



Becket Keys Church of England School

6th November 2020

REMEMBRANCE DAY – WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes...

Character Education at Becket Keys

A quotation from Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics says: "Our actions become our habits, our habits become our character, our character is who we are."

At Becket Keys, we know that the formation of character cannot be achieved overnight. It takes time, patient feedback and deliberate practice. Anything that we want to get better at, learning to speak Mandarin, perfecting our golf swing or baking sour dough bread (all on my development list!) require regular concerted effort. The first two are dropping off as I am not practising regularly. The last one I work on every weekend and I am seeing the improvement each week!

Our belief is that it is the same with character, and therefore we prioritise teaching our seven Christian values as a daily discipline. Daily routines in school become habits and these then become attitudes that the students hold dear.

For example, the wearing of masks in the corridors is something that we have been developing since the start of the year and each day it gets better and better. Students are moving beyond the habit stage and now becoming more and more indignant about the few who have forgotten their masks as it offends them! They see this as important for themselves. Students who have forgotten to wear their mask are made to wait for five minutes whilst everyone else gets off to lesson or break on

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BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Becket Keys Sixth Form

We have two virtual Sixth Form Information Evenings next week. Make sure you book your place soon!
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Becket Keys Alumni

The Alumni Association has heard from some of our former students. It is great to hear what they are doing now!

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Recipe of the Week

Another delicious recipe for you to try at home this weekend.

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Friends of Becket Keys

Great news from our PTA! You can order your Christmas Tree again this year!

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time. This helps reinforce the importance of being responsible.

Similarly, if students at Becket Keys are just one minute late for school, they attend a detention at lunchtime. We do make exceptions, but these really are exceptions! Most days, a handful of detentions are given to students who slept through their alarms, did not pack their bags the night before and did not run along Sawyers Hall Lane to make up the time. Again, the purpose of this is to emphasise to the students the importance of personal responsibility; in almost all cases, getting to school on time is something that is within the student's control and although we are forgiving, a future employer may not be.

With all this in mind, it concerns me to think that this year, due to the coronavirus, we will not be able to fulfil the important annual habit of remembering the armistice by standing on the playground together for a service, prayer and two-minute silence. We cannot, and will not, miss out on this! Instead, we are going to recreate the moment using a video which I will record this weekend. Students will watch this during their tutorials on Thursday and observe the silence together in form time.

This particular habit reinforces our key value of respect. Respect for those who died and suffered and gave up so much for us. As I have written before, I find the comparisons of our current

troubles with those experienced during the Great Wars both helpful and disturbing. The sacrifices of previous generations make our own seem somewhat trivial. Therefore, all the more reason to take time next week to draw our students out of their own "bubble" to gain a respectful perspective.

As we approach Remembrance Sunday and The Armistice, I encourage us all to stop and give thanks for all those who have served and continue to serve our country in the armed forces. We at Becket Keys deeply respect this example of personal responsibility.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Scott-Evans
Head Teacher



Uniform

All students are required to wear smart shoes (and not trainers).

Girls in Year 7-9, should have their hair completely tied up. Year 10-11 – hair can be half up/ half down. Black, purple or neutral coloured hair ties please

Boys should not have any extreme hairstyles and hair must not be dyed, no shapes cut into the hair e.g stripes or undercuts and long hair is not permitted in Year 7-11.

Now that the weather is getting colder please remember that all students will be in need of a **COAT** – Plain **BLACK** without coloured flashes, logos or slogans, no 'fashion items', no 'puffer' jackets.

Bags should also be plain black.



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

Sixth Form Information Evening

We are delighted to announce that although we are unable to welcome you in person to the school, we are still holding our annual Sixth Form Information Evening for students in Year 10 and 11. There are two virtual events on Tuesday 10th November at 7.00pm and Wednesday 11th November at 5.00pm. If you would like to attend, please register at Eventbrite:

[Tuesday 10th November](#)

[Wednesday 11th November](#)

Prior to joining us online please visit the Sixth Form Open Event page on the website. There are over 30 videos on this page from staff talking about their subject, giving you all the information you need to decide what subjects to study at A-Level. During the evening, you will hear from Mr Scott-Evans, Headteacher, and Mrs Course, Acting Head of Sixth Form. This event will inform you about:

- What the Sixth Form is like and our vision for the future.
- How to apply for a place in the Sixth Form and key steps and dates along the way.
- Which subjects will suit your skills and interests.
- Which combination of subjects will be possible.
- The entry requirements.
- The entry requirements.

- The entry requirements.
- How we will advise you when making difficult choices.
- The different ways in which you can discover more about the subjects you want to take.
- What an 'ordinary' day, week, term and year are like in the Sixth Form at Becket Keys.
- Extra-curricular opportunities in the Sixth Form.
- How we will support your preparation for the next steps after being in the Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form Prospectus and the Sixth Form Course Guide have been distributed to all Year 11 students and you can now discuss the different options available with your son/daughter.

We have limited space so make sure you book your 'ticket' soon.



Any questions please email: sixthform@becketkeys.org

We look forward to welcoming you on one of these evening events!



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Becket Keys Alumni

Where are they now?

It has been wonderful to hear from some of our former students about the next stage of their lives through the Alumni Association.

Details of how to join are here:

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/register/becketkeys>

Rhiannon

I am studying Pharmacy at the University of East Anglia

The main challenge that I am facing at the moment would probably be the amount of time I'm having to spend on my laptop for lectures and workshops. The challenge is that I am spending a lot of time in just one place. I am now doing work in the kitchen with my flatmates a lot more now so that I'm not isolated to my room. I am also getting involved in the stunt cheerleading club so I am able to get out more and socialise with other people

I am enjoying the social aspect of university so far. Although we are limited in how much we can go out and socialise, my flatmates and I are making the best of the situation.

Tyler



Where are you studying?

I am studying at Queen Mary, University of London

What are you studying?

BSc Biology

**What challenges are you facing?
How are you overcoming this?**

I am finding it difficult spending the whole day on my computer. Home-learning does not help with this because I am working and relaxing in the same room; to counter this I am having tech-free lunches as well as short walks (weather depending) in order to give myself a brain break. I also find it useful to do all my work during the weekdays so that weekends are work-free, allowing

me time to do relaxing and enjoyable activities (although saying that, I do love learning as well!). If I come across any academic or pastoral challenges, the university had dedicated departments to help with these and all of the staff are approachable and more than willing to organise an online (or sometimes face-to-face) meeting to help me out. I am sure other universities also have a similar system in place. At the start of the semester, it was very hard to meet people as almost everyone was at home. To counter this I joined the social media groups for my course in order to meet some people (even though it was virtual, this was still better than nothing).

What are you enjoying about university?

Everything! I am finding that the blended learning approach is working extremely well and is just as good as face-to-face teaching. The student union are organising a lot of social activities (both in-person and online), meaning that everyone gets involved and has a good time. I wish you all the best of luck with your A-levels and sincerely hope that COVID-19 does not hinder your university experience as much as it has hindered that of my year group!



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Aeryn

Where / what are you studying?

I am currently studying Film at Screen and Film School in Brighton which is a part of the BIMM group of universities.

What challenges are you facing? How are you overcoming this?

One of the biggest challenges at the moment is the Covid restrictions and getting used to zoom classes instead of in-person lectures. However I am still able to be at university once a week which is definitely helping. I am also meeting up with classmates, as much as is safe, quite often to make up for the lack of in-person classes.

What are you enjoying about university?

I am most enjoying the practical elements of my course. While looking for universities I was very picky about choosing one that would be practical because of the industry I want to get into and I've ended up in a course that is around 70% practical which I am really enjoying. This is definitely an encouragement for current year 13s who are more interested in practical skills because it proves that, with the right course, you can definitely find something that suits you best.



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Friends of Becket Keys

Raise funds for

The Friends of Becket Keys

every time you shop online

Find us on easyfundraising to start:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/becketkeysschoolbrentwood/>

Shop with over **3,300** online stores

easyfundraising
feel good shopping

£27 Million raised

1.6 Million users

130,000 causes

Easyfundraising, is the UK's biggest charity shopping site and has over 4,000 participating retailers. Easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping into free donations for the School. It only takes five minutes to sign up and costs you nothing, but over the years we have raised over £2,300 from our supporters shopping via the Easyfundraising Scheme.

You can register here:
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/becketkeysschoolbrentwood/>

You can activate the donation reminder, which will pop-up on any of the participating retailers' websites if you chose to shop outside of the Easyfundraising portal.

Remembrance Day – 11th November 2020



POPPY APPEAL

At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the guns fell silent on the Western Front, to bring to an end the First World War. Our nation and commonwealth has recalled that moment through our Armistice and Remembrance events down the decades, decades during which the men and women of our armed services have continued to pay the ultimate sacrifice.

Remembrance Day is a day of reflection, it allows us to remember or think about all those people who are affected by wars, both in the past and now. It allows us to think about all those people who suffer in wars all around the world. It reminds us how important it is to work for peace.

Each year, an army of volunteers distribute the iconic paper poppies throughout the nation, collecting donations in return to help support the vital work the British Legion do for the Armed Forces community. People wear the paper poppy on their chest as a symbol of Remembrance: to remember the fallen Service men and women killed in conflict.

We are again supporting The Royal British Legion, through the selling of poppies. They will be distributed during Tutor Time by the Heads of Year. We would suggest a donation of £1 for a poppy. However all contributions are welcome.

The money raised helps provide lifelong support for the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, Reservists, Veterans and their families.

*They shall not grow old, as we that
are left grow old:*

*Age shall not weary them, nor the
years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun and
in the morning.*

We will remember them.

**Robert Laurence Binyon
(1869-1943)**



Face coverings are now absolutely compulsory for students in the following areas:

- Stairwells
- Corridors
- Circulation Spaces
- Communal toilets

Please provide your son/daughter with a face covering (where possible in school colours: black, purple, gold, grey or white). A few spares in the school bag would also be useful!

If we all do our bit between lessons as well as following all our other guidance, we can slow the spread of this virus and therefore keep our school open!

Stay safe



Coronavirus Update

As announced on Saturday, England have entered a 4-week national lockdown, commencing Thursday 5th November.

Alongside this, it was announced that schools will remain open during this time. We understand that for most families this will be good news, however for some this might raise concerns.

These are indeed difficult times. However, Becket Keys Church of England School remains open and COVID secure. Now, more than ever, it is important for your son/daughter to continue to attend school for the following reasons:

Year 13s are sitting mock exams and Year 11 students are preparing for their mock exams.

Year 10 and 12 students are just starting new courses and need to maximise learning time.

Year 9 students are preparing to choose options and are moving towards taking GCSE subjects.

Year 8 students are still transitioning into secondary school having missed half of their first year.

Year 7 students are in the process of transitioning from primary school and building new relationships with staff and peers.

As you can see, every year group is at an important time in their

journey at Becket Keys. Education aside, for the students attending, school provides the social interaction and physical activity that young people need. Socialising with friends and teachers, taking part in PE lessons and walking/cycling to and from school benefit our students in many ways.

Testing and isolation

Please remember to follow government guidance when it comes to testing and isolation, this information can be found on with the newsletter. Here is a quick summary of the key points:

If someone in your household has a confirmed case of COVID-19, **all members of that household must isolate for 14 days.**

If your son/daughter has symptoms of COVID-19 then they must get a test and isolate until the results come in.

If someone in your household has symptoms of COVID-19 then they must get a test and everyone isolates until results come in.

Students travelling to and from school

Now that we are in a national lockdown, we would ask all students to avoid going to shops on the way to/from school unless absolutely necessary. We want our students to respect the need for social distancing and having fewer students in shops and

supermarkets will allow this to happen. Sixth Form students will not be allowed to leave site at lunch time and should plan their arrangements accordingly.

Attendance guidance has been sent with this newsletter. If you have any concerns, please contact your son/daughter's Form Tutor or Head of Year.

Mr Shields
Assistant Headteacher

Becket Keys School Nurse



All students have been made aware of the nursing team CHAT Healthline. This is manned by a School Nurse between the hours of 9-5pm Monday to Friday, and they will respond to all messages within 24 hours Monday – Friday. The aim is to provide access to confidential health advice for every young person in Essex. **Students can phone or text: 07520 615732.** Please note, self-referrals are accepted if the student is aged 13 and over. If the student is under this age, the school nursing team will seek parental consent.



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acolyte

1. She arrived at the venue with a group of acolytes.
2. During the ceremony, the acolyte assisted the priest with all of his duties.
3. He is a highly influential professor whose acolytes can be found at many major universities.

Meaning: noun that means someone who follows or helps another person, particularly someone helping or following a priest in a religious service.

Etymology: From the Latin *acolytus* meaning follower.

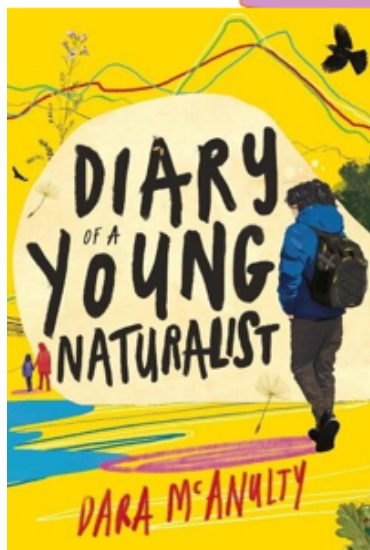


Remember that Homework Club is up and running! Every afternoon after school students can stay until 4.30pm to complete their homework in C11.

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 - November



WHY SHOULD I READ IT?

On November 4, the US formally withdraws from the Paris agreement on constraining global heating. We need to cherish the world we have. McNulty's book follows a year in his life – from his 14th to 15th birthday – as he and his family move from their home in County Fermanagh to a new life on the other side of Northern Ireland. Four of the five members of McNulty's family are non-neurotypical – only Dara's conservationist father isn't autistic. McNulty was diagnosed with autism and Asperger's as a child. This book succeeds in describing the deep and complex pleasure of immersion in nature, written by an author who describes himself as having "the heart of a naturalist, the head of a would-be scientist, and bones of someone already wearied by the apathy and destruction wielded against the natural world".

Food Department

I do hope that you are all well and were able to enjoy a well-deserved restful All Saints' Holiday.

This week's recipe is one that we use in school, it was a big hit with the students and the teachers who could smell the aroma wafting through the corridors while students practised cooking it. This recipe takes me back to my backpacking days once again where I discovered many of the recipes I use today.

In a tiny little village on the island of Ko Lanta in Thailand I was taught to make Pad Thai by a little old Thai man. He had embraced the fact that I was a budding chef and was keen to teach me his family recipe. Oh, how I wish I could transport back to that food memory, where I learnt how to put new exotic ingredients together to create an amazing dish.

Please enjoy this recipe and adapt it for your own tastes. Do also send in pictures if you have a go, I may share your achievement next week. Happy cooking 😊

Mrs English – Food Teacher

Recipe of the Week

Pad Thai (Serves 2)

Ingredients

150g flat rice noodles
1 garlic clove, roughly chopped

Small bunch fresh coriander, chopped, leaves and stalks separated

1/2 red chilli, seeds removed, finely chopped

1/2 lime, juice and zest

1 tbsp sunflower oil

1 cooked chicken breast, skin removed and thinly sliced (alternatively prawns or tofu)

2 spring onions, thinly sliced

1/2 red or green pepper, thinly sliced

1 tablespoon peas

1 egg beaten

Handful bean sprouts (40g)

3-4 Tablespoons Pad Thai Sauce

Pad Thai sauce can be made from 1 teaspoon tamarind paste mixed with a tablespoon of water, 1 tablespoon fish sauce, 1 tablespoon sugar, few drops lime juice. Stir all together to dissolve.

1 tablespoon chopped peanuts to serve

Method

Slice chicken into strips. Fry quickly in a little oil to cook through and set aside.

Place the rice noodles in a metal bowl and cover with boiling water. Leave to soak for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.



Finely chop the garlic, coriander stalks, half the coriander leaves, chilli and lime zest to make a paste.

Heat the oil in a wok or a large frying pan until hot. Add the paste and fry for 1 minute, or until aromatic. Add the chicken, half the spring onions, the pepper, the peas and half the bean sprouts and cook for 2 minutes, stirring well to coat everything in the paste.

Turn the heat up and add the drained noodles and mix well. Stir in the lime juice, 2-3 spoons Pad Thai sauce and sugar and cook for 2 minutes. Make a well in the centre and pour the egg in and stir to scramble.

Serve and garnish the Pad Thai with the coriander leaves, lime wedges, sesame seeds and remaining spring onions and bean sprouts and 1 more spoon of Pad Thai sauce.

Friends of Becket Keys

Friends of Becket Keys

DEC 5th 2020

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Stunning Nordman Fir Variety

5-6 ft £30 6-7 ft £37.50 7-8 ft £45

Local Delivery Service Available

Order via www.pta-events.co.uk/fobk

We are pleased to be running our Christmas Tree Sale again this year. Take the stress out of Christmas and support our school by purchasing your tree from FoBK. We purchase direct from the Grower and have had excellent feedback on the quality over the past few years. These beautiful trees are the top-quality Norman Fir variety – hardy, non-drop and soft to touch. We have several sizes available but please note that overall size may vary and these are meant as a guide. If you require anything larger than 8 ft then

please contact us at fobk@becketkeys.org. You will need to pre-order your tree with collection from the school carpark on Saturday 5th December, or why not take advantage of our local and safe delivery service for a small extra charge. We are taking orders now with the last order date of 27 November. Please visit our web portal by clicking on the link here:

Pta-events/fobk



Huge thanks to all the parents and carers who supported our Cash 4 Coins Initiative.

Over 11kg of unwanted, worthless foreign and obsolete coins and bank notes were donated, which we exchanged for real money, raising £228.24 for Friends of Becket Keys!

Friends of Becket Keys Pre-Loved Uniform

Friends of Becket Keys are always happy to receive any donations you may have for uniform that your children have outgrown or no longer require.

Any donations can be taken into school via your son/daughter and left at reception. We are urgently in need of jumpers, PE shorts and tops and skirts. Please only send in good quality uniform and not ripped, repaired or dirty uniform.

We can now be reached via uniform.becketkeys@gmail.com

Art & Textiles



The Artwork is progressing very well so far this term. Well done to Year 7 Becket Keys Artists this week!

Star Artist for Art Phoebe Bright Yr 7

Follow us

@becketkeys
arttextiles

**Jules
Rowland
Yr 7**



Rom Deal Yr 7



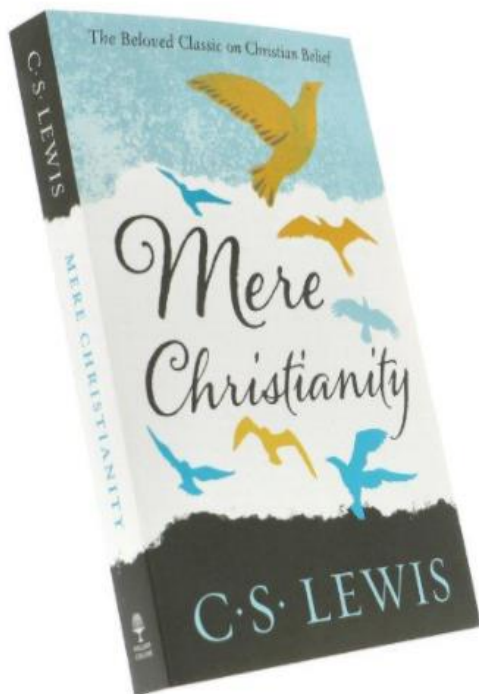


Communicating 'Mere Christianity'

"Christianity, if false, is of no
importance
and if true, of infinite
importance.

The only thing it cannot be is
moderately important."

C.S. Lewis



With a second lockdown and the darker evenings, it is definitely a good time to find an interesting

book to read and indeed share with others. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe is a much-loved children's book and one that fires the imagination. When I enjoyed the incredible mystery of the wardrobe as a child, I did not see the Christian symbolism within the story. Now, I see the story of our redemption at its heart.

I recommend C.S. Lewis' books to you. Indeed, perhaps it is time for you to read or re-read the Classic book on Christian belief 'Mere Christianity' by C.S. Lewis and reflect on the roots of the Christian faith and how they shape lives. In this book, C.S. Lewis explored the essential biblical truths of Christianity communicated to the Church by the Apostles. He rejected the boundaries that divide Christianity into many denominations and provides an unequalled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith.

In the preface to his book, C.S. Lewis wrote:

"Ever since I became a Christian I have thought that the best, perhaps the only, service I could do for my unbelieving neighbours was to explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times. I had more than one reason for thinking this. In the first place, the questions which divide Christians from one another often involve points of high Theology or even of ecclesiastical history, which ought never to be treated except by real experts. I should have been out of my depth in such waters: more in need of help myself than able to help others. And secondly, I think we must admit that the discussion of these disputed points has no tendency at all to bring an outsider into the Christian fold. So long as we write and talk about them we are much more likely to deter him entering any Christian communion than to draw him into our own. Our divisions should never be discussed except in the presence of those who have already come to believe that there is one God and that Jesus Christ is His only Son. Finally, I got the impression that far more, and more talented, authors were already engaged in such controversial matters than in the defence of what Baxter calls 'mere' Christianity. That part of the line where I thought I could serve best was also the part that seemed to be thinnest. And to it I naturally went...For I am not writing to expound something I could call 'my religion,' but to expound 'mere' Christianity, which is what it is and what it was long before I was born and



whether I like it or not...So far as I can judge from reviews and from the numerous letters written to me, the book, however faulty in other respects, did at least succeed in presenting an agreed, or common, or central, or 'mere' Christianity... Far deeper objections may be felt—and have been expressed—against my use of the word Christian to mean one who accepts the common doctrines of Christianity...The name Christians was first given at Antioch (Acts 11:26) to 'the disciples,' to those who accepted the teaching of the apostles."

During these challenging times, let us, like C. S. Lewis, prayerfully consider how we might best present 'Mere Christianity' to all those we meet (including nonbelievers and those with doubts), by living as Christians in thought, word, and deed. May all those we meet experience God through us.

Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher



DEADLY DISTRACTION: ONLINE ROAD SAFETY FOR KS3 STUDENTS



THE PROJECT:

A brand new, interactive Road Safety video resource for KS3 students returning to school after lockdown, both in lieu of any live performances but also as a support to any future live performances of Deadly Distraction.

This highly engaging resource promotes key road safety messages to students, and comes in the form of 5 individual sessions, focussing on different aspects of road safety. The titles for each session, plus their estimated release dates can be found below:

- October 2020 - Session 1: The Home to School Journey
- November 2020 - Session 2: Distractions
- December 2020 - Session 3: Peer Influence and Pressure
- January 2021 - Session 4: Perceptions of Safety
- February 2021 - Session 5: Consequences

THE HOME TO SCHOOL JOURNEY:

On behalf of the Safer Essex Road Partnership, please find all the information you need to deliver Session 1: "The Home to School Journey".

Objectives for this session are:

- Students will refresh their knowledge of road safety basics after a potentially long period of not doing the home to school journey.
- Students will understand the importance of social distancing and other measures, like wearing masks, on the home to school journey.
- Students will be able to identify and develop plans to counter problems they might encounter on the home to school journey, that jeopardises social distancing.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Dan Hobson
T: 01484 602060
E: dan@theriotact.co.uk
W: theriotact.co.uk

I'VE GOT THIS MATE...

Please find below your unique link and password for accessing and streaming "I've Got This Mate", the short film that you should play to students at the start of the session:

Link: <https://vimeo.com/456499502>

Password: **cat-FENCE-yellow**

Attached to this email is the PowerPoint workshop complete with guidance notes and relevant links to additional resources. Please note:

- The PowerPoint can be adapted according to how you would like to deliver the session in terms of group size and running time.
- Our recommended setting is with 'View' set to 'Normal'; this will allow you to use the notes whilst the students view the slides.
- Notes on the first slide contain an overview of the session and objectives.

EVALUATION:

On the final slide of the workshop you will find a link to a short evaluation. Please take the 30 seconds needed to complete our evaluation, thank you.



Schools
GoSmarter



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL OPEN EVENTS

TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER AT 7.00PM

&

WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER AT 5.00PM

*

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

*

LENT HOLIDAY

MONDAY 15TH – FRIDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

*

INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2021

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