

Becket Keys Church of England School

30th September 2022

HARVEST APPEAL DETAILS PAGE 11

Mr Scott-Evans writes....

What's your homework?

We have a long-standing partnership with Satchel One who produce the software that is called 'Show My Homework'. This product is the way we inform students and parents about the homework that is being set. In my opinion it works best on the web, but I know many people appreciate the accessibility of the app.

All teachers can set tasks, mark them and respond to questions via the web portal. They can also see <u>all</u> the homework that is set in the school. They can compare with each other regarding how much is set and how often. It really helps!

Teachers can also see which students are logging on and when. Homework is proven to increase progress, so we use this to check levels of engagement. The latest <u>evidence</u> says that in secondary schools the progress boost that students can achieve through homework is a 5 month advantage per year!

For maximum benefit, students need to be clear on the purpose of the homework and get feedback on it. This can come from school and home; parental engagement makes a huge difference.

Our own studies within the Russell Education Trust have shown that students who use Dr Frost for mathematics study at home make by far the most progress. A direct correlation is found between use of the

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software at home and significantly improved GCSE results.



Some studies have found that where students collaborate over homework tasks, the 5-month progress boost can be increased to 6 months. We run homework club every night to support this and to ensure that all students have a quiet space to study and access superfast broadband free of charge. One of my greatest joys is seeing students collaborate across year groups on homework. If your son/daughter is not attending at present, I recommend you add it to their schedule for at least one day per week.

As parents, you can really help too, by logging into the website at least once per week. Then speak to your son/daughter about what has been set, what the purpose was and what they are learning from it. If there are any barriers to completion, help your son/daughter overcome them. Younger students might be nervous about sending their first question to a teacher. Perhaps you could help them to compose it. Make sure students have a quiet space to work (no music or

TV!) and take their phones away whilst they work.

From time to time, we check how often parents are logging into the Satchel One app and we will send you reminders of passwords if you are not regularly logging in. We do this because we know what a difference homework can make.

If you have any questions about homework, please follow these steps:

- First of all, contact the subject teacher via the staff contact page on our website or via Show My Homework.
- If necessary, contact the head of department, via the staff contact page.
- If you have wider queries, contact Mrs Trebess – the curriculum deputy.



The Satchel One app is one of the many on-line tools we have that is paid for out of the school fund money that parents contribute to each year. I will be writing to you about this fund after the All-Saints' Holiday and hope that you

will all contribute what you can again this year.

So, what's your homework? Well, firstly, if you have lost your Show My Homework password please reset it via the <u>Satchel One</u> website <u>here</u>. Find your way around the website and see what has been set for your son/daughter this weekend. If you need help there are <u>videos to</u> watch here or guides to read here.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Scott-Evans Headteacher



We are pleased to announce that the School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans is now every 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.

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



What is House Music?

- This is a music competition between the six houses at Becket Keys.
- This will take place on Friday 11th November in the main hall, starting at 7pm.
- There are three parts to the competition:

Unison Song – every house in Year 7 (tutor group) will perform a unison song (singing together). Every house will be given a different song to learn. This will be led by senior students in the school. Rehearsals will take place once a week during tutor time and the songs will be on Satchel One for you to practise.

Instrumental Cup – Two performers (or groups) from each house will compete for the instrumental cup. Each house will have **one upper school** and one **lower school** competitor. Auditions will take place from 26th Sept. Speak to your music teacher to arrange a time to audition.

Vocal Cup – One singer from each house will compete for the Vocal Cup. Auditions will take place from 26th Sept. Speak to your music teacher to arrange a time to audition.





Back due to popular demand, we are holding our regular series of Chamber Concerts again this year.

Our first concert took place on Friday night.

Congratulations to all who performed!

The concert featured students from Year 10 to Year 13, some of whom are preparing for performance exams. It was a very impressive evening of music!

MUSIC CLUBS

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8am			Music Theory		
			Club		
			Yr. 7-13		
Breaktime		Yr. 7 Boys'			
		Barbershop			
4.1					Worship
(Lunch 1)					Band
					(Yr. 7-13)
4.2				KS3 Music	
				Technology	
(Lunch 1)				Club	
3:15pm		Choir KS3			
		Choir KS4/5	String Ensemble	Stage Band	Rock
	Orchestra		Yr. 7-13	(auditioned)	Factory
	Yr. 7-13			,	Yr. 7-13

Mandarin Department

China's Teachers' Day

In China, Teachers' Day falls on 10th September. Teachers do not normally have the day off, but it is a day that they are showered by students' gratitude and appreciation.

This year, the Mandarin
Excellence Programme students
took the chance to do a project
on China's Teachers' Day. The
KS3 students were given a task
of designing a teachers' day card
and writing a short massage in
Chinese characters. Year 10
students were encouraged to
write a poem in characters.

We were very impressed with their work, especially those from Year 7: even though they have not learnt many Chinese characters yet, they have made a lot of effort to research words and attempted to write them on their cards.

Here are some of the excellent examples from each year group.













Visiting Chinese Headteacher – Mr Wen

Last week we were delighted to be able to host Mr Wen; he is the Executive Director and Chief Principal of Shenzhen Dongsheng Education Group in China, the headteacher of five schools. Mr Wen spent to week meeting with senior leaders, observing lessons and speaking with the students that study Mandarin at Becket Keys.

Mr. Wen kindly ran an assembly for all the Becket Keys Mandarin students, informing them about school life in China. Our students were curious and asked many inquisitive questions. The assembly sparked many students' interests to visit China one day; many students stayed after the meeting to enquire about potential school visits. It was a huge success, and we all are very thankful to Mr. Wen. You can read his letter on the next page.







Dear Principal Andy,

It was a very enjoyable and rewarding week for me to come back to Becket Keys School. It is a remarkable achievement that in the short space of time that Becket Keys has been in operation, it has become an outstanding school in the UK and one that students aspire to attend.

I have three deep impressions from my visit.

The first impression is that all the staff at Becket Keys are very enthusiastic and committed to their work, and that they have become role models for the students. In particular, I interviewed nearly ten school leaders, and they are all excellent and very dedicated, which must be a credit to you Principal Andy. This is in line with the old Chinese saying that 'there are no weak soldiers under a strong general'.

Perhaps this is the fundamental reason why Becket Keys has achieved so much in such a short space of time.

The second impression is that the discipline and order of the students are very good, and the staff treat every pupil with great care and patience. The students I interviewed all said they really liked the school and they especially said they really liked the school teachers. This is the success of a school and the happiness of school teachers!

The third impression is that
Mandarin Chinese is very popular
at Becket Keys, and the subject is
developing very well in the school.
This is illustrated by three
phenomena - 1. Many teachers
and students greeted me in
Mandarin when they met me; 2.
The Mandarin subject area was
very popular throughout the Open
Evening, and many prospective

students and parents took part in the activities hosted by the Mandarin teachers and student ambassadors; 3. After I introduced our Chinese school to the Mandarin learners in the assembly, there were many questions and many students wanted to visit our Chinese school.

I gained a lot, in terms of new understanding and good methods for school management, student education, safety management, teacher training, curriculum setting, values education, helping new staff development, etc. Many leaders and staff of the school gave me a lot of help and support and provided a lot of good educational ideas, for which I would like to express my deep gratitude! I would also like to invite you Principal Andy to lead some teachers and students to visit the ten schools of our Shenzhen Dongsheng Education Group or the five schools that I personally manage, to experience China's development, culture and differences. Differences are also resources for education. I hope that our schools will forge a fruitful friendship, and cultivate more outstanding students in their respective communities.

Finally, I wish Becket Keys all the best in preparing students for greater success, and all the best to Principal Andy and the whole staff team! May all your wishes come true!

Mr Wen Executive Director and Chief Principal of Shenzhen Dongsheng Education Group in China



Mid-Autumn Festival Poster Competition

The Mid–Autumn Festival, also known as Moon Festival or Mooncake Festival, is a traditional festival celebrated in China. It is the second-most important holiday after the Chinese New Year with a history dating back 3,000 years.

The festival falls on 15th August on the lunar calendar each year. This year, we celebrated it on 10th September. Chinese people believe that the moon on this day is at its brightest and fullest (although not factual), coinciding with the harvest time in the middle of Autumn.

This year we continued our Mid-Autumn Festival poster competition. Our Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP) students have done extensive research on the legendary story behind the Mid-Autumn Festival as well as some celebratory activities. For example, Chinese families normally get together to have a feast, followed by moongazing and eating the festival snack - mooncake, a rich pastry typically filled with sweetbean or lotus-seed paste or other savoury filling. The round shape of the mooncake symbolises the full moon and the family reunion.

The posters submitted demonstrated that our students have learned so much about the festival. Miss Lin and I are delighted by the high standard of the work! They are not only informative, but also very well-designed. We are so proud of our students!

Here are a few of these fantastic posters.

Mrs Zhang MEP C o-ordinator

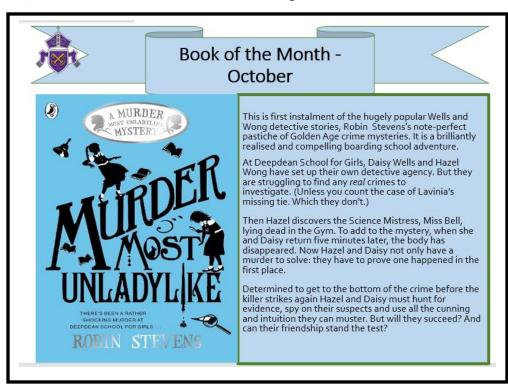
















Please make sure that you top-up your son or daughter's account each week so that he/she is able to access all the delicious meals in the school restaurants.

There is a small overdraft facility on ParentPay accounts of £2 for emergency situations, which covers the cost of a sandwich.

Due to the cashless system in place, there is no other back up.

We do not want any student to miss lunch or the great choice of food available every day in our restaurants. The chefs work hard each day to provide a variety of delicious meals for the school.

If you need assistance navigating the site then help is available here: https://support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/sections/6089568194577-Parents-and-guardians

If you have any other queries, please contact the school – office@becketkeys.org



A Message from the Admin Team

Remember that all correspondence to the school must come through the school office email:

office@becketkeys.org

Your message will be forwarded to the member of staff concerned.

You can also send a message via the contact page on the website:

https://www.becketkeys.org/contact-staff

You can also now reply directly to any message you receive from the school via Bromcom, just hit the reply button and it will go to the office.

Students can contact their teachers via Satchel One if they have any queries regarding their lessons.

Please do not email staff directly as any message received in this way will not receive a response.

Many thanks for your understanding.

SEND Roadshow

Are you the parent/carer or family member of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)?

Do you have questions about accessing support in your area or questions about SEND support available in Essex through Health, Education and Social Care? Would you like to link up with other parents in your area?

If you do, please come along and see us at one of our Roadshows. There will be representatives from Essex Family Forum, SENDIASS, Team Around the Family Support Officer's Early Help, Health, as well as representatives from the Education Teams, SEND Navigation Leads and local support groups.

North East

Tuesday 11th October 2022 Kingsland Church, Stanway, Colchester CO3 9DW

West

Friday 14th October 2022 Foakes Hall, Great Dunmow CM6 1DG

South

Wednesday 19th October 2022 Community Hall, Pitsea Mount, SS13 3BD

Mid

Friday 21st October 2022 Queen Hall, Halstead, CO9 2BY Airre Mare

We have one date in each area this term, all our roadshows run from 9:30am to 12:30 Midday!

You will be made very welcome and we look forward to meeting you.

For further information please

check: http://www.essexlocaloffer.org.uk/

Subject Consultation Evenings

Year 8 Thursday 3rd November 2022

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Year 12 Thursday 17th November 2022

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Year 11 Thursday 12th January 2023

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Year 9 Thursday 2nd February 2023

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Year 7 Thursday 16th March 2023

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Year 10 Thursday 8th June 2023



Please make sure that EVERY item 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.

BRENTWOOD FOODBANK HELPING LOCAL PEOPLEIN CRISIS



REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

Tinned goods

Meat Pies

Braising Steak

Ham

Salmon, Sardines/Mackerel

Mince & Onion

Corned Beef

Meatballs & Hot Dogs

Tomatoes

Fruit

Chilli Con Carne

Cleaning Items

Washing Up Liquid

Bathroom & Kitchen Cleaner

Shampoo

Deodorant

Nappies Size 4 & 6

Toilet Rolls

HARVEST FESTIVAL OFFERING

Becket Keys makes an ongoing effort to encourage our school community to respond to Brentwood Foodbank's appeals for food items and other essentials. Over the next few weeks, staff, students visitors and friends of Becket Keys, can bring their donations directly to school to add to our Harvest Display in Main Reception. The final day for donations will be **Monday 10**th **October**. The current shortage items are shown in the list accompanying this article. This will demonstrate our practical as well as prayerful response to the needs of others, as we acknowledge and give thanks to God for the riches of the earth at this time.

Let us use this opportunity of blessing others to remind ourselves of the blessings that we receive from God. Let us be truly thankful for the gifts of food which we so easily take for granted. May we never lose the wonder of your goodness displayed in the harvest and may we seek to cultivate good fruit in our own lives.



Careers Talks to Sixth Formers



To support our Sixth Formers in making informed decisions about their futures, I am going to start a series of regular careers talks during their tutorial periods. To do this, I need the support of the Becket Keys community!

Are you - or is someone you know - able to present to Sixth Formers for about 10 minutes and then answer questions they ask? The presentation might focus on some or all of these areas, as well as anything else related to them:

- What you do for a career.
- Your pathway to get where you are.
- Why you chose this pathway.
- What your job includes across a day / week / month / year.
- What other jobs you have had were like.
- Why you like certain jobs you have had.
- The biggest responsibilities you have.

- The greatest challenges you have faced.
- The most important learning experiences you have had.
- What is most rewarding?
- Advice to those interested in a similar career to you.
- Advice about a successful career in general.
- Advice about writing a CV and/or application letter, as well as interview skills.

The talks will need to be delivered during tutorials, so anyone who is willing to support would have to be available for either Year 13 tutorial (10:10am-10:35am) or Year 12 tutorial (10:35am-11:00am) - or both! Talks could be delivered in person in the John Wraw Chapel or via Microsoft Teams. I can be almost totally flexible about the best time of year and day for each talk, so this is not an issue.

If you - or someone you know - can support me in this, please

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email me via

office@becketkeys.org with a

brief (I do not want to take up too
much of your time!) explanation
of the jobs/areas you would be
talking about. Once I have
collated these, I will
communicate with those who are
able to assist in more detail and

Thank you for your support in preparing our Sixth Formers for their futures.

be available to answer queries

you might have.

Ross Peggs Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form











If your son/daughter has misplaced anything at school, then kindly inform him/her that all lost property is taken to reception for collection.

Please make sure that all items, especially uniform are named, this will ensure that items can be returned to the student easily.

Thank you!

School Photographs

If you have pre-registered you should now have an email with your unique access link. If not please contact Carmel Jane Photography via the following link: https://www.carmeljane.co.uk/pre-registration-support/

All photographs will be sent straight to your home address with limited discounts available for the first 14 days.

For any further information please contact Carmel Jane.

Email: info@carmeljane.co.uk

Tel: 01277 822674 (9am-2pm)

Carmel Jane Photography

Sixth Form Open Event Thursday 13th October 2022 4.00pm- 8.00pm

We are delighted to announce our Open Evening for parents and students where families can find out about our distinctive Sixth Form. This Open Evening is ideal for families with students in Year 11, but also suitable if your son/daughter is in Year 10. It is open to families from other schools. Feel free to invite friends to come.

Please register at Eventbrite:

Becket Keys Sixth Form Open Event

P A US E

Harvest – Seeds of Change

Harvest is a special time full of opportunities to celebrate God's good gifts and share them with others, just as God intended.
Thank you to those who have begun to contribute to our Brentwood Foodbank Harvest Appeal. We continue to pray for all those in need in our local community, as well as families worldwide, facing chronic food shortages, malnutrition and poverty.

Exodus Chapter 16 provides us with food for thought:

The Manna and the Quails

16 The whole Israelite community set out from Elim, and on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had left Egypt, they came to the desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai. ² There in the desert they all complained to Moses and Aaron ³ and said to them, "We wish that the Lord had killed us in Egypt. There we could at least sit down and eat meat and as much other food as we wanted. But you have brought us out into this desert to starve us all to death."

Only those who sow seeds of change can hope to grow and reap a harvest.

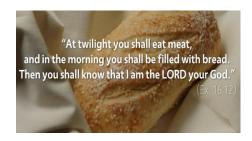
Andrea Goeglein



⁴ The Lord said to Moses, "Now I am going to cause food to rain down from the sky for all of you. The people must go out every day and gather enough for that day. In this way I can test them to find out if they will follow my instructions. ⁵ On the sixth day they are to bring in twice as much as usual and prepare it."

⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "This evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of Egypt. ⁷ In the morning you will see the dazzling light of the Lord's presence. He has heard your complaints against him—yes, against him, because we are only carrying out his instructions." ⁸ Then Moses said, "It is the Lord who will give you meat to eat in the evening and as much bread as you want in the morning,

because he has heard how much you have complained against him. When you complain against us, you are really complaining against the Lord."



⁹ Moses said to Aaron, "Tell the whole community to come and stand before the Lord, because he has heard their complaints." ¹⁰ As Aaron spoke to the whole community, they turned toward the desert, and suddenly the dazzling light of the Lord appeared in a cloud. ¹¹ The Lord said to Moses, ¹² "I

have heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them that at twilight they will have meat to eat, and in the morning they will have all the bread they want. Then they will know that I, the Lord, am their God."

¹³ In the evening a large flock of quails flew in, enough to cover the camp, and in the morning there was dew all around the camp. ¹⁴ When the dew evaporated, there was something thin and flaky on the surface of the desert. It was as delicate as frost. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they didn't know what it was and asked each other, "What is it?"

Moses said to them, "This is the food that the Lord has given you to eat. ¹⁶ The Lord has commanded that each of you is to gather as much of it as he needs, two quarts for each member of his household."

¹⁷ The Israelites did this, some gathering more, others less. 18 When they measured it, those who gathered much did not have too much, and those who gathered less did not have too little. Each had gathered just what he needed. 19 Moses said to them, "No one is to keep any of it for tomorrow." 20 But some of them did not listen to Moses and saved part of it. The next morning it was full of worms and smelled rotten, and Moses was angry with them. ²¹ Every morning each one gathered as much as he needed; and when the sun grew hot, what was left on the ground melted.

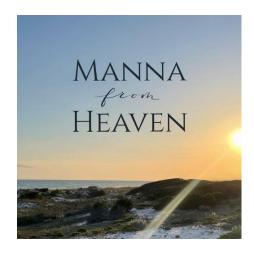
²² On the sixth day they gathered twice as much food, four quarts for each person. All the leaders of the

community came and told Moses about it, 23 and he said to them, "The Lord has commanded that tomorrow is a holy day of rest, dedicated to him. Bake today what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Whatever is left should be put aside and kept for tomorrow." ²⁴ As Moses had commanded, they kept what was left until the next day; it did not spoil or get worms in it. 25 Moses said, "Eat this today, because today is the Sabbath, a day of rest dedicated to the Lord, and you will not find any food outside the camp. ²⁶ You must gather food for six days, but on the seventh day, the day of rest, there will be none."

²⁷ On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather food, but they did not find any. ²⁸ Then the Lord said to Moses, "How much longer will you people refuse to obey my commands? ²⁹ Remember that I, the Lord, have given you a day of rest, and that is why on the sixth day I will always give you enough food for two days. Everyone is to stay where he is on the seventh day and not leave his home." ³⁰ So the people did no work on the seventh day.

31 The people of Israel called the food manna. It was like a small white seed, and tasted like thin cakes made with honey. 32 Moses said, "The Lord has commanded us to save some manna, to be kept for our descendants, so that they can see the food which he gave us to eat in the desert when he brought us out of Egypt." 33 Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar, put two quarts of manna in it, and place it in the Lord's presence to be kept for our descendants." 34 As the Lord had

commanded Moses, Aaron put it in front of the Covenant Box, so that it could be kept. ³⁵ The Israelites ate manna for the next forty years, until they reached the land of Canaan, where they settled. (³⁶ The standard dry measure then in use equalled twenty quarts.)



God provided the Israelites with manna from Heaven during their time in the wilderness. He provided just enough to meet people's needs; they could not hoard the food or keep it from one another. It is also significant that in the Exodus narrative, God ensures that the Israelites have adequate food and water before giving them the Ten Commandments. It is said that people's basic need for sustenance must be met before we can think about anything else.

Harvest is a time to remember God's abundant generosity, but also a time to remember those in need within our community and throughout the world.



Let us pray:

Generous God, at this harvest time we thank you for all the good things you give us. As we thank you for our food, we remember all those who do not have enough for even one proper meal each day. Lord, Bless all those who suffer because of the greed of others. We pray for the homeless, and those who depend on the charity of others. We pray for the work of the foodbanks providing food for those in need. Help us to share the harvests of the world more fairly, so everyone can be fed and there will be no more starvation.

Lord of the harvest: hear our prayer.

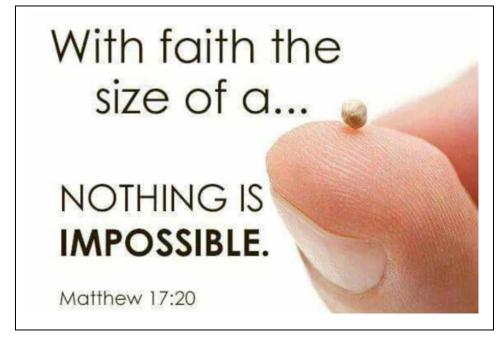
Loving Father, help us and all people who have everything they need and more to share their good fortune with those who are in need. We pray that, each day, we can make the choices and take the actions that will bring an end to poverty and hunger, and lead us all towards a fairer world.

Lord of the harvest: hear our prayer.

Christ our Lord, Your light shines into the shadows, and shows us where the obstacles are to changing our lives. We know that often they are in our own hearts, in the way we live, and in our daily choices and actions. We pray that we may accept the light of your love as a challenge to change ourselves and our world.

Lord of the harvest: hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, You came that all might have life in abundance.



When you fed hungry people, everyone ate and had enough. May we never become accustomed to the scandal of hunger in a world of plenty. Rather, may we live in accordance with your justice and equity. May we be the seeds of change in your word. Be with us, Lord, as we face your challenge to help others and learn how to live our lives in love and prayer.

Generous and loving God: sow seeds of change in us. Amen.

Matthew Chapter 17 verse 20 came to my mind whilst writing these prayers and thinking about the challenges we face in the world:

'20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you'

Faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains! The verse

ends with 'nothing will be impossible for you?' That is glorious promise!

Happy are those who have bread to eat!

As grain grows in the fields and

Rains bring the water of life we share

Visions of all your people united in

Eternal praise and kneaded together to

Share good news of justice and peace:

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

We can believe our prayers make a difference, and that faith can move the mountains of injustice and poverty in this world. Let us to continue to pray, to grow and nurture our faith. May we be the seeds of change in God's world.

Mrs Sharp Deputy Headteacher



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SITH FORM OPEN EVENT THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2022

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INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2022

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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

*

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

*

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

Becket Keys Church of England School

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- @BecketKeysSci

Facebook: Becket Keys Church School