



Becket Keys Church of England School

4th December 2020

THE ADVENT SEASON CONTINUES

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes...

What do you call a year like 2020?

Our Advent season started this week. Our reading for 2nd December was Isaiah 9 v 6 which tells us that 'a child is born, a son is given' and lists some of his names: 'Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace'. Look at the names Jesus is given. There is no doubt who we are worshipping!

Names are some of the most powerful words we can use. When I introduce myself, I give my name and the name of the school as two features of who I am.

You may know my first names are: Andrew Peter. Andrew was the first disciple that Jesus called, and Peter (his brother) was the disciple chosen by Jesus to build His church. I feel honoured to have such special names,

especially this week (St Andrew's Day – 30th November).

The name of the school is Becket Keys. After much thought and deliberation, I chose that name because I wanted to subtly recognise the incredible work of the two founding Primary Schools without whose generosity and spirit this school would not exist. Firstly, my previous school: St Thomas of Canterbury (St Thomas à Becket) and secondly: St Peter's (The Keys of St Peter). The subtle naming made sure that other schools would not feel excluded or unwelcome. All are welcome here. However, our school's name distinctly records the input of the founding team.

Names show who we are and where we have come from. My surname is Scott-Evans and tells a story from a few generations ago

..... Contd. on Page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Non-Uniform Day

More information about the non-uniform day on Wednesday next week.

Page 2

The Gift of Reading

We would welcome book donations for our library.

Page 6

Food Glorious Food!

This week we see the results of a very productive time in the Becket Keys family kitchens.

Page 7 - 9

Biblical Pause

We take Comfort in Mary.

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.....Contd from Page 1

when my Grandfather wanted to start again. His surname was Evans, but he changed to Scott-Evans to give himself a new identity. I like that my name has a story. It speaks of mistakes, regrets, forgiveness and fresh starts. Something that I try to bring with me everywhere that I go.

Jesus' names bring me great comfort. He is 'wonderful'. Despite all my failings, my identity is in His wonderful character. He is our 'counsellor': I talk to him on the way to school, throughout my day and whenever I face a crisis. Jesus is 'Mighty God' – he answers my prayers in incredible ways. This school is one of the best examples of Him doing this. He is the 'Prince of Peace' bringing healing and comfort whenever we need it.

In the final weeks of term, we will be reflecting on the year and trying to name what 2020 has meant to us. What name would you give it?! For me, I would use 'perseverance'. It has required all the perseverance that I have been able to muster to get through this year. How about you? What name would you give it? For all its faults (and there have been many) I would urge us all to take the positives from it. When we face these hard times, we learn valuable lessons about ourselves and our communities. We draw closer to God and to each other (even when our usual methods for communion are taken from us).

Have a good weekend.



Wednesday 9th December 2020

Usual School Rules apply:

Hair tied back, no jewellery, shoes should be sensible – no high heels!

Clothing: No bare shoulders or midriff, no onesies, no torn or tatty jeans please.

If you have PE on Wednesday, you MUST wear sportswear that is suitable for your PE lesson so that you can participate.

- ✓ You can: come in a team kit (e.g. of the football team you support). £1 donation.
- ✓ You can: come in other PE kit of your own, subject to the first point here. £1 donation.
- ✓ You can : come in your usual BK PE kit with NO variations. You do not have to pay £1 but any donations will be gratefully received.

If you are unsure about the sports clothing that you can wear then please check with your PE teacher before Wednesday.

This coincides with the Christmas theme day in the Bistro and so Christmas jumpers are encouraged!

Charity donation £1.00 per student please to support Cancer Research and New Hope Children's Centre.



PLEASE!! NOTE

Face coverings are **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 are also needed.

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

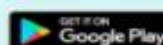


Friends of Becket Keys

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



£27 Million raised

1.6 Million users

130,000 causes

Sign up to our school cause on *EasyFundraising* and raise **free** donations at over 4,000 shops when you shop online. It's really simple and takes less than 5 minutes to register. Once registered, raising free donations is easy!

Either go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search for your favourite retailers. Click "Go Shopping," and make your purchase as normal. Alternatively, download the "Donation Reminder" for your computer which will highlight when a free donation is available on over 4,000 sites that you may visit outside of the EasyFundraising Portal. Either way, your everyday purchases will help FoBK raise funds to support the School. We currently have 93 supporters and have raised over £2,300 in free donations!

You can register here:

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

Year 11 Subject Fair



A-Level Subject Fair

Wednesday 16th December 2020

To further support Year 11 with their Sixth Form application, we will be holding a Subject Fair on Wednesday 16th December 2020.

We will be ending the school day for all students, except Year 11, at 2.10pm. This is to allow us the time to run the A-Level subject fair for our Year 11 students. Your son/daughter will be given the opportunity to have a conversation with our A-Level teachers for all A-Level subjects we are offering.

Parents will unfortunately not be able to attend, but we feel this will be a great opportunity for all Year 11 students to have meaningful discussions about his/her A-Level choices. Your son/daughter will have their mock results by this date which will also help aid the discussion. If you have any queries then please email sixthform@becketkeys.org

There will also be a session for students who may be considering colleges run by Mrs Ellis.



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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 two 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 of our students in the event of a medical emergency.

If you have changed any of your contact details (telephone, email address or home address), please make sure you let us know immediately so that we can update our systems.

Please email through any changes to office@becketkeys.org
Many thanks for your co-operation.



aficionado

1. Mio is an **aficionado** of all kinds of films.
2. They will be joined from every continent, particularly America, by fellow golf **aficionados**.
3. Shopping **aficionados** know the importance of seeing a product in real life.

Etymology: Back in the early 1800s, English borrowed *aficionado* from the past participle of the Spanish verb *aficionar*, which means "to inspire affection."

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 are '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!



When Becks' mum and her stepdad Justin go on their honeymoon to Japan, they leave Justin's older daughter, 18-year-old Silva, in charge - but she never comes home after seeing them off at the airport.

Becks starts off cross, then rapidly becomes deeply worried, but she doesn't want to ruin her mum and Justin's honeymoon, so she decides to try and sort it out herself. Silvia is a very private person whom Becks barely knows these days, and she's not supposed to go into her bedroom. But what choice does she have, especially when it's obvious that her cat Azog has gone in there and made a stinky mess!

Becks finds eight pieces of evidence in Silva's room that lead her on a mysterious journey to finding out about Silva's very complicated and secret life.

This is a brilliant read for a teenager, and Becks is a great heroine. The dialogue rings true and the book is about so much: friendship, being a gay girl, living in a mixed heritage family, K-pop, the return of absent fathers, how complicated life is and, in a thread running through the story, the sinister danger of toxic relationships.

This is a really fantastic book with no easy answers and a slightly chilling ending ...



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Give the Gift of Reading this Christmas

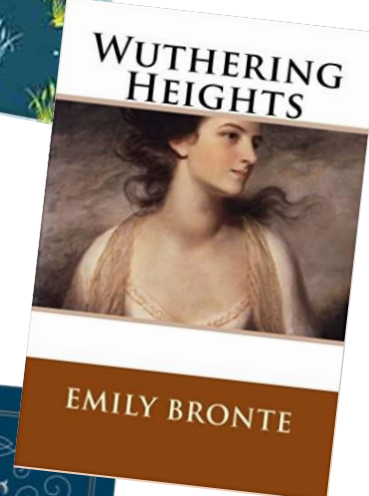
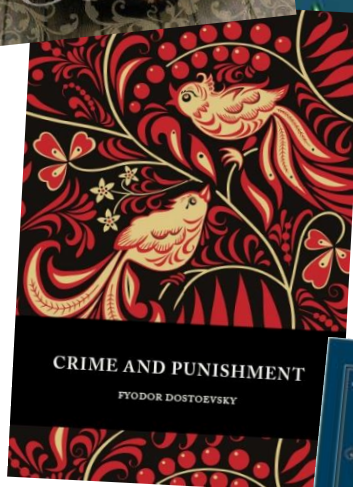
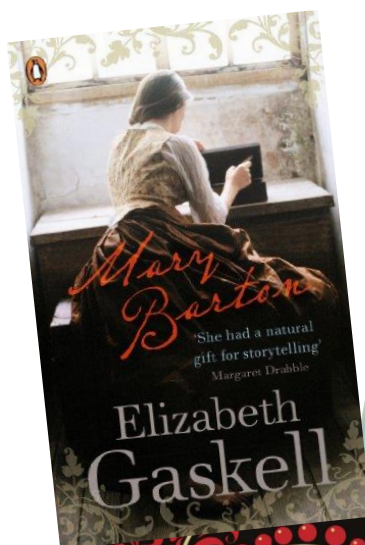
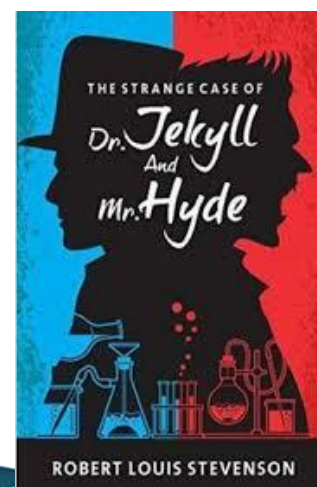
As Christmas Day draws nearer and excitement levels inevitably rise, it is worth taking time to pause and reflect on the true meaning of the season. In an increasingly commercialised and materialistic world, it is often easy to forget the notion of charity and altruism; giving to others in need is far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

We would like to appeal to parents, students and staff alike, to donate a book this Christmas. This is the perfect opportunity for people to donate a favourite or inspirational read, whether new or pre-loved and allow others to enjoy the gift of reading. Whether your chosen read is a work of fiction or non-fiction, intended for enjoyment and escapism or to enhance subject knowledge and academia, all types of literary gifts are much welcomed. This year we would particularly appreciate any 19th Century Fiction.

We would also welcome books for the Sixth Form. People can donate more challenging and thought-provoking books – perhaps directly related to one of the many A-level courses being studied. It would be so rewarding and beneficial if we could continue to foster the love for

reading in the Becket Keys community, and what better time to ignite the flame of literacy than during this season? So, please, consider donating a book this Christmas; the gift of reading is one that we should all be able to enjoy.

Mr Fox
Head of English

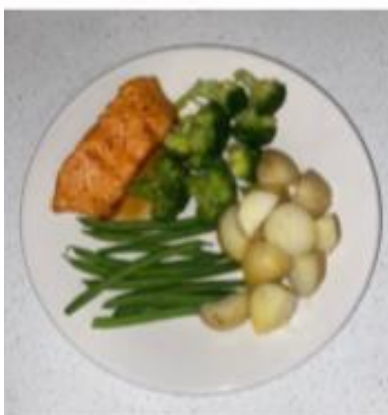


Food Glorious Food!

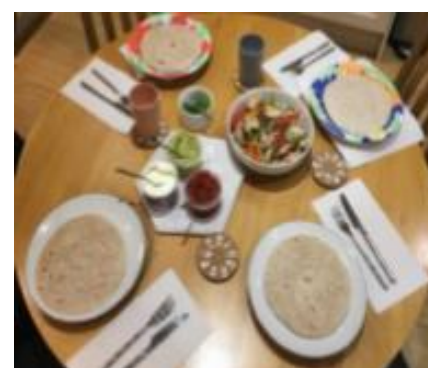
In the Food Department this week we have been teaching our students all about international foods, about the type of produce grown in other countries that is exported and used in British cuisine. We have been explaining how other countries have influenced each other with their cuisines and produce they grow. We have also looked at how Britain has become a diverse multi-cultural country with an abundance and a variety of cuisines available. We have enjoyed talking about traditional foods in Britain and how each country discussed has a distinctive dish. The students have been busy cooking their very own multicultural dishes at home and as you can see, they have outdone themselves with outstanding efforts. We have dishes from Italy, Mexico, India, China, Poland and many more. I am sure you will agree our Becket Keys students are fantastic chefs. Please enjoy their food pictures 😊



Annie Allardyce - Year 7
Vegetable Curry



Morgan Gouldesbrough - Year 7
Honey Glazed Salmon with New Potatoes and Vegetables



Amelia Hall - Year 7
Fajitas with side dishes



Harry Batsford - Year 7
Fried Rice



Jake Hayward - Year 7
Falafel and Rocket Salad with Balsamic Vinegar Dressing.



Millie Johnson - Year 7
Stir fried Chicken with Vegetables



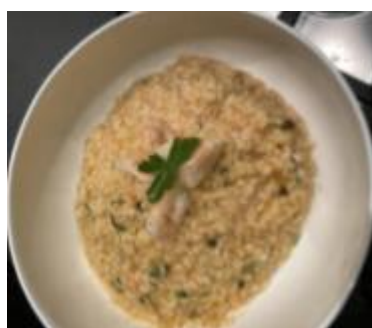
Alex Golebiewski - Year 7
Roast Chicken & Chips with
Stuffing, Mashed Carrot & Peas



Maya John - Year 7
Meatballs and Linguine



Oliver Janiszewski - Year 7
Chicken Fajitas with Guacamole,
Sour Cream & Cheese



Sophia Kostadinov - Year 7
Prawn Risotto.



Joshua Webb - Year 9
Pepper & Halloumi Stew



Bethany Wright - Year 7
Chicken Fajitas.



Mathew White - Year 8
Tortilla cups courtesy of Matilda
Ramsay's cookbook



Stir fry 🌶️🌶️

Sidney Turrell - Year 8
Stir fried rice



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Adam Mahoney - Year 9
Salmon and Prawn Burgers with
Salad & Sweet Potato Wedges



Lucy Falco - Year 9
Marinated Chicken with Flat
Bread and Salad

Christmas in the Bistro

GET A TASTE OF
Christmas

Wednesday 9th December

Becket Keys Theme Day
Christmas Dinner

Roasted Breast of Turkey, Hand Carved and Smothered in
 Chef's Homemade Gravy
 Crisp and Fluffy Roasted Potatoes
 Honey Glazed Medley of Roasted Vegetables
 and Buttered Peas
 Pork Chipolatas Wrapped in Streaky Bacon
 Chef's Homemade Sage and Caramelised Onion Stuffing
 Homemade Cranberry Sauce

Vegetarian
 Mediterranean Vegetable Puff Pastry Slice
 served with an Onion Velouté

Dessert
 Sticky Mince Pie Swirls
Only £2.60

Brentwood Borough Council
presents...



The Nutcracker Trail

Thursday 3 December 2020 - Friday 8 January 2021

Find all 12 Nutcrackers' names and post your entry in the postboxes located in:

Baytree Centre, Brentwood - Shenfield Wine Company, Shenfield
The Post Office, Ingatestone

Pick up a trail sheet or download it using the QR code below:



1st Prize
Nintendo Switch lite

2nd Prize
Amazon Fire tablet

3rd Prize
£50 gift voucher

www.brentwood.gov.uk/events

Brentwood Borough Council are very pleased to announce the virtual light switch on! You can view this by clicking the link below:

<https://app.affirminar.com/6176>

The show is an hour long and some students may even spot themselves from attending the event during

previous years or if they belong to one of the choirs or dance groups that took part.

This is the first online virtual Lighting Up event and it marks the start of Christmas and the launch of the Nutcracker trail.

'Lighting Up' is hosted by Chris Boyland, Chair of Churches Together and Bryan Dedman of Brentwood Baptist Church and

will be available on Brentwood Borough Council Facebook page for everyone to see or you can visit the website

www.brentwood.gov.uk/events

Performances by groups such as The Rock Choir, Razzamatazz, Hogarth Primary School, St Thomas' Kids and many more can be viewed and there is a speech by Deputy Mayor Cllr Olivia Sanders.

The Nutcracker Trail has also been launched, The Nutcrackers are now in position around Brentwood, Ingatestone and Shenfield; the trail and more information can be downloaded from the Brentwood Borough Council website:

www.brentwood.gov.uk/events

The twelve giant Nutcrackers have all been individually sponsored by local businesses, and families have six weeks to go out and about and locate each one to complete the trail and enter their forms into the special postboxes.

All entries will be entered in to a competition and a winner will be drawn at random. Prizes include a Nintendo Switch lite with game, an Amazon fire tablet and a £50 voucher!

More details about the trail are attached with this newsletter.



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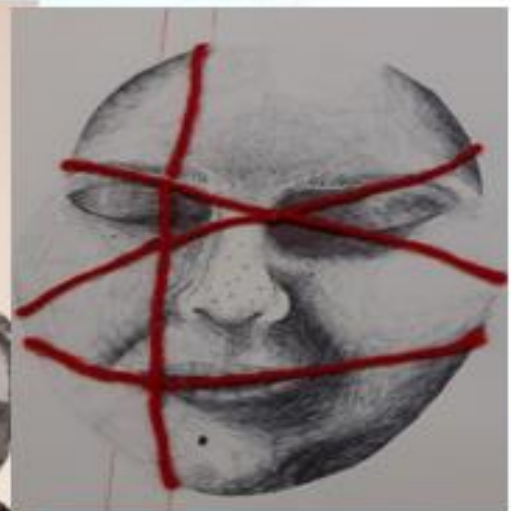
Art & Textiles



The A Level Art Students are progressing well this week.
Well done to all the Becket Keys Artists!

Star Artist for Art

Amelia Walker Yr 12
Textiles



Tara Duffy Yr 12
Textiles





PAUSE

Bring the Christian message of hope and peace

Comfort and Joy



⊕ THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Comfort from Mary

*"His Mother Mary kneeling
down,
Unto the Lord did pray. O
tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy"*



As we approach Christmas, the church's mission is to 'Rejoice with those who rejoice, and comfort those who mourn' (Romans 12 v 15). Mary can be identified as a source of spiritual comfort that also leads to joy in Christ, through her love of God and care for God incarnate. She also demonstrated that it is completely human to feel lots of different emotions. She rejoiced in Christ's birth, but also was bore the pain of Christ's humanity. I

wonder if at the foot of His cross, she knelt and prayed, in the same way that she may have done at His birth. Through all, she remained committed to our salvation.

Thinking back to the first Christmas, it could hardly be described as 'comfortable'! Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Joseph, her husband, had to experience discomfort in order for the first Christmas to happen:



Luke 1:26–38

'In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to

conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.'

Luke 1:26-38

Mary did what God asked, even though it meant giving up her comfort. In addition, Joseph, her husband, was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace. He had in mind to divorce her quietly, but, after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." Joseph also did what God asked, even though it meant giving up his comfort.

Whilst Mary and Joseph chose to give up their comfort, they gained something incredible. They became part of the greatest moment in history, the birth of our Saviour! You and I may never

be visited by an angel, but we all have the same choice to make. Christmas is not about you, me, or our comfort, it is about the coming of our Saviour.

So, this Christmas, how can we get a little uncomfortable in order to be part of something bigger than ourselves? Maybe we could:

- Be kind to someone you struggle to like.
- Volunteer to serve someone who is hurting or in need.
- Ask for less and give away more.

Mary's example can provide us with comfort. Faith and trust in the Lord can also provide comfort, but also calls us to step out of our comfort zone and reach out to others. What might God's plan for you be?

Let us pray:

*Dear God,
We thank you for the example of Mary. This Advent and Christmas, may we take time to pray and seek direction from our Lord. May we find comfort and draw nearer and nearer to the joy of Christ. Help us bring tidings of comfort and joy to all we meet, through the true meaning of Christmas.*

Amen.

**Mrs Sharp
Deputy Head Teacher**



Countdown to Christmas – Daily reflections and prayers for Advent 2020

The birth of Jesus, God's Son, on earth, is the long-anticipated event in the Christian faith; the Messiah was born in a manger to a virgin mother, fulfilling ancient prophesy and setting off a chain of events to save the world from sin. During this special Advent season, students and staff at Becket Keys will be pausing at the end of each day for a short time of reflection and prayer. So, why not join us (in heart and spirit) from your home or place of work! Dim the lights, light a candle, reflect and pray. With this newsletter you will find 25 short Advent reflections and prayers, so let us connect each day to the reason we have joy this Advent and Christmas season, and find comfort as well as hope for the age to come. God is with us always. We are never alone.

BRENTWOOD FOODBANK HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

BRENTWOOD FOODBANK REQUIREMENTS

Tinned Goods

Meatballs, Chicken in Sauce, Ham, All Day Breakfast,
Corned Beef, Salmon, Potatoes, Meat Pies,
Rice Pudding, Fruit, Custard (tins or cartons)

Sweets & Treats, Biscuits, Savouries, Christmas Pudding,
Christmas Cake, Cakes, Chocolates, Selection Boxes,
Pickles,

Washing Powders/Liquids, Deodorants, Shaving Gel/Foam,
Razors, Washing up Liquid, Shampoo, Conditioner,
Kitchen/Bathroom Cleaner
Nappies sizes 3,4, 5, 6

<https://brentwood.foodbank.org.uk/>

PLEASE HELP US MAKE SURE THAT
OLDER PEOPLE WHO ARE ALONE
THIS CHRISTMAS RECEIVE A GIFT

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

DONATE A GIFT TO A LONELY OLDER PERSON
A box of biscuits/chocolates
would make a lovely gift

Please leave your gift **UNWRAPPED** at the
collection point outside the Main Reception
of the TOWN HALL, BRENTWOOD
between 9am-4pm Monday-Friday

BEFORE FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER - THANK YOU

Any surplus to be donated to
The Brentwood Foodbank/Daily Bread Cafe

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CHRISTMAS THEME DAY IN THE BISTRO

NON-UNIFORM DAY

WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER

*

SUBJECT FAIR FOR YEAR 11

WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2020

(SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 2.10PM FOR OTHER YEARS)

*

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

Becket Keys Church of England School

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