

Becket Keys Church of England School

25th March 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Peggs writes.

Sixth Former for a Day

After a few months of excited expectancy, Wednesday saw the occasion of our postponed Sixth Former for a Day event – and this year it was bigger and better than ever as word of our excellent Sixth Form has spread!

Precisely 200 Year 11 students, including 85 from other schools, experienced a day of Key Stage 5 lessons in order to help them gain an insight into what they can expect at Becket Keys next year. They also had the chance to become familiar with important parts of the Sixth Form programme as they attended a Collective Worship and tutorial period. Both of these are central to keeping the students bonded as a tightly knit community in

which there is plenty of support (and laughs) for each other.

With the main objective of the day being to discover what is different between Year 11 and the Sixth Form, there were plenty of opportunities to gain this knowledge and ask interesting questions. During a talk in the morning, the six Senior Prefects explained what they found interesting and enjoyable about their time in the Sixth Form so far, as well as pointing out the main contrasts to last year and what has surprised them. This meant that the younger students were able to understand:

> how external students are made to feel extremely welcome and settle in successfully

> >contd. on page 2



Free School Meals
Details of how to claim over the
Easter break.

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American Menu

The catering team are providing a themed day on Wednesday next week.

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Biblical PauseFollowing Jesus.

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Ukraine Collection

A thank you for items already collected and a list of what can still be donated.

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Art & Textiles Department
Showcasing work from our talented students.

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- how sixth formers will be supported with their learning and their emotional wellbeing
- the extra-curricular opportunities on offer
- the structure of the 'Next Steps' programme that will help them apply for university, apprenticeships and employment
- the ways in which our students are given chances to enrich their learning
- o the House Cup
- and much more!

So far, we have had over 300 applications from students who are interested in joining our Sixth Form next year, including over 150 from students who currently go to other schools. Interviews will commence shortly (information will be emailed home soon).

All students who are interviewed will be offered a place in the Sixth Form and invited to our compulsory Bridging Event (27th and 28th June). There will also be other occasions that prospective Sixth Form students will be able to join in activities in order to prepare for their time in Years 12 and 13 at Becket Keys. Please keep an eye out for notices about these.

If you know a Year 11 student who you think might be interested in applying, please let

him/her know the deadline has passed, but applications can be made on the Sixth Form area of the school website(https://www.becketkeys.org/how-to-apply-to-sixth-form). Questions about the Sixth Form can be sent to SixthForm@becketkeys.org.





Free School Meal Vouchers Easter Holiday

In order to continue to support our families entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) over the Easter Holiday, we will be using the school voucher system, Wonde, to issue vouchers.

If you are the parent or carer of an eligible child you will receive an email from Wonde next week to allow you to claim a voucher for £30 for this period. Please check your junk mail if you have not received this by Friday 1st April. The email will contain a link to 'redeem a voucher'. You will be taken to Wonde's 'evouchers' page (previously named Schoolvouchers), where you will need to enter your details and confirm your email address before being asked to select the retailer you wish to receive a voucher for. You will then be given a PIN and the option to view the voucher. Having confirmed the PIN, you will be issued your voucher. The voucher barcode can be printed off or scanned on a smartphone for use in-store.

Details of the process and more questions about evouchers can be found on their website - https://help.evouchers.com/hc/engb/sections/360003848737-Recipient-FAQs





Uniform

All students are required to wear smart leather shoes.

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

Students should not have any extreme hairstyles and hair must not be dyed, no shapes cut into the hair e.g. stripes or undercuts.

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.







Thursday
31st March 2022

Year 9 Vaccinations

Please wear a short-sleeved shirt if possible!



The School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans is every week on Wednesday at 8.45am.

This is a short meeting where we pray together for local and national events and for any intentions of those in our school family. All are welcome, please enter via reception.

If you have any prayer intentions, please send them into the school via the office email: office@becketkeys.org







Following Jesus

Whatever you are on your faith journey, Lent is the perfect opportunity to walk more closely with Jesus. Reflecting on Bible stories and our calling is a key part of this:

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4.18-20

Stories tell us who we are. They tell us where we belong and help us to decide who we want to be. When Jesus calls people, he invites us into the story of God's loving engagement with the world. It is the story which begins with God's creation, continues

through human wanderings towards and away from God, and reaches its dramatic climax in the coming of Jesus, the Word made flesh. The key word in Jesus' invitation is "follow." Walk in my footsteps, Jesus says, and make my story your story.

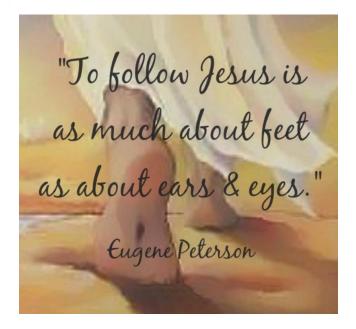
The invitation to Christian faith is always an invitation into the story of God, to make God's story our own, and to live out of that story. And here, right at the beginning, Jesus makes clear that accepting this invitation will entail inviting others in as well. "I will show you how to fish for people."

A few years ago, I came across this beautiful prayer called 'Deeper listening' (Author unknown):

God of silence and God of all sound, help me to listen. Help me to do the deep listening to the sounds of my soul, waiting to hear your soft voice calling me deeper into you. Give me attentive ears that begin to separate the noise from the sounds that are you; you who have been speaking to me and through me my whole life, for so long that you can seem like background noise. Today help me hear you anew. Amen.



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Are you giving yourself time in the the busyness and noise of the day to listen for God's voice? Are you listening for His call?

To follow Jesus implies we enter into a way of life that is given character, shape and direction by the One who calls us. Following Jesus means picking up rhythms and ways of doing things that are often unsaid, but derived from Jesus. We need to listen and consider what Jesus is saying, but we also need to see what he is doing and how he is doing it. In this way, we bear witness to God's story and invite others into His story. In so doing, we make His story our own.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, thank you for the story of God into which you invite each of us. Help us to understand that story more fully this Lent, and to live it out each day. **Amen**.

Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher
Adapted from a Lent Live
Church of England Series





Essex Teaching Awards 2022

Essex Teaching Awards Nominations close soon!

The Essex Teaching Awards 2022 will be taking place on Tuesday 14 June 2022 to celebrate and acknowledge the outstanding work of the educational workforce in Essex. Anyone can nominate individuals or teams working in educational establishments in the Essex local authority area.

Nominations open now and will close on Thursday 31 March 2022. Make a nomination or visit the Essex Teaching Awards page and the resource pack for more information, including the award categories.

Help for Ukraine





After witnessing the events in Ukraine that shocked the rest of the world, some students in the Sixth Form decided to do something to contribute to the aid against the consequences of the conflict that has caused suffering to millions of Ukrainians. We decided to set up a collection of essentials; clothes, packaged goods and medical supplies for the refugees.

Many items were donated by others in the school community and we then took them to Woodland Café in Brentwood by the Sixth Form ready to be transported to those in need.

We are still actively collecting essentials so please continue to donate if you can.















Still collecting:

Bandages ordinary and elastic

Wound closure strips Antiseptic wipes

Quick clot or Celox gauze Burn pads

Medical porous tape Sterile dressings

Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Portable chargers (and travel adaptors if needed)

Torches/Flashlights

Thermos flasks

Socks

Energy bars

Tweezers



It has been a great week in Art with Mrs Brassett.

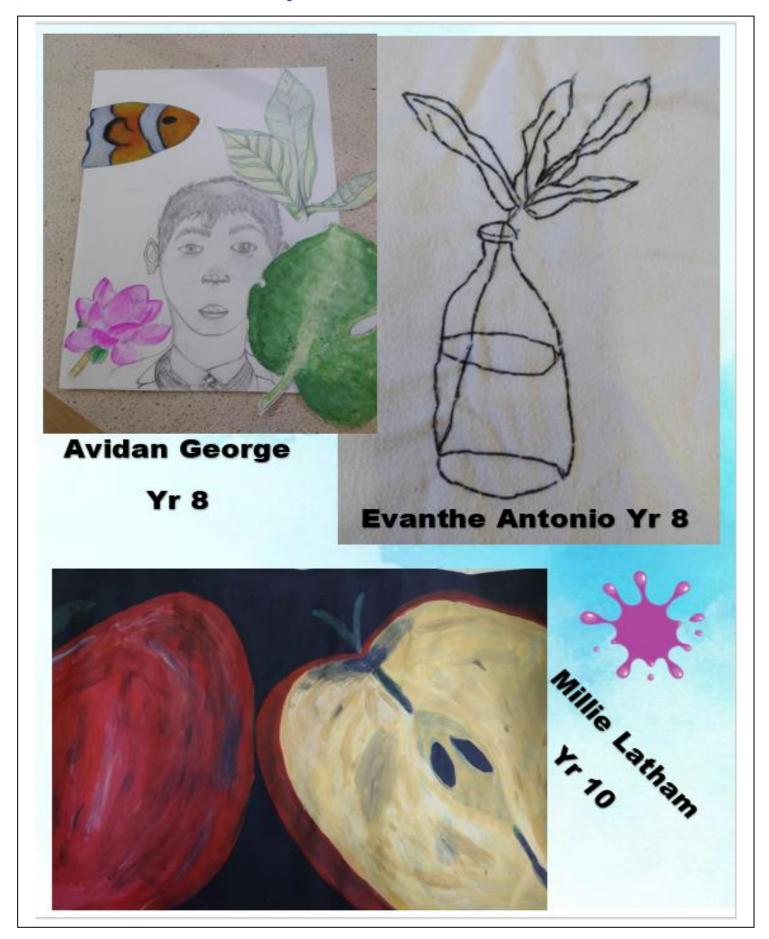
Students are developing their skills throughout a range of materials and techniques, and it is lovely to see their successful outcomes. Well done!

Star Artist for Art

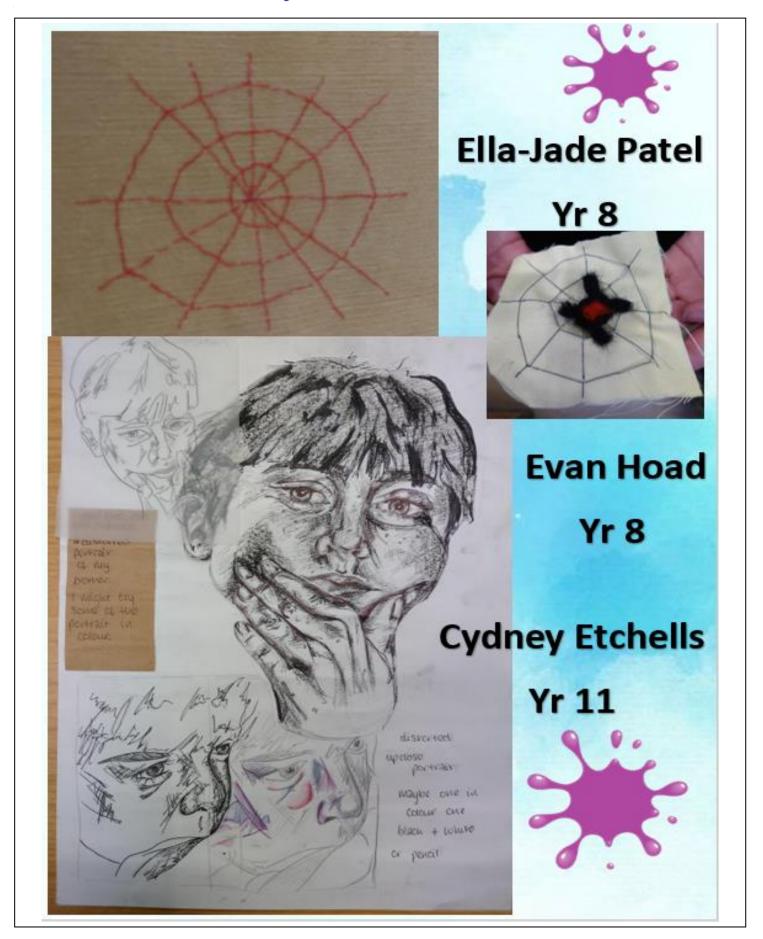








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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SPRING CONCERT

7.00pm

TUESDAY 29TH MARCH 2022

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GCSE AWARDS EVENING

THURSDAY 31ST MARCH 2022

*

LAST DAY OF TERM

FRIDAY 1ST APRIL 2022

STUDENT HALF DAY

*

INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

TUESDAY 19TH APRIL

*

YEAR 10 SUBJECT CONSULTATION EVENING

THURSDAY 16TH JUNE 2022

*

'MATILDA THE MUSICAL'

MONDAY 18TH JULY

TUESDAY 19TH JULY

WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane Brentwood, Essex CM15 9DA 01277 286600

www.becketkeys.org office@becketkeys.org finance@becketkeys.org

Twitter:

- @BecketKeys
- @MrScottEvans
- @BecketKeys6th
- @BecketKeysMusic
- @BecketKeysPE
- @BecketKeysArt
- @BecketKeysSci

Facebook: Becket Keys Church School