



Becket Keys Church of England School

9th September 2022

QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926 - 2022

Mr Scott-Evans writes....



Today, in memory of Her Majesty the Queen, before school started, we held a two-minute silence on the playground.

In our times of worship, we watched some BBC footage and remembered Elizabeth by looking at photos from the years of her life and reign. We also held a

special Eucharist in the chapel at lunchtime today with Father Mark North.

In main reception we have placed a photo of Queen Elizabeth, some white lilies a candle and a book of condolence. Please feel free to come into school to write in it.

The Church of England has opened an on-line book of condolence if you would like to make a contribution, the opportunity is [here](#).

The words I said to the whole school community this morning are below.

"As you will know, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, died yesterday afternoon at Balmoral Castle.

The long reign of 70 years was marked by her strong sense of duty and her determination to

dedicate her life to her throne and to her people. This brings to an end the country's second Elizabethan era. A time of great sadness for each of us individually and collectively.

I would like us all to stand and remember her for two minutes in silence. In our prayers and thoughts, we can give thanks for her life of service and duty: our country's longest reigning monarch and a highly respected world-wide leader.

[PERIOD OF SILENCE]

Let us pray:

Gracious God, we give thanks for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,

for her faith and her dedication to duty.

Bless our nation as we mourn her death

and may her example continue to inspire us;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Queen is Dead. Long Live the King.

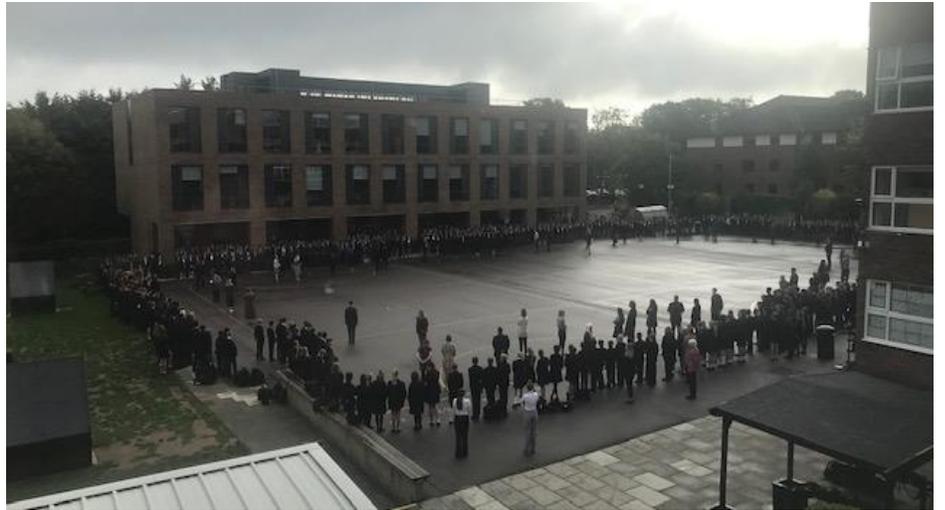
In our worship today, and over the coming week, we will spend some more time celebrating the life of Elizabeth and looking forward to the new era of King Charles.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – AMEN"

I pray that you will all know God's comfort at this time of national mourning.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher**



The whole school gathered on the playground this morning to pay their respects to Queen Elizabeth II.



BECKET KEYS

Church of England School



PAUSE

The Queen and her faith

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be remembered for her strong sense of duty and the strength of her Christian faith. This has been evident throughout her life in her words and actions. As well as her formal role as 'Defender of the Faith and Supreme Governor of the Church of England', which came with monarchy, her personal faith has always been evident even before she was crowned. In her first Christmas broadcast in 1952, she made this prayer request:

'Pray for me ... that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life.'

Subsequent Christmas and Commonwealth Day messages have frequently referred to Jesus, His teachings and her own personal accountability to God. She regularly reinforced the moral message of the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) and the importance of loving and helping one another. Her Majesty also clearly acknowledged and celebrated religious diversity and tolerance in the UK; promoting inter-faith harmony. For example, to mark



the Diamond Jubilee in 2012, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attended a multi-faith reception at Lambeth Palace, which was hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and attended by the leaders of eight other faiths in the UK. She said:

'Faith plays a key role in the identity of millions of people, providing not only a system of belief but also a sense of belonging. It can act as a spur for social action. Indeed, religious groups have a proud track record of helping those in the greatest need, including the sick, the elderly, the lonely and the disadvantaged. They remind us of the responsibilities we have beyond ourselves.'

The Queen at an Inter-Faith Reception, Lambeth Palace, 15 February 2012

At our act of remembrance this morning, Mr Scott-Evans prayed:

'May her example continue to inspire us.'

Her Majesty lived out her Christian faith. She used her faith

to comfort, guide and inspire others. A good intention that is never acted upon is worth nothing in God's Kingdom. What matters to Jesus is the action we take. Throughout her long life, Christ's example and teaching have been seen acted out in the dutiful and faithful life of our servant-hearted Queen.

In 2002, she said:

'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God!'

Her Majesty's prayer from the start of her reign has been answered. May these words and faith now be a comfort to us all.

**Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OPEN SCHOOL – ALL WELCOME!
VISIT THE SCHOOL AND MEET THE TUTOR
WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2022
(AFTER SCHOOL)

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PRIMARY TEACHERS' TEA
THURSDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2022

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BECKET KEYS OPEN EVENT FOR ENTRY IN
SEPTEMBER 2023
THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2022
4.00pm – 8.00pm

EARLY FINISH FOR STUDENTS
12.40pm

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LATE START FOR STUDENTS
FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2022
10.30am

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ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY
YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS
MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER –
FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2022

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STUDENT HALF DAY
FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2022

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2022 –
TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2023

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INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023

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