

Becket Keys Church of England School

28th June 2024

YEAR 6 STUDENTS ON THEIR INDUCTION DAY

Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22v6

Today, we had our Year 6 induction day and yesterday evening we had the Year 13 Prom. Two ends of the spectrum within 24 hours. Students starting! Students leaving!

I once heard a head teacher say that she started with caterpillars and finished with butterflies. I have had the same thoughts this week.

Our Year 6 starters are like caterpillars. Confident and capable explorers, ready for the world. Comfortable in their own skin, these students are running

their primary schools. They are the librarians, the captains, the prefects, they are the most complete versions of primary school students that anyone can be.

I was reminded of the time when our very first set of brave explorers came here for their induction day. The school site at that time was a bit of a jungle! However, we came undaunted and ready, feeling confident that we had all the skills we needed to navigate our way through.

The Year 6s who came today were a credit to their families and their schools. We were pleased with how they coped with the demands of a Becket Keys' induction day and all the expectations of finding their way

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Just like the rest of the country Becket Keys will be voting on 4th July.

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around, meeting new people and making new friends.

Yesterday evening, staff went out with our 18-year-old leavers. Dressed up in ball gowns, suits and maturely conversing together - they are almost a different being! The journey they have made from child to adult has been happening in front of me for the last 7 years. The metamorphosis that takes place is not dissimilar to that of a caterpillar going through pupa to chrysalis to butterfly! There have been times, terms, even years that have been ugly and hard. Sometimes it has been confusing and frustrating - but always miraculous and wonderful. I love working with teenagers and seeing them grow physically, mentally and spiritually.

Having the two events side by side was, I think, God's way of showing us what we achieve. Watching Year 6s here in their primary uniforms and after seeing Sixth Formers in suits and cocktail dresses in a hotel was just the juxtaposition we needed to see the full transformation.

One Sixth Former wrote me a card that said: "I have to say that you have shown me how a Godly leader should lead, thank you. This school is special...The ministry that Jesus has given you – I can see you are advancing the Kingdom of God."











I am deeply touched by these words. To have a student, stop and reflect and see what we have been trying to do with such clarity is a joy to me.

My prayer now is that they all achieve the results they deserve in their A-Levels and that they can then open their wings and fly! My prayer for the Year 6 students is that they will grow and flourish here as the cohorts have before them. I want to see them 'bear fruit – fruit that will last' and I can't wait to get started in September.

Have a lovely weekend

Mr Scott-Evans Head Teacher



Election Day at Becket Keys!

To coincide with the UK General Election on July 4, an election will also be held at Becket Keys.

Students will have the chance to choose the party that they think should govern the UK.

In the week before the election, Year 12 students and I will be delivering Collective Worship explaining the concept of a General Election and the UK's First Past the Post voting system. So that students can make an informed decision, we will also objectively share the manifesto commitments of the five main parties that are standing in English constituencies: The Conservative Party, The Labour Party, The Liberal Democrat Party, The Green Party and Reform UK.



As in the General Election, voting in the Becket Keys Election will not be compulsory. However, democracy is enriched by high



levels of participation. Evidence suggests that if young people have a positive experience of voting at a young age, then they are much more likely to continue to vote in adulthood. I encourage you to discuss the General Election at home.

The BBC has an extensive General Election section on their website, including analysis of the manifesto commitments of the parties. I look forward to sharing results with and you in the newsletter of the 5th July. It will be interesting comparing the

extent to which the Becket Keys vote aligns with the national vote.

Kieran Walker Head of Politics

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topi cs/crggn4j2lmot



Sixth Form Bridging Event



Nearly 300 students attended our Sixth Form bridging this week across two days. With over 160 attending from other schools. This event gave students an opportunity to learn more about their subject choices and explore new subjects. Year 11 students had a chance to gain some experience of what life as a Sixth Former is like, as well as getting to know each other ahead of the next two years at Becket Keys.

The day started with a Collective Worship with Mr Scott Evans to reaffirm students' understanding of the central roles that the Christian Faith and strong moral values play in the Sixth Form.

Mrs Course and Mrs Knowles then went through what support will be offered on GCSE results day and how enrolment will take place. In the subject sessions, students were introduced to the bridging

activities to complete over the summer and how to enrich their studies by enjoying wider reading materials, places to visit, documentaries, films, TV shows and podcasts.

Students got to experience the Sixth Form area for the first time and enjoy the food served at the Deli Bar. Naturally, the sweet treats at break went down very well indeed! Students sat together and the current prefect

team ran tours around the school and answered any questions that prospective students had. A highlight during free time was when the prefects led various activities for example hangman and charades. Our school community values really showed through at these times when everyone was welcomed and supported.

Our Sixth Form is growing and developing, we have received nearly 500 applications and made over 400 offers.

We wish all year 11 students a relaxing summer, a time to decompress and recover.
Students can then try our bridging activities or look up MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course) on Future Learn and get reading, this will put them in a good position for starting their studies in Year 12.

Mrs Knowles Assistant Head of Sixth Form



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External student feedback on the Bridging Event

I attended Becket Keys Bridging Day and I just wanted to say how lovely it was to be there. It was an amazing experience.

The welcoming assembly was very touching for me, especially when Mr Scott-Evans encouraged us to keep praying and reading our bibles. This meant a lot to me because I have worked very hard this year and finding time for prayer as I usually do has been difficult. It was nice to hear because I take pride in being a Christian and being in a school where Christian values are upheld made me feel welcome and comfortable.

As well as having high expectations, I really felt how much pride the teachers have in the school. Seeing the different ways in which students are supported mentally, spiritually as well as in their education and career progression gave me a wonderful and engaging sense.

I just wanted to say from the garden, the class/music rooms and the peacocks! Becket Keys showed me a peaceful, hardworking atmosphere. Most importantly thank for the spiritual encouragement, you have made me feel excited for the next stage of my education wherever that may be. Thank you all once again I really appreciated the welcome and I really like the work you are all doing for your students.

Student Achievement Kitty Anderson – Year 9





Kitty Anderson will be appearing on TV next week, in the new BBC drama, "A Good Girl's Guide to Murder", where she plays the part of "Young Pip".

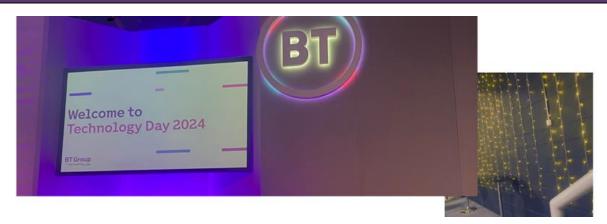
Pretty and popular high school senior Andie Bell was murdered by her boyfriend, Sal Singh, who then killed himself. It was all anyone could talk about. And five years later, Pip sees how the tragedy still haunts her town. But she can't shake the feeling that there was more to what happened that day. She knew Sal when she was a child, and he was always so kind to her. How could he possibly have been a killer?

The show will be on iPlayer from 6pm on Monday 1st July, and on Netflix later in the year. Kitty is in episode 1. Here are photos of Kitty - one with Emma Myers (the lead in the show) and one with the author Holly Jackson.

'I had a wonderful experience filming 'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder'. I play a character called Young Pip. I met so many amazing people including the author Holly Jackson and the actor Emma Myers. I really enjoyed meeting all these new people and filming my scenes. The premiere is on Monday which I'm really looking forward to going to, I am sure it will be great fun and I am looking forward to seeing everyone again.'

Kitty Anderson

Computer Science — Technology Day 2024



For about a week leading up to this trip my entire class was very excited, it was the only thing we spoke about and when the day of the trip arrived, I knew I was not going to be disappointed.

The moment we walked into the venue I was in absolute awe of how beautifully decorated the hall was, the walls were covered in rose gold fairy lights and it looked like there was an undertone of purple LED light to them as well. My first thought at seeing this was "I need to take a picture!"

A steward led us to our seats and some people were handed a clip board with a form to complete. A short time later the speaker walked on stage and told us about himself; he spoke about his education and qualifications and his role at British Telecom. We were all listening to what we thought was a regular career talk when suddenly he revealed that whilst we listening to him the clip boards being passed around asking for information for the chance to 'win a free iPad' was a

test! It was a lesson about sharing data with people you do not know as it can be dangerous.

At then end of his speech he played a catchy jingle on how important it is to keep data safe. He then noted that the song was going to be stuck in our heads for the next 30 minutes; he failed to mention that the song would actually be stuck in <u>my</u> head for the next few days!



As soon as he finished his talk the crowd erupted in applause and each school was sent to participate in their respective daily activities. Our first activity was a small careers fair a called 'The World of Work'. Here different tech companies told us about their organisation and roles within them. We learned about the company 'swim lane' and how it helps educate people on keeping their information safe.

We were then quizzed about our knowledge of computer safety in exchange for some of their company merchandise.

Our group then walked up to BT where we saw a world map of cyber-attacks currently happening all over the world.

Our final stop was with Huawei here we learned about how tiny microchips were made, how much they cost to make and how high the demand is for them. After the 'World of Work' my class and I played cyber games that were set up in the competitive way. We were first given a crossword to complete which helped us crack a code and then we practised binary conversion, simple coding deciphering codes and much more.





After lunch we went to one of the showcases. In this showcase we learned that BT is trying to make it easier for emergency services like the fire brigade to respond to emergencies by making sure they know all the details when they are on their way to the scene. One of the things they are currently working on is a virtual reality programme that gives firefighters information such as how many people are in a burning building, how many floors the building has and access to the building security cameras. This will be invaluable to those who are attending the location.

Once we had viewed this virtual reality step, we headed towards a room that had a big tank that was pumping some kind of liquid, we later found out that this was a mix of several different chemicals. The chemicals used the energy created to heat a house and so would save money for power.

Finally, we went to a projection room (this was probably the coolest part of the whole day). In this room the projector shows you what you want on three walls in the room and some lasers then made the walls touch sensitive which turns it interactive! We were informed that this was a new interactive way to make learning much more interesting.



Splicing wires

We were given two wires, and our task was to splice them together or join them so that they become one long wire. This is to show how to make the wire longer so that it is easier to connect in houses.



Fibre Optics Underground



Here we were given a visual demonstration of how the fibre optic cables can go underground and saw how they are connected to the home. We were shown how fibre optic cables are put in the poles by professionals they showed us the proper way to put on harness and how to safely climb the poles one of my classmates ended up being a volunteer to demonstrate how this is done.

All in all, this was a very informative and enjoyable day!

Ebun Awobadejo Year 10



Year 10 MEP University Tour — Queen Mary University London

Last Thursday on 20th June 2024, our Year 10 Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP) students visited Queen Mary University London (Mile End campus). Students not only met Year 10 students from 8 other schools, had two sessions on university life and opportunities, but also had a campus tour led by the student ambassadors. Even though university life is 3 years away, students were excited to see what awaits them.

In the afternoon, students from all 9 schools gathered to watch the tourism promotional videos they made during the 2-day intensive study prior to this visit. Out of the six videos our cohort made, three were shortlisted and the quality of which were deemed very high by the organiser. MEP will inform us of the winning pieces in a couple of weeks.

All in all, this was an exciting and thought-provoking experience. We are very grateful for Queen Mary and the Mandarin Excellence Programme for putting this together.

Miss Lin Head of Mandarin









4th Chinese Bridge Under-12 Competition

We won the final!

Some of our Year 7 students entered this year's "Under-12 Chinese Bridge" competition in the UK, organised by the Centre for Language Education and Cooperation. All of them got through to the final! They put in a lot of time and effort into this event. We were extremely pleased with their enthusiasm and determination during the process.

The theme of the event is 'Chinese, Joy and Fun'. And the aim is to provide a stage for young Chinese learners worldwide to demonstrate their Chinese language proficiency, to stimulate their motivation of learning Mandarin. Participants are students aged between 5 and 12 years old (only non-native speakers were allowed to take part). They are evaluated on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, and on Chinese culture.

On Thursday, 27th June, the final took place via Zoom. We won both the KS3 individual and the group categories!

The winners are:

Individuals: Ava Shorter (third

place)

Year 7 group: Charan Chatti, Connie Pallet, George Lawrence

(first place)





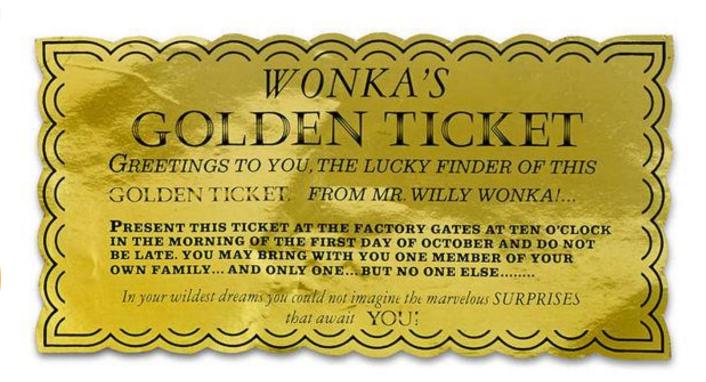






We are all so proud of our students' achievements!

Mrs Zhang Mandarin Excellence Programme Co-ordinator



Performance Dates: Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th July 2024. Doors open at 6:30pm, curtain up at 7:00pm.

Tickets are now on sale for the spectacular Becket Keys production of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.'
All tickets are priced at £10.50 each and are available on Parent Pay. If you do not have a student at the school and therefore do not have a Parent Pay account for Becket Keys, please ask at reception.

Last year, School of Rock was a complete sell out, so get your tickets now!

Lastly, you may be aware that certain characters have been double cast again this year. We found this a successful approach last year when producing School of Rock and have repeated it this year. Double casting enables more students to experience undertaking a larger role. Therefore, students have been grouped into two casts: a purple and gold cast. They are aware of which cast they are a part of. The casts will be called in the following order for the performances:

Monday matinée: GOLD CAST

(Primary School performance, no tickets on sale)

Monday evening: PURPLE CAST

Tuesday evening: PURPLE CAST

Wednesday evening: GOLD CAST

We look forward to seeing you!

Donations for Fundraising Raffle

We are appealing for donations for the raffle which will be held on the evenings of the Charlie and the Chocolate Factory production.

Do you have anything that you could kindly donate?

All proceeds raised from the raffle will go towards the costs incurred in putting on the school production.

Please bring your donations into school and either leave them in Reception, or bring them to the Staff Room in Carey Building. Please ensure that they are marked for my attention.

Thank you for your support.
Mrs L Simmons



Each year, for one of our Enrichment Days, we run a Careers Fair for our students.

The focus is on inspiring future choices and decisions. This year, we will be hosting this again on July 11th and we are in need of volunteers from a range of careers. We would like professionals to talk to our students about their career; the pathway into the job, the opportunities, skills and experiences that are involved.

If you are able to support us in any way, please do get in touch via careers@becketkeys.org. Ms North will be able to give you some more information including the timings for the day.

We appreciate your time!



The Coronation garden is looking lovely in the sunshine. The weather has improved (finally!) and the students are able to enjoy the outdoor spaces around the school.

Please make sure that your son/daughter has adequate drinking water for the day. This is especially important during this spell of warm weather on the days they have PE. Students can wear a plain hat during their outdoor sessions and of course sun cream is a must!



Remember that drinks are available for purchase from the Bistro at break and lunch.

Water fountains are available in the Bistro and Orangery for students to use at the beginning of the day and during break and lunchtimes



If you are a student considering your career options when you finish your studies, then you may be interested in a virtual Career Insights Day. You will gain an insider's perspective on the dynamic and rewarding opportunities available in Financial Services. Featuring experts from the Financial Adviser Academy and Early Careers teams, these expert-led sessions will provide you with valuable insights and connections to navigate and succeed in this exciting sector.

Here's a glimpse of what you can expect:

- Gain insights: Discover the vast range of roles available in financial services as you engage in conversations with real practitioners.
- Dedicated training: Participate in comprehensive training sessions covering personal branding, CV writing and interview skills.
- Q&A sessions: Ask questions you want answered and discover what a day in life is like for a financial adviser.
- **Career development**: Craft your next steps with interactive sessions that help you to select the right career choice for you.
- Certificate of completion: At the end of the programme, you
 will be awarded a Certificate of Completion, validating your
 participation and commitment.

You can register for this event here: <u>Personal Information - St.</u> <u>James's Place Financial Adviser Academy Careers Insights Day (cvent.com)</u>



Speakers
Take a look at some of the

<u>Take a look at some of the</u> <u>speakers scheduled for this event</u>



Matt Cordas Senior Marketing Manager



Scott Stevens
Establishment
Commercial Director



Hannah Steiner Consultant - Social Media & Content



Sophia Lerche-Thomsen Chartered Financial Planner





MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Yr9 &Yr10 'Creative Space' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Palmer)	Yr9 &Yr10 'Creative Space' 11.50-12.30 RH1 (Mrs Palmer)	GCSE 'Theory Workshop' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Barr)	V-7 V-1 2	
	KS4 & KS5 'Practical Showcase Rehearsals' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Barr)			Yr7-Yr13 'Time to Shine' 15.15-16.25 RUNCIE HALL (Mrs Barr & Mrs Palmer)

View your Carmel Jane Photography

Becket Keys School

Production— July 2024

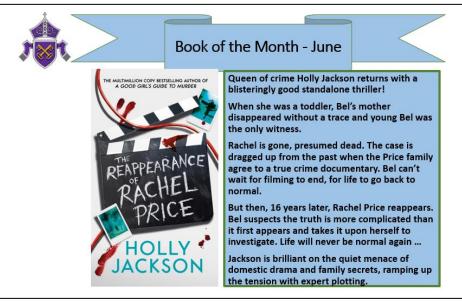
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The School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans is every Wednesday at 8.45am.

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



Members of the school community are also welcome to join the Eucharist which is held every Friday at 1.00pm in the John Wraw chapel.

Sign in at reception and someone will guide you to the chapel.

Becket Keys Chair of Governors – Retirement Collection

As the end of the summer term approaches, I want to remind everyone about the opportunity to show our appreciation to Jenny Downs, our Chair of Governors, who will be stepping down. Jenny has played an indispensable role in the success of Becket Keys Church of England School, and we are deeply grateful for her many years of service and dedication.

Today was supposed to be the final day to contribute to Jenny's farewell gift. However, I have decided to extend it until Monday 1st July (9pm). If you would like to express your gratitude and appreciation, please make your donation via ParentPay. Alternatively, you can bring your contributions directly to the school office.

Jenny's contributions have been vast and far-reaching. I could write a book! From being a part of the founding group that envisioned our school, to advocating for safety improvements around Sawyers Hall Lane, and chairing countless meetings, Jenny's dedication has been unwavering. She has been a guiding force behind many of the successes we enjoy today, and her impact on our community is immeasurable.

Jenny's family have indicated that they think Jenny would want the gift to be something for the school to remember her by rather



than for Jenny herself. With that in mind we have been designing some options around shelters for the students, trees that could be planted or some potential areas of the school that could be named after her. Depending on how much we receive we will explore ideas maximising something that the students would enjoy and benefit from. Personally, I like the idea of a lych gate for the student entrance to the school to provide a shelter to students as they enter the school and to provide a reminder of Jenny and all she did to improve their pedestrian safety in Sawyers Hall Lane.

In addition to the gift, we are also creating a commemorative book that will be signed by students and staff. If you haven't had the

chance to sign it yet, please come into school or email your message to the school office, and we will include it in the book.

Thank you for your support and generosity in making Jenny's farewell a memorable one.

Mr Scott-Evans Head Teacher



Sports News – District Sports

The District Athletics
Competition took place last
Wednesday, and it was a
resounding success, showcasing
the exceptional talents and
sportsmanship of our students.
The event featured a variety of
track and field competitions for
students in Years 7 through 10.
The day was filled with
enthusiasm, teamwork, and
remarkable performances, with
23 of our students reaching the
podium.

Notable performances included Kessiah K in Year 7, who excelled in both the 100m and Javelin, earning podium finishes in both events. The Year 8 boys' team also shone, securing 2nd place overall out of six teams in their category. Their teamwork and dedication were evident in every event, significantly contributing to their success.





Our school achieved an overall 4th place out of seven schools, marking an improvement from previous years. This progress reflects the commitment of all our students, especially those 100+ students who attend athletics club every Wednesday. The competition was a great success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of students, staff, and Sixth Form helpers. The day not only highlighted the athletic abilities of our students but also fostered a spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship. The PE department is very excited about the future of athletics at Becket Keys, and we hope this success will inspire our students to achieve even more next year.

From this competition, six Year 7 students who won or placed second in their events were selected to represent the Brentwood district at the Year 7 Essex Schools County

Championships. This event features the best athletes in the county, making it highly competitive. Our students represented the school and Brentwood district fantastically. Pat B and Felix R set new personal bests in the 100m and 200m events, respectively. This is a fantastic achievement for these Year 7s and sets a solid foundation for their future athletics careers.

We are extremely proud of all the students who participated in these competitions and look forward to building on this success in future events.

Miss Plunkett & The PE Department













Job Opportunity

At Becket Keys Church of England School



GROUNDSKEEPER required by the Sports
Trust who operate and maintain the
Astroturf sports pitch facility at Becket Keys
Church of England School, Sawyers Hall Lane,
Brentwood, Essex.

To maintain the high standards shared by the School and the Sports Trust there is a requirement for a grounds person to carry out weekly maintenance on the Astroturf pitch and surrounding area.

The Astroturf is going to be re-laid this summer so future regular maintenance is essential.

These duties will include: -

- 1) Weekly brushing using the onsite machinery
- 2) Site maintenance and upkeep, including weed clearing and removing debris
- 3) Site safety checks
- 4) Minor repairs and upkeep of facilities when required



5) Liaising with a Sports Trust contact and the School Site team to ensure the smooth running of the facility

Ideally this work will be carried out before school hours as this avoids school activities and the pitch hire period later in the day. Other times could be available. This paid role would suit a self-motivated and practical person who can identify issues and resolve them and who wishes to earn some additional income working for a few hours per week.

The person appointed will need to be in possession of a basic DBS certificate.

Interested applicants should email mikespinks@hotmail.com indicating their suitability for the post. Please indicate the number of hours per week you would be available to undertake this role. Please include a mobile contact number if you have specific questions, you would like answered or if you would like more information.

Becket Keys Sports Day

FRIDAY 5TH JULY 2024

ON THE SPORTS FIELD

(Across the road)

Parents & Carers are welcome to attend from 12.40pm.

Please remember that students will need snacks and drinks for the day, suncream and a hat!

There will be an icecream van on the field for the afternoon and so please bring some money if you would like to purchase one.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 11 PROM
MONDAY 1ST JULY 2024

*

GOVERNORS' SPEECH & AWARDS

EVENING

THURSDAY 4TH JULY 2024

*

WORLD CHALLENGE TRIP TO BORNEO
THURSDAY 4TH JULY – FRIDAY 18TH JULY
2024

*

SPORTS DAY FRIDAY 5TH JULY 2024

*

ENRICHMENT DAY
(STUDENTS ARE OFF TIMETABLE)
THURSDAY 11TH JULY

*

YEAR 7 MANOR ADVENTURE

RESIDENTIAL

FRIDAY 12TH – SUNDAY 14TH JULY 2024

*

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

MONDAY 15TH – WEDNESDAY 17TH JULY

2024

Becket Keys Church of England School

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X:

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