

Becket Keys Church of England School

11th November 2022

READ MRS SHARP'S BIBLICAL PAUSE ON PAGE 9

Mr Scott-Evans writes:

Dear Parents/Carers,

"If you think you are standing firm be careful that you don't fall".

This week, I spoke to students using Homer's epic poem The Odyssey to illustrate how we sometimes need to restrain ourselves from temptation to save ourselves from destruction.

As you will know, in the story, Odysseus ties himself to the mast of his boat and blocks the ears of his rowers to stop them being tempted to sail towards the Sirens and being dashed on the reef.

Similarly, we live in a world full of temptations that could, if we are not careful, cost us dearly. As you know, I am a passionate environmentalist and, as part of our students' wider personal development, I wanted to make the link between The Odyssey and to COP27 'The Earthshot' and to the way that we can be tempted by things we know are bad for the environment. In a week of protesting and disruption that many of you may have been affected by, I wanted to look for positive ways to engage with the Environmental Emergency we find ourselves in.

Prince William's ambitious
Earthshot Prize is aiming to be one such positive option by encouraging the entrepreneurs of today to replicate the sort of endeavours that were part of the JFK Moonshot of the 1960s.

Prizes are being awarded to ideas that reflect the restraint that is required to help achieve five

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ambitious targets (click to find out more)

- Protect and restore nature
- Build a waste free world
- Clean our air
- Fix our climate
- Revive our oceans

We have spent this week revisiting our school Earthshot asking the students to help us: plant trees in the school grounds, pick up litter, stop buying water in plastic bottles, walk to school more, grow more, switch off lights and appliances, help with the recycling and so on. These things take restraint. They are not easy. However, we must find ways to inspire our students to take it seriously as they will be the ones with the answers, and they are the ones whose futures will be affected.

I encourage you to watch the highlights of last year's <u>Earthshot prize ceremony</u> and look out for this year's ceremony which must be coming up soon. I also would suggest we all use the prayer that the Catholic Church wrote for last year's COP 26 as world leaders meet again this year in Egypt. Let us pray.

Loving God, We praise your name with all you have created.

You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures.



We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation.

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP27 as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.



Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.

Amen

In 1 Corinthians chapter 10 verse 12 it says, "if you think you are standing firm be careful that you don't fall". Let's pray that those world leaders gathering in Egypt realise that we are not standing firm and that a fall may well be coming. Action needs to be taken urgently.



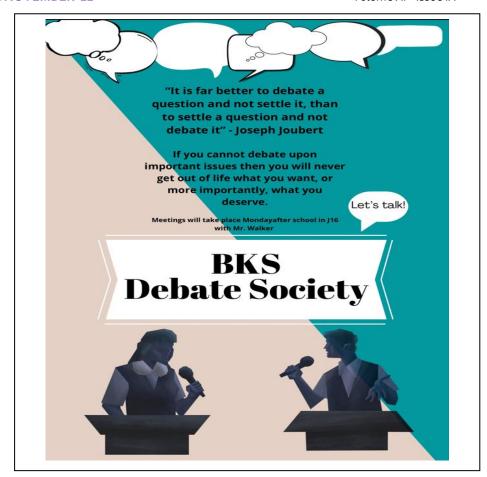
Remembrance Day Memorial Service

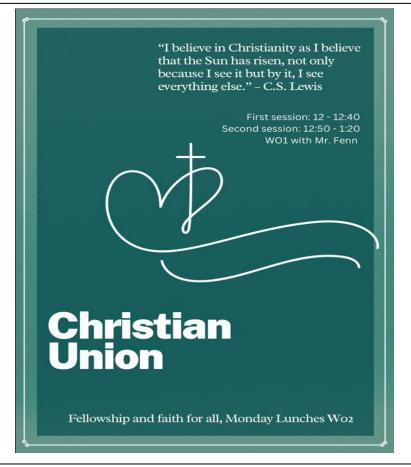


The weather was kind to us today and allowed us to gather the entire school together on the playground, with a service to mark and commemorate Remembrance Day. Many of our students wore their poppies with pride, and without exception, students marked the occasion with dignity and respect. It was a privilege to stand with them to mark the occasion.



In addition, Becket Keys was invited by the Royal British Legion to be represented at a remembrance service for schools at Brentwood War Memorial today. Mrs Sharp joined the students, Eleanor Savine, Harrison Oxley, Ben Shelton and Chloe Dyer attended the service and laid a wreath on behalf of the school community.





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Sixth Form Geography Field Trip to Blencathra



As the Sixth Form Geography students huddled together like penguins at the entrance to school long before the sun rose, eagerly anticipating their trip "up north" and travelling along the UK motorway network in the mini 'fun' bus, it dawned upon the students that they should have brought more sweets as our 300+ mile trip was limited to 60mph.

Harry and Chris, were also questioning if the kit list that they had been provided with was,



indeed appropriate for their NEA investigation.

We enjoyed a leisurely trip up to the Blencathra Field Studies



Centre, through the Lake District National Park and taking in some of our case study locations including Great Missenden, the Chiltern Hills and M6 Toll road.

The primary purpose of our visit was to conduct fieldwork investigations for the students NEA (non-examined assessment) which accounts for 20% of their Geography A-Level.

We jumped straight into our investigations and understanding the physical and human geography of the area.

We spent time learning and deploying our geographical skills and compiling our work in the classrooms in the evenings. The weather was kind to us, and the students were 'blown away' the scenery and contrasting environments that we



explored.Investigations took us to the coast to assess the sustainable coastal management of Silloth which involved some valuable learning experiences about using fieldwork equipment.

With a bit of exertion, we managed to go beyond our comfort zone and reach new heights of learning.

Despite being a bit tired after a long week, everyone had a great time, making new friends, creating memories and developing their knowledge and understanding of Geography along the way.

Many thanks to all those involved especially Mr Doyle.

Mr Taylor-Smith Head of Geography









Student Achievement Charlotte Gurney

Congratulations to Charlotte in Year 7 who won the Solo Song competition in the Chelmsford Music Festival last Saturday. Charlotte's class had a large number of participants and Charlotte scored a distinction! Charlotte has only been taking singing lessons since June and enjoys singing many different types of music including opera and classical. She won this competition singing 'Castle on a Cloud' from Les Misérables.

Charlotte is currently taking vocal lessons with Mr Thatcher, our wonderful vocal tutor at Becket Keys and also has lessons outside of school, she is a member of a choir and is looking forward to singing with them in a concert at the weekend along with performing in Southend Music Festival. Good luck in your next competition Charlotte!

Enrichment Day – 9th November 2022

This week, we ran the first Enrichment Day of the year. These days support the PSHE and Careers curriculum as well as offering our students the opportunity to acquire new knowledge and understanding to help broaden horizons and strengthen character.

Year 7-9

Our Key Stage 3 students were delivered a variety of sessions focusing on First Aid, Healthy relationships, Careers and Resilience. Mr Scott Evans also led a visit to the Sion Community. The Art department had a focused skills workshop with Year 7 and the Science department worked on practical techniques with Year 8.



First Aid:

Mr Lane led an interactive scenario based session, students were introduced to fundamental, transferable skills. As well as learning the first aid procedures and practices, our students were encouraged to work as a team to solve problems together. These versatile skills will continue to

benefit our students in and outside of school life.

Healthy relationships:

This session worked alongside our statutory curriculum. Students were made aware of how to keep themselves and each other safe. Staff underlined our safeguarding procedures here at Becket Keys to ensure that students feel confident to ask for our help if they ever need it.

Resilience and Careers:

In this session students met, a singer and songwriter, Gigi Moss. Gigi performed a number of live pieces and spoke to students about how important it is to be resilient, work through challenges and never give up. She spoke about how her own experiences and how resilience has had a positive impact on her career success. Gigi was wonderfully musically talented and spoke with passion and strength.

Year 10-11

Our Key Stage 4 day was based on revision tips and techniques, English literature and thinking about post 16 options.

Study Skills with Elevate Education:

Students took part in study skills seminar sessions with speakers from Elevate Education, a dynamic company which employs recent graduates to talk to students about the most effective ways to study and revise at home. Students and parents have access to a range of online resources to further support learning and revision.

Future First:

Our students discussed the various post 16 options that are available to them once they have taken their GCSEs. We had two ex-students talk about their education and career pathways since leaving Becket Keys. It was wonderful to hear from our passionate Alumni, we hope our students were inspired to start planning for their next steps.

Macbeth:

The Shakespeare company came in for a live theatre performance of Macbeth to prepare our year 10-11 students for their English GCSEs. Year 10s had a slightly different experience of a workshop led by the company due to some of the actors being late as a result of heavy traffic. We hope to have the Shakespeare company back in at a later date to perform the whole play.

Thank you very much to staff and external guests who have inspired and motivated our students this week.

Ms North Head of Careers



The theme is 'Peace'. Entries can be fiction or non-fiction, prose or poetry.

Each entry must:

- Be no more than 550 words if prose
- Have a maximum of 40 lines if poetry
- Have no drawings or pictures attached
- Be legible and either typed or handwritten.

This is for all students, including Sixth Form students.

Hand in entries by Friday 9th December to Miss White in C24.



Book of the Month -November



"I've got two claws, Katie. Two giant, evil, freaking Freddy Krueger monster things. I am not calm."

Evie Wilder is living a normal life, used to living with "a rare form of diabetes". Except for the fact her mum has gone missing, she just found out she's a werewolf, she and her sister have to go into hiding in a motel whose weird manager keeps pushing Evie to go "full wolf", and there's not a single helpful vampire slayer to be found.

With the help of Kevin, the dorky manager of the guesthouse where Evie and Kate go to lie low, Evie starts learning to harness her wolfish side. But there's something a bit odd about Kevin...

Meanwhile, reports of animal attacks are increasing, local teens are going missing, and Evie is about to find herself at the centre of a supernatural showdown – plainly there's more than one predator on the loose.

This book is bloodily funny and appallingly enthralling, especially for fans of vampire and werewolf fiction.

Becket Keys Music Department

The 10th Anniversary Vocal Cup for individual performers will be held on

Friday 18th November

7.00pm in Runcie Hall

Parents & carers are welcome to attend.



Uniform

All students are required to wear smart leather shoes.

All 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.

https://www.becketkeys.org/uniform







Essex County Council are delighted to be able to offer an online learning event for parents and carers of children with SEND in Essex on the 23rd November from 6pm to 8:30pm.

They have taken feedback directly from parents/carers about the kinds of topics that may find helpful to learn more about. We have skilled practitioners from the field of SEND to deliver these sessions live on the evening.

To view the session and book, visit: https://forms.office.com/r/fdNMbfyuCF

Sessions will be recorded and uploaded to the Essex Local Offer shortly after the event, so you will be able to access them in your own time!





Peace will reign

I would like to take you back to the first two-minute silence in London in 1919. The Manchester Guardian reported the event as follows: 'Everyone stood very still ... The hush deepened. It had spread over the whole city. It was a silence which was almost painful ... And the spirit of memory brooded over it all.'

During today's acts of remembrance, we stood in silence with respect for the 16 million who died in WWI, the 60-85 million who died in WW2 and all those who suffer because of conflicts.

Winston Churchill had been prime minister for five weeks when, in his speech on 18th June 1940, he said:

"The Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilisation," he warned. "Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duty and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say: 'This was their finest hour'."

Sadly, his words can still ring true. There are still acts of terrorism in our world. Remembrance services are just as significant and indeed of increasing significance in our society.

In Micah Chapter 4 verses 1 to 4, we read:

In days to come the mountain where the temple stands will be the highest one of all, towering above all the hills. Many nations will come streaming to it and their people will say, 'Let us go up the Hill to the Lord, to the temple of Israel's God. For he will teach us what he wants us to do; we will walk in the paths he has chosen. For the Lord's teaching comes from Jerusalem; from Zion he speaks to his people.'

He will settle disputes among the nations, among the great powers

near and far. They will hammer their swords into ploughs and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will never again go to war, never prepare for battle again. Everyone will live in peace among his own vineyards and fig trees, and no one will make him afraid. The Lord Almighty has promised this.

This reading speaks of the hope and assurance for Christians that God is with us and for us on our journey to our future, whatever we may encounter on the way. The prophet Micah speaks of a brighter and peaceful future where nation will not take up sword against nation, nor train for war anymore. We may not know what the future holds for us, but we do know who holds the future for us.

Leviticus 26 verse 6 reads:

'I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid.'

Whatever our view about what is going on in our world, we can express our common humanity in our hearts by praying and pausing to think of the value and worth of every life lost and the heart ache of those left behind. Our thoughts are also drawn to those currently serving in the forces on active service in fields of conflict. We can pray for those who mourn, those who fear for loved ones serving in the armed forces and for those who have returned from conflict affected in mind, body or spirit.

This famous poem always moves me when I read it:

The Soldier by Rupert Brook

If I should die, think only this of me: That there's some corner of a foreign field That is for ever England. There shall be In that rich earth a richer dust concealed; A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware, Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam, A body of England's, breathing English air, Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home. And think, this heart, all evil shed

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,

A pulse in the eternal mind, no less Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given; Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;

And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,

In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.



Benedict de Spinoza (a Dutch philosopher) reminds us:

"Peace does not necessarily mean the absence of war; it is a virtue, a way of thinking, an attitude of mercy, trust and righteousness."

We want to live our lives without worry and fear. We can only achieve this by walking along the ways of the Lord: the way of light and truth, of prayer and humility, of faithful Scripture study where we seek God's revealed will for our lives. Through prayer the Holy Spirit opens our hearts for the love of God in Jesus Christ. Where His love dwells, there His peace will reign. Peace cannot come to our country or the world unless it first comes into the hearts of people. Love must become visible in you and me, manifesting itself in our words, deeds and chosen lifestyle. The peace in our hearts also creates peace in the area that surrounds us. From there it will stretch wider and wider, until

peace reigns in our country and God's world.

We are all, therefore, personally responsible for peace. Unless we surrender our lives to the love of God, peace will remain an empty dream.

Let us pray:

Lord God, increase and strengthen the desire for peace in every human heart, so that the temptation to violence, injustice and revenge may be overcome, and people will live no longer in fear, but in freedom. Amen.

> Mrs Sharp Deputy Headteacher





Art & Textiles

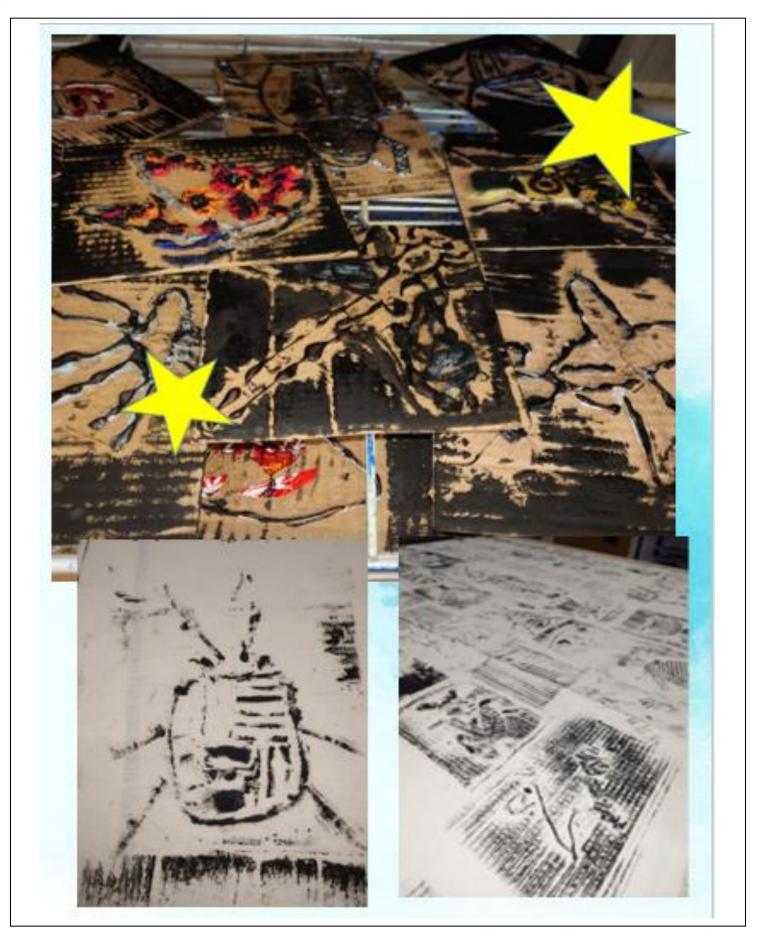
Enrichment Day Year 7

On enrichment day in Art & Textiles this week, Year 7 produced some wonderful Collagraph Prints. These were inspired by insects. Each student drew out their piece, applied a variety of collage materials and printed onto a large banner. It was a very exciting day and the pieces produced were fantastic!

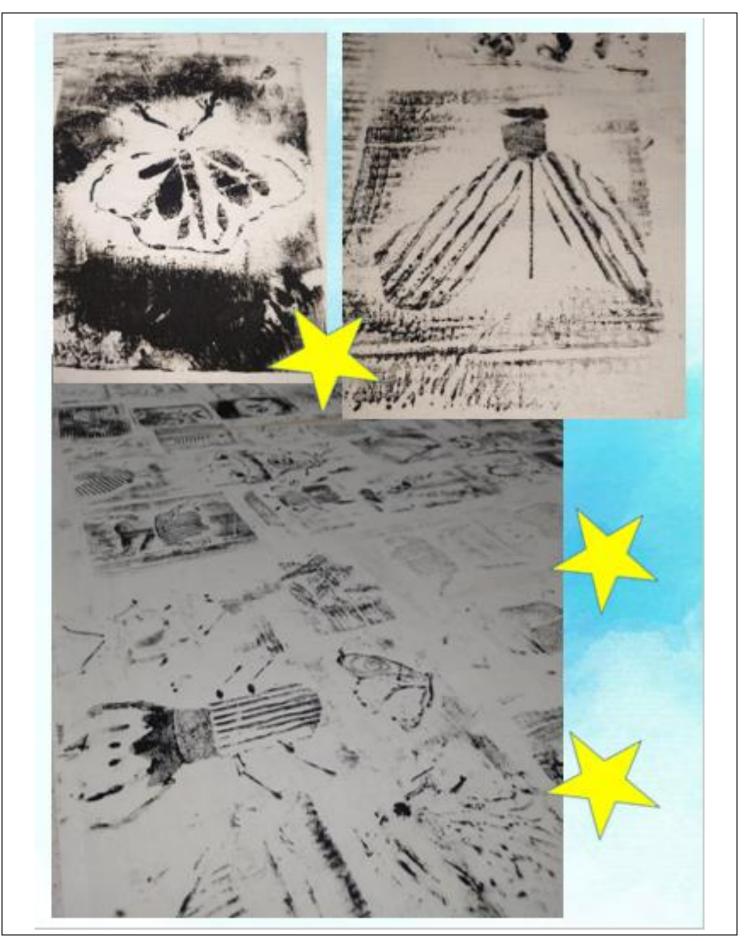




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Sports News

MESSSA District Cross Country

Representatives Year 7 Team



- Charlotte Hodgson
- Imogen Warn
- Ruby Watson
- Betsy Winney
- Harriet Garlic
- Abi Snow
- Jake Allan Lewis Hayes

 (16th) Oliver Poulteney –
 Oliver Pallet Alfie
 Kinnear Josh Mccann
 (12th)



Junior Girls

- Evie Warn (6th)
- Alisa Boreman
- Niamh Stevenson
- Chloe Squirrel

- Imogen Hutton
- Isabella Hutton
- Isabel Collins
- Alana Lewis



Junior Boys

- Josh Eida (10th)
- Jack Hayes
- Sam Macklin
- Harrison Sell
- Matt Delea (9th)
- Jake Adams



Inter Boys

- Max Sanderson (10th)
- Cameron Beaken
- George Ashton (12th)
- Sam Carey (11th)
- Joe Thomas (15th)

Senior Boys

- Calum Hayes (12th)
- Josh Hall (8th)



Senior Girls

Maddie Barker (1st)



A change of venue allowed for our more experienced runners to take on a challenge course, thankfully with a reduction in inclines. We continue to be impressed with the number of students who are developing as outstanding athletics and would like to extend our thanks to Brentwood Beagles for taking on so many of our students. This year we are pleased to announce the following results:

- Yr7 Girls = 10th
- $Yr7 Boys = 3^{rd}$
- Junior Girls = 5th

- Junior Boys = 5th
- Inter Boys = 1st
- Senior Girls Maddie Barker 1st Place

We are so pleased to see so many top 20 top places but more importantly we are very proud of our team performances! Another year of fantastic results – may this long continue!

A sad farewell to Maddie Barker who ran her last race with us at this event. Maddie has always been a driven athlete and year on year has impressed not only us but herself as well often achieving beyond where she thinks. We are very proud of Maddie and the young woman she has become. We wish her well in her future and know that she will go on to be a huge success. Thank you for your commitment and talent Maddie!

Miss Schafer PE Teacher

Year 7 Netball



Last week we got to take on Sandon School again, this time in the MESSSA League. The opposing team had a point to prove and they game out fighting! We are thankful to Sophie Peake who stepped in for

an injured Sophie Guest. Much like our last game we started well but the score was tied for a large part of the game. After a rearrangement of the team Vienna Hayes found herself in the goal attack position and influenced the game quite heavily. At the other end Rubi was making several outstanding interceptions to keep the team in the game. We fought back in the 4th quarter however, the game ended 4-3 to Sandon. Another impressive display in a ever developing team!



Year 8 Netball



The Year 8 netball team played against The Sandon School and realised a 10-5 win. After the first quarter the team were winning by one goal, however the girls went

from strength to strength in the remaining quarters. The shooting accuracy improved as the game progressed and with some excellent defending the team managed to increase its lead.

Well done to Imogen Hutton; Scarlett Sawkins; Isabel Collins; Olivia Mokrzycka; Isabella Hutton; Maddie Moon and Leoni Witchalls. A special congratulations to Olivia for playing a key role in her first match.

Year 9 Netball



The Year 9 netball team showed great determination and teamwork in the Brentwood borough netball rally. The team played against Brentwood Ursuline, Anglo European School, St Martin's School and Brentwood School. Throughout the matches the team was able to adapt to the conditions of the game as well as show huge versatility by rotating positions. Well done to Imogen Walls; Holly Marder; Lily Matthews; Millie Johnson; Liz Griffiths; Elle Holdcroft; Tiyannah Hayes; Evanthe Antoniou; Olivia Miller and Harriet Yardy.

Mrs Joughin PE Teacher

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Year 10 Boys' Football



The year 10 boys' opened up their cup campaign against a very physical Great Notley side. With the nights drawing in the low sun caused Danny problems early when a mistake lead to a strike he couldn't see. Taylor levelled the game from a deep freekick as his delivery found itself finding the back of the net. A return of fire from a wide freekick just before the half allowed a free runner head home to go into the half 1-2 down. The second half the wind was behind and the floodlights were on. Archie was able out muscle the midfielder and fire strongly past the opposing keeper.

At half time the boys were told to tactically keep up pressure on the keeper on all shots. A long pass was spilt and multiple BK players were on the scene to bundle the ball home! An excellently disciplined team these are becoming. 3-2 the lads knew the next goal would be the decider as the footballing dark arts started swirling as keeping in and throws, free kicks and goal kicks began taking their sweet time.

Alex picked the ball up just inside his half and passed to a player



before striking from 40 yards out the opposing keeper must have lost it in the lights and the game was won! Full time 4-2.

Year 7 Girls' Football

After yesterday's 1-0 against a very strong Great Baddow, team the Year 7 girls had a spring in their step. Mr Lane was looking forward to putting what we had worked on into practice.

It did not take long for the girls to make a mark on the game as some high press from Betsy and Abbie allowed Tilly to drive a low finish into the bottom corner. Boswell had a flurry of attacks but Eden was on form and refused to let anything past. One of the best goals Mr Lane has ever witnessed came in the way of a roll out from Eden in goal to Evie whose first time pass down the line to Tilly was passed inside to Betsy whose perfectly weighted touch saw her open the defence and tease the keeper into coming out. Betsy could have rounded the stranded

keeper, but she unselfishly passed across to Abbie who had an entire empty net to pass in to! Before celebrations could fizzle out some strong pressing from Anna and yesterday's goal scorer Lola saw Abbie drive a low shot from a wide position into the far corner of the goal! At half-time the score was 3-o!

The team were going to concentrate on defence in the second half. The girls knew that a clean sheet would be important for the back line of Flo, Charlotte and Anna and they refused to be beaten! As the game drew to its close a number of chances from the Captain and vice captain saw the two link up once again as Betsy found a partner in form of Abbie to score her third and the teams fourth.

A superb victory for the girls! FT 4-0 taking them to 2 played, 5 scored and 0 conceded!

Mr Lane PE Teacher



Brentwood Half Marathon & Fun Run Sunday 12th March 2023

Home | 2023 Sportstiks Brentwood Half Marathon and Fun Run

This great event in the Brentwood calendar is now in its 41st year.

Over the years the event has raised several million pounds for charity, and we expect 2023 to bounce back after Covid and be a bumper year.

For the 2022 event we decided to set up a new organising team to share some of the burden and ensure the event has a future. Details of the new team can be found in the <u>'Organising Team'</u> page.

We were delighted how this turned out and the same team will again be organising the 2023 event. We are also very pleased that our wonderful sponsor for the past few difficult years has agreed to be the key sponsor of the 2023 event. This is the local company Baker Labels, who also trade under the name Sportstiks.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 12
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING
THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2022

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STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER (NON-UNIFORM DAY) WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2022

*

FRIENDS OF BECKET KEYS AGM 9.15AM

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CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT
THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2022

*

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

*

YEAR 11
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING
THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY 2023

Becket Keys Church of England School

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