

Becket Keys Church of England School

2nd May 2025

EXAM SEASON

Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

"You Did Not Choose Me, But I Chose You..." A Message for Exam Season

Yesterday I joined Year 13 and then Year 11 for their whole year group photos that will appear in on the walls of our school and many of your homes for years to come.

It is a strong signal that the end is near! Time is running out and the summer exam season has begun, I want to take a moment to speak directly to all our students preparing for GCSEs and A Levels. I want to start by congratulating those who have successfully navigated speaking exams and art and textiles exams this week and last week. You are underway. We are proud of you.

This is a time that can bring pressure, but also purpose, growth, and opportunity.
Whether you're feeling confident or anxious, please remember this: you are not alone on this journey.

In John 15:16–17, Jesus reminds us: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit fruit that will last."

These words are powerful. They tell us that each one of us is chosen and appointed for a purpose. Your hard work in revision and the character you develop through perseverance, patience, and courage - this is fruit that will last far beyond exam halls.

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Effective Revision & Healthy Habits

Revision is not about cramming - it's about steady, focused effort. Break your study into manageable chunks. Use flashcards, mind maps, past papers, and group revision. Make a realistic timetable and build in proper breaks.



Remember success is not only about study. Your wellbeing matters deeply. Sleep well. Eat nourishing food. Get outside. Talk to someone if you're feeling overwhelmed. And most of all, don't measure your worth by your grades. You are already valued and loved for who you are not for what you achieve.

Faith, Resilience & an Unforgettable Finish

As athletics club gets underway for another summer term, it got me thinking of the story of British Olympian Derek Redmond. In the 1992 Barcelona Games, he tore his hamstring halfway through the 400m semi-final. In agony, he got up and tried to finish the race. As the crowd watched in silence, his father ran onto the track,

wrapped his arm around him, and helped him to the finish line. You can rewatch it here.

Derek didn't win a medal that day, but the world does remember his determination and the love of his father. It's a powerful image of God's love for us, especially when we struggle. God is not waiting for us to be perfect - He runs to meet us where we are, helping us to finish strong.

So, as you prepare for your exams, hold on to this truth: you are chosen, you are loved, and you are not alone. Revise with purpose, rest with intention, and remember that your character is just as important as your results.



We are praying for you all and cheering you on.

A few final reminders for Year 11 students:

All Year 11 students are expected to attend all sessions relevant to the subjects they are studying. Where students have a revision lesson, masterclass or exam, they are expected to be in school. If a student does not attend, this will

be recorded as an unauthorised absence. If your son/daughter is unwell, please follow the usual procedures for informing the school.

Revision sessions and masterclasses are planned and delivered by expert subject teachers. They therefore provide students with valuable information and guidance to support their final preparations in the immediate build-up to the exam.

I imagine many parents will have done this already, but if you haven't, please do sit down with your son/daughter and work out when he/she is expected in school and when he/she is expected to study at home. You should have a document up in the kitchen setting out when exams are taking place and when revision sessions are to make sure that everyone is 'on the same page' and it is easy to hold your son/daughter to account.

We trust that everyone has everything they need to conduct full and effective revision, but if anyone has subject specific queries, please do get in touch with your son/daughter's teachers through the following link on our website: https://becketkeys.org/c ontact-staff

"This is my command: Love each other." John 15:17

Mr Scott-Evans Headteacher

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Year 8 – Enrichment Days

The Year 8 students who were at school this week have been enjoying two 'enrichment days'.

We created three groups – and students stayed within these groups for the two days. This was a great opportunity for the students to mix with young people from other tutor groups and make some new friends. Each activity was scheduled as 100 minutes, so there were three separate activities each day.





Thursday began with Science, where learning was about "Our Planet". Break was at usual time, and then tutorial involved a music quiz – where we had to identify the title and artist for a selection of music from the 2010s. Before lunch, students were involved in "Geohazard" – a strategy game created by Mr Hughes – where students worked in a team, with different roles to play. They all became members of the government of a fictional







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country, and had to navigate different events, as well as deciding how to spend the country's budget. The afternoon session was based around English and "A Murder Mystery".

The Friday sessions included Culture and Language (which was mainly hosted by our Spanish department). During form time, we looked at mindfulness. This was followed by a film (The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas). The best was saved for last 😊 , as we finished with a Mathematics based activity in the afternoon and we also looked at maths and the environment.

Mr Harvey **Mathematics Teacher**









The students really enjoyed being off timetable for these two days and had the following to say about their favourite parts of the programme.

"I had a really good two days activities were less lesson-like and also we had the opportunity to mix with friends that we are not usually in classes with"

"I enjoyed the murder mystery because it was fun trying to find out who did the crime using the clues"

"I liked the music quiz because it was fun to guess the lyrics"

"I had so much fun in all my classes. My favourite bit was Science"

"Real life maths because it had something to do with real life"

"Geo-hazard because it was interesting"

"Culture and language because we got to research things on the computers"



Dear God,

Thank you for giving us such incredible minds.

Help us to look after our mental health through prayerful mindfulness.

May we all learn more about the pleasure of making time to think about your goodness and to make space for peace and quiet in our daily routine.

We pray for our friends away in Bude and ask that you would watch over them and we pray for each other here in school that we would enjoy these different days taking a break from our usual routines.

Thank you for teachers who are working hard to do something different for us. **AMEN**

Road Safety



The UK government has been running road safety campaigns for more than 75 years. In 2000, THINK! was officially established as the government's designated road safety campaign. Since then, THINK! has become recognised internationally for its iconic and ground-breaking campaigns that have challenged dangerous behaviours on Britain's roads. The campaigns have evolved from encouraging the use of seat belts to tackling excessive speed, drink and drugs, and the use of mobiles at the wheel. In the decade that followed the conception of THINK!, road deaths in the UK reduced by 46%.

Did you know?

Teenagers are more at risk on the roads than they think. Most teenagers do not realise that they are more likely to be killed or injured in a road collision than any other age group. Find out how to help your teenager stay safe.

Help protect your child

Please talk to your son or daughter and reinforce road safety messages to help keep them safe:

- stress the need to concentrate and be careful at all times;
- warn of the dangers of distractions – listening to music, texting, phoning or even chatting to friends while walking are big distractions;
- keep talking about the dangers of traffic;
- point out people who are endangering themselves;
- encourage your teenager to practise judging the speed and distance of approaching vehicles on busy roads and identify safe gaps in the traffic;
- stress that you should never lose concentration and follow others blindly into dangerous situations.



Cycling

It is a good idea to:

- buy and encourage your son or daughter to wear a cycle helmet, and something fluorescent and reflective to improve visibility;
- encourage your son or daughter never to take lifts on the back of a

friend's bike;

- remind your son or daughter not to listen to music while they are cycling;
- make sure your child is aware that cyclists must obey all traffic signs and traffic light signals.

Becket Keys has always had an outstanding reputation for the way our students behave when they are going home. We have teachers who walk with the students towards the High Street, however, please remind your son/daughter to be considerate of other people and families using Sawyers Hall Lane, whether in cars or pedestrians and to acknowledge their thanks if they are given the right of way. We understand that the pavements may be congested so students must be patient and considerate.

We would also remind parents to take care and be mindful of pedestrians and other drivers when travelling. We do not want any student to be injured so please avoid driving down Sawyers Hall Lane if you can and meet your son/daughter at another location. The Brentwood Centre is ideal and only a short walk away.

More information on road safety: http://think.direct.gov.uk/education/secondary/



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.

U Carmel Jane

IMPORTANT

REGISTER TO VIEW SCHOOL PHOTOS

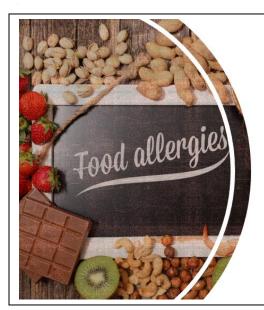
Carmel Jane Photography visited our School on the 1st of May 2025, to take the Year 11 & 13 Leavers' Individual & Group Photos.

All parents are requested to pre-register for instant access to your child's photographs once they are ready, pre-registration is required for every photo shoot.

Register in 3 easy steps in less than a minute:

- 1. Head to <u>www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk</u>
 - Enter your unique code: JRFTVDKN5B
- 3. Include your child's full school register name.





FOOD ALLERGENS LET US KNOW OF ANY CHANGES

- Please make sure the school has the latest information regarding any food allergies you have
- We use this information for lots of things – including school trips and at the tills to make sure you make the right choices!
- Ask your parents/carers to email the school if anything has changed





Daily equipment checks!

- From Tuesday 6th May tutors will be checking your equipment daily. It is imperative that you are well organised and have all essential equipment, so you are ready to learn.
- Tutors will offer you the opportunity each day to purchase equipment. If you need to, you can bring in the correct change for an item of stationery and give this to your tutor in exchange for the item you need. The money will then be taken to the office.
- Remember: 2 pens, 2 pencils, a rubber, a ruler, a red pen, a sharpener, a glue stick, a calculator and a highlighter. A tippex mouse (no liquid tippex please), safety scissors/school scissors and a small set of colouring pencils are also ideal and can be useful.



Late Gate

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

This is especially important if you have an exam!

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.





Introducing.... Police Constable Rebecca Ryan

Who is she?

• PC Ryan is the Community Safety and Engagement Officer for Brentwood. She is the assigned police officer for Becket Keys.

Why is she coming to Becket Keys?

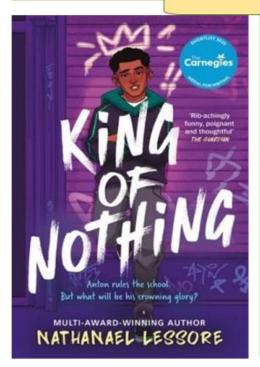
- PC Ryan wants to get to know you to find out if you have any worries or concerns in Brentwood.
- She wants to get to know you so that you feel comfortable if you need to ask her advice or for help.
- She wants you to be able to say 'hi' to her if you see her on the High Street and to be confident to approach her if you need to tell her something.

Can I speak to PC Ryan?

- Yes! The next time she is in Becket Keys is 15th May. She will be in Dr Hurdle's office from 11.50am until 1.30pm. You can just drop in for a chat.
- You might see her out and about around school and on the playground, so don't be alarmed! Feel free to approach her and have a chat if you are on break or lunch.



Book of the Month - May



ANTON AND HIS FRIENDS ARE THE KINGS OF YEAR 9.

They're used to ruling the school and Anton wears the crown. The other kids run away when he's about but that's the way he wants it - he's got a reputation to live up to after all. . He's the bad boy of his South London secondary school, feared and respected partly because his dad is in prison.

So, when he gets into serious trouble at school, he doesn't really care, but his mum most definitely does. She decides it's time for Anton to make some new friends and blocks the Wi-Fi until he joins the Happy Campers, a local activity group. Anton would quite literally rather do anything else, especially when he finds out Matthew, the biggest loser in school, is also a member.

But after Matthew, a somewhat quirky boy, unexpectedly saves Anton's life, Anton figures maybe this kid is worth a shot. Teaching him some game is the least Anton can do to repay the debt.

As the boys strike up an unlikely friendship, Anton starts to question his life, not least the misogynist banter of his best friend who is obsessed with a particularly sexist podcast. Does he want ruling the school to be his crowning glory or should he set his sights on better things?

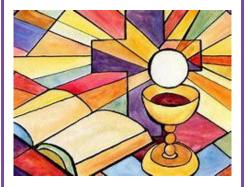
Content advice: references to crime and violence, misogyny, arson, death, anaphylaxis,



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

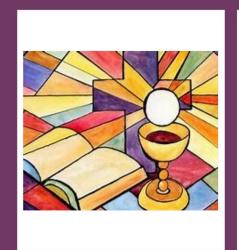
This is a short meeting where we pray together for local and national events and for any intentions of those in our school family. All are welcome.

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.

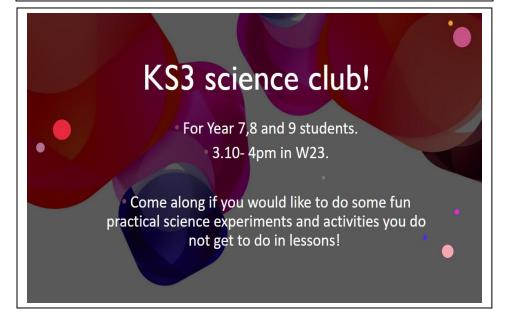


School Eucharist

There is a Eucharist service held at school every Friday during term-time in the John Wraw Chapel. The service begins at 1.00pm and is open to everyone.

All students are welcome to attend these short services to pray and reflect.

If you would like to attend then please see Mr Scott-Evans for a 'queue jump' ticket, you can leave you lesson slightly earlier on Friday and head to the Bistro to get your lunch before the rush.





Y7, Y8 and Y9 Mandarin lunch time club (for Mandarin students only)

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Every Friday 13:00-13:30	Every Monday 12:10-12:40	Every Wednesday 12:10-12:40
First session will be on 4 th October	First session will be on 30 th September	First session will be on 2 nd October









Reminder – Equipment List

It is important that students are fully equipped every day, for every lesson. Not having the right equipment for learning can lead to wasted learning time. Students who come prepared are prepared for success! As a reminder (and this can be found in the Family Handbook) all students need to bring the following items as a minimum to each lesson in a suitable pencil case:

•Clear ruler

•180° clear protractor

Pencils

•Pens (blue, black & red)

Rubber

Compass

•Glue stick

Whiteboard pens

•Calculator Casio fx GT85x.

A Prayer for Exams

Lord, when I am in that room, where the ticking clock punctuates the silence,

where I know that every stroke of my pen can help to define my future, I pray that I will know your presence there too. Come as close to me as my own breathing; calm my heart and galvanize my mind.

Relieve any sense of pressure and bring to the front of my memory everything that I have studied and now need to recall. Be with me, Lord God, in this defining moment.

Amen

PE Extra Curricular - Term 5 After-School (3:20-4:20) Day Lunchtime Sports Hall Out due to Exams Year 7&8 Boys' Cricket Monday Tuesday Sports Hall Out due to Exams All Years Girls' Cricket Year 9&10 Boys' Cricket Wednesday Sports Hall Out due to Exams All Years Athletics Keys: Astro Sports Hall Out due to Exams Year 7,8&9 Rounders Thursday Sports hall Main Hall Field Sports Hall Out due to Exams Friday Playground



This week the students have been getting tips on how to look after their Mental Health. It is important to spend time outdoors in nature and to be active. Spending time in nature has been found to assist with anxiety and depression and there are also links between nature and relaxation and being outside gives our bodies much needed vitamin D from sunlight. Being active is good for both your mind and body and every minute of activity counts; the more you do the more you will benefit. Exercise can improve your sleep, clear your mind, boost your energy and help with back or joint pain.

In order to combine nature and exercise why not join the Parkrun? Parkrun is a free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. Parkrun is 5k and takes place every Saturday morning. Junior Parkrun is 2k, dedicated to 4-14 year olds, and their families, every Sunday morning.

Parkrun is positive, welcoming and inclusive, there is no time limit and no one finishes last!





Everyone is welcome to come along.

Parkrun is free and you only need to <u>register once</u> whether walking, jogging, running, volunteering or a combination.

There are currently 1,163 parkrun events around the country taking place every weekend, with more locations being added all the time.

You can go along to any event, any weekend. Find out more here:

https://www.parkrun.org.uk/











DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY DAY – BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY 5TH MAY 2025

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CELEBRATION DAY FOR YEAR 11 & YEAR 13
TUESDAY 6TH MAY 2025

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MADRID TRIP – YEAR 9
THURSDAY 22ND MAY – SUNDAY 25TH MAY

*

WHITSUN BREAK
MONDAY 26TH MAY – FRIDAY 30TH MAY 2025

*

YEAR 7 & YEAR 12 EXAMS BEGIN
MONDAY 2ND JUNE 2025

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YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING THURSDAY 12TH JUNE 2025

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INSET DAYS
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
FRIDAY 13TH & MONDAY 16TH JUNE 2025

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SIXTH FORM BRIDGING EVENT MONDAY 23RD JUNE 2025 TUESDAY 24TH JUNE 2025

*

CHINA TRIP PARENT MEETING
5.00PM TUESDAY 24TH JUNE 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
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- @BecketKeysSci
- @BecketKeysDT
- @BecketKeysExams
- @BecketKeysTrips

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