Therefore whoever hears
these sayings of mine, and
does them, I will liken him
to a wise man, which built
his house on a rock:

—Matthew 7:24

Becket Keys Church of England School

6th October 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes....

"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."

Matthew 7 v24-26

During the prayer meetings this week, I have often been thinking of this short and very famous parable in St. Matthew's Gospel. The thing that has struck me is that there is very little detail regarding what the wise man used to build his house. If you compare the story with say, the Three Little Pigs, the emphasis there is very much on what the

building is made from and how it is put together.

However, in the parable that Jesus told the key is to build on His foundation. If you anchor your building into Him, it will be strong in times of trouble.

Our school is built on the foundation of Christ. As students walk in each day, they walk past our foundation stone which says: "Christ the Cornerstone".

In everything we do we aim to start by thinking about our Christian values. "What would Jesus do?" What is the respectful thing to do? What is the caring attitude to take? What is the honest thing to say? With these constant reminders we aim to build a school with Christ as our rock

.....contd. on page 2



Geography in the News
Year 13 students have been studying recent events in the news.

Page 3-4

Mandarin Department
We have two new staff joining this department.

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English Department

Book recommendations for student who are interested in mystery stories.

Page 6-8

Harvest Appeal

We are collecting donations again this year for the Brentwood Foodbank. Kindly donate if you can.

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.....contd. From page 1

I have been speaking to some Year 7s about the work they have done over the summer for the Head Teacher's Challenge. They always speak enthusiastically about picking up litter, making meals for other people, playing games with younger children and going to church to light a candle (amongst many other things). I reminded them that many of the tasks they undertake are not just fun, but rewarding because they enable them to live out the values that God has built into the human character. We are at our best when we live according to his ways.

I have been delighted to hear and read feedback from our Open Mornings and I look forward to our Open Evenings coming up on 12th and 19th October. Visitors at such events are always impressed by the character and conduct of our students and staff.

After school, yesterday, I stood in the road talking to the crossing patrol staff and heard once again how our students stand out compared to their expectations of teenagers. It is great to hear that the foundation is what counts no matter where they are. That is the true test of character: consistency. It is one thing to conduct yourself beautifully in front of your parents and teachers. Quite another to do it when perhaps you might think that no one is really looking.

I am writing this in my office at the end of another week thinking about all we have achieved over these last eleven years since we opened in 2012. Once again, I must give all the glory to God, who is our foundation; to the Holy Spirit who is with us each day; and to Jesus Christ: our model to follow.

May you find joy and peace in your endeavours as you look to build on the rock of Christ.

Enjoy the weekend.

Mr Scott-Evans Head Teacher



Join the Teen Library Hang-out!



At Shenfield Temporary Library

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2023 10AM - 5PM

WE'RE BOOKS BUT NOT JUST BOOKS!

MORNING (10am - 1pm)

- Super Mario League with Prizes
- · Free Pokémon Lucky Dip and Raffle
- · Manga Drawing
- Comic Book Villains
- · Free hot chocolate and snacks!

ALL DAY (10am - 5pm)



- · Borrow graphic fiction using Borrowbox!
- Teen fiction special







Win an official Pokémon Quaxly plush in our free raffle!

Geography News of The Week

GEOGRAPHY IN THE NEWS

ROSEBANK OIL CRISIS

The UK's largest untapped oil reserve has been given the green light to start pumping barreled oil. Rosebank reserve, located North of Scotland, has an estimated 300 million barrels of oil available. It is the last major undeveloped oil site in the UK and considering that there have been various large-scale protests over recent years regarding other oil sites such as Cambo oil field, the Norwegian state 'oil giant' Equinor are planned to start pumping Rosebank's oil from 2027.

The UK Government recently gave the go ahead amid claims that this plan could provide the UK with energy security. However, most of this oil is reportedly going to be sold to Europe.

This plan has angered hundreds of environmental groups and has resulted in oil protests appearing all over the country. Critics have said that Rosebank won't make an enormous difference to the UK economy, so is this plan worth the damage the environment will suffer?





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HOW MUCH HAS THE HS2 COST YOU?



SCRAPPING NORTHERN LEG SAVES TAXPAYER £800

The HS2 is a high-speed rail intended to connect London with cities in the north such as Manchester and Birmingham. Rishi Sunak, the British Prime Minister has announced plans to scrap the northern leg or "phase 2" (see map below) saving the average British taxpayer up to £800, or the upper bracket taxpayers approximately £4000.



WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

With the costs of the HS2 rail line spiraling out of control, demands were being made for the Prime Minister to scrap for Northern leg, (connecting London up to Marsden). On October 1st, the Birmingham to Marsden (Phase 2) line was scrapped, after the London to Birmingham leg alone (phase 1) has been estimated to cost approximately £99bn, compared to the proposed statistic of £45bn in 2019, sparking outrage for the British tax-payer.

WHEN CAN WE EXPECT FURTHER NEWS ON THE HS₂?

According to the HS2 official website, "exciting new updates are coming in the next 18-24 months", with signaling systems being at the forefront of these developments. These claims have been criticised by many, as the finishing date for the line to be completed has been moved from 2026 to 2029-2033. Because of constant rising bills and construction issues, concerns are being raised about the cost of this on taxpayers even with the second leg scrapped and furthermore, uncertainty about when this line will finally be completed.

New Staff – Mandarin Department



Miss Sherry Jia Mandarin Teacher

大家好!

Hello everyone! I am Miss Jia and I am really delighted to be a supporting teacher at the excellent Mandarin department at Becket Keys. I am currently studying for a master's degree on "Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages". Coming here to support Mandarin teaching, under the guidance of Becket Keys and UCL IOE Confucius Institution, is part of the work experience of this degree. I am so pleased to have this opportunity. In my spare time, I have many hobbies. My favourite one is the traditional Chinese instrument -Guzheng. I am also skilled at a lot of traditional Chinese arts such as Chinese dancing, Paper Cuttings, Chinese knotting, Taijiquan, etc. Since I came to the school, I have been warmly welcomed by staff and students. I am looking

forward to having a meaningful time with everyone here.



Ms Linyan Tian Mandarin Teacher

Hi! I am delighted to be part of the wonderful Mandarin team at Becket Keys as a trainee teacher from UCL and have already enjoyed the start of my first term.

I started to teach Mandarin in 2016, since then I have had the pleasure of teaching language at different levels at universities in both China and UK.

In my spare time, I enjoy reading, hiking, and going to live music events.

I am truly excited to dive into the classroom atmosphere and begin learning in this lovely community.



Due to the Open Event on Thursday 12th October the school will finish at 2.20pm and so student will be heading home early. There will be no clubs running on that day.

School will start at 10.30am on Friday 13th October.



Chamber Concert Runcie Hall Friday 13th October from 6pm.

This concert features students from various year groups, some of whom are preparing for performance exams.

The concert is free of charge and no tickets required.

English Department – Reading Recommendations

This month the Year 7s have been reading 'Dead Man's Cove' in form time. This is a mystery novel that tells the story of a child who goes to live with her uncle in Cornwall and encounters many mysteries. If you enjoy this genre, here are some recommended reads:



Cogheart Peter Bunzl

Lily's life is in mortal peril. Her father is missing and now silvereyed men stalk her through the shadows. What could they want from her?

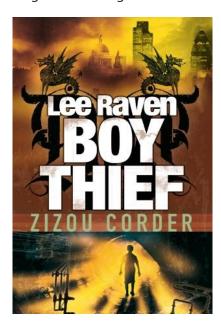
With her friends—Robert, the clockmaker's son, and Malkin, her mechanical fox—Lily is plunged into a murky and menacing world. Too soon Lily realizes that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart...

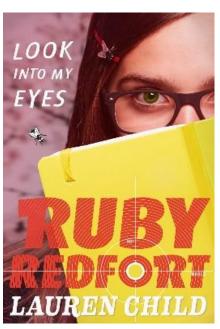


Boy Thief Lee Raven

Lee Raven, boy thief, has stolen something he really didn't mean to.

Now he faces a perilous flight through London (and the murky sewers below) as he tries to escape capture – because Lee has stolen the Book of Nebo, a book that has existed for thousands of years and tells every story and legend known to man. It's priceless. Some will even kill to possess it. The pressure mounts and the future of Nebo is in Lee's hands – can he prevent the most dangerous ending of them all?





Ruby Redfort Lauren Child

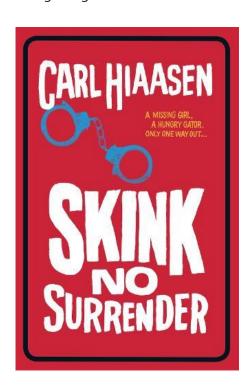
Ruby Redfort is a genius codecracker, a daring detective, and a gadget-laden special agent who just happens to be a 13-year-old girl. She and her slick side-kick butler, Hitch, foil crimes and get into loads of scrapes with evil villains, but they're always icecool in a crisis.

School Library Opening Times

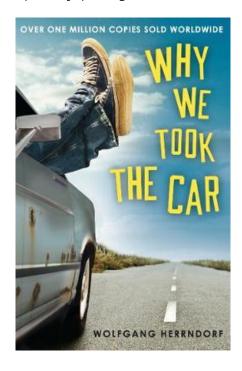
Tuesday 12.50pm — 1.20pm Wednesday 12.00-12.30pm Thursday 12.50pm — 1.20pm Friday 12.00-12.30pm This month the Year 8s have been reading 'The Escape' in form time. This is an adventure novel which tells the story of a boy who has to become a spy! If you enjoy this genre, here are some recommended reads:

Skink No Surrender Carl Hiaasen

Typical Malley - to avoid being shipped off to boarding school, she takes off with some guy she met online. Poor Richard - he knows his cousin's in trouble before she does. Wild Skink - he's a ragged, one-eyed ex-governor of Florida, and enough of a renegade to think he can track Malley down. With Richard riding shotgun, the unlikely pair scour the state, undaunted by blinding storms, crazed pigs, flying bullets and giant gators.





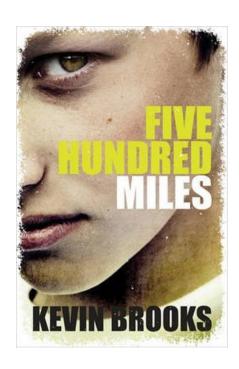


Why we Took the Car Wolfgang Herrndorf

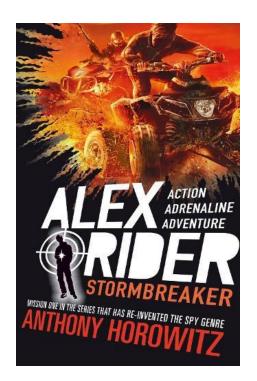
Mike doesn't get why people think he's boring. Sure, he doesn't have many friends. (OK, zero friends.) And everyone laughs at him when he reads his essays out loud in class. And he's never invited to parties. But one day Tschick, the odd new boy at school, shows up at Mike's house out of the blue. He dares him to go on a road trip with him. No parents, no map, no destination. Will they get hopelessly lost in the middle of nowhere? Probably. Will they meet crazy people and get into serious trouble? Definitely. But will they ever be called boring again? Not a chance.

Five Hundred Miles Kevin Brooks

For brothers Cole and Ruben it's another rainy morning in the badlands of East London, selling dodgy paperwork for even dodgier motors. But arriving in a grimy pub on their latest errand, the brothers stumble across a trio of gangsters, a beautiful young girl and a monkey in a cage - and their entire day is knocked off course. They soon find themselves fleeing in a hot-wired car, girl and chattering monkey in tow, surrounded by police. Their final destination: Oban, five hundred miles north, where they hope to find sanctuary.



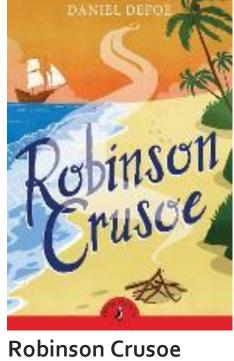
This month the Year 9s have been reading 'Blood Red Road' in form time. This is an adventure novel which tells the story of a girl who goes on a mission to save her brother! If you enjoy this genre, here are some recommended reads:



Gold of the Gods Mission Survival Bear Grylls

Beck Granger is lost in the jungle with no food, no compass, and no hope of rescue.

But Beck is no ordinary teenager he's the world's youngest survival expert. If anyone can make it out alive, he can.



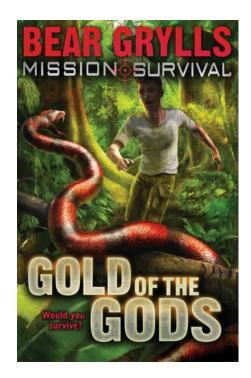
Robinson Crusoe Daniel Defoe

Who has not dreamed of life on an exotic isle, far away from civilization? Here is the novel which has inspired countless imitations by lesser writers, none of which equal the power and originality of Defoe's famous book. Robinson Crusoe, set ashore on an island after a terrible storm at sea, is forced to make do with only a knife, some tobacco, and a pipe. He learns how to build a canoe, make bread, and endure endless solitude. That is, until, twenty-four years later, when he confronts another human being.

Storm Breaker An Alex Rider Story Anthony Horowitz

In the first book in the number one bestselling Alex Rider series by Anthony Horowitz, fourteenyear-old Alex is forcibly recruited into MI6.

Armed with secret gadgets, he is sent to investigate Herod Sayle, a man who is offering state-of-theart Stormbreaker computers to every school in the country. But the teenage spy soon finds himself in mortal danger.







Book of the Month -October



At an elite boarding school in the English countryside, Nigerian cousins Iyanu and Kitan are thrown into the middle of a schoolwide conspiracy when everyone's juicy secrets are released "Burn Book style" the week before the annual Valentine's Day Ball...

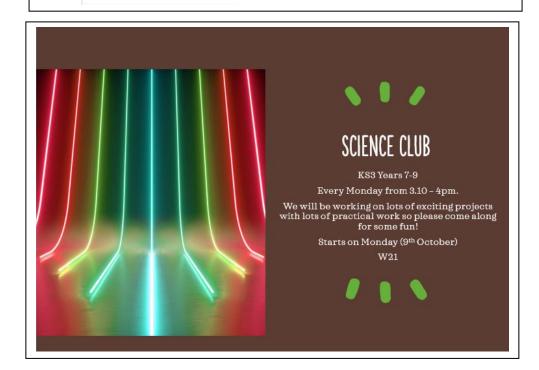
Within the walls of Wodebury Hall, reputation is everything. But aspiring photographer lyanu is more comfortable observing things safely from behind her camera.

For Iyanu's estranged cousin Kitan, life seems perfect. She has money, beauty and friends like queen bee Heather. But as a Nigerian girl in a school as white and insular as Wodebury, Kitan struggles with the personal sacrifices needed to keep her place - and the protection she gets - within the exclusive popular crowd.

Then, photos from lyanu's camera are stolen and splashed across the school-each with a juicy secret written on it. With everyone's dirty laundry suddenly out in the open, the school explodes in chaos, and the whispers accusing lyanu of being the one behind it all start to feel like déjà vu.

Each girl is desperate to unravel the mystery of who stole the photos and why. But exposing the truth will change them all forever.

A whip-smart, highly entertaining novel bursting with drama, gossip and romance, placing two black girls at the heart of a mystery in a prestigious English boarding school.





Homework Club is available for all students. Every afternoon after school students can stay until 4.20pm and complete their homework in C11.

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!



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

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

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





If you are doing shopping online. Why not see if you can help raise some funds for FoBK through your online purchases in a few easy steps?

Click here, then:

- Click 'Sign up and support this cause'.
- If new to Easyfundraising then set up an account.
- Browse the hundreds of online shops who participate in the scheme and go shopping! As long as you go into the online sites through the Easyfundraising site, you will register a donation to FoBK. You can even get an App for your phone! It will not cost you a penny!

If already a member, then why not refer a friend? FoBK will get a bonus when each person you refer makes a purchase.

Parent/Teacher Subject Consultation Evenings

These online events are a chance for parents to speak with individual teachers about the progress their son/daughter is making in each subject. However, if you ever have any concerns please contact the school via office@becketkeys.org or via the contact page on the school website.

Year 13 Thursday 2nd November 2023

Year 8 Thursday 9th November2023

Year 12 Thursday 16th November 2023

Year 11 Thursday 11th January 2024

Year 9
Thursday

1st February 2024
Followed by a Year 9 — Options Evening
Thursday
15th February 2024

Year 7 Thursday 29th February 2023

Year 10 Thursday 13th June 2024



Harvest Festival Foodbank Appeal

Each year, to coincide with the celebration of the Harvest Festival in local churches, our school supports the Brentwood Food Bank, recognising the need to help local people in crisis. The circumstances surrounding a crisis are unique to every individual, so the Food Bank partners with frontline care professionals, such as health visitors, social workers and other community-based support workers, who are able to identify people facing hunger and refer them. As well as receiving nutritionally balanced 3-day food parcels and other essential products, people are welcomed with a cup of tea, listened to, and signposted to agencies that are able to help resolve the underlying causes of their crisis.

Brentwood Foodbank is a collaborative project that seeks to engage with the whole community to tackle food poverty in our local area. They are currently struggling and having to buy food on a weekly basis to keep up with demand caused by the cost of living crisis. Our Harvest Collection will be valuable in helping to ensure this charity can provide short-term emergency food.

The Brentwood Foodbank has stated that the following items are most needed at this time:

Tinned goods: potatoes, spaghetti, soap, tomatoes, meat, fish, custard, rice pudding, ravioli, All Day Breakfast Packets/bags of rice, pasta, noodles, instant mash, cereal, biscuits
Tea bags (40s and 80s)

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Washing powder/liquids, shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toilet rolls

Nappies (size 4, 5 and 6)

Our Foodbank collection will be commencing on **Monday 9**th **October**. Students can bring donations to Reception before school and add items to our harvest display. Staff, visitors and friends of Becket Keys can place any donations in Reception at their convenience. The final date for donations is **Thursday 19th October**.

If you are able, please add some of the items listed above to your shopping list.



Let us pray:

Lord of the Harvest, 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.

Amen.

Mrs. Sharp Deputy Headteacher









NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2023 SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

11.00am - 12.30pm

We are planning to hold a nearly new uniform sale on 14th October. We are always happy to accept donations. If you have uniform that is no longer required, then kindly send it into reception as soon as possible. We would be especially grateful for kilts, blazers and Sixth Form uniform.

Many thanks!



Remember that 'Early is on Time and Late is Unacceptable!'

All students should be at school by 8.20am, ten minutes before their first lesson.



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.

Prayer Group

Hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans every Wednesday during term time 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



The School Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray that Becket Keys Church of England School will be a blessing to the people of Brentwood.

Encouraged by the example of Peter, Thomas of Canterbury and all your saints, may its students know the beauty of your truth;

May its staff know the joy of your service;

May its headteacher and governors be led by a vision of your kingdom;

And together may the school community know your Holy Spirit in its midst.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Songs of Praise Sunday 8 October at 6pm

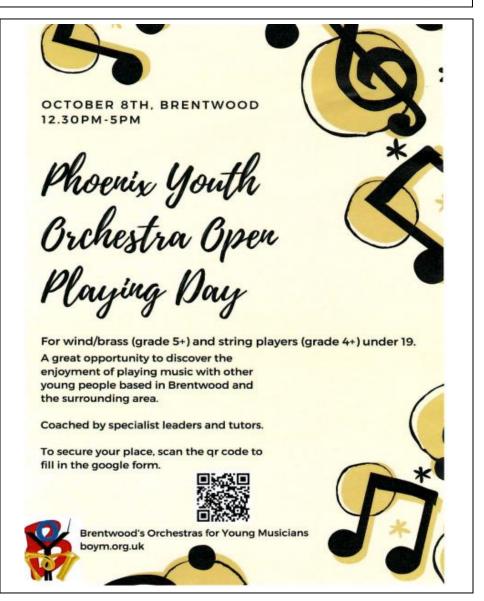
Like most churches, the Christ Church community loves to sing. We enjoy a wide variety of music from traditional hymns, anthems, modern praise songs to action songs. So whatever type of music you like, there should be something for you at this service.

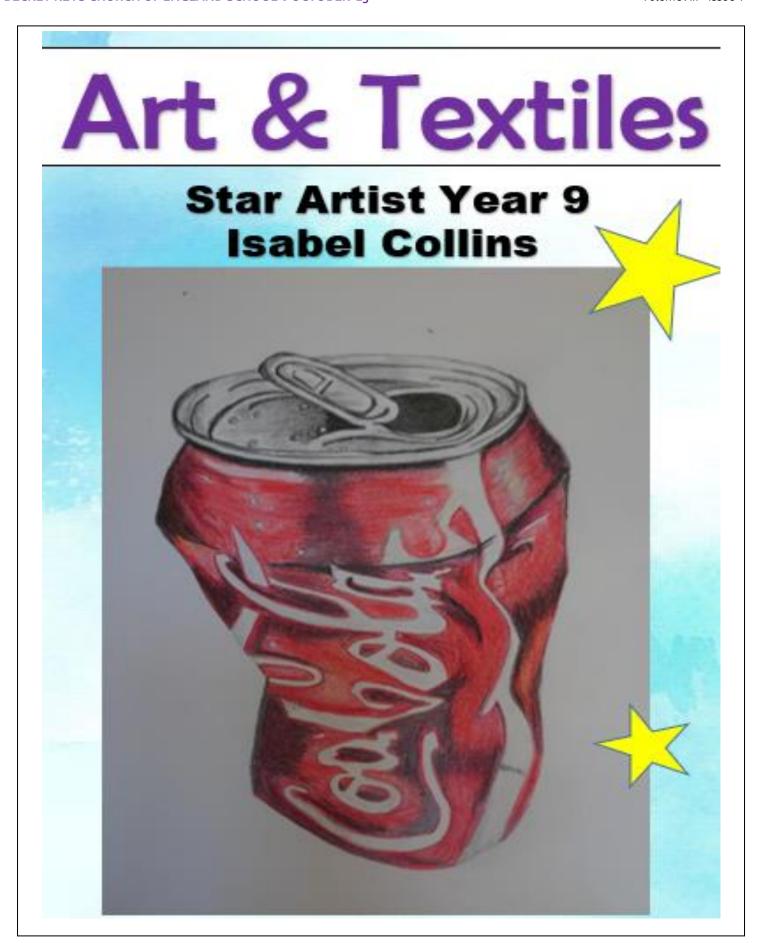
Refreshments will be available afterwards.

Christ
Church
Community
event



www.christchurchwarley.org-





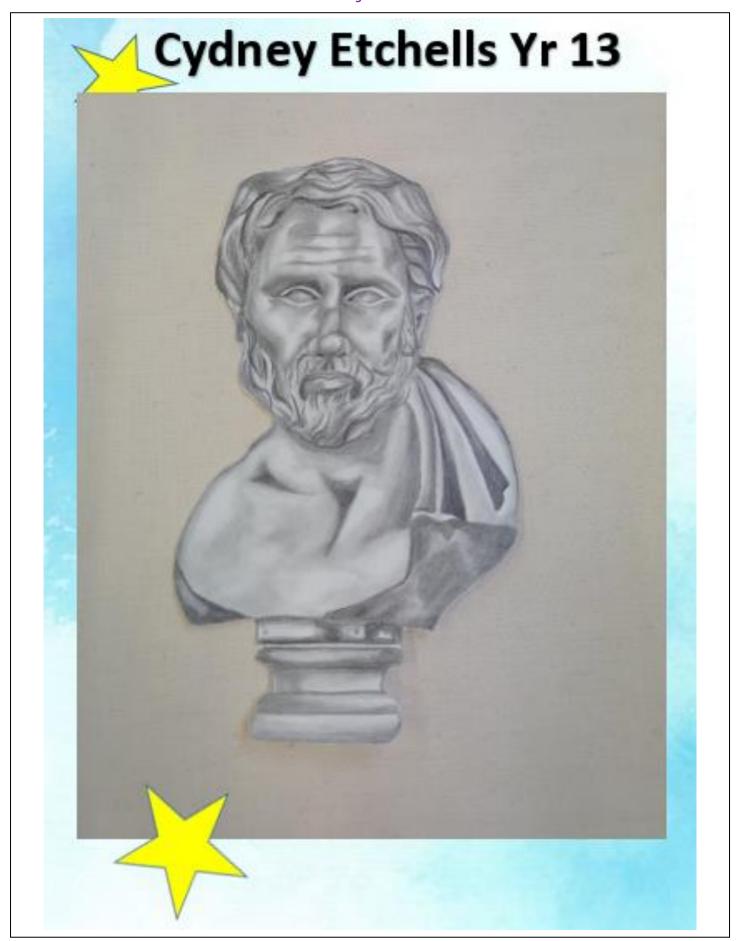
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Sports News

On Friday 29th September, our U14 netball team took on their first Essex Cup fixture against a well drilled New Hall team. The game started with a confident bout of goals in both ends, our girls were showing off their talent and they received a strong counter response from New Hall.

At times, the ball was lost too often, giving New Hall the opportunity to take the lead. Despite our best efforts, the strength of New Hall led them to take the win.

We continue to strengthen our U14 side for their upcoming league games.

TEAM:

Scarlett Sawkins Isabella Hutton Imogen Hutton Maddie Moon Lulu Catling Harmani Hungan Belle Weaver Olivia Mokrzycka

Final Score: 29-8. Better luck next time girls!

Ms Schafer Head of PE









DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OPEN EVENT FOR PROSPECTIVE YEAR 7 STUDENTS

THURSDAY ${\bf 12}^{TH}$ OCTOBER 2023 EARLY FINISH FOR STUDENTS 2.40pm

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT
THURSDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2023

INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2023

ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY
YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS
MONDAY 23RD OCTOBER –
FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2023

INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
WEDNESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2023

LAST DAY OF TERM

STUDENT HALF DAY

WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2023

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2023 –
TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2024

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

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane Brentwood, Essex CM15 9DA 01277 286600

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

X:

- @BecketKeys
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- @BecketKeysArt
- @BecketKeysSci
- @BecketKeysDT
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