

Becket Keys Church of England School

26th January 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Mrs Sharp, Deputy Headteacher writes......

Courageous Advocacy: Empowering our school community to make a difference.



What kind of person was Jesus? What kind of life did He lead? If we are truly to follow Him, we must take a fresh look at His life on earth. We must follow in His footsteps and imitate Him.

This week, Mr. Fenn has been leading collective worships for all

year groups on the theme of courageous advocacy.

Courageous advocacy is a quality we are striving to further develop in our community, inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ. Jesus himself was a courageous advocate for justice, compassion and love. He cared for the poor and the marginalised. He taught us to love our neighbours as ourselves and to extend a helping hand to those who in need. Mr. Fenn explained to students that the Bible calls us to imitate Jesus:



.....contd. on page 2



Book of the Month

Last chance to view this month's recommendation from the English Department.

Page 4

Music Department
Announcing our next Chamber
Concert.

Page 5

Extra-Curricular Club

A new club every Monday for those interested in Computer Science.

Pages 6

Art & Textiles

Examples of the excellent work from our talented students.

Pages 8-10

Sports News

Details of some recent fixtures for the school teams.

Page 11

......contd. from Page 1

'Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.'

Ephesians 5:1-2

We are called to:

'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.'

Proverbs 31:8-9

Through our partnership with the Brentwood Foodbank, we can put these teachings into action. By donating food items or perhaps even volunteering our time, we are following in the footsteps of Jesus.

BRENTWOOD FOODBANK HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

The Brentwood Foodbank have recently shared concerning statistics about rising hunger and hardship in our local community. There has been a 67% increase in the number of people needing support over the past year. Winter is proving to be difficult for many families who use their services. During 2023, Brentwood Foodbank provided 120,000 meals to Brentwood residents referred to them in crisis. Brentwood Foodbank further illustrated this increasing

need through the following statistics:

'In the whole of May 2021, we supported 180 people.

On Tuesday 19th December 2023 we supported 180 people in one day.

During December 2023 we supported 1,020 people, of whom 391 were children.'

As a school, traditionally we have encouraged foodbank donations as part of our Harvest Festival offering. Considering the cost-of-living crisis and this appeal for help, we are now committed to encouraging and coordinating donations on a more regular

basis, beginning with a collection throughout February.



Staff, students, visitors and friends of Becket Keys, can bring their donations directly to the collection point in Main Reception from next **Thursday 1**st **February**. The final day for donations will be **Thursday 29**th **February**. The current shortage items are listed below. The list also contains essential non-food items required by families:

Food

- UHT milk
- Tinned meat (hotdogs, meatballs etc.)
- Tinned fish
- Tinned fruit
- Sponge/rice puddings
- Coffee (small jars)
- Long-life juice
- Pasta sauce
- Tinned veg (potatoes, carrots, green beans, tomatoes)
- Tinned meals (spaghetti, chicken or veg curries, chilli)
- Tinned soup
- Jam and spreads

Non-food items

- Shower gel
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Deodorant
- Toilet rolls
- Washing up liquid
- Laundry detergent pods

As Christians, we are called to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Our partnership with Brentwood Foodbank allows us to live out this calling by providing practical support to those who are facing food insecurity. It is through acts of kindness and generosity that we can truly make a difference to the lives of others.

We encourage all students, parents and staff to embrace the Christian message of love and compassion by getting involved in this important initiative. Let us remember the words of Jesus, who said, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me' (Matthew 25:40). Every act of giving and advocacy is an opportunity to serve Christ.

In addition, please join us in prayer, as we seek to make a positive impact in the world, guided by our faith. Pray for:

People experiencing acute poverty: that they would receive the support they need and be able to find positive pathways forwards.

Food banks: that they would receive sufficient food donations, and that they would be able to respond to every person who needs their support with sensitivity and kindness.

Our society: for justice and compassion to prevail in political and economic decision-making, so that everyone is protected

from poverty and has the chance to flourish.

Pray for people in our community and beyond who are facing unemployment, ill-health, isolation or money worries. With our February foodbank collection in mind, we especially pray for those who are unable to afford enough to eat. We pray for supportive relationships, practical provision and real hope.

We are proud of our community's dedication to living out our Christian values and commitment to helping others. Let us continue

to foster a culture of compassion, empathy, and courageous advocacy within our school community, firmly rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Together, we can make a significant difference.

Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity,

Mrs Sharp Deputy Headteacher



A Message for Year 9 Parents

We would like to invite you to the Guided Curriculum Choices (options) evening which will take place:

Thursday 15th February 2024 6.00pm - Main Hall

More information will follow shortly, but for now, please put this date into your diaries. Students and parents should attend together.

Becket Keys Sixth Form Application Deadline:

9th February 2024

Join our distinctive Sixth Form at Becket Keys Church of England School by applying through our website. For tour dates please email sixthform@becketkeys.org.





Book of the Month - January



Set in 1939, 1978 and 2019, this is a sweeping story of three generations of boys in the same Iranian family as they move between the US and Iran, discovering who they are. 1939. Bobby the son of a calculating Hollywood stage mother, lands a coveted MGM studio contract. But the fairy-tale world of glamour he's thrust into has a dark side. 1978. Saeed is an engineering student with a promising future ahead of him in Tehran. But when his parents discover his involvement in the country's burgeoning revolution, they send him to safety in America, a country Saeed despises. And even worse—he's forced to live with the American grandmother he never knew existed. 2019. Moud is a gay teenager living in Los Angeles with his distant father, Saeed. When Moud gets the news that his grandfather in Iran is dying, he accompanies his dad to Tehran, where the revelation of family secrets will force Moud into a new understanding of his history, his culture, and himself.

Thought-provoking, poignant and defiant, assuredly interweaving three complex stories, timelines and characters, this is an arresting celebration of activism, forbidden love and fragile but enduring family bonds.







We are delighted to announce our first Chamber Concert of the year will be held at the Hermit Club!

The Hermit is situated just at the top of Sawyers Hall Lane, 15 Shenfield Road, Brentwood CM15 8AG.

This will be a concert where all those taking part are Becket Keys students. It will showcase performances by the bands who have been working at The Hermit for the last two terms and we will also enjoy contributions from our Year 13 music students who are preparing for their final exams.

The tickets are free however there will be a retiring collection to support our ongoing work with the Hermit Club.

You can find out more details about the Hermit Club and the work they support on the website: The Hermit Club





Nearly New Uniform Sale

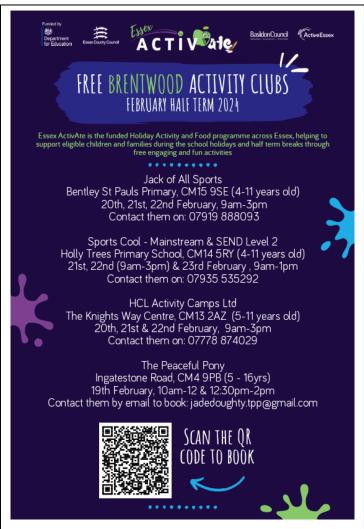
We are pleased to announce our next nearly new uniform sale.

Saturday 10th February 2024 School Reception

11.00am – 12.30pm

If you have any donations they would be happily accepted, please bring them to the school reception.





Python Code Club

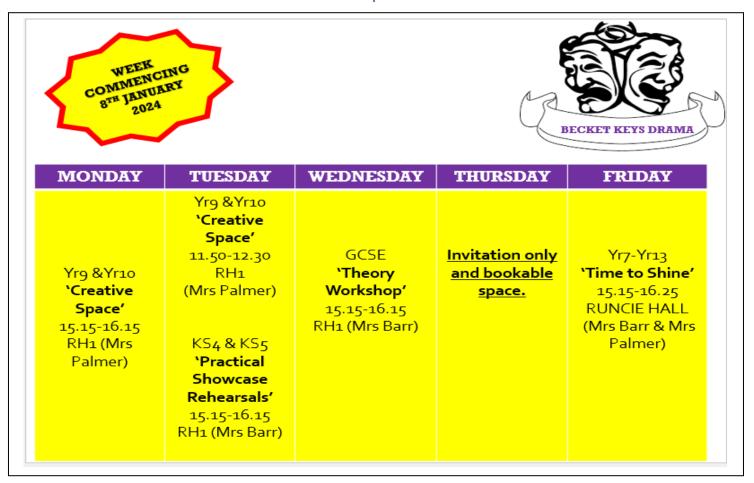
Mondays after school 3:20 - 4:30 in W03

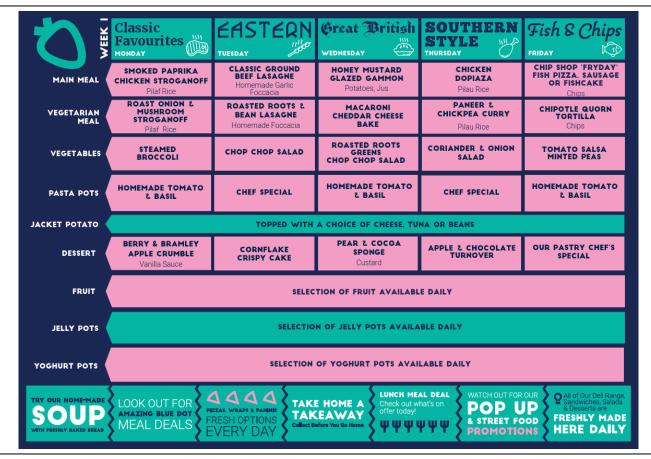
5th February – April 22nd

Prioritising Y9 who are considering taking GCSE computer science and Y10 students not currently taking GCSE computer science but are considering taking A level computer science.

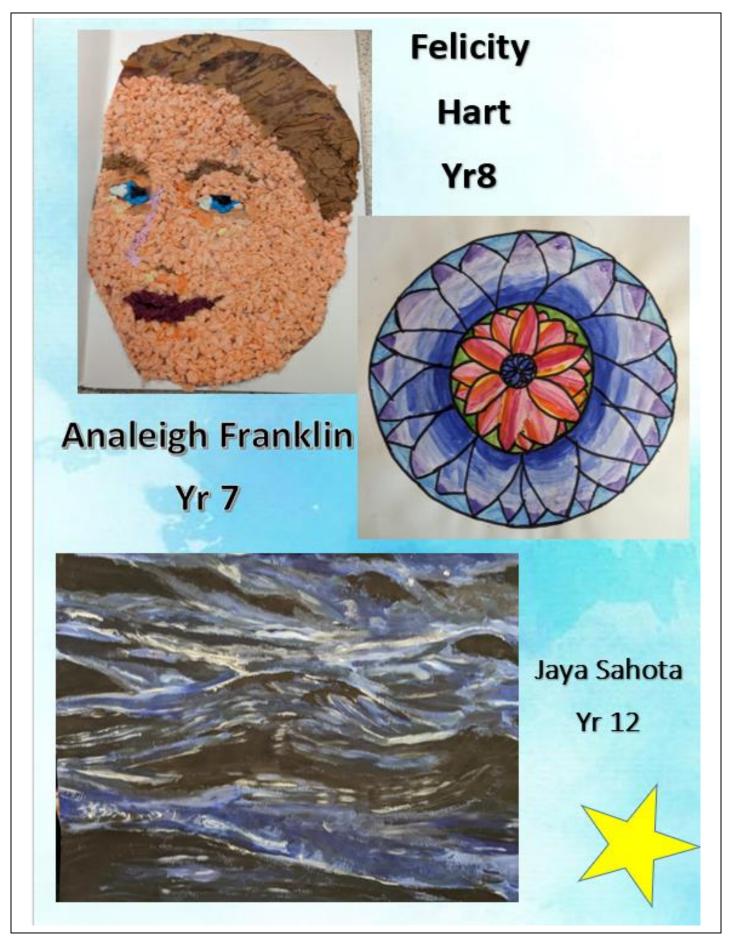
This club will support preparation for the computer science GCSE and A level entrance exams.

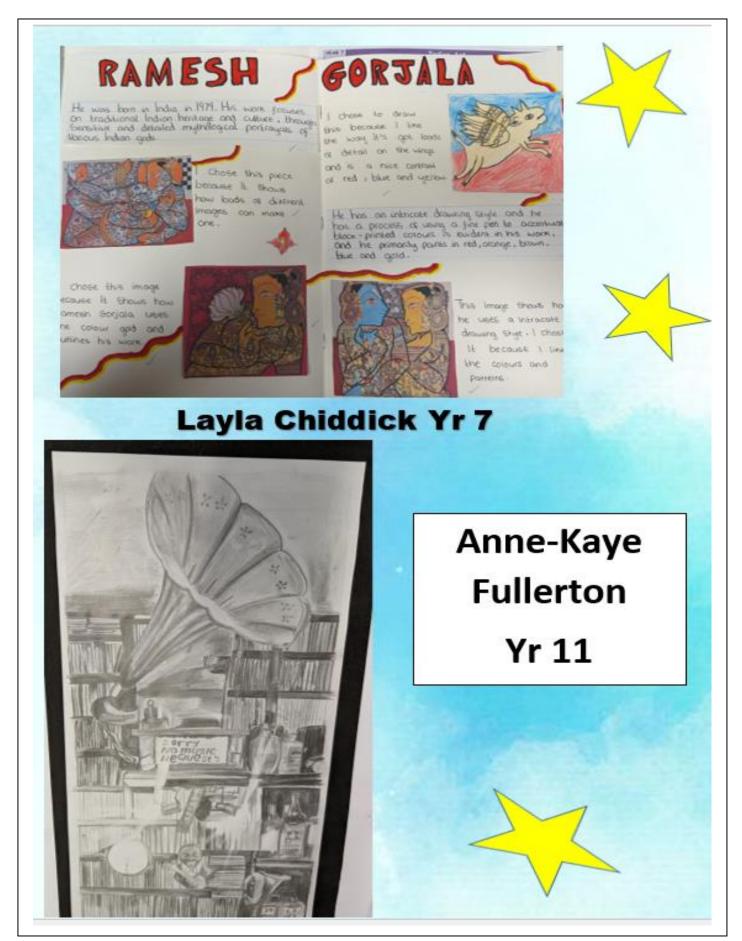
Please see Ms Pogoda in W03 to sign up if you are interested.











Page **10** of **12**

Sports News

Girls' Football Year 8

The Year 8 girls had their last round of the Essex Cup before the quarter finals, unfortunately Forrest took the win after a 5-0 scoreline. Despite the loss the girls worked very hard on the pitch and played good football, but we just could not finish. I am so proud that they got this far, and they should feel proud of themselves for all they have achieved. To get this far in the Essex Cup is a huge accomplishment!

Players of the Match:

Betsy Winney & Vienna Hayes

Miss Plunkett PE Teacher



Boys' Rugby Year 8

This fixture was a historical event for Becket Keys as it signaled the return of competitive rugby after five years! We travelled to Great Baddow to play in a festival where we were seeded against



Sandon, Ormiston and St John Payne.

The team that entered this competition was a true mixed bag of rugby players, ranging from weekend competitive players to those who were impressive in PE lessons playing for the first time! There are two words that I will use to sum up today: Heart and character.

The first game finished as a 2-0 loss (trys counted as 1). After finding ourselves two down after a few minutes, the second half allowed me to witness the fastest learning I have ever seen. After being thrown in at the deep end we were swimming against the current in the second half and without doubt would have come back had the game been longer.

During the second game we focused on our newfound strengths and got the ball to

James Stevens whose lightning pace and agility allowed him to score two with Harrison Blake scoring a powerful try. We almost threw it with inexperience as the opponents scored two late on in the game, but that heart and character allowed us to see out the win.

In the final game we played a very physical side with a lot of tall boys who would have given our minibus a good scrum! We fell short in this game and injuries set in with captain Louie Newnham taking a particularly sore one.

Harrison B, Ethan, David, Sam, Henry, Franklin, Louie, Rupert, James, Harrison S, Dan, Tate, Jensen, James D, Ollie and Archie. Honestly boys, you truly made the school proud and upheld Becket Keys values.

> Mr Lane PE Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

UCAS DEADLINE
THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2024

*

CHINESE STUDENTS VISITING
BECKET KEYS

MONDAY 29TH JANUARY – FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024

*

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING
YEAR 9

THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2024

*

YEAR 8 MANDARIN BFI TRIP
THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2024

*

YEAR 7 CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION
MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2024

*

YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING
THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2024
6.OOpm MAIN HALL

*

LENT HOLIDAY

MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY - FRIDAY 23RD
FEBRUARY 2024

*

INSET DAY
THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024
NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL

*

EASTER HOLIDAY
FRIDAY 29TH MARCH – FRIDAY 12TH APRIL
2024

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
- @MrScottEvans
- @BecketKeys6th
- @BecketKeysMusic
- @BecketKeysPE
- @BecketKeysArt
- @BecketKeysSci
- @BecketKeysDT
- @BecketKeysExams

Facebook: Becket Keys Church School