

## Becket Keys Church of England School

27th September 2024

#### ON THE THRESHOLD OF AUTUMN - HARVEST 2024

#### IN THIS ISSUE

#### Mrs Sharp writes.....

A long time ago, people across the globe lived by the rhythm of the seasons, the waxing and waning of the moon, and the ebb and flow of the tides. They felt awe watching a beautiful sunset, fear and trembling in the face of a storm, and gratitude for the bounty of the harvest. They built their religions around those core experiences that quaranteed their survival. Over time, and very gradually, things changed. Humanity evolved from nomadic hunter/gatherers to landed agrarians to an industrial and then to a post-industrial economy. Perhaps, in many ways, we have lost some of the deep and instinctual wisdom of our ancestors, but as we stand on the threshold of autumn, we have the chance to reflect on the biblical themes of harvest and gratitude.

In the Bible, God is often depicted as a provider and sustainer, giving thanks for the blessings of the earth (Psalm 65:5-13). Autumn's harvest season can be seen as a time of thanksgiving for the fruits of our labour and a reminder of God's provision. It is a chance to renew our connections to God, others and nature.

If seen as part of the whole four seasons of the year, autumn also becomes a time of preparing for new beginnings. Clearing the garden and planting the bulbs which will stay buried deep in the ground all through winter but will burst through and blossom in the spring. At school, the Autumn Term is all about new beginnings, with fresh new exercise books, learning opportunities and chances to grow in faith and character; all of which add

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#### Join the Team!

We are recruiting, if you would like to work at Becket Keys then we have opportunities available.

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#### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

Details of some of the clubs that are available each week.

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#### **Mandarin Department**

Mandarin students were able to travel to the Chinese Bridge Competition Award Ceremony.

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#### **English Department**

Recommended reads for Years 7-9 in the mystery genre this month.

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intensity to the gratitude felt in our school community and all of which promote later fruitfulness.



Consider taking time to express gratitude and abundant worship to the Lord, just as the seasons change and nature gives thanks. If able, please support our Harvest Brentwood Foodbank Appeal to help local residents in crisis. It is an example of how we can reach out and share our harvest, as God intended. Over the next few weeks, staff, students, visitors and friends of Becket Keys can bring their donations directly to the school to add to our Harvest Display in the Main Reception. The final day for donations will be Monday 16th October. The current shortage items are shown here. This offering will demonstrate our practical and prayerful response to the needs of others, as we acknowledge and thank God for the earth's riches.

Let us use this session to bless others and remind ourselves of the blessings we receive from God. Let us be truly thankful for the gifts of food 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 lives.

> Mrs Sharp **Deputy Headteacher**

## BRENTWOOD FOODBANK DINGLOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS



Brentwood Foodbank **Doddinghurst Road Community Church** www.brentwood.foodbank.org.uk

## HARVEST APPEAL

#### HELP LOCAL PEOPLE FACING HARDSHIP

**Tinned Veg & Potatoes** 

**Tinned Meat** 

Jam / Marmalade

Tinned Spaghetti

Jars of Pasta Sauce

**Tinned Tomatoes** 

**Tinned Rice Pudding** 

Tinned Fish

**Tinned Fruit** 

**Biscuits** 

Bags of Rice

**Savoury Rice** 

**Tinned Soup** 

**Tinned Custard** 

trussell

Tea Bags / Jars of Coffee / Sugar Longlife Milk / Squash

Donations of any of these items would be greatly appreciated

We also welcome donations of cleaning products and toiletries

Brentwood Foodbank facilitated by Doddinghurst Road Community Church Registered Charity Number 1171227

### We are Recruiting!

# <u>Learning Support</u> <u>Technician/Teaching</u> Assistant

We are looking to appoint a Learning Support Technician (LST) / Teaching Assistant (TA) to help our students with SEN. The ideal candidate will have knowledge and experience of delivering some targeted interventions and will take responsibility for delivering these, under the guidance of our SENDCO. However, this position could also suit someone who is new to this sort of work. As long as you get on well with people and are keen to learn from others – we can help you! You will be expected to be

You will be expected to be flexible, adaptable and a fast learner. Your day will be a dynamic mixture of hands-on support, delivery of intervention and participating in our assess, plan, do review cycle. To provide effective support to students, you will need to be empathetic and caring. All staff benefit from the sharing good practice, and this is particularly notable in the SEN team.

<u>Closing date:</u> 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024 <u>Interview Date</u>: Week Commencing 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024

Full details of all these positions and the application form are available on the school website <a href="here">here</a> and if you have any queries please contact the Head

Teacher's PA: Emer McNeela via the School Office 01277 286600 or vacancies@becketkeys.org



## Exam Invigilators Required!

We are currently looking for Exam Invigilators and Lead Exam Invigilators to join our team for the 2024/25 academic year.

You can work flexible hours while also supporting the school and our students through their GCSE and A Level exams.

Please see the <u>vacancies page</u> of our website for more details and how to apply.

<u>Closing date</u> for applications is Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024.



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

office@becketkeys.org

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

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

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

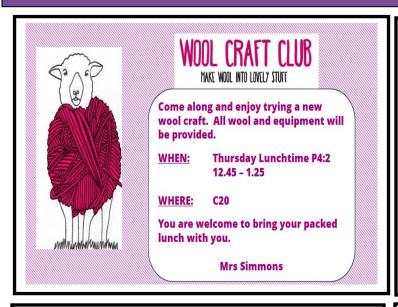
You can also now reply directly to any message you receive from the school via Bromcom, just hit the reply button and it will go to the office.

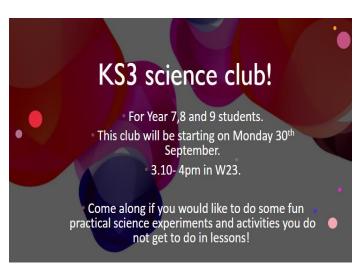
Students can contact their teachers via Satchel One if they have any queries regarding their lessons.

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

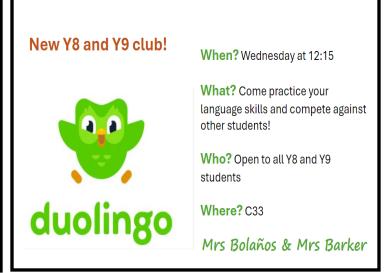
Many thanks for your understanding.

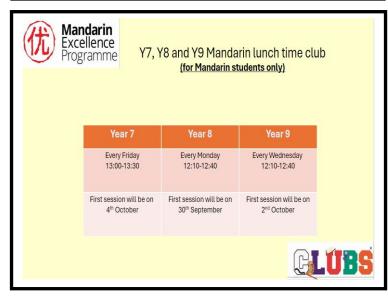
### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**













## Mandarin Department – Chinese Bridge Competition



## What is Chinese Bridge Competition?

Chinese Bridge Competition is an international speaking competition for learners of Mandarin Chinese. It has two big categories – the Primary Category for students between 5 to 12 years old, organised by Centre for Language Education and Cooperation and the Secondary Category for secondary Mandarin students, organised by British Council.





Last Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, Becket Keys MEP students went



to an Award Ceremony, hosted in the International Students House. This event was attended by contestants in the UK who have won either the individual or the group competition, as well as their coaching teachers. The special guests who granted the awards were the Director of Confucius Institute – Katharine Carruthers, Minister Counsellor for Education, Chinese Embassy – Zhang Jin, as well as executive representatives from both British Council and Department for Education.



The event involved highlight reels from the competitions, the award ceremony and a Chinese

traditional art performance. The organisers kindly provided snacks, lunch, and drink.



All participants thoroughly enjoyed the day. We very much look forward to the fifth annual Chinese Bridge Competitions this academic year.

Mrs. Zhang Head of Mandarin

## **English Department Recommended Reads - Mystery**

### Year 7

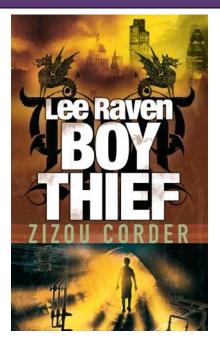
This month the Year 7s have been reading 'Dead Man's Cove' in form time. This is a mystery novel that tells the story of a child who goes to live with her uncle in Cornwall and encounters many mysteries. If you enjoy this genre, here are some reading recommendations:



## Cogheart Peter Bunze

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 realises that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart...



## Lee Raven Boy Thief Zizou Corder

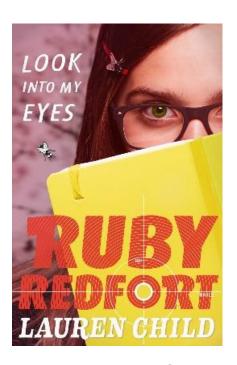
Lee Raven, boy thief, has stolen something he really didn't mean to

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 are always icecool in a crisis.



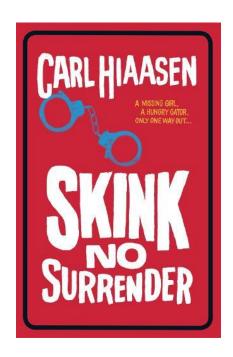
## More Ruby Redfort books:

Pick Your Poison
Take Your Last Breath
Catch Your Death
Feel the Fear
Blink and You Die

#### Year 8

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! Similar books include:

## Skink No Surrender Carl Hiaasen



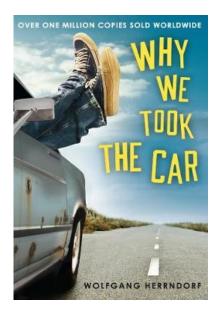
Typical Malley - to avoid being shipped off to boarding school, she takes off with some guy she met online. Poor Richard - he knows his cousin's in trouble before she does. Wild Skink – he is a ragged, one-eyed exgovernor of Florida, and enough of a renegade to think he can track Malley down. With Richard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

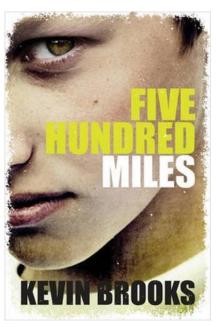
Other books featuring Skink:

Double Whammy
Native Tongue
Stormy Weather
Sick Puppy
Skinny Dip
Start Island
Skink – No Surrender

## Why We Took the Car Wolfgang Herrndorf

Mike doesn't get why people think he is boring. Sure, he does not have many friends. (OK, zero friends.) And everyone laughs at him when he reads his essays out loud in class. And he is 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.





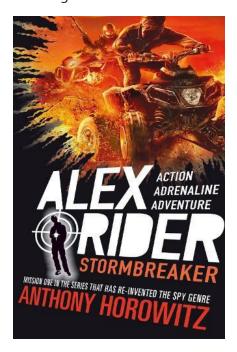
## Five Hundred Miles Kevin Brooks

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.



### Year 9

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! You may like to read the following:



## Alex Rider Stormbreaker 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.

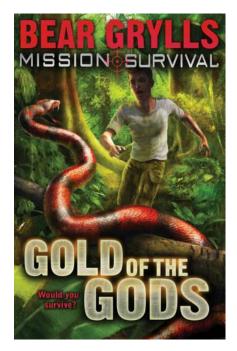
If you enjoy this title, you will be pleased to know that there are 12 books in the Alex Rider Series.

Point Blanc
Skeleton Key
Eagle Strike
Scorpia
Eagle Strike
Ark Angel
Snakehead
Crocodile Tears
Scorpia Rising
Russian Roulette
Never Say Die
Alex Rider Undercover: Four Secret
Files

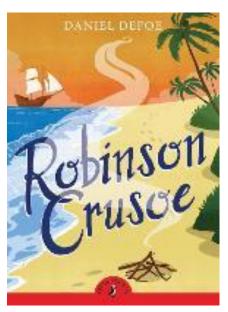
## Gold of the Gods Bear Grylls

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.



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## 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.

This book ha become one of the most widely published books in history and has been adapted for versions in film, television and radio. It has also been the subject of plays, opera, cartoons and even computer games!

### **Curriculum Meetings**

Year 10

Tuesday 1st October 2024

**Online Teams Meeting** 

Year 11

Tuesday 15th October 2024

**Main Hall** 

More details to follow.



Pre-Loved Uniform Sale Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 24 School Playground 11.00am – 12.30pm

If you have any uniform you would like to donate, please send it to the Main Reception with your son/daughter. We are particularly looking for aprons, ties, PE shorts, skorts and t-shirts.

Thank you!



Homework Club is available for all students.

Every afternoon after school students can stay for a supervised session 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.

There are a large number of extracurricular clubs that your son/daughter can attend at Becket Keys. Full details are available on the school website here: <a href="https://www.becketkeys.org/extra-curricular.">https://www.becketkeys.org/extra-curricular.</a>

#### SKI TRIP MEETING

**5.30pm** 

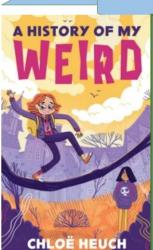
WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2024

Parents and students can find out more about the ski trip to Sugarloaf Mountain which will be taking place in 2026.

This meeting will give you a chance to ask any questions you have. In the meantime, check out this video from the 2024 trip.

**SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN 2024** 

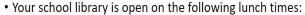
### Book of the Month-September



Starting secondary school was never going to be easy for Mo, but a fall out with her so-called 'friends' leaves her lonelier than ever. Then she finds Onyx. Exploring an abandoned Victorian asylum may seem a weird way to develop a friendship, but then Mo has always found she does things a bit differently. Determined to keep the pair apart, Onyx's dad's actions force them back to the secrecy of the asylum. Until one night, with the old building due for demolition, the two friends enter for the last time...

This is a comic, compelling and poignant story of self-discovery and acceptance, for readers aged 11+

### Our School Library (Lib A)



- Monday (4.2) 12.50-1.20
- Tuesday (4.2) 12.50-1.20
- Wednesday (4.1) 12-12.30
- Thursday (4.1) 12-12.30.
- If Miss White is in the library after school, you can come and use it then as well.
- The library is open for you to:
  - · Come and borrow or return books,
  - · Get help on finding a book you might enjoy reading,
  - · Sit and read.
  - · Discuss books with other students.



## Becket Keys Open Event Year 7 2025 **Booking now open**

**Open Event** 

10th October

## Parent only open mornings

8th, 9th & 10th October

#### Late Gate

Early is on time, On time is late, And late is unacceptable!

At Becket Keys, we look to ensure that we are preparing students for life beyond school. We encourage students to attend school regularly and on time.

Remember that the school gate closes at **8.25am**. This allows students enough time to be at their first lesson on time. Period 1 begins at 8.30am.

Brentwood can be tough to negotiate during rush hour, so we encourage students and parents to contact the school in the case of genuine lateness, such as delayed public transport.

Parents can call the main school line 01277 286600 or use the "Studybugs" app.

We thank you for your support.

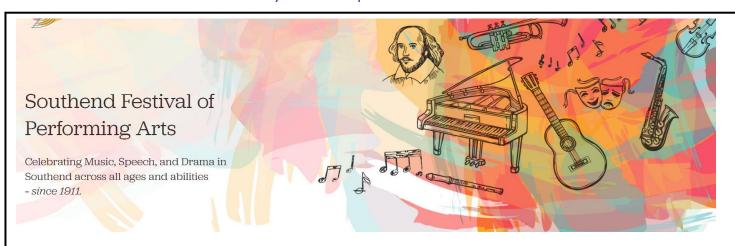






MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
KS3 'Time to Shine' 15.15-16.25 RUNCIE HALL (Mrs Palmer) Yr7-Yr9	Yr9 &Yr10 'Creative Space' 11.50-12.30 RH1 (Mrs Barr)  KS4 & KS5 'Practical Showcase Rehearsals' 15.15-16.15 RH2 (Mrs Barr)	Yr11 'Page to Stage' 15.15-16.15 RH2 (Mrs Barr)	Invitation only and bookable space.	GCSE  'Theory Workshop' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Barr) Invitation Only  Bookable space for Yr7-Yr13



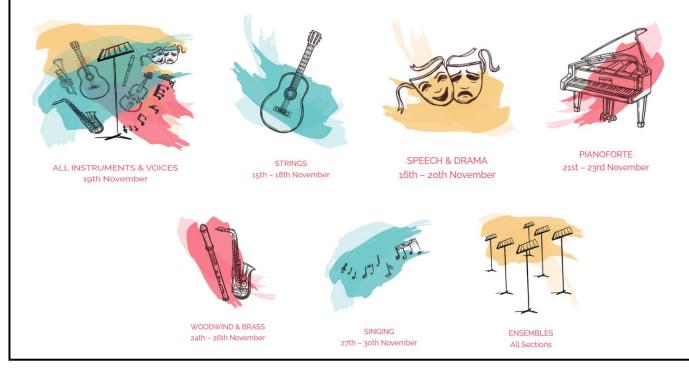


The Southend Festival of Performing Arts is an annual competitive festival of music and drama. The festival runs every day for a fortnight in November and has classes for all ages and abilities.

The objective of the festival is to encourage the study, performance and appreciation of a variety of instruments and talents – musical and vocal, in addition to the spoken and written word. The festival aim to give the competitors the opportunity to test their skills and receive constructive and encouraging feedback from a professional adjudicator, whilst entertaining audiences. The range of classes is extensive and includes own choice as well as set-piece selections, individual, as well as group opportunities and, with the introduction of some non-competitive classes, caters for everyone wanting to participate.

Anyone is welcome to come along and watch the competitions; there are usually three 3-hour sessions a day. Admission for a nominal fee will give you access to some wonderful entertainment and provide an audience for our performers. The Arts are an important part of any community, and the festival has been the showcase of artistic talent in the area since 1911.

All information on the festival, our syllabus, how to take part, and registration, can be found on the Festival website: Southend Musical Festival (southendfestivalofperformingarts.com)



#### **Focus on Careers**



## NHS England – South East Nursing Insight Event

## Thursday 10 Oct | 18:00 - 19:00

Explore opportunities in the NHS and Healthcare in South East England!

Are you a parent or teacher or a student in Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 or Year 13?

The NHS is one of the largest employers in the world, with 1.3 million staff dedicated to providing exceptional services. At NHS England (NHSE), we are committed to supporting healthcare delivery and improvement across England.

The NHS are focused on ensuring that our workforce today and tomorrow possesses the right skills, values, and behaviours to deliver high-quality care.

#### Free sign up:

https://pathwayctm.com/event/nhsse-insight-3/



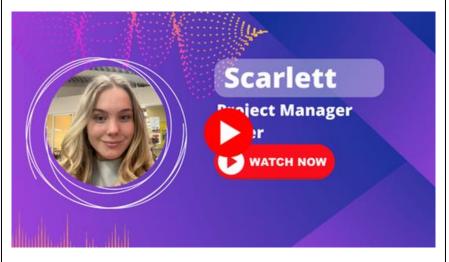
Discover **Pfizer's apprenticeship programme** through Scarlett, a project manager who joined during her final school year.

She highlights the diverse roles in both commercial and scientific fields, emphasizing hands-on experience and professional growth.

Scarlett dispels myths about the social and scientific aspects, showcasing Pfizer's welcoming environment.

Learn about the application process, including CV submission, video, and in-person interviews. Her key advice: let your skills and passion shine.

This video is your gateway to understanding how Pfizer's apprenticeship can launch your career.





Online Information Evening Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 6.oopm – 7.30pm

Young Professionals are excited to invite you to an exclusive online parent event designed to provide valuable insights into how you can support your child in making informed career choices when they leave school.

This is a fantastic opportunity to learn how to help your son or daughter gain a foothold in the world of work with the many major brands (mentioned below) from various sectors who will be joining us for the event.

This event will cover applying for corporate roles and the application process, commercial awaren ess and how young people can develop these skills as well as highlighting degree apprenticeships, what they are and

key deadlines to make applications.

#### Agenda:

#### 6:00pm:

Welcome from Young Professionals

#### Skills Session – Commercial Awareness & Career Guidance

Forvis Mazars, AICPA & CIMA, Wates, Mishcon de Reya
Learn what employers are looking for in students, and how parents can help their child develop the right skills for the corporate world.

#### 6:30pm-7:00pm:

#### The Recruitment Process

PwC, Clifford Chance,
Amazon, Experian
Tips on how to prepare your
child for online tests,
assessment centres, and
interviews to give them an

edge in the recruitment process.

#### 7:00pm - 7:30pm:

#### Degree Apprenticeships Explained

KPMG, BDO, Linklaters, Evelyn Partners Understand what apprenticeships are, how they can benefit your child, and how they compare to university.

This event will provide you with an in-depth understanding on the career and work experience prospects out there for your son/daughter across sectors such as Finance, Data, Technology, Law, Engineering, and different Corporate Functions.

The whole session will be led by the direct hiring managers at these global firms so you'll learn from the very best on how to support your son/daughter as they transition from education to the professional world with leading brands.

## Sign up below to secure your place:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YPYourchild-theirFuture

W: young-professionals.uk



## YOUTH SERVICE

# Join the Young Essex Assembly (YEA) and make a difference!

Are you passionate about making a change in your community?

Do you want to have your voice heard and represent young people across Essex?

Then the Young Essex Assembly (YEA) is the place for you!



The Young Essex Assembly is the elected Youth Council for Essex. Every two years, 75 young people from all districts of Essex are elected to join the YEA. Together, they:

- review priorities: identify what matters most to young people
- consult and campaign: engage with peers, adults, organisations, and decision-makers
- drive change: ensure young people's voices are included in decisions at all levels

#### Why join the YEA?

- make an impact: be a part of real change in your community and beyond
- boost your confidence: develop public speaking, leadership, and teamwork skills
- expand your horizons: gain new experiences and meet people from all across Essex
- personal growth: grow your personal and social skills, preparing you for the future

#### Who can join?

Any young person aged between 11 - 19 or up to 25 if you have additional needs, living or going to school in Essex can stand for election to join the YEA. We want voices from every district to make sure everyone's views are represented.

#### How to get involved

- Stand for election: Put yourself forward and tell us why you should be part of the YEA.
- 2. Vote: Encourage your friends and peers to vote and make their voices heard.



Closing date for applications 31 October 2024

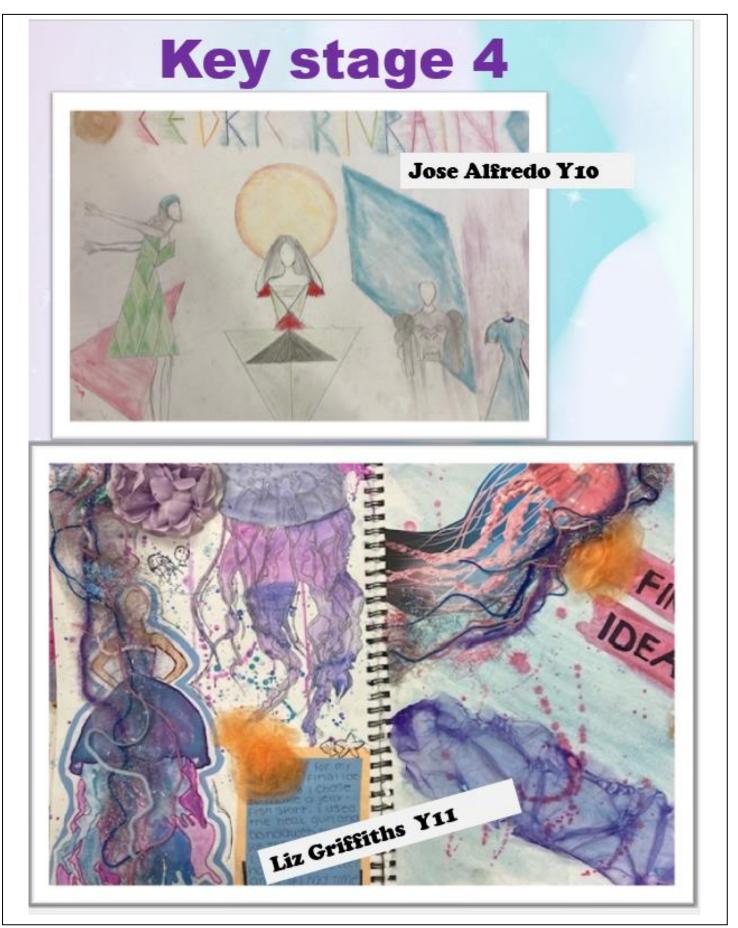
Contact: yea@essex.gov.uk
or visit our website www.young-essex-assembly.org.uk

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### **Sports News**

#### PE Extra Curricular - Term 1 Lunchtime (12:40-1:20) After-School (3:10-4:30) Day Monday GCSE Practical Intervention Year 9 Netball Year 8 Rugby Year 7 Rugby Tuesday **TUP Futsal** Year 8 Netball Year 9 Rugby Year 10 & 11 Netball Wednesday Year 7 Netball - Invite Only Girls Football all years Keys: Thursday **TUP Basketball** Year 7 Netball Year 10 & 11 Rugby Sports hall Boys Football all years Main Hall **TUP Badminton** Friday Drama Hall Field

## **Upcoming Fixtures**

Next week the Year 10 & 11 boys have their first rugby game at home Wednesday at 4pm versus Anglo European school.

The Year 7 boys have their first rugby game which is an A&B fixture vs Redden Court at home on Thursday.

Team sheets for both will be out shortly.





Please make sure that **EVERY** item of uniform, PE Kit and equipment is named. There are over a thousand students at the school all wearing the same uniform.

There are many items that we are unable to return as we do not know to whom they belong.

Lost Property can be collected from Reception.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SKI TRIP MEETING
5.30pm WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

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OPEN EVENT FOR PROSPECTIVE
YEAR 7 STUDENTS
THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

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INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

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ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY
YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS
MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER –
FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2024

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SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT
TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024

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LAST DAY OF TERM
STUDENT HALF DAY
FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2024 –
FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2025

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INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025

## 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
- @Becket Keys Exams
- @BecketKeysTrips

Facebook: Becket Keys Church School