



# Becket Keys Church of England School

10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

OPEN EVENT - HEADTEACHER TALK

IN THIS ISSUE

**Mr Scott-Evans writes.....**

## Minibus on the Way – Thank You for Making It Happen!

Dear Families,

Thanks to your incredible generosity and support during last year's fundraising efforts, we are delighted to announce that Becket Keys has purchased a new minibus, which will be arriving this November!

This is a fantastic achievement and a real testament to the strength of our school community. Whether you donated, helped organise events, or simply encouraged others to get involved we want to say a huge 'thank you!'. Your contributions will make a lasting

difference to our students' experiences, helping them get to fixtures, trips, and enrichment activities more easily.



### Can You Help Us Drive It?

Now that the minibus is on its way, we're looking to build a rota of parent volunteers who would be willing to help drive students to and from events.

You can sign up to drive:

- When your child is selected for a team or trip

.....contd. on page 2



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

### Becket Keys Open Event

A wonderful Open Event yesterday showing prospective families the school.

Page 3-4

### Club of the Week

This week we celebrate Chess Club.

Page 9

### Mandarin Department

Student insights about the recent exciting trip to China for Year 9.

Page 14-18

### Art & Textiles Department

Excellent work from our talented students.

Page 15-17

.....contd. from Page 1

- Or just to help out generally, even if your child isn't involved

We will provide:

- Full training
- Insurance cover
- Support from our team

If you're interested in helping, please complete this short form to let us know your availability and preferences:

Click [here](https://forms.office.com/e/WdSpA8PDMJ) to express your interest:

<https://forms.office.com/e/WdSpA8PDMJ>

Thank you once again for your continued support. Together, we're making Becket Keys even better.

Warm regards,

**Mr Andy Scott-Evans**  
Head Teacher



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

*Dear Students,*

*I want to take a moment to thank you all for the incredible part you played in last night's Open Evening.*

*With over 1500 visitors to our school, it was one of the busiest events we've ever hosted and the feedback has been nothing short of amazing. Families were full of praise for the way they were welcomed, the enthusiasm they saw in our classrooms, and the respectful, confident way our students represented Becket Keys.*

*Many parents told us that our school was the best they had visited, and that they felt a real sense of warmth and community here. That's down to you.*

*Whether you were helping with tours, supporting departments, performing, or simply being your usual brilliant selves, you showed everyone what makes Becket Keys so special. You made us proud.*

*Thank you for your hard work, your kindness, and your commitment to our school. You are the reason families want to join us, and you are the heart of everything we do.*

*With sincere thanks,*

*Mr Scott-Evans*  
*Headteacher*



We are pleased to announce that the Parent & School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans will be every Wednesday during term time at 8.45am.

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

If you have any prayer intentions, please send them into the school via the office email: [office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)



## Becket Keys Open Events

Yesterday we held our school Open Event. We were delighted to be able to welcome over 1500 visitors into school.

We love showing new people our school, as these events are the best way for students and their families to find out what Becket Keys is like. This school is a distinctive choice. No one is here just because it is their catchment school; everyone has specifically chosen to come here. That gives it a particular feel.

Most importantly, our Christian ethos sets us apart. Not everyone knows how a Church School operates; these events give people a chance to find out.

As always, it was pleasure to take prospective parents and students on tours of the school. The politeness of students, professionalism of our staff and standard of our facilities is something of which we are very proud.

We are extremely grateful to the teachers, student tour guides and department helpers. We are also grateful for the commitment of our school families in supporting these events with late school pickups etc. These events are important for the wider community and help families reach important decisions about the future for their sons and daughters. Thank you for your continuing support of our school.





We were inundated with volunteers for the Open Event this year and three of our Year 7 students, Pearl, Samantha and Alex stood up on the stage in front of a packed Main Hall and shared their experiences of coming to Becket Keys as new Year 7 students. All three performed beautifully and we are delighted that their experiences have been so positive.





## Harvest Collection

Every year at this time, we turn our attention to supporting Brentwood Foodbank through a school-wide donation appeal. We invite students, staff and families to join us in a meaningful act of generosity and compassion. By donating, we become part of a story of kindness, dignity and love. We live out our Christian calling to care for our neighbours and to be a light in times of darkness.

### How you can help

We will be receiving donations for Brentwood Foodbank from Monday 6th October to Wednesday 16th October. Suggested items to donate are on the shopping list noted here.

Whether you give a single tin or a full bag, your generosity will help feed a family, comfort a child and remind someone that they are not alone. Together, we can make a real difference.

Please bring your contributions to the collection point in Main Reception. Every item donated is a seed of hope.

**Mrs Sharp**  
Deputy Headteacher



## Shopping list

- Tinned Corned Beef/Ham
- Tinned Hotdogs
- Tinned Tuna/Salmon
- Tinned Sardines/Mackerel
- Tinned Ravioli/Macaroni Cheese
- Tinned Chilli Con Carne/ Mince & Onion
- Tinned Beans & Sausages
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Mixed Vegetables
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Rice Bags/Pouches/Savoury Rice
- Pasta
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Fruit
- Jams/Chocolate/Peanut Spread
- Biscuits
- Tea/Coffee
- Sugar
- Bottles of Squash
- Laundry Gel
- Shampoo
- Shower Gel
- Toothpaste
- Washing Up Liquid



*St Thomas of Canterbury,  
the Parish Church for  
Brentwood*

## Harvest All Age Mass



**10.00 on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

All are welcome to this family-friendly service offered on the second Sunday of the month, enabling families to worship together.

Lasting no more than an hour, the service concludes with doughnuts and drinks

St Thomas' Church, St Thomas Road, Brentwood CM14 4DF [www.stthomas.org.uk](http://www.stthomas.org.uk)

**DON'T**

**FORGET**

If you wish to play football on the Astroturf at lunchtime you will need to bring in your trainers. The surface has been recently replaced and so only trainers are allowed on there and no food is to be consumed. Students are not permitted to play in their socks.

**LOST  
PROPERTY**

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.

## Year 7 Eucharists

### Friday Lunchtime at 1.00pm

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – 7WW & 7HS**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October – INSET Day**

***Remember you can attend the Eucharist any Friday at 1.00pm.***



# Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!



On Friday 3rd October, Becket Keys hosted the first round of the prestigious Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge, a public speaking competition run by the Speakers Trust. This initiative empowers young people to find their voice, build confidence, and speak passionately about topics that matter to them. Through workshops and coaching, students learn how to craft compelling speeches and deliver them with impact.

After a fantastic round of speeches, six outstanding students have been selected to progress to the next stage of the competition.

Congratulations to:

- Evie Abbott
- Daniel Otsapa
- Chiedozie Uche-Igbokwe
- Oprah Amode
- Harriet Price
- Ellie Monaghan Bishop

These talented speakers will present their speeches during Year 7 collective worship, sharing their ideas and inspiring others with their words. We're incredibly proud of their achievement and can't wait to hear what they have to say!

**Miss Romano**  
ziC English



## Music Department

### Becket Keys Music Department Receives Music Mark Award!

We are proud to announce that the Music Department has been awarded the prestigious Music Mark Award. This recognition celebrates the school's commitment to providing high-quality music education and its active partnership with the Greater Essex Music Hub.

Music Mark, the UK Association for Music Education, acknowledges schools that demonstrate a strong dedication to ensuring students can access and engage with a broad, inspiring music curriculum. The award highlights the essential role schools play in realising the vision of the National Plan for Music Education, which seeks to give every young person the opportunity to develop their musical talents. You can find out more here: [The Music Mark Awards | Music Mark Conference](#)

The Becket Keys Music Department continues to offer a wide range of opportunities both in and beyond the classroom, from curriculum lessons to choirs, instrumental ensembles and performances that bring the school and wider community together.

**Mr Romhany & Mr Menexes**  
Music Department



# Becket Keys MUSIC





## Club of the Week

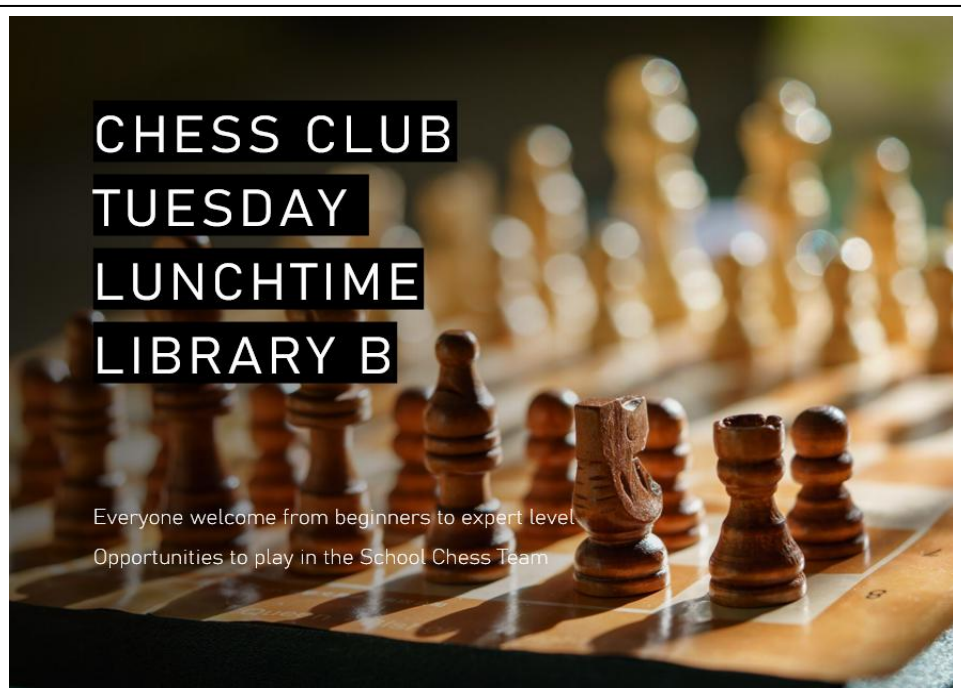
Chess is a two-player strategy board game where the goal is to checkmate the opponent's king by threatening it with inescapable capture. Played on an 8x8 grid with 16 unique pieces for each player (king, queen, two rooks, two bishops, two knights, and eight pawns), players move their pieces according to their specific rules to capture enemy pieces and achieve checkmate.



The Chess Club at Becket Keys has been running for a couple of years now, Thomas Baker was a founding member when he was in Year 8 and now that he is in Year 10 he is teaching younger students, in this case Noah in Year 7, how to play the game. Thomas has also found some statistics which show that those people who play chess are smarter than average!



Siblings Piroska and Jozsef are playing together, with Jozsef



insisting that he is the best player!



Year 7 students Arsene and Anivardh enjoying playing together, but they both enjoy it more when they win!



Ethan and Luke concentrate in order to make their next strategic

move. These boys consider themselves to be beginners although they have been practising online in between club days.



Nikita, Lilly and Hannah are fairly new to the group but are here welcoming Annabelle in Year 7.

All are welcome to Chess Club regardless of the level of your expertise.

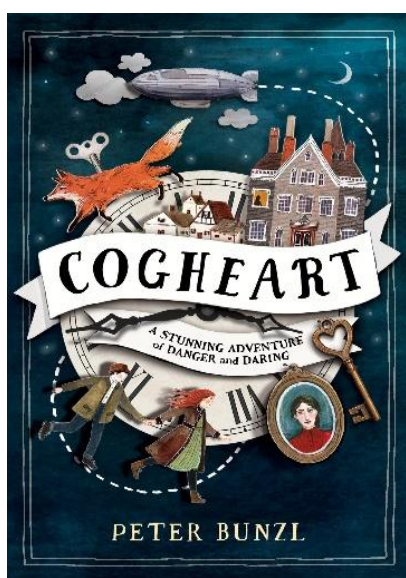
Do you have any old chess boards and pieces at home that you no longer need? Please send them into school via Reception.

Thank you!

## 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 of my recommended reads!



### Cogheart Peter Bunze

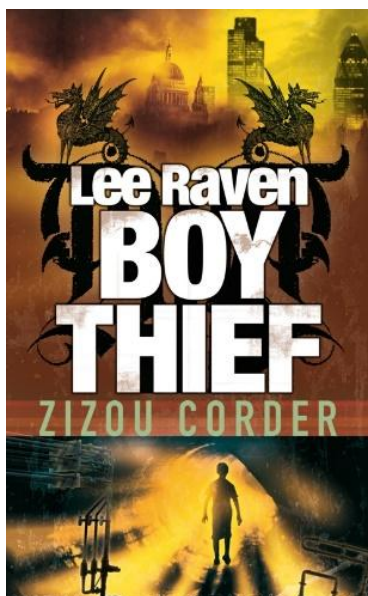
Lily's life is in mortal peril. Her father is missing and now silver-eyed men stalk her through the shadows. What could they want from her?

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

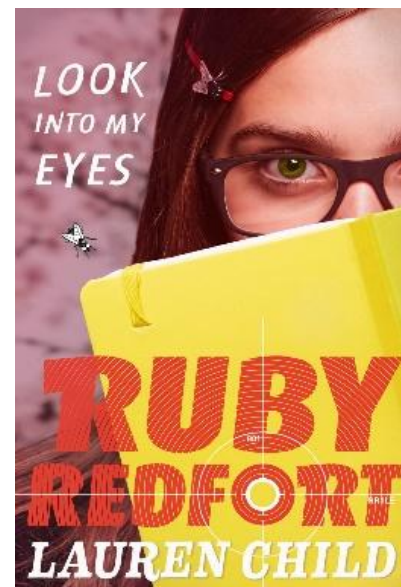
### Lee Raven – Boy Thief Zizou Corder

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?



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School



### Ruby Redford Lauren Child

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

*You can find this book in the school library.*

### More Ruby Redford books:

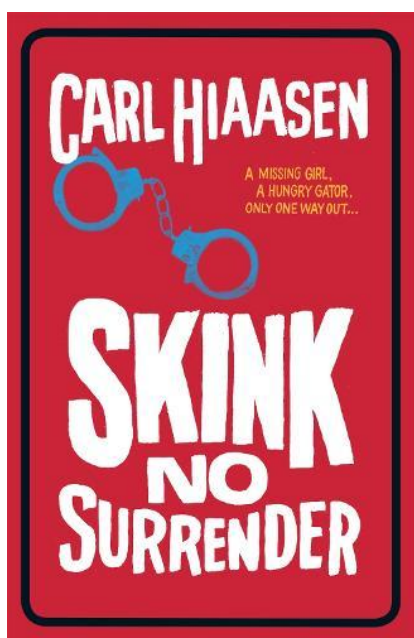
*Pick Your Poison*  
*Take Your Last Breath*  
*Catch Your Death*  
*Feel the Fear*  
*Blink and You Die*



## 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



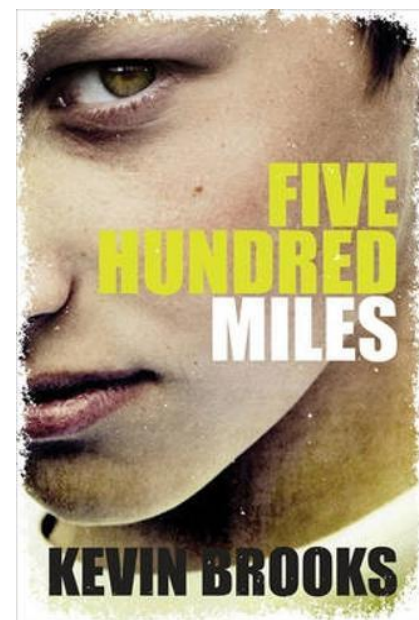
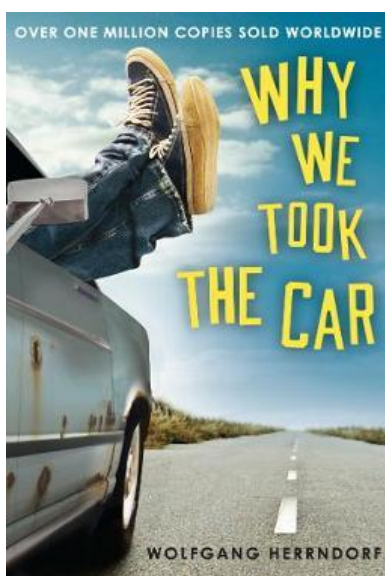
Typical Malley - to avoid being shipped off to boarding school, she takes off with some guy she met online. Poor Richard - he knows his cousin's in trouble before she does. Wild Skink – he is a ragged, one-eyed ex-governor of Florida, and enough of a renegade to think he can track Malley down. With Richard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

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

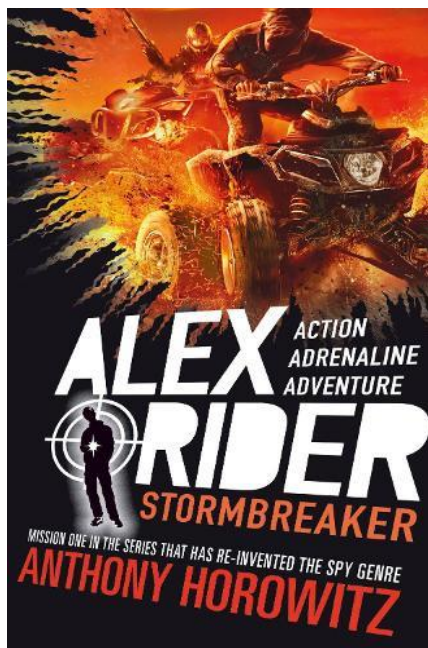
For brothers Cole and Ruben it's another rainy morning in the badlands of East London, selling dodgy paperwork for even dodgier motors. But arriving in a grimy pub on their latest errand, the brothers stumble across a trio of gangsters, a beautiful young girl and a monkey in a cage - and their entire 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.



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

## 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, fourteen-year-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-the-art Stormbreaker computers to every school in the country. But the teenage spy soon finds himself in mortal danger.

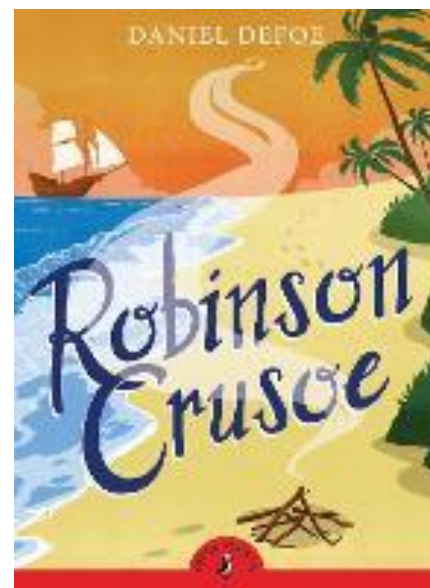
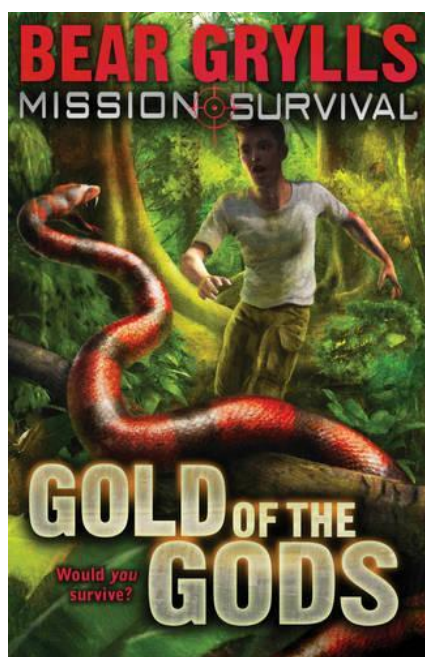
If you enjoy this title, you will be pleased to know that there are 12 books in the Alex Rider Series.

*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.



### 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 has 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!



## Previously Looked After Children



If your child has previously been in the care of a Local Authority in England or Wales and has an adoption, Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order, they are entitled to extra support through Pupil Premium Plus funding. Currently, the amount is £2,630 per student and it must be spent to improve outcomes for previously looked after children. It is important to note that the funding is not ring-fenced for the individual child, which allows the school flexibility to ensure it has maximum impact. As the parent or carer, you must declare your child's status and provide evidence of the legal order to us in order for us to claim the funding. You and your child are also entitled to support from our Designated Teacher (Mrs Claire Dowsett), and from the Essex Virtual School. If you wish to have a conversation about your child, we will treat the information with the strictest confidence. Please contact the school by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October to confirm your child's status by phone on 01277 286600 or by email [office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org).

### We are the Mental Health Support Team!

**It's good to talk!**  
Talking to us can help stop difficulties from spiralling so you can enjoy school, time at home and time with friends and family.

**Dealing with anxiety and low mood**  
Overcoming anxiety and low mood can be hard. But taking time to stop and learn how to manage anxious feelings, challenge unhelpful thinking and improve your mood can enhance your emotional wellbeing.

**You are not alone**  
**It's ok to not be ok.** The MHST are specially-trained to help you with your emotional wellbeing. It is helpful to share your worries with someone you trust so you can work through your difficulties together.

**Accepting that challenges are a part of life**  
Most people experience emotional difficulties at some point so it's important for you to acknowledge when this is happening and talk about it. This can help you understand how it affects your life.  
**Remember, these feelings will pass.**

The Mental Health Support Team are here to provide support to all children, young people and their families with emotional wellbeing in schools and colleges. To find out more about the service, scan the QR code to visit our website or talk to school staff.  
[www.nelft.nhs.uk/essex-mental-health-support-teams](http://www.nelft.nhs.uk/essex-mental-health-support-teams)

Mid and South Essex Health and Care Partnership    Nelft NHS Foundation Trust    Mental Health Support Team

### School Shoes

- Boys - Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes – lace up shoes to have black laces. No trainers or boots, no white or coloured laces. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro. No sandals.
- Girls - Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes – lace up shoes to have black laces, no trainers or boots. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro. No kitten heels, sandals, platform shoes, ballet pumps, white or coloured laces.

## Mandarin Department

### Year 9 Chinese Students Shine on China Trip

This July, our Year 9 Chinese students embarked on an unforgettable China Trip, immersing themselves in language and culture. They had the unique opportunity to experience a range of cultural activities, including visiting a local Beijing international school to interact with Chinese students, practising their Chinese while shopping at Temple of Heaven Market, and exploring Beijing's famous landmarks.

A highlight of the trip was an interview with a Chinese television station. We were thrilled to see our students Harry Shorter and Helet Van Der Lith confidently respond in fluent Chinese, showcasing their impressive language skills. You can watch the interviews here:

<https://m.btime.com/item/46g85jpjnte89e81gc36ig2476u>

<https://m.btime.com/item/42ovmktm6qo8uupbsvgodus55fj>



During the opening ceremony, Bhavana Chatti delivered a





speech, sharing her excitement and expectations for the trip. At the closing ceremony, Bhavava performed the classical Chinese song “Jasmine Flower” and, together with Harry Shorter, presented their experiences in China entirely in Chinese to an audience of hundreds of students and teachers. The ceremony concluded with all students from our school singing a Chinese song together, celebrating their shared experiences and achievements. We are extremely proud of our students’ dedication, enthusiasm, and the exceptional way they represented Becket Keys in this international experience.

**Ms Zhang & Miss Tian**  
Mandarin Department

## Students’ reflection

*Visiting China will probably be an adventure I remember for the rest of my life. It was full of everything that I was not used to, and it showed me the difference in culture and style. After the school confirmed our trip to Beijing, anticipation was in the air. We left on the 1st of July and made our (long) journey from Heathrow Airport to Beijing. After around 10 hours, we arrived at our destination! The second we left the airport, it really struck me that we were in another country: the air was humid, the sky leaking raindrops the size of ping pong balls. We walked outside, staring at the unique, gravity-defying architecture in awe.*

*It was around 3 in the afternoon on the 2nd of July, and we embarked*





on the two-hour sleepy coach journey to the Leafin Hotel. The excellent hotel had spacious rooms that provided the perfect place to recuperate after a long day of lessons and sightseeing. After the first night, we woke up and made the trip to Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU). Our teacher, Ms Zhang from BLCU, taught us for the entirety of our stay. While we were in China, we learnt lots of new vocab, and I know that my studies benefited from it greatly along with the other 13 students who came.

I want to say thank you very much to the three teachers (Mrs Martin, Ms Zhang, and Miss Tian) who came with us and gave up their time to give us the most enjoyable experience possible. They were very patient and helpful inside and outside of the classroom. During our stay at the university, we had multiple culture lessons including those stories on the first day. We had lunch, followed by learning about Chinese songs and dancing with Taichi fans. That evening, we had the opening ceremony, where news teams recorded the event,

and different people gave speeches, including Bhav from our school. The whole event showed me how welcoming Chinese people are.



The ceremony was followed by a large welcome dinner with dishes you wouldn't see on your average Chinese takeaway order. I think that the cabbage or sweet and sour chicken was my favourite, but there was a lot of variety in types of dishes, such as noodles and shrimp, potato and mushroom, and cold chips.

On the 4th of July, we had morning lessons and then papercutting, Chinese calligraphy, and mask painting in the afternoon. All these classes were taught by professionals who took care, time, and dedication to refining our technique and only encouraged us

to carry on when we butchered their graceful art with our less than excellent attempts. But in the end, we had mastered the basics, and that was quite an accomplishment.

After dinner, we went to the sports circuit and learnt some Chinese square dancing with our Chinese peers. This was also covered by the news, and Harry and Helet were in an interview with them. On our third full day, we had some extremely jam-packed lessons followed by some cultural lessons including a tea ceremony, painting Chinese flowers, and crafting some intricate knots. The whole day was very educational and opened my eyes to how dependent China is on its rituals.

Our excursion day! We were visiting the Great Wall, before heading to a restaurant nearby for some local food. The Great Wall was very impressive, and the history behind it stretched centuries. The views spanned miles over frosty mountains that looked spectacular. After lunch, we saw some elegant Chinese acrobatics and then had dinner near the Olympic Bird's Nest Stadium. This was our first real opportunity to explore China in groups; we took this chance to speak to locals and take photos while we made life-long memories!

Over the next few days, we did many things, including visiting one of the most high-end private schools. It was an excellent insight into the Chinese school system. Later in the week, we also visited a panda zoo, the Forbidden City,



Wangfujing Street, and other central shopping streets.

All in all, we really enjoyed our 10-day visit to China and will remember it for a lifetime. The closing ceremony was spectacular, and the effort that was put into planning this trip was greatly appreciated on all fronts. I hope that if others get to go, they will enjoy it as much as we did!

**Liliana Trinder**



On the 1st of July 2025, my classmates and I travelled across the world to go to China for a school trip. We were lucky to visit the capital city of China, Beijing. It was an exceptionally valuable experience as we did a lot of exciting activities.

On the first day we arrived in China. After an exceptionally long flight, we took a coach to our hotel. Do not get me started on the heat — as soon as we stepped out of the airport, it was so humid. We checked into our hotel, and we had some free time to do what we wanted. We were so lucky to have a convenience shop outside our hotel, so we could go whenever we wanted to get some snacks or drinks. The hotel we stayed in was very nice; in my room, I was lucky to have a mini fridge.

Most days we would go to the Beijing Language and Culture University. In the morning, we had some lessons with a teacher from the school. Usually, we would have 4 lessons in the morning. After the lessons, we would go to the cafeteria to have lunch. There was a wide variety of food that we could eat. After lunch, we would have some activities like Chinese painting or Taichi. My favourite activity we did was the tea ceremony, where we learned about all the different teas and learned how to make some of the different teas. Then we would have dinner in the cafeteria or go to a restaurant. Then we would have another activity and then take a coach back to our hotel. We did not do this every day, as we also travelled elsewhere.



One of the days we travelled to the Great Wall of China. It was so hot that day, the hottest day during the time I was in China. The climb to the top of the wall was hard work, but the hard work paid off as the view from the top of the wall was so majestic. We did not walk back down but instead took a slide back down, which was so fun, and we could control the speed so we could go really fast or slow. Afterwards we went to a restaurant for lunch and then watched a circus performance. The performances were entertaining to watch. We then went to visit the

Olympic stadium, but we were not allowed to go inside, so we all went to the different shops around it and got some food from the trucks.



There were other days where we would go to shopping malls in China. We all learned how to haggle, and we all haggled lots of items down to their real prices. It was a wonderful experience to see the shopping malls, and they were so big compared to the ones we have in England. Also, we went to the street markets, and there were lots of roads full of shops or markets. Everywhere you went, there were people asking you to see their shop. I bought lots of souvenirs to share some of my experience in China with my family.

Overall, the trip to China was the best trip I have been on at Becket Keys. It is recommended to go if you have the opportunity through school, or to go with your family or friends. I would love to go back to Beijing or even to explore a different city.

**Ethan Deluxson**  
Year 9

*The Year 9 Mandarin trip was one of the best school trips I have ever been on. Going into the trip, I was only really friends with one girl who I shared a room with.*

*Fortunately, over the 12 days that we were in Beijing, I made friends with almost everyone on the trip and even some people that I had never expected to become friends with, but I am so happy I did.*

*Over the two weeks, we did over 22 hours of studying and over 10 Chinese cultural activities, such as Tai Chi fans, Chinese calligraphy, and a Chinese tea ceremony. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and I am so grateful to say that I have walked on the Great Wall of China with one of my best friends.*

*On day 7, we were lucky enough to visit a Chinese secondary school, and it was insane! From a fossil museum to a Lego room, they had everything that you could think of. They were so welcoming when they gave us the tour and showed us around their amazing school. What was also amazing is how fluent the children at the school were in English.*

*Shopping in Wangfujing Street was an amazing part of the trip, as I managed to get so many gifts for my family and try lots of Chinese snacks. One of the best things about the trip was, surprisingly, just being in the hotel room with my friend talking. We got so much closer throughout the trip, and I am so grateful for that.*

*Finally, the food. The food in the restaurants that we went to needed some getting used to, but it*



*was very nice. Asian food has not always been my favourite but having it for 12 days straight really did improve my tastebuds. I was also extremely thankful for the 7-*

*Eleven right next to our hotel, which we were allowed to go to most nights!*

*Overall, the Year 9 Beijing trip was extremely fun and was one of the best trips I have ever, and probably will ever, go on. Making new friends and getting closer to old friends was my favourite part, and I will always be thankful that I can say I have seen a panda in real life and walked in the Forbidden City with one of my closest friends.*

**Erin O'Reilly**  
**Year 9**





**12TH OCTOBER**

# HARVEST Thanksgiving

Start after 10.00am Mass

CHILDRENS CRAFT ACTIVITIES

PLEASE BRING A DISH FOR  
POTLUCK COMMUNAL LUNCH  
FREE ENTRY. DONATIONS  
MOST WELCOME



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHURCH  
ST THOMAS ROAD  
BRENTWOOD

## DO YOU ENJOY SINGING? ARE YOU IN YEARS 10- 13?

### COME AND JOIN US AT UPPER VOICES!

WHEN?  
THURSDAYS AFTER  
SCHOOL  
3:15-4:15

WHERE?  
R01


## Becket Keys MUSIC

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00am			Theory Club		
Lunchtime 1	Year 9 Band Room Year 8 Band	Year 12 Band Room			
Lunchtime 2	Year 10 GCSE Band Room	Year 10 GCSE Band Room			
3:15pm- 4:15pm	Orchestra	BK Choir	Stage Band	Upper Voices  Brass Ensemble	Rock Factory

**Note:** Orchestra – open to all year groups who play and orchestral instrument

BK Choir -Year 7, 8 and 9 singers

Upper Voices – Year 10,11,12,13 singers

Stage Band – woodwind, brass and rhythm section players

Rock Factory – open to all guitars, bass, drummers and vocalists

## Extra-Curricular Clubs



### SPANISH SPEAKING CLINIC 2025 - 2026

Thursdays 3.20 - 4.00 in the Spanish Dept

For any Year 11 Spanish students

*A chance to work on your speaking and get to grips with the tasks that you'll encounter in the GCSE Spanish speaking exam*

*Bring your Language Guides and speaking booklets with you*



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 Tuesday 11:50-12:20	Every Wednesday 11:50-12:20
First session will be on 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	First session will be on 30 <sup>th</sup> September	First session will be on 1 <sup>st</sup> October



Becket Keys  
**Christian  
Union**

→ A group of people who want to take the message of Jesus seriously

- There are people from all year groups
- Sometimes look at bits of the Bible
- Sometimes think about questions we might have
- Relaxed and informal, so people feel welcome

Why don't you come and find out for yourself?

We would love to see you there.

**Wednesday Lunchtime** (4.1 or 4.2) in **J02**. (Ground floor, through the middle doors of the Welby building)

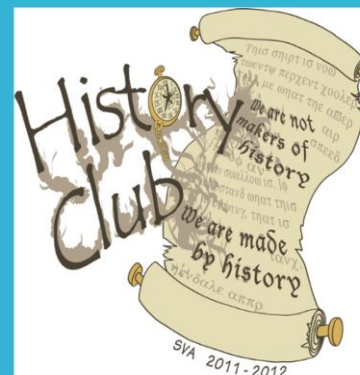


### HISTORY CLUB

Where: In J13

When: Tuesday after school

Everyone is  
welcome.





## Extra-Curricular Clubs

### Wool and Craft Club Starting Tuesday 16th Sept

When: After school  
Where: C26  
Time: 3.15 - 4.15

All equipment and crafting goods  
will be provided.

Anyone is welcome!

### Year 7 Book Club

- Do you love reading?
- Are you keen to read some new books?

• Come and join Book Club on Friday Breaktime in LibA.



Let the fun begin!

Science

Club

Open to all KS3  
Every Monday in  
15.20 – 16:00 pm

Come along and carry out projects and practicals that we don't do during science lessons!

Spaces are limited, so come along to avoid missing out.

Join Mr Achillea in W21.

Year 8  
R12  
Mrs. Brassett  
Every  
Thursday 4.1  
lunchtime



Starting 24<sup>th</sup> September

MINECRAFT  
Club in W03

Day	Time	For
Wednesday	After school (3:20-4:30)	All years

Everyone welcome!

- You do **not** have to own a copy of the game.
- You do **not** have to have played before.



SPOTLIGHT

Drama Club  
for KS3 Students  
Wednesday  
3.15pm – 4.15pm  
in Runcie Hall



## World Challenge 2027

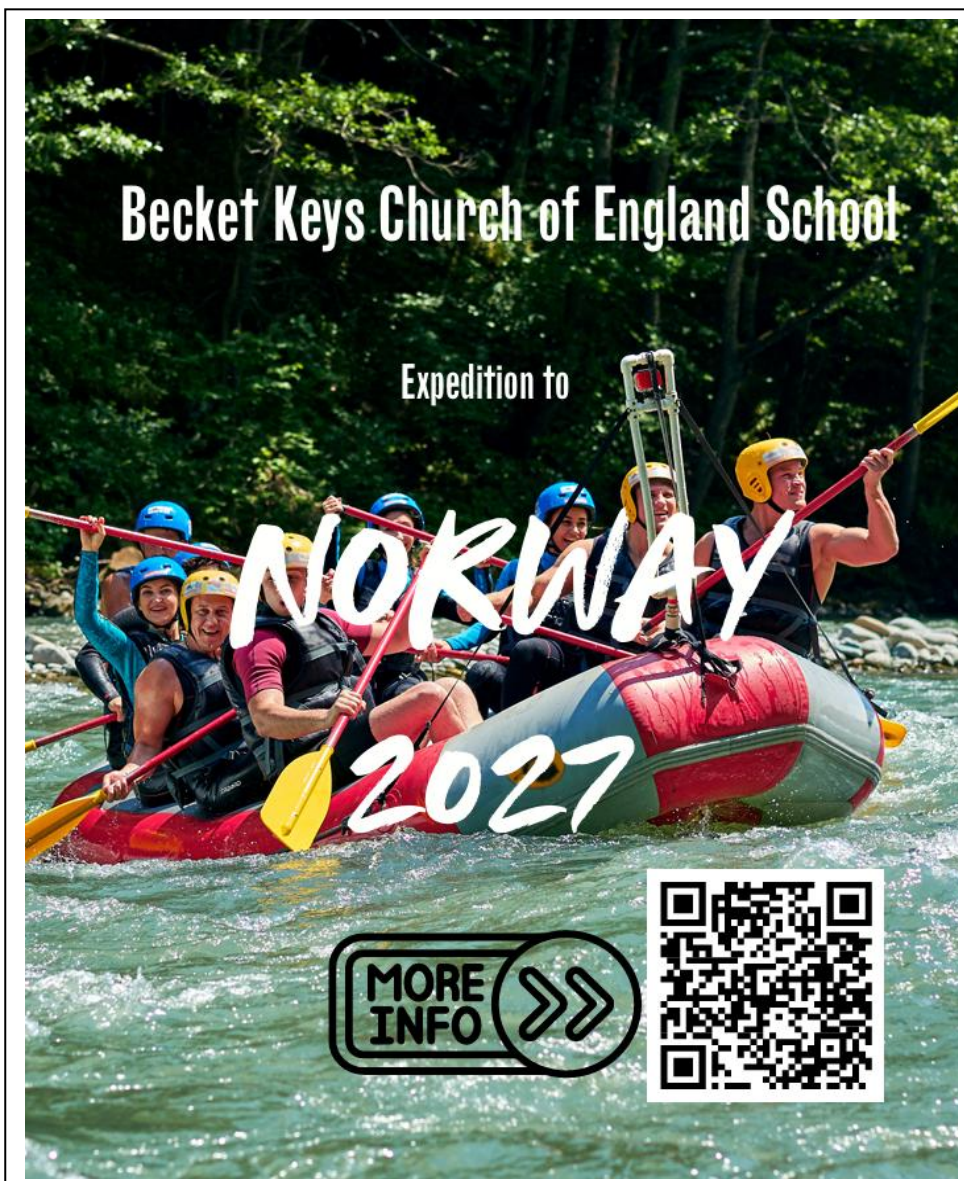


### World Challenge Expedition Norway Adventure!

Calling all Year 10 & Year 12 students at Becket Keys! Are you ready to step out of your comfort zone and into the wild beauty of Scandinavia? Join us on an unforgettable World Challenge expedition to Norway, where adventure meets personal growth in one of the most stunning countries on Earth.

#### Why Norway?

- Epic landscapes: Hike through majestic fjords, explore glacial valleys and camp under the stars in pristine wilderness.
- Real adventure: Learn survival skills, navigate trails and take part in team challenges that build resilience and leadership.
- Culture & connection: Discover Norwegian traditions, meet local communities and experience life beyond the classroom.



#### What is in it for you?

- Boost your confidence, independence, and teamwork.
- Gain valuable skills for university applications, future careers and life.
- Make memories that will last a lifetime with friends and fellow explorers.

Your journey starts now  
This is more than a trip; it is a challenge. You will help plan the expedition, fundraise and prepare as a team. Whether you are in Year 10 looking for your first big adventure, or in Year 12 ready to push your limits before Sixth Form ends, this is your chance to do something extraordinary.





**SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025**

**11.00AM – 12.30PM**

**Becket Keys Pre-Loved Uniform Price List**

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Form Suit Jacket</b>	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Form Skirt / Trousers</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>Blazer</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>Kilt</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
<b>Jumper / Slipover</b>	<b>£5.00</b>
<b>Blouse / Shirt</b>	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>Trousers</b>	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>Tie</b>	<b>£2.00</b>
<b>PE Rugby Top</b>	<b>£5.00</b>
<b>PE Hoodie</b>	<b>£5.00</b>
<b>PE T-Shirt</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>PE Shorts / Skort</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>PE Track Pants / Leggings</b>	<b>£4.00</b>
<b>GCSE PE Polo Shirt</b>	<b>£4.00</b>
<b>Aprons</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>A Level Drama T-Shirt</b>	<b>£3.00</b>
<b>GCSE Chef Jacket</b>	<b>£5.00</b>
<b>Rucksack / PE Bag</b>	<b>£5.00</b>

## 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.





## Books of the Month - October

**KATE MOSSE**  
**FEMINIST**  
**HISTORY**  
**FOR**  
**EVERY DAY**  
**OF THE YEAR**

Did you know that Aretha Franklin was the first woman to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame? And that a Black woman discovered the cure for leprosy?

Feminist History for Every Day of the Year tells the story of women's and girls' history, sweeping across the world and through the ages, and Black History for Every Day of the Year gives you new insights about well known figures and inspirational unsung heroes.

Discover something new every day.

**DAVID OLUSOGA**  
**BLACK**  
**HISTORY**  
**FOR**  
**EVERY DAY**  
**OF THE YEAR**  
**YINKA OLUSOGA KEMI OLUSOGA**

### WEEK 2

Week Commencing: 01/09/25, 22/09/25, 13/10/25

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY				
CLASSIC MAIN MEALS £2.85		VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS £2.85		
<b>MONDAY</b> Traditional Sausage & Mash with Onion Gravy		<b>MONDAY</b> Vegan Sausage & Bean Casserole (VE)		
<b>TUESDAY</b> Chicken & Tomato Pasta Bake Served with House salad		<b>TUESDAY</b> No Waste Cauliflower Cheese Pasta Bake (V)		
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Hand Carved Roast British Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables, & House Gravy		<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Cheese, Leek and Potato Pie (V)		
<b>THURSDAY</b> Sweet & Sour Chicken with Fried Rice		<b>THURSDAY</b> Chinese Vegetable Stir-Fry (VE)		
<b>FRIDAY</b> Chip Shop 'Fryday' Fish, Pizza or Fishcake & Chips with Peas & Tartare Sauce		<b>FRIDAY</b> Vegan Quorn & Ranch Slaw Burger Served with Chips & Peas (VE)		
DESSERTS				
Free with the main meal or £1.85 if purchased individually				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Dutch Apple Cake	Warm Blueberry Sponge	Apple & Mixed Berry Crumble with Vanilla Sauce	Banana Pudding with Custard	Fruit, Jelly & yoghurt Pots
Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily - Price: £1.00				
£1.85		Prices from £2.15		
<b>HOMEMADE SOUP &amp; FRESHLY BAKED BREAD</b> Available Daily		<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily		



**MADE  
YOUR  
WAY!**

**CHOOSE IT!  
ADD IT!  
TOP IT!**

Switch up your flavours with our street food-inspired range, available **Tuesday to Thursday**.  
With weekly rotating choices, there's always something tasty.

£2.85

**Choose a base, add protein, and top it your way!**

Visit the restaurant to check out what's on offer each week

**NATURALLY**

Hot Bowls Prices £2.65

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Buffalo Cauliflower Wings with Salt & Pepper Wedges (VE)	Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)	Singapore Fried Rice (VE)	The Big Plant Burger (VE)	Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

**TRATTORIA**  
Pizza from £1.60, Pasta 12oz £2.25

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato & Basil Pasta	Pasta in Cheese Sauce	Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza	Creamy Pesto Pasta	Margherita Pizza





**Star Artist of the Week!**  
**Anna-Kaye Fullerton Year 13**

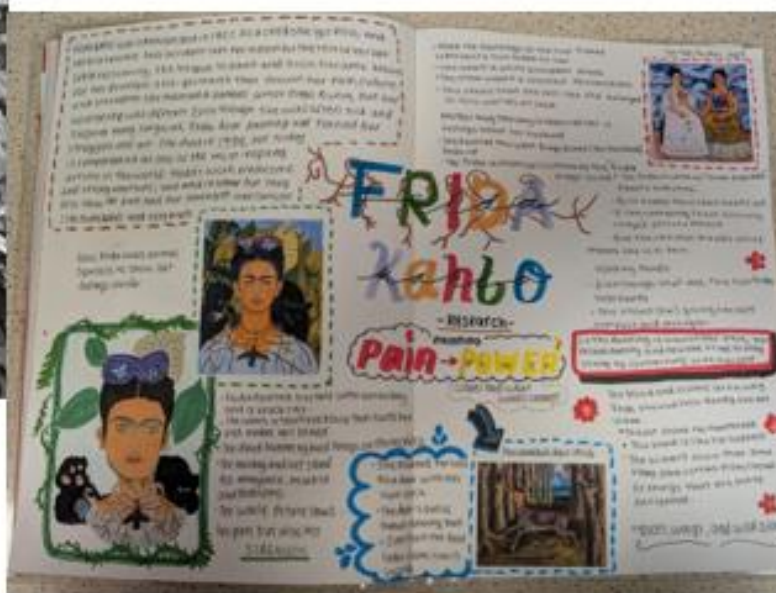
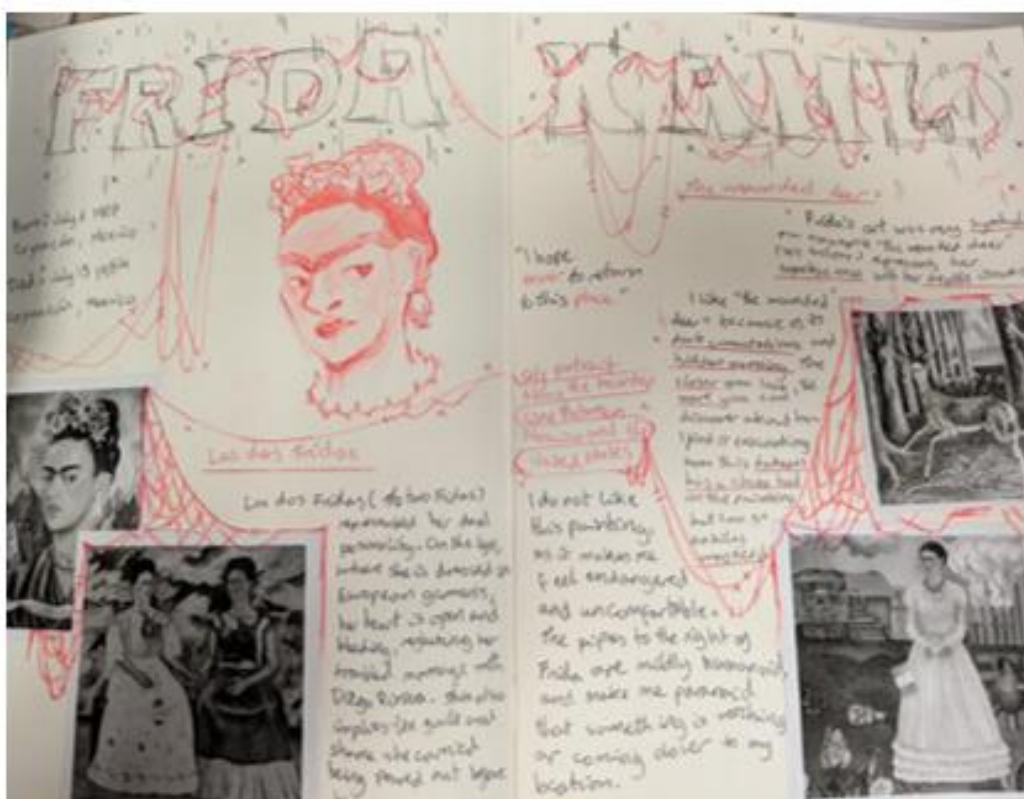




Zoe Rist Year 10



Ife Oyinbo Year 8

Mariella  
Hale  
Year 8





Lilly Fritz

Year 10



Year 7

Amelia Jenkins



Rose Whitaker

Year 9

## Sports Round Up

### Cross Country Competition



Becket Keys were delighted to host the annual District Cross Country and welcomed students from many other schools in the area to compete. As always, it was fantastic to see so many of our students take part in such a competitive race!

We are proud to showcase our students and it is always a pleasure to watch them compete.

Congratulations to Harriet Garlick, Betsey Winney, Charlotte Snow, Olivia Willard and Samantha McTurk who all came in the top 20 of their race. Special mention to Pollyanna Fetherson who came 4<sup>th</sup> in the Year 9 race.

We would like to thank all students who supported on the day, whether that be marshalling, funnelling or tidying – we could not have done it without you!

**Ms Schafer**  
**PE Teacher**

### Cross Country Girls' Teams

YR7	YR8	YR9	Other
Samantha Turk Isobel Noble Olivia Willard Chloe Thomson Teodora Petre Violet Freeman Elira De Malla Molly Davidson Isla Shand Isabella Munday Pearl Davies Lucia Rowe	Charlotte Snow Ava Taylor Ava Steer Melody Shanley Olivia Bamber Lydia Falconer Isabel Shiperlee Beth Major Phoebe Anderton Gabby Constantiou Sophia Crook Mia Ballam Gabby Rowe	Lois Watson Amar Constantinou Jess Thomason Rose Whittake Madeline Prent Amelia Laing Pollyanna Featherstrone Esme Withers Isla Coombes	Betsy Winney Abi Fisher Evie Abbott Lilly Fritz Harriest Garlick Amy Maher







## Girls' Netball Year 9

On Monday the Year 9 girls netball team played a match against Shenfield High School. The win went to Becket Keys! 24-16. Everyone played exceptionally well. The shooters did not miss a single shot and everyone got interceptions at crucial times. The opponents player was Arabella Quincy (me!). We all really enjoyed the game and we cannot wait for the next round.

**Arabella Quincey**  
Year 9

Another match on Wednesday for the Year 9 team as we travelled to Great Baddow for a league netball match.

The game was evenly matched at the start with Becket Keys being just behind after the first quarter. The second quarter however saw strong performances from the whole team the goals kept coming for Becket Keys!

Bella Macklin was the well-deserved player of the match scoring many goals in both the



goal shooter and goal attack positions.

At the end of the match the final score was a convincing win for Becket Keys 42-16.

**Imogen Forbes-Buckingham**  
Year 9



## Girls' Netball Year 8

On 8<sup>th</sup> October the Year 8 girls' netball team had an away game at Great Baddow for MESSA. The team won comfortably with a final score of 10 -23 to Becket Keys. Special mention for Ava Taylor for her great spacing in the circle and picking up loose balls! Ava drove her player out of the circle into the space in order to receive great passes to goal.

**Bella Long**  
Year 8



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

## PE Extra Curricular - Sept to Oct

Day	Lunchtime (12:40-1:20)	After-School (3:20-4:20)
Monday	TUP Badminton	Year 9 Rugby
Tuesday	TUP Futsal	All Years' Mixed Recreational Football Year 7 Netball Year 9 Boys' Basketball
Wednesday	Year 7 Invite Only Netball GCSE Theory Intervention	Year 10 & 11 Rugby Year 8,9,10&11 Netball
Thursday	TUP Basketball	Year 7&8 Rugby
Friday		All Years' Running Club



Keys:

- Astro
- Sports hall
- Main Hall
- Drama Hall
- Field



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### YEAR 11 CURRICULUM MEETING

TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025

5.00pm - MAIN HALL

\*

### INSET DAYS

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025

\*

### ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY

YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS

MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER –

FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2025

\*

### SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT

WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

\*

### LAST DAY OF TERM

### STUDENT HALF DAY

THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

\*

### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025 –

FRIDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2026

\*

### INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026

## Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane

Brentwood, Essex

CM15 9DA

01277 286600

[www.becketkeys.org](http://www.becketkeys.org)

[office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)

[finance@becketkeys.org](mailto:finance@becketkeys.org)

X:

@BecketKeys

@MrScottEvans

@BecketKeys6th

@BecketKeysMusic

@BecketKeysPE

@BecketKeysArt

@BecketKeysSci

@BecketKeysDT

@BecketKeysExams

@BecketKeysTrips

[Facebook: Becket Keys Church School](https://www.facebook.com/BecketKeysChurchSchool)

