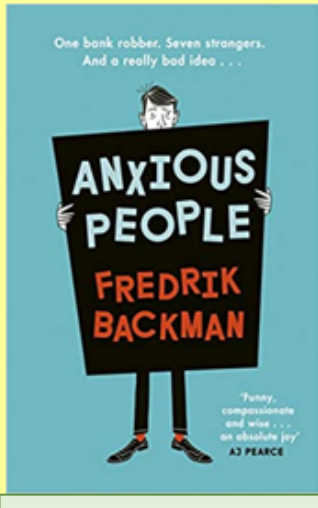
Remember that Homework Club is up and running! Every afternoon after school students can stay until 4.30pm and complete their homework in C11.

Year groups will be 'bubbled' in different areas and if there are a lot of students who wish to make use of this opportunity, we will open other rooms.

Using Homework Club is just one way we provide for students who do not want to leave site at 3.10pm. Avoid the traffic! Stay here for a while!



Book of the Month - September



WHY SHOULD I READ IT?

At a time when a lot of us are anxious, reading about other anxious people might make us feel better. Although the situation in the book is serious, Backman has a good sense of humour, and this book will make you laugh.

Viewing an apartment normally doesn't turn into a life-or-death situation, but this particular open house becomes just that when a failed bank robber bursts in and takes everyone in the apartment hostage. As the pressure mounts, the eight strangers slowly begin opening up to one another and reveal long-hidden truths.

As police surround the premises and television channels broadcast the hostage situation live, the tension mounts and even deeper secrets are slowly revealed. Before long, the robber must decide which is the more terrifying prospect: going out to face the police, or staying in the apartment with this group of impossible people.

What begins as an idiosyncratic book about a bank robbery-gone-terribly-awry unfolds into an astute and beautifully rendered character study of a random group of people who are thrown into a very stressful situation as a botched robbery suddenly turns into a hostage situation. This tragicomic tale of a really bad collective day resolves in the most unexpected and poignant ways. When I finished the book, I was moved to actual tears. It has been many years since a novel made me cry. Warning: the kindnesses shared within a group of strangers during one of the most anxiety-filled days of their lives may well make you cry as well as laugh.

A-Level & GCSE Exam Results

After months of uncertainty, the exam results days were unlike any other results day experienced before at Becket Keys Church of England School! On both days a large number of Becket Keys staff came into school to welcome students, to give out results and to advise them about next steps in terms of securing university places, apprenticeships or Sixth Form choices.

Results days are always an exciting and emotional day and the staff of the school did not want students to miss out. These cohorts have missed so much, so this was one rite of passage that we were not going to give up on easily! Mr Scott-Evans all the staff are incredibly proud of them all and it was thoroughly enjoyable seeing them all and hearing about the next steps of their educational journey.

Despite the way in which grades were awarded, it was as close to 'business as usual' as possible at Becket Keys in terms of how students received these grades. Social distancing measures were observed, and careful hand hygiene processes followed. Plastic screens separated students from the teachers who gave them the envelope, but the important thing was that students were here with the staff they have known and worked with.

Good weather helped the process as students, parents and staff were able to talk outside.

The majority of our Sixth Formers gained a place at their first choice of university and staff were on hand to offer guidance to those who needed support. Here are a few of the destinations our students are heading off to:

Emily Burr will be studying Psychology at Exeter University

Rhiannon Barden: Pharmacy at UEA

Archie Mowatt will be studying at Nottingham University to Study Politics and International Relations, this was after a nail biting two and a half hour wait to speak with someone at the university!

Charlie Johnson: Nottingham, Economics.

Charlie Courtney: Florida Lynn: Marketing.

Josh Hollington: University of Essex, Computer Science

Oliver Legon: Aero Space Engineering, Nottingham

Rachel Davison got her first choice and is going to study History and Spanish at Exeter.

Oliver Harvey: Accountancy Apprenticeship at BDO based in Baker Street in London.

Katie McCarthy: Degree Marketing Apprenticeship at a Pharmaceutical Company

Katie Ince is pursuing her dream of studying Music & Musical

Theatre at the University of Chichester and Aeryn Fletcher gained her place on a Film Making course at Brighton

Melissa Moore is off to study Music at Leeds University.

There was also great news for GCSE students at Becket Keys as many achieved outstanding results. Four students achieved at least 6 GCSEs at Grade 9. These students were Fraser Baker, James Benad-Smith, Dominion Okwuosa and Kristen Van Heerden.

Nine students gained 10 GCSEs at Grade 7 or higher. There were also students who made astonishing progress and achieved well beyond target grades. These students include Abigail Catton, Sarah Saich, Luke Benson, Emmanuel Maduka and Tara Duffy.

We are all incredibly proud of what our GCSE students have achieved this year, particularly in such difficult circumstances. They have always been an outstanding year group and they will go on to achieve great things. We have this week welcomed many of them to our Sixth Form where they have impressed us with their conscientious attitude towards starting their A-Level courses.

Below you will see photographs from the results days, with many thanks to Mr Ian Davidson for attending and taking pictures on both days.

A-Level Results Day



GCSE Results Day





Face Coverings? Where do we stand?

Current guidance states that students are not required to wear face coverings in school. This will only come “into force” if an area is on a local lockdown. At Becket Keys, we are going above the guidance to ensure we are doing everything we can to reduce the possible transmission of COVID-19.

So, we are actively encouraging our students to wear masks in the following areas:

- Corridors
- Communal toilets

The reason we are encouraging this is because our corridors are not well ventilated compared to our classrooms, this means “germs” can linger for longer. Wearing a face covering stops the transmission of saliva droplets given off by us when we speak and breathe. We are also

asking our students to be silent whilst inside buildings. This coupled with the use of face coverings this will significantly reduce the spread of saliva droplets being dispersed.

So please provide your son/daughter with a face covering (where possible in school colours: black, purple, gold, grey or white). If we all do our bit between lessons as well as following all of our other guidance, we can slow the spread of this virus that has significantly affected our lives so far and therefore keep our school open!

If you are unsure about anything we have in place, please do not hesitate to contact any member of staff in school.

Mr. Shields
Assistant Headteacher



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Friends of Becket Keys Pre-loved Uniform

Due to the success of the playground sale last Saturday, we will hopefully be holding another sale after the All Saints holiday at the beginning of November - date to be advised.

Due to current restrictions we will no longer be able to access our storeroom during school hours to fill individual orders.

Due to the huge volume of orders completed over the summer and the success of the sale, we are now urgently in need of donations especially shorts, skirts and tops, and jumpers. Blazers and kilts would also be gratefully received.

We would appreciate it if the uniform is donated in good, clean condition and not ripped, repaired or dirty, thank you.

Any donations should be sent into school with your children and dropped at reception. It will then be stored safely until the next sale

Please address any enquiries to uniform.becketkeys@gmail.com

Once again thank you all for your support. We have made over £1000 during the summer from selling the pre-loved uniform and all the money raised is donated back to the school and invested in equipment for the children.

General Information & Notices from the Head Teacher

School Run

Please do not drive into Sawyers Hall Lane! I am sure a few of you have made that decision for yourselves already, but in case any of you are still driving in, please refrain from doing so. The road is dangerous and busy outside the school. Please drop your children off elsewhere and ask them to walk the last bit. Similarly, when picking up, perhaps ask them to walk to a local car park (Brentwood Centre or Sainsbury's) or Doddinghurst Road or Shenfield Road where there are plenty of places to park with no restrictions.

If you really do have to drive into Sawyers Hall Lane, please at least avoid the final part of the road and drop off further up beyond Burland Road. Even the laziest teenager can walk from there!



Bikes

Students riding bikes should wear a helmet and we recommend a bright yellow vest or jacket too. Students will need a padlock to secure their bike in our special area. It is great to see so many students cycling to school. Remember! No scooters or skateboards please.

Holidays & Appointments

Please make every effort to avoid unnecessary holidays and appointments during term time. Holidays will not be authorised and all absence **must** be authorised. Parents have been fined by the courts for not following this advice. Your son/daughter will get higher grades, if they attend well!

Uniform

The students look excellent in their new uniform; thank you for supporting our school policies so closely. We know it is important to all of us to see our students looking smart in their uniform at all times.

Remember that all main school girls should have a revered collar on their blouse and not wear other types of shirt.

Please see the website if you need more details about the school dress code.

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



Gaming



Help your son/daughter do better at school by managing their use of social media and gaming. There is a clear link between success at school and a limited amount of time wasted on these addictive time zappers.



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

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.

Welcome to New Staff



Mr Walker Head of Government & Politics

Having been born in Australia to Irish parents and schooled in Jersey, Brentwood may seem an unlikely place for me to be based. However, having lived and worked in the town for the past decade it is somewhere that I now consider home.

In 2007 I graduated from Anglia Ruskin University with a degree in 20th Century European History and Politics. After a brief flirtation with accountancy I spent 3 invaluable years working as a Teaching Assistant. This formative experience confirmed my commitment to working in education. Thus, in 2011 I completed my PGCE in History at the University of Worcester.

During my career I have gained experience as both a Head of Year and Head of Subject. And I am confident I will be able to draw on these experiences at

Becket Keys. Whilst I am passionate about all aspects of the past, my expertise lies in the twentieth century, in particular, the dictatorships in Germany and Russia and the Civil Rights movement in the USA. In 2019 I pitted myself against my own students by sitting the GCSE History exam. I am pleased (and somewhat relieved) that I achieved a Grade 9!

Outside of school I am an avid watcher of Football and reader of Boxing History. With my playing days drawing to a close, my weekends are now spent cheering on Glasgow Celtic from the comfort of my sofa. My recent honeymoon in Japan has reignited a passion for travel and I hope if the opportunity arises to share some trips abroad with colleagues and students at Becket Keys.

Lastly, it appears as though we live the unprecedented political times in both the UK and USA. As a result, I feel privileged to lead a Politics department, particularly in a school with such an excellent reputation. I am genuinely excited by my move to Becket Keys and I hope that is reflected in my enthusiasm when teaching our students.



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Mr Khan Religion & Philosophy Teacher

I am super excited to be joining Becket Keys and have been looking forward to starting this September. It really is a privilege to be joining such an outstanding school where Religion and Philosophy are valued so deeply.

Further, it is a privilege to be given the opportunity to teach the young minds that will lead and drive forward the future. Young people are beginning to understand their world better and as such it is vital that they are given the tools with which they can grow, learn and progress. I want to be at the forefront, amongst the other great staff at Becket Keys to teach and help inspire these young individuals in such a pivotal point in their life.

When we look at the world today, with polarising politics and the deep divides in society, it becomes quite clear that a subject like Religion & Philosophy is in a great position to help

bridge those gaps in society and can help to curate compassionate, respectful and mindful individuals who are engaged in understanding their world and active in making their community a better place.

I completed my degree in the Study of Religion and Philosophy at SOAS. In addition to this, I studied History at Goldsmith College and the NYU. Further, I have completed two assignments at level 7 (Masters), looking at securing pupil progress in Religious Education as well as an active enquiry that looked at ways memory can be affected positively for learning.

I live in East London and have spent almost all my life here. Growing up in such an area has shown me clearly just how important education is, not just as a tool for learning and gaining a career, but also as an act of empowerment and as the impetus for self-determination. Education truly is our passport to the future, for the future belongs to those who prepare for it today.



Mr. Menexes Music Teacher

Since moving to England I have completed two degrees and become a musician and a music teacher. I am originally from Greece and was a school student at the Music School and the New Conservatoire of Thessaloniki. Both of these institutions granted me the opportunity to explore and improve upon my musicianship skills on piano and percussion. There I studied many musical subjects such as *solfege*, dictation, harmony, music theory and music history.

After I had realised my passion for music production and composition, I decided to study Popular Music with Music Technology at the University of Derby. During this degree, I broadened my horizons in the field of music production and technology whilst working as an intern at a recording studio in Birmingham and as a pianist at a local Italian restaurant. As a result, I have produced various music pieces and songs for short

films and even composing my own singles and albums.

It was during my undergraduate studies that I started teaching piano lessons. Therefore, I decided to enrich and improve on my teaching skills by studying PGCE Secondary in Music with Specialist Instrumental Teaching at Manchester Metropolitan University and the Royal Northern College of Music. In my career so far, not only have I taught practical, fun and stimulating music lessons, but also, I have been involved in the extra-curriculum life of schools such as choirs, orchestras and bands. As well as teaching in schools, I have worked at a music service and there I taught piano/keyboard and recorder in both primary and secondary schools.

My aim is to inspire and encourage students to discover their musical taste, talent and passion by experimenting with different music styles and musical instruments. Everyone has musicality, but you need inspiration, guidance and practice to bring it out. All lessons are planned to be musical, enjoyable and educative. I love seeing my students enjoying the subject whilst playing music and learning musical facts. Via music you discover yourself, strengthen your faith, express your opinion, learn and share cultural elements and understand the application of music in our daily lives. Music is art; you take something ordinary and make something beautiful!



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Dr Hurdle Science Teacher

I am very excited to be joining Becket Keys as a NQT Science teacher. I remember all of my science teachers but one in particular was the most inspiring as she not only made science interesting and fun, but never told us that anything was difficult, instead encouraging us to ask questions and explore the world around us. In her classes we didn't just learn 'the facts' but we learnt how to be scientists. For my A-Levels I attended Havering Sixth Form College where I studied Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths. It was during my A-level studies that I began to develop a particular passion for Biology and Chemistry.

I then went to University of Southampton to study Biomedical Sciences for my undergraduate degree and my love for my subject only grew; both in terms of scientific theory and practical scientific research. Following this, I undertook a PhD studentship studying circadian

rhythms (our bodies internal clockwork or 'body clock' that keeps us 'in sync' with the world around us), which allowed me to further explore my interests in neuroscience and genetics. Alongside my research, I was lucky enough to present my work at scientific conferences, act as a demonstrator for undergraduate lab assignments and supervise students for their 3rd or 4th year research projects. It was these 'teaching' style experiences that made me want to become a teacher.

After completing my PhD, I began a school-centred teacher training course and PGCE with the Billericay Educational Consortium. I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have done the majority of my training at Becket Keys Church of England School, where I got to work with and learn from an outstanding Science department, as well as all the staff and students who work and study here. Outside of school I enjoy playing rugby, cycling and hiking as well as being a keen gardener (which is something I have developed a particular passion for during lockdown). During my time as a teacher here, I hope that I can inspire the next generation of scientists just as my own teachers inspired me.



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School Transport

Students are strongly encouraged to avoid public transport for their journeys to school wherever possible. As ever, we encourage walking and cycling to school as green modes of travel with clear health benefits. However, we recognise that it will not be feasible for some students to walk/cycle to our site.

If you travel to school by public transport, please make sure that you check the timetable for any changes that have been implemented for the new term.

Remember that you will require a face covering to travel on any public transport.

NIBS Buses

http://www.nibsbuses.com/?page_id=42



First Buses

<https://www.firstgroup.com/essex>

Trains

<https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/>



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

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See what illnesses are going around
Secure system, all communications encrypted

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In order to keep the students and staff safe, we are unable to allow any parents to access the school site at this time unless an appointment has been made.

If you need to drop something urgently it will need to be left at the school gate. Students should be encouraged to be organised and have all the uniform and equipment they require on a daily basis.

Special Needs And Parents



**There's still time to join us for
our STEPTember Together Challenge**

The annual Barleylands Fun Walk has gone virtual for 2020. We hope to encourage our fabulous supporters to pledge to walk/trike/wheelchair/pushchair any distance of their choosing during the month of September. The steps/miles that everyone 'clocks up' will then be added together and we will see how many miles we have collectively achieved. How far can we travel together from our SNAP Centre base in Brentwood?

More information here: <https://www.snapcharity.org/>



Although the retail unit of Smarty Pants, our uniform supplier, is unable to open. The company is available online to help you with all enquiries and to assist you to confidently place your order.

Visit their website for the latest information:

<https://www.smartypantsschoolwear.com/>

The Senior Prefect Team 2020 - 2021

On Tuesday 1st September, the interview process for our new Senior Prefect team took place. This group consists of a Head Boy, a Head Girl and four Deputies and they will be prominent figures at Becket Keys over the next year as they organise events, coordinate Prefects, speak at functions, welcome visitors and much more. In fact, their first active day in the job was Friday 4th September: they were on site bright and early to welcome Year 7 and Year 12 students, then support in Year 12 tutor groups and lessons for the remainder of the day.

Of course, the interview process usually takes place in Term 4 and the transition from one Senior Prefect team to another happens over Term 5. However, that could be not be the case this time. In fact, the original interview date was scheduled for a week after the start of lockdown, with those taking part having written their applications several weeks before then. Looking back now, it seems a very long time ago that, in February, all Prefects in Year 12 were invited to apply for these positions and over twenty did. A shortlist of ten was then agreed by Mr Peggs and Mrs Course – but, clearly, the interviews were still going to be a long way off.

In the end, the ten candidates were interviewed during the final week of their summer holiday. They were interviewed by two different panels, with the first

consisting of Mrs Downs and Mrs Course and the second made up of Mr Scott-Evans and Mr Peggs.

In all honesty, it was a moving experience to hear students speak so passionately and considerately about their experiences at Becket Keys and explain their visions with such enthusiasm and commitment. Consequently, the decision making process was even tougher than imagined.

Eventually, after a long, thoughtful discussion, the following students were appointed to these positions:

Head Girl: Lucie Grundy

Head Boy: Louis Stephen



Deputies: Katherine Ellery, Andrew Ferranti, Ella Gibson and Diksha Siddarth.



Here, they explain a bit more about their character, studies, talents and ideas going forward:



Katherine Ellery

I have been a student here since I was in Year 7 and is a great privilege to be one of the Deputy Head Girls in my last year. Becket Keys has done so much for me in my time here and really feels like a second family and home. Consequently, I would like to give back to this school in as many ways as I can because, from the very beginning of my time at Becket Keys, the school has always been there to help and support me.



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During my time as a Senior Prefect, I look forward to being seen as someone who other students are able to come to for help, as well as someone who is able to help lead different groups of people.

I am taking History, Religion and Philosophy and Music and I really enjoy getting to explore these in much more detail at A Level than I did at GCSE. I am also a member of my church choir, theatre school and explorer unit and these help me to work well with other people and lead groups of people. As well as this, I have been volunteering at St Thomas Infant School for the last year. This will all help me achieve my future ambition of going to university to study to be a primary school teacher

I feel honoured to have been given this position and I hope this year we can help make the school community even closer and create lots of opportunities for the school.



Andrea Ferranti

After emigrating from Italy speaking barely any English, the school welcomed me with open

arms in Year 7 and I have been able to grow my character, my academic ability and my linguistics skills. I am honoured to be Deputy Head Boy and during my time in this position I would like to give back to the community that has supported me for the last six years.

I am currently studying Biology, Chemistry and Maths, with a particular interest in the human body because of its complicated machinery. This has inspired me to study Medicine at university.

Outside of the school I am an Altar Server at Brentwood Cathedral and I enjoy cooking various dishes from different cuisines.



Ella Gibson

Having being a student here at Becket Keys since Year 7, I see it as an honour to be ending my final year as Deputy Head Girl. I want to give back to my school, which has given me so much support over the years, both academically and socially. I would like to give back to this community as, from the very beginning of my journey here at

Becket Keys, I have always felt accepted and welcomed.

During my time as a Senior Prefect, I hope to be seen as someone who students of all ages understand will always help with their problems - and as someone who is easily approachable.

I am taking Drama, Geography and Economics and have enjoyed studying each subject in the greater depth experienced at A Level. These three subjects have also provided me with greater knowledge of the world around me. I hope to go on and study Geography at University, with a Law Conversion afterwards.

I feel privileged to be given the role of Deputy Head Girl and wish to use this opportunity as a way of giving back and supporting the school. I look forward to seeing what the next year brings.



Lucie Grundy

Having joined Becket Keys in Year 12 as an external student, I feel as though I have integrated into the school well. Through the volunteering scheme and being a Year 12 Prefect, I was able to meet lots of the Becket Keys staff

and students whilst having important responsibilities within the school.

As Becket Keys' first external Head Girl, I feel extremely privileged that I can have an impact in the future of the Sixth Form.

I am currently studying Geography, Biology and Religion and Philosophy, with each subject providing me with a wide range of skills and also furthering my knowledge of the world we live in.

Outside of school, I enjoy participating in a variety of sports including netball, running and horse riding. I am looking forward to encouraging the Sixth Formers at Becket Keys to integrate with their peers through Sixth Form sporting events.

I have a keen interest in emergency medicine and I am applying to study Paramedic Science at university in the next academic year. This is something which I am very excited about.

I feel honoured to have been chosen to be Head Girl at Becket Keys and look forward to seeing what the next year holds.

Diksha Siddarth

Having joined Becket Keys only last year, I am excited to begin my role as Deputy Head Girl and I am looking forward to seeing what experiences and challenges this role brings for me.

I study Chemistry, Biology and Spanish and have aspirations of studying medicine over the next few years.

Aside from studies, I have a keen interest in music. I have been learning Carnatic singing (Indian classical singing) for five years and I am hoping to take my skills to the next level by completing a diploma course in Carnatic Vocals next year. I also volunteer at my local nursery every week and tutor GCSE Spanish students every weekend.

I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to not only take on the significant role of Deputy Head Girl but also to be able to work with the rest of the Senior Prefect team to further develop the integrated and inclusive community that our school stands out for. I am looking forward to continuing being a proud representative of the school and providing the younger years with a role model to look up to, as well as enjoying my final year at Becket Keys.



Louis Stephen

Having been a part of the Becket Keys community since Year 7, I have grown to appreciate the caring values and ethos of the school and I am excited and privileged to have a key role at Becket Keys this year. As a part of my role, I will be coordinating events within the school and the wider community alongside the excellent team of over 60 Year 13 Prefects we have. (This number will double when Year 12 students become Prefects!)

I am studying History, Biology and PE with the aspiration of studying Law at university. I am an assistant swimming coach and work part-time in Clarks; this has helped me to develop many relevant skills to be a successful Head Boy. It has also challenged me in different ways and these experiences will serve me well.

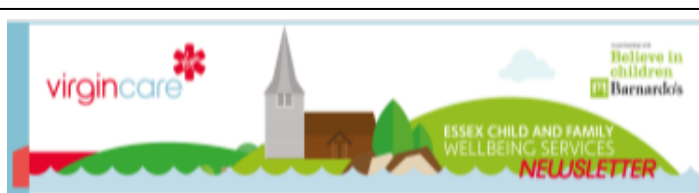
I hope that this year the Senior Prefects can work to develop an integrated and inclusive community. I look forward to creating exciting opportunities and challenges for the school and enjoy my final year at Becket Keys.

School Photographs

If you did not pre-register for your son/daughter's photo and wish to view/purchase this, please email the school office@becketkeys.org to request the photo link code. All photos will be sent to your home address free of charge for a two week period.

Alternatively you can contact Carmel Jane directly for this code or indeed if you are having any issues accessing the picture: info@carmeljane.co.uk 01277 822674

For any student who missed having their photo taken by Carmel Jane this week, they will be re-attending school for another session on **Tuesday 15th September at 9am.**



Family Wellbeing

As part of the International Association of Suicide Prevention's (IASP) campaign for World Suicide Prevention Day, they have developed [Step Closer: A World Suicide Prevention Day Awareness Film](#). Step Closer is a short film with a positive message encouraging connections and that we all have a role to play in working together to prevent suicide.

In addition, they are launching the [Take a Minute](#) initiative. Taking a minute to reach out to someone in your community could change the course of another's life. Evidence suggests that the offer of support and a listening ear are more likely to reduce distress, as opposed to exacerbating it. Therefore, as a family you could pledge to:

- Take a minute to notice what is going on with you, your family, your friends and your colleagues.
- Take a minute to reach out and start a conversation if you notice something is different.
- Take a minute to find out what help is available for both you and others.

If you or anyone you know needs help, advice or support you can direct them to:

Samaritans Call: 116 123
Papyrus (children and young people under the age of 35) Call: 0800 068 4141

Family Wellbeing Supporting Children and Young People who have experienced loss

Unfortunately many families will experience grief and loss from the bereavement of a loved one at some point in time. Child Bereavement UK has an excellent list of [resources](#) to support bereaved children of all ages, including picture books for very young children to more complex books for young adults.

Young Minds has some [helpful information](#) to support parents of children and young people experiencing loss, including how to talk to your child about loss and information on the different ways children and young people may respond to loss.

When a child or young person is grieving, it is important to give them opportunities to express their feelings. Child Bereavement UK has some helpful [resources](#) to understand and own their feelings. Resources are age appropriate, separated into those under 7, 7-11 and young people.

To find out more information about us and the wide range of services we offer, please visit www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk

We are always looking for ways to improve and provide you with information that is beneficial and relevant to you. We value your opinion and would love to hear your feedback on our briefings. Please send your reply to Essex.Communications@virgincare.co.uk



Student Achievement

William Horne



As we all know, Covid had a profound impact on all our lives and it was no different within the golfing world with a full schedule for the season going out of the window almost as soon as we first became aware of the virus. However, as each governing body came to terms with the situation we started to see competitions come back albeit with strict regulations.

Golfers scrambled to find events and then meet the required qualifications for entry – needless to say it was extremely competitive both in terms of ability and geography as everyone looked for the next competition.

In the midst of all this, it is fair to say William had a fantastic year. As the courses came back on line he posted some incredible scores at his home club, Thorndon Park including a 9 under gross in practice which if it had been in competition it would have been the course record by 2 shots!

A short trip to Scotland once lockdown was eased saw him shoot his lowest ever round of 60 along with three other notable scores. It is fair to say he was peaking at the right time!

When the competitions finally started up, he came second at the Faldo Series Event at Kedleston Park in Derbyshire by 1 stroke, just missing out on the Grand Final in Abu Dhabi in November.

https://faldoserries.com/reports/?tourn=2004&report=https://faldoserries.info/tic/tmscores.cgi?tourn=2004~season=2020~params=P*3SRCo3~result=6BC~

Disappointed with this, he then went down to Wales and won the Faldo Series Welsh Championship at The Vale in Glamorgan, earning his invitation to the Grand Final at Al Ain Equestrian, Shooting and Golf Club, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

<https://faldoserries.com/reports/?tourn=2007&report=https://faldoserries.info/tic/tmresult.cgi?tourn=2007~season=2020~result=6B~>

And they interviewed him on television...

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=658098011728764&ref=watch_permalink

Onwards and upwards, he then travelled to Broadstone Golf Club in Dorset for the premier Under 18 Boys Golf event in Europe, the English Boys Championship (known as 'The Carris') and after the first day being cancelled due to weather, he set about setting the early paces with the lead in the clubhouse with -3 Under. By the end of the first day, he was in tied

first place with two other players. This was a monumental step for him and really put him on the map.

Sadly, because he was the leading group, he went out last the next morning for the first of 2 x 18 holes and by the time he had completed the first 18 the weather had turned and the afternoon's round was called off. Will finished tied 15th. I guess that's what they call the 'luck of the draw'!

Following this disappointment, he moved on to the European Junior Tour Open at The Bedford Club, Bedford where he won the event and qualified for the finals in Spain on Sky Sports in November with a round of 74 in very blustery conditions.

<https://www.golforganiser.com/results/the-bedford-gc-beds-sunday-23rd-august-2020>

Finally, at the weekend, Will played in the Essex Men's Amateur Championships at Three Rivers Golf Club and after 36 holes he won the Under 21 Championship with a gross total of -3 under and came 2nd overall in the full Men's competition.





He will carry you

At the weekend, I was watching a documentary and was delighted to see the filming of a swan with a cygnet on its back – so calm, so peaceful, so reassuring – an inspiration for this Biblical Pause.



The following Bible verses came to mind:

Psalms 37:23-24 "The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand."

Ephesians 3:16-17 "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love ..."

Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will



strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

When I was younger my mother shared this prayer with me and it still brings me comfort and reassurance:

Footprints in the Sand

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said once decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

Mary Fishback

As we return to school during these challenging times, God's presence in our community remains. It has been wonderful to hear classrooms buzzing with learning, as well as hear teachers and students reconnecting with colleagues and friends once more.

Every day can have many things battling for our time and attention, but we still take moments to pause and think about God. Through prayer, we allow the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and to carry us. May God bless us all we continue this new stage of our journey.

Remember:

Alone with none but thee. My
God,
I journey on the way.
What need I fear, when thou art
near
O King of night and day?
More safe I am within thy hand
Than if a host did round me
stand.

St Columba (c.521-597)

Let us pray:

Gracious God, we come to you at the beginning of this academic year with our many feelings, expectations, fears and hopes. Help us to remember, we have the comforting assurance from you: "I will always be with you."

Amen.

**Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher**



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School



Student Contact Information

As we are sure you will all appreciate, it is vitally important that we hold accurate records, addresses and contact numbers. We need at least 2 contact names/numbers in case of an issue with your son/daughter at school. It is also vital that we hold necessary health information about all our students in the event of a medical emergency.

Sometimes parents may not receive vital school information if we have not been advised of any change in data. Therefore, if you have changed any of your contact details (phone, email address or home address), please make sure you let us know immediately so we can update our systems.

Please email through any changes to office@becketkeys.org

Many thanks for your co-operation.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER

*

ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY

YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS

MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER –

FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

*

STUDENT HALF DAY

FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER

*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2020 –

FRIDAY 1ST JANUARY 2021

*

INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2021

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